

Sunshine Coast and Caloundra Airports

Aircraft Noise Information Report

Quarter 1 2013 (January to March)

Version Control

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1. Purpose

This report summarises data for Quarter 1 2013 (January to March) from Airservices' Operational Data Warehouse (ODW) and Noise Complaints and Information Service (NCIS) for the Maroochydore/Caloundra area (Sunshine Coast and Caloundra Airports).

1.1 Sunshine Coast Airport

Sunshine Coast Airport is located approximately 7 km to the north of Maroochydore CBD (see Figure 1). During Quarter 1 2013 there were around 15,000 aircraft movements at the Airport. Of these around 40 per cent involve circuit training activities. A mixture of regular passenger transport operations (involving medium to larger propeller and medium jets) and smaller general aviation aircraft operate at this airport.

1.2 Caloundra Airport

Caloundra Airport is approximately 2 km west of the Caloundra CBD and 20 km south of Sunshine Coast Airport (see Figure 2). Small fixed wing aircraft and helicopters predominately operate out of this airport. Most operations at this airport are conducted outside air traffic control.

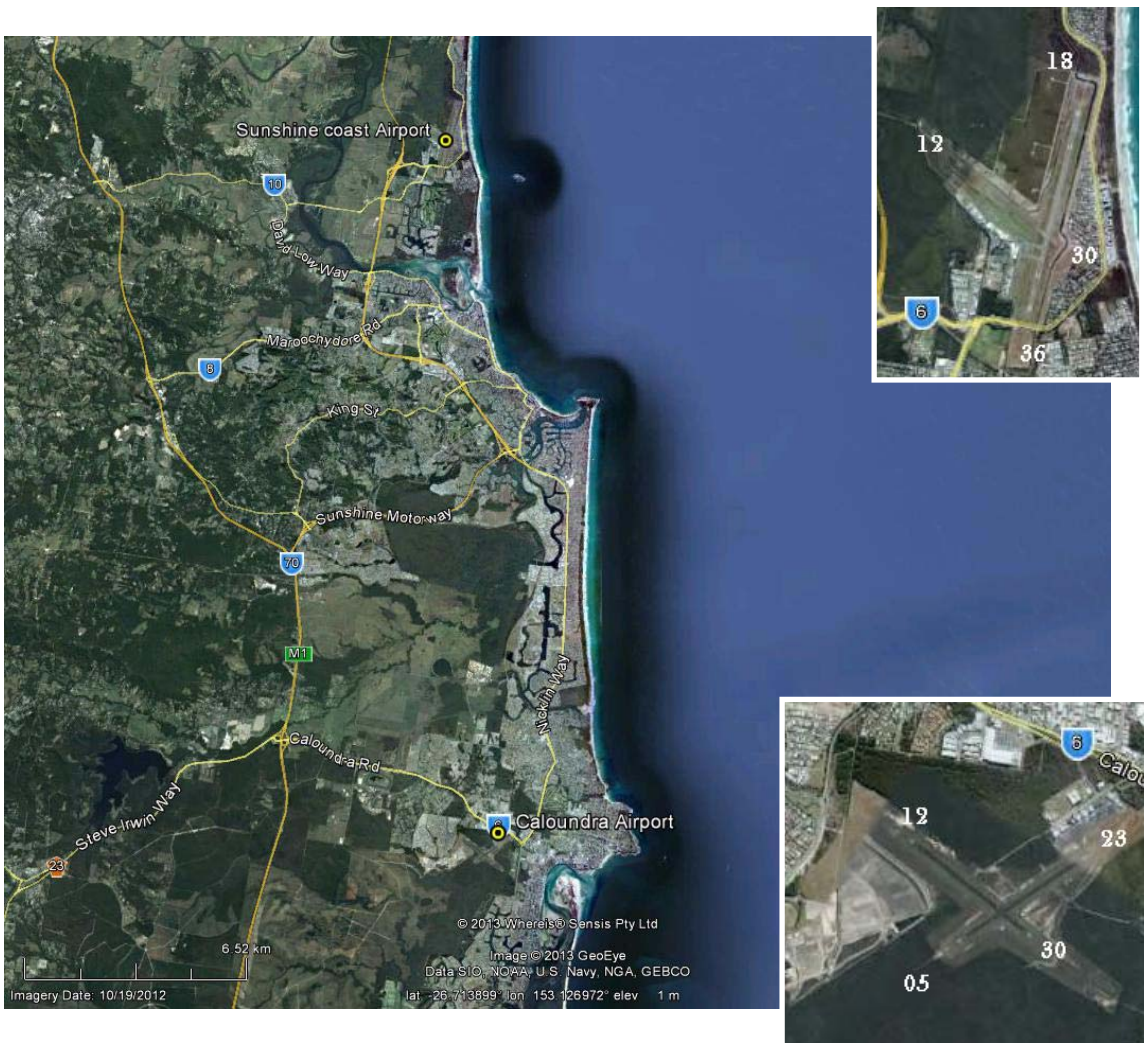


Figure 1 Location of Sunshine Coast and Caloundra Airports. Runway orientation for both airports is shown in the inserts.

Figure 1 shows runway configuration at Sunshine Coast and Caloundra Airports. The runways at Sunshine Coast Airport consist of a main runway (18/36) of length 1.8km orientated north-south and a 0.65km cross runway (12/30) aligned north/west to south/east. Caloundra Airport also has two runways, a north/east to south/west (05/23) and a north/west to south/east (12/30) both of length 0.76km. Information about runway selection is available on the Airservices website at www.airservicesaustralia.com/aircraftnoise/factsheets/.

2. Aircraft movements

2.1 Airport movements

Figure 2 shows aircraft movements at Sunshine Coast Airport for the 15 month period to the end of Quarter 1 2013.

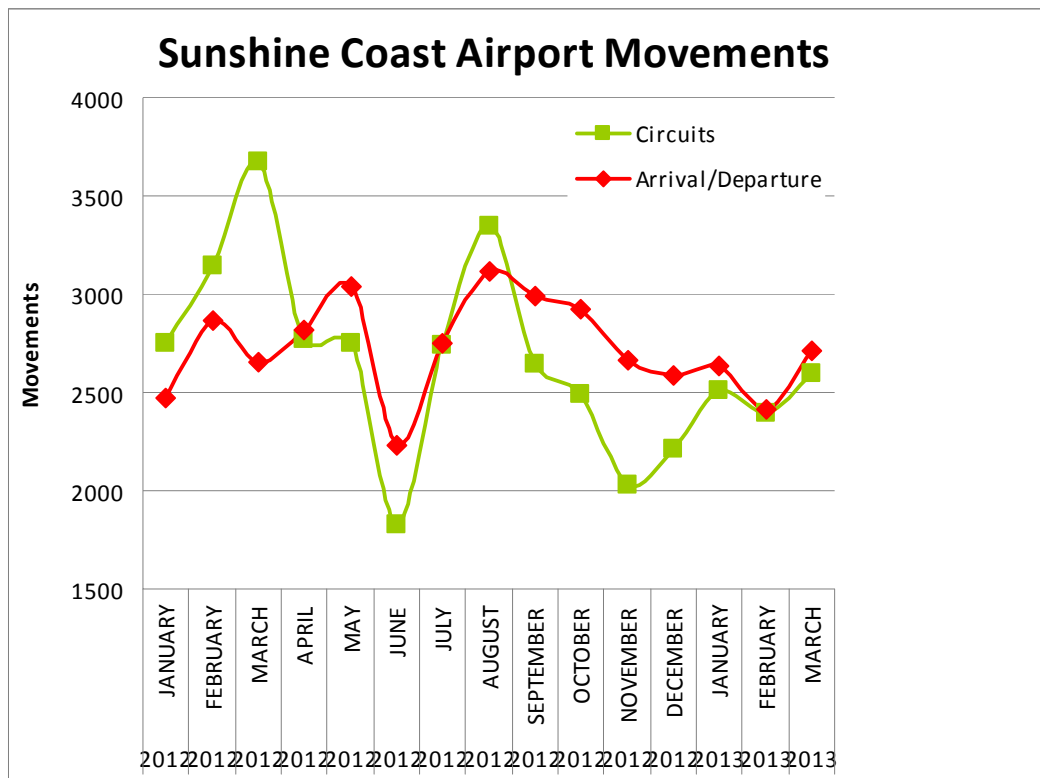


Figure 2 Aircraft movements at Sunshine Coast Airport from January to March 2013

Key points shown in Figure 2 are:

