# Guidelines for heliports - design and operation - Draft Advisory Circular 139.R-01 v3.0

Overview

We would like your feedback on amendments to our guidance for the design and operation of heliports in advisory circular (AC) 139.R-01.

The amendments to AC 139.R-01 include:

* a new ‘General’ subsection (5.2.1) in section 5.2 – Markings and markers
* a new subsection (5.2.18) for obstacle markings
* updates to Chapter 6 to incorporate feedback from industry experts, inclusive of heliport operators and designers, on heliport emergency response
* more information about the systems and equipment necessary to provide an immediate response in the case of an accident
* a new Appendix C for Rescue and firefighting equipment and services risk assessment considerations
* minor edits consequential to the amendments above.

The update to Chapter 6 is intended to provide greater clarity:

* for determining the heliport operator’s intended emergency response and associated facilities in the event of abnormal helicopter operations
* on the difference between emergency response facilities provided at the heliport needed to ensure the survivability of persons after a helicopter crash or any other incident that may result in a fire at the heliport
* on systems needed to achieve the heliport operator’s emergency response objectives onsite, versus an offsite emergency response.

This AC applies to:

* persons involved in the design, construction, and operation of heliports
* proponents of heliports
* helicopter owners/operators
* planning authorities
* aerodrome operators
* CASA personnel.

Why your views matter

We recognise the valuable contribution that community and industry consultation makes to the regulatory development process. Your feedback will increase our understanding of your needs and whether the draft AC provides adequate guidance on heliport design considerations.

We are seeking feedback as to whether:

* the content and structure of the guidance provided is clear and sufficient
* it is fit for the purpose of supporting decision making on the infrastructure necessary for emergency response at heliports.

**Related Documents**

All documents related to this consultation are attached in the ‘Related’ section at the bottom of the overview page. They are:

* Draft AC 139.R-01 v3.0
* MS Word copy of online consultation for ease of distribution and feedback within your organisation.

Please read the AC document before providing your feedback.

Please submit your comments on the draft AC through the Consultation Hub using the survey provided. If you are unable to provide feedback this way, please email us at [regulatoryconsultation@casa.gov.au](mailto:regulatoryconsultation@casa.gov.au?subject=Consultation%20on%20Guidelines%20for%20heliports%20-%20design%20and%20operation%20-%20Draft%20Advisory%20Circular%20139.R-01%20v3.0).

**What happens next**

At the end of the response period, we will:

* review all comments received
* make responses publicly available on the consultation hub (unless you request your submission remain confidential)
* publish a Summary of Consultation which summarises the feedback received and outlines any intended changes and next steps.

Feedback that improves the guidance will be incorporated into the final guidance.

# Give Us Your Views

[Appears on the overview page at the bottom]

Online Survey

[This link is on the front page of the survey and takes you to the survey questions]

**Related**

[This section is at the bottom of the front page and contains all the links to other sites and documents related to this consultation]

**Related Documents**

List of documents attached to the consultation

* Draft AC 139.R-01 v3.0
* MS Word copy of online consultation on Guidelines for heliports - design and operation - Draft Advisory Circular 139.R-01 v3.0

# Audience & Interest groups

**Audience**

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| * Aerodrome operator |
| * Air operator |
| * Manufacturers |
| * Pilots |
| * Certified aerodrome owner/operator |
| * Unregulated aerodrome owner/operator |
| * Aerodrome owner/operators |
| * Aerodrome industry consultant |
| * Helicopter pilots |
| * Flight training operators - helicopters |
| * AOC holders operating helicopters |
| * Part 138 of CASR certificate holders operating helicopters |
| * Vertiport developers |

**Interest**

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| * Airspace and infrastructure |
| * Emergencies and incident reporting |
| * Safety management systems |
| * Safety promotion |
| * Vertiports |

# Page 1. About this consultation

This consultation asks for your feedback on the draft amendment to AC 139.R-01 - Guidelines for heliports - design and operation.

We will ask you for:

* **personal information**, such as your name, any organisation you represent, and your email address
* **your consent** to publish your submission
* **your responses** to the proposed changes in the guidance
* **demographic information** to help us understand your interest in the guidance
* **any comments** you may want to provide

Our [website](https://www.casa.gov.au/rules/changing-rules/consultation-industry-and-public) contains more information on making a submission and what we do with your feedback.

# Page 2. Personal information

## First name

*(Required)*

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## Last name

*(Required)*

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## Email

*If you enter your email address, you will automatically receive an acknowledgement email when you submit your response.*

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## Do your views officially represent those of an organisation?

*(Required)*

*Please select only one item*

Yes, I am authorised to submit feedback on behalf of an organisation

No, these are my personal views.

## If yes, please specify the name of your organisation.

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Which of the following best describes the group you represent?

*Please select all that apply*

aircraft owner/operator

pilot

heliport operator

aerodrome operator

persons involved in the design of heliports

persons involved in the construction of heliports

land use planning authorities

rescue and fire response agencies

building approval authorities

other

Please specify ‘Other’ if selected.

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# Page 3. Consent to publish submission

To provide transparency and promote debate, we intend to publish all responses to this consultation. This may include both detailed responses/submissions in full and aggregated data drawn from the responses received.

Where you consent to publication, we will include:

* **your last name** if the submission is made by you as an individual
* **the name of the organisation** on whose behalf the submission has been made
* **your responses** and comments

We **will not** include any other personal or demographic information in a published response

Do you give permission for your response to be published?

*(Required)*

*Please select only one item*

Yes - I give permission for my response/submission to be published.

No - I would like my response/submission to remain confidential but understand that de-identified aggregate data may be published.

I am a CASA officer.

Information about how we consult and how to make a confidential submission is available on our [website](https://www.casa.gov.au/rules/changing-rules/consultation-industry-and-public).

# Page 4. Feedback on draft amendments to AC 139.R-01

Please provide any feedback you may have on draft amendments to AC 139.R-01 in the comment boxes below.

**Fact Bank:** Draft AC 139.R-01 v3.0 PDF

**Question 1.**

Do you have any feedback on the new guidance in **Chapter 6**?

Comments on Chapter 6

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**Question 2.**

Do you have any feedback on the new **‘General’ subsection (5.2.1)** in section 5.2 - Markings and markers?

Comments on subsection 5.2.1 – General

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**Question 3.**

Is the draft guidance in the new **subsection 5.2.18 – Obstacle markings**, clear on how to manage objects, obstacles and specific obstacle limitations surfaces, in the vicinity of helicopter operations?

General comments on subsection 5.2.18 – Obstacle markings

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**Question 4.**

In relation to **subsection 5.2.18 – Obstacle markings**, do you have any comments specific to:

* removal of objects prior to the arrival or departure of the helicopter
* marking of fixed objects or obstacles that could be a hazard to ensure they are visible from the air
* the colours used for marking obstacles, i.e. alternate black and yellow, or alternate red and white bands or dayglo orange bands?

Comments on subsection 5.2.18 – Obstacle markings, specific to marking colours, removal of objects, and fixed objects.

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**Question 5.**

Do you have any feedback on the new **Appendix C** for Rescue and firefighting equipment and services risk assessment considerations?

Comments on Appendix C

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**Question 6.**

Do you have any other feedback on the AC?

General comments

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