



**Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command (MAGTFTC)
Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC)
Twentynine Palms, CA**

**Land Acquisition/Airspace Establishment in Support of
Large-Scale Training Exercises**



The Project Update Notices provide new information to augment public documents available on MCAGCC's Land Acquisition Study webpage.

Project Update Notice #22, December 2016

➤ **Marine Corps Seeks Special Use Airspace (SUA) to Support Marine Expeditionary Brigade (MEB) Training in Newly Acquired Training Lands Aboard MCAGCC**

- The Marine Corps met with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), as well as national, regional and local airspace stakeholders, throughout the development of its original SUA submission to the FAA in 2014. The 2014 SUA proposal was developed and modified throughout the preparation of the 2012 Final Environmental Impact Statement, which studied the impacts of providing sufficient training land and airspace to meet the Marine Corps' MEB combined-arms, live-fire and maneuver training requirements. It was developed to meet the SUA requirements needed to provide MEB level training while enhancing safety and mitigating impacts to other users of the National Airspace System (NAS).
- The process of gaining permanent joint-use SUA can take several years to complete; therefore, temporary measures are being pursued to accommodate meaningful exercises in the Congressionally established training range lands. A Temporary SUA proposal was submitted in October 2015 in order to have airspace for the Large Scale Exercise (LSE) 2016 in August 2016; however, the process could not be completed.
- In order to have the necessary training airspace for a planned LSE in August 2017 (LSE-17), the Marine Corps submitted a Temporary SUA proposal to the FAA in October 2016. The revised Temporary SUA proposal will begin the FAA regulatory processes for establishment and modification, which will include a public comment period.

➤ **Temporary SUA Proposal to Support August 2017 Training was submitted to the FAA in October 2016**

- The *Temporary* SUA proposal for LSE-17 provides safety for all users of the NAS and operational capabilities with a new *Temporary* Restricted Area (RA), two new *Temporary* Military Operating Areas (MOAs)/Air Traffic Control Assigned Airspace (ATCAAs), and temporary modifications to three existing MOAs/ATCAAs. The *Temporary* SUA proposal created, expanded or modified existing MOAs contiguous to the southwestern, southern and eastern boundaries of the MCAGCC training range.
- The proposed *Temporary* SUA comprises a critical component of the expanded training environment at MCAGCC and is essential to support the August 1-30, 2017 LSE-17. See airspace graphical depictions on the next page.
- *Temporary* SUA would be activated only in support of the planned military exercise and once the exercise is complete, the airspace would return to its previous designation and uses in the National Airspace System (NAS).
- The proposed *Temporary* RA is contiguous to the northwestern boundary of R-2501 and directly over the new training lands. In the current *Temporary* SUA submission (October 2016), the Marine Corps proposed:
 - Airspace to support LSE-17 for no more than 19 days (August 7-26, 2017);
 - To activate *Temporary* SUA only in support of the planned LSE-17;
 - Utilize any *Temporary* SUA above 18,000' Mean Sea Level (MSL) only 8 days or less; and,
 - Utilize any *Temporary* SUA above 27,000' MSL on only 2 days (August 21 & 22), for only 4 hours each day.
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- Any *Temporary* SUA would be describe and activated via Notice to Airmen (NOTAM), which may also be circularized and/or published in the same manner as Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) notices.

Please see the next page for the graphical depiction of the published Marine Corps *Temporary* SUA proposal, as well as the times of use of the various *Temporary* SUA proposed to be established/modified.

For Further Information Please Contact

29Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project

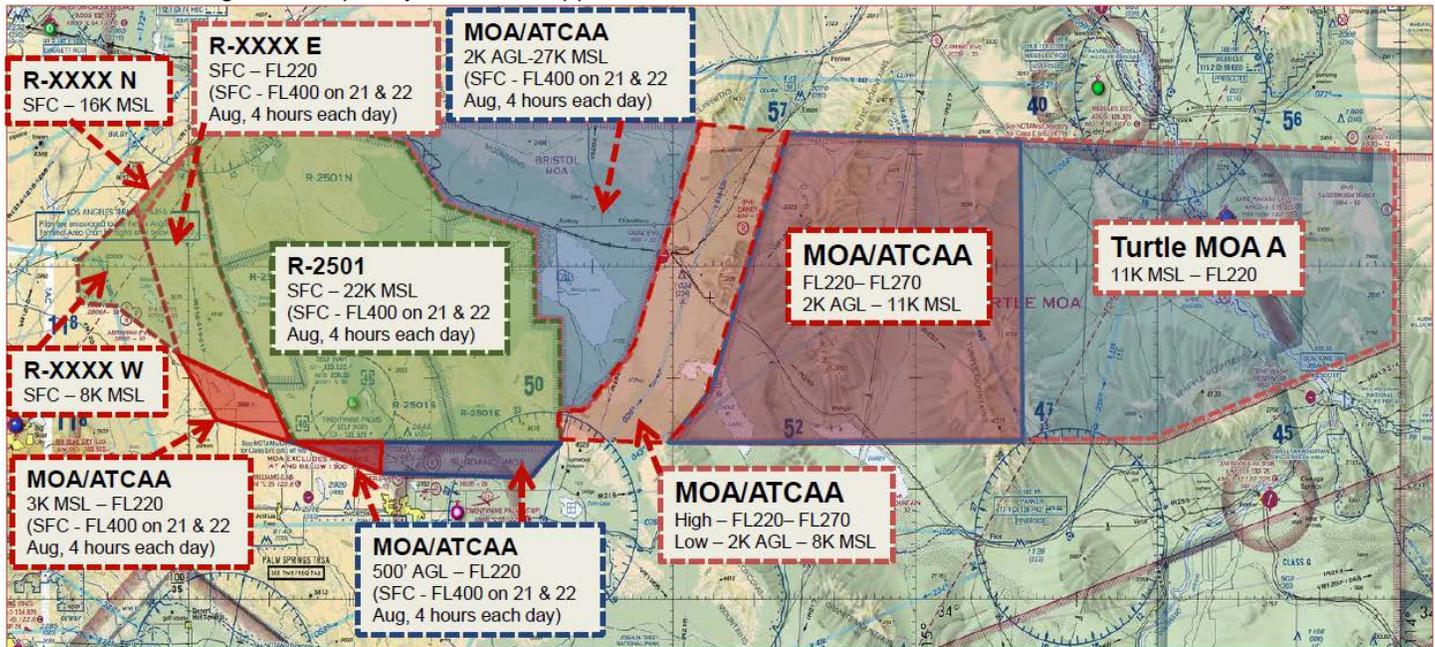
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Project Update Notice #22 – December 2017 – Temporary SUA LSE-17