- Around half of the operations at Sunshine Coast Airport involve circuit operations. These involve smaller single or twin engine aircraft.
- The 2012 trend in the number of training operations is different from the previous year. This is largely due to particular training cycles of flying schools.

Caloundra Airport

During Quarter 1 2013 there were 416 aircraft that lodged a flight plan with Airservices. However the vast majority of operations at Caloundra Airport are outside of Airservices control.

3. Complaints data

Airservices manages complaints and enquiries about aircraft noise and operations through its Noise Complaints and Information Service (NCIS). Complaints, enquiries and requests for information about aircraft operations received by the NCIS are collected and stored in a database for the purpose of complaint management, analysis of issues and identification of causal factors. Each complaint, enquiry or request for information is referred to as a contact and each person who makes contact with the NCIS is referred to as a client.

3.1 NCIS Clients by suburb

The NCIS received contacts from 45 clients from Caloundra and Sunshine Coast Airports during Quarter 1 of 2013. Client density maps are used to show the number of clients from each suburb, with suburbs coloured according to how many clients had contacted the NCIS. The data does not include clients who contacted other organisations (eg. airports).

Table 1 provides a breakdown of clients from January to March 2013 by suburb.

Figure 3 shows client density for Caloundra and Sunshine Coast Airports for Quarter 1 of 2013.

Table 1 Recorded clients January to March 2013 by suburb and airport

Suburb	Sunshine Coast Airport	Caloundra Airport	Total
Not Specified	2	-	2
Bells Creek	-	1	1
Buderim	1	1	2
Caloundra	-	3	3
Caloundra West	-	2	2
Coolum Beach	3	-	3
Cootharaba	1	-	1
Golden Beach	-	2	2
Little Mountain	-	1	1
Marcoola	14	-	14
Mudjimba	2	-	2
Noosa North Shore	2	-	2
Pelican Waters	-	3	3
Peregian Beach	2	-	2
Peregian Springs	1	-	1
Tewantin	2	-	2
Twin Waters	1	-	1
Yaroomba	1	-	1
Total	32	13	45

Key point shown in Table 1 is:

- The vast majority of clients in the Sunshine Coast region during Quarter 1 of 2013 contacted the NCIS over concerns with Sunshine Coast airport operations. This is to be expected as larger aircraft can operate at this airport due to its longer main runway.

