



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
PACIFIC AIR FORCES

MEMORANDUM FOR The Alaska Flying Public

28 Nov 2012

FROM: 611 AOC/CODK
Airspace and Range Team
9480 Pease Ave., Suite 204
Elmendorf AFB, AK 99506-2100

SUBJECT: Alaska's Shared Airspace

1. The US military is committed to sharing the Alaskan airspace to provide realistic combat training for US forces while minimizing disruption to commercial and civilian aviation. As part of our commitment to the flying public, the Air Force uses several venues to inform the Alaskan flying community about our operations. The Special Use Airspace Information Service (SUAIS) and C-17/C-130 pamphlets represent our main effort to publicize military aviation operations in Special Use Airspace (SUA) here in Alaska. These pamphlets are distributed as need to update information to various flying agencies and individuals in Alaska, Canada, and beyond. The pamphlets and other useful military airspace information can also be obtained on the Alaska Airspace web site: <http://www.jber.af.mil/11af/alaskaairspaceinfo/>.

2. Military Operations Areas (MOAs) and Restricted Areas: Please consult FSS in applicable areas for the current MOA activity schedule. Remember FSS do not automatically brief Special Use Airspace; it must be requested from the pilot. Eielson Range Control can also provide useful information on MOA and restricted area schedules. Supersonic training is permitted in several MOAs, however is never lower than either 5,000 AGL or 10,000 MSL (whichever is higher) depending on the MOA. The charted Delta MOA is now in aeronautical publications/charts for increased general aviation awareness.

3. Lights Out Training in MOAs: The FAA granted the Air Force a waiver to conduct night vision flight training within MOA airspace around the country without aircraft lighting. Several Alaskan MOAs will be used for this training. These operations will be announced at least 48 hours in advance via NOTAM and will be carried out with public safety in mind. Please consult the nearest FSS or NOTAMs to get updated information on this activity.

4. In the SUAIS pamphlet you will find useful information describing what the system is and how to use it effectively. Exercise dates, airspace diagrams, and important contact information is also found in this easy-to-carry guide. A description and illustration of the VFR corridors from Tok to Fairbanks and south along the Delta River is also inside the pamphlet.

5. A second pamphlet titled Alaska C-17/C-130 Low Level Routes details the low level operations of the cargo aircraft that operate extensively in the Delta Junction and Anchorage Bowl airspace. Typical routes and traffic patterns are illustrated and described. A section describing wake turbulence awareness completes this pamphlet.

6. Restricted Area 2203 Operations: R-2203 is a restricted area established on Fort Richardson that extends from the surface to 11,000 feet. R-2203 is a very active military training area, with C-130s and C-17s performing equipment and personnel airdrops on a routine basis. Do not fly through restricted area when the status is "HOT". The R-2203 status can be obtained from Pri – Bryant Army Airfield Tower (125.0), Sec - Elmendorf Tower (127.2), Pri – AWOS (118.52), Sec - ATIS (124.3), or Anchorage

Approach (118.6/119.1). Kenai Automated FSS and Elmendorf AFB will issue a NOTAM a minimum of 6 hours prior to IFR airdrop operations.

7. Safety is our number one goal when flying peacetime training sorties. Please take the time to be well informed so you can help ensure our shared airspace is an efficient and safe place for all of us to operate. If you have comments about military aircraft you encounter, please make note of details and call 1-800-JET-NOISE or contact one of the public affairs offices at Eielson AFB (907)377-2116 or JBER (907) 552-2906.

8. Alaska offers one of the best military aviation training environments in the world and allows our military to hone aircrew skills to accomplish our nation's defense objectives. We thank all Alaskans for their strong support of the military and are proud to serve you. If you have comments or questions please contact us at alaskamilitaryairspace@us.af.mil or call (907) 552-0999/2430.

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MICHAEL W OLDENKAMP, Maj, USAF
Airspace and Range Operations