



<b>Adopted:</b>	Council meeting, 14 May 2020
<b>Replaces:</b>	Operation of Drones over Council Reserve Land Policy 2017
<b>Review date:</b>	14 May 2025

**Policy Statement** Hurunui District Council grants permission for drones to be flown over Council controlled reserves (as identified in the [Council's Reserve Management Plan](#)) subject to the conditions below, and the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Part 101 and Part 102 rules.

Hurunui District Council does not set, monitor or enforce the CAA rules. If you have concerns that these rules are being breached please contact the CAA on [isi@caa.govt.nz](mailto:isi@caa.govt.nz) or phone 0508 4SAFETY (0508 472 3389). If there is an imminent threat to people or property, please contact the Police.

**Context** Part 101 and Part 102 Civil Aviation Rules came into effect August 2015 to manage the hazards and risks of drone use in New Zealand. The rules are set, monitored and enforced nationally by the CAA. The rules apply to both recreational and commercial drone operators.

Part 101 Rules:

- Set out rules for safe drone operation. If operators fly within these rules, certification from the CAA is not required.
- Require drone operators to obtain consent of the landowner or person in charge of the land they intend to fly above. This includes Council owned land.

Part 102 Rules:

- Designed for higher-risk operations which do not meet the Part 101 rules.
- Operations require an application to the CAA for a Part 102 certificate. The CAA assesses applications on a case-by-case basis.

**Intent and Scope** The intent of this policy is to provide guidance on where, and under what conditions, operators are permitted to fly drones over land controlled by Hurunui District Council.

This policy grants permission to fly over Council reserves only. To fly over other Council owned land will require permission.

The policy seeks to provide for drone use over Council reserves while protecting the amenity of other reserve users and adjoining property owners in terms of potential noise, privacy and safety concerns.

This policy should be read in conjunction with CAA [Part 101](#) and [Part 102](#) rules. The website [airshare.co.nz](http://airshare.co.nz) is a useful resource.

**Conditions of permitted operation**

- ❖ Drones shall not be operated:
  - Over sports fields if in use by others.
  - Where there is booked use of a public area, except where the booking is the user's own.

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- [During a prohibited fire season.](#)
  - Above and within 10m of the following:
    - Any reserve boundary which borders private property.
    - Bodies of water where birds are present.
    - Council buildings or campgrounds.
    - Council cemeteries.
    - Grazing stock.
    - Playgrounds.
    - The Hanmer Springs Thermal Pool Reserve.
- ❖ Drones shall be operated in a manner that complies with the Office of the Privacy Commissioner’s guidance on preserving privacy by not flying over people or adjoining private property without their consent.

Any breach of the above conditions could result in the termination of the operator’s permission to fly a drone over Council land.

Any flight outside of the above conditions will require written permission from Council.

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**Applying for permission**

On a case-by-case basis the Amenities Manager will consider applications to fly:

- Over Council owned land that is not a reserve.
- Outside the conditions of a permitted operation.

Applications must be received prior to the flight operation. A copy of the application form is attached as Appendix 1. Consent may be granted to fly for a specific purpose and timeframe.

Permission to fly within the Hanmer Springs Thermal Pool Reserve is through the Pool Manager.

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**Police and Emergency Situations**

Other than drones operated by the New Zealand Police, Civil Defence and emergency management officials, no drones have permission to fly over Council property within a 1-kilometre radius of an emergency situation<sup>1</sup> which is actively attended by emergency officials.

For the avoidance of doubt, the use of drones by New Zealand Police, Civil Defence and emergency management officials working under the direction of the relevant Incident or Civil Defence Controller are exempt from the conditions of this policy in the event of, or prevention of, an emergency situation.

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**Special precautions for flights near private airstrips**

Drone operators should be aware of private airfields and the potential for piloted aircraft to be flying near where they choose to fly their drone. Sensible precautions should be taken.

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END OF POLICY

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<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this policy an ‘emergency situation’ is defined as a serious, unexpected, and often dangerous situation requiring immediate action to avoid injury, loss of life or damage to property.

## Appendix 1 – Request for permission form

Personal Details	
Full name	
Contact phone number	
Postal address	
Email	
Date of birth	
Details of Flight Operation	
Date	
Time	
Type of drone (include weight and wingspan)	
Purpose of flight	
Why flight does not meet policy guidelines and requires permission	
Confirmation that flight will be within Part 101 rules. <i>If not written permission from the Civil Aviation Authority will be required.</i>	

- I have read, understood and will comply with the Civil Aviation Authority rules part 101 when operating or supervising the operation of this drone.
- I will obtain the permission of any person or persons before filming them and understand this is a public space and respect other users.

Signed:

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Signature

Date