

## **Darwin Airport**

# **Aircraft Noise Information Report**

Quarter 1 2014 (January to March)

# Version Control

Version Number	Detail	Prepared by	Date
1	-	Environment	June 2014

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This report contains a summary of data collected over the specified period and is intended to convey the best information available from the NFPMS at the time. The system databases are to some extent dependent upon external sources and errors may occur. All care is taken in preparation of the report but its complete accuracy can not be guaranteed. Airservices Australia does not accept any legal liability for any losses arising from reliance upon data in this report which may be found to be inaccurate.

# Darwin Airport – Aircraft Noise Information Report

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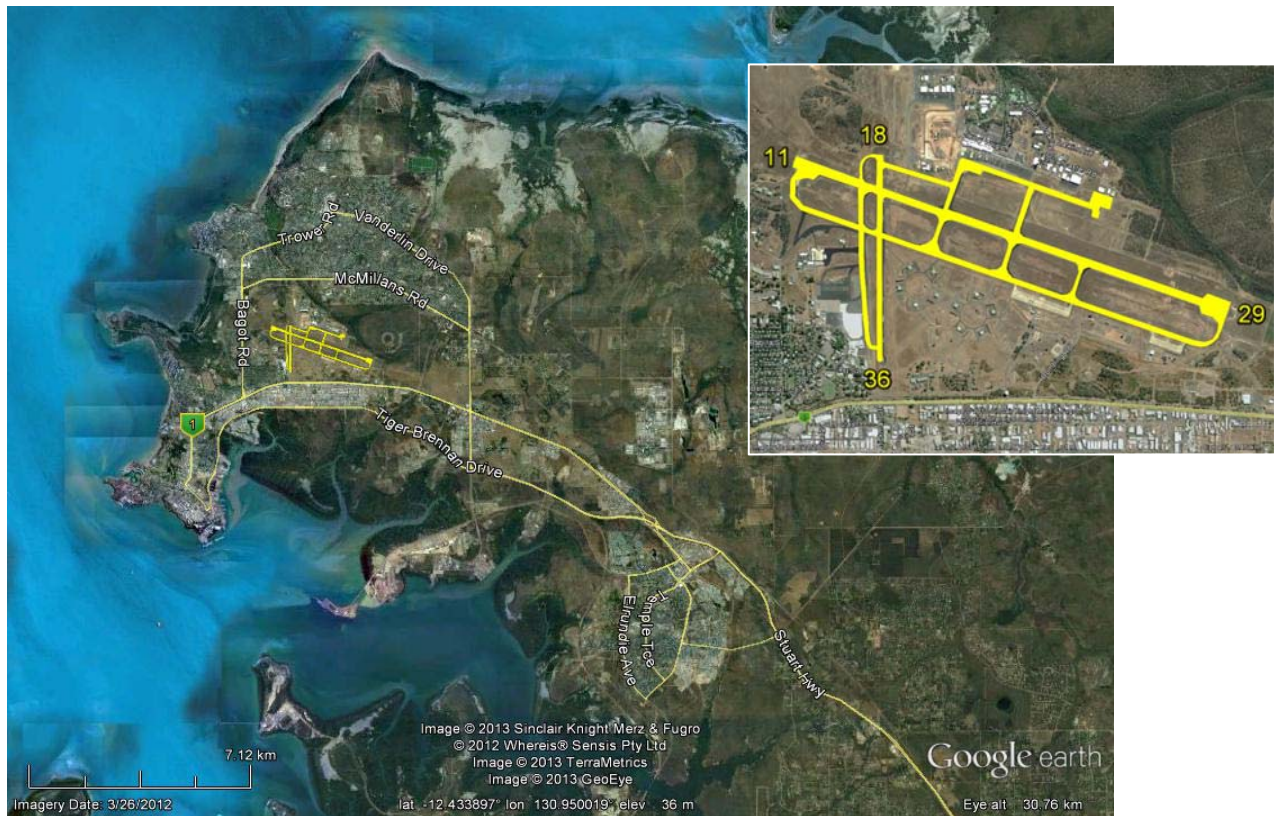
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# 1 Purpose

This report summarises data for Quarter 1 of 2014 (January to March) from Airservices' Operational Data Warehouse (ODW) and Noise Complaints and Information Service (NCIS) for the Darwin area.

