

CHAPTER 3

Airspace Basics

I. The National Airspace System (NAS)

The NAS consists of all airspace over the United States above the ground and up to 60,000 feet MSL. Despite the apparent vastness of this resource it has become crowded (in some places) and competition for its use is increasing. By law, the FAA is the controlling authority for all airspace in the United States and, in order to provide for the orderly and safe use of the airspace, has published numerous regulations which are found in Chapter 14, Code of Federal Regulations.

This chapter presents basic airspace information as it might pertain to land management agencies. **Consult the FAA for current policies and procedures when flight planning or navigating.**

II. Conceptualizing Airspace

When defining a section of airspace, four criteria are considered.

A. Volume

Volume is a key concept to understanding the amount of airspace actually being used. The length and width of airspace are visible on a two-dimensional map, but the floor and ceiling must also be included to see the complete picture, as airspace is always defined using three dimensions. Airspace used for flying operations could begin as low as the surface and extend upward over 50,000'. This unique characteristic of airspace enables numerous users to safely operate at the same geographical location, but at different altitudes.

B. Proximity

Airspace is often associated with a geographic area, airport or an airfield or a military installation. The proximity affects the utility of a piece of airspace and its use.

C. Time

Airspace is allotted for use for specific amounts of time. A designated block of airspace can be used to separate unusual flight maneuvers from other aircraft, and only minutes later that same block can be used to route aircraft to their final destinations.

D. Attributes

Airspace attributes describe the physical characteristics of the underlying land that make certain pieces of airspace unique. Those attributes might be a range or a certain type of terrain needed to meet testing and training requirements, including open water, desert or mountains.

III. Understanding VFR/IFR Flight Terms

The terms IFR (Instrument Flight Rules) and VFR (Visual Flight Rules) are used throughout this Airspace Guide. General aviation aircraft flying between local airports, sight-seeing, etc., comprise the majority of flying completed under VFR. VFR generally allows pilots to fly off published routes using visual references such as highways, power lines, railroads, etc. In order to fly under VFR, the weather must meet or exceed the minimum requirements, which generally means there must be at least three miles of visibility and the pilot must be able to remain clear of clouds by at least 500'.

The minimum requirements change depending on the exact airspace classification. VFR flight is restricted to altitudes below 18,000' MSL and does not require flight clearances from ATC. VFR pilots exercise "See and Avoid" clearance precautions, which means that they must be vigilant of their surroundings, and alter their course or altitude, as necessary, to remain clear of other traffic, terrain, populated areas, clouds, etc.

IFR requires pilots to be trained and certified in navigational methodologies and to adhere to ATC clearances containing specific flight route and altitude directions. ATC clearances and use of radar and navigational aid systems keep IFR aircraft separated from each other.

IV. Airspace Categories

The national airspace is divided into two broad categories, controlled and uncontrolled airspace. Within these two categories, there are a variety of classifications which determine flight rules, pilot qualifications, and aircraft capabilities required in order to operate within any section of the airspace. The specific classification of any area is determined by the FAA and is broadly based upon these:

- Complexity or density of aircraft movements
- Nature of operations conducted within the airspace
- Level of safety required
- National and public interest

It is important that pilots, dispatchers and managers be familiar with the operational requirements of each of the various types of airspace in order to assess their impact on the ground activity underlying them and potential conflicts for agency aircraft operating above agency lands. It is also incumbent on both the pilot and the dispatcher to be familiar with all the points of contact regarding controlled and Special Use Airspace. Unfortunately there is no “one call solves all” point of contact in airspace coordination. Each type of airspace has its own designated unit that is responsible for controlling, scheduling and/or coordinating the use of the designated portion of the NAS.

V. Overview of Airspace Designations of the United States

To describe how airspace is structured and managed, the explanation is grouped into major categories with sub-categories as follows.

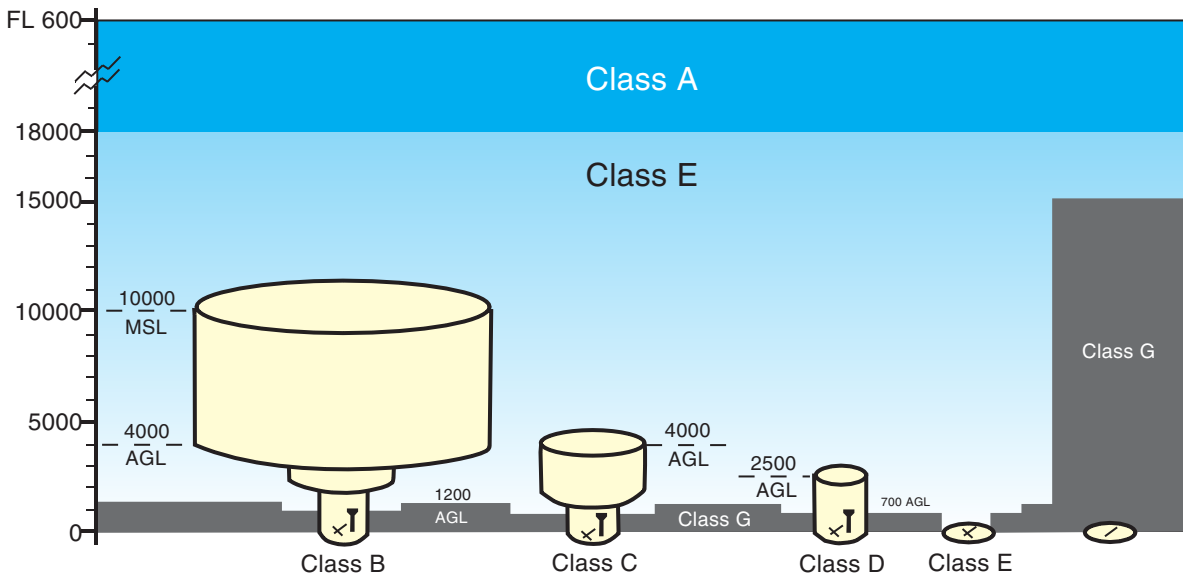
- Controlled Airspace
 - Class A Airspace
 - Class B Airspace
 - Class C Airspace
 - Class D Airspace
 - Class E Airspace
 - Class F Airspace (International—not in United States)
- Uncontrolled Airspace
 - Class G Airspace
- Enroute Routing System
 - Victor Routes (Victor Airways)
 - VFR Flyways
 - Jet Routes
- Special Use Airspace (SUA)
 - Prohibited Area (PA)
 - Restricted Area (RA)
 - Military Operations Area (MOA)
 - Alert Area (AA)
 - Warning Area (WA)
 - Controlled Fire Area (CFA)
- Military Training Route (MTR)
 - Basic Information About Military Training Routes (IR and VR)
 - Maneuver Areas/LOWAT (Low Altitude Tactical)
 - Corridor Width and Height
- Other Kinds of Airspace
 - Slow Routes
 - Low Altitude Tactical Navigation Areas (LATN)
 - Local Flying Areas
 - Air Refueling Routes
 - Temporary Special Use Airspace (TSUA)
 - Cruise Missile Routes
 - National Security Areas (NSA)
 - ATCAAs

VI. Airspace Classifications

The primary designation utilized within the NAS is “class.” There are seven classes, “A” through “G” (see Figure 3-1). In addition to classes there are a variety of terms utilized to identify operational structures, hazards, and unique areas within the airspace.

“Controlled” and “uncontrolled” airspace are generic terms that broadly cover all airspace. These refer to the level of air traffic control required to operate within the airspace. Most controlled airspace has specific, predetermined dimensions whereas uncontrolled airspace can be of almost any size. Class G is the only class of uncontrolled airspace. Except as noted in the following descriptions, the FAA normally is the controlling agency for each area of the NAS.

FIGURE 3-1 Airspace Classifications



A. Class A Airspace Areas

Class A Airspace Areas include airspace from 18,000 feet MSL up to 60,000 feet MSL, including the airspace overlying the waters within 12 nautical miles (NM) of the coast of the 48 contiguous states and Alaska. All operations within Class A airspace must be under Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) and are under direct control of air traffic controllers. Class A airspace always starts at 18,000 MSL and it is not specifically charted or designated on commonly used maps .

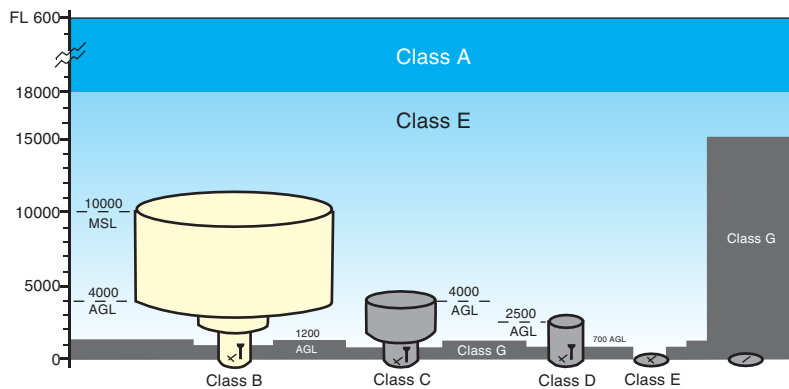
It is unlikely that the agencies will have to consider flight activity within this airspace except for occasional point-to-point transportation of passengers. All flights in Class A airspace are under positive control.

B. Class B Airspace Areas

This airspace surrounds the nation's busiest commercial airports. This is the most congested airspace and has the most complex mix of aircraft operations with everything from single engine trainers to high speed jet transports. At its core, it extends from the surface airspace areas to 10,000 feet MSL.

The overall shape of Class B can be likened to an upside down wedding cake of several layers. Each layer is divided into sectors with the exact dimensions and shape individually tailored to meet local traffic and safety needs. The outer limit of Class B can extend to 30 NM from the primary airport. Air traffic control clearance is required to operate in Class B air-

FIGURE 3-2 Class B Airspace



space areas. To increase safety, the airspace is designed to minimize the number of turns aircraft are required to perform as they descend to an airport, while still enabling other aircraft to safely transition the area.

Class B airspace is charted on sectional charts, IFR enroute (low altitude) charts, and terminal area charts.

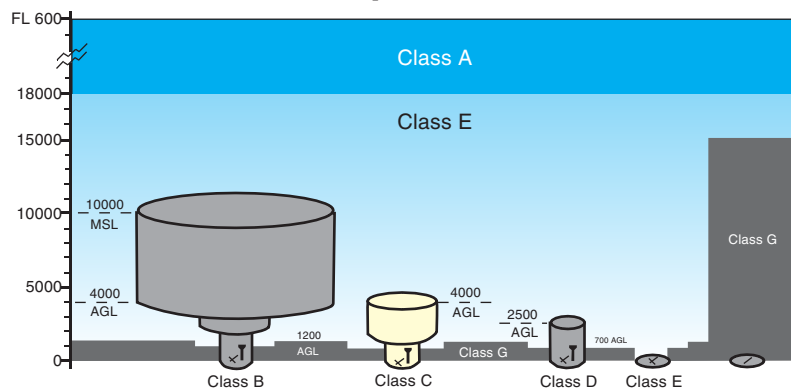
Agency flight operations within Class B airspace are generally very complex and require considerable planning and coordination. TFR coordination in Class B airspace must be carefully coordinated with the FAA due to a significant impact on the airport. A TFR will generally not be issued in Class B airspace areas because the area is already controlled airspace. Operations must be with air traffic clearance.

C. Class C Airspace Areas

This airspace surrounds the busy airports of mid-sized cities with a large number of commercial flight operations as well as some military airports. An operating control tower at the primary airport and radar services are key components of Class C airspace.

The overall shape is also that of an upside down wedding cake but there are only two layers. The inner ring has a radius of 5 NM and is from the

FIGURE 3-3 Class C Airspace



surface up to, but not including 4,000 feet above airport elevation. The outer ring has a radius of 10 NM and is from 1,200 feet AGL to 4,000 feet above airport elevation. A third ring with a 20 nautical mile radius exists in which ATC provides traffic separation services to VFR aircraft who voluntarily request this service.

Radio communications must be established with ATC prior to entering Class C airspace but specific permission to operate within the airspace is not required as it is in Class A and B.

Class C airspace is charted on sectional charts, IFR enroute (low altitude) charts, and in specific terminal area charts.

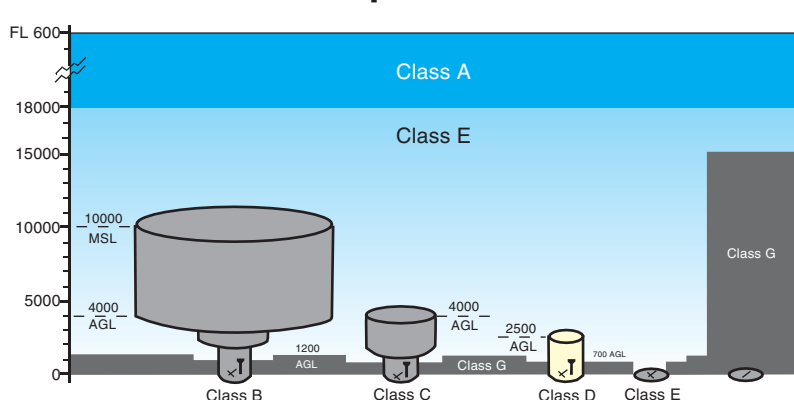
Agency flight operations within Class C airspace should be viewed as complex and will normally require planning and coordination similar to that for operations in Class B airspace.

TFR requests within Class C airspace must be carefully coordinated with the FAA.

D. Class D Airspace Areas

This airspace is applied to airports with operating control towers but where the traffic volume does not meet Class C or Class B standards. Traffic usually lacks the heavy jet transport activity but often includes a complex mix of general aviation, turbo prop and business jet traffic. Radar service is often available.

FIGURE 3-4 Class D Airspace



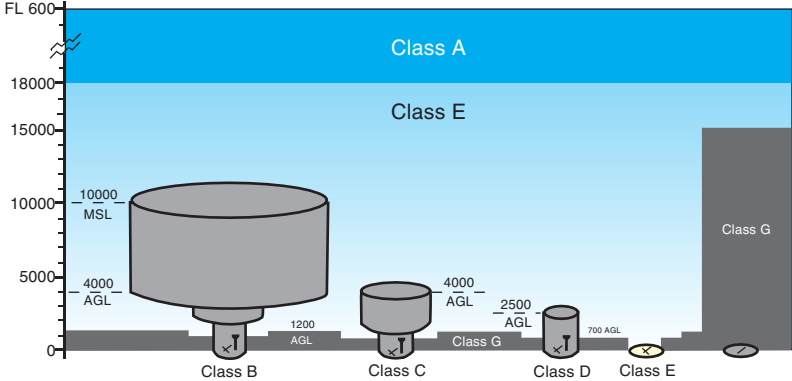
The above airport elevation shape is a five nautical mile radius surrounding an operational control tower from the surface up to, but not including, 2,500 feet AGL. Class D airspace may have one or more extensions to accommodate IFR traffic. Where radar service is available ATC will provide separation service to IFR traffic and to participating VFR traffic. All traffic must maintain radio communication with the tower or have prior arrangements for operating within the Class D airspace. Class D airspace is charted on sectional charts, IFR enroute (low altitude) charts.

Agency flight operations commonly involve Class D airspace and must be coordinated by the control tower. Managers should remember that a large number of civilian and military flight training occurs in and around Class D airspace. It is also important to consider that radar service may not be available.

E. Class E Airspace Areas

Class E airspace exists primarily to assist IFR traffic. It includes all airspace from 14,500 feet MSL up to, but not including 18,000 feet MSL. It extends upward from either the surface or a designated altitude to the overlying or adjacent controlled airspace.

FIGURE 3-5 Class E Airspace



Radar coverage may or may not be available and there are no requirements for VFR communications with ATC. Class E airspace below 14,500 feet MSL is charted on Sectional, Terminal, IFR Enroute Low Altitude Charts with a segmented magenta line.

Agency aviation operations will routinely involve Class E airspace and should be coordinated with the applicable ARTCC or TRACON. This will help to avoid conflicts with IFR traffic. As always, “see and avoid” is the recommended procedure.

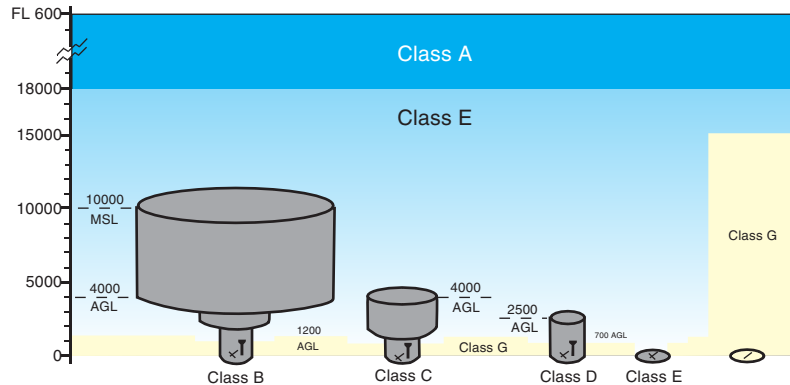
F. Class F Airspace Areas

This is an international classification which is not utilized in the United States.

