



**4910-13**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Federal Aviation Administration**

**14 CFR Part 71**

**[Docket No. FAA-2020-0007; Airspace Docket No. 19-ASO-11]**

**RIN 2120-AA66**

**Proposed Revocation and Amendment of Multiple Air Traffic Service (ATS) Routes in the Vicinity of Newcombe, KY, and Hazard, KY**

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

**SUMMARY:** This action proposes to amend five VHF Omnidirectional Range (VOR) Federal airways, V-4, V-53, V-115, V-119, and V-140; amend two low altitude Area Navigation (RNAV) routes, T-215 and T-323; and remove three VOR Federal airways, V-331, V-339, and V-478, in the vicinity of Newcombe, KY, and Hazard, KY. The Air Traffic Service (ATS) route modifications are necessary due to the planned decommissioning of the VOR portions of the Newcombe, KY, VOR/Tactical Air Navigation (VORTAC) and the Hazard, KY, VOR/Distance Measuring Equipment (VOR/DME) navigation aids (NAVAIDs). The NAVAIDs provide navigation guidance for portions of the affected air traffic service (ATS) routes. These VORs are being decommissioned as part of the FAA's VOR Minimum Operational Network (MON) program.

**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, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140,

Washington, DC 20590; telephone: (800) 647-5527, or (202) 366-9826. You must identify FAA Docket No. FAA-2020-0007; Airspace Docket No. 19-ASO-11 at the beginning of your comments. You may also submit comments through the Internet at <https://www.regulations.gov>. FAA Order 7400.11D, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, and subsequent amendments can be viewed online at [https://www.faa.gov/air\\_traffic/publications/](https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/). For further information, you can contact the Rules and Regulations 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 7400.11D at NARA, email: [fedreg.legal@nara.gov](mailto:fedreg.legal@nara.gov) or go to <https://www.archives.gov/federal-register/cfr/ibr-locations.html>.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Colby Abbott, Rules and Regulations Group, Office of Policy, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW, 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 modify the route structure as

necessary to preserve the safe and efficient flow of air traffic within the National Airspace System.

### **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-2020-0007; Airspace Docket No. 19-ASO-11) 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 <https://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-2020-0007; Airspace Docket No. 19-ASO-11.” 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 NPRMs**

An electronic copy of this document may be downloaded through the internet at <https://www.regulations.gov>. Recently published rulemaking documents can also be accessed through the FAA's web page at [https://www.faa.gov/air\\_traffic/publications/airspace\\_amendments/](https://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 "ADDRESSES" section for address and phone number) between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm, Monday through Friday, except federal holidays. An informal docket may also be examined during normal business hours at the office of the Operations Support Group, Central Service Center, Federal Aviation Administration, 10101 Hillwood Blvd, Fort Worth, TX, 76177.

#### **Availability and Summary of Documents for Incorporation by Reference**

This document proposes to amend FAA Order 7400.11D, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated August 8, 2019, and effective September 15, 2019. FAA Order 7400.11D is publicly available as listed in the ADDRESSES section of this document. FAA Order 7400.11D lists Class A, B, C, D, and E airspace areas, air traffic service routes, and reporting points.

#### **Background**

The FAA is planning decommissioning activities for the VOR portion of the Newcombe, KY, VORTAC and the Hazard, KY, VOR/DME in July, 2020. The VOR portion of the Newcombe, KY, and Hazard, KY, NAVAIDs are candidate VORs identified for discontinuance by the FAA's VOR MON program and listed in the final policy statement notice, "Provision of Navigation Services for the Next Generation Air Transportation System (NextGen) Transition to Performance-Based Navigation (PBN) (Plan for Establishing a VOR Minimum Operational

Network),” published in the Federal Register of July 26, 2016 (81 FR 48694), Docket No. FAA-2011-1082.

Although the VOR portion of the Newcombe, KY, and Hazard, KY, NAVAIDs are planned for decommissioning, the co-located DME portions of the NAVAIDs are being retained.

The ATS route dependencies to the Newcombe VORTAC are VOR Federal airways V-4, V-119, V-331, and V-478. Similarly, the ATS route dependencies to the Hazard VOR/DME are VOR Federal airways V-53, V-115, V-140, V-331, and V-339.

With the planned decommissioning of the VOR portion of the Newcombe, KY, and Hazard, KY, NAVAIDs, the remaining ground-based NAVAID coverage in the areas is insufficient to enable the continuity of the affected VOR Federal Airways. As such, proposed modifications to the affected VOR Federal Airways would result in gaps in those airways. To overcome the airway gaps, instrument flight rules (IFR) traffic could use adjacent ATS routes, including V-35, V-97, V-128, V-310, and V-493, to circumnavigate the affected area. IFR traffic could also file point to point through the affected area using the existing airway fixes that will remain in place, as well as adjacent NAVAIDs, or receive air traffic control (ATC) radar vectors through the area. Visual flight rules pilots who elect to navigate via the airways through the affected area could also take advantage of the adjacent VOR Federal airways or ATC services listed previously.

