April 24, 2014
Public Notice: FAA Northern California Optimization of Airspace and Procedures in the Metroplex (NorCal OAPM) Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) Document

The FAA has extended the current comment due date of April 24, 2014 by 10 calendar days. The comment period will close on Sunday, May 4, 2014.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the FAA released a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) on March 25, 2014 for public review and comment. The EA Document considers the potential environmental impacts of the implementation of the Northern California Optimization of Airspace and Procedures in the Metroplex (NorCal OAPM) Project.

A "metroplex" is a geographic area that includes several commercial and general aviation airports in close proximity serving large metropolitan areas. The NorCal OAPM proposed action would improve the efficiency of the National Airspace System in the Northern California Metroplex by optimizing aircraft arrival and departure routes at a number of airports.

The Study Airports include:

- San Francisco International Airport (SFO)
- Metropolitan Oakland International Airport (OAK)
- Norman Y. Mineta San Jose International Airport (SJC)
- Sacramento International Airport (SMF)

The project involves changes in aircraft flight routes and altitudes in certain areas. Specifically, the FAA proposes to publish and implement optimized standard arrival and departure instrument procedures, serving air traffic flows into and out of airports in the Northern California Metroplex. The proposed action does not require any ground disturbance or increase the number of aircraft operations within the Northern California Metroplex airspace area. The analysis of potential environmental impacts in the EA was conducted in accordance with FAA Order 1050.1E, *Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures*.

The Draft EA is available online and at many libraries throughout the General Study Area. The General Study Area covers areas surrounding the four Study Airports and extends approximately 40 to 45 miles north, east, south and west of SMF and 55 miles north, 70 miles east, and 100 miles south of SFO. The western boundary of the General Study Area generally runs contiguous with the coastline. In total, the General Study Area includes 11 entire counties and portions of 12 additional counties. These libraries include but are not limited to the following:

- Oakland Main Library, 125 14th St., Oakland, CA 94612, 510-238-3134
- Sacramento Public Library Central, 828 I St., Sacramento, CA 95814, 916-264-2920
- San Francisco Public Library, 100 Larkin St., San Francisco, CA 94102, 415-557-4400
- San Mateo Main Library, 55 West 3rd Ave., San Mateo, CA 94402, 650-522-7800
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Library, 150 E. San Fernando St., San Jose, CA 95112, 408-808-2000

A complete list of libraries and an electronic copy of the Draft EA is available online at:

http://www.oapmenvironmental.com/norcal_metroplex/norcal_introduction.html

The FAA encourages interested parties to review the EA, and provide written comments during the public comment period. **The FAA has extended the current comment due date of April 24, 2014 by 10 calendar days. The comment period will close on Sunday, May 4, 2014.** The public is invited to comment by mail or email. Please be aware that your name, address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment may be made publicly available at any time. You may include in your comment a request to withhold your personal identifying information, however we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Comments can be emailed to: 7-ANM-NorCalOAPM@faa.gov

Comments can be submitted by regular mail to:

NorCal OAPM EA
Federal Aviation Administration
Western Service Center - Operations Support Group
1601 Lind Avenue SW
Renton, WA 98057