G. Class G Airspace Areas

Class G is uncontrolled airspace and includes all airspace not otherwise designated as A, B, C, D or E. It is virtually non-existent in the eastern United States but relatively large blocks of Class G can be found in some areas of the west and Alaska.

FIGURE 3-6 Class G Airspace



Operations within Class G airspace are governed by the principle of “see and avoid.”

Agency flight operations in uncontrolled airspace should be approached with caution and all flight crew members and passengers should be reminded to assist the pilot with “see and avoid.”

VII. Enroute Structures

Enroute structures consist of several routing corridors, essentially highways in the sky, utilized by both IFR and VFR traffic. Relatively large amounts of traffic are concentrated along these routes.

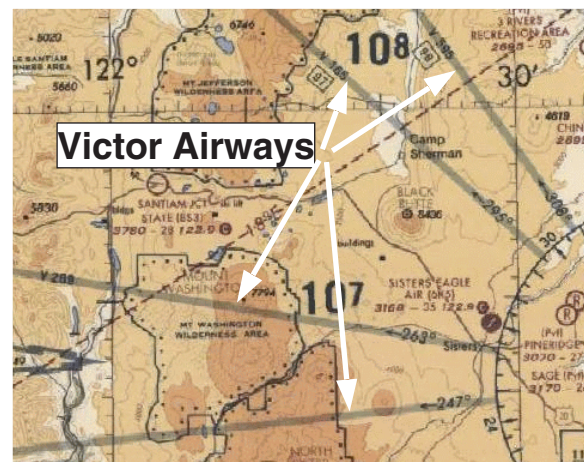
A. Low Altitude Airways (Victor Airways)

Victor airways are the primary “highways” utilized by both IFR and VFR traffic. They are 8 NM wide and generally range from 1,200 feet AGL up to but not including 18,000 MSL.

The airway floor varies to ensure that aircraft operating on the airway remain clear of ground obstructions and have the ability to receive the radio signals from the navigational facilities.

They are depicted on sectionals as blue shaded lines with a “V” (hence the term “victor”) followed by a number (i.e. V-500, see Figure 3-7).

FIGURE 3-7 Victor Airways



B. Jet Routes

Jet routes serve the same function as the above low altitude airways except that they are found between 18,000 MSL and to 45,000 MSL. Traffic on a jet route is always IFR designated and is managed by air traffic control. Jet routes are shown on the high altitude charts as a gray line and are represented by the letter “J” followed by a number. Jet routes are normally not of much concern to land management agencies except in a few western areas with very high terrain.

C. VFR Flyway

These are general routes for VFR traffic wishing to fly through, or near Class B airspace. The intent is to provide VFR aircraft with a way to transition the airspace. An air traffic control clearance is not required to utilize a flyway. Flyways may be charted on the back of terminal area charts but may also be used locally based on word of mouth. The best way to determine if a flyway exists locally is to ask the ATC facility controlling the Class B airspace area.

D. VFR Transition Routes

These are similar to VFR flyways and are used to accommodate VFR traffic transitioning certain Class B airspace. The difference from a VFR flyways is that a clearance is required from air traffic control and radar separation service is always provided. VFR transition routes are identified by a notation on terminal area charts.

E. Air Traffic Control Assigned Airspace (ATCAA)

ATCAAs were established to permit the continuation of MOA activities above 18,000' MSL. From the standpoint of the MOA “user,” MOA and ATCAA are combined into one piece of airspace, with 18,000' MSL acting as an administrative boundary. Usually, the ATCAA is activated concurrently with the MOA. VFR aircraft are permitted to enter a MOA, but are not permitted to enter most ATCAAs because they are not permitted to fly VFR above 18,000' MSL. MOAs are depicted on aeronautical charts, but ATCAAs are not depicted.

F. VFR Waypoints Chart Program

FIGURE 3-8 Example of a VFR Waypoint

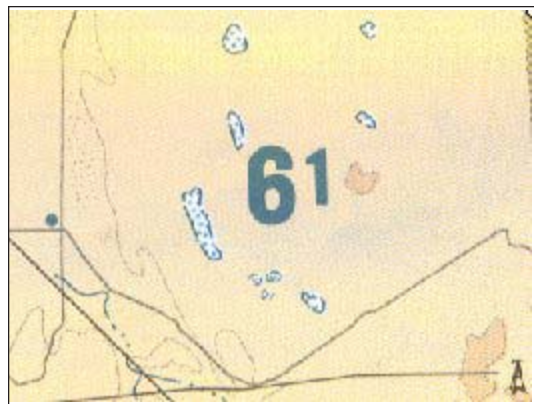
The VFR Waypoint Chart program was established to provide VFR pilots with a supplemental tool to assist with position awareness. The program is designed to enhance safety, reduce pilot deviations and provide navigation aids for pilots unfamiliar with an area in or around Class B, Class C and Special Use Airspace. The name of a VFR waypoint (for computer entry and flight plans) consists of five letters beginning with "VP." VFR waypoints will be portrayed on sectionals as a four point star symbol. VFR Waypoints co-located with Visual Check Points on the sectional will be identified by small magenta flag symbols. Each VFR Waypoint name will appear in parentheses adjacent to the geographic location on the chart.



G. Maximum Elevation Figure (MEF)

Within each grid on a sectional is a large blue number followed by a smaller number, for example 61. This represents the highest elevation (including terrain and other vertical obstacles such as towers, etc.) within each square. The designation of 61 translates to 6,100' MSL. Agency personnel need to take MEF into account when planning a TFR.

FIGURE 3-9 Example of an MEF



VIII. Special Use Airspace (SUA)

This special designation is designed to alert users about areas of military activity, unusual flight hazards, or national security needs, and to segregate that activity from other airspace users to enhance safety. While most SUAs involve military activity, others involve civilian users such as the Department of Energy.

Special Use Airspace is established by the FAA. Detailed information regarding the process for establishing SUA and other types of airspace is contained in FAA Handbook 7400.2, Procedures for Handling Airspace Matters. The DoD flight information publication AP/1A contains detailed information about current SUA.

There are six different kind of SUAs as shown in Figure 3-10.

FIGURE 3-10 Categories of Special Use Airspace

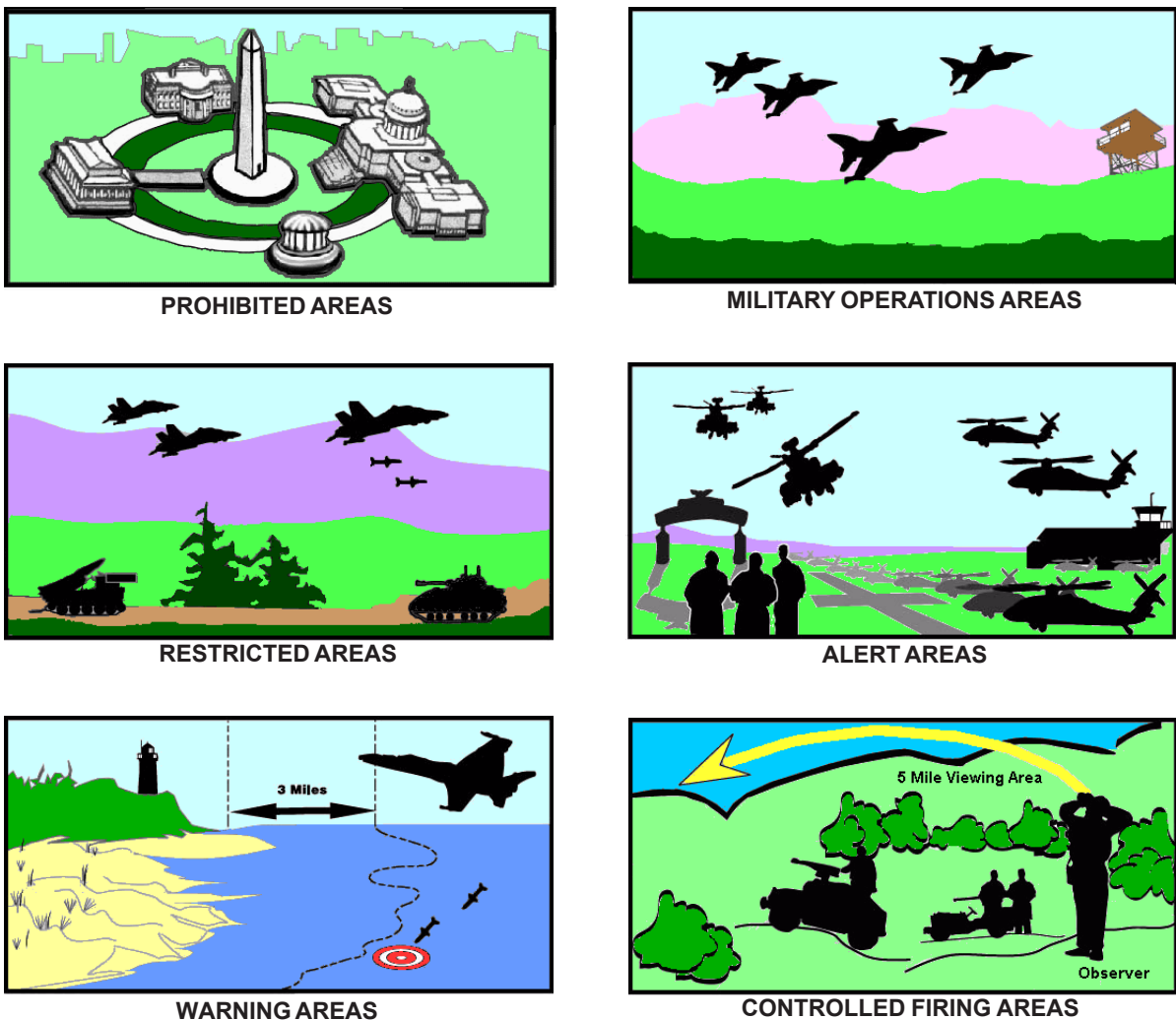
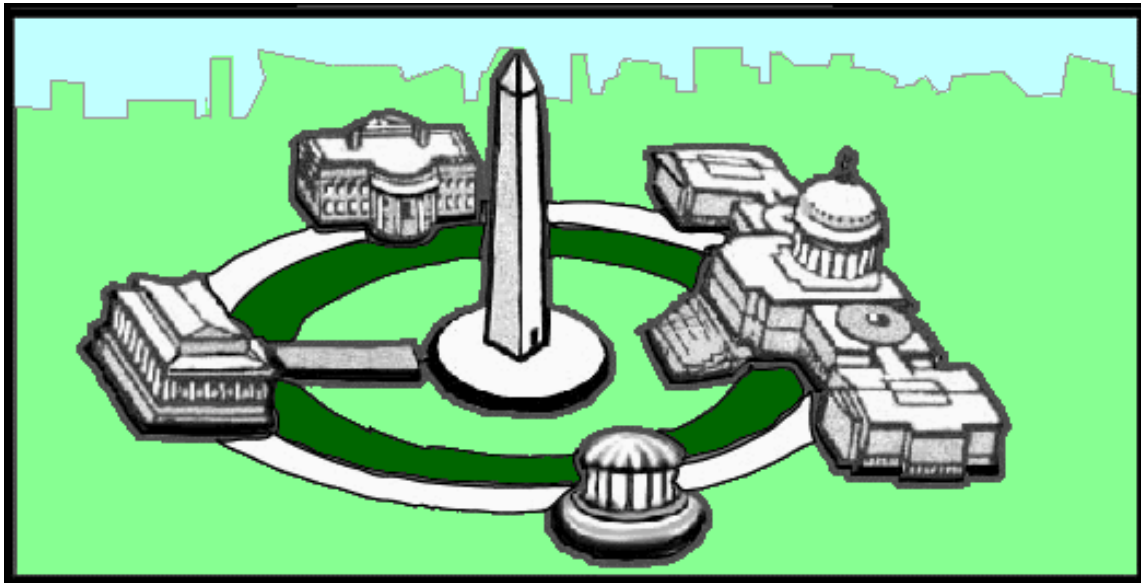


FIGURE 3-11 Prohibited Areas

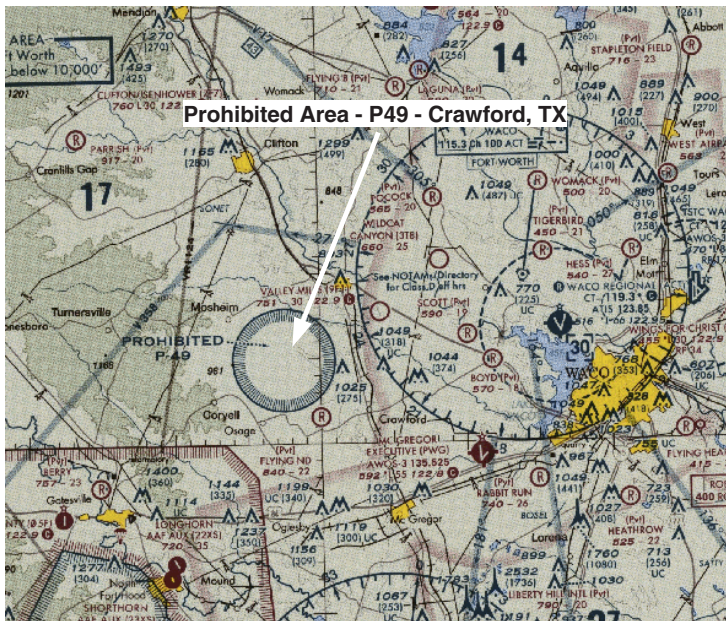


A. Prohibited Areas (PA)

Prohibited areas are established over sensitive ground facilities such as the White House, Camp David, presidential homes, etc. (see Figure 3-9). The dimensions of the prohibited area vary. All aircraft are prohibited from flight operations within a prohibited area unless specific prior approval is obtained from the FAA or the controlling agency. Prohibited areas are charted on sectionals, IFR enroute charts, and terminal area charts. They are identified by the letter “P” followed by a number.

Many agency personnel are familiar with the Boundary Waters Canoe Area in Minnesota which is a Prohibited Area by Executive Order. President Truman issued Executive Order 10092 on December 17, 1949, establishing

FIGURE 3-12 Example of a Prohibited Area on a Sectional



an airspace reservation of certain areas of the Superior National Forest. The order prohibited, with few exceptions, flight below 4,000 MSL over designated areas.

Agency personnel can not plan any operations into a PA unless special authorization has been granted by the FAA or controlling agency.

FIGURE 3-13 Restricted Areas



B. Restricted Areas (RA)

Restricted areas are established in areas where on-going or intermittent activities occur which create unusual, and often invisible hazards to aircraft such as artillery firing, aerial gunnery, practice bomb dropping and guided missile testing (see Figure 3-13). Dimensions of the restricted area vary depending upon the needs of the activity and the risks to aircraft.

