

8. Promote Effective and Equitable Joint Utilization of Transportation Infrastructure for Freight and Passenger Service

The efficient use of the Nation's transportation infrastructure may require the joint use of facilities by freight and passenger transport operators. When appropriate, the Federal Government, in conjunction with State and local agencies and the private sector, will support the equitable sharing of transportation facilities and infrastructure and reasonable compensation for their use.

Potential safety problems and reduced freight transportation operations efficiency may arise from the sharing of facilities. These concerns should be taken into account in policy initiatives that address the joint use of facilities. The DOT will continue to support research in this area and will encourage transportation firms to adopt new technologies and operating practices that would reduce the adverse consequences that may arise from the joint use of facilities.

Issued in Washington, DC on March 26, 1996.

Federico Peña,

Secretary of Transportation.

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Coast Guard

[CGD 95-066]

National Environmental Policy Act Draft Environmental Impact Statement: Living Marine Resource Protection Plan for U.S. Coast Guard Activities Along the U.S. Atlantic Coast

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DOT.

ACTION: Notice of intent of prepare a draft environmental impact statement and notice of scoping.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard announces its intent to prepare and circulate a draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Protected Living Marine Resource Program that it is developing for the Atlantic Coast of the United States. In preparing the Protected Living Marine Resource Program, the Coast Guard plans to review the measures it develops during its formal Endangered Species Act consultation with the national Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to protect threatened or endangered species.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before May 2, 1996.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be mailed to Commandant (G-OCU), U.S. Coast

Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, D.C. 20593-0001, or may be delivered to room 3216 at the same address between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. Monday through Friday except Federal holidays. Comments will be available for inspection or copying at room 3216, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Captain J. A. Creech at (202) 267-1965 or by fax at (202) 267-4674.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Request for Comments

The Coast Guard encourages interested persons to submit written data, views or arguments. Persons submitting comments should include their names and addresses and identify this notice (CGD 95-066). Please submit two copies of all comments and attachments in an unbound format, no larger than 8½ by 11 inches, suitable for copying and electronic filing. Persons wanting acknowledgment of receipt of comments should enclose a stamped, self-addressed postcard or envelope.

The Coast Guard invites comments and suggestions on the proposed scope of the DEIS. Scoping will help the Coast Guard ensure that a full range of issues related to this proposal are addressed, and will help identify potentially significant impacts.

The Coast Guard will consider all comments received during the comment period. The DEIS and comments received will be received during the formal consultation between the U.S. Coast Guard and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Background Information

On August 9, 1995, the Coast Guard published in the Federal Register (60 FR 40631) a notice of availability and request for comments announcing the availability of an Environmental Assessment (EA) and a proposed Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on Coast Guard activities along the U.S. Atlantic Coast. On October 11, 1995, the Coast Guard published in the Federal Register (60 FR 52949) a notice reopening and extending the comment period for the EA and FONSI.

The EA focused on the six whale, and five turtle species listed as threatened or endangered found along the Atlantic coast. The Coast Guard received comments from Federal, State and local agencies and the public.

As a result of new information concerning the October 1995 interaction between a Coast Guard vessel and a suspected Humpback whale, and recent Northern Right Whale fatalities; and as a result of comments received in

response to the EA and FONSI, the Coast Guard has determined that an EIS is the appropriate document to assess the impacts of the proposed project under Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. All known or proposed alternatives will be evaluated and considered.

Proposed Action

The Coast Guard's DEIS will examine alternative measures contributing to protection and recovery of species currently listed as threatened or endangered. The measures proposed in the EA and by commenters to the EA include:

1. Reviewing vessel documentation and inspection programs.
 2. Training programs for vessel lookouts.
 3. Distributing notices of species locations via the NAVTEX program.
 4. Regulating minimum distances between protected species and vessels or aircraft.
 5. Surveying critical habitat areas, noting presence and activities of protected species.
 6. Increasing enforcement of existing laws.
 7. Participating in regional whale recovery implementation groups.
 8. Establishing or modifying vessel traffic routes.
 9. Developing Coast Guard-wide and regional procedures to alert employees of seasonally-heightened potentials for interaction with protected species.
 10. Including protected species awareness information in basic boating safety training provided to the public.
 11. Notifying the National Marine Fisheries Service regional office when a significant incident is brought to attention of the Coast Guard.
 12. Participating in regional species stranding networks.
 13. Surveying lighting options for Coast Guard stations in the vicinity of turtle nesting beaches.
- Significant areas to be explored include: identification of endangered or threatened species, and their habits; review of all present operational requirements for Coast Guard vessels and aircraft; identification of designated critical habitat areas and species high-density areas; and evaluation of the potential occurrence of multiple activities combining to produce beneficial or harmful effects not otherwise likely.
- The Coast Guard will evaluate the latest data on the habits of protected species; and will consider the location of Coast Guard stations and vessels; the navigational capabilities of Coast Guard vessels; the training of Coast Guard

employees related to protected species; and possible modifications to vessel traffic control and aircraft operations.

The DEIS will consider the cumulative impacts of Coast Guard assets operating together and in conjunction with other vessels.

