



[4910-13]

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 71

[Docket No. FAA-2018-0138; Airspace Docket No. 18-ASW-5]

RIN 2120-AA66

Proposed Amendment of Class D and E Airspace; Austin, TX; and Establishment of Class E Airspace; Georgetown, TX, and Austin, TX

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: This action proposes to amend Class D airspace at San Marcos Regional Airport, Austin, TX; establish Class E airspace designated as a surface area at Georgetown Municipal Airport, Georgetown, TX, and San Marcos Regional Airport; and amend Class E airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface at San Marco Regional Airport and Lockhart Municipal Airport, Lockhart, TX. The FAA is proposing this action at the request of Austin Air Traffic Control Tower (ATCT)/Terminal Radar Approach Control (TRACON) to establish part-time Class E airspace designated as a surface area at Georgetown Municipal Airport and San Marcos Regional Airport and to review the associated airspace for the safety and management of instrument flight rule (IFR) operations at these airports. The name of San Marcos Regional Airport would be updated to coincide with the FAA's aeronautical database, and the outdated term "Airport/Facility Directory" would be replaced with the term "Chart Supplement".

DATES: Comments must be received on or before **[INSERT DATE 45 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**.

ADDRESSES: Send comments on this proposal to the U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590; telephone (202) 366-9826, or (800) 647-5527. You must identify FAA Docket No. FAA-2018-0138; Airspace Docket No. 18-ASW-5, 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 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FAA Order 7400.11B, 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, SW, Washington, DC 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 FAA Order 7400.11B at NARA, call (202) 741-6030, or go to <http://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations.html>.

FAA Order 7400.11, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, is published yearly and effective on September 15.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Jeffrey Claypool, Federal Aviation Administration, Operations Support Group, Central Service Center, 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Fort Worth, TX 76177; telephone (817) 222-5711.

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 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 Class D airspace at San Marcos Regional Airport, Austin, TX; establish Class E airspace designated as a surface area at Georgetown Municipal Airport, Georgetown, TX, and San Marcos Regional Airport; and amend Class E airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface at San Marco Regional Airport and Lockhart Municipal Airport, Lockhart, TX, to support IFR operations at these airports.

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-2018-0138; Airspace Docket No. 18-ASW-5." The postcard will be date/time stamped and returned to the commenter.

All communications received 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 the comments received. A report summarizing each substantive public contact with FAA personnel concerned with this rulemaking will be filed in the docket.

Availability of NPRMs

An electronic copy of this document may be downloaded through the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov>. Recently published rulemaking documents can also be accessed through the FAA's web page at http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/airspace_amendments/.

You may review the public docket containing the proposal, any comments received, and any final disposition in person in the Dockets Office (see the "ADDRESSES" section for the 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 Federal Aviation Administration, Air Traffic Organization, Central Service Center, Operations Support Group, 10101 Hillwood Parkway, Fort Worth, TX 76177.

Availability and Summary of Documents for Incorporation by Reference

This document proposes to amend FAA Order 7400.11B, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated August 3, 2017, and effective September 15, 2017. FAA Order 7400.11B is publicly available as listed in the ADDRESSES section of this document. FAA Order 7400.11B lists Class A, B, C, D, and E airspace areas, air traffic service routes, and reporting points.

The Proposal

The FAA is proposing an amendment to Title 14, Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 71 by:

Amending the airspace designation location in the airspace legal description of the Class D airspace from San Marcos, TX, to Austin, TX, to coincide with the FAA's aeronautical database; amending the radius to within a 4.3-mile radius (increased from a 4.2-mile radius) of San Marcos Regional Airport (formerly San Marcos Municipal Airport), Austin, TX; adding an extension 1.0 mile each side of the 306° bearing from the San Marcos Regional: RWY 13-LOC extending from the 4.3-mile radius to 4.6 miles northwest of the airport; updating the name of the airport to coincide with the FAA's aeronautical database; and replacing the outdated term "Airport/Facility Directory" with "Chart Supplement";

Establishing Class E airspace designated as a surface area within a 4.3-mile radius of San Marcos Regional Airport, Austin, TX, with an extension 1.0 mile each side of the 306° bearing from the San Marcos Regional: RWY 13-LOC from the 4.3-mile radius to 4.6 miles northwest of the airport; and with an extension 1.0 mile each side of the 313° bearing from the airport from the 4.3-mile radius to 5.0 miles northwest of the airport; and with an extension 1.0 mile each side of the 268° bearing from the airport from the 4.3-mile radius to 4.4 miles west of the airport; and with an extension 1.0 mile each side of the 358° bearing from the airport from the 4.3-mile radius to 4.4 miles north of the airport;

Establishing Class E airspace designated as a surface area within a 4.1-mile radius of Georgetown Municipal Airport, Georgetown, TX; and

Amending the airspace designation location in the airspace legal description of the Class E airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface from San Marcos, TX, to Austin, TX, to coincide with the FAA's aeronautical database; amending the radius to within a 6.8-mile radius (increased from a 6.7-mile radius) of San Marcos Regional Airport (formerly San Marcos Municipal Airport), Austin, TX; amending the extension to the northwest of the airport to 12.0 miles (increased from 11.1 miles); amending the extension to the east of the airport to 10.5 miles

(increased from 10.4 miles); amending the extension to the southeast of the airport to 9.7 miles (increased from 9.6 miles); amending the extension to the south of the airport to 10.5 miles (increased from 10.4 miles); and amending the radius to within 6.4-miles (increased from a 6.3-mile radius) of Lockhart Municipal Airport, Lockhart, TX, included in the Austin, TX, airspace legal description.

