

Graphical TFRs

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What do Anniston, Alabama, Mount St. Helens, Disney World and President Bush all have in common? Flight is prohibited in the vicinity of all and it is your responsibility as PIC to avoid the protected airspace.

Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFR) have been around for a long time, but they have become more numerous in the past 6 years. Forest fires were once the largest generator of TFRs. Now the traveling of government VIPs, industrial accidents, sensitive ground operations and aerial displays have added to the number of TFRs. Most TFRs are probably very far from your flying field, but with the increase in VIP traveling for the upcoming elections, some TFRs may be very local. They may be local enough to keep you from flying at your favorite field for most of the day.

TFRs are serious business, as can be attested to by any pilot who has violated the designated airspace. Local/state police, Secret Service and Homeland Security are a few of the agencies that may meet you on the ground upon landing. (Not to mention the possible F16 or helicopter escort.) The point here is to avoid all of the above by knowing where the TFRs are located, when they are active and staying away from them. It is your responsibility as PIC to avoid them. Explaining "I didn't know," will not help your cause if you violated the protected airspace.

An Information/briefing on TFRs can be received from Flight Service (FSS) by calling 1 800 WX BRIEF. Based on your route of flight and departure time, the briefer can advise you of TFRs along your flight path. You can then change routing or time of departure to avoid the TFR airspace if necessary. At the same time, the briefer can advise of other NOTAMs (Notice to Airmen) that may have a bearing on your flight.

Figures 1, 2 and 3 show the TFRs that were issued for Anniston, AL, Mt. St. Helens and Disney World. If you are flying in this area, this is the NOTAM the FSS briefer will read to you as an advisory of the TFR. It contains lots of words and some very important information on the location and time of the TFR. This information is what you need to locate and thus avoid the protected airspace. The confusing part is that the official notification is all words and numbers and the TFR may not be easily located. What we need is a picture; a picture that could be worth more than a thousand words to the pilot who wants to avoid a dozen federal agents asking the same questions over and over.

Graphical TFRs allow us to understand the official NOTAM by placing the information on a map and allowing you to see where the TFR is centered and its radius. Some TFRs may have overlapping rings, most commonly showing the changing protected airspace as the President moves from location to location.

Graphical TFRS can be found at a number of websites, but the two official locations are DTC DUAT (www.duat.com) and CSC DUATS (www.duats.com). An official TFR briefing can only be given by FSS or self briefing from DUAT or DUATS. Other websites may have very good depiction or ease of operation, but the information is not considered an official briefing.

Most sites begin with a view of the entire US, showing the NOTAMs and TFRs in color coding. All allow you to zoom in on the TFR of interest. At a detailed level, airports, airspace and other symbols will appear to help you in locating the center and radius of the TFR. Some websites allow you to zoom into the TFR on the appropriate Sectional Chart. This resolution brings the TFR to the level we need by placing it on the chart. There should be no doubt about the proximity of the TFR and your route of flight.

Figure 4 shows the US map with TFRs. You can zoom into the state level and then to the Sectional Chart level, Figure 5. These pictures are from DTC DUAT.

Some internet sites include the location of laser light shows, nuclear sites and stadiums on their graphical TFR maps.

A few things to remember about TFRs:

Check with FSS for TFRs before flying. (DUAT or DUATS for self briefing)

Use a TFR graphical website for location and radius, especially for overlapping TFRs

Check the Date/Time of the data

Do not fly so close to the edge of the TFR that you could unintentionally fly/drift into it. Leave a buffer of MILES between your position and the edge of the TFR.

Allow for GPS and/or Pilotage error.

The TFR NOTAM will state an ending time. Sometimes VIPs get behind in their busy schedules and do not depart on time. Regardless of the published ending time, the TFR IS NOT OVER TILL IT IS OVER. Do not plan to enter the airspace that was a TFR until well after the published ending time or better yet, check with FSS.

The enforcement is serious and so are the consequences.

Our shared passion for flying doesn't need any bad press.

Enjoy your privilege to fly, be safe and stay out of TFRs.