No public meeting is currently scheduled. However, if comments indicate that a public meeting would yield useful data or opinions, the Coast Guard may schedule a meeting at a later date.

Dated: March 27, 1996.

J.A. Creech,
*Capital, U.S. Coast Guard, Chairman-
Endangered Species Act Compliance Team.*
[FR Doc. 96-7958 Filed 4-1-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-14-M

Federal Aviation Administration

Receipt of Noise Compatibility Program and Request for Review; Chico Municipal Airport (CIC) Chico, CA

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announces that it is reviewing a proposed Noise Compatibility Program that was submitted by the City of Chico for Chico Municipal Airport (CIC), Chico, California, under the provisions of Title 1 of the Aviation Safety and Noise Abatement Act of 1979 (Public Law 96-193) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and 14 CFR Part 150. This program was submitted subsequent to a determination by the FAA that associated Noise Exposure Maps submitted under 15 CFR Part 150 for Chico Municipal Airport where in compliance with applicable requirements effective April 23, 1993. The proposed Noise Compatibility Program will be approved or disapproved on or before September 21, 1996.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The effective date of the start of the FAA's review of the Noise Compatibility Program is March 22, 1996. The public comment period ends May 21, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Joseph Rodriguez, Federal Aviation Administration, San Francisco Airports District Office, 831 Mitten Road, Burlingame, California 94010-1303, Telephone (415) 876-2805. Documents reflecting this FAA action may be reviewed at this same location.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice announces that the FAA is

reviewing a proposed Noise Compatibility program for Chico Municipal Airport which will be approved or disapproved on or before September 18, 1996. This notice also announces the availability of this program for public review and comment.

An airport operator who has submitted Noise Exposure Maps that are found by the FAA to be in compliance with the requirements of Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) Part 150, promulgated pursuant to Title I of the Act, may submit a Noise Compatibility Program for the FAA approval which sets forth the measures the operator has taken or proposes for the reduction of existing noncompatible uses and for the prevention of the introduction of additional noncompatible uses.

The FAA has formally received the Noise Compatibility Program for Chico Municipal Airport effective on March 22, 1996. It was requested that the FAA review this material and that the noise mitigation measures, to be implemented jointly by the airport and surrounding communities, be approved as a Noise Compatibility Program under Section 104(b) of the Act. Preliminary review of the submitted material indicates that it conforms to the requirements for the submittal of Noise Compatibility Programs but that further review will be necessary prior to approval or disapproval of the program. The formal review period, limited by law to maximum of 180 days, will be completed on or before September 18, 1996.

The FAA's detailed evaluation will be conducted under the provisions of 14 CFR Part 150, Section 150.33. The primary considerations in the evaluation process are whether the proposed measures may reduce the level aviation safety, create an undue burden on interstate or foreign commerce, or be reasonably consistent with obtaining the goal of reducing existing noncompatible land uses and preventing the introduction of additional noncompatible land uses.

Interested persons are invited to comment on the proposed program with specific reference to these factors. All comments, other than those properly addressed to local land use authorities, will be considered by the FAA to the extent practicable. Copies of the Noise Exposure Maps, the FAA's evaluation of the maps, and the proposed Noise Compatibility Program are available for examination at the following locations:

Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Room 617, Washington, DC 20591.

Federal Aviation Administration, Western-Pacific Region, Airports Division, 15000 Aviation Boulevard, Room 3E24, Hawthorne, California. Mail: P.O. Box 92007, Worldway Postal Center, Los Angeles, California 90009.

Mr. Thomas J. Lando, City Manager, Chico Municipal Airport, P.O. Box 3420, Chico, California 95354-3916.

Questions may be directed to the individual named above under the heading, **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**.

Issued in Hawthorne, California on March 22, 1996.

Robert C. Bloom,
*Acting Manager, Airports Division, AWP-600,
Western-Pacific Region.*

[FR Doc. 96-7968 Filed 4-1-96; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910-13-M

Savannah International Airport Savannah, GA; FAA Approval of Noise Compatibility Program and Determination on Revised Noise Exposure Maps

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration, DOT.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) announces its findings on the noise compatibility program submitted by the Savannah Airport Commission under the provisions of Title I of the Aviation Safety and Noise Abatement Act of 1979 (Pub. L. 96-193) and 14 CFR Part 150. These findings are made in recognition of the description of federal and nonfederal responsibilities in Senate Report No. 96-52 (1980). On August 23, 1993, the FAA determined that the noise exposure maps submitted by the Savannah Airport Commission under Part 150 were in compliance with applicable requirements. On February 23, 1996, the Administrator approved the Savannah International Airport noise compatibility program. Most of the recommendations of the program were approved. The Savannah Airport Commission has also requested under FAR Part 150, Section 150.35(f), that FAA determine that the revised noise exposure map submitted with the noise compatibility program and showing noise contours as a result of the implementation of the noise compatibility program is in compliance with applicable requirements of FAR Part 150. The FAA announces its determination that the revised noise exposure map for Savannah International Airport for the year 1997, submitted with the noise compatibility