FIGURE 3-14 Example of Restricted Area on a Sectional

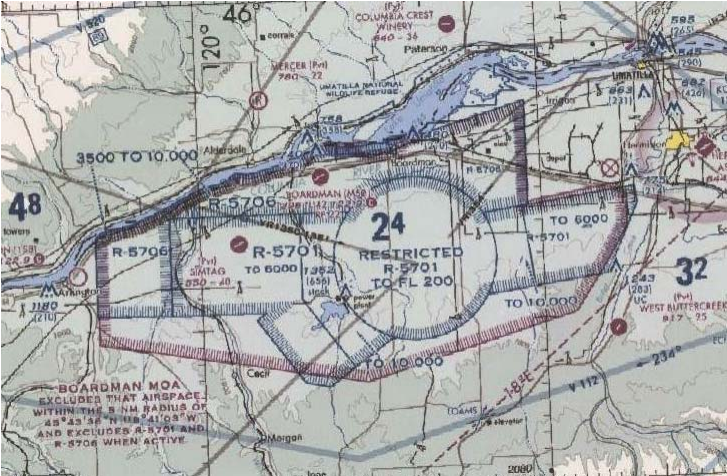
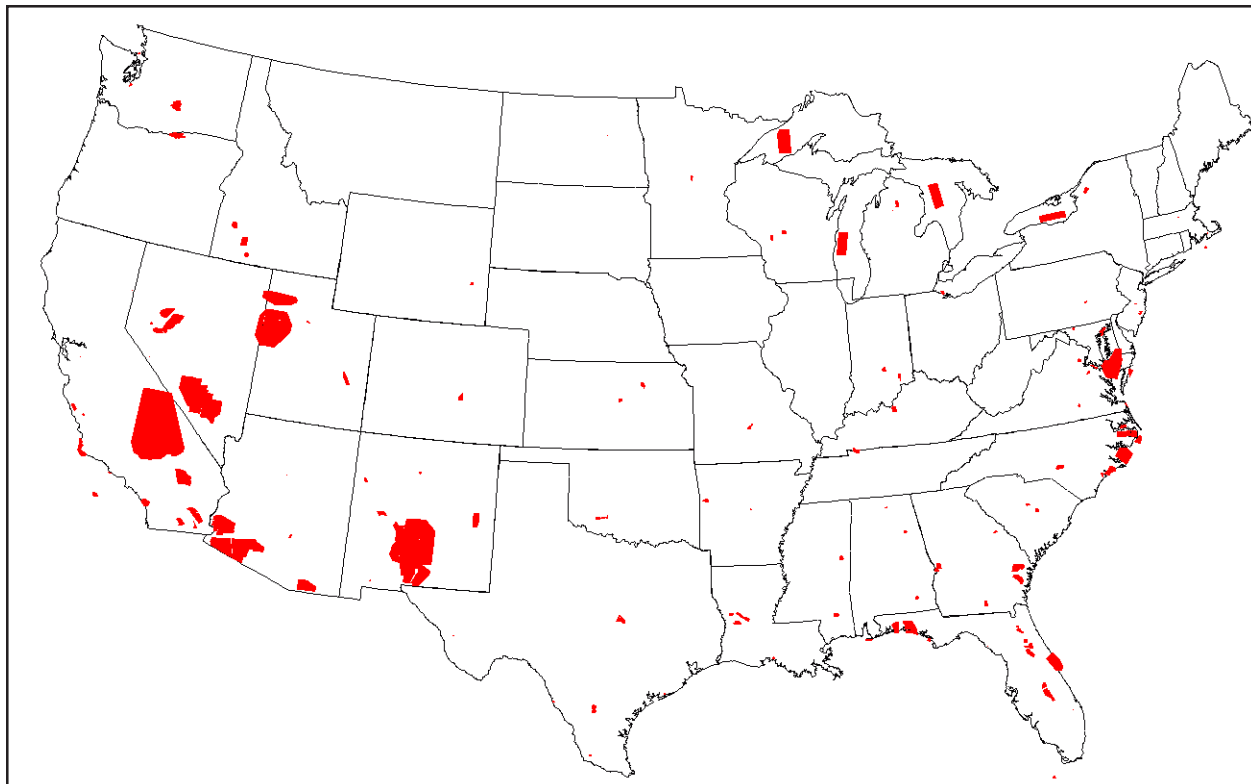


FIGURE 3-15 IAMs/CAHIS Restricted Area Map Example

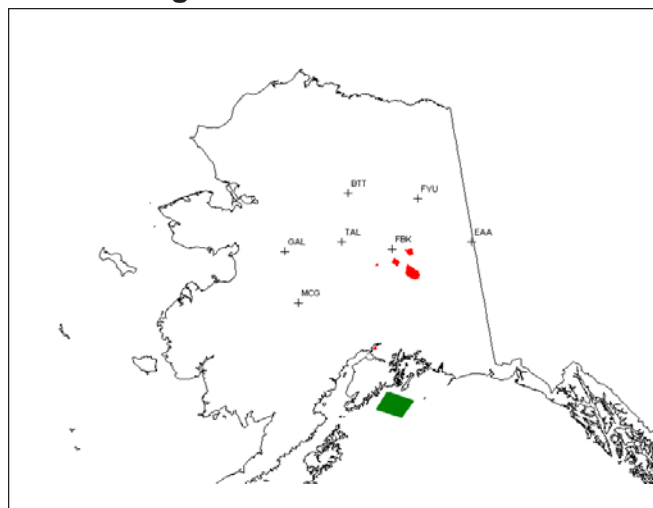


Restricted areas differ from prohibited areas in that most RAs have specific hours of operation and entry during these hours requires specific permission from the FAA or the controlling agency. In addition, there may be a separate scheduling agency who must also grant permission. Agency personnel must understand that hazardous flight activity is occurring in the RA when it is active.

Restricted areas are charted on sectionals, IFR enroute charts, and terminal area charts. They are identified by the letter “R” followed by a number (see Figure 3-14). The floor and ceiling, operating hours, and controlling agency for each restricted area can be found in the chart legend.

Figure 3-17 displays an example from the Special Use Airspace Table on a

FIGURE 3-16 Example of IAMs/CAHIS Restricted and Warning Area



sectional. In this example, each Restricted Area is described with its identification number, location, altitude, time of use and the controlling agency.

This is one reason why it is critical that each office that has coordination responsibilities for airspace have current copies of all sectionals for their area of responsibility.

FIGURE 3-17 Example of Special Use Airspace Table (Restricted Areas) from a Sectional Legend

SPECIAL USE AIRSPACE ON SEATTLE SECTIONAL CHART				
Unless otherwise noted, altitudes are MSL and in feet and Time is local. Contact nearest FSS for information. **Other time by NOTAM, contact FSS.		The word "TO" an altitude means "To and including." "MON-FRI" indicates "Monday thru Friday" FL - Flight level NO A/G - No air to ground communications		
U.S. P-PROHIBITED, R-RESTRICTED, A-ALERT, W-WARNING, MOA-MILITARY OPERATIONS AREA				
NUMBER	LOCATION	ALTITUDE*	TIME OF USE **	CONTROLLING AGENCY***
R-5701	BOARDMAN, OR	SEE FACE OF CHART	0730-2359 MON-FRI **6 HRS IN ADVANCE	ZSE CNTR
R-5704	HERMISTON, OR	TO NOT INCLUDING 4000	0900-1700 MON-THU	NO A/G
R-5706	BOARDMAN, OR	3500 TO 10,000	0730-2359 MON-FRI **6 HRS IN ADVANCE	ZSE CNTR
R-6701	ADMIRALTY INLET, WA	TO 5000	INTERMITTENT BY NOTAM **2 HRS IN ADVANCE	NAS WHIDBEY ISLAND APP CON
R-6703A	FORT LEWIS, WA	TO 14,000	0700-2300 MON-FRI **2 HRS IN ADVANCE	SEATTLE-TACOMA APP CON
R-6703B,D	FORT LEWIS, WA	TO 5000	0700-2300 MON-FRI **2 HRS IN ADVANCE	SEATTLE-TACOMA APP CON
R-6703C	FORT LEWIS, WA	TO 14,000	INTERMITTENT BY NOTAM 2 HRS IN ADVANCE	SEATTLE-TACOMA APP CON
*Altitudes indicate floor of MOA. All MOAs extend to but do not include FL 180 unless otherwise indicated in tabulation or on chart. ** Other time by notam--CONTACT fss ***ZSE - Seattle				

(This chart is for illustration only. Consult current sectional for navigational information.)

FIGURE 3-18 Military Operations Area



C. Military Operations Areas (MOA)

A MOA is an area of airspace designated for military training activities (see Figure 3-18). MOAs were established to contain certain military activities such as air combat maneuvers, intercepts, acrobatics, etc. Civilian VFR flights are allowed within a MOA even when the area is in use by the military. Air traffic control will separate IFR traffic from military activity. A clearance is not required for VFR operations.

FIGURE 3-19 Example of a MOA Chart Table from a Sectional

MOA Name	Altitude of Use*	Time of Use **	Controlling Agency***
BOARDMAN	4,000	0730-2359 MON-FRI ** 6 HRS IN ADVANCE	ZSE CNTR
CHINOOK A,B	300 TO 5,000	SUNRISE-SUNSET	NAS WHIDBEY ISLAND APP CON
OKANOGAN	9,000	CONTINUOUS DAYLIGHT	ZSE CNTR
OKANOGAN B,C	300 AGL TO BUT NOT INCLUDING 9,000	INTERMITTENT BY NOTAM	ZSE CNTR
OLYMPIC A,B	6,000	BY NOTAM	ZSE CNTR
RAINIER 1,2,3	2,000 TO 9,000	INTERMITTENT BY NOTAM	SEATTLE-TACOMA APP CON
ROOSEVELT A	9,000	INTERMITTENT BY NOTAM	ZSE CNTR
ROOSEVELT A	300 AGL TO BUT NOT INCLUDING 9,000	INTERMITTENT BY NOTAM	ZSE CNTR

* Altitudes indicate floor of MOA. All MOAs extend to but do not include FL 180 unless otherwise indicated in tabulation or on chart.
 ** Other time by NOTAM - contact FSS
 *** ZSE - Seattle

(This chart is for illustration only. Consult current sectional for navigational information.)

Users may encounter high-speed military aircraft involved in flight training, acrobatic or abrupt flight maneuvers and formation flying often at speeds greater than 250 Knots Indicated Air Speed (KIAS). Military pilots conducting training within an active MOA are exempt from the provisions of the Federal Aviation Regulations prohibiting acrobatic flight within federal airways and control zones. They are also exempt with respect to the Federal Aviation Regulations for flights at speeds in excess of 250 knots below 10,000 feet MSL.

FIGURE 3-20 Example of a MOA on a Sectional



MOAs have a defined floor and ceiling which can range up to the floor of Class A airspace (18,000 feet). MOAs are identified by a specific name, the letters “MOA”, and are charted in magenta on sectionals, IFR enroute charts, and terminal area charts. MOA dimensions, hours of use, and controlling agency can be found in the chart legend (see Figure 3-19).

FIGURE 3-21 Illustration of stacked MOAs

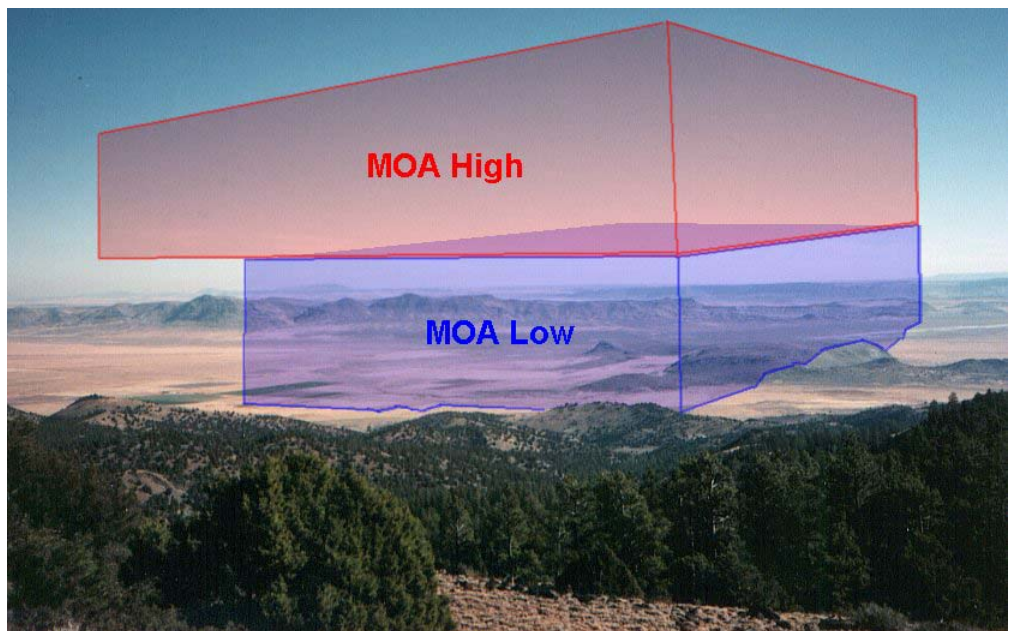


FIGURE 3-22 Example of IAMs/CAHIS Military Operations Area Map

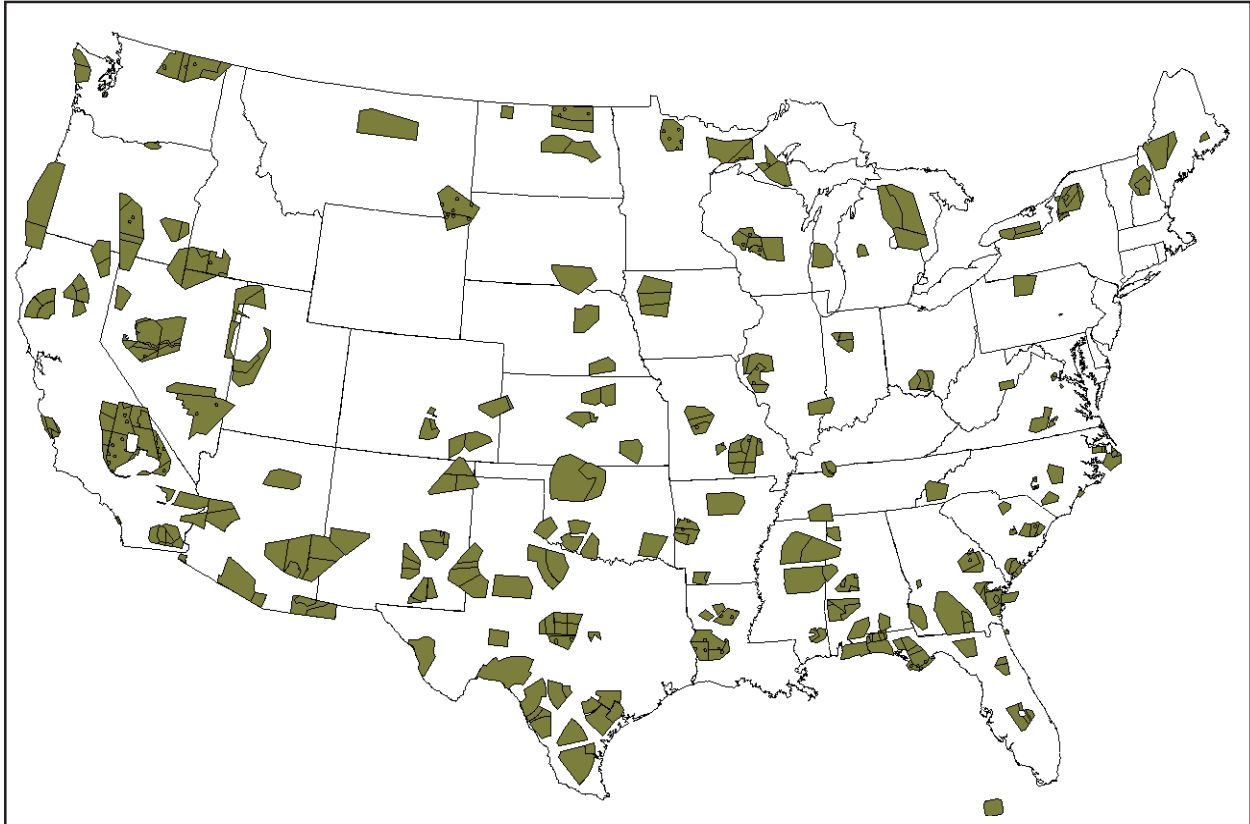


FIGURE 3-23 Example of IAMs/CAHIS Alert Area Map

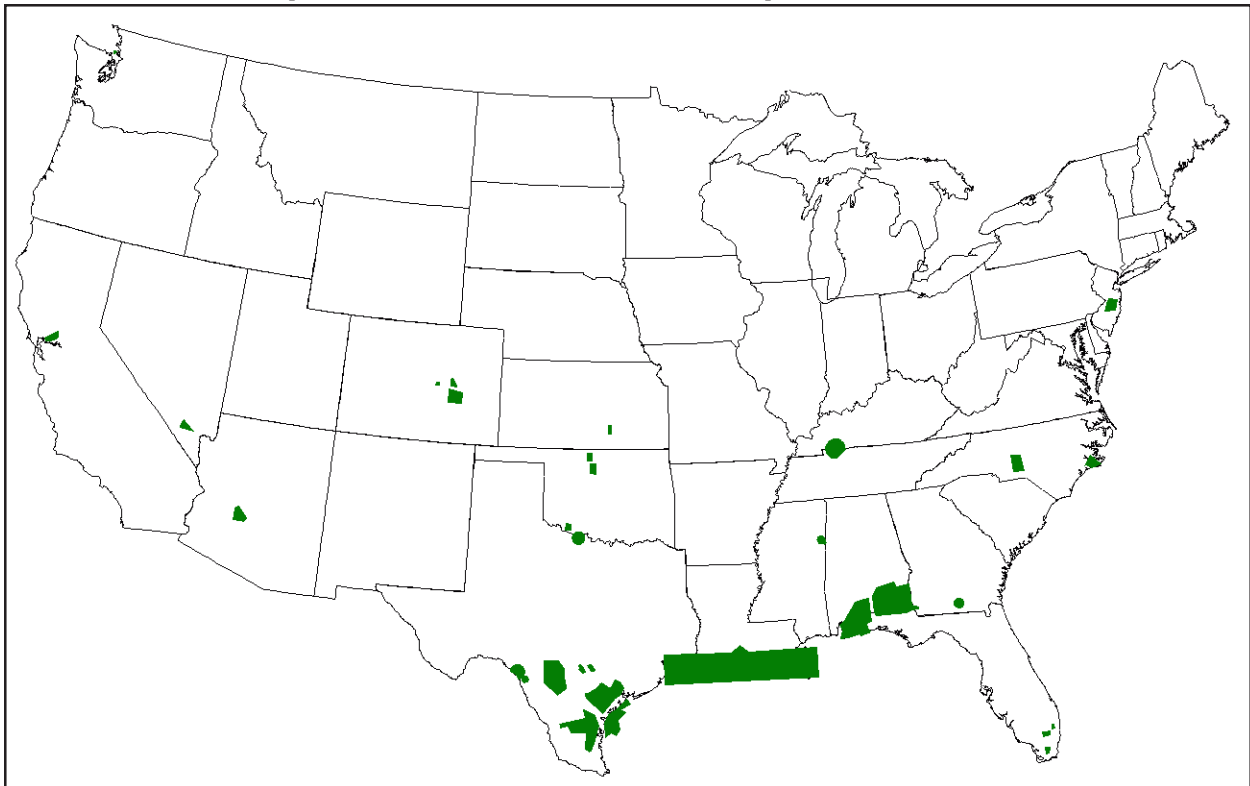


FIGURE 3-24 IAMs/CAHIS Example of Military Operations Areas



Agency personnel should note that MOAs can be “stacked” on top of each other (see Figure 3-21). The status of a MOA can change rapidly and should be checked frequently when agency flight operations are occurring.

