What are NOTAM?

A Notice to Airmen (*NOTAM*) is a notice filed with an aviation authority to alert aircraft pilots of potential hazards along a flight route or at a location that could affect the safety of the flight.

How do I obtain NOTAM that are applicable to my operation?

NOTAM are controlled documents. Because they relate to matters of operational significance to air transport only authorised providers are allowed to provide NOTAM to you.

In Australia, Airservices Australia is responsible for the collation and dissemination of NOTAM. They do that through the National Aeronautical Information Processing System (NAIPS). NAIPS is a free online service that you can access using a web browser. Airservices Australia also licence some electronic flight bag products including OZRunways and AVPLAN to distribute NOTAM via their products.

How do access NAIPS?

Access the NAIPS is via the NAIPS Login webpage https://www.airservicesaustralia.com/naips/Account/Logon .

You must register a username and password and provide your contact details before you can logon to the NAIPS service.

How do I register as a NAIPS user?

The NAIPS registration page is at https://www.airservicesaustralia.com/naips/Account/Register .

For assistance in completing most data fields, hover the cursor or pointer over an item, without clicking it, and a tooltip may appear.

For help with NAIPS Pilot Briefing Service call the Airservices Service Desk (24 hrs a day, 7 days a week) on *1800 801 960.*

What sort of briefings can NAIPS generate and what do the reports contain?

Australia is a big country and there are always lots of NOTAM active. To be able obtain a report from NAIPS that will contain all the NOTAM applicable to your operation you need to know a little about how NOTAM get grouped and the report selections that might stop you generating the right report.

NAIPS allows you to generate 'Location' and 'Area' briefings.

Location Briefings

Location briefings provide information relating to aerodromes and things that are happening in the immediate vicinity (5 NM) of the aerodrome.

Not all aerodromes are provided with a NOTAM service!