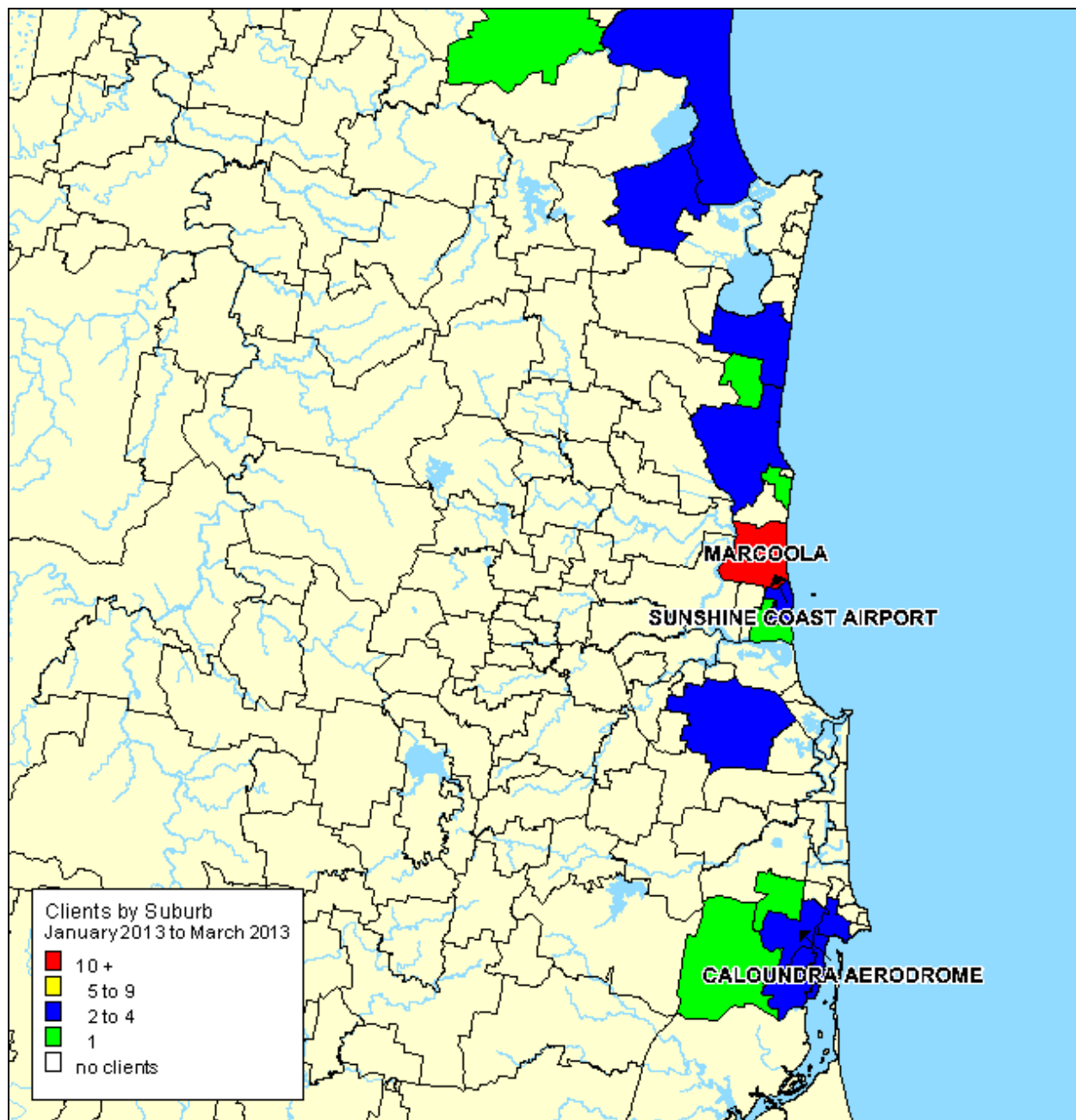


Figure 3 Sunshine Coast and Caloundra Airports client density by suburb for January to March 2013.

The key points shown in Figure 3 are:

- Suburbs around Sunshine Coast Airport (particularly Marcoola) have the greater number of clients. In these suburbs, the issues of concern were helicopter operations and propeller aircraft.
- There were also complaints about helicopter movements in the northern parts of the region. Some of these complaints may relate to flights that originated from the Teewah airstrip, as well as from Sunshine Coast Airport.

3.2 Issues raised by NCIS clients

Figure 4 shows the top five issues raised by clients at Sunshine Coast and Caloundra Airports for the 15 month period to the end of Quarter 1 of 2013. A single contact can involve multiple issues (ie. a client may have raised more than one issue when they contacted the NCIS). During this 15 month period, the issues raised by the greatest number of clients were helicopter operations, low flying aircraft, noise from propeller aircraft and increased frequency of operations from Sunshine Coast Airport and helicopter operations from Caloundra Airport.

