

TE NOHOAKA O TUKIAUAU

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Drone Use Policy

Preamble:

Due to the increasing availability and use of drones there is likely to be an increase in the incidents of drone use at Te Nohoaka o Tukiauau. The Trust has the following concerns about drone use at Te Nohoaka o Tukiauau:

- Invasion of privacy of the residents at the Wetlands (both permanent and temporary residents)
- Disturbing and / or causing stress to wildlife – particularly during breeding and nesting seasons
- Publicizing the location of rare birds or animals that the Trust have deemed it is important to protect
- Creating a hazard for other Wetland users, e.g. low flying or poorly controlled drones colliding into people or structures
- Creating a hazard for other air traffic as the Wetlands sits within the boundaries of Dunedin International Airport controlled airspace zone <https://www.airshare.co.nz/maps>

The Trust recognizes the value drones have as a promotion and management tool, e.g. identifying location of weeds.

The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) rules stipulate the following for flying drones (Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems) or model airplanes:

1. Fly the aircraft so it isn't a hazard to other aircraft, property and people.
2. Fly only in daylight.
3. The pilot is able to see the aircraft with their own eyes (eg, not through binoculars, a monitor, or smartphone) or have a second person with you as an observer.
4. The pilot will fly their aircraft no higher than 120 m (400 feet) above ground level.
5. The pilot will avoid flying over people they do not have consent from.
6. The pilot must have consent from the owner of the land they are flying over.
7. The pilot must have knowledge of airspace, especially restrictions applying in the area they want to fly.
8. Fly no closer than 4 km from any uncontrolled aerodrome.
9. The pilot will fly their aircraft clear of controlled airspace. Controlled airspace normally extends well beyond 4 km from a controlled aerodrome, and to the ground.
10. Give way to all manned aircraft.
11. Are flying an aircraft that is no heavier than 25 kg.

See https://www.caa.govt.nz/assets/legacy/Publications/Other/Flying_with_Control.pdf for further information.

Te Nohoaka o Tukiauau / Sinclair Wetlands Drone Policy

- No drones are to be flown within the Te Nohoaka o Tukiauau boundary without permission from the Te Nohoaka o Tukiauau / Sinclair Wetlands coordinator
- Permission will only be granted if drone usage will not disturb wildlife
- Film footage gathered by drone can only be used for commercial purposes with the permission of the Trust
- The drone operator must obtain consent from all people in the area they will be flying over prior to flying the drone.
- Drone pilots must comply with all CAA regulations and have full responsibility for safe operation of the drone. This includes:
 - a. logging all drone flights in MyFlights <https://www.airshare.co.nz/my-flights/plan-a-flight>
 - b. following instructions issued by MyFlights
 - c. contacting Air Traffic control prior to the planned flight for final clearance
 - d. contacting Air Traffic control once flight is completed