End of Text

Figures to be printed

Figure 1 TFR Anniston, AL

7/0514 - AL.. FLIGHT RESTRICTION, ANNISTON, AL. EFFECTIVE JANUARY 11, 2007 UNTIL MARCH 16, 2007, MONDAYS THROUGH FRIDAYS FROM 1330 UTC UNTIL 2200 UTC. PURSUANT TO 14 CFR SECTION 91.137(A)(3), TEMPORARY FLIGHT RESTRICTIONS IN THE VICINITY OF DISASTER/HAZARD AREAS ARE IN EFFECT FOR THE MOVEMENT OF HAZARDOUS MATERIAL. AIRCRAFT FLIGHT OPERATIONS ARE PROHIBITED WITHIN A 3 NAUTICAL MILE RADIUS OF 334027N/ 0855806W OR THE TALLADEGA /TDG/ VOR 027 DEGREE RADIAL AT 7.0 NAUTICAL MILES AT AND BELOW 5,000 FEET AGL, EXCLUDING THAT AIRSPACE WHICH OVERLAPS INTO RESTRICTED AREA R2102 WHEN RESTRICTED AREA IS ACTIVE. SUE TURTON, TELEPHONE 256-235- 7541 IS POINT OF CONTACT FOR THE OPERATION. ATLANTA ARTCC /ZTL/, TELEPHONE 770-210-7622, IS THE FAA COORDINATION FACILITY. WIE UNTIL UFN

Figure 2 TFR Mt. St. Helens

5/9066 - WA.. FLIGHT RESTRICTIONS MT. ST. HELENS VOLCANO. EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY AND UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. PURSUANT TO 14 CFR SECTION 91.137(A)(2) TEMPORARY FLIGHT RESTRICTIONS ARE IN EFFECT WITHIN A 1.5 NAUTICAL MILE RADIUS OF 461151N/1221118W OR THE BATTLE GROUND /BTG/ VORTAC 11 DEGREE RADIAL AT 31.8 NAUTICAL MILES AT AND BELOW 9000 FEET MSL TO PROVIDE A SAFE ENVIRONMENT FOR VOLCANIC ACTIVITY. U.S.F.S., TELEPHONE 360-891-5140 OR FREQ 132.125, IS IN CHARGE OF THE OPERATION. SEATTLE /SEA/ THE SYSTEM OPERATIONS SUPPORT CENTER/SOSC, PHONE 202-267-3333, IS THE FAA COORDINATION FACILITY. WIE UNTIL UFN

Figure 3 TFR Disney World

3/2122 - FL.. FLIGHT RESTRICTIONS ORLANDO, FL. EFFECTIVE 0303182000 UTC (MARCH 18 AT 1500 LOCAL) UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE. PURSUANT TO RESTRICTIONS DETAILED IN SECTION 352 OF PUBLIC LAW 108-7, AND 14 CFR SECTION 99.7, SPECIAL SECURITY INSTRUCTIONS. AIRCRAFT FLIGHT OPERATIONS ARE PROHIBITED AT AND BELOW 3,000 FEET AGL, WITHIN A 3 NAUTICAL MILE RADIUS OF THE DISNEY WORLD THEME PARK (282445N/0813420W OR THE ORLANDO /ORL/ VORTAC 243 DEGREE RADIAL AT 15 NAUTICAL MILES). THIS RESTRICTION DOES NOT APPLY TO: (A) THOSE AIRCRAFT AUTHORIZED BY ATC FOR OPERATIONAL OR SAFETY PURPOSES, INCLUDING AIRCRAFT ARRIVING OR DEPARTING FROM AN AIRPORT USING STANDARD AIR TRAFFIC PROCEDURES; (B) DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, LAW ENFORCEMENT, OR AEROMEDICAL FLIGHT OPERATIONS THAT ARE IN CONTACT WITH ATC. THOSE WHO MEET ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA MAY APPLY FOR A WAIVER TO THESE RESTRICTIONS: (A) FOR

OPERATIONAL PURPOSES OF THE VENUE INCLUDING THE TRANSPORTATION OF EQUIPMENT OR OFFICIALS OF THE GOVERNING BODY; (B) FOR SAFETY AND SECURITY PURPOSES OF THE VENUE. INFORMATION REGARDING WAIVER APPLICATIONS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM THE FAA WEBSITE AT [HTTP://WWW.FAA.GOV/ATS/ATAWAIVER](http://www.faa.gov/ats/atawaiver), OR BY CALLING 571-227-1322. WIE UNTIL UFN

Figure 4 US TFR 070305

insert picture US TFR 070305

Figure 5 STATE TFR 070305

Insert picture Anniston TFR 070305

Figure 6 Graphical TFR Websites

Aeroplanner.com	www.aeroplanner.com	
AOPA	http://www.aopa.org/whatsnew/notams.html	
CSC DUATS	www.duats.com	Registration required
DTC DUAT	www.duat.com	Registration required
FAA	http://tfr.faa.gov/tfr_map_ims/html/index.html	
National Interagency Airspace (BLM)	http://airspace.nifc.gov/mapping/nifc/index.cfm	

OR

Google - TFR graphical map

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