



FIJI AERONAUTICAL INFORMATION CIRCULAR

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AIC 04/15
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OPS

THIS AIC REPLACES AIC 07/07 WHICH IS HEREBY CANCELLED

PARACHUTE OPERATIONS

1. OBJECTIVE

- 1.1 The objective of this AIC is to detail the Civil Aviation Authority of Fiji's (the Authority) policy and requirements for the conduct of parachute operations in Fiji; ANR 81(2), 22(5) and 147 refers.

2. LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

- 2.1 No person may descend from an aircraft by parachute, except a person operating under the control of, and in compliance with, the rules of an approved parachuting organisation.
- 2.2 The Authority will approve a parachuting organisation to operate when it is satisfied that it is competent to operate safely, and in compliance with the provisions of this AIC.
- 2.3 An approval for a parachuting operation is an exemption for persons or articles from the provisions of Air Navigation Regulation (ANR) 81(2), issued under the authority of ANR 147.

3. POLICY

- 3.1 The Authority issues exemptions and permissions as per 2.3 based on recommendations from internationally recognized bodies set up to perform these functions. The following bodies are considered to be acceptable:

The New Zealand Parachute Federation
The Australian Parachute Federation Incorporated

For the purpose of this AIC:

“Approved” means approved in writing by the Civil Aviation Authority of Fiji

“Authority” means the Civil Aviation Authority of Fiji

“Parachute Drop Zone” (PDZ) means an area of defined dimensions, extending from the surface to a specified upper limit, in which parachuting operations may take place on regular basis. A PDZ may be permanent or temporary.

“Parachuting Organisations” means a club, a school, or corporate body set up to conduct parachuting operations, and affiliated to, or operating under the supervision of one of the bodies specified in paragraph 3.1 above.

“Parachuting Display (Display/Demonstration Jump)” means a descent made within 600 meters of a populous area or at a public gathering.

“Parachute Landing Area” (PLA) means a defined area onto which parachute landings are intended to be made.

“Temporary Parachute Drop Zones” means an area of defined dimensions extending from the surface to a specified upper limit within which parachuting operations may take place on a temporary basis at the discretion of ATC.

5 PERMANENT PARACHUTE DROPPING ZONES

5.1 Permanent Parachute Dropping Zones (PDZ) are established in Fiji as follows:

PDZ 1 All that area of airspace within a 2NM radius centred on Malololailai Aerodrome reference point (S17° 46' 41" E177° 11' 48") from the surface to 14,000FT.

PDZ 2 All that area of airspace within a 1NM radius centred on Denarau Island Golf Course (S17° 46' 33" E177° 22' 22") from the surface to 14,000FT.

5.2 A parachuting organisation wishing to use a permanent or temporary PDZ for parachute operations must contact the appropriate ATC unit not less than one (1) hour for a permanent PDZ and not less than

twenty-four (24) hours for a temporary PDZ prior to the commencement of operations. ATC shall be advised of the proposed times for the parachute operations, the jump altitude and the PLA.

- 5.2.1 Activation of the PDZ will be at the approval of the duty controller and this will be based on air traffic at the time of request.
- 5.2.2 Prior written permission from the landowner or controlling authority of the land onto which the descent will be made must be obtained.
- 5.3 The drop aircraft will request clearance to the 'jump altitude' from ATC prior to engine start.
- 5.4 The drop aircraft, upon reaching the 'jump altitude' will request approval from ATC for the 'drop'.
 - 5.4.1 ATC will advise all affected traffic when the PDZ is active and shall not clear traffic through an active PDZ.
 - 5.4.2 Pilots shall treat active PDZs as a danger area.
 - 5.4.3 Should an aircraft request to operate through an active PDZ, this will be at the discretion of ATC in consultation with the pilot in command.

6. DESCENTS IN TEMPORARY PARACHUTE DROPPING ZONES

- 6.1 Temporary parachute dropping zones may be activated from time to time to accommodate Demonstration, Display or Commercial Recreational operations. Parachute descents conducted in temporary PDZs shall be subject to the following conditions:
 - (1) The administration of the descent, including the evaluation of the parachutist(s) and the venue, must be in compliance with the rules defined in the operations manual of the approved parachuting organisation.
 - (2) Coordination with and obtain approval from the air navigation service provider (ANSP) responsible for the airspace in which the parachute jump is proposed to take place must be assured and any conditions advised by the ANSP shall be adhered to.
 - (3) The appropriate ATC unit shall be advised of the proposed drop not less than 24 hours in advance, giving the location, time, and jump altitude.

- (4) The appropriate NOTAM request form shall be submitted no less than 24hours prior to the proposed jump to facilitate the issue of the appropriate NOTAM.
- (5) The provisions of paragraphs 5.2, 5.3 and 5.4 above must be complied with.
- (6) The final approval for operations in temporary PDZs shall be at the discretion of the Duty Air Traffic Controller based on air traffic at the time of the request.

7. PARACHUTE LANDING AREA

- 7.1 Each person making a parachute descent shall land within a PLA that has been designated by the parachute organisation.
- 7.2 PLA's shall be located clear of:-
 - a. any part of the aerodrome movement area that is in use; and
 - b. any runway or taxiway that is in use; and
 - c. the approach and departure areas of any runway and helicopter landing site in use.

8. GENERAL CONDITIONS OF OPERATION

- 8.1 The following general conditions apply to all parachute operations in Fiji.
 - (1) All descents must be made in Visual Meteorological Conditions;
 - (2) Operations must be conducted in compliance with the rules specified in an operations manual that has been approved by one of the organizations specified in paragraph 3.1 above;
 - (3) Prior to allowing any person to commence parachute descents, the approved parachuting organisation must ensure that a waiver is signed by the person, indemnifying CAAF and the ANSP against any claim for damages as a result of parachute operations is in place.
 - (4) Parachute descents from aircraft may only take place in accordance with the requirements and conditions as stated in the Aircraft Flight Manual (AFM).

PARACHUTE DROP ZONES

Appendix 1
AIC 4-15

