

NOTICE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
Air Traffic Organization Policy

N JO 7110.557

Effective Date:
June 1, 2011

Cancellation Date:
February 9, 2012

SUBJ: OPEN SKIES Treaty Aircraft

- 1. Purpose of This Notice.** This change adds the type of flights that receive priority handling and that notification of OPEN SKIES flights will be done on initial notification and 15 minutes before the aircraft enters the special use airspace (SUA).
- 2. Audience.** This notice applies to the following Air Traffic Organization (ATO) service units: En Route and Oceanic, Terminal, and System Operations; the ATO Office of Safety; and all associated air traffic control facilities.
- 3. Where Can I Find This Notice?** This notice is available on the MyFAA employee Web site at https://employees.faa.gov/tools_resources/orders_notices/ and on the air traffic publications Web site at http://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications.
- 4. Procedures.** Amend FAA Order JO 7110.65, paragraph 9-2-22, to read as follows:

9-2-22. OPEN SKIES TREATY AIRCRAFT

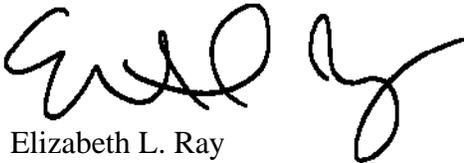
Title thru b, no change.

- c.** OPEN SKIES (F and D) Treaty aircraft, while maintaining compliance with ATC procedures, must have priority over activities in special use airspace (SUA) and must be allowed to transit such airspace as filed after appropriate and timely coordination has been accomplished between the using agency and controlling agency.
 1. F and D Treaty flights transiting SUA will be handled in the following manner:
 - (a) The ATC facility controlling the F and D Treaty flight must advise the using/scheduling agency or appropriate ATC facility upon initial notification and when the aircraft is 15 minutes from the SUA boundary; and
 - (1) For SUA that has an ATC facility providing services to the area, provide standard separation. If the ATC facility is unable to provide standard separation from the activities in the SUA, the using agency must confirm that all operations in the SUA have ceased.
 - (2) For SUA not associated with an ATC facility, the using/scheduling agency must return the SUA to the controlling agency and confirm that all operations in the SUA have ceased.
 - (b) If the controlling facility/using agency is unable to confirm that all conflicting activities in the SUA have ceased, the OPEN SKIES aircraft must not be permitted access to the SUA.
 2. Return SUA to the using agency, if appropriate, within 15 minutes after the F and D Treaty aircraft clears the SUA.

No further changes to paragraph.

5. Distribution. This notice is distributed to the following ATO service units: En Route and Oceanic, Terminal, Mission Support, and System Operations; the ATO Office of Safety; the Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service; the William J. Hughes Technical Center; and the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center.

6. Background. There has been some confusion on the type of OPEN SKIES flight that get priority handling. This change clarifies which type of flights require priority handling (F and D). Previously, notification of using/scheduling agencies of SUA has only been accomplished 15 minutes prior to the OPEN SKIES aircraft reaching the boundary. This has caused problems with the DOD in planning and using SUA.



Elizabeth L. Ray
Vice President, Mission Support Services
Air Traffic Organization

April 25 2011
Date Signed