



**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 #23, June 26, 2017**

➤ **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 provide MEB level training while 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. In the interim, temporary solutions were proposed via a *Temporary* SUA proposal submitted in October 2015 to support the large scale exercise (LSE) that took place in August 2016. The FAA could not complete the processing, resulting in a modified exercise that did not fulfill MEB level training requirements. To support the necessary training airspace for a planned LSE in August 2017 (LSE-17), the Marine Corps submitted another *Temporary* SUA proposal to the FAA in October 2016.
- LSE-17 *Temporary* SUA is a subset of the required SUA to fully support LSE/MEB training in MCAGCC's new range lands.
- The revised *Temporary* SUA proposal in support of LSE-17 was approved by the FAA on June 23, 2017 after the completion of regulatory processes for establishment and modification, which included a public comment period.

➤ **Temporary SUA Granted in Support of August 2017 Large Scale Exercise**

- The *Temporary* SUA granted by the FAA to support LSE-17 provides safety for all users of the NAS and operational capabilities with a *Temporary* Restricted Area (RA), seven new *Temporary* Military Operating Areas (MOAs)/Air Traffic Control Assigned Airspace (ATCAAs). The *Temporary* SUA creates expanded or modified existing MOAs contiguous to the southwestern, southern and eastern boundaries of the MCAGCC training range.
- The *Temporary* SUA is activated only in support of LSE-17 and once the exercise is complete, the airspace returns to its previous designation and uses in the National Airspace System (NAS).
- The *Temporary* RA is contiguous to the northwestern boundary of R-2501 and directly over the new training lands.
- The *Temporary* SUA allows for:
  - Airspace to support LSE-17, a Large Scale Exercise to be conducted in August 2017;
  - Activation of SUA only in support of the planned LSE-17; and,
  - Use of *Temporary* SUA above 27,000' MSL only 2 days (days to be determined) and for only 4 hours each of those two days.
- The *Temporary* SUA is described and activated via Notice to Airmen (NOTAM). The FAA NOTAM published June 22, 2017 identifies only 6 MOA, not identifying the Marine Corps intended use of a *Temporary* High Bristol ATCAA. (NOTAMs do not address temporary special use airspace/ATCAA above FL 180.) The times of use and altitudes for *Temporary* High Bristol ATCAA are shown in the table on page 2, along with those for other SUA used in LSE-17.
- Coordination for the *Temporary* SUA to support live fire and maneuver training for LSE-17 will occur daily between LA Center (FAA) and MCAGCC. Any changes to the planned *Temporary* SUA would be published in an updated NOTAM - **recommend all aviators to check the NOTAMS at identifier ZLA daily to be fully informed of any potential changes to the Temporary SUA associated with LSE-17 training activities. Please see the next page for the graphical depiction of the Temporary SUA.**

For Further Information, Please Contact

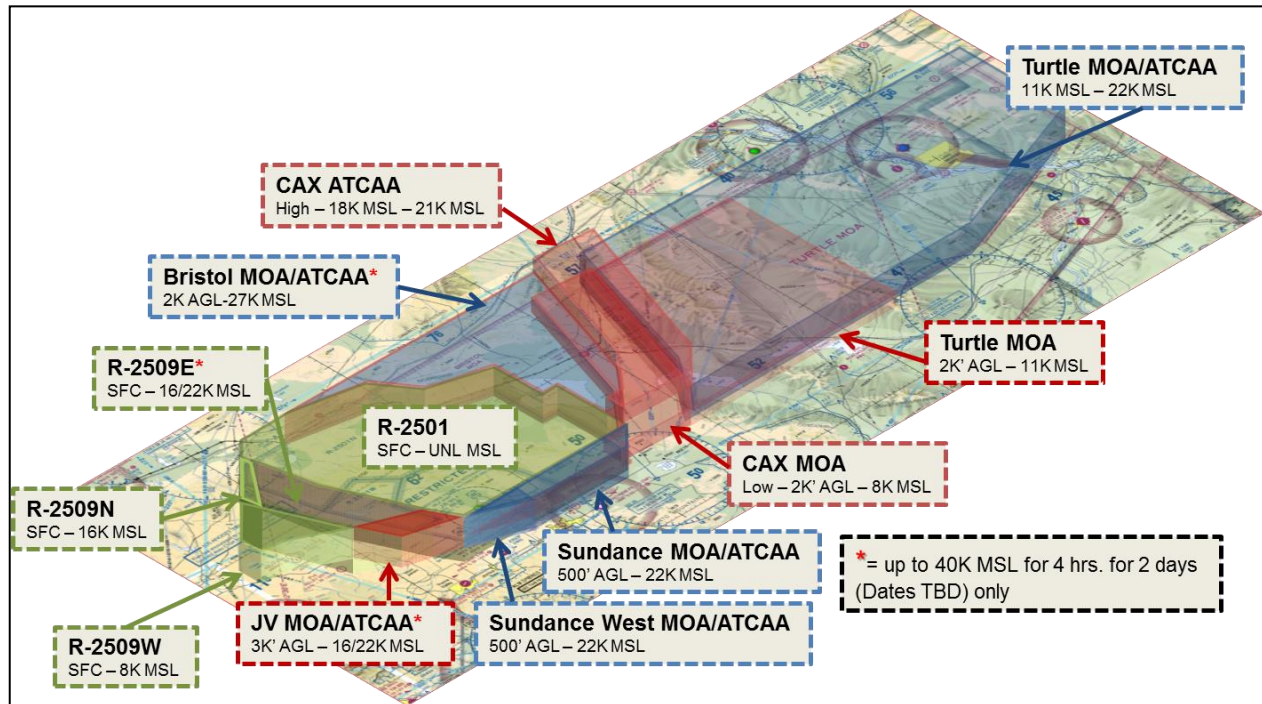
29Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project

