DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 71


Proposed Revision of Class E Airspace; Sand Point, AK

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking.

SUMMARY: This action proposes to revise the Class E airspace at Sand Point, AK. Three new Standard Instrument Approach Procedures (SIAPs), a revised Departure Procedure (DP) and a revised SIAP are being published for the Sand Point Airport. Adoption of this proposal would result in revised Class E airspace upward from 700 feet (ft.) and 1,200 ft. above the surface at Sand Point, AK.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before February 3, 2006.

ADDRESSES: Send comments on the proposal to the Docket Management System, U.S. Department of Transportation, Room Plaza 401, 400 Seventh Street, SW., Washington, DC 20590–0001. You must identify the docket number FAA–2005–23026/Airspace Docket No. 05–AAL–39, at the beginning of your comments. You may also submit comments on the Internet at http://dms.dot.gov. You may review the public docket containing the proposal, any comments received, and any final disposition in person in the Dockets Office between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Docket Office (telephone 1–800–647–5527) is on the plaza level of the Department of Transportation NASSIF Building at the above address.

An informal docket may also be examined during normal business hours at the office of the Manager, Safety, Alaska Flight Service Operations, Federal Aviation Administration, 222 West 7th Avenue, Box 14, Anchorage, AK 99513–7587.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gary Rolf, Federal Aviation Administration, 222 West 7th Avenue, Box 14, Anchorage, AK 99513–7587; telephone number (907) 271–5898; fax: (907) 271–2850; e-mail: gary.ctr.rolf@faa.gov. Internet address: http://www.alaska.faa.gov/at.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Comments Invited

Interested parties are invited to participate in this proposed rulemaking by submitting such written data, views, or arguments as they may desire. Comments that provide the factual basis supporting the views and suggestions presented are particularly helpful in developing reasoned regulatory decisions on the proposal. Comments are specifically invited on the overall regulatory, aeronautical, economic, environmental, and energy-related aspects of the proposal. Communications should identify both docket numbers and be submitted in triplicate to the address listed above. Commenters wishing the FAA to acknowledge receipt of their comments on this notice must submit with those comments a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: “Comments to Docket No. FAA–2005–23026/Airspace Docket No. 05–AAL–39.” The postcard will be date/time stamped and returned to the commenter.

All communications received on or before the specified closing date for comments will be considered before taking action on the proposed rule. The proposal contained in this notice may be changed in light of comments received. All comments submitted will be available for examination in the public docket both before and after the closing date for comments. A report summarizing each substantive public contact with FAA personnel concerned with this rulemaking will be filed in the docket.

Availability of Notice of Proposed Rulemaking’s (NPRM’s)


Additionally, any person may obtain a copy of this notice by submitting a request to the Federal Aviation Administration, Office of Air Traffic, airspace Management, ATA–400, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591 or by calling (866) 247-8000. Communications must identify both docket numbers for this notice. Persons interested in being placed on a mailing list for future NPRM’s should contact the FAA’s Office of Rulemaking, (202) 267–9677, to request a copy of Advisory Circular No. 11–2A, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Distribution System, which describes the application procedure.

The Proposal

The FAA is considering an amendment to the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR part 71), which would revise the Class E airspace at Sand Point, AK. The intended effect of this proposal is to modify Class E airspace upward from 700 ft. and 1,200 ft. above the surface to contain Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) operations at Sand Point, AK.

The FAA Instrument Flight Procedures Production and Maintenance Branch has developed three new SIAPs, revised the DP, and modified one SIAP for the Sand Point Airport. The new approaches are: (1) Area Navigation (Global Positioning System) (RNAV (GPS)) Runway (RWY) 13, original; (2) Non-directional Beacon (NDB)/Distance Measuring Equipment (DME) RWY 13, original; (3) NDB/DME RWY 31, original. The unnamed revised DP is published in the front of the U.S. Terminal Procedures Alaska Vol 1. The revised SIAP is the NDB RWY 13, Amendment 1. Modified Class E controlled airspace extending upward from 700 ft. and 1,200 ft. above the surface within the Sand Point Airport area would be established by this action. The proposed airspace is sufficient to contain aircraft executing the new and revised instrument procedures at the Sand Point Airport.

The area would be depicted on aeronautical charts for pilot reference. The coordinates for this airspace docket are based on North American Datum 83. The Class E airspace areas designated as 700/1200 foot transition areas are published in paragraph 6005 in FAA Order 7400.9N, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated September 1, 2005, and effective September 15, 2005, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR 71.1. The Class E airspace designations listed in this document would be published subsequently in the Order.

The FAA has determined that this proposed regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current. It, therefore: (1) Is not a “significant regulatory action” under Executive Order 12866; (2) is not a “significant rule” under DOT Regulatory Policies and Procedures (44 FR 11034; February
26, 1979); and (3) does not warrant preparation of a regulatory evaluation as the anticipated impact is so minimal. Since this is a routine matter that will only affect air traffic procedures and air navigation, it is certified that this rule, when promulgated, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

The FAA’s authority to issue rules regarding aviation safety is found in Title 49 of the United States Code. Subtitle V, section 106 describes the scope of the FAA’s authority to issue rules prescribing regulations to ensure the safety of navigation, it is certified that this rule, when promulgated, will not have a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

This rulemaking is promulgated under the authority described in subtitle V, part A, section 40103, Sovereignty and use of airspace. Under that section, the FAA is charged with prescribing regulations to ensure the safe and efficient use of the navigable airspace. This regulation is within the scope of that authority because it proposes to modify the Class E airspace sufficiently to contain aircraft executing instrument procedures at Sand Point Airport and represents the FAA’s authority to issue rules prescribing regulations to ensure the safety of navigation, it is certified that this rule, when promulgated, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

Issued in Anchorage, AK, on December 13, 2005.

Anthony M. Wylie,
Manager, Safety, Area Flight Service Operations.
[FR Doc. 05–24228 Filed 12–19–05; 8:45 am]