MOA’s will have a scheduling agency responsible for scheduling all military flights intending to use the airspace. If the scheduling agency does not have a continuous point of contact, then an alternate scheduling agency will be designated. Consult the AP1/A for scheduling MOA information.

It is strongly recommended that communications be established with the controlling agency of any MOA in proximity to agency flight operations, even if the MOA is not active. At a minimum, pilots should contact air traffic control prior to entering an MOA to get the most current status information.

D. Alert Areas (AA)

Alert areas may contain a high volume of pilot training or an unusual type of aerial activity (see Figure 3-25). There are no special requirements for

FIGURE 3-25 Alert Areas



FIGURE 3-26 Example of an Alert Area on a Sectional



operations within alert areas, other than heightened vigilance. All operations must be in compliance with the Federal Aviation Regulations. The types of flying involved could be military, aircraft manufacturers or a high concentration of flights (i.e. helicopter activity near oil rigs).

Alert Areas are depicted by defined areas marked with the letter “A” followed by a number (see Figure 3-26). Alert area dimensions differ for each area and are depicted on sectional charts, IFR enroute charts, or terminal area charts.

E. Warning Areas (WA)

Warning areas contain the same kind of hazardous flight activity as restricted areas but have a different title since they are located offshore over domestic and international waters (see Figure 3-27). Examples of likely hazards include artillery firing, aerial gunnery, guided missile exercises and fighter interceptions.

Warning areas generally begin three miles offshore. Executive Order 10854 extends the application of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, as

FIGURE 3-27 Warning Areas

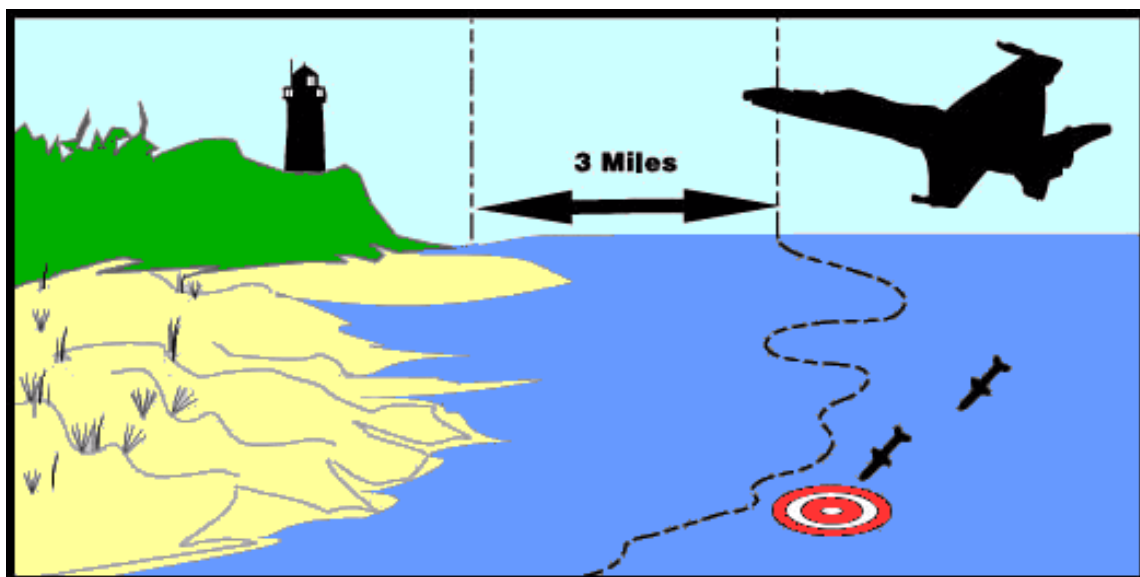
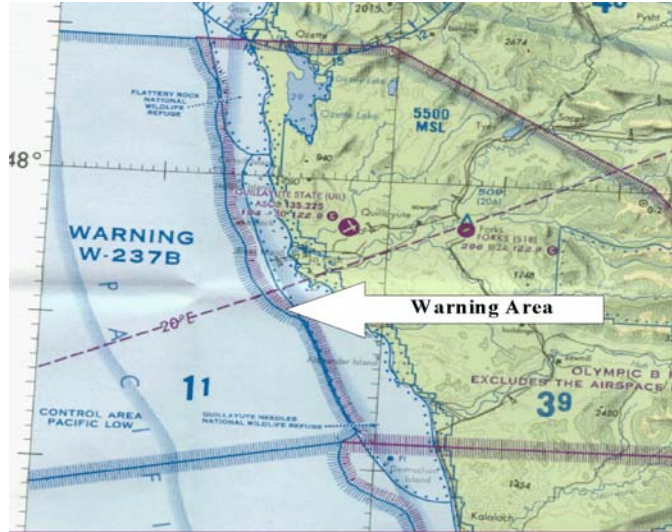


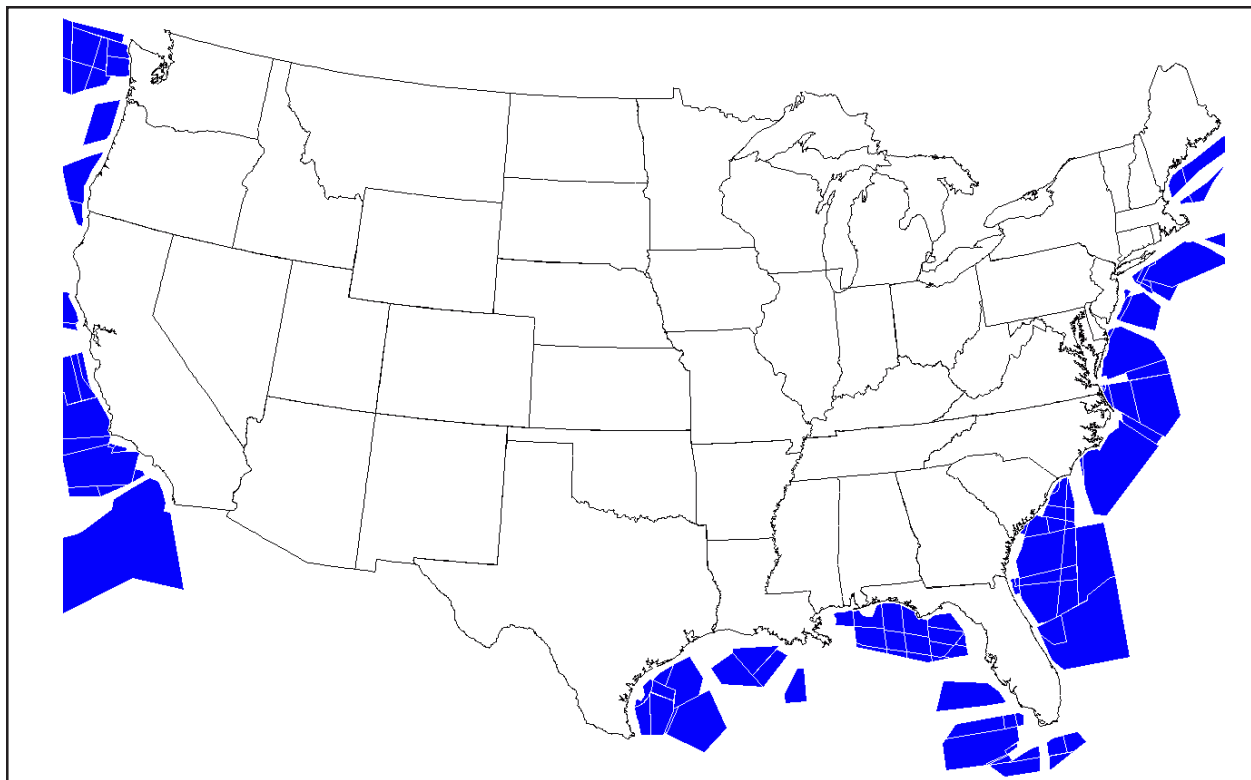
FIGURE 3-28 Warning Area from Sectional

amended, to the overlying airspace of those areas of land or water outside the United States beyond the 12-mile offshore limit. It includes areas that the United States has appropriate jurisdiction or control under international treaty agreement.



Warning areas overlying the territorial waters of the United States are under FAA jurisdiction. However, any airspace action, rulemaking or non-rulemaking that concerns airspace beyond the 12-mile offshore limit requires coordination with the Departments of Defense and the adjacent State. Although VFR operations are permitted in warning areas, the FAA does not guarantee traffic separation and agency personnel should carefully weigh the risks of such operations.

FIGURE 3-29 Example of IAMs/CAHIS Warning Area Map



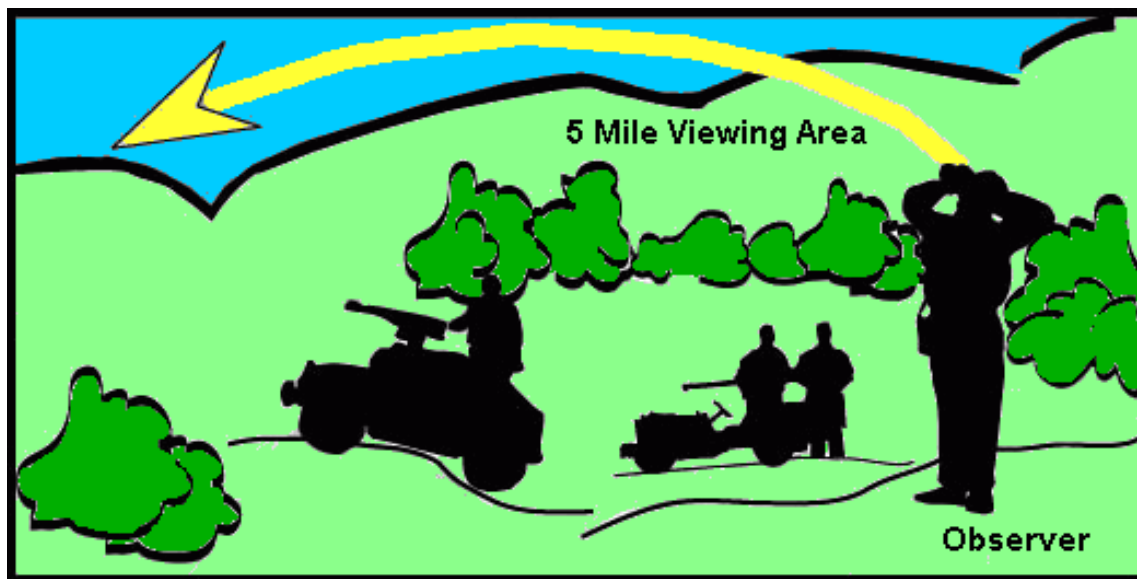
Warning areas are represented on sectionals, IFR enroute charts and some terminal area charts. They are depicted by a “W” with a number following it (see Figure 3-28). Dimensions for each warning area can be determined by consulting the appropriate chart legend.

F. Controlled Firing Areas (CFA)

Controlled firing areas contain civilian and military activities which, if not contained, could be hazardous to “non participating” aircraft (see Figure 3-30). These include rocket testing, ordnance disposal, small arms fire, chemical disposal, blasting, etc. CFAs are differentiated from MOAs and restricted areas in that radar or a ground lookout is utilized to indicate when an aircraft might be approaching the area. All activities are then suspended.

The FAA does not chart CFAs because a CFA does not require a nonparticipating aircraft to change its flight path. Agency personnel may find information about CFAs from the nearest regional FAA headquarters.

FIGURE 3-30 Controlled Firing Areas



IX. Military Training Routes (MTR)

Military training routes are designed for low level, high-speed terrain following training missions. These routes are provided for military training at speeds of more than 250 knots and at altitudes that range from ground level (surface) to 18,000 feet, though most operations are conducted well below 10,000 feet MSL.

There are more than 500 routes, roughly divided in half for VFR and IFR operations. They pose flight hazards to any uncoordinated aviation mission within their perimeters.