If you request a briefing for an aerodrome which doesn't have a NOTAM service you will get a message like this.

```
                             NOTAM INFORMATION
                             -----------------


     A NOTAM SERVICE IS NOT PROVIDED FOR THE FOLLOWING REQUESTED LOCATIONS:
     GYMPIE (YGYM)
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Notice the report says **A NOTAM service is not provided** for the following location, rather than there are no NOTAM for this location. A subtle but important difference!

The message shown above is different to the message that is shown for a location which has a NOTAM service with none currently active.

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                             NOTAM INFORMATION
                             -----------------



     THE FOLLOWING REQUESTED LOCATIONS HAVE NO CURRENT NOTAM:
     HERVEY BAY (YHBA)
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Area Briefings

If your operation is at a location that is **more than 5NM from an aerodrome** that has a NOTAM service then you need to **get an Area Briefing** rather than a location briefing.
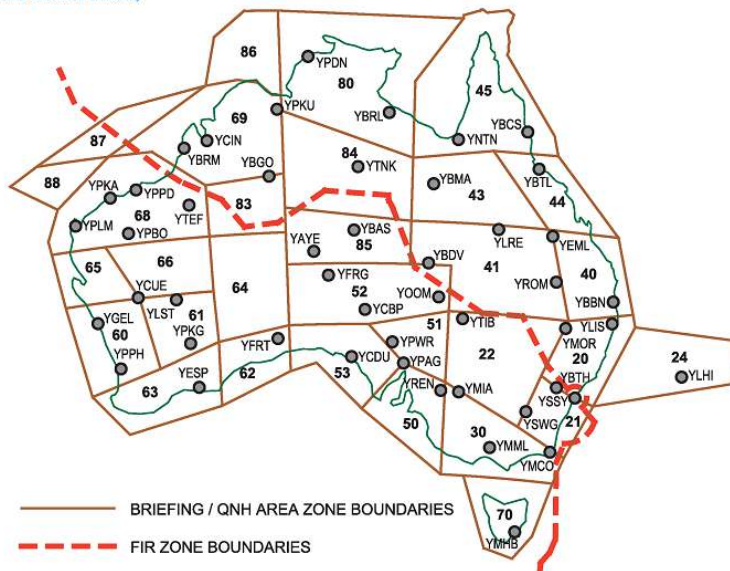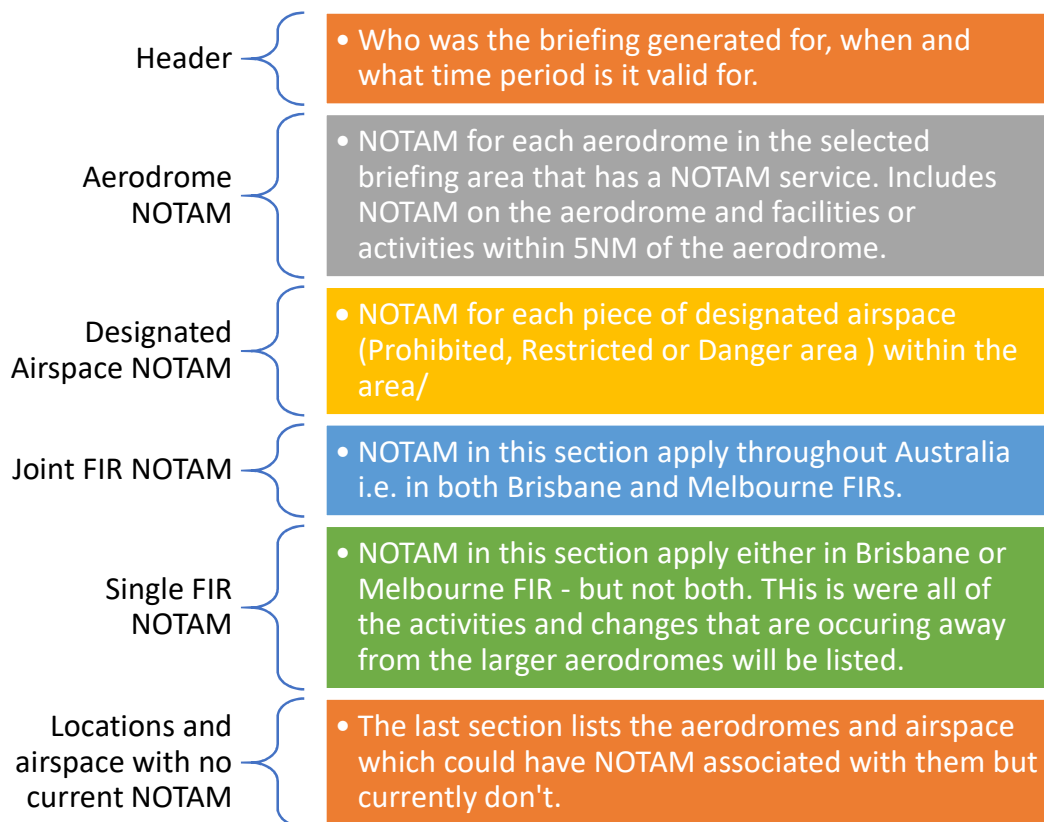

Figure 1: ARFOR and FIR boundaries

For the purpose of generating briefings (and boundaries for other operational requirements) Australia has been divided into several briefing areas. The map above depicts the briefing areas and shows the line which divides the two Flight Information Regions (FIR) that cover the Australian continent. The FIR to the north and east of the RED dashed line is the Brisbane Flight Information Region and the area to the south and west of the line is the Melbourne Flight Information Region.

Air traffic in the Melbourne region is managed from Airservices Australia's Melbourne based team and traffic in the Brisbane region is…… I'm sure you get the idea.

On the Area Briefing page of the NAIPS website you can click on the map to select a briefing for the required area.

How is information organised within an Area Briefing?

There is a structure to the area briefing and understanding it will make finding the information relevant to you much easier and faster. NOTAM briefings are structured as follows:

Header	• Who was the briefing generated for, when and what time period is it valid for.
