

SAU Operations Briefing Note

Number 5. 17 January 2006

## Commonwealth Games March 2006 Update No. # 2 Temporary Restricted Airspace R910, R911, R912 & R913

## **For Information**

The State Aircraft Unit (SAU) has received official notification and has been briefed by AirServices Australia (ASA) regarding the application of several Temporary Restricted Airspace (TRA) zones, which will be implemented by ASA and the Department of Defence (DoD) for the 2006 Commonwealth Games (Games) in Melbourne.

The aim of the TRAs is minimise general air traffic within the Melbourne and metropolitan area during feature events of the Games. There is a primary TRA, which will apply to a general area around Melbourne and the metropolitan area during the opening and closing ceremonies for the Games and is known as **R913 Melbourne Basin**. It also has the capacity to be implemented within two hours at any time during the Games period in response to a perceived or known public safety threat. In addition to **R913 Melbourne Basin** there is a discrete **Exclusion Zone** that will be established with in R913. The **Exclusion Zone** will be the Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) and a nominated area around the MCG.

There are three other secondary, time and location specific TRA zones identified which will be operational on predetermined days and fixed locations during the Games period within the metropolitan area, these are known as **R910 Albert Park**, **R911 Bayside**, **R912 Lysterfield**.

The **R913 Melbourne Basin** TRA encompasses all airspace within the Melbourne and metropolitan area and has the ability to regulate but not restrict aerial fire fighting activities associated with preparedness and suppression conducted by both the Country Fire Authority (CFA) and Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE). Provisions of the **R913 Melbourne Basin** TRA will allow the operation of "Authorised Operators" within the specified area with minimal impact on standard operations. The State Aircraft Unit SAU representing the CFA and DSE is registered as an "Authorised Operator" subject to the provisions of the **R913 Melbourne Basin** TRA.

The remaining TRAs, **R910 Albert Park**, **R911 Bayside**, and **R912 Lysterfield** are much smaller in size, surface area, and height above the ground surface and are more site specific. The location of the remaining TRAs has been designed to minimise the impact on general aviation traffic. The location of the remaining TRAs will not interfere with the dispatch of fire bombing aircraft managed by the SAU during the Games period.

The **DoD in conjunction with ASA will manage the R913 Melbourne Basin TRA**. As part of the management and enforcement requirements for the **R913 Melbourne Basin** TRA there will be aircraft from the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) present. The aircraft, F/A-18 Hornets will be will be conducting airborne patrols during the TRA activation period and subject to the control of RAAF Air Defence.

The F/A-18 & Air Defence will monitor civil frequencies, in the event of an air intercept being required, Hornets will be operating under military control.

Agency officers are once again reminded that within the next two weeks both CFA and DSE Regions will be requested to supply to the SAU, from within their fire Readiness and Response Plans, preparedness statements, which identify the levels use and operation of aircraft resources and personnel for aerial fire operations in accordance with fire danger predictions.

Please note the above information is provided for the information of agency personnel, both CFA and DSE. It does not discharge or preclude Contractors and aircrew associated with the provision of services to the State of Victoria from their regulatory requirements and obligations as operators of aircraft or undertaking roles as aircrew.



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## Airspace Management R913 – Melbourne Basin.

•The TRA is established on a 40 Nautical Mile (NM) radius on Melbourne Airport (MEL).

- •The area specified is from the ground surface (SFC) up to 33,000 feet (FL330).
- •The TRA will be activated by a specific NOTAM
  - it will be activated for the Opening & Closing Ceremonies,
  - which are on the dates 15<sup>th</sup>. Mar 2006 & 26<sup>th</sup>. Mar 2006 and
  - it will be the time period of •1700 hours 0000 hours.

Agency personnel are reminded that the TRA may be resumed during games with 2 hours notice.

The Melbourne Cricket Ground Exclusion Zone incorporates the stadium with a 4 NM radius.

Visual Terminal Chart showing the extent of the **R913** TRA zone Map: Not to Scale



If you have any queries in relation to this matter please contact Hayden Biggs, State Aircraft Unit, telephone 03 94124888.

State Aircraft Unit – A joint fire agencies initiative of CPA and DSE, providing specialist aviation resources for fire and land management.