



4910-13

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 71

Docket No. FAA-2015-3835; Airspace Docket No. 14-ASW-13

RIN 2120-AA66

Proposed Amendment of Air Traffic Service (ATS) Routes; Southwest Oklahoma

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: This action proposes to modify 3 VHF Omnidirectional Range (VOR) Federal airways (V-140, V-272, and V-440) in the vicinity of Sayre, OK. The FAA is proposing this action due to the scheduled decommissioning of the Sayre, OK (SYO), VOR/Tactical Air Navigation (VORTAC) facility that provides navigation guidance for a portion of the airways listed. This action would enhance the route structure within the National Airspace System.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before [insert date 45 days from date of publication in the FEDERAL REGISTER].

ADDRESSES: Send comments on this proposal to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M-30, 1200 New Jersey Avenue S.E., West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, Washington, D.C. 20590-0001; telephone: (202) 366-9826. You must identify FAA Docket No. FAA-2015-3835 and Airspace Docket No. 14-ASW-13 at the beginning of your comments. You may also submit comments through the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

You may review the public docket containing the proposal, any comments received, and any final disposition in person in the Dockets Office between 9:00a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The Docket Office (telephone 1-800-647-5527), is on the ground floor of the building at the above address.

FAA Order 7400.9Z, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, and subsequent amendments can be viewed online at http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/. For further information, you can contact the Airspace Policy Group, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C., 20591; telephone: (202) 267-8783. The Order is also available for inspection at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of this material at NARA, call (202) 741-6030, or go to http://www.archives.gov/federal_register/code_of_federal-regulations/ibr_locations.html.

FAA Order 7400.9, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, is published yearly and effective on September 15.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Colby Abbott, Airspace Policy Group, Office of Airspace Services, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, DC 20591; telephone: (202) 267-8783.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority for this Rulemaking

The FAA's authority to issue rules regarding aviation safety is found in Title 49 of the United States Code. Subtitle I, Section 106 describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII, Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the agency's authority.

This rulemaking is promulgated under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart I, Section 40103. Under that section, the FAA is charged with prescribing regulations to assign the use of the airspace necessary to ensure the safety of aircraft and the efficient use of airspace. This regulation is within the scope of that authority as it would amend the route structure as required to preserve the safe and efficient flow of air traffic in the vicinity of Sayre, OK.

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 (FAA Docket No. FAA-2015-3835 and Airspace Docket No. 14-ASW-13) and be submitted in triplicate to the Docket Management Facility (see “ADDRESSES” section for address and phone number). You may also submit comments through the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Commenters wishing the FAA to acknowledge receipt of their comments on this action must submit with those comments a self-addressed, stamped postcard on which the following statement is made: “Comments to FAA Docket No. FAA-2015-3835 and Airspace Docket No. 14-ASW-13.” The postcard will be date/time stamped and returned to the commenter.

All communications received on or before the specified comment closing date will be considered before taking action on the proposed rule. The proposal contained in this action 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 comment closing date. A report

summarizing each substantive public contact with FAA personnel concerned with this rulemaking will be filed in the docket.

Availability of NPRM's

An electronic copy of this document may be downloaded through the internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>.

You may review the public docket containing the proposal, any comments received and any final disposition in person in the Dockets Office (see "ADDRESSES" section for address and phone number) between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. An informal docket may also be examined during normal business hours at the office of the Central Service Center, Operations Support Group, Federal Aviation Administration, 2601 Meacham Blvd, Fort Worth, TX 76137.

Persons interested in being placed on a mailing list for future NPRM's should contact the FAA's Office of Rulemaking, (202) 267-9677, for a copy of Advisory Circular No. 11-2A, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Distribution System, which describes the application procedure.

Availability and Summary of Documents for Incorporation by Reference

This document proposes to amend FAA Order 7400.9Z, airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated August 6, 2015, and effective September 15, 2015. FAA Order 7400.9Z is publicly available as listed in the ADDRESSES section of this document. FAA Order 7400.9Z lists Class A, B, C, D, and E airspace areas, air traffic service routes, and reporting points.

