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AVIATION AIRSPACE AWARENESS AROUND WILDLAND FIRES

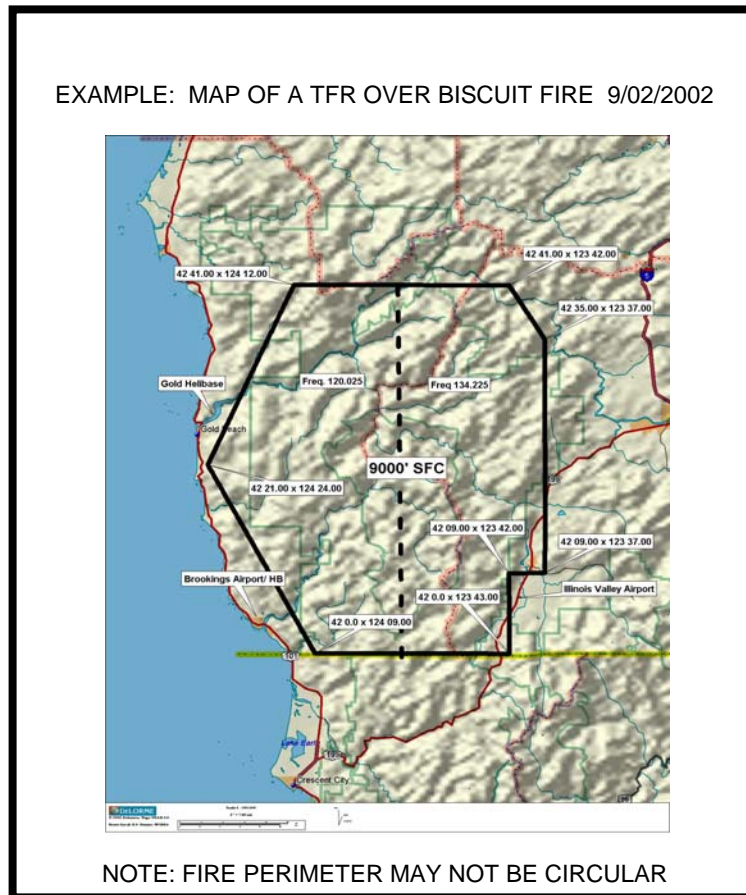
Airspace around a wildfire can be a dangerous place. Air tankers, helicopters and smokejumper operations may be in progress. Aircraft intrusions cause aerial firefighting operations to stop until the airspace is clear. Pilots should assume a Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) is in place for five miles around a fire, usually from surface to 5,000 feet above ground level. NOTAMs (Notice to Airmen) should be checked during all flight planning, as TFRs are constantly changing. For graphical information on TFRs, please refer to the FAA website www.faa.gov or the BLM website airspace.nifc.gov/mapping/nifc.

Pilots are asked to avoid the area around a wildland fire even if there is no official TFR. Firefighting aircraft may be trying to respond to or continue to suppress a fire. Intrusions may cause a delay to initial attack at a critical time and endanger flight crews and other firefighters.

Pilots are encouraged to report anything that appears to be a new fire. Fires may be reported to the nearest FAA Flight Service Station. The messages will be relayed to the Alaska Interagency Coordination Center, which may also be reached by phone at 1-800-237-3633. If possible, please provide information such as map coordinates or geographical references.

This release is from the BLM Alaska Fire Service and the State of Alaska Division of Forestry. See next page for an example of a TFR.

TEMPORARY FLIGHT RESTRICTION (TFR) INFORMATION



WILDLAND FIRE TFRs:

- Provide a safe environment for aircraft involved in suppression efforts.
- Are not necessarily round; they may have an irregular shape as the fire may not be contained within a circular radius.
- Are unpredictable; they may change with short notice because of the nature of fire.
- *Note: Not all fires have TFRs, but pilots are asked to avoid airspace around a wildland fire for safety reasons.*

For graphical information on fire TFRs, please refer to the FAA website at www.faa.gov or the BLM website at: airspace.nifc.gov/mapping/nifc