## **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

### **Federal Aviation Administration**

#### 14 CFR Part 71

[Docket No. FAA-2021-0854; Airspace Docket No. 20-AAL-54]

RIN 2120-AA66

# **Proposed Revocation of Federal** Colored Airway B-25; Gulkana, AK

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

**ACTION:** Notice of proposed rulemaking

(NPRM).

**SUMMARY:** This action proposes to revoke Colored Federal airway, B-25. The revocation is necessary due to the planned decommissioning of the Glenallen Non-Directional Beacon (NDB) Gulkana, AK, which provides navigation guidance for the affected route. The Glenallen NDB is to be decommissioned effective September 8, 2022 due to the high cost of maintenance.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before December 6, 2021.

**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: 1(800) 647–5527, or (202) 366–9826. You must identify FAA Docket No. FAA-2021-0854; Airspace Docket No. 20-AAL-54 at the beginning of your comments. You may also submit comments through the internet at https://www.regulations.gov.

FAA Order JÖ 7400.11F, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, and subsequent amendments can be viewed online at 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. FAA Order JO 7400.11F is also available for inspection at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). For information on the availability of FAA Order JO 7400.11F at NARA, email: fr.inspection@nara.gov or go to https://www.archives.gov/federalregister/cfr/ibr-locations.html.

# FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher McMullin, 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-2021-0854; Airspace Docket No. 20-AAL-54) 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-2021-0854; Airspace Docket No. 20-AAL-54." 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/.

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 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 office of the Western Service Center, Operations Support Group, Federal Aviation Administration, 2200 South 216th St., Des Moines, WA 98198.

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

This document proposes to amend FAA Order JO 7400.11F, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated August 10,202, and effective September 15, 2021. FAA Order JO 7400.11F is publicly available as listed in the ADDRESSES section of this document. FAA Order JO 7400.11F lists Class A, B, C, D, and E airspace areas, air traffic service routes, and reporting points.

## **Background**

Due to the high cost of maintenance, and the FAA's move toward Global Navigation Satellite System-based navigation, a decision was made to remove the Glenallen NDB (GLA) from service. This action will require revocation of Colored Federal Airway

Colored Federal airway B-25 will be unusable due to the pending decommissioning of GLA. The loss of B-25 can be mitigated by utilizing Area Navigation (RNAV) route T-226 or VHF Omnidirectional Range (VOR) route V-481.

## The Proposal

The FAA is proposing an amendment to 14 CFR part 71 to revoke Colored Federal airway B-25. The proposed actions are described below.

B-25: B-25 currently extends between the Orca Bay, AK, NDB and the Delta Junction, AK, NDB. The FAA proposes to remove the entire route.

Colored Federal airways are published in paragraph 6009 of FAA Order JO 7400.11F dated August 10, 2021, and effective September 15, 2020, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR part 71.1. The Colored Federal Airway listed in this document will be subsequently be removed from FAA Order JO 7400.11F.

FAA Order JO 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 JO 7400.11F, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated August 10, 2021 and effective September 15, 2021, is amended as follows:

Paragraph 6009—Colored Federal Airways

# B-25 [Removed]

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Issued in Washington, DC, on October 14, 2021.

# Michael R. Beckles,

Acting Manager, Rules and Regulations Group.

[FR Doc. 2021–22585 Filed 10–21–21; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

## **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

## **Federal Aviation Administration**

### 14 CFR Part 71

[Docket No. FAA-2017-0438; Airspace Docket No. 17-AEA-5]

### RIN 2120-AA66

Proposed Amendment VOR Federal Airways V-66, V-189, V-260, and V-266; in the Vicinity of Franklin, VA

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

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

**SUMMARY:** The FAA is withdrawing the NPRM published in the Federal **Register** on June 2, 2017, proposing to modify VHF Omnidirectional Range (VOR) Federal airways V-66, V-189, V-260, and V-266 in the Vicinity of Franklin, VA, due to the planned decommissioning of the Franklin, VA, (FKN) VOR and Tactical Air Navigational System (VORTAC) navigation aid. Subsequent to the NPRM, the FKN VORTAC decommissioning has been delayed until a to-be-determined date. The FAA decided that additional planning is necessary to ensure a more efficient implementation and integration with other ongoing VOR Minimum Operational Network (VOR MON) program activities, and determined that withdrawal of the proposed rule is warranted.

**DATES:** Effective October 22, 2021, the proposed rule published June 2, 2017 (82 FR 25559), is withdrawn.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul Gallant, Rules and Regulations Group, Office of Policy, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20591; telephone: (202) 267–8783.

## SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

# History

The FAA published a notice of proposed rulemaking in the Federal Register for Docket No. FAA-2017-0438 (82 FR 25559; June 2, 2017). The NPRM proposed to amend VOR Federal airways V-66, V-189, V-260, and V-266 due to the planned decommissioning of the FKN VORTAC which provides navigation guidance for portions of the affected airways. Interested parties were invited to participate in this rulemaking effort by submitting written comments on the proposal. One comment was received. The commenter recommended that, for VOR NAVAIDs that are to be decommissioned, and for those airways that are correspondingly removed, the FAA should create an area navigation (RNAV) waypoint at the previous NAVAID location, and convert all fixes and intersections along that route to RNAV waypoints.

### **FAA's Conclusions**

The FAA has reviewed the FKN VORTAC decommissioning project and determined that additional planning meetings are warranted to ensure a more efficient implementation and integration with other ongoing program activities; therefore, the NPRM is withdrawn.

# List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 71

Airspace, Incorporation by reference, Navigation (air).

# The Withdrawal

■ Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me, the NPRM published in the **Federal Register** on June 2, 2017 (82 FR 25559), FR Doc. 2017–11080, is hereby withdrawn.

**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.

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 14, 2021.

# Michael R. Beckles,

Acting Manager, Rules and Regulations Group.

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