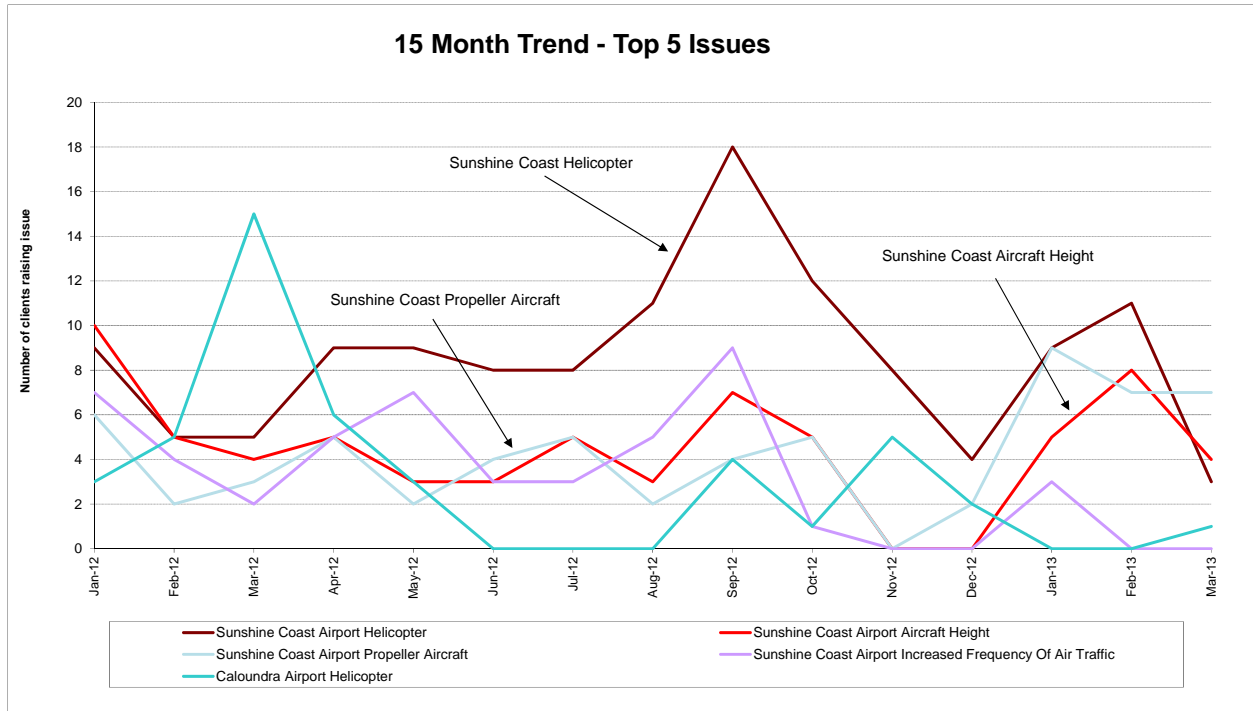


Figure 4 Top five issues for Caloundra and Sunshine Coast Airports for the 15 month period, January 2012 to March 2013

The key points shown by Figure 4 are:

- While the number of clients raising four of the top five issues at Caloundra Airport and Sunshine Coast Airport has remained steady, the number of clients complaining about helicopter operations fluctuated greatly in 2012, peaking in Quarter 3 and falling back again in Quarter 4. Quarter 3 was the quarter with the highest number of helicopter circuits at Sunshine Coast Airport.
- There was a small increase in the number of clients complaining about propeller aircraft at Sunshine Coast Airport during Quarter 4 of 2012.

Contact us

To lodge a complaint or make an enquiry about aircraft operations, you can:

- go to WebTrak (www.airservicesaustralia.com/aircraftnoise/webtrak/)
- use our online form (www.airservicesaustralia.com/aircraftnoise/about-making-a-complaint/)
- telephone 1800 802 584 (freecall) or 1300 302 240 (local call –Sydney)
- fax (02) 9556 6641 or
- write to, Noise Complaints and Information Service, PO Box 211, Mascot NSW 1460.

Airservices welcomes comments about this report. Please contact us via e-mail at community.relations@airservicesaustralia.com if you would like to provide feedback.