FIGURE 3-31 Example of IAMS/CAHIS Map of Military Training Routes

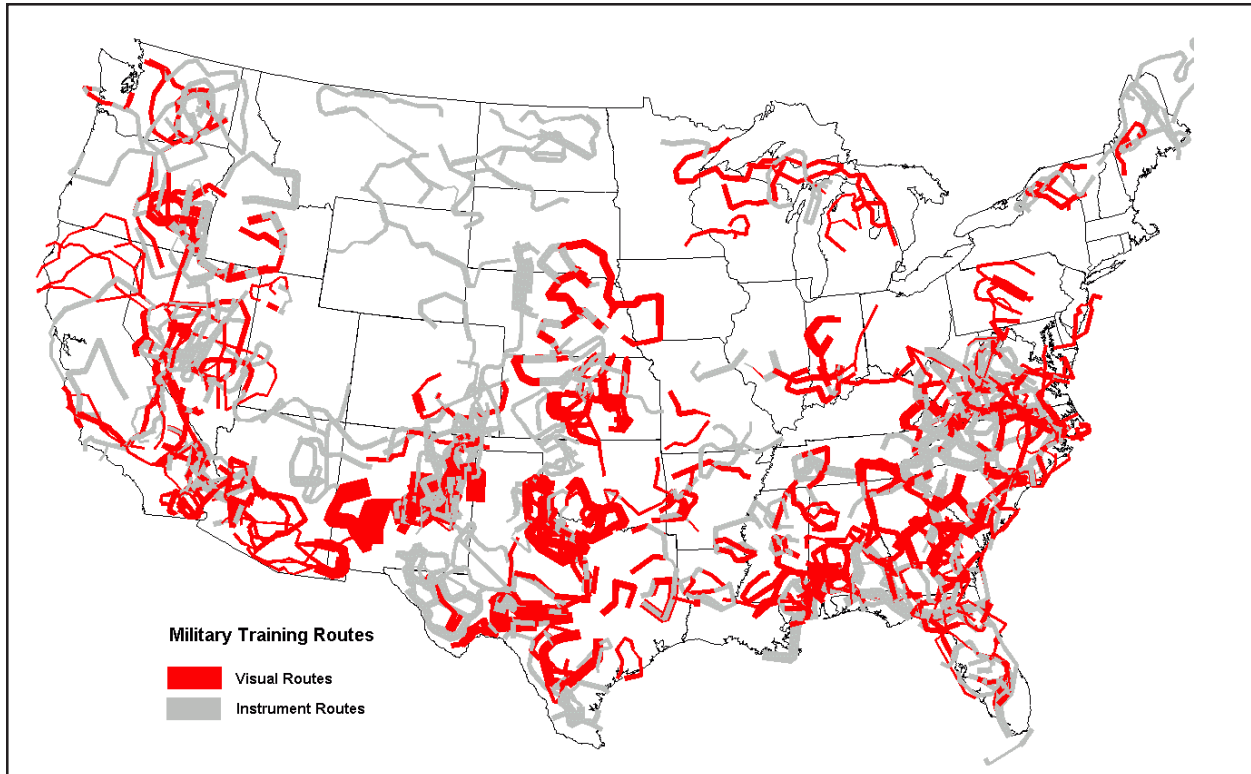
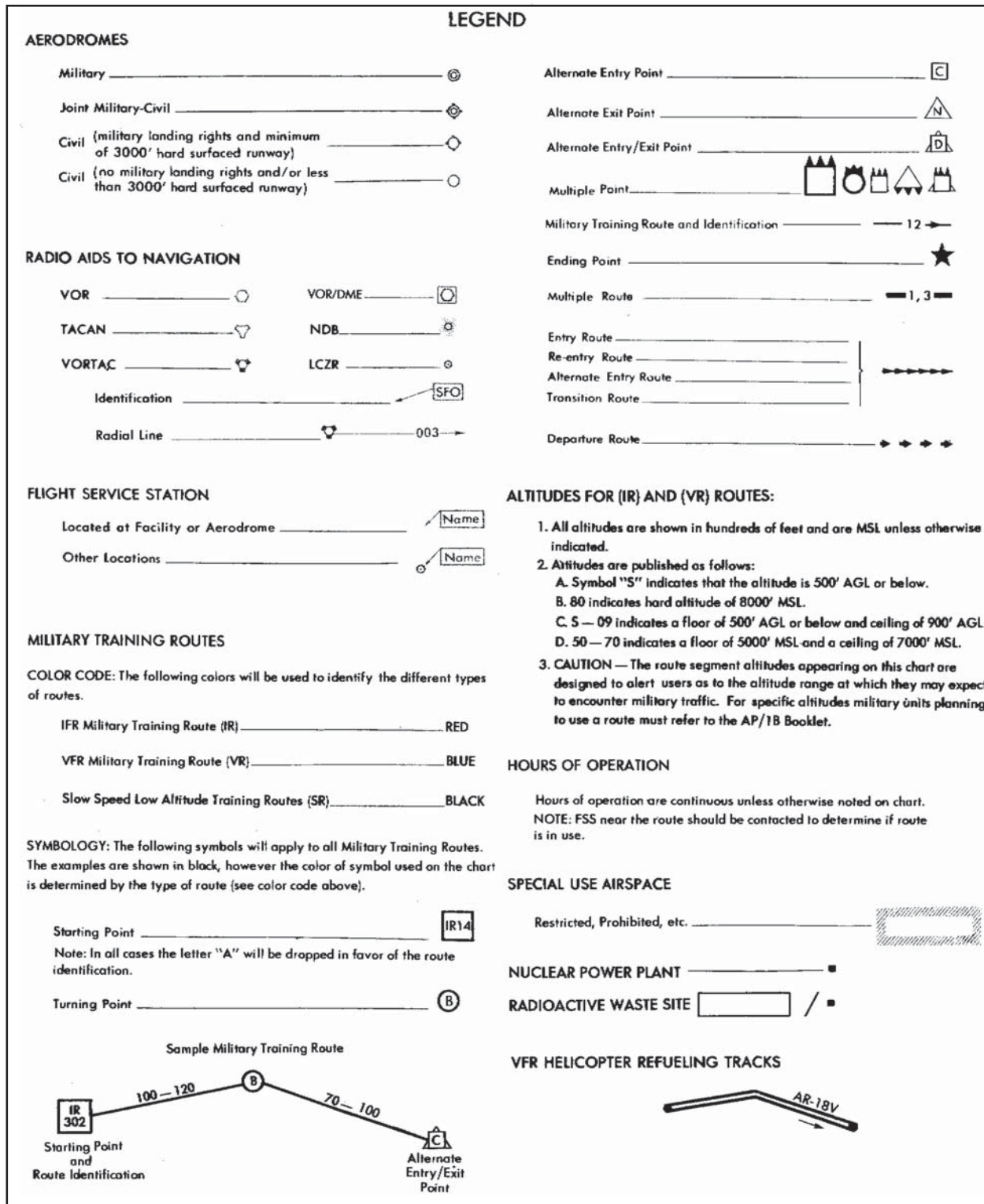


FIGURE 3-32 MTR Number Assignments Chart

Region	MTR Numbers with One or More Segments Above 1,500 Feet AGL	MTR Numbers For All Routes At Or Below 1,500 Feet AGL
Southern	001 thru 099	1001 thru 1099
Southwest	100 thru 199	1100 thru 1199
Western-Pacific	200 thru 299	1200 thru 1299
	980 thru 999	1980 thru 1999
Northwest Mountain	300 thru 499	1300 thru 1499
Central	500 thru 599	1500 thru 1599
Great Lakes	600 thru 699	1600 thru 1699
Eastern	700 thru 799	1700 thru 1799
New England	800 thru 899	1800 thru 1899
Alaska	900 thru 979	1900 thru 1979

FIGURE 3-33 Sample AP1/B Chart Legend



The AP/1B provides a complete description of the MTR's to include the originating/scheduling activity, the hours of operation, the geographical points of each segment, the altitude limitations for each segment, the route width, special operating procedures, and the Flight Service Stations within 100 NM that have current information.

FIGURE 3-34 Sample Elements of a MTR

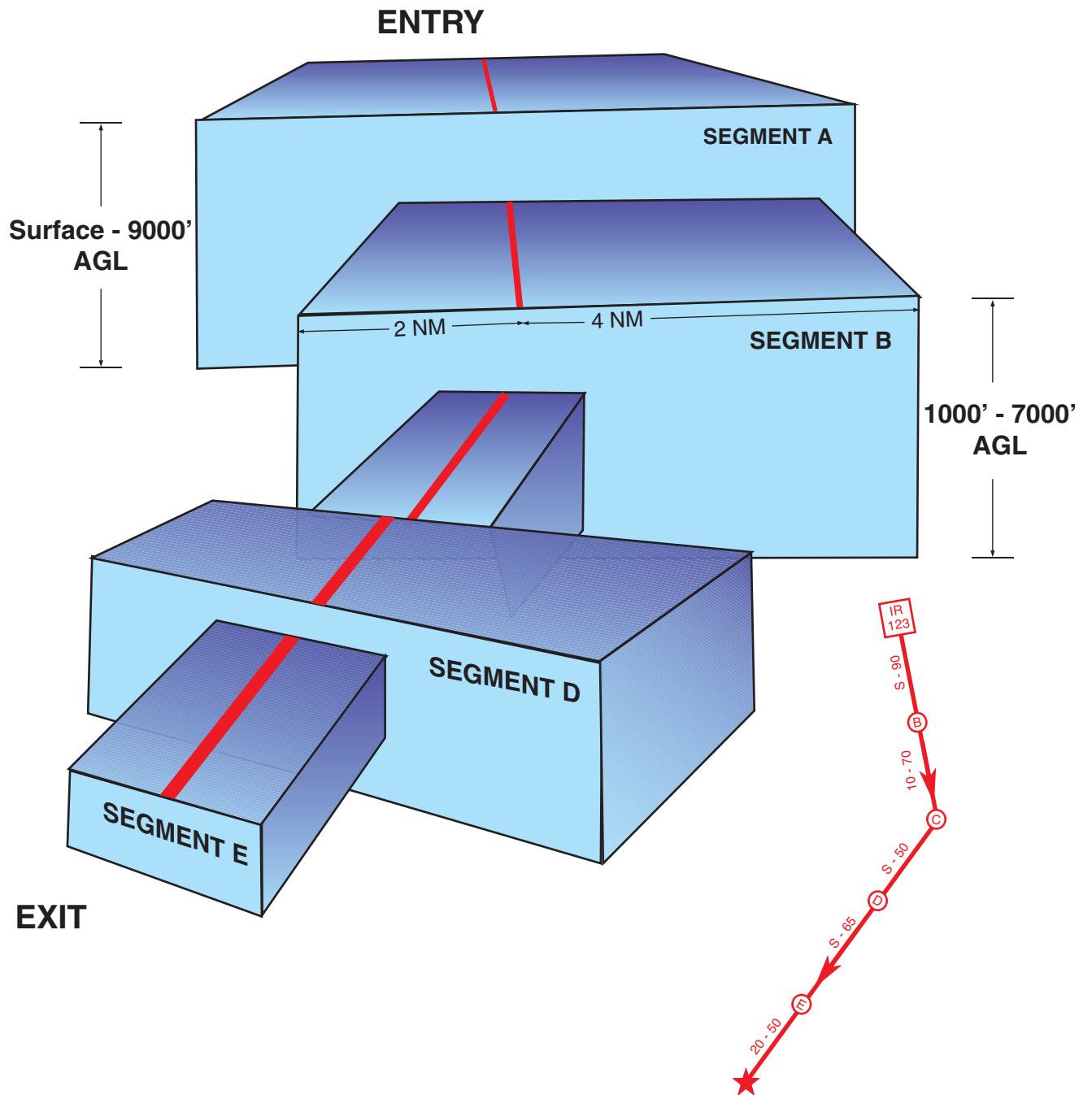
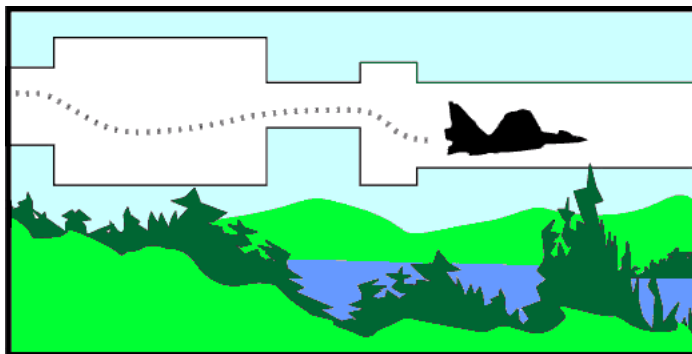


FIGURE 3-35 Side view of MTR flight corridor

Consult the legend (Figure 3-33) in the AP/1B Chart for an explanation of other symbols. Additional symbols will indicate entry/exit points for military aircraft, turning points, departure routes, etc.



In addition to charted route altitudes, additional restrictions or changes in width may be imposed to avoid sensitive areas or other conditions of use. These restrictions are published in the AP/1B under the standard operating procedures (SOPs) for each route.

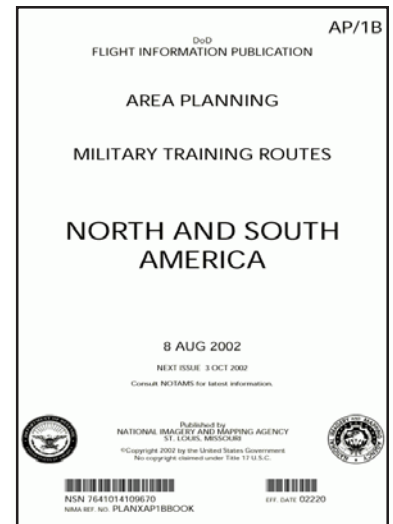
A. Basic Information About Military Training Routes

- MTR's are depicted on sectionals as a solid gray line and a letter/number identifier.
- Course widths may vary between three NM to 20 NM either side of the gray reference line as depicted on the sectional.
- IR indicates the route is flown under IFR, regardless of weather conditions.
- VR indicates the route is flown under VFR requiring minimum visual meteorological conditions.
- IR or VR routes that include one or more segments above 1,500' AGL are identified by three numbers (i.e. VR 206)
- IR or VR routes with no segment above 1,500' are identified by four numbers (i.e. VR1305)
- Routes are flown one way, however the same route flown in the opposite direction will have a separate distinct number.

B. Corridor Height (Route Floor and Ceiling)

Each route segment of an MTR is allocated a floor and ceiling altitude (see Figure 3-35). The floor may be at the earth's surface or at any altitude above the surface. Route segment altitudes are published in the AP/1B

FIGURE 3-36 Sample Cover of AP/1B

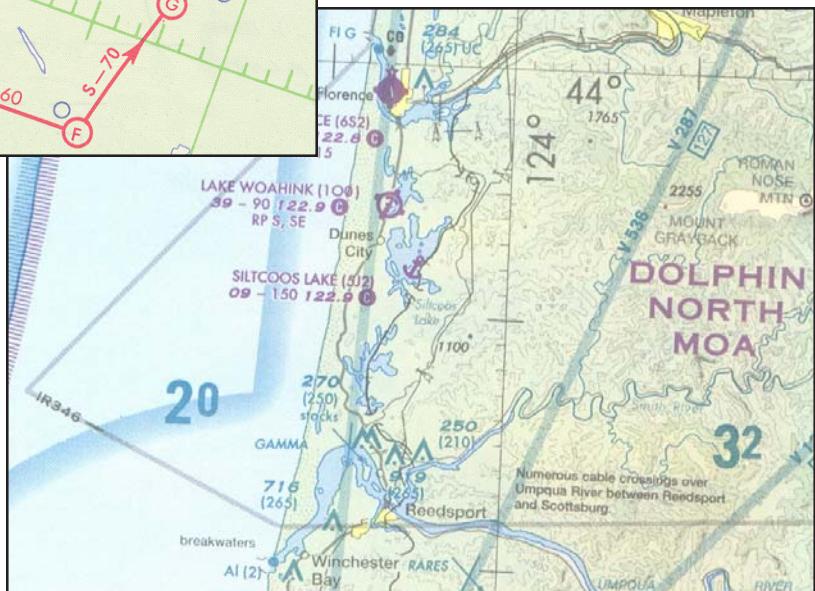


and are depicted on the AP/1B chart. Figure 3-37 shows IR-346 as displayed on the AP/1B chart that accompanies the AP/1B Handbook.

FIGURE 3-37 IR-346 on an AP/1B



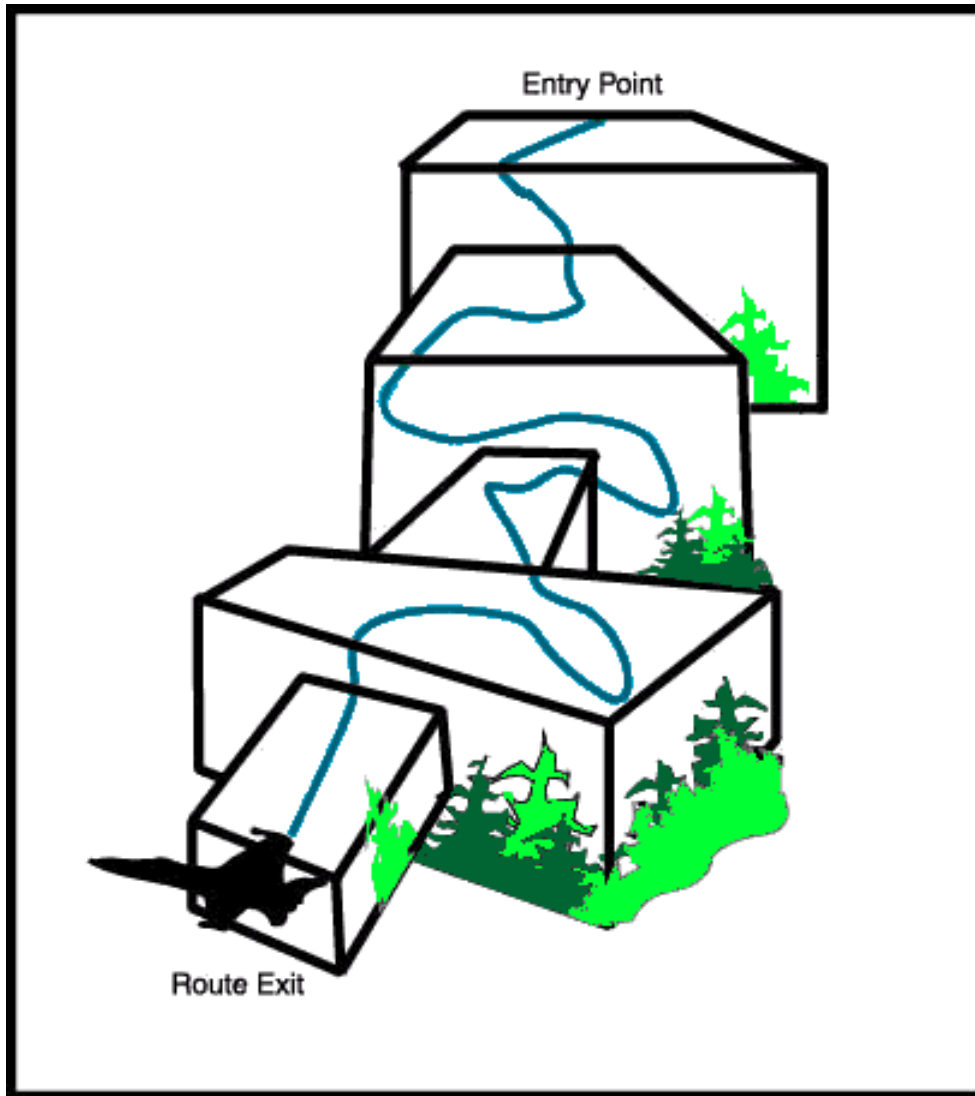
FIGURE 3-38 IR-346 on a Sectional



In reading the AP/1B depiction:

- All altitudes are shown in hundreds of feet.
- The symbol “S” indicates that the altitude is 500' AGL or below and is commonly referred to as “surface.”
- A number, such as “80” indicates hard altitude of 8,000' MSL.
- “S-40” indicates a lower and upper surface separated by a hyphen. For example S-40 indicates a floor of 500' AGL or below (e.g. surface) and a ceiling of 4,000' MSL.
- The numbers “30-40” indicates a floor of 3,000' AGL and a ceiling of 4,000' MSL.
- For MTR descriptions, the floor is generally described in AGL and the ceiling in MSL.

