

FAA RULES GIVE DC ADIZ PERMANENT STATUS

December 17, 2008

What's at Issue

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has published regulations establishing the Washington, DC Special Flight Rules Area (DC SFRA). This area has been commonly referred to as the DC ADIZ.

Why It's Important

The DC SFRA final rule establishes a permanent set of rules governing flight operations for Washington, DC airspace.

Major Provisions

The DC SFRA rules are effective on February 17, 2009. Key issues to note in the final rules are:

- The DC SFRA will consist of a 30-NM radius centered on the DCA VOR/DME.
- The DC FRZ, or Flight Restricted Zone, is an area within the SFRA subject to additional restrictions.
- Operations by holders of the DCA Access Standard Security Program are permitted when conducting program flights to/from DCA.
- Some procedural details for DC SFRA compliance will continue to be addressed via NOTAM. Further, additional restrictions can still be imposed via NOTAM.
- Violations of the DC SFRA can carry penalties ranging from FAA certificate action to criminal prosecution.

NATA Position

Despite concerns from industry that the FAA's proposal to codify the existing airspace restrictions would have serious negative effects on local airports, the agency has moved forward with the final rules creating the SFRA. All operators, particularly those conducting VFR operations, are strongly encouraged to review the regulations closely to ensure continued compliance.

Status

The final rules establishing the DC SFRA were published in the *Federal Register* on December 16, 2008. The new regulations are effective on February 17, 2009.

[Click here to download the regulations.](#)

[Click here to review the NATA Issue Page on the Washington, DC ADIZ.](#)

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