(web) <http://www.29palms.marines.mil/Staff/G5-Government-and-External-Affairs/Airspace/>

(e-mail) [SMBPLMSJOHNSONVALLEY@usmc.mil](mailto:SMBPLMSJOHNSONVALLEY@usmc.mil) – (phone) 760-830-3737

(mail) MAGTFTC, MCAGCC, Bldg. 1417, Box 788105, Twentynine Palms, CA 92278-8105

The below graphic depicts the LSE-17 *Temporary* SUA and flight levels and current SUA. 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.



Airspace for LSE-17	Initial LSE-17 training activities	Culminating LSE-17 training activities
R-2501	SFC - UNL	SFC - UNL
<i>Temporary</i> R-2509E	SFC - 16K' MSL	SFC - 22K' MSL (to 40K' MSL up to 4 hours on 2 days, TBD)
<i>Temporary</i> R-2509W	SFC - 8K' MSL	SFC - 8K' MSL
<i>Temporary</i> R-2509N	SFC - 16K' MSL	SFC - 16K' MSL
<i>Temporary</i> JV MOA/ATCAA	3K' AGL - 16K' MSL	3K' AGL - 22K' MSL (40K MSL up to 4 hours on 2 days, TBD)
Sundance (including <i>Temporary</i> Sundance High) MOA/ATCAA	500' AGL - 22K' MSL	500' AGL - 22K' MSL
<i>Temporary</i> Sundance West MOA/ATCAA	500' AGL - 22K' MSL	500' AGL - 22K' MSL
Bristol (including <i>Temporary</i> Bristol Low MOA and <i>Temporary</i> Bristol High ATCAA) MOA/ATCAA	2K' AGL - 22K' MSL	2K' AGL - 27K' MSL (40K MSL up to 4 hours on 2 days, TBD)
<i>Temporary</i> CAX Low MOA/ATCAA	N/A	2K' AGL - 8K' MSL (MOA) 18K' MSL - 21K' MSL
Turtle MOA/ATCAA	N/A	11K' MSL - 22K' MSL
<i>Temporary</i> Turtle Low MOA	N/A	2K' AGL - 11K' MSL

- Key Points of *Temporary* SUA**
- Uses current R-2501, Bristol, Sundance and Turtle MOAs per chart above
  - Uses 3 *Temporary* Restricted Areas R-2509E/W/N and 7 *Temporary* MOAs and/or ATCAAs: JV MOA/ATCAA, Sundance High MOA/ATCAA, Sundance West MOA/ATCAA, Bristol Low MOA, Bristol High ATCAA, CAX MOA/ATCAA, & Turtle Low MOA
  - R-2509N remains SFC to 16K MSL & R-2509W remains SFC to 8K MSL throughout LSE-17

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### ➤ **Marine Corps Agreed to Temporary SUA Proposal Modifications**

- Following the original *Temporary* SUA submission in October 2015, the Marine Corps and the FAA met and exchanged counter proposals to support required LSE-16 training, and then again for required LSE-17 training. The Marine Corps modified its *Temporary* SUA proposals to address FAA concerns.
- In response to public comments, USMC proposal increased the floor of Bristol MOA, Turtle MOA and CAX MOA from 1,500 feet AGL to 2,000 feet AGL; and, lowered the ceilings in CAX MOA and removed Turtle High MOA/ATCAA per FAA request. (Current, permanent Turtle MOA/ATCAA will be used 11,000 feet MSL – 22,000 feet MSL.)
- The *Temporary* SUA does not fulfill all LSE-17 training requirements – and falls short of the MEB training requirements, but enables the Marine Corps to undertake 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

### ➤ **Sufficient Permanent SUA is Required to Fulfill MEB Training Requirements**

- 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
- 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; the *Temporary* SUA for LSE-17 will only support this specific exercise and does 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 minimizing impact to the NAS.
- Throughout the process, the Marine Corps will continue to 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.

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**(web) <http://www.29palms.marines.mil/Staff/G5-Government-and-External-Affairs/Johnson-Valley/>**

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