

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Seaplanes](#)  
**Subject:** Seaplanes on Lake Burley Griffin  
**Date:** Saturday, 8 May 2021 7:04:44 PM

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Mr Andrew Smith  
Chief Planner  
National Capital Authority

Dear Andrew

A colleague has drawn my attention to the NCA discussion paper posted at:  
<https://www.nca.gov.au/consultation/seaplanes-lake-burley-griffin-discussion-paper>

It is essential that the NCA's assessment of the proposed use of parts of Lake Burley Griffin for seaplane operations includes a comprehensive review and assessment of potential wildlife hazards to such aircraft operations.

Large birds such as black swan and pelican, as well as other water/wetland birds such as cormorants, ibis, egrets, herons, ducks and silver gulls are common on, over and in the vicinity of Lake Burley Griffin. Many of these birds occur in flocks. The Canberra Ornithologists Group can provide a wide range of expertise and data relating to such bird activity.

Bird activity at coastal locations such as Rose Bay, Sydney Harbour, do not adequately inform an assessment of potential wildlife hazards to seaplane operations on Lake Burley Griffin.

Assessment of potential wildlife hazards to seaplane operations should also include flying fox activity.

The Civil Aviation Safety Authority requires aerodrome operators to prepare wildlife hazard management plans: Manual of Standards (MOS) Part 139: Wildlife Hazard Management Plans.

I expect that public safety is the NCA's primary consideration with respect to seaplane operations on Lake Burley Griffin.

It is essential that potential wildlife hazards to seaplane operations be assessed by an appropriately qualified and experienced aviation wildlife hazard management expert.

Regards

Peter Davidson [B.App.Sc](#)

1975 - 1991:  
Chief Ornithologist  
Bird Hazard Investigation Unit  
Civil Aviation Safety Authority (and its predecessors)

post 1991:  
Aviation Wildlife Hazard Management Consultant