Aerodrome NOTAM	• NOTAM for each aerodrome in the selected briefing area that has a NOTAM service. Includes NOTAM on the aerodrome and facilities or activities within 5NM of the aerodrome.
Designated Airspace NOTAM	• NOTAM for each piece of designated airspace (Prohibited, Restricted or Danger area) within the area/
Joint FIR NOTAM	• NOTAM in this section apply throughout Australia i.e. in both Brisbane and Melbourne FIRs.
Single FIR NOTAM	• NOTAM in this section apply either in Brisbane or Melbourne FIR - but not both. THis is were all of the activities and changes that are occuring away from the larger aerodromes will be listed.
Locations and airspace with no current NOTAM	• The last section lists the aerodromes and airspace which could have NOTAM associated with them but currently don't.

Let's have a look at some excerpts from a real NOTAM briefing! This one is from aera 30 which covers much of Victoria.

In this first clip you can see the header information and then the NOTAM that were current for ARARAT aerodrome in Victoria.

There are two of them, the first advising that the 'aerodrome is not available' (AD NOT AVBL) FROM 16th January (01 16) until 16th April (04 16) during night hours (HN).

The second NOTAM is about model aircraft operations that take place within (WI) 1000 metres of the Aerodrome Reference Point (ARP). There are some other details with you can decode for yourself.

At the end the ARARAT NOTAMs the briefing moves to the next aerodrome in the area that has one active. In this case BENDIGO.

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0822 UTC 29/03/19              AIRSERVICES AUSTRALIA
                                  AREA BRIEFING


PREPARED FOR: SGRIFFIN
VALID FROM 0822 UTC MAR 29, 2019 TO 1422 UTC MAR 29, 2019

                          NOTAM INFORMATION
                          -----------------

ARARAT (YARA)
                                                          C1/19
       AD NOT AVBL
       FROM 01 160039 TO 04 160000 EST
       HN

                                                          C3/18

       MODEL ACFT OPR
       WI 1000M OF ARP
       OPR WILL MNT COMMON TFC ADVISORY FREQ (CTAF) 126.7
       OPR CTC TEL: 0417 514 438
       AMD EN ROUTE SUP AUSTRALIA ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
       SFC TO 2000FT AGL
       FROM 12 030249 TO PERM
       HJ

BENDIGO (YBDG)
```

