

Proposed Rules

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This section of the FEDERAL REGISTER contains notices to the public of the proposed issuance of rules and regulations. The purpose of these notices is to give interested persons an opportunity to participate in the rule making prior to the adoption of the final rules.

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 71

[Airspace Docket No. 98-ANM-12]

Proposed Revision of Class E Airspace; Price, UT

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY: This proposal would provide additional controlled airspace to accommodate the development of a new Standard Instrument Approach Procedure (SIAP) utilizing the Global Positioning System (GPS) at the Carbon County Airport. This new SIAP requires airspace extending upward from 1200 feet above the surface in order to contain an associated holding procedure.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before August 6, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Send comments on the proposal in triplicate to: Manager, Airspace Branch, ANM-520, Federal Aviation Administration, Docket No. 98-ANM-12, 1601 Lind Avenue SW, Renton, Washington 98055-4056.

The official docket may be examined in the office of the Assistant Chief Counsel for the Northwest Mountain Region at the same address.

An informal docket may also be examined during normal business hours in the office of the Manager, Air Traffic Division, Airspace Branch, at the address listed above.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dennis Ripley, ANM-520.6, Federal Aviation Administration, Docket No. 98-ANM-12, 1601 Lind Avenue SW, Renton, Washington 98055-4056; telephone number: (425) 227-2527.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

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 the airspace docket number 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 Airspace Docket No. 98-ANM-12." The postcard will be date/time stamped and returned to the commenter. All communications received on or 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 the light of comments received. All comments submitted will be available for examination at the address listed above both before and after the closing date for comments. A report summarizing each substantive public contact with FAA personnel concerned with this rulemaking will be filed in the docket.

Availability of NPRM's

Any person may obtain a copy of this NPRM by submitting a request to the Federal Aviation Administration, Airspace Branch, ANM-520, 1601 Lind Avenue SW, Renton, Washington 98055-4056. Communications must identify the notice number of this NPRM. Persons interested in being placed on a mailing list for future NPRM's should also request a copy of Advisory Circular No. 11-2A, which describes the application procedure.

The Proposal

The FAA is considering an amendment to Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations, part 71 (14 CFR part 71) to revise Class E airspace at Price, UT. This amendment would provide additional airspace necessary to fully encompass the GPS Runway 36 SIAP to the Carbon County Airport, Price, UT. This

amendment proposes to add a 1200-foot Class E area extension to the south in order to accommodate a holding pattern for the SIAP. The holding pattern is required to meet necessary airspace criteria for aircraft transitioning between the terminal and en route environments. The FAA establishes Class E airspace extending upward from 700 feet AGL where necessary to contain aircraft transitioning between the terminal and en route environments. The intended effect of this proposal is designed to provide safe and efficient use of the navigable airspace and to promote safe flight operations under IFR at the Carbon County Airport and between the terminal and en route transition stages.

The area would be depicted on aeronautical charts for pilot reference. The coordinates for this airspace docket are based on North American Datum 83. Class E airspace areas extending upward from 700 feet or more above the surface of the earth, are published in Paragraph 6005 of FAA Order 7400.9E dated September 10, 1997, and effective September 16, 1997, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR 71.1. The Class E airspace designation listed in this document would be published subsequently in the Order.

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 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, will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the criteria of the Regulatory Flexibility Act.

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, CLASS B, CLASS C, CLASS D, AND CLASS E AIRSPACE AREAS; AIRWAYS; ROUTES; AND REPORTING POINTS

1. The authority citation for 14 CFR part 71 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 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 the Federal Aviation Administration Order 7400.9E, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated September 10, 1997, and effective September 16, 1997, is amended as follows:

Paragraph 6005 Class E airspace areas extending upward from 700 feet or more above the surface of the earth.

