

## **Australian Aviation Wildlife Hazard Group (AAWHG)**

Meeting 15

Canberra Airport, 16 February 2010 at 1200

### **Minutes**

#### **Attendees:**

Darren Angelo, CASA (Chairman)	Alex Ananian-Cooper, Canberra Airport
David Drynan, DEWHA	Alleysa Kuruvilla, Rex
David White, Virgin Blue	Phil Shaw, Avisure
Laurie Taylor, Qantas	Dilip Mathew, DITRDLG
Stephanie Bolt, AAA & Adelaide Airport	Kitty Cheng, ATSB
Sarah Renner, Melbourne Airport	Rebecca Johnson, Australian Museum
Joe Hain, CASA	

#### **Apologies:**

Alison Calvert, Cobham	John Rozells, Dept of Defence
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#### **1. Attendance & Apologies.**

- As above

#### **2. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

- As read – nil changes

#### **3. Selection of Chairperson 2010**

- Darren Angelo resigning from Chairman's role.
- Stephanie Bolt was nominated as a replacement but is now no longer able to take up this role.
- Darren will email AAWHG members seeking nominations for a replacement Chairman, to be ratified by the Executive prior to the next meeting.
- Darren offered to take up the position of "Information Officer", including maintaining the AAWHG website and managing information flow etc.
- It was noted that the AAWHG would write to CASA/DITRDLG/ASA/ATSB seeking formal 'ratification' of the Group as the peak national body for Bird and Wildlife Management issues in aviation. This was prompted by an ICAO questionnaire sent to member states on this issue.

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

**Darren Angelo (CASA) to send email to AAWHG members seeking nominations for a new Chairman.**

**AAWHG to draft a letter to CASA/DITRDLG/ASA/ATSB seeking formal 'ratification' of the Group as the peak national body**

#### 4. Selection of Secretariat 2010

- The position of Secretary of the AAWHG is also open, following Julie Parsons' resignation in 2009.
- Darren will email AAWHG members seeking nominations for a replacement Secretary, to be ratified by the Executive prior to the next meeting.
- Alex Ananian-Cooper offered to take Minutes for the meetings today.

#### **ACTION ITEM:**

**Darren Angelo (CASA) to send email to AAWHG members seeking nominations for a new Secretary.**

#### 5. Website and Legal

- Darren Angelo demonstrated the updated website as it currently stands.
- Members present congratulated Darren on his hard work to get the website to its current state.
- Darren offered his services as a future 'Information Officer' to manage the website, seek information, check content.
- A dedicated email address has been provided – currently directed to Darren Angelo.
- The meeting considered ideas for additional website content including:
  - Consider adding video/photo library (need legal sign-off first).
  - Add a paragraph on background to bird and wildlife management on website.
  - Possible link to ATSB bird strike database to have data available earlier. The ATSB was tasked to look into speeding up public availability of strike data with future meetings to discuss what level of information should be made public.
  - Possible inclusion of a 'bird library' on the website, with major risk species listed.

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

**Phil Shaw to draft a short paragraph on bird and wildlife management issues for the website and provide to Darren Angelo (CASA) for review and upload.**

**ATSB to look into the possibility to speed up the public release of bird strike data**

#### 6. Draft National Template for Bird and Wildlife Management

- Stephanie Bolt presented the updated template to the meeting following many months of work between herself and Phil Shaw.
- Content has been finalised with a final review in the next week.
- The intent is to seek to review the template every 2 or so years to ensure it remains current.
- The template aligns with MOS139. Darren Angelo at CASA will review to ensure that all regulatory standards have been considered and are complied with.
- The template is deliberately simple to ensure it is applicable to all levels of airports – not just targeted at large airports.
- Discussion of link to SMS. This aspect to be incorporated into the draft template.

