

Use of drones and remote controlled aircraft at Seqwater lakes

Seqwater strives to balance the ongoing health of the catchments and quality of the region's drinking water supply while providing access to a range of land and water-based activities at our dams, lakes and parks.

Background

This document sets out Seqwater's position on the use of drones, also known as remote controlled aircraft or remotely piloted aircraft (RPA), at Seqwater's recreation sites. Such aircraft are governed by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA).

The CASA drone safety rules, also known as the standard operating conditions, apply to all types of drones and remote-controlled aircraft. This includes remote controlled helicopters, aeroplanes and airships.

Policy position

All controllers should refer to the Civil Aviation Safety Regulations (CASR) to determine their legal obligations when operating a drone or remote controlled aircraft in a Seqwater recreation area. Generally, the rules are:

- do not operate in a way that creates a hazard to another person, property or aircraft, or near an area affecting public safety or emergency situations
- do not fly above the maximum operating height prescribed in the CASR, currently 120 metres
- do not fly above anyone or within 30 metres of a person
- only fly during the day and not during fog or cloud
- respect personal privacy
- only operate one drone at a time
- do not fly for money or reward without a licence, or
- as per any other regulation set by CASA.



Further information about the rules and legislation relating to drones and remote controlled aircraft can be found at <https://www.casa.gov.au/knowyourdrone>.

Operators not complying with the requirements may be asked to stop operating the drone or remote controlled aircraft and/or to leave the recreation area.

Access to recreation areas is subject to Seqwater's opening hours and general rules of access. All commercial activities (e.g. filming, still photography or display events) require pre-approval from Seqwater and may be subject to the payment of fees. Contact us in the first instance if you wish to operate outside a recreation area or close to Seqwater infrastructure.

Details of recreation areas, opening hours, general rules of access and application forms for commercial activities or events can be found online at www.seqwater.com.au

Underwater or aquatic drones are not permitted at any Seqwater lake or dam.

For more information:

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