FIGURE 3-39 Illustration of MTR Corridor Widths



C. Corridor Widths

Lateral boundaries are described by nautical miles (NM) left and right of the route centerline. The “centerline” is the focal point that determines the geographical location of an MTR corridor. It is a reference line that is not always centered. The depiction in Figures 3-34 and 3-35 depicts how an MTR can vary along its routing. Corridor widths and heights may vary significantly. Route widths are published in the AP/1B.

Figure 3-40 displays the AB/1B text description of the route width for VR-176. This particular MTR can be at times 47 miles wide. Note the variation in route width as described.

FIGURE 3-40 VR-176 from AP/1B

Name of Route

'C' would mean a commercial phone number

Designates floor and ceiling of each segment of the MTR

The airspace between 0100' AGL to 1500'

Designates segments where terrain following operations

Route Widths vary—designates width of the route of each

VR-176

ORIGINATING/SCHEDULING ACTIVITY: 150 FG/DO, 2251 Air Guard Rd. SE, Kirtland AFB, NM 87117-5875 DSN 246-7426.

HOURS OF OPERATION: Normally 1500-2400Z++ daily usage between 2400-1500Z++ is available.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION:

Altitude Data		Pt	Fac/Rad	Dist	Lat/Long
Cross	A	ABQ	239/43		34°49.0'N 107°39.0'W
at 01 AGL B 15 AGL					
01 AGL B 15 AGL to	B	GUP	162/62		34°27.0'N 108°47.0'W
01 AGL B 15 AGL to	C	SJN	152/26		34°00.0'N 109°00.0'W
01 AGL B 50 AGL to	D	SJN	165/36		33°49.0'N 109°06.0'W
01 AGL B 50 AGL to	E	SVC	299/70		33°25.0'N 109°11.0'W
01 AGL B 50 AGL to	F	SVC	343/47		33°25.0'N 108°15.0'W
01 AGL B 15 AGL to	G	SVC	007/26		33°03.0'N 107°59.0'W
01 AGL B 15 AGL to	H	DMN	012/19		32°34.0'N 107°27.0'W
01 AGL B 15 AGL to	I	TCC	222/242		32°45.0'N 107°29.0'W
01 AGL B 15 AGL to	J	TCC	231/226		33°23.0'N 107°36.0'W
01 AGL B 15 AGL to	K	ONM	244/29		34°14.0'N 107°23.0'W
01 AGL B 15 AGL to	L	CNX	254/21		34°21.0'N 106°06.0'W
01 AGL B 15 AGL to	M	CNX	181/39		33°44.0'N 105°50.0'W
01 AGL B 15 AGL to	N	HMN	354/27		33°19.0'N 106°04.0'W

TERRAIN FOLLOWING OPERATIONS: Authorized entire route.

ROUTE WIDTH - 20 NM either side of centerline from A to B; 12 NM either side of centerline from B to E; 20 NM to left and 10 NM to right of centerline from E to G; 15 NM to left and 10 NM to right of centerline from G to H; 10 NM either side of centerline from H to I; 10 NM to left and 37 NM to right of centerline from I to J; 20 NM to left and 38 NM to right of centerline from J to K; 10 NM either side of centerline from K to L; 20 NM to left and 25 NM to right of centerline from L to M; 10 NM either side of centerline from M to N.

Point of Contact for Deconfliction

Scheduled by Air National Guard at Kirtland Air Force Base

DSN is an internal military phone

'Z' indicates Zulu Time or Greenwich Mean Time

Not included in graphic: Standard Operating Procedures for flying this route

D. Maneuver Areas/LOWAT

An MTR may have a designated segment where DoD aircraft may perform various maneuvers dictated by operational requirements. Aircraft may freely maneuver within the lateral and vertical confines of the MTR segment before resuming flight on the remainder of the route.

There are also designated areas within an MTR that indicate alternate exits and entrances. This accommodates a training mission that might require use of an MOA or an airport.

Low Altitude Air to Air Training (LOWAT) refers to maneuvers within MTR's for the purpose of simulating an aerial attack and defense response. These areas are designated in AP/1B.

E. MTR Coordination

Flight planning should take into account the existence of these routes and the in-flight risks they pose.

If a mission is in the vicinity of an MTR, look at the DoD AP/1B to decide if the route segment altitude will affect the flight plan. **Dispatch organizations should have copies of AP/1B's and accompanying charts.**

Pilots may contact the nearest FSS with position, route of flight and destination. The FSS specialist should have information available to include times of scheduled activity, altitudes in use on each route segment and route width.

Often the FAA will only have the schedule as received from the military the night before. The FAA can provide a schedule but these schedules have been known to change. Military pilots check in prior to entry on IR-MTR's. However, they are not required to check in with ATC prior to entry of VR-MTR's.

Dispatch should be prepared to call the Scheduling Activity for the MTR during initial attack or when instituting a TFR near SUA or MTRs to advise the military of agency aviation activity. When a non-emergency flight is being planned, dispatch can call the military ahead of time to alert them of activity.

All MTRs must be scheduled through the assigned scheduling activity prior to use. There have been cases of MTR being flown without being scheduled. This is a violation of Federal Aviation Regulations (assuming excessive speed is used). All pilots are reminded that “see and avoid” still applies when flying inside an MTR.

FIGURE 3-41 Various Depictions of an MTR (not for navigational purposes)

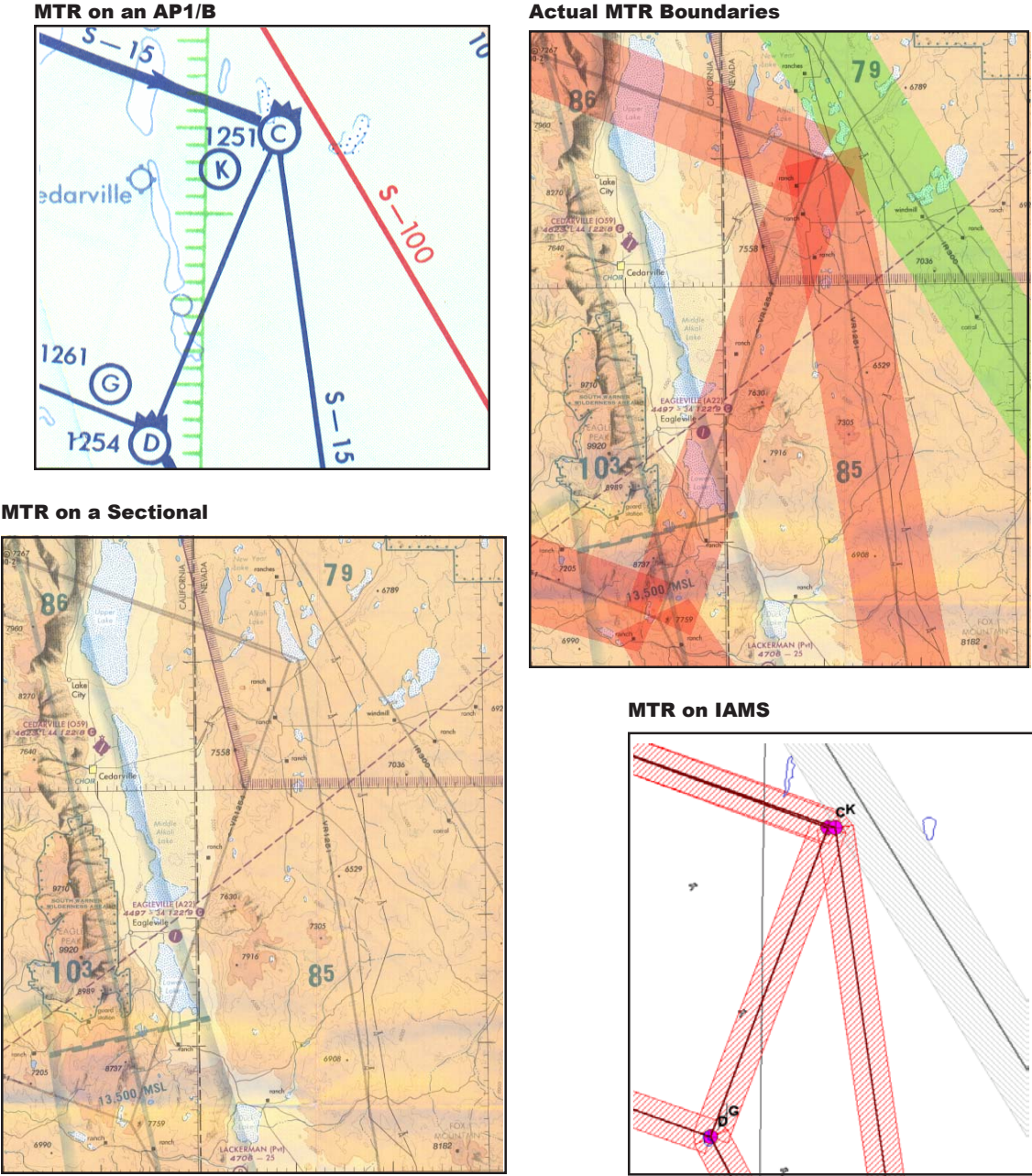
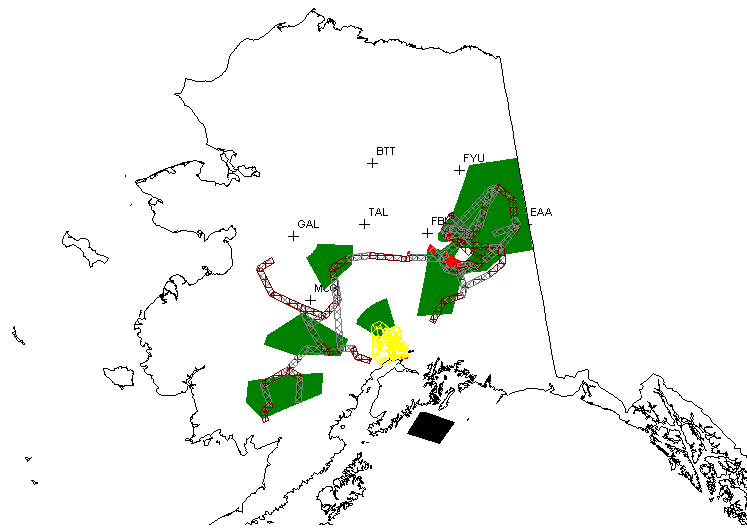
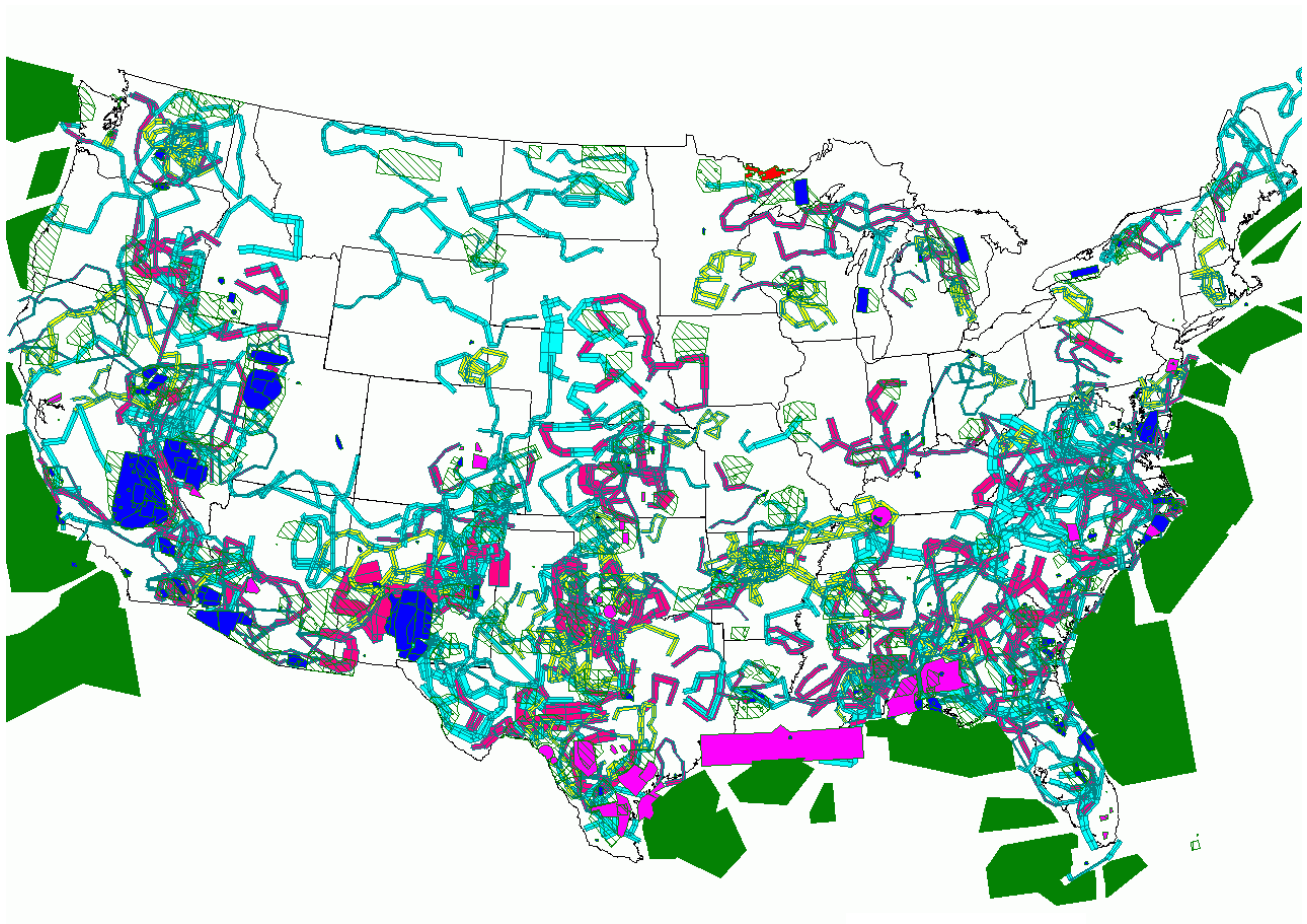


FIGURE 3-42 IAMs/CAHIS Map of SUAs, MTRs and SRs



X. Other Military Airspace Structures

Due to the unique nature of military training operations, training and testing requirements, other airspace for special military use has been developed outside the Special Use Airspace (SUA) program. These are:

- Slow Routes
- Low Altitude Tactical Navigation Areas (LATN)
- Local Flying Areas
- Air Refueling Routes
- Temporary Special Use Airspace (TSUA)
- National Security Areas (NSA)
- Cruise Missile Routes

A. Slow Routes (SR)

Slow speed low altitude training routes are used for military air operations flown from the surface up to 1500' AGL at air speeds of 250 KIA or less. SR-359 is shown in Figure 3-43. Route widths are published in individual route descriptions in the AP/1B and may vary. Slow routes technically are not considered MTRs. High speed aircraft are not allowed to use slow routes. Generally, the routes are utilized by the Air Force. Many of the routes are flown by cargo aircraft, such as C-141s, that use drop zones for military training purposes. There are about 200 Slow Routes in the United States. They are represented on the AP/1B charts and are depicted by a black line. **They are not charted on sectionals.**

