

Anonymous

I strongly disagree with the proposed expansion of the ADS-B mandate to include Paraglider / hang glider aircraft for the following reasons:

1) Equipment space and capabilities - There are limited available options of equipment for use with unpowered aircraft. "SkyEcho" is the only viable portable, self contained, technology at this time. SkyEcho has only currently been approved for use in ADS-B Out / TX mode, in the United Kingdom. Paraglider and hang glider pilots do not have the practical space to display the data and use ADS-B In / RX mode, as the only currently CASA approved mode.

When you factor in the space available and that most pilots also fly with a (UHF / Airband) radio, GPS Locator (Spot / Inreach / EPIRB), a (dedicated flight instrument / phone) for navigation, and an (altimeter / vario), there is no where left to mount ADS-B equipment.

2) Aircraft capabilities - When compared to powered aircraft, paraglider and hang gliders are slow moving, and slow to respond to pilot avoidance manoeuvres. Powered aircraft pilots should give way when it comes to aircraft avoidance in flight. Similar to the maritime rule of powered vessels give way.

3) Recreational Aviation - Freeflight pilots fly for the passion of aviation. ADS-B equipment is not practical for freeflight, it is another unnecessary regulation which could result in the decline of the sport of Freeflight and recreational aviation in general.