



Federal Aviation Administration

Memorandum

Date: March 2, 2012

To: Donald H. Kirby, Air Traffic Manager, Northern California TRACON

From: ^{MB} Full Steven M. Nauss, Acting Air Traffic Manager, Oakland ARTCC

Prepared by: Craig Leth, Support Specialist, (510) 745-3327

Subject: Pen and ink change to the Oakland ARTCC, Northern California TRACON, and Pacific Soaring Council (PASCO) Letter of Agreement (LOA) effective October 29, 2010;

Subject: Pyramid and Minden Glider Area Operations

Effective March 8, please ensure the attached pen and ink change will be inserted in Page 2, Paragraph 5.i. of the Oakland ARTCC, Northern California TRACON, Pacific Soaring Council (PASCO) Letter of Agreement (LOA) effective October 29, 2010; Subject: Pyramid and Minden Glider Area Operations.

Attachments

- f. Pilots will not fly in designated glider areas within Class A airspace when flight visibility is less than five miles. Weather conditions will be such that visual reference to the ground can be maintained at all times
- g. The authorization specified in paragraph 3 of this agreement will extend to the Pacific Soaring Council and to all other persons who, by their execution of this agreement, do agree to abide by the terms and conditions thereof.
- h. Pilots will obtain advance non-control airport/terminal area and meteorological information from the Reno ATIS prior to Pyramid or Minden Glider Area ingress/egress.
- i. Gliders must activate their transponders prior to contacting NorCal Approach. Gliders shall squawk beacon code ~~0440~~ ¹²⁰² and altitude to facilitate radar identification.
- j. Pilots operating in NCT Class E airspace below the Pyramid and Minden Glider Areas shall contact NorCal Approach prior to entering the overlying Pyramid or Minden Glider Areas.
- k. Pilots exiting the Pyramid or Minden Glider Areas into underlying NCT Class E airspace shall contact NorCal Approach prior to descending below FL180.
- l. If a glider is unable to remain in the designated glider area due to developing weather conditions at or above FL180, the pilot of that aircraft must contact Oakland Center on frequency 128.800 *immediately*.

NOTE: *Air safety demands strict adherence to approved times, altitudes, and airspace boundaries.*

6. PROCEDURES.

- a. When high-altitude soaring conditions prevail, the Wave Window Operations Manager (WWOM) or other persons authorized under paragraph 5g will notify the Operations Manager-in-Charge (OMIC) at NorCal Approach via (916) 366-4019 that a request for glider airspace will be made to Oakland Center. The WWOM shall call the Oakland Center East Area frontline manager (FLM)/controller-in-charge (CIC) at (510) 745-3442 for request/approval.
- b. The PASCO WWOM or other persons authorized under paragraph 5g will provide, to the maximum extent practicable, the following information to the Oakland Center East Area FLM/CIC when the paragraph 6a request is made:

- (1) Call sign;
- (2) Requested designated glider area;
- (3) Time period; and