Background

The SYO VORTAC facility is scheduled to be decommissioned. With the decommissioning of the SYO VORTAC, the remaining ground-based navigation aid (NAVAID) coverage is insufficient to enable the continuity of the affected airways. The proposed

modifications to VOR Federal airways V-140, V-272, and V-440 would result in slightly realigned routes through the Sayre, OK, area by using the Burns Flat, OK (BFV), VORTAC located approximately 22 nautical miles southeast of the SYO VORTAC to replace it. Route segments supported by other NAVAIDs would remain unchanged.

The Proposal

The FAA is proposing an amendment to Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 71 to modify VOR Federal airways V-140, V-272, and V-440 in the vicinity of Sayre, OK. These proposed modifications are necessary due to the scheduled decommissioning of the SYO VORTAC. The proposed route modifications are outlined below.

V-140: V-140 extends from the Panhandle, TX (PNH), VORTAC to the Casanova, VA (CSN), VORTAC. The route segment between the PNH VORTAC and Kingfisher, OK (IFI), VORTAC would be realigned to proceed over the BFV VORTAC instead of the SYO VORTAC.

V-272: V-272 extends from the Dalhart, TX (DHT), VORTAC to the Fort Smith, AR (FSM), VORTAC. The route segment between the Borger, TX (BGD), VORTAC and Will Rogers, OK (IRW), VORTAC would be realigned to proceed over the BFV VORTAC instead of the SYO VORTAC.

V-440: V-440 extends from the PNH VORTAC to the IRW VORTAC. The intersecting NAVAID radial information used to describe the BRISC and CARFF fixes would be updated using BFV VORTAC radials instead of SYO VORTAC radials, and the route segment between the BRISC and CARFF fixes would be realigned to proceed over the BFV VORTAC instead of the SYO VORTAC.

All radials in the route descriptions below that do not reflect True (T)/Magnetic (M) degree radial information are unchanged and stated in True degrees.

VOR Federal airways are published in paragraph 6010 of FAA Order 7400.9Z dated August 6, 2015, and effective September 15, 2015, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR 71.1. The VOR Federal airways listed in this document would be subsequently published in the Order.

Regulatory Notices and Analyses

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 Department of Transportation (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 proposed 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.

Environmental Review

This proposal will be subject to an environmental analysis in accordance with FAA Order 1050.1E, "Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures" prior to any FAA final regulatory action.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 71

Airspace, Incorporation by reference, Navigation (air).

The Proposed Amendment

In consideration of the foregoing, the Federal Aviation Administration proposes to amend 14 CFR part 71 as follows:

PART 71--DESIGNATION OF CLASS A, B, C, D, AND E AIRSPACE AREAS; AIR TRAFFIC SERVICE ROUTES; AND REPORTING POINTS

1. The authority citation for part 71 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(f), 106(g); 40103, 40113, 40120; E.O. 10854, 24 FR 9565, 3 CFR, 1959-1963 Comp., p. 389.

§71.1 [Amended]

2. The incorporation by reference in 14 CFR 71.1 of FAA Order 7400.9Z, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated August 6, 2015, and effective September 15, 2015, is amended as follows:

Paragraph 6010(a) Domestic VOR Federal Airways

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V-140 [Amended]

From Panhandle, TX; Burns Flat, OK; Kingfisher, OK; INT Kingfisher 072° and Tulsa, OK, 261° radials; Tulsa; Razorback, AR; Harrison, AR; Walnut Ridge, AR; Dyersburg, TN; Nashville, TN; Livingston, TN; London, KY; Hazard, KY; Bluefield, WV; INT Bluefield 071° and Montebello, VA, 250° radials; Montebello; to Casanova, VA.

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V-272 [Amended]

From Dalhart, TX; Borger, TX; Burns Flat, OK; Will Rogers, OK; INT Will Rogers 113° and McAlester, OK, 286° radials; McAlester; to Fort Smith, AR.

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V-440 [Amended]

From Panhandle, TX; INT Panhandle 070°(T)/062°(M) and Burns Flat, OK, 288°(T)/280°(M) radials; Burns Flat; INT Burns Flat 103°(T)/095°(M) and Will Rogers, OK, 248°(T)/241°(M) radials; to Will Rogers.

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Issued in Washington, DC, on October 8, 2015.

Gary A. Norek

Manager, Airspace Policy Group

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