* * * * *

ANM UT E5 Price, UT

Price, Carbon County Airport, UT

(Lat. 39°36'43" N, long. 110°45'02" W)

Carbon VOR/DME

(Lat. 39°36'11" N, long. 110°45'13" W)

That airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface within a 4.3-mile radius of the Carbon VOR/DME, and within 1.8 miles each side of the 200° radial of the Carbon VOR/DME extending from the 4.3-mile radius to 7 miles south of the Carbon VOR/DME; that airspace extending upward from 1,200 feet above the surface bounded by a line beginning at lat. 39°50'00" N, long. 111°00'00" W; to lat. 39°45'00" N, long. 110°30'00" W; to lat. 39°05'00" N, long. 110°30'00" W; to lat. 39°05'00" N, long. 111°00'00" W; to lat. 39°21'00" N, long. 111°05'00" W; thence to point of beginning; excluding that airspace within Federal Airways, the Moab, UT, and the Salt Lake City, UT, Class E airspace areas.

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Issued in Seattle, Washington, on June 8, 1998.

Joe E. Gingles,

Acting Assistant Manager, Air Traffic Division, Northwest Mountain Region.

[FR Doc. 98–16546 Filed 6–19–98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Health Care Financing Administration

42 CFR Parts 410 and 414

[HCFA–1906–P]

RIN 0938–AI44

Medicare Program; Payment for Teleconsultations in Rural Health Professional Shortage Areas

AGENCY: Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA), HHS.

ACTION: Proposed rule.

SUMMARY: This proposed rule would implement parts of section 4206 of the Balanced Budget Act of 1997 by amending our regulations to provide for payment for professional consultation by a physician and certain other practitioners via interactive telecommunication systems. Payment may be made if the physician or other practitioner is furnishing a service for which payment may be made under Medicare to a beneficiary residing in a rural area that is designated as a health professional shortage area.

This proposed rule would also establish a methodology for determining the amount of payments made for the consultation.

DATES: Comments will be considered if we receive them at the appropriate address, as provided below, no later than 5 p.m. on August 21, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Mail written comments (1 original and 3 copies) to the following address: Health Care Financing Administration, Department of Health and Human Services, Attention: HCFA–1906–P, P.O. Box 26676, Baltimore, MD 21207–0519.

If you prefer, you may deliver your written comments (1 original and 3 copies) to one of the following addresses:

Room 309–G, Hubert H. Humphrey Building, 200 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20201, or Room C5–09–26, 7500 Security Boulevard, Baltimore, MD 21244–1850.

Because of staffing and resource limitations, we cannot accept comments by facsimile (FAX) transmission. In commenting, please refer to file code HCFA–1906–P. Comments received timely will be available for public inspection as they are received, generally beginning approximately 3 weeks after publication of a document, in Room 309–G of the Department's offices at 200 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC, on Monday

through Friday of each week from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (phone: (202) 690–7890).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Craig Dobyski, (410) 786–4584.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

A. General

Telemedicine is the use of telecommunications to furnish medical information and services. Generally, two different kinds of technology are in use in telemedicine. One technology is two-way interactive video. This technology is used, for example, when a consultation involving the patient, the primary care giver, and a specialist is necessary. The videoconferencing equipment at two (or more) locations permits a “real-time” or “live” consultation to take place, providing for two-way exchange of information between the locations during the examination. We refer to this process as “teleconsultation.” Teleconsultation typically involves a primary care practitioner with a patient at a remote, rural (spoke) site and a medical specialist (consultant) at an urban or referral center (hub) facility, with the primary care practitioner seeking advice from the consultant concerning the patient's condition or course of treatment.

The other technology, called “store and forward,” is used to transfer video images from one location to another. A camera or similar device records (stores) an image(s) that is then sent (forwarded) via telecommunications media to another location for later viewing. The sending of x-rays, computed tomography scans, or magnetic resonance images are common store-and-forward applications. The original image may be recorded and/or forwarded in digital or analog format and may include video “clips” such as ultrasound examinations, where the series of images that are sent may show full motion when reviewed at the receiving location.

Currently, Medicare allows payment for those telemedicine applications in which, under conventional health care delivery, the medical service does not require face-to-face “hands on” contact between patient and physician. For example, Medicare permits coverage of teleradiology, which is the most widely used and reimbursed form of telemedicine, as well as physician interpretation of electrocardiogram and electroencephalogram readings that are transmitted electronically. In contrast, Medicare does not cover other physicians services delivered through telecommunications systems because,