



## USE OF DRONES AT THE AUSTRALIAN BOTANIC GARDEN, MOUNT ANNAN

INFORMATION	
Purpose	This document outlines information regarding the use of drones, or Remotely Piloted Aircrafts (RPA), for events and commercial filming in the Australian Botanic Garden (ABG). It provides guidance and procedures to be followed to operate drones safely and effectively.
Background	The use of drones is a relatively new and emerging industry and ABG is seeing an increase in requests for this type of activity. Our priority remains focused on public and event patron safety as well as compliance with relevant laws and regulations.
Laws and Regulations	Use of a drone will only be permitted in ABG if its use is compliant with the law and CASA regulations and operated by qualified and CASA certified persons in a controlled environment. Operating a Drone on ABG land without written consent from Botanic Gardens of Sydney (BGOS) is an offence and a breach of the Royal Botanic Garden & Domain Trust Regulations, Part 7, Clause 34. All commercial drone use regardless of size and type requires BGOS approval to take-off or land on Trust land. The use of drones for recreational purpose or to capture footage of a private or corporate event or activity is prohibited on Trust land.

## CERTIFICATIONS AND DOCUMENTS REQUIRED

CASA issued RPA Operators Certificate (ReOC)

CASA issued Remote Pilot Licence (RePL) or UAV Operations Certificate (UOC) for each proposed operator

A copy of the drone operating types & nominated personnel from the ReOC operations manual

A copy of the Public Liability Insurance certificate of the drone operator's company (\$20M)

Flight risk assessment

Flight site map – including take-off & landing location and flight path

Any required CASA issued exemptions

**Operators of drones weighing less than 2kgs (Sub 2 Kilo drones) that do not fulfil the above certifications & documents will not be permitted to operate a drone on Trust land.**

## SAFETY INFORMATION

DO NOT fly closer than 30 meters to vehicles, buildings or people without a CASA exemption - please note this also applies to trees.

DO NOT fly over any populated areas such as heavily populated parks, large events or lawns where there is visitor activity.

DO NOT operate within 3 nautical miles or 5.5 km of a controlled aerodrome or helicopter landing site without CASA approval – BGOS will refer to [Open Sky](#), the drone safety app approved by CASA to identify exclusion zone boundaries.

ONLY operate your drone during daylight (unless with CASA exemption), good weather and in visual-line-of-sight. Drone operations beyond pilot's visual-line-of-sight require a CASA area approval.

DO NOT fly above 400ft/120m AGL (Above Ground Level).

Operations within restricted airspace requires approval from the controlling authority – this may be CASA.

Operations within military airspace requires military approval (LOA -letter of agreement) and CASA approval.

Operators are to operate keeping within the privacy legislation.

## BGOS PROCEDURE

THE FOLLOWING STEPS MUST BE COMPLETED AT LEAST 5 WORKING DAYS PRIOR TO THE PROPOSED FLYING DATE IN ORDER TO OBTAIN BGOS EXECUTIVE APPROVAL:

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Completed Filming & Photography application form (when applicable)

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Copies of all the above-mentioned certifications and documents must be supplied by the applicant, including flight site plan and risk assessment

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Site visit must be scheduled with the applicant, the drone operator and the venue representative to ascertain feasibility and safety of each proposed location

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Proof of notifying NSW Police must be supplied by the applicant

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Spotters or barricading plan enforcing the required 30m clearance from the public must be supplied by the applicant

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Pedestrian control plan and traffic control plan if drone operations are near pathways or roadways must be supplied by the applicant

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Any required CASA issued exemptions

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Additionally, Ranger Security Officer resources must be engaged through ABG at a cost to the applicant to monitor compliance to the conditions of approval provided by BGOS.

## MORE INFORMATION & REFERENCES

<https://www.casa.gov.au/aircraft/landing-page/flying-drones-australia> or call CASA on 131 757  
<https://wing.com/opensky>  
<https://droneflyer.com.au/>