



United States Department of the Interior

National Business Center

Aviation Management

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In reply refer to: 113A-4

January 18, 2005

DOI AM INFORMATION BULLETIN NO. 05-01

To: All DOI Aviation Operations
From: Robert H. Lewis, Acting Associate Director, DOI Aviation Management (DOI AM)
Subject: New Online Training for the Grand Canyon National Park (GCNP) Special Flight Rules Area (SFRA)

Aircraft Operations in the Grand Canyon Area

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has issued the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) an FAA Form 7711-1 Certificate of Waiver or Authorization which allows aircraft engaged in official Government flight operations for DOI (or their interagency partners) to operate within the Special Flight Rules Area. DOI may reissue this authorization to each pilot-in-command (PIC) upon the successful completion of the GCNP SFRA training and testing program at <<http://www.iat.gov>>.

Effective February 1, 2005, all previously issued authorizations, the SFAR 50-2 video, and all pre-2005 DOI AM (OAS) training packets are no longer valid. DOI and USFS employees are no longer permitted to give DOI waiver training in person. Training and testing must occur online.

The GCNP SFRA, 14 CFR Part 93, Subpart U, extends from the surface to 17,999 feet MSL and affects all aircraft operations. This includes tour, general aviation, airline, military, and other Government agency aircraft.

Flight crews operating in the GCNP SFRA shall have a thorough understanding of Federal Aviation Regulation 93, Subpart U, and must successfully complete online training and testing prior to entering this special use airspace.

The information in the new online training program continues to meet FAA training standards. The training and testing can generally be accomplished in about 45 minutes and are required for legal and safety purposes. This program meets the requirements of the waiver for training, testing, and record keeping.

To access and run the new online GCNP SFRA training and testing module, you will need (1) a current copy of the Grand Canyon VFR Aeronautical Chart, (2) a Pentium II or equivalent computer with a minimum 56k Internet connection, (3) a current Web browser, and (4) Macromedia Flash Plug-In Player Version 6 or higher.

FAA Form 7711-1 will be issued electronically to each PIC after the successful completion of the training and exam. These credentials must accompany pilots whenever they are operating aircraft in the SFRA. Each PIC is responsible for complying with the DOI-issued FAA Form 7711-1 and its "special provisions." FAA Form 7711-1 does not constitute a waiver to deviate from other applicable Federal Aviation Regulations, such as "see-and-avoid" responsibilities and other portions of Part 91, Part 135, etc.

Persons conducting flight operations must contact the Grand Canyon Zone Interagency Dispatch Center in Williams, AZ, at 928-635-8356 in accordance with the special provisions of the DOI waiver.

Pilots or agencies that do not want to follow this protocol but still need to operate in the GCNP SFRA must obtain their own waiver by contacting the Federal Aviation Administration's Flight Standards District Office in Las Vegas, NV, and submitting an FAA Form 7711-2 Application for a Waiver.

For questions regarding the implementation of the online training process, call Susie Bates, IAT Coordinator, DOI Aviation Management, Boise, ID, 208-433-5091.

Robert H. Lewis, Acting Associate Director

APR/jar:01/18/05

