

WAIKATO PGF LIDAR PROJECT

Newsletter

Project Update

We are pleased to report that the aerial survey commenced on 1 January 2021 and steady progress has been made since then.

iXblue have two planes working in the Waikato. Plane VHAZU is currently based in Taupo while plane VHWGS is based in Hamilton.

LiDAR survey needs relatively cloud-free skies, as clouds distort sensor results. Our country is named Aotearoa (long white cloud) for a reason and our survey teams have to be ready to take advantage of any cloud free moments!

Although there are many days where survey is impossible, the two survey teams are able to make good progress when the clouds are absent. Each team is averaging approximately 10 hours survey time per week which aligns closely with our expectations at the start of the project.

As the data is captured, it is fed through to Woolpert in the US who then check it and provide feedback to the survey teams if necessary. Occasionally these checks will result in an area needing to be surveyed again.

The survey teams are hopeful that the aerial survey can be fully completed before the end of March. Of course, a few more stunning cloudless days will make this easier. 😊

Rolf Boswell (WLASS), Bryan Clements (WRC), Matt James (iXblue), Stuart Paisley (iXblue)

Ground Survey

After making a start to the ground survey programme in December, the operations recommenced in mid January and are now half way through the programme. The ground control survey team have finished the Waikato plains and most of the Taupo region. They will soon be moving the operation to the West Coast which will involve survey work from Mokau to Port Waikato.

Watch the progress

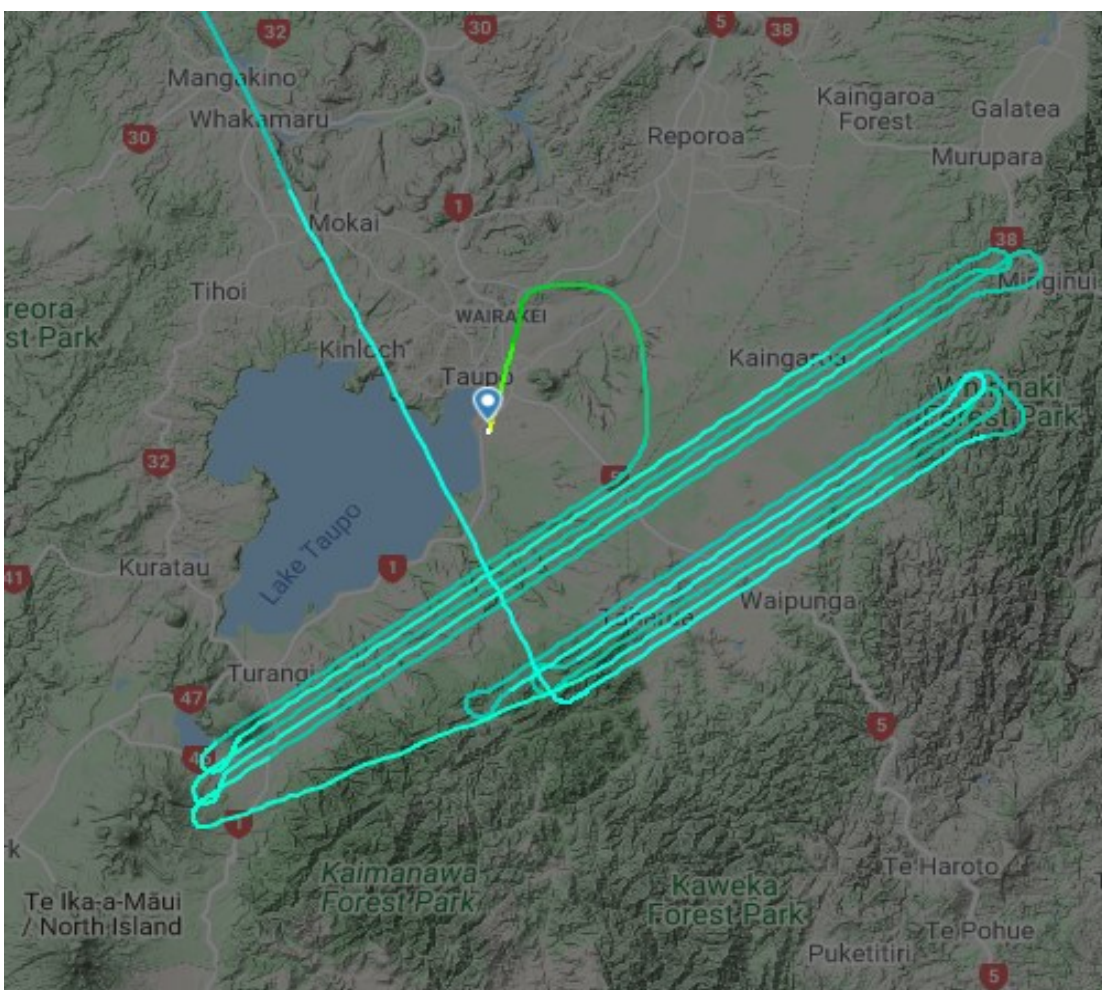
Did you know you can watch the progress of our survey planes at any time? The "flightradar24" website allows you to track any planes movements over the previous 7 days. (You have to pay if you want more history).

You should note that it is not just clouds that our pilots have to avoid. They are also under the instruction of air traffic control and sometimes have to deviate from survey work for safety reasons.

You can check out our planes activity via the following links.

<https://www.flightradar24.com/data/aircraft/vh-azu#26cdbffd>

<https://www.flightradar24.com/data/aircraft/vh-wgs#26ce5bcb>



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Email us on info@waikatolass.co.nz

OR go to the website [HERE](#)

Feedback?

We would love to receive your feedback about this newsletter. You can do this by emailing us at info@waikatolass.co.nz