## 1.1 Darwin Airport

Darwin Airport is located approximately 7km to the north of Darwin CBD (see Figure 1). During Quarter 1 of 2014 there were around 18,000 aircraft movements at the Airport. A mixture of regular passenger transport operations (involving medium to larger propeller and medium jets) and smaller general aviation aircraft operate at this airport. There are also a small number of circuit training operations (around 550 in Quarter 1).



**Figure 1: Location of Darwin Airport. Runway orientation is shown in the insert.**

Figure 1 shows runway configuration at Darwin Airport. Runway 11/29 is approximately 3.4 km long, orientated northwest to southeast; runway 18/36 is approximately 1.5 km long, oriented north to south.

Information about runway selection is available on the Airservices website at [www.airservicesaustralia.com/aircraftnoise/factsheets/](http://www.airservicesaustralia.com/aircraftnoise/factsheets/)

Darwin Air Traffic Control is provided by the Royal Australian Air Force.

## 2 Airport Statistics

### 2.1 Darwin Airport

Figure 2 shows aircraft movements at Darwin Airport for 12-month period to the end of Quarter 1 of 2014 (and 3-year average per month from 2011 to 2013). Not all military flights at the airport are included in the figures shown below.

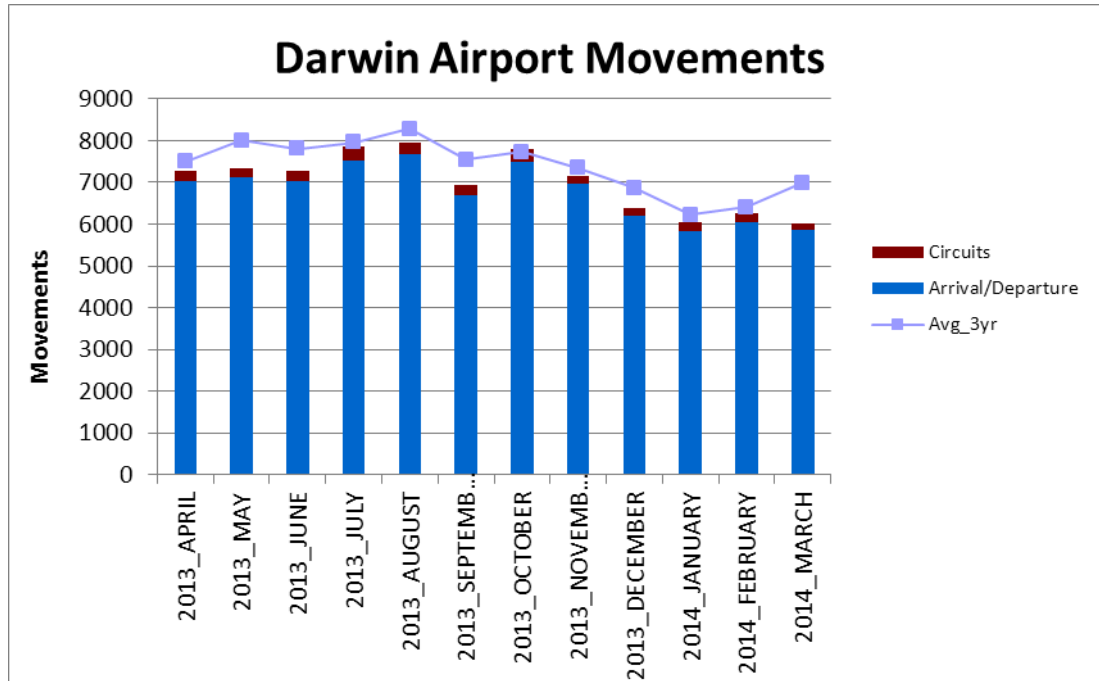


Figure 2: Aircraft movements at Darwin Airport from April 2013 to March 2014

Key points shown in Figure 2 are:

- Movements in Quarter 1 of 2014 were down on previous quarters and also below the three-year average.
- Peaks in movements tend to occur during the dry season which is the peak tourism period in the Northern Territory.