Figure 2: Briefing header followed by all the active NOTAM for each aerodrome within the area (sorted alphabetically)

Following the aerodrome NOTAM are the FIR NOTAM, these are the one that are not associated with an aerodrome that has a NOTAM service.

The first part of this section is the joint FIR NOTAMs. These are NOTAM that apply all over Australia. In this instance there are two. The first prohibits the operation of Boeing 737 Max aircraft anywhere in Australian airspace (ouch Boeing) and the second requires pilots of manned and unmanned aircraft to remain clear of fire-fighting operations.

Below the joint FIR NOTAM are those which apply in just part of Australia. These are grouped within either the Brisbane or Melbourne FIR. NOTAMS in this group could be related to navigation facilities, flight planning requirements, changes to maps and charts applicable to the region as well as all of the notifiable activities that are taking place away from aerodromes that have a NOTAM service.

In this briefing, in the Melbourne FIR (YMMM) section there is a NOTAM regarding aerobatic practice near Tocumwal aerodrome. Tocumwal is a small aerodrome which doesn't have a NOTAM service so despite the operations being within 5NM of the aerodrome they get listed in the FIR NOTAM.

```
MELBOURNE FIR/BRISBANE FIR (YMMM/YBBB)
                                                        C452/19
    TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF OPERATIONS (BOEING 737 MAX ACFT)
    CASA INSTRUMENT 21/19 AVBL FM FEDERAL REGISTER OF LEGISLATION WEBSITE
    HTTPS://WWW.LEGISLATION.GOV.AU/BROWSE/BYTITLE/LEGISLATIVEINSTRUMENTS/
    INFORCE/0/0/PRINCIPAL (LOWER CASE)
    FROM 03 290525 TO 06 280000 EST


                                                        C1012/18
    UNNOTIFIED INTENSE AVIATION ACT ASSOCIATED WITH FIREFIGHTING OPS MAY
    OCCUR WI 5NM RAD AND BLW 3000FT AGL OF OBSERVED FIRES.
    PILOTED ACFT AS WELL AS UAS NOT COOR THRU THE RELEVANT STATE FIRE
    AUTHORITY ARE REQ TO REMAIN CLR.
    FROM 06 181400 TO PERM

MELBOURNE FIR (YMMM)
                                                        C412/19
    AEROBATIC PRACTICE AND COMPETITION
    WI 3NM OF TOCUMWAL AD (YTOC) INCLUDING CIRCUIT AREA
    AEROBATIC ACFT  WILL REMAIN ON COMMON TFC ADVISORY FREQ (CTAF) 125.5
    AND UNICOM IN OPR DRG AEROBATIC ACT
    CTC ORGANISER TEL 0422 935 793
    300FT AGL TO 4500FT AGL
    FROM 03 242030 TO 03 310830
    DAILY 2030-0830
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Figure 3: Joint FIR and Melbourne FIR NOTAM excerpt

In the next excerpt which is from the Melbourne FIR (YMMM) section of the same report there is a NOTAM regarding RPAS activity which is occurring between 6.1 and 5.8 NM for Latrobe Valley aerodrome. Latrobe Valley has a NOTAM service but because the activity is occurring outside of 5NM of the aerodrome the activity gets bundled in with the FIR NOTAM rather than the aerodrome NOTAM.

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                                                    C5/19 REVIEW C1550/18
UA (10KG MULTI-ROTOR) OPR WI 1.8NM EITHER SIDE OF A LINE
BTN PSN S38 12.6 E146 35.9 BRG 079 MAG 6.1NM FM LATROBE VALLEY AD
(YLTV) AND S38 16.3 E146 33.6 BRG 120 MAG 5.8NM FM YLTV
OPR WILL BCST ON FREQ 126.0 15MIN PRIOR TO LAUNCH AND AT 15MIN
INTERVALS WHILST AIRBORNE
OPR CTC TEL: 0448 868 790
SFC TO 400FT AGL
FROM 01 030440 TO 04 020800
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Figure 4: Excerpt showing activity outside of 5NM of an aerodrome with a NOTAM service

The last 2 excerpts are from the final section of the NOTAM briefing includes list of aerodromes which have a NOTAM service and for which none are active and for designated airspace for which no NOTAMs are active. The last entry here is for Latrobe Valley which has NOTAMed RPAS activity 5.8 NM away but there are no NOTAM active for the airfield or within 5NM of it.

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FOR PROHIBITED, RESTRICTED OR DANGER AREAS WITH NO CURRENT NOTAM,
CHECK ERSA FOR THE VERTICAL LIMITS AND HOURS OF ACTIVATION AS
NOT ALL RESTRICTED AREAS ARE ACTIVATED/DEACTIVATED BY NOTAM.


THE FOLLOWING REQUESTED LOCATIONS HAVE NO CURRENT NOTAM:
KILMORE GAP (KMG)
BIRCHIP (YBIR)
BALLARAT (YBLT)
BALRANALD (YBRN)
MOUNT BULLER (YBXU)
COLDSTREAM (YCEM)
CHARLTON (YCHL)
COROWA (YCOR)
DENILIQUIN (YDLQ)
EDENHOPE (YEDE)
FALLS CREEK (YFLK)
HOGAN ISLAND (YHGI)
HOPETOUN (YHPN)
HORSHAM (YHSM)
KERANG (YKER)
LATROBE VALLEY (YLTV)
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Figure 5: Aerodromes which have a NOTAM service but none current

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R363 MULWALA (R363)
R364 BENALLA (R364)
R368 ALBURY (R368)
R374 SWAN ISLAND (R374)
R408 WAGGA (R408)
R415 WAGGA (R415)
EAST SALE AIRSPACE (ESX)


                                                    Print    Back
```

Figure 6: Airspace for which there are no current NOTAM