

Proposed discrete frequency for Ballina and new frequency for Lismore, Casino and Evans Head

Overview

The Office of Airspace Regulation (OAR) has identified that frequency congestion around Ballina, Lismore, Casino and Evans Head aerodromes could be reduced through the allocation of a separate Common Traffic Advisory Frequency (CTAF) for Lismore and Casino.

Background

Ballina aerodrome shares its radio frequency of 124.2 MHz with Lismore, Casino and Evans Head aerodromes. These aerodromes have a large mix of traffic and over the last decade have become busier. Changes have been made in the Ballina area to create a broadcast area to ensure radio calls are being made to help other flights with traffic awareness.

From 9 June 2021 to 11 July 2021, the OAR conducted a survey on frequency congestion in the vicinity of Ballina and a proposal to allocate a different CTAF for Lismore, Casino and Evans Head aerodromes.

Most respondents supported the proposal to allocate Lismore and Casino a different CTAF to Ballina and to have Evans Head CTAF changed to 126.7 - the same as Swan Bay airfield which is close by.

The OAR has visited the Ballina area on numerous occasions and conducted extensive consultation with stakeholders, which have consistently raised concerns regarding frequency congestion in the area as a result of the shared radio frequency.

Proposal

The OAR is now formally proposing to:

- allocate Lismore and Casino a different CTAF to Ballina.
- allocate Evans Head aerodrome the Multicom CTAF of 126.7.

It is noted that changes may be required to the Ballina broadcast area as part of the changes to the Lismore and Casino CTAFs.

Documents for review

A copy of the consultation and AvSef paper is provided below.

If you would like to provide further feedback, please email OAR@casa.gov.au. Feedback submitted by email will be considered but cannot be published publicly.

Further information about [airspace regulation](https://www.casa.gov.au/airspace/airspace-regulation) is available on the CASA website.

Why your views matter

Why we are consulting

We are seeking your feedback regarding the change of frequencies at Lismore, Casino and Evans Head.

What Happens Next

Once the consultation has closed, we will register and review each submission received through the online response form. We will make all submissions publicly available on the Consultation Hub, unless you request that your submission remain confidential. We will also publish the final report on our website.

Information about how we consult and how to make a confidential submission is available on the [CASA website](https://www.casa.gov.au/standard-page/consultation-process).

To be notified of any future consultations, you can subscribe to our [consultation and rulemaking mailing list](https://mailinglist.casa.gov.au/?p=subscribe&id=3).

Personal information

1 What is your name?

Name *(Required)*

2 What is your email address?

email *(Required)*

3 Do your views officially represent those of an organisation?

Please select all that apply

- 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

Consent to publish submission

In order to promote debate and transparency, 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 may include:

your last name, if the submission is made by you as an individual

your responses and comments

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

Information about how we consult and how to make a confidential submission is available on the [CASA website](https://www.casa.gov.au/rules-and-regulations/landing-page/consultation-process) <<https://www.casa.gov.au/rules-and-regulations/landing-page/consultation-process>> .

4 Do you give permission for your response to be published?

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.

Feedback

5 Do you agree with the proposal to allocate Lismore and Casino a different CTAF to Ballina?

Please select only one item

- Yes
- No

Further information

6 Do you agree with the proposal to allocate Evans Head aerodrome the Multicom CTAF of 126.7?

Please select only one item

- Yes
- No

Further information

7 Do you have any other suggestions or concerns with the airspace within this area?