

## **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

## FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION Air Traffic Organization Policy

N JO 7210.688

Effective Date: June 20, 2008

Cancellation Date: March 12, 2009

**SUBJ:** Weather Reconnaissance Flights

- 1. Purpose of This Notice. This notice extends the procedures coordinated through the Air Traffic Control System Command Center (ATCSCC) concerning hurricane and tropical cyclone flights, and clarifies procedures associated with ATCSCC and air route traffic control center (ARTCC) traffic management unit (TMU) responsibilities.
- **2. Audience**. This notice applies to the following Air Traffic Organization (ATO) service units: En Route and Oceanic, Terminal, and System Operations Services, including the Directors of Tactical Operations and traffic management officers.
- **3.** Where Can I Find This Notice? The notice is available on the MYFAA employee Web site at https://employees.faa.gov/tools\_resources/orders\_notices/ and on the air traffic publications Web site at http://www.faa.gov/airports\_airtraffic/air\_traffic/publications.
- **4. Procedures.** Amend Federal Aviation Administration Order (FAAO) 7210.3V, Facility Operation and Administration, Paragraph 5-3-6b2 thru b3, Weather Reconnaissance Flight, to read as follows:

## 5-3-6. WEATHER RECONNAISSANCE FLIGHTS

- 2. The ATCSCC must:
- (a) Upon receipt of hurricane reconnaissance mission data, conference the affected ARTCC TMUs and distribute the mission information.
- (b) Assist field facilities with traffic flow priorities if the hurricane reconnaissance flight will impact terminal traffic.
  - 3. ARTCC TMUs must:
- (a) Upon receipt of hurricane reconnaissance mission data, ensure that they are distributed to appropriate facilities in their jurisdiction.
  - (b) Relay any operational concerns to the ATCSCC for further evaluation and coordination.
- **5. Distribution**. This notice is distributed to the following ATO service units: En Route and Oceanic, Terminal, Safety, and System Operations Services, including the Directors of Tactical Operations and traffic management officers; air traffic control facilities, except flight service stations; the William J. Hughes Technical Center; the Mike Monroney Aeronautical Center; international aviation field offices; and the Air Traffic Safety Oversight Service.
- **6. Background**. The Air Force Reserve 53rd Weather Reconnaissance Squadron and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Aircraft Operations Center have responsibilities for flying

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hurricane, tropical cyclone, and other weather-related missions. The ATCSCC has responsibility to coordinate and to disseminate their flight mission information to all impacted facilities.

**7. Implementation.** This notice shall be implemented on the effective date and content of this notice will be incorporated into FAAO 7210.3V, change 2, effective March 12, 2009.

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