### 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.

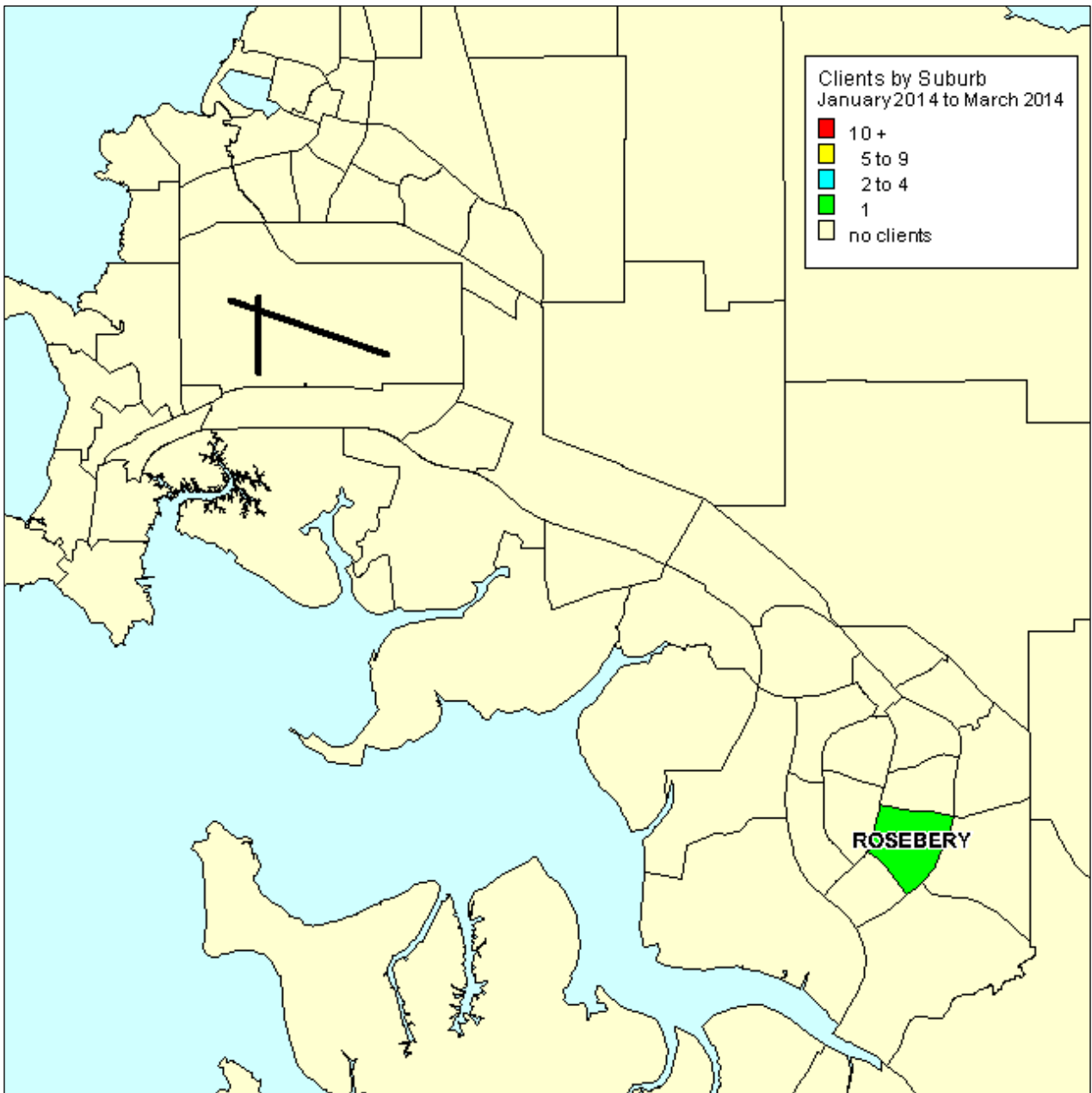
#### 3.1 NCIS Clients by suburb

The NCIS received contact from just one client about Darwin Airport during Quarter 1 of 2014. The data does not include clients who contacted other organisations (e.g. airports or the RAAF). The complainant raised issues about increased noise from jet aircraft operations.

Table 1 provides a breakdown of clients for the last four quarters.

**Table 1: Clients for Darwin Airport**

Darwin Airport				
	Quarter 2 2013	Quarter 3 2013	Quarter 4 2013	Quarter 1 2014
Total Clients	4	4	2	1



**Figure 3: Darwin Client Density by Suburb for the period January 2014 to March 2014**

## **4 Airservices update**

### **4.1 Community Aviation Consultation Groups**

Airservices attends Community Aviation Consultation Group (CACG) meetings at Darwin to provide information to the community and assist in discussions on aviation matters.

### **4.2 Noise improvements**

Airservices has developed a process to investigate aircraft noise improvements across Australia. Working with the community and the aviation industry, Airservices will assess the benefits of noise improvement proposals and implement them if feasible.

Airservices will assess the potential safety, efficiency and environmental impacts of proposals. We will seek community views throughout this process to help inform decisions. Safety remains our top priority and any change would have to meet rigorous Air Traffic Control requirements. This means that it may not be possible to implement some proposals.

Airservices will only implement a new procedure or a trial after a comprehensive community engagement process, including consultation with community forums. We will also discuss potential changes with the aviation industry. Airservices will publish details of any changes to procedures or trials on its website.

Appendix 1 provides details of noise improvements that have been implemented in the Basin and others that are in progress.



