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#### **Death Valley National Park Final ATMP**

The FAA and National Park Service (NPS) have finalized the air tour management plan (ATMP) for Death Valley National Park, which is located in California and Nevada. Under this ATMP, two commercial air tours are authorized per year.

In 2000, Congress passed the National Parks Air Tour Management Act of 2000 ("the Act"). The Act requires operators to apply to the FAA for authority to conduct commercial air tours over national parks or over tribal lands within or abutting national parks. The Act further requires the FAA, in cooperation with the NPS, to establish ATMPs for parks or tribal lands for which applications are submitted.

On Feb. 14, 2019, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility and the Hawaii Island Coalition Malama Pono filed a petition for writ of mandamus in the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit seeking to have the FAA and NPS complete ATMPs or voluntary agreements at seven specified parks.

On May 1, 2020, the Court ordered the FAA and NPS to file a proposed plan within 120 days for bringing all 23 eligible parks into compliance with the Act within two years and submit quarterly updates on the two agencies' progress.

On Aug. 31, 2020, the FAA and NPS submitted the proposed plan to the Court. The plan outlines the approach and steps the agencies will take to meet the Court order and comply with the Act. Throughout the plan, the actions reflect coordination of government-to-government tribal consultation and other interagency coordination but exclude the National Parks Overflights Advisory Group.

Read the record of decision, final ATMP, and associated environmental documents [here](#).

### **GAO Report on Laser Incidents**

The US Government Accountability Office (GAO) has released a new report indicating that the FAA should strengthen efforts to address the illegal practice of intentionally aiming lasers at aircraft.

Aiming a laser at an aircraft can disorient pilots and is a federal crime. Laser incidents have increased in recent years, with a record 9,723 incidents reported in 2021.

The GAO notes in its report that the FAA and law enforcement previously had an interagency working group to address laser safety, but the group disbanded in 2015. In its report, the GAO recommends the FAA improve its efforts to collect and share information with law enforcement and reestablish the working group.

Find additional information on the report [here](#).

### **US DOT Advisory Committee on Human Trafficking**

The US Department of Transportation (DOT) is seeking nominations for membership in the DOT [Advisory Committee on Human Trafficking](#). The goal of this committee is to provide information, advice, and recommendations regarding human trafficking and transportation.

Applications must be received on or before 5:00 pm eastern (UTC-4) on Oct. 7, 2022; however, DOT encourages submitting nominations before the deadline.

For more information, please view the [Federal Register notice](#) about committee membership.

### **HAI International News**

### **EASA SMS Webinar**

On Sep. 15 at 1:30 pm Brussels time (7:30 am eastern, UTC+2), the European Union Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) will host a webinar to explain recent guidance on new safety management system (SMS) requirements.

The [letter](#), "Implementation of Safety Management System in Part-145 Maintenance Organisations in Accordance with Regulation (EU) 2021/1963," was issued on Jun. 23. It affects all valid, pending, and suspended organizations. The webinar next month aims to explain the content of this letter and clarify any confusion.

You may send your questions in advance of the webinar to [MOC\\_145@easa.europa.eu](mailto:MOC_145@easa.europa.eu). Please indicate in the subject line "SMS Webinar" and your EASA approval number. Prior registration is required. [Click here](#) to register.

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