FIGURE 3-43 SR-359 from AP/1B

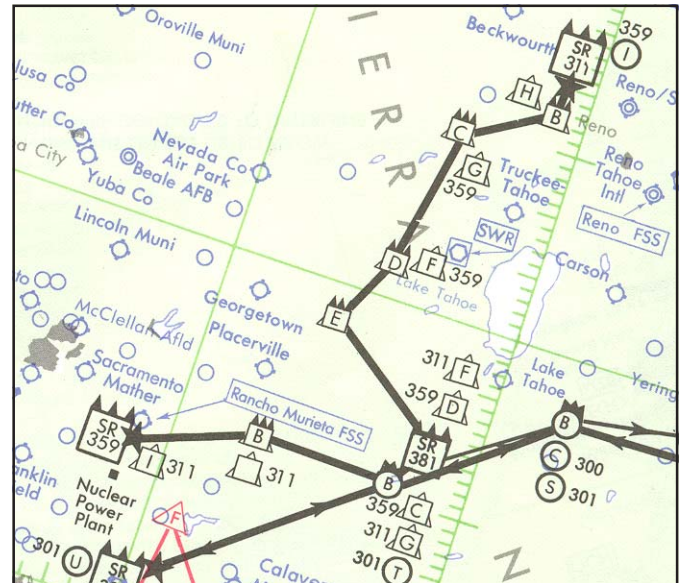


FIGURE 3-44 IAMs/CAHIS Map of MTRs and SRs

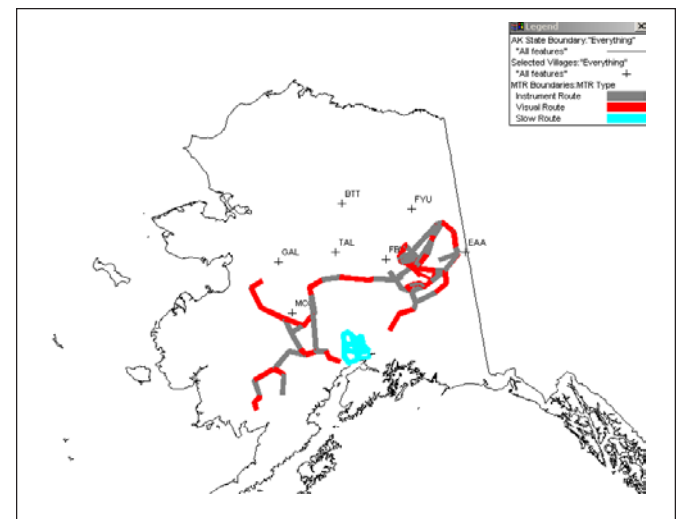


FIGURE 3-45 Slow Route

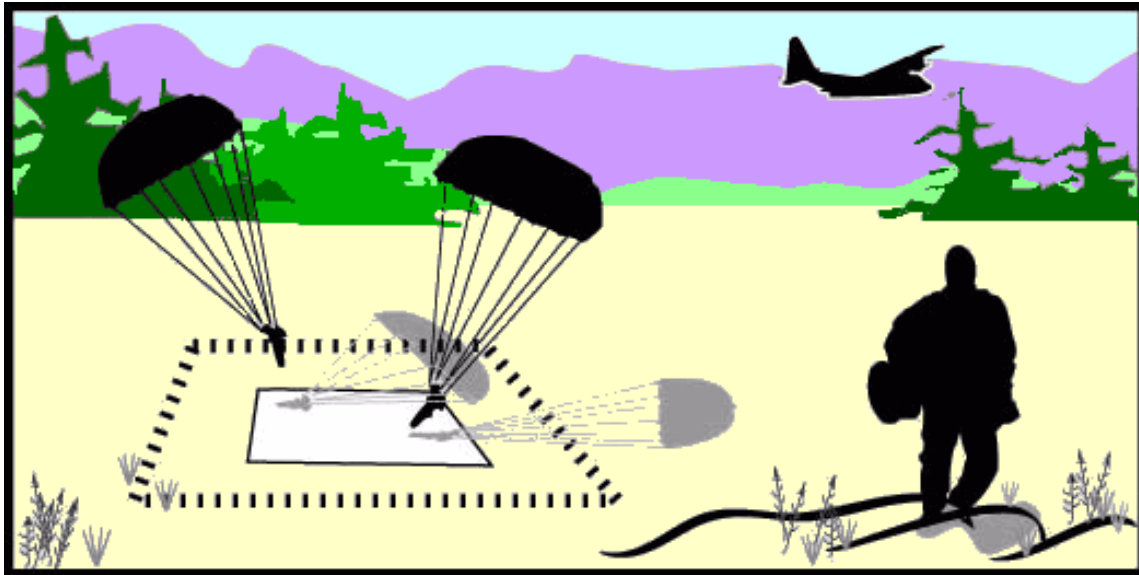
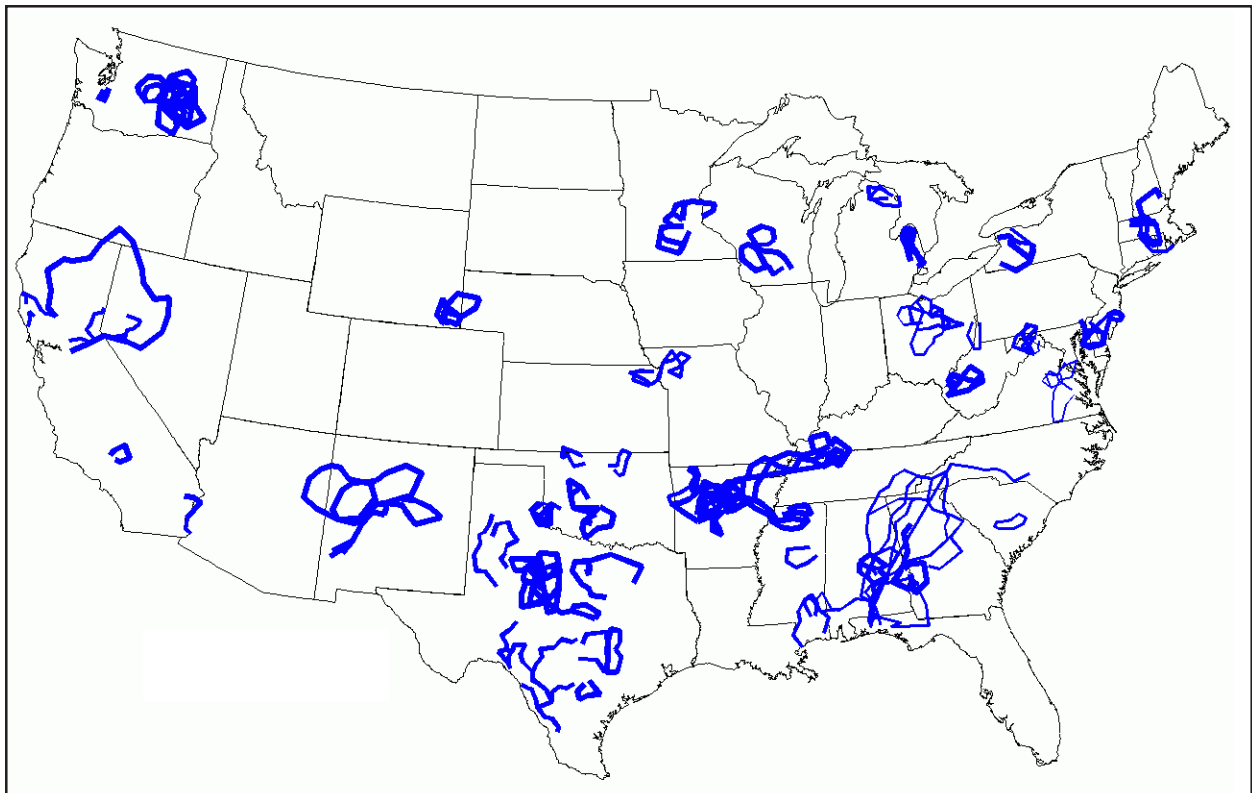


FIGURE 3-46 IAMS/CAHIS Map of Slow Routes

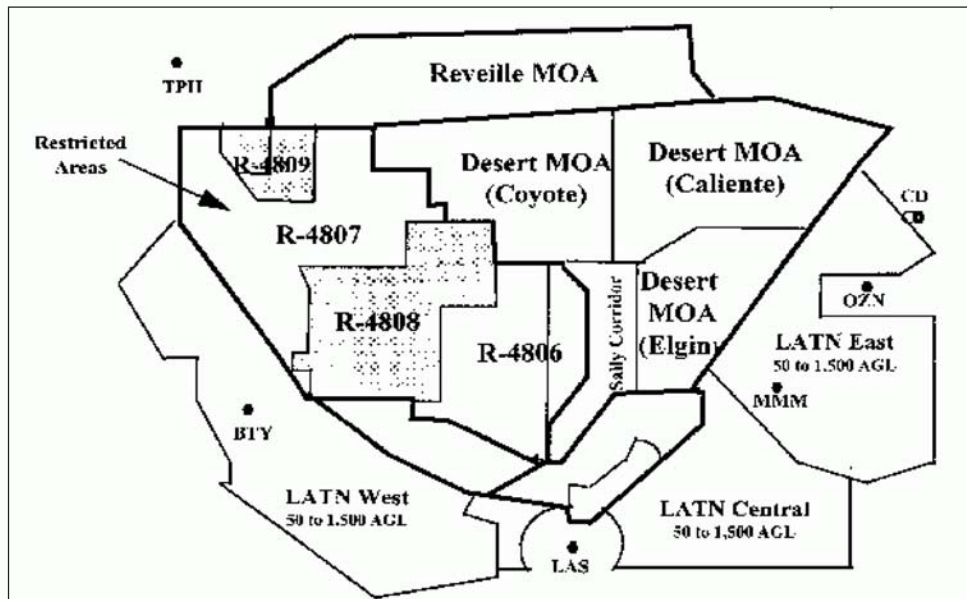


B. Low Altitude Tactical Navigation Areas (LATN)

LATNs are large, clearly defined geographical areas wherein the Air Force practices random tactical navigation that typically ranges from surface to 1,500 feet AGL. These areas are not charted. Current information concerning LATNs is available from local Air Force facilities. These areas are flown at or below 250 KIAS, when multiple aircraft are not flying the same ground track. MOA acrobatic type activity is not appropriate for a LATN area.

Due to the relatively non-hazardous nature of military activity in LATNs and the slow-speed requirement, agency operations should be conducted within standard "see and avoid" parameters.

FIGURE 3-47 Example of LATNs

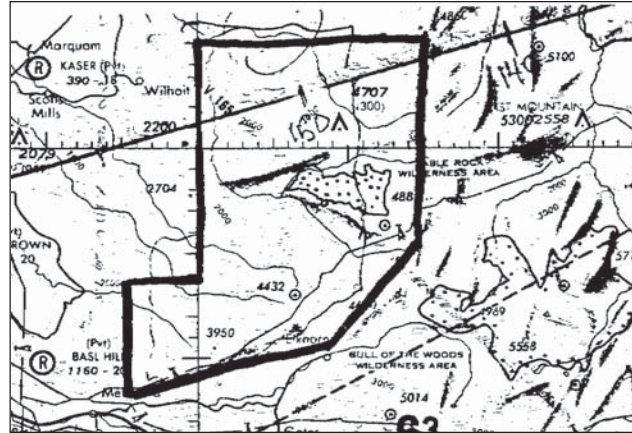


C. Local Flying Areas

Most military facilities develop local flying areas within which they can conduct routine, non-hazardous training activity. These areas are normally developed in conjunction with local FAA controllers and airspace managers and are developed so they will not conflict with other airspace usage.

FIGURE 3-48 Local Flying Area Depiction

They are locally published and although dissemination of these areas is generally limited to assigned units, the airbase airspace managers will make them available to interested parties. These areas are not depicted on standard published charts or publications.



Local Flying Areas may be located by contacting the involved military unit and acquiring their maps. Often only the local people know that an area is frequented by military aircraft. It is wise to check agency aviation hazard maps and ask if the area is frequented by military aircraft, especially if there are no charted SUAs or MTRs in the area.

FIGURE 3-49 Two Types of Aerial Refueling Routes: High Level and VFR Helicopter Refueling Routes



D. Aerial Refueling Routes

There are over 100 Aerial Refueling Routes utilized by the military over the United States. The majority of them are located at high altitudes that pose no hazard to agency operations. However, there are VFR helicopter refueling tracks at low altitudes that do affect operations at lower altitudes (see Figure 3-49). The information about the VFR refueling tracks is located in Chapter 4 of the AP/1B and are represented on the AP/1B chart by double black lines.

There are four types of Aerial Refueling Tracks:

- Track 2 - 400 miles long
- Anchor 20-50 miles long, holding pattern associated with a MOA or RA.
- Special Anytime, anywhere (e.g. emergency, military exercises)
- LAAR Low Altitude Air Refueling Route (below 3000' AGL)

Some VFR refueling routes are designed to be flown at or below 1,500 feet AGL. They are designed to permit aircraft flying the route to avoid

FIGURE 3-50 VFR Helicopter Refueling Track from AP/1B

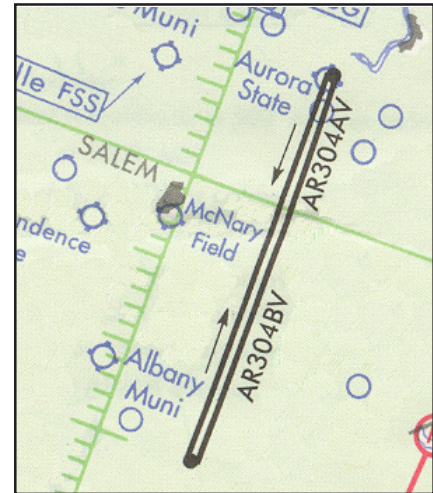
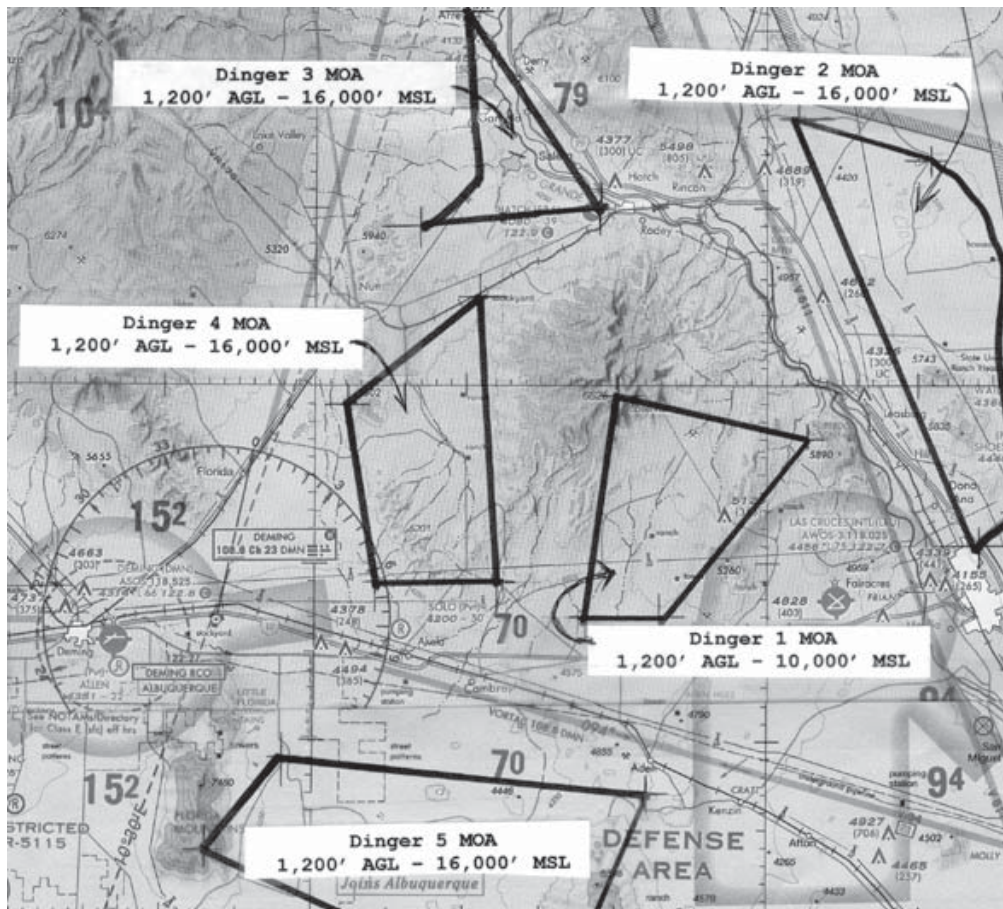


FIGURE 3-51 Helicopter Refueling Route from AP/1B

NUMBER	ARIP	ARCP	NAVIGATION CHECK POINTS	EXIT	CR PLAN	REFUELING ALTITUDES	SCHEDULING UNIT	ASSIGNED ARTCC
AR304AV	BTG VORTAC	BTG VORTAC		BTG VORTAC	a. N/R	03100/05000	939 ROW Portland IAP, OR DSN 638-4722 (C503-335-4722)	Seattle
	170/30	169/36		164/75	b. N/R			
	N45°15.00'	N45°09.00'		N44°30.00'	c. N/R			
	W122°44.00'	W122°44.00'		W122°44.00'	d. N/R			
					e. N/R			
				a. Prim Freq 125.8; b. Backup Freq 291.7				
REMARKS: Tanker aircraft pilots scheduled to operate within VFR Helicopter Refueling Tracks/Anchors shall advise the FSS nearest the entry point, 5 minutes prior to entering and the FSS nearest the exit point, upon exiting. Flight direction North to South. Limited to Air Force Reserve use only. Protected airspace is 4 NM either side of centerline. Track length is 45 NM. Restricted to H-60 and C-130 refueling operations. Air refueling may include multiple tankers and/or receivers. Continuous times of operations. Contact Seattle ARTCC for radar advisories and flight following. Participants will communicate with ATC during refueling operations.								
AR304BV	BTG VORTAC	BTG VORTAC		BTG VORTAC	a. N/R	03100/05000	939 ROW Portland IAP, OR DSN 638-4722 (C503-335-4722)	Seattle
	164/75	164/69		170/30	b. N/R			
	N44°30.00'	N44°36.00'		N45°15.00'	c. N/R			
	W122°44.00'	W122°44.00'		W122°44.00'	d. N/R			
					e. N/R			
				a. Prim Freq 125.8; b. Backup Freq 291.7				
REMARKS: Tanker aircraft pilots scheduled to operate within VFR Helicopter Refueling Tracks/Anchors shall advise the FSS nearest the entry point, 5 minutes prior to entering and the FSS nearest the exit point, upon exiting. Flight direction South to North. Limited to Air Force Reserve use only. Protected airspace is 4 NM either side of centerline. Track length is 45 NM. Restricted to H-60 and C-130 refueling operations. Air refueling may include multiple tankers and/or receivers. Continuous times of operations. Contact Seattle ARTCC for radar advisories and flight following. Participants will communicate with ATC during refueling operations.								

