

# Aviation Activity and Obstacle - Supplementary Information

**DESCRIPTION** of *less distinct* Activity and Obstacle Types:

## **Activity Points and Polygons** –

**Aerobatic Box** (polygon) - The aerobatic box is a volume of airspace in which the aircraft must remain while performing a competition aerobatics. Its length and width are each 1,000 meters (3,280 ft.). (Reference: [NAA: National Aeronautic Association](#)).

**Air Route** (point) - An air route, also called a flight path or airway, is a designated route in the air. Airways are defined with segments within a specific altitude block, corridor width, and between fixed geographic coordinates for satellite navigation systems, or between ground-based radio transmitter navigational aids (navaids), such as VHF omnidirectional range (VORs) or Non-directional beacons (NDBs), or the intersection of specific radials of two navaids. (Reference: [FAA Aeronautical Information Manual, Chapter 1](#)).

**Military Operating Area (MOA)** (polygon) - Airspace established outside Class A airspace to separate or segregate certain nonhazardous military activities from IFR Traffic and to identify for VFR traffic where these activities are conducted. These are designed for routine training or testing maneuvers. Areas near actual combat or other military emergencies are generally designated as restricted airspace. An MOA is a type of special use airspace (SUA). (Reference: [Federal Aviation Regulations](#), General Definitions and [Advisory Circular 210-5B](#)).

**Special Use Airspace (SUA)** (polygon) - An area designated for operations of a nature such that limitations may be imposed on aircraft not participating in those operations. Often these operations are of a military nature. The designation of SUAs identifies for other users the areas where such activity occurs, provides for segregation of that activity from other users, and allows charting to keep airspace users informed of potential hazards. Most SUAs are depicted on aeronautical charts.

Special use airspace includes: restricted airspace, prohibited airspace, military operations areas (MOA), warning areas, alert areas, temporary flight restriction (TFR), national security areas, and controlled firing areas. Alert areas may contain high volume of pilot training or an unusual type of aerial activity. Flights within restricted areas are subject to restrictions, while in prohibited areas flights are forbidden except in emergency situations. Flying in warning areas can be hazardous to the aircraft. (Reference: [FAA Aeronautical Information Manual, Chapter 3, Section 4 "Special Use Airspace"](#)).

## **Obstacle Points, Lines, and Polygons** –

**Military Training Route (MTR)** (line)- Aerial corridors across the United States in which military aircraft can operate below 10,000 feet faster than the maximum safe speed of 250 knots that all other aircraft are restricted to while operating below 10,000 feet. The routes are the result of a joint venture between the Federal Aviation Administration and the Department of Defense to provide for high-speed, low-level military activities. (Reference: Department of Defense publication AP-1B).

**Navaid** (point) –A navigational aid (also known as navaid) is any sort of marker, device, or system which aids the traveler in navigation; the term is most commonly used to refer to nautical or aviation travel. Common types of such aids include lighthouses, buoys, fog signals, and radar beacons.

**Slag Pile** (point) - The glass-like by-product accumulation left over after a desired metal has been separated (i.e., smelted) from its raw ore during mining operations.

**Spire (steeple)** (point) - A spire is a tapering conical or pyramidal structure on the top of a building, particularly a church tower or steeple.

**Stack** (point) – A stack, or smokestack, is a chimney or funnel for discharging smoke from a locomotive, ship, factory, etc. and helping to induce a draft.

**Waste Pile** (point) - Non-containerized piles of solid, non-liquid hazardous waste that are used for temporary storage or treatment.

**Rig** (polygon) – Oil rig

#### **DAFIF and DVOF - is there a way to access this information?**

There is access but it is primarily for DOD offices and personnel. Access to the NGA Aeronautical Information is still available through the NGA NIPRNET Website. The NGA NIPRNet website, in accordance with DOD directives , a Public Key Enabled (PKE), meaning that the site is encrypted using the DOD Public Key Infrastructure (PKI). Users requiring access to the NGA NIPRNet should contact NGA, Office of Military Support at 701-264-3003 from 0800-1600 EST Monday – Friday or go to <http://164.214.2.62/products/usfif/index.cfm>.

#### **What is DAFIF?**

The Digital Aeronautical Flight Information File is a set of files that contain data on airports, nav aids, waypoints, special use airspace and other facts relevant to flying. This data is primarily developed for the benefit of military operations. DAFIF is a DoD product produced and distributed for use by U.S. Military forces. Contents may not be suitable for other uses and may NOT be used for navigation. CONSULT NOTAMS FOR LATEST INFORMATION.

#### **What is DVOF?**

Digital Vertical Obstruction File (DVOF) is a database primarily for NGA's internal use. It is a data base of known vertical obstructions.

<https://www.nga.mil/ProductsServices/Pages/PublicProducts.aspx>