



Australian Government
Civil Aviation Safety Authority

RPA
REMOTELY PILOTED AIRCRAFT



DON'T GO THERE!

Keep your unmanned aircraft away from bushfires!



Never fly a drone, model aircraft or multirotor near bushfires. You might be tempted to get spectacular pictures and video, and you may not think you could be making things worse, but flying drones near bushfires creates two dangers:

- » **Mid-air collision:** Even a small drone could bring down a helicopter if it collided with the tail rotor, or an aeroplane if it hits the propeller.
- » **Grounding:** Flying your drone near a bushfire could lead to aircraft being grounded to avoid it. If a fire gets out of control because water bombing aircraft can't fly it could cost even more lives than a collision.

Another good reason to keep your drone away from a fire is that firefighting aircraft often fly much lower than the usual 500 feet minimum altitude.



The fine print: You have to comply with Part 101 of the *Civil Aviation Safety Regulations*, whether you fly an unmanned aircraft commercially or for fun. This means:



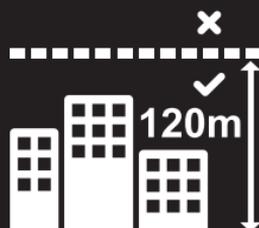
You must only operate this aircraft in your line-of-sight in daylight. **Don't let it get too far away from you.**

You must not fly closer than **30 metres** to **vehicles, boats, buildings** or **people**



You must not fly over **any populous area**, such as beaches, other people's backyards, heavily populated parks, or sports ovals where there is a game in progress. And nowhere near a fire, obviously.

If you are in controlled airspace, which covers most Australian cities, you must **not fly higher than 400 feet (120 metres)**



You should not fly within **5.5 km** of an airfield.

Common-sense summary: You must not operate any unmanned aircraft in a way that creates a hazard to another aircraft, another person, or property.

Respect personal privacy. Don't record or photograph people without their consent – this may breach state laws.

MORE INFORMATION

Model aircraft: casa.gov.au/sportaviation

Remotely piloted aircraft: casa.gov.au/rpa

Phone **131 757** or **1800 687 342**

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