(This chart is for illustration only. Consult current sectional for navigational information.)

FIGURE 3-52 Example of a Temporary MOA Notice (Dinger 1-5 Jan 8-Feb 21, 2003)



charted, uncontrolled airports by three NM or 1,500 feet. The track is normally 50-100 NM long and normally four NM in width either side of a centerline unless otherwise specified.

Aerial refueling may be conducted within SUA assigned altitude. This includes both low altitude (Helicopter and fixed wing) refueling as well as higher altitude tracks. Figures 3-50 and 3-51 depict AP/1B chart references to aerial refueling routes.

E. Temporary Special Use Airspace

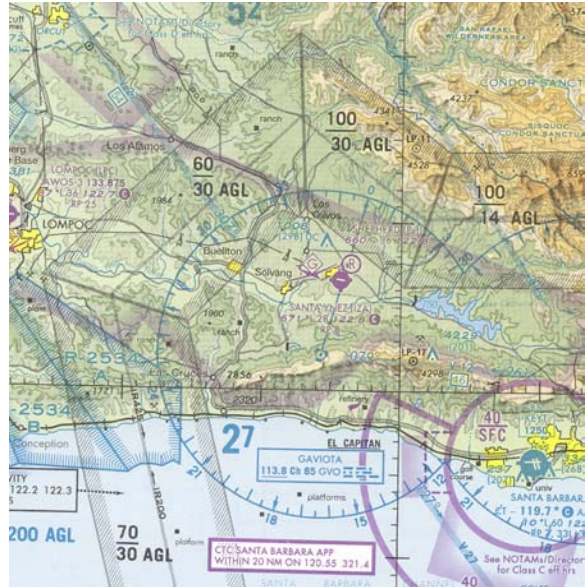
The military and the FAA have the ability to create Temporary Military Operations Areas or Temporary Restricted Areas to accommodate the specific needs of a particular military exercise (see Figure 3-52). This information is available via either the NOTAM system or by direct contact with the FAA Regional Headquarters.

Temporary military operating areas are published in the “NOTICES TO AIRMEN” publication. This publication may be purchased on a subscription basis from the Government Printing Office (GPO) in Washington, D.C. (or found at <http://www.faa.gov/ntap>).

F. Cruise Missile Routes

Cruise missile operations are conducted on selected IR Military Training Routes. They may be flown in excess of 250 knots and below 10,000 MSL. Cruise missiles may be accompanied by two chase aircraft escort. The chase aircraft must always maintain the ability to maneuver the missile out of the flight path of conflicting traffic. A high altitude communications aircraft may be used in conjunction with the cruise missile and maintains communication and radar contact with the appropriate ATC facility.

FIGURE 3-53 Cruise Missile Routes



Cruise missile operations are conducted in daylight hours under VFR conditions, with flight visibility of at least five miles, 2,000 feet horizontal and 1,000 feet vertical separation from clouds. Special charting on a sectional designates unmanned aerospace vehicle routes (UAVRS). Two well-known routes are in southern California and Florida. Figure 3-53 depicts a cruise missile corridor.

G. National Security Areas (NSA)

National Security Areas are areas where there is a requirement for increased security (see Figure 3-54). Pilots are requested to voluntarily avoid flying through the depicted NSA. When it is necessary to provide a greater level of security and safety, flights in NSAs may be temporarily prohibited under the provisions of the Federal Aviation Regulation Part 99.7.

NSAs are depicted on aeronautical charts with a broken magenta line. Aircraft are requested to remain clear of these areas. Check NOTAMs for regulatory restrictions.

Since the tragedies of September 11, 2001, special security measures have been implemented within the United States. Pilots are advised to avoid the airspace above, or in proximity to, sites such as nuclear power plants, power plants, dams, refineries, industrial complexes, military facilities and other similar facilities. Pilots should not circle as to loiter in the vicinity of such facilities. As always, pilots should check with the FAA for current NOTAMS.

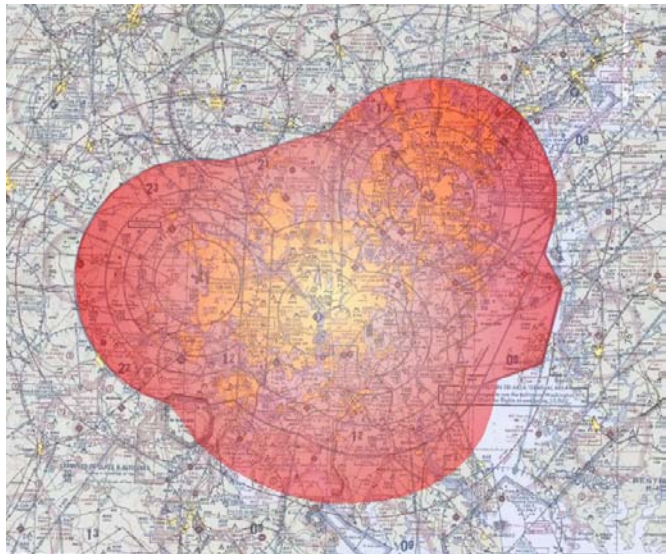
FIGURE 3-54 National Security Area



H. Air Defense Identification Zone (ADIZ)

All aircraft entering domestic U.S. airspace from points outside must provide identification prior to entry. To facilitate early aircraft identification of all aircraft in the vicinity of the U.S. and international airspace boundaries, Air Defense Identification Zones (ADIZ) have been established. Generally for all flights entering an ADIZ the following will occur:

FIGURE 3-55 Example of Washington DC ADIZ



- A flight plan will be filed
- An operating two-way radio is required
- Aircraft will be equipped with an operable radar beacon transponder that has altitude reporting capability

ADIZ are normally located “off shore” or along the U.S. boundaries, however in response to threat levels, ADIZ have been created over Washington DC and New York City.

XI. Special Conservation Areas

A. Environmentally Sensitive Areas

There are areas of airspace in the United States that are considered environmentally sensitive. The physical presence or noise associated with aircraft overflight may conflict with the purpose of environmentally sensitive areas. Examples of these areas include wilderness areas, national parks, areas with threatened and/or endangered species, religious areas, wildlife refuges, Native American areas or primitive areas.

Pilots are voluntarily requested to maintain a minimum altitude of 2,000 feet above the surface of the following: National Parks, Monuments, sea-shores, lake shores, recreation areas and scenic river ways administered by the NPS, National Wildlife Refuges, Big Game Refuges, Game Ranges and Wildlife Ranges administered by the FWS; wilderness and primitive areas administered by the USFS. References may be found in the Airmens Information Manual (AIM) in 7-4-6. There is also a reference printed on the inside of each Sectional.

This advisory is frequently misunderstood by agency personnel. Unless there is a Special Federal Aviation Regulation (SFAR) over the specific area, the 2,000' minimum requested altitude is an advisory and is not regulatory in nature. The Interagency agreement between National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Land Management and the Federal Aviation Administration is located in Appendix 'K'.

The 2,000-foot advisory is based on "Visual Flight Rules (VFR) Flight Near Noise-Sensitive Areas" (Advisory Circular 91-36c), which defines the surface as the highest terrain within 2,000 feet laterally of the route of flight or the upper most rim of a canyon or valley.

The landing of aircraft is prohibited on lands or waters administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or U.S. Forest Service without authorization from the respective agency. The following, taken from NOAA sectional, are exceptions:

- When forced to land due to an emergency beyond the control of the operator,
- At officially designated landing sites, or
- On approved official business of the Federal Government.

FIGURE 3-56 Sample of Endanger Species and Wilderness Areas on a Sectional

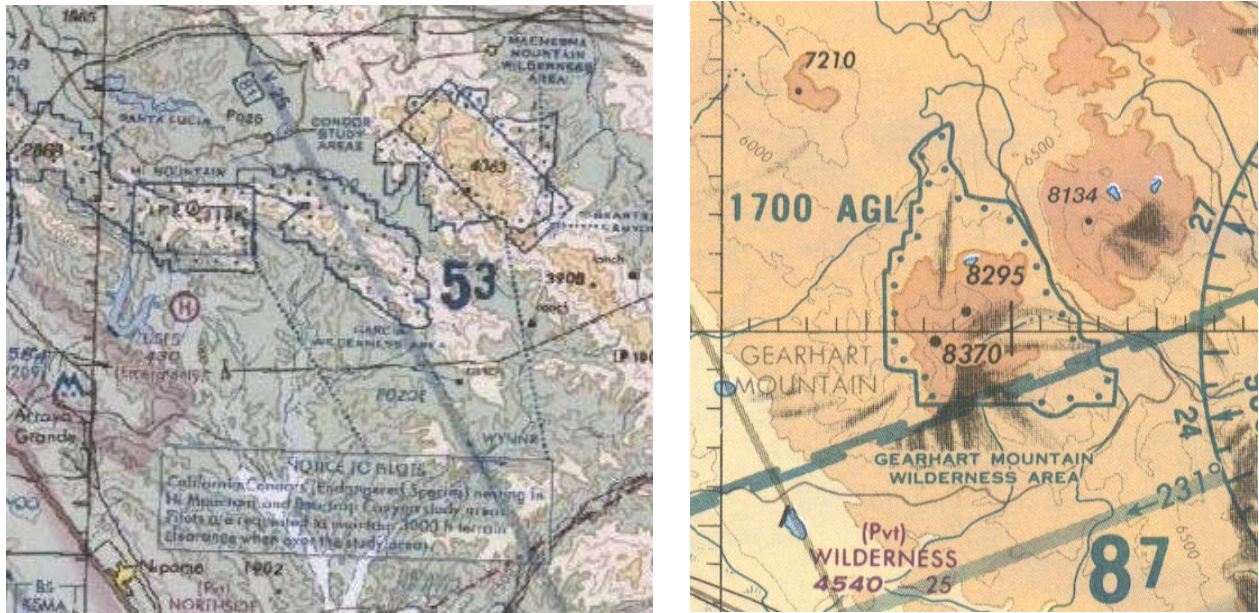


FIGURE 3-57 Sectional Reference Regarding 2000' Advisory

REGULATIONS REGARDING FLIGHTS OVER CHARTED NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AREAS, U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE AREAS, AND U.S. FOREST SERVICE AREAS

The landing of aircraft is prohibited on lands or waters administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service or U.S. Forest Service without authorization from the respective agency. Exceptions include: 1) when forced to land due to an emergency beyond the control of the operator, 2) at officially designated landing sites, or 3) on approved official business of the Federal Government.

All aircraft are requested to maintain a minimum altitude of 2,000 feet above the surface of the following: National Parks, Monuments, Seashores, Lakeshores, Recreation Areas and Scenic Riverways administered by the National Park Service; National Wildlife Refuges, Big Game Refuges, Game Ranges and Wildlife Ranges administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and Wilderness and Primitive areas administered by the U.S. Forest Service. FAA Advisory Circular (AC) 91-36C, "Visual Flight Rules (VFR) Flight Near Noise-Sensitive Areas," defines the surface as: the highest terrain within 2,000 feet laterally of the route of flight, or the upper-most rim of a canyon or valley.

Federal regulations also prohibit airdrops by parachute or other means of persons, cargo, or objects from aircraft on lands administered by the three agencies without authorization from the respective agency. Exceptions include: 1) emergencies involving the safety of human life, or 2) threat of serious property loss.

Boundary of National Park Service areas. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service areas and U.S. Forest Service Wilderness and Primitive areas.

B. Air Drops

Federal regulations also prohibit airdrops (by parachute or other means) of persons, cargo, or objects from aircraft on lands administered by the three agencies without authorization from the respective agency. Exceptions include:

- Emergencies involving the safety of human life, or
- Threat of serious property loss.

C. Special Federal Aviation Regulation (SFARs)

Federal statutes prohibit certain types of flight activity and/or provide altitude restrictions over designated National Wildlife Refuges, National Parks, and National Forests. Examples of these designated area are: Boundary Waters Canoe Wilderness Areas, Minnesota; Haleakala National Park, Hawaii; Yosemite National Park, California; and Grand Canyon National Park, Arizona. These areas are represented on sectional charts.

D. Noise Abatement Procedures

Civilian and Department of Defense airfields may have published noise abatement procedures in their Class C-E airspace or transition routes. They may only be published by the local airport manager or noise abatement officer. Concentrated VFR traffic along these routes may result in increased mid-air potential. When operating out of an unfamiliar airport, it is recommended that pilots check with the manager to become familiar with procedures and restrictions.

SUA and MTRs also may impose noise abatement procedures on their users. Check AP/1A, AP/1B or contact the using/scheduling agency for specific information.

XII. Federal Aviation Regulations of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR)

Although most people in the aviation industry understand the informal use of the acronym "FAR" as pertaining to the requirements of Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR), it is not correct. The acronym FAR is an abbreviation for Federal Acquisition Regulations. The FAA uses CFR when referring to the Code of Regulations. For Title 14, it appears as 14 CFR.

To successfully operate within the NAS it is necessary to have a basic understanding of the regulations and their structure. A complete listing of the regulations would require more room than this guide allows and would include a great deal that is not applicable to needs of the land management agencies. Listed below are sections of the 14 CFR that may be applicable to land management agencies. Complete text may be accessed through a link to the FAA in Appendix B.

A. Part 11 General Rulemaking Procedures

Part 11 prescribes the procedures to be followed in the initiation, administrative processing, issuance and publication of rules, regulations, and FAA orders.

B. Part 71 Airspace, Designation of Class A, Class B, Class C, Class D and Class E Airspace Areas; Airways; Routes; and Reporting Points

Part 71 designates the airspace structure including airspace classes, airways; routes; and reporting points.

C. Part 73 Special Use Airspace

Part 73 designates special use airspace and prescribes the requirements of the use of that airspace.

D. Part 77 Objects Affecting Navigable Airspace

Part 77 established standards for determining obstructions in the navigable airspace and sets forth requirements for notice to the FAA Administrator of certain proposed construction or alteration. It provides for aeronautical studies and public hearings to determine the effects of such proposals on the navigable airspace.

E. Part 91 Air Traffic and General Operating Rules

Part 91 prescribes general operating and flight rules governing the operation of aircraft within the United States and governing operation of U.S. registered aircraft outside of the United States. Sub-sections of part 91 that may be of particular importance to land management agencies are:

1. 14 CFR Careless Or Reckless Operation
2. 14 CFR Operating Near Other Aircraft
3. 14 CFR Right Of Way Rules (Except Water Operations)
4. 91.119 Minimum Safe Altitudes

F. Part 93 Special Air Traffic Rules and Airport Traffic Patterns

Part 93 prescribes special air traffic rules and airport traffic patterns.

G. Part 95 IFR Altitudes

Part 95 prescribes altitudes governing the operation of aircraft under IFR on federal airways, jet routes, area navigation low or high routes. It also designates mountainous areas and changeover points.

H. Part 135 Operating Requirements: Commuter and On-demand Operations and Rules Governing Persons on Board Such Aircraft

Part 135 establishes additional operating standards and flight rules for commercial aircraft such as charter services and air tour operators.

I. Part 137 Agriculture Aircraft Operations

Part 137 prescribes rules governing agricultural operations within the United States.

J. Part 157 Notice of Construction, Alteration, Activation and Deactivation of Airports

Part 157 pertains to the Notice requirements for proposals involving construction, alteration, activation and deactivation of civil and joint use (civil-military) airports. It also provides for aeronautical studies to determine the effects of such proposals on the safe and efficient use of airspace.