## 5 Contact us

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

- go to [WebTrak](http://www.airservicesaustralia.com/aircraftnoise/webtrak/) (www.airservicesaustralia.com/aircraftnoise/webtrak/)
- use our [online form](http://www.airservicesaustralia.com/aircraftnoise/about-making-a-complaint/) (www.airservicesaustralia.com/aircraftnoise/about-making-a-complaint/)
- telephone 1800 802 584 (freecall)
- fax (02) 9556 6641
- 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 [ncis@airservicesaustralia.com](mailto:ncis@airservicesaustralia.com) if you would like to provide feedback.

## **Appendix 1    Airservices update**

### **Darwin Airport Community Aviation Forum**

Airservices attends the Darwin Airport Community Aviation Forum to provide information to the community and assist in discussions on aviation matters.

28 November 2013

Airservices informed the committee of the launch of the new industry noise website and the publication of Airservices Noise Commitment document.

### **Noise Improvement Opportunity**

Departures to the South-East

Analysis of complaints revealed a noise improvement opportunity for departures to the south and east from Runway 11.

Noise Abatement Procedures at Darwin allow aircraft to be taken off the Standard Instrument Departure (SID) procedure once jets have reached 2,000 feet above ground level and 5 nautical miles from the runway. Airservices proposed to RAAF Air Traffic Control that aircraft are retained on track until reaching 7 nautical miles in accordance with the SID provisions between the hours of 10pm and 6am the following day. Aircraft (5-8 a day) would therefore avoid all residential areas (e.g. Palmerston) during the most noise sensitive hours. The proposed change has been agreed by the RAAF and was discussed at the Darwin Community Aviation Consultation Group meeting held on 28 November 2013. The change will come into effect from 29 May 2014.