
**Request for Permanent Danger Area
Rocket Lab Recapture First Stage Rocket
Components Testing
Airspace user consultation**

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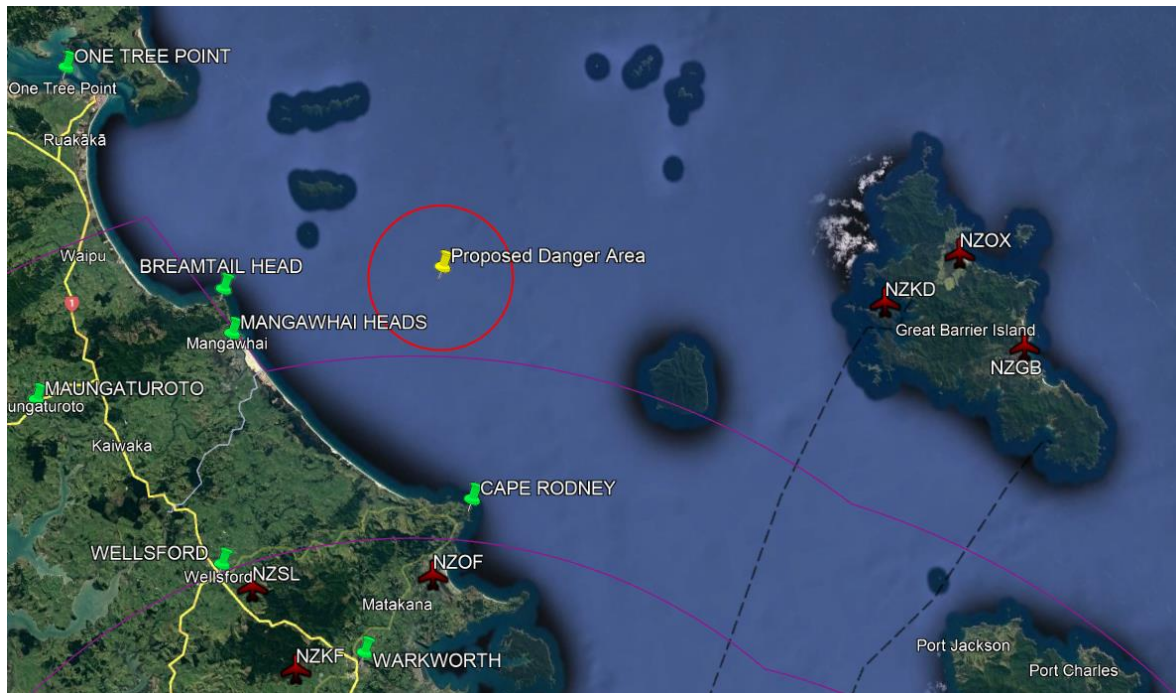
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Introduction

Rocket Lab New Zealand have submitted an airspace application for a permanent danger area to conduct testing and training in relation to the Rocket Lab recovery project. The danger area activity includes parachute testing, dropping objects under a parachute, dropping objects from height into the water and helicopter sling load operations. Further information is available on the Rocket Lab website at <https://www.rocketlabusa.com/launch/electron/> (scroll down the page to the *Reusability* section)

Proposed area

The proposed area is bounded by a circle with a 4 nautical mile radius centred on position 36 04 00 S, 174 50 00 E, the proposed upper limit is 9500 ft AMSL. The area would be activated by NOTAM at least 24 hours before the area is to become active, in accordance with CAA Rule Part 71, 71.161 (c)(3).



Rocket Lab have conducted prior consultation with a number of stakeholders; Air New Zealand Flight Operations and Airways New Zealand have both indicated they have no objections to the promulgation of the proposed area.

Possible effect to IFR aircraft

Aeropath Procedure Design staff confirm that the proposed danger area, being outside controlled airspace, will not affect any instrument flight procedures. There are 2 air traffic service routes, KQ839 & Q193, close to the proposed danger area; the activating NOTAM would warn pilots operating on those routes outside of controlled airspace of this activity. There are some Auckland Standard Instrument Arrival (STAR) routes, including the

Auckland night STAR, transitions that pass over the area. However, these Auckland arrivals will remain within controlled airspace whilst on these flight procedures.

Possible effect to VFR aircraft

The effect on VFR aircraft should be minimal.

Consultation

Prior to designating airspace, Civil Aviation Rule 71.9 requires the Director to consult with affected persons, organisations and representative groups within the aviation industry before making a designation or classification of airspace.

The Director invites feedback regarding the proposed airspace change.

This document will be sent directly to the organisations listed below. It would be appreciated if you would kindly forward the document to your members for consideration and comment.

Aerodrome operators (charted aerodromes only)

- Okiwi Station Aerodrome
- Great Barrier Aerodrome
- Motu Kaikoura Island Aerodrome
- Omaha Flats Aerodrome
- Springhill Aerodrome
- Kaipara Flats Aerodrome
- Whangarei Aerodrome
- North Shore Aerodrome
- Parakai Aerodrome
- Whenuapai Aerodrome
- Auckland International Airport

Operators, Organisations and User Groups

- Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association
- Airways Corporation of New Zealand
- Air New Zealand
- Great Barrier Airlines
- Northern Emergency Services Trust
- Auckland Regional Helicopter Trust
- Auckland Airspace User Group
- Balloon Association of New Zealand
- Gliding New Zealand
- New Zealand Aviation Federation
- New Zealand Hang Gliding and Paragliding Association
- New Zealand Helicopter Association

- North Shore Aero Club
- Whangarei Flying Club
- Recreational Aircraft Association of New Zealand
- Royal New Zealand Air Force
- Sport Aircraft Association New Zealand
- Sport Aviation Corp

Notification that this document has been posted online will be sent to CAA email notification subscribers to Airspace Notifications – Briefing Areas 1 and 2.

This document is also available on the CAA website at the following link:

[2022 airspace reviews | aviation.govt.nz](#)

Submissions

This document forms part of the consultation process. Submissions are sought from any interested person, organisation or representative group.

Submissions are accepted either electronically or via mail, addressed to:

Team Coordinator
Aviation Security and Infrastructure
Civil Aviation Authority of New Zealand
PO Box 3555
Wellington 6140

Email: aeronautical.services@caa.govt.nz

Reference – 22/ASD/33 Rocket Lab Recapture First Stage Rocket Components Testing

Closing date for submissions to this proposal is **Wednesday 17th March 2022**

For further information contact:

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