

Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications DETEC

Bundesamt für Zivilluftfahrt BAZL Innovation and Digitalisation

Guidelines for drone operators in the open category 'How to read and understand a DABS chart'

Date: 01.03.2021

Reference: BAZL-311.340-29/1/2 - Version 1.0

How do I read the DABS chart for safe flight preparation?

What else is going on in the airspace where I want to fly my drone?

The DABS chart tells me what is currently happening in the airspace. The Daily Airspace Bulletin (DABS for short) is part of Switzerland's official aviation publication and presents in graphic form the current airspace status based on the NOTAM (Notice to Airmen) publications (detailed explanation below). DABS is published daily at 1600 (local time) and contains all airspace restrictions on the following day. DABS is published by Skyguide AIM Services and can be accessed free of charge at www.skybriefing.com.

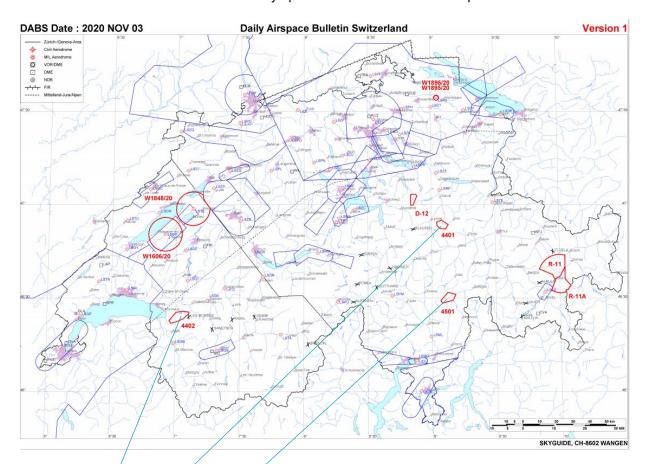


How do I read and understand the DABS chart?

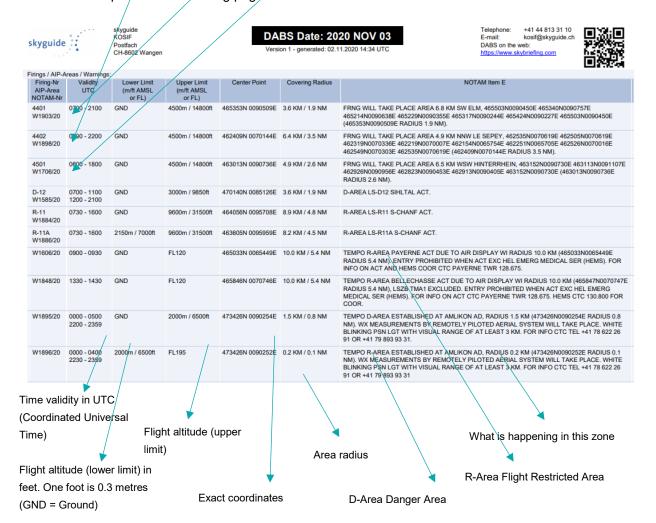
In the upper part of the chart/on the first page you can see the graphical representation of airspaces, flight restrictions and no-fly zones. The red entries refer to a NOTAM and are particularly important: in



these areas, airspace restrictions or other airspace-related activities are to be expected. These areas must therefore be observed and avoided by operators of unmanned aircraft/pilots of manned aircraft.



In the lower part/on the following pages the individual NOTAMs can be seen in detail.



Reference: BAZL-311.340-29/1/2

This list tells you exactly where and when a specific NOTAM applies. The NOTAM text also gives you the details of the planned flight operation/restriction (what exactly is happening).

<u>NB</u>: the D-Areas, R-Areas and P-Areas are mapped on the first page of the DABS (explanation below). There is also NOTAM information displayed here which is not shown on the chart.

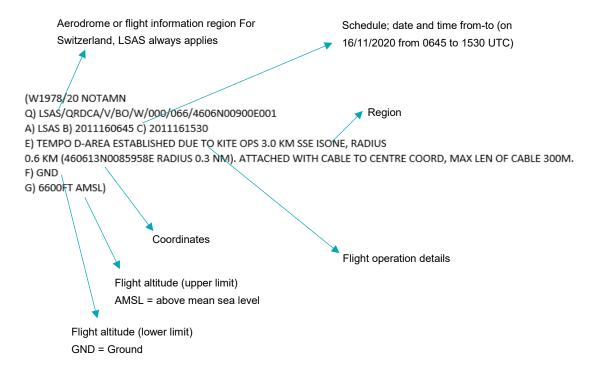


For detailed information regarding the DABS see AIP Switzerland GEN 3.1-5 or VFR GEN 1-0-4. I New or changed data regarding an earlier version of the DABS.

What exactly is a NOTAM and how do I read the NOTAM text (Item E)?

A NOTAM is a message concerning the formation, status and changes in airspace, as well as services, procedures or hazards, which aviation and air navigation services personnel need to know in good time. NOTAMs are published in English with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) abbreviations. All times are given in Coordinated Universal Time (UTC).

NOTAM structure and content



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Example explanation: There are tethered kites in the Isone region. The zone stretches from the ground to 6600 ft AMSL and is valid from 16.11.2020, 0745 to 16.11.2020, 1630 Swiss time.

It is important for drone operators to know where a flight restriction zone or no-fly zone is located so that drones can be safely operated.

D-Area: Danger Area: it is allowed to fly with increased attention

R-Area: Restricted Area: no flying allowed here

P-Area: Prohibited Area: no flying allowed here