Further, the FAA proposes to extend RNAV routes T-215 and T-323 through the affected area, with minor editorial amendments to the descriptions, to continue supporting enroute airspace users, as well as ongoing FAA NextGen efforts to transition the national airspace system to performance-based navigation. The editorial amendments to the existing T-215 and T-323 descriptions would not change the routes’ structure, operational use, or charted depiction.

## **The Proposal**

The FAA is proposing an amendment to Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) part 71 by modifying VOR Federal airways V-4, V-53, V-115, V-119, and V-140; modifying low altitude RNAV routes T-215 and T-323; and removing VOR Federal airways V-331, V-339, and V-478. The planned decommissioning of the VOR portion of the Newcombe, KY, VORTAC and Hazard, KY, VOR/DME NAVAIDs has made this action necessary. The proposed VOR Federal airway changes are outlined below.

**V-4:** V-4 currently extends between the Tatoosh, WA, VORTAC and the Armel, VA, VOR/DME. The FAA proposes to remove the airway segment overlying the Newcombe, KY, VORTAC between the Lexington, KY, VOR/DME and the Charleston, WV, VORTAC. The unaffected portions of the existing airway would remain as charted.

**V-53:** V-53 currently extends between the Charleston, SC, VORTAC and the Brickyard, IN, VOR/DME. The airspace within R-3401B is excluded. The FAA proposes to remove the airway segment overlying the Hazard, KY, VOR/DME between the Holston Mountain, TN, VORTAC and the Lexington, KY, VOR/DME. The unaffected portions of the existing airway would remain as charted.

**V-115:** V-115 currently extends between the Crestview, FL, VORTAC and the Franklin, PA, VOR. The FAA proposes to remove the airway segment overlying the Hazard, KY, VOR/DME between the Volunteer, TN, VORTAC and the Charleston, WV, VORTAC. Concurrent changes to other portions of the airway are being proposed in a separate NPRM. The unaffected portions of the existing airway would remain as charted.

**V-119:** V-119 currently extends between the Newcombe, KY, VORTAC and the Rochester, NY, VOR/DME. The FAA proposes to remove the airway segment overlying the

Newcombe, KY, VORTAC between the Newcombe, KY, VORTAC and the Henderson, WV, VORTAC. The unaffected portions of the existing airway would remain as charted.

**V-140:** V-140 currently extends between the Panhandle, TX, VORTAC and the Casanova, VA, VORTAC. The FAA proposes to remove the airway segment overlying the Hazard, KY, VOR/DME between the London, KY, VOR/DME and the Bluefield, WV, VOR/DME. The unaffected portions of the existing airway would remain as charted.

**V-331:** V-331 currently extends between the Newcombe, KY, VORTAC and the Hazard, KY, VOR/DME. The FAA proposes to remove the airway in its entirety.

**V-339:** V-339 currently extends between the Hazard, KY, VOR/DME and the Falmouth, KY, VOR/DME. The FAA proposes to remove the airway in its entirety.

**V-478:** V-478 currently extends between the Falmouth, KY, VOR/DME and the Beckley, WV, VOR/DME. The FAA proposes to remove the airway in its entirety.

The proposed low altitude RNAV route changes are outlined below.

**T-215:** T-215 currently extends between the Lexington, KY, VOR/DME and the GAMKE, IN, waypoint (WP). The FAA proposes to extend the route southeastward from the Lexington, KY, VOR/DME to the Holston Mountain, TN, VORTAC. Additionally, the type of facility for Lexington, KY, is corrected from “VORTAC” to “VOR/DME” and the geographic coordinates of each route point are updated to be expressed in degrees, minutes, seconds, and hundredths of a second.

**T-323:** T-323 currently extends between the CROCS, GA, WP and the HIGGI, NC, WP. The FAA proposes to extend the route northward from the HIGGI, NC, WP to the Hazard, KY, DME. Additionally, the geographic coordinates of each route point are updated to be expressed in degrees, minutes, seconds, and hundredths of a second.

All radials in the VOR Federal airway descriptions below are unchanged and stated in True degrees.

VOR Federal airways are published in paragraph 6010(a) and low altitude RNAV routes are published in paragraph 6011 of FAA Order 7400.11D dated August 8, 2019, and effective September 15, 2019, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR 71.1. The ATS routes listed in this document would be subsequently published in the Order.

