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RELEASE OF CLASS E TMZ CONTROLLED AIRSPACE NORTH OF THE SCOTTISH TMA

1 Background

1.1 With effect from 23 July 2015, the base levels of ATS route N560 immediately north of the ScTMA, will be raised in accordance with the CAA Release of Controlled and Segregated Airspace policy (RCSA). Following the implementation of Class E TMZ airspace in November 2013, the anticipated volume of air traffic utilising parts of N560 has not been realised. NATS has routinely undertaken a monthly review of the traffic figures at the lower levels and together with the CAA Airspace Regulator, has agreed that the number of commercial air traffic at the lower levels means that certain volumes of Class E TMZ can be released back to Class G uncontrolled airspace.

2 Revised Airspace Structure

- 2.1 With effect from 23 July 2015 the revised base levels are as follows:
- 2.1.1 Between the northern edge of the ScTMA at FOYLE and ERSON (Loch Tay), the base is Flight Level 195, with Class C above.
- 2.1.2 Between ERSON and INBAS (Loch Rannoch), the base is Flight Level 125.
- 2.2 Annex A depicts the revised airspace structure.

3 Conditional Route Airspace

- 3.1 During large scale military air exercise such as 'Joint Warrior', the airspace will be reinstated and categorised as a conditional route (CDR 2) for flight planning purposes.
- 3.2 An ACN will be raised for each large scale military exercise to promulgate to all airspace users the temporary change to the airspace structure.

4 Aeronautical Charts

- 4.1 Pilots should note that the ICAO 1:500,000 Aeronautical Chart Scotland (2014 Edition 30) will not be changed to reflect the amended airspace structure. The next scheduled update will be Edition 31 in June 2016.
- 4.2 NATS AIS has however produced a run (5,000) of stickers to amend and update the legend on Edition 30, indicating the changes above. AIS has also provided full details on its website in the VFR Charts section.

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