

Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group

Minutes of Australian Aviation Bird And Animal Hazard Working Group
Meeting

Tuesday 25 January 2005

Brindabella Centre – Canberra International Airport

Meeting opened at 12.05 by Anthony Rohead, Chairperson

In attendance

Anthony Rohead	Civil Aviation Safety Authority - Chairperson
Dianne Coyne	Australian Transport Safety Bureau – Secretary
Jill Holdsworth	Australian Airports Association
Mark Farrer	Australasian Aviation Ground Safety Council
John Delaat	Virgin Blue
James Lucas	Qantas Airways
Michael Burgess	Qantas Airways
Bob Wickbold	Civil Aviation Safety Authority
Alf Duczek	Airservices Australia
Terry Conway	Department of Transport and Regional Services
Brian Candler	Regional Aviation Association of Australia
David Drynan	Department of the Environment and Heritage
Alex Ananian-Cooper	Canberra International Airport

Apologies

Pierre Blais	DFS, Department of Defence
Peter Pallot	Australian Airports Association
Kym Foster	Department of Transport and Regional Services

1. Membership

Mike Burgess said that he had corresponded with Boeing and they were interested in coming along.

Mike Burgess also reported that GE Engines would like to receive the working group's minutes but not formally join the group.

Anthony Rohead reported he had yet to write to airlines regarding travel arrangements for a Birds Australia representative to attend meetings.

Action item 1: Dianne Coyne to put Boeing and GE Engines on the distribution list for minutes.

Action item 2: Anthony Rohead to write to airlines regarding proposed travel arrangements for a Birds Australia representative to attend next meeting.

2. Review Actions arising out of the ATSB Report

Elements of Standard Reports

One of the issues identified in the ATSB Research Paper 'The Hazard Posed to Aircraft by Birds', was that 'the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, Department of

Defence and ATSB may wish to consider cooperatively producing regular, standardised reports

The need for a standardised report was affirmed by the working group and the following points were made regarding the content of the proposed report:

- the report structure and format contained in Chapter 3 of the 'The Hazard Posed to Aircraft by Birds' could be used as a basis for an annual report
- the level of reporting to the ATSB will determine what any report will contain
- need to determine what information will help airports and airlines.

Action item 3: All members of the group to consider between now and the next meeting which elements are desirable for inclusion in an Annual Report on bird and animal strikes from the ATSB.

3. Reporting Forms

Anthony Rohead presented a 'Bird/animal strike reporting form' discussion paper and suggested that, with the ATSB developing its new occurrence database, there is now an opportunity to influence birdstrike and animal strike occurrence reporting and recording. After some discussion it was agreed the objective of data collection should be to provide an overview of bird and animal issues Australia-wide rather than trying to focus on individual airport issues. Airports can still collect extra data for their own needs.

John Delaat and Mike Burgess raised issues regarding the accuracy of data reported to and held by the ATSB in relation to birdstrikes. In some cases it can be difficult for reporters to determine the location of a birdstrike occurrence if evidence only comes to light when an aircraft has landed. This could lead a single strike to be reported as different occurrences with different times and locations. It may also be necessary for airlines/reporters to advise ATSB of new information if a birdstrike reported as 'suspected' is later confirmed.

It was accepted that the ICAO reporting form will be pursued with the ATSB as a basis for a bird and animal strike reporting form, both online and hardcopy.

Action item 4: Anthony Rohead to discuss reporting process/content with ATSB.

Action item 5: ATSB to adopt ICAO form for future bird strike reporting.

4. Communication Strategy

Anthony Rohead presented a 'Communication Strategy' discussion paper. It was agreed to accept the communication strategy with the following minor changes:

- expand the scope of information to be provided

- external communication to others should include state and local governments, planning bodies, environmental agencies and others who may be effected/interested.

Action item 6: Anthony Rohead to review "Communication Strategy" prior to next meeting.

Dianne Coyne said that in regard to communication, the ATSB has decided not to post the working group minutes on the ATSB website. Dianne explained that there are more appropriate agency sites for posting and this is line with the policy of the ATSB in regard to the AABAHWG, where the ATSB will fill an observer role and record and report on bird and animal strikes.

Jill Holdsworth suggested that the name of the working group should include the word 'aviation' to become the 'Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group'. This was discussed and accepted.

Action item 7: All to update paper work etc to reflect change of name.

5. Draft "Information Exchange" Working Policy

A draft "Information Exchange" working policy was tabled and discussed at the meeting.

It was agreed to adopt the Draft "Information Exchange" Working Policy.

6. "Measuring and Reporting" Working Policy

A draft "Measuring and Reporting" working policy was tabled and discussed at the meeting.

It was agreed to adopt the draft "Measuring and Reporting" Working Policy.

7. "Definitions" Working Policy

A draft "Definitions" working policy was tabled and discussed at the meeting.

It was agreed to make some minor changes and clarifications to the "Definitions" working policy by:

- changing 'pilot reports a strike' to 'pilot reports a strike to the ATSB'
- replacing the word 'bird' with 'bird/animal' where necessary; and
- amending 'birdstrike in the vicinity' to include the term 'up to 1000 ft' and 'bird or animal strike remote from the aerodrome' to include the term 'or above 1000 ft'.

Action item 8: Anthony Rohead to include minor changes/clarifications in definitions of bird and animal strikes.

8. Preliminary Draft National Framework for Bird and Animal Management at Airports

Jill Holdsworth presented the Australian Airports Association Preliminary Draft National Framework for Bird and Animal Management at Airports. Consultation and liaison with associated airports will be undertaken with the AAA working towards introduction of the framework to their members late in the year. The intent is to have the framework as a guideline for the airports with appropriate adjustments for local issues.

Anthony thanked Jill and Peter Pallot (absent) for the hard work that they have put into the production of the framework. Anthony also stressed that he believed this needed to be a co-operative effort between the AAA/AABAHWG/CASA and Defence.

Jill asked for comments on the framework and these can be forwarded to Peter Pallot and copied to the rest of the working group members.

Action item 9: All to forward comments to Jill/Peter and copy each other in.

9. General business

Mike Burgess outlined the current wildlife management strategy being implemented at Qantas.

Bob Wickbold advised the group of the ICAO aerodromes panel meeting later in the year.

Jill Holdsworth raised the idea of a vision for the group and an appropriate meeting format.

Action item 10: Jill to provide draft vision and meeting format guidelines for discussion at the next meeting.

10. Next meeting

It was agreed the next meeting would be held in Canberra on Tuesday 24th May 2005.

Meeting closed at 14:35.