

[4910-13-M]

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

**Federal Aviation Administration**

**Notice of public meetings on Notices of Proposed Rulemaking on  
Grand Canyon National Park**

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The FAA will hold public meetings on two notices of proposed rulemaking (NPRMs) that were published in the Federal Register on July 9, 1999. Those notices are: Modifications of the Dimensions of the Grand Canyon National Park Special Flight Rules Area and Flight Free Zones, and Commercial Air Tour Limitation in the Grand Canyon National Park Special Flight Rules Area. The FAA will also receive comments on the draft environmental assessment (EA) associated with these rulemakings, which was also published in the Federal Register on July 9, 1999. The purpose of these meetings is to provide an additional opportunity for the public to comment on the proposals.

**DATES AND TIMES:** The meetings will be held on Tuesday, August 17, 1999, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and on Thursday, August 19, 1999, beginning at 9:00 a.m.

**ADDRESS:** The meetings will be held at the following locations:

August 17, 1999 - The Cline Library Assembly Hall (Building 28) on the campus of Northern Arizona University, Knoles Drive, Flagstaff, Arizona.

August 19, 1999 - Room 241 in the Frank and Estella Beam Hall on the campus of the University of Nevada at Las Vegas, 4505 South Maryland Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Persons unable to attend the meetings may send their comments on the NPRMs in triplicate to: U.S. Department of Transportation Dockets, Docket No.(the docket number on the NPRMs), 400 Seventh Street, SW, Washington, DC, 20590. Comments may also be submitted electronically to the Rules Docket by using the following Internet address: [9-NPRM-CMTS@faa.gov](mailto:9-NPRM-CMTS@faa.gov) Comments must be marked Docket No. FAA-99-5927 (Commercial Air Tour Limitation in the Grand Canyon National Park Special Flight Rules Area) or FAA-99-5926 (Modification of the Dimensions of the Grand Canyon National Park Special Flight Rules Area and Flight Free Zones), as appropriate to the NPRM. Comments on both NPRMs or on the EA should reference both docket numbers.

Comments may be examined in Room Plaza 401 weekdays, except Federal holidays, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Written and electronic comments to the docket will receive the same consideration as statements made at the public meeting.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Requests to present a statement at the public meeting on either of these NPRMs or EA, or questions regarding information on the logistics of the meeting should be directed to Mark Lawyer, Federal Aviation Administration, Office of Rulemaking (ARM-107), 800 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, DC 20591, telephone (202) 493-4531; fax (202) 267-5075; email mark.lawyer@faa.gov.

Technical questions concerning the NPRMs should be directed to:

For the Airspace Modification NPRM - Joe White, Airspace and Rules Program, Air Traffic Airspace Management Program, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Ave., Washington, DC 20591. Telephone: (202) 267-8783.

For the Commercial Air Tour Limitation NPRM - Alberta Brown, Air Transportation Division, Flight Standards Service, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20591. Telephone: (202) 267-8321.

Questions on the draft environmental assessment (EA) should be directed to Tina Hunter, ATA-300, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Ave., SW, Washington, DC 20591; telephone (202) 267-7685.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Background:*

The purpose of the meetings is for the FAA to receive comments on two Grand Canyon National Park proposed rules and associated draft EA. Comments from the public at these meetings should be directed specifically to the proposed rules cited above or the draft EA.

The notices of proposed rulemaking to be discussed at the public meetings were published in the Federal Register on July 9, 1999. The Airspace Modification NPRM proposes to modify flight-free zones to accommodate concerns expressed by Native Americans and also to accommodate a new route structure. Maps showing this new route structure are made available through a notice of availability that was published in the Federal Register on July 9, 1999; maps also will be available at the public meetings. The Commercial Air Tour Limitation NPRM proposes to limit the number of commercial air tours that could be conducted in the Special Flight Rules Area (SFRA) of GCNP. It also contains a reporting requirement for all commercial flights, not just air tours, that are being conducted in the SFRA.

The notice of availability for the draft environmental assessment was issued on July 2, 1999, and published in the Federal Register on July 9, 1999.

The closing date for comments on the proposals and the draft EA is September 7, 1999. In order to give the public an additional

opportunity to comment on the proposed rules and the draft EA, the FAA is conducting these public meetings.

Persons interested in obtaining a copy of the Grand Canyon proposed rules or the draft EA should contact the person listed in the **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** section.

***Participation at the public meeting***

The FAA will explain the purpose and background of the NPRMs and the EA at the beginning of the public meetings.

Persons who wish to present oral statements at the public meeting on the Grand Canyon National Park proposals or draft EA must contact the FAA no later than August 9, 1999. Such requests should be submitted to Mark Lawyer as listed in the section titled "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT" and should include a summary of the oral comments to be presented and an estimate of the time needed. Requests received after August 9, 1999 will be scheduled if time is available; however, the name of those individuals may not appear on the written agenda. The FAA will prepare an agenda of speakers. This agenda will be available at each meeting. To accommodate as many speakers as possible, the amount of time allocated to each speaker may be less than the amount of time requested. Those persons desiring to have available audiovisual equipment should notify the FAA when requesting to be placed on the agenda.

### ***Public meeting procedures***

The following procedures are established to facilitate the public meeting on the NPRMs and draft EA:

1. There will be no admission fee or other charge to attend or to participate in the public meetings. The meetings will be open to all persons who have requested in advance to present statements or who register on the day of the meetings (between 8:30 a.m. and 9:00 a.m.), subject to availability of space in the meeting room.

2. Representatives from the FAA and National Park Service (NPS) will conduct the public meetings. A panel of experts will be present to explain the NPRMs and receive information presented by participants. The FAA chairperson will explain procedural rules specific to these meetings in an introduction at the beginning of each meeting.

3. The public meetings are intended as a forum to seek additional data and to obtain clarification of supporting methodologies from the industry. Participants must limit their presentations and submissions of data to the issues of the NPRMs and the draft EA.

4. The meetings will offer the opportunity for all interested parties to present additional information not currently available to the FAA and NPS.

5. The FAA will try to accommodate all speakers; therefore, it may be necessary to limit the time available for an individual or group. The August 17 meeting may be extended to the evening, if necessary, to accommodate speaking requests. If practicable, the meetings may be accelerated to enable adjournment in less than the time scheduled. Once all speakers have been called upon and all attendees have had an opportunity to comment, the meetings will adjourn.

6. Sign and oral interpretation can be made available at the meetings, as well as an assistive listening device, if requested 10 calendar days before each meeting.

7. The meetings will be recorded by a court reporter. A transcript of the meetings and all material accepted by the panel during the meetings will be included in the public docket, unless protected from disclosure. Each person interested in purchasing a copy of the transcript should contact the court reporter directly. This information will be available at each meeting.

8. The FAA will review and consider all information presented by participants at the public meetings. Position papers or material presenting views or information related to the draft NPRMs may be accepted at the discretion of the presiding officer and will be subsequently placed in the public docket. The FAA requests that presenters at the meetings provide 10 copies of all materials to be

presented for distribution to the panel members; other copies may be provided to the audience at the discretion of the presenter.

9. Statements made by members of the panel are intended to facilitate discussion of the issues or to clarify issues. Comments made at these public meetings will be considered by the FAA before making a final decision on issuance of any final rule.

10. The meetings are designed to solicit public views and more complete information relevant to the NPRMs under consideration. Therefore, the meeting will be conducted in an informal and nonadversarial manner.

Issued in Washington, DC, on July 14, 1999

/S/ Ida M. Klepper

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Acting Director, Office of Rulemaking