

Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group

Statement of Purpose and Charter

August 2005

1. Background

This "Statement of Purpose and Charter" has been prepared to provide guidance to members of the Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group in the workings of the Group.

The "Statement of Purpose and Charter" outlines the working arrangements for the Group, as well as the "Purpose and Charter" and the specific "Aims" of the Group.

By joining the Group as a member, those people representing an agency, an organisation or a company agree to be bound by the conditions set out in this "Statement of Purpose and Charter".

Non-Members and Observers who attend a meeting also agree to be bound by the conditions of this "Statement of Purpose and Charter".

2. Name

The organisation will be known as the Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group.

3. Purpose

The Group has come about as a result of one of the recommendations of the Australian Transport Safety Bureau Report into "The Hazards Posed to Aircraft by Birds".

The "Terms of Reference" for the Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group is to:

"enhance awareness of the safety issues surrounding bird and animal strikes; provide an opportunity for bird and animal strike information, knowledge and advice to be shared; and to determine directions for future research, regulations and procedures to mitigate the risk posed by birds and animals to aircraft."

4. Aims

The aims of the Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group are to:

- To provide a reference base for the collection, storage and dissemination of reference material relating to bird and animal hazards to aircraft.
- To provide a consultative forum for the development of legislation, at all levels of Government, in relation to bird and animal hazards.
- To facilitate the exchange of information on bird and animal hazards between interested parties and like organisations to enhance the safety of the aviation industry.
- To provide guidance in developing new research resulting in the reduction of bird and animal hazards to aircraft.
- To provide guidance in the training of industry partners in the reduction of bird and animal hazards to aircraft.
- To provide a model "Bird and Animal Hazard Management Program" to industry for the standardisation of bird hazard identification, reporting and mitigation measures.
- To provide advice on trends and other bird and animal hazard matters relevant to the aviation industry.

- To provide a register of bird and animal hazard control measures used within the Australian aviation industry.
- To ensure the production of regular standardised reports on bird and animal hazards.
- To investigate the possibility of implementing a system in Australia similar to the United States system for bird hazard warnings.
- To liaise with other Bird and Animal Strike Committees or Groups throughout the Region.

5. Membership

The Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group membership is made up of the following groups and companies:

- Airservices Australia
- Australian Transport Safety Bureau
- Civil Aviation Safety Authority
- Defence Force
- Department of the Environment and Heritage
- Department of Transport and Regional Services
- Australasian Aviation Ground Safety Council
- Australian Airports Association
- Qantas Airways
- VirginBlue
- Local Government Association
- Regional Aviation Association of Australia
- Royal Australian Ornithologist Union
- The Boeing Company
- Airbus
- GE Aircraft Engine Manufacturers

Membership of the Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group is open to all who are able to make a contribution to the Group.

New members will be admitted when a 75% majority of existing members agree to their inclusion.

6. Selection of Chair and Secretary

The Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group may select and appoint a Chair and Secretary from its Membership for a term to be agreed to by a 75% majority of the members.

7. Meetings

Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group Meetings are held at least twice a year unless otherwise agreed by the members.

Meetings are held in Canberra (ACT), Australia unless otherwise agreed by the members.

The Chair may call extra-ordinary meetings of the Group to review critical issues or incidents.

8. Attendance by non-members at Meetings

Invitations to attend Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group meetings may be issued to other parties by the Chairperson or delegate, eg, as a guest speaker, or to participate in a forum.

Non-member representatives may also attend meetings in an observer capacity on the invitation of the Chair.

9. Minutes of Meetings

Minutes of the meetings will be kept by the Secretary and distributed to members and other interested parties.

Minutes of the Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group will also be available on the Civil Aviation Safety Authority web site.

10. Amendments to the Charter

Any amendment to the Statement of Purposes and Charter requires the agreement of a 75% majority of members.

11. Activities of the Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group

The Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group may engage in any lawful activity that contributes to the attainment of its objectives. These activities may include:

- Developing and maintaining relationships with other organisations
- Making representations on matters within the competence of members to Government and Industry
- Preparing, developing and/or influencing industry practices, procedures and standards
- Collecting and disseminating information on bird and animal hazards
- Providing feedback to the Department of Transport and Regional Development and the Minister in relation to bird and animal hazard matters
- Without limiting the general items above, specific activities will depend on the competence and expertise of the members

The Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group shall not conflict with the aims and objectives of other aviation safety organisations.

The activities of Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group may also extend to:

- Bird and animal hazard management systems
- Legislative requirements (eg, Regulations etc.)
- Accident/incident reporting, procedures and trends
- Bird and animal hazard training
- Review and comment on publications and standards

12. Costs

As the Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group is a voluntary organisation, all members are expected to meet their own costs.

13. Policies of the Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group

The decisions and recommendations made by the Australian Aviation Bird And Animal Hazard Working Group are not binding on any member organisation; instead they are intended to serve as guidance for the setting of practices and procedures relevant to the needs of each organisation.

Any Working Policies developed by the Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group are for guidance only.

14. Sharing Information

Sharing information, experiences, expertise and networking is an integral part of the operation of the Australian Aviation Bird And Animal Hazard Working Group.

The policy of the Australian Aviation Bird And Animal Hazard Working Group is to promote the idea of free and unhindered exchange of information between all members of the Australian Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group meetings.

Information presented during the meeting that is company specific information remains confidential.

If specifically authorised, information can be officially recorded in the minutes. This will only be done when written clearance is given for the official recording of the information.

15. Chair

Anthony Rohead, the current Chair of the Australian Aviation Bird And Animal Hazard Working Group, is employed by the Civil Aviation Safety Authority as an Aerodrome Inspector.

Anthony has over 20 years experience in airport management and operations.

16. Secretary

Dianne Coyne is the current Secretary of the Australian Aviation Bird And Animal Hazard Working Group. Dianne is employed by the Australian Transport Safety Bureau.

17. History

The Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group Australasian grew out of a meeting between the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA), the Australian Transport Safety Bureau (ATSB) and the Australian Aviation Ground Safety Council (AAGSC) held in May 2003. This initial meeting agreed that a national group to look at the national issues with bird and animal hazards to aviation was needed.

The foundation meeting was held in Canberra on the 3rd of December 2003 with members from the Civil Aviation Safety Authority, the Australian Airports Association (AAA), the AAGSC, Airservices Australia, the ATSB, Virgin Blue, and the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).

Since then, the Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group has met on a number of occasions with an expanding membership list that now includes aircraft manufactures and other aviation industry organisations.

Since its inception in 2003, the Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group has provided a mutually beneficial forum aimed at promoting and advancing the issue of bird and animal hazard to aircraft.

18. Contact Details

Organisations and individuals interested in finding out more about the Australian Aviation Bird and Animal Hazard Working Group should contact the Chair or Secretary of the Group.

The Chair or Secretary can be contacted on the following numbers:

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