**ACTION ITEM:**

**Darren Angelo (CASA) to review draft template to ensure MOS139 requirements have been met.**

**7. Risk template for Bats/Flying foxes**

- Stephanie Bolt advised she was still in discussions with Jen Parsons to extend the existing risk template to bats and flying foxes.
- Discussion of where to source funding for the study. Will consider talking to Government and bat affected airports for funding.

**ACTION ITEM:**

**AAWHG to write to bat affected airports re funding for bat/flying fox risk study. Stephanie Bolt to draft letter.**

**8. 2010 Education and Sharing Program**

- Plan to embed the forum within the IBSC conference 21-24 September in Cairns.
- The idea is for a short session to be Australia-specific where the AAWHG can promote what it is doing, and be a replacement for the Education and Sharing Forum for 2010.
- Register to conference now via website. Cost is \$240 early bird registration (until end April).
- Website:  
[http://www.avisure.com.au/index.php/latest\\_industry\\_news/2010\\_international\\_birdstrike\\_conference/](http://www.avisure.com.au/index.php/latest_industry_news/2010_international_birdstrike_conference/)
- The conference will focus on risk assessments, wildlife management in SMS, training and new technologies & research.
- Abstracts for papers due on 1 April 2010. All AAWHG members urged to submit papers to ensure a good level of local content.
- Request to link conference to AAWHG website and AAA website.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

**Darren Angelo (CASA) to provide link to the IBSC conference on the AAWHG website.**

**Stephanie Bolt (AAA) to coordinate with the AAA to put a link on the AAA website**

**Any interested AAWHG members to submit conference paper abstracts (refer website for details) by 1 April 2010.**

**9. Correspondence**

- ICAO Questionnaire relating to bird and wildlife management (discussed above)
  - CASA to discuss response to Questionnaire with various AAWHG members including ATSB & DITRDLG

**10. Aviation White Paper**

- White paper formally released in December 2009.
- The Bird strike issue is one of many initiatives contained within the White Paper.
- Dilip Mathew from DITRDLG advised that there are no specific timeframes in place for the implementations of initiatives.
- However, the next step is to discuss bird & wildlife management issues with the States and Territories as part of a COAG process.
- Dilip expressed the intent of the Department to look at the AAWHG as a key resource on these issues as they are considered within Government.

#### **11. ATSB Update**

- Draft ATSB survey of airports circulated for comment. Please return with comments to ATSB by mid March. Draft survey (with return contact details) provided to meeting attendees
- Information from the survey will be used to inform the next ATSB bird strike report.

#### **ACTION ITEM:**

**AAWHG members to provide comments in writing on the ATSB draft survey by mid-March 2010.**

#### **12. Defence Bird/Wildlife Report**

- Nil

#### **13. AAA Update**

- Wendy Drury, Brisbane Airport has accepted the invitation to be a future AAA representative to the AAWHG with Stephanie Bolt's maternity leave.
- AAWHG website link to be circulated to AAA members.
- AAA to circulate details of IBSC conference and put on the AAA website (refer previous action item).

#### **ACTION ITEM:**

**AAWHG to write to Stephen Goodwin, Brisbane Airport, advising of Wendy Drury's appointment.**

#### **14. Funding of Research Projects**

- Note possible requirement for an AAWHG treasurer if funding achieved.

#### **15. Objectives for 2010**

- Need for Government 'sponsorship' of the AAWHG including possible future financial assistance.
- Consider bird watch condition "report" after runway inspections template for aerodrome use. Possibly contained within the upcoming CASA Advisory Circular (AC).
- Need to standardise birdstrike reporting – a proposed form to be attached to AC for use by aerodromes.

- CASA will aim to have draft AC available for comment by the end of the year.
- Raise profile of the group. Options include circulating AAWHG meeting minutes to AAA meetings and AAGSC meetings (possibly as a standing agenda item?)
- AAWHG to seek to be an active player in development of White Paper.

**16. General Business**

- Nil

**17. Next Meeting**

- 18 May 2010 in Canberra.