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

### **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 1050.1F, "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**

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 7400.11D, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated August 8, 2019 and effective September 15, 2019, is amended as follows:

#### **Paragraph 6010(a) Domestic VOR Federal Airways.**

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **V-4 [Amended]**

From Tatoosh, WA; INT of Tatoosh 102° and Seattle, WA, 329° radials; Seattle; Yakima, WA; Pendleton, OR; Baker, OR; Boise, ID; INT Boise 130° and Burley, ID, 292° radials; Burley; Malad City, ID; Rock Springs, WY; Cherokee, WY; Laramie, WY; Gill, CO; Thurman, CO; Goodland, KS; Hill City, KS; Salina, KS; Topeka, KS; Kansas City, MO; Hallsville, MO; St. Louis, MO; Troy, IL; Centralia, IL; Pocket City, IN; Louisville, KY; to Lexington, KY. From Charleston, WV; Elkins, WV; Kessel, WV; INT Kessel 097° and Armel, VA, 292° radials; to Armel.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **V-53 [Amended]**

From Charleston, SC; Columbia, SC; Spartanburg, SC; Sugarloaf Mountain, NC; to Holston Mountain, TN. From Lexington, KY; Louisville, KY; INT Louisville 333° and Brickyard, IN, 170° radials; Brickyard. The airspace within R-3401B is excluded.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **V-115 [Amended]**

From Crestview, FL; INT Crestview 001° and Montgomery, AL, 204° radials; Montgomery; INT Montgomery 323° and Vulcan, AL, 177° radials; Vulcan; Choo Choo, GA; to Volunteer, TN. From Charleston, WV; Parkersburg, WV; Newcomerstown, OH; INT Newcomerstown 038° and Franklin, PA, 239° radials; to Franklin.

\* \* \* \* \*

**V-119 [Amended]**

From Henderson, WV; Parkersburg, WV; INT Parkersburg 067° and Indian Head, PA, 254° radials; Indian Head; Clarion, PA; Bradford, PA; Wellsville, NY; Geneseo, NY; to Rochester, NY.

\* \* \* \* \*

**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; to London, KY. From Bluefield, WV; INT Bluefield 071° and Montebello, VA, 250° radials; Montebello; to Casanova, VA.

\* \* \* \* \*

**V-331 [Removed]**

\* \* \* \* \*

**V-339 [Removed]**

\* \* \* \* \*

**V-478 [Removed]**

\* \* \* \* \*

**6011. United States Area Navigation Routes.**

\* \* \* \* \*

**T-215 Holston Mountain, TN (HMV) to GAMKE, IN [Amended]**

Holston Mountain, TN (HMV)	VORTAC	(lat. 36°26'13.40"N., long. 82°07'46.56"W.)
HILTO, VA	WP	(lat. 36°41'48.46"N., long. 82°26'07.44"W.)
FLENR, VA	WP	(lat. 36°56'44.27"N., long. 82°43'42.75"W.)
RISTE, KY	WP	(lat. 37°09'02.92"N., long. 82°58'24.38"W.)
Hazard, KY (AZQ)	DME	(lat. 37°23'28.52"N., long. 83°15'46.83"W.)
HUGEN, KY	FIX	(lat. 37°31'46.14"N., long. 83°32'58.54"W.)
Lexington, KY (HYK)	VOR/DME	(lat. 37°57'58.86"N., long. 84°28'21.06"W.)

GAMKE, IN WP (lat. 38°46'12.99"N., long. 85°14'35.37"W.)

\* \* \* \* \*

**T-323 CROCS, GA to Hazard, KY (AZQ) [Amended]**

CROCS, GA WP (lat. 32°27'17.69"N., long. 82°46'29.06"W.)

BOBBR, GA WP (lat. 33°19'57.07"N., long. 83°08'19.47"W.)

BIGNN, GA WP (lat. 34°20'34.38"N., long. 83°33'06.80"W.)

ZPPLN, NC WP (lat. 34°59'47.42"N., long. 83°49'37.73"W.)

HIGGI, NC WP (lat. 35°26'46.57"N., long. 83°46'41.05"W.)

KIDBE, TN WP (lat. 35°51'16.23"N., long. 83°40'19.66"W.)

ZADOT, TN WP (lat. 36°35'32.17"N., long. 83°28'40.09"W.)

WELLA, KY WP (lat. 37°02'15.68"N., long. 83°21'31.07"W.)

Hazard, KY (AZQ) DME (lat. 37°23'28.52"N., long. 83°15'46.83"W.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Issued in Washington, DC, on January 7, 2020.

Rodger A. Dean Jr.,

Manager, Rules and Regulations Group.

[FR Doc. 2020-00544 Filed: 1/17/2020 8:45 am; Publication Date: 1/21/2020]