The below graphic depicts the proposed *Temporary* SUA and flight levels. The green to the West of R-2501 represents new *Temporary* RA with the other colors representing MOAs, the blue being already established MOAs, and the red shaded areas being new temporary MOAs in support of LSE-17.



Note: R-2501 remains permanently established at surface to unlimited, but for the purposes of LSE-17, only airspace up to FL 400 is planned for activation.

Temporary Airspace:	7-18 August
R-XXXX E	SFC-16K MSL
R-XXXX W	SFC-8K MSL
R-XXXX N	SFC-16K MSL
JV MOA/ATCAA	3K-16K MSL
Sundance West MOA/ATCAA	500 AGL-FL220
Bristol MOA/ATCAA	5K MSL-FL220
CAX High ATCAA	N/A
CAX Low MOA	N/A
Turtle High ATCAA	N/A
Turtle Low MOA	N/A

Temporary Airspace:	19-26 August
R-XXXX E	SFC-FL220 (FL400 up to 4hrs 21 st /22 nd)
R-XXXX W	SFC-8K MSL
R-XXXX N	SFC-16K MSL
JV MOA/ATCAA	3K-FL220 (FL400 up to 4hrs 21 st /22 nd)
Sundance West MOA/ATCAA	500 AGL-FL220 (FL400 up to 4hrs 21 st /22 nd)
Bristol MOA/ATCAA	2000 AGL-FL270 (FL400 up to 4hrs 14 th /15 th)
CAX High ATCAA	FL220-FL270
CAX Low MOA	2000 AGL-8K MSL
Turtle High ATCAA	FL220-FL270
Turtle Low MOA	2000 AGL-11K MSL

Key Points of Temporary SUA Proposal
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposes to utilize current R-2501, Bristol, Sundance and Turtle MOAs at various altitudes up to 27K feet MSL Proposes 3 <i>Temporary</i> Restricted Areas R-XXXX E/W/S and 7 <i>Temporary</i> MOAs: JV, Sundance West, Bristol, CAX (High & Low) & Turtle (High & Low) Proposed <i>Temporary</i> R-XXXXN remains SFC to 16K MSL & Proposed <i>Temporary</i> R-XXXXW remains SFC to 8K MSL throughout LSE-17 Proposes high area (up to 40K MSL) for use during 2 x 4 hour blocks on 21 & 22 August

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Project Update Notice #22 – December 2017 – Temporary SUA LSE-17

➤ Marine Corps Agreed to *Temporary SUA Proposal Modifications*

- Following the *Temporary SUA* for LSE-16 submission in October 2015, the Marine Corps and the FAA met and exchanged counter airspace proposals to support the August 2016 training. As an outcome, the Marine Corps modified its proposal to address FAA concerns and then submitted this new proposal for *Temporary SUA* to support the LSE-17 training.
- In response to public comments, increased the floor of Bristol MOA, Turtle MOA and CAX MOA from 1,500 feet AGL to 2,000 feet AGL.
- The modified proposal does not fulfill all LSE-17 training requirements – and falls short of the MEB training requirements; but, the proposed *Temporary SUA* would enable the Marine Corps to undertake initial meaningful large-scale, combined arms and maneuver training in the new training lands provided by Congress in the safest and most efficient manner for all users of the NAS.
- Despite delays in the ability to translocate desert tortoises from the newly acquired areas, exercise planning for LSE-17 still anticipates the requirement for the requested *Temporary SUA*, including the proposed *Temporary RA*.

➤ Sufficient Permanent SUA is Required to Fulfill MEB Training Requirements

- MEB training is critical to the Marine Corps' ability to train its Marines and sailors to best succeed in fulfilling their duties as the Nation's contingency force in readiness.
- *Temporary SUA* for LSE-17 would only support this specific exercise and would not permit the Marine Corps to meet all MEB training requirements.
- When the exercise is complete, the Marine Corps will apply lessons learned to refine procedures and/or airspace dimensions to better support future exercises. The Marine Corps will continue to work with stakeholders to create a modified Permanent SUA proposal for submission to the FAA that supports all MEB training requirements while also minimizing impact to the NAS.
- Throughout the process, the Marine Corps will continue to efficiently manage established MCAGCC SUA, only activating the airspace when required for training and returning it to the NAS for joint use at all other times. The Marine Corps will continue to be a good neighbor in the Southern California airspace region.
- Marines must train as they fight. Realistic combined-arms, live-fire and maneuver training is critical to achieving mission success – and such training can only be achieved with sufficient SUA to utilize and coordinate aircraft, airborne and ground fires, and the operations to support these activities in the manner they would be undertaken in the combat theater.

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