

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION
DENVER TRACON
26705 E. 68TH AVENUE
DENVER, CO 80249

ISSUED: September 18, 2011

EFFECTIVE: October 1, 2011

DENVER TRACON LETTER TO AIRMEN NO. 11-01

SUBJECT: Glider/Soaring Activities in the Vicinity of Denver and Colorado Springs Area Airports. Skydiving Activities in the Vicinity of Longmont/Boulder Area Airports.

CANCELLATION: October 1, 2013

There is intense glider activity up to FL180 along the Colorado Front Range Boulder and Colorado Springs area. Gliders conduct aerobatic maneuvers and other soaring activities in airspace on or near arrival routes, departure routes, and final approach courses, for Denver International (DEN), Centennial (APA), Rocky Mountain Metro (BJC), and Colorado Springs (COS) airports. Glider operations may originate from Kelly Airpark (PVT), Meadowlake Airport (FLY), the United States Air Force Academy Airfield (AFF), or Boulder Airport (BDU). Kelly Airpark is located about halfway between COS and DEN near the Falcon VORTAC (FQF) 171° degree radial at 28 nautical miles (nm) or the Black Forest VORTAC (BRK) 351° degree radial at 17 nm. Meadowlake is located near the BRK 078° degree radial at 3 nm. The U.S. Air Force Academy is located west of Interstate 25 near the BRK 269° degree radial at 9 nm. Boulder is located near the FQF 296° degree radial at 35 nm. Federal Aviation Regulations do not require glider operator to equip, activate or to broadcast the location of their aircraft via transponder or radio communications while operating outside of Class A, B, or C Airspace.

Atmospheric conditions attract a large number of gliders to the area and activity near mountain ridges or “hot spots” may be intense. Altitudes up to 17,999 have been observed and pilots should exercise due diligence.

There are also numerous Skydiving and Parachute Operations in the vicinity of Longmont (LMO) and Boulder Airport (BDU) on a daily basis at 17,999 and below. Pilots are encouraged to refer to the Denver Sectional Aeronautical Chart, Notice to Airmen (NOTAMs), Airport/Facility Directory, and the FAA Safety Team web site (<http://faasafety.gov/>). It is the responsibility of everyone to be aware, watch for, and avoid each other. For further information, contact Colorado Springs ATCT/TRACON at 719-380-6700 or Denver TRACON at 303-342-1500 during administrative hours.

Aaron Barnett
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Denver TRACON/District