This action is being proposed at the request of Austin ATCT/TRACON to establish part-time Class E airspace designated as an extension of Class D and E surface areas at Georgetown Municipal Airport and San Marcos Regional Airport and to review the associated airspace for the safety and management of IFR operations at these airports.

Class D and E airspace designations are published in paragraph 5000, 6002, and 6005, respectively, of FAA Order 7400.11B, dated August 3, 2017, and effective September 15, 2017, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR 71.1. The Class D and E airspace designations listed in this document will be published subsequently in the Order.

Regulatory Notices and Analyses

The FAA has determined that this regulation only involves an established body of technical regulations for which frequent and routine amendments are necessary to keep them operationally current, is non-controversial and unlikely to result in adverse or negative comments. 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, would 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 1050.1F, “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

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me, 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 14 CFR 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 7400.11B, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated August 3, 2017, and effective September 15, 2017, is amended as follows:

Paragraph 5000. Class D Airspace.

* * * * *

ASW TX D Austin, TX [Amended]
 San Marcos Regional Airport, TX
 (lat. 29°53'34"N., long. 97°51'47"W.)
 San Marcos Regional: RWY 13-LOC
 (lat. 29°53'03"N., long. 97°51'15"W.)

That airspace extending upward from the surface to and including 3,100 feet MSL within a 4.3-mile radius of San Marcos Regional Airport, and within 1.0 mile each side of the San Marcos Regional: RWY13-LOC extending from the 4.3-mile radius to 4.6 miles northwest of the airport, and within 1.0 mile each side of the 313° bearing from the airport extending from the 4.3-mile radius to 5.0 miles northwest of the airport, and within 1.0 mile each side of the 268° bearing from the airport extending from the 4.3-mile radius to 4.4 miles west of the airport, and within 1.0 mile each side of the 358° bearing from the airport extending from the 4.3-mile radius to 4.4 miles north of the airport. This Class D airspace area is effective during the specific dates and times established in advance by a Notice to Airmen. The effective dates and times will thereafter be continually published in the Chart Supplement.

Paragraph 6002. Class E Airspace Areas Designated as Surface Areas.

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ASW TX E2 Austin, TX [New]

San Marcos Regional Airport, TX
 (lat. 29°53'34"N., long. 97°51'47"W.)
 San Marcos Regional: RWY 13-LOC
 (lat. 29°53'03"N., long. 97°51'15"W.)

That airspace extending upward from the surface to and including 3,100 feet MSL within a 4.3-mile radius of San Marcos Regional Airport, and within 1.0 mile each side of the San Marcos Regional: RWY13-LOC extending from the 4.3-mile radius to 4.6 miles northwest of the airport, and within 1.0 mile each side of the 313° bearing from the airport extending from the 4.3-mile radius to 5 miles northwest of the airport, and within 1.0 mile each side of the 268° bearing from the airport extending from the 4.3-mile radius to 4.4 miles west of the airport, and within 1.0 mile each side of the 358° bearing from the airport extending from the 4.3-mile radius to 4.4 miles north of the airport. This Class E airspace area is effective during the specific dates and times established in advance by a Notice to Airmen. The effective dates and times will thereafter be continually published in the Chart Supplement.

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ASW TX E2 Georgetown, TX [New]

Georgetown Municipal Airport, TX
 (lat. 30°40'44"N., long. 97°40'46"W.)

That airspace extending upward from the surface to and including 3,300 feet MSL within a 4.1-mile radius of Georgetown Municipal Airport. This Class E airspace is effective during the specific dates and times established in advance by a Notice to Airmen. The effective dates and times will thereafter be continuously published in the Chart Supplement.

Paragraph 6005. Class E Airspace Areas Extending Upward From 700 Feet Or More Above The

Surface of The Earth.

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ASW TX E5 Austin, TX [Amended]

San Marcos Regional Airport, TX

(lat. 29°53'34"N., long. 97°51'47"W.)

Lockhart Municipal Airport, TX

(lat. 29°51'01"N., long. 97°40'21"W.)

That airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface within a 6.8-mile radius of San Marcos Regional Airport, and within 2 miles each side of the 268° bearing from the airport extending from the 6.8-mile radius to 13.1 miles west of the airport, and within 2 miles each side of the 313° bearing from the airport extending from the 6.8-mile radius to 12.0 miles northwest of the airport, and within 2 miles each side of the 088° bearing from the airport extending from the 6.8-mile radius to 10.5 miles east of the airport, and within 2 miles each side of the 133° bearing from the airport extending from the 6.8-mile radius to 9.7 miles southeast of the airport, and within 2 miles each side of the 178° bearing from the airport extending from the 6.8-mile radius to 10.5 miles south of the airport, and within a 6.4-mile radius of Lockhart Municipal Airport.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on May 24, 2018.

Christopher L. Southerland,
Acting Manager, Operations Support Group,
ATO Central Service Center.

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