



OIL SANDS AREA IN NORTH-EASTERN ALBERTA AIRSPACE CHANGES

NAV CANADA recently completed an aeronautical study as part of the review of the Oil Sands area of north-eastern Alberta. The recommendations from this aeronautical study will result in the following airspace changes:

The Control Area Extension (CAE) that is currently based above 12,500 ASL around the Oil Sands will expand from 50 NM around CYMM to 60 NM;

The 25 NM CAE around Fort McMurray currently based at 2,200 AGL will be redefined to be based at 3,500 ASL and expanded north to encompass the Oil Sands airports out to 60 NM. This airspace is Class E and a transponder is required.

Class E (transponder required) controlled airspace will be provided at the following aerodromes as follows:

Fort MacKay/Firebag: A control zone (CZ), surface to 3,500 ASL, rectangular in shape centered on the runway centreline and extending 2 NM either side out to 7 NM (4 NM x 14 NM).

Fort MacKay/Albian: A CZ, surface to 3,500 ASL, rectangular in shape centred on the runway centerline and extending 2 NM either side out to 5 NM (4 NM x 10 NM).
Transition areas on each end of the CZ based at 1,200 AGL and extending the width of the CZ for a further 4 NM (each area 4 NM x 4 NM).

Fort MacKay/Horizon: A CZ, surface to 3,500 ASL, rectangular in shape centred on the runway centerline and extending 2 NM either side out to 5 NM (4 NM x 10 NM).
Transition areas on each end of the CZ based at 1,200 AGL and extending the width of the CZ for a further 4 NM (each area 4 NM x 4 NM).

Fort McMurray/Mildred Lake: A CZ, surface to 3,500 ASL, rectangular in shape centred on the runway centerline and extending 2 NM on the SW side and 2.5 NM on the NE side out to 5 NM (4.5 NM x 10 NM).

A transition area on the SE end of the CZ based at 1,200 AGL and extending the width of the CZ for a further 4 NM (4.5 NM x 4 NM).

The UNICOM frequencies at the aerodromes within the air traffic advisory frequency will remain in effect. It is recommended that pilots complete any necessary UNICOM communications prior to entering the Oil Sands ATF Area on arrival, and prior to ground manoeuvring for departure.

123.3 – Albian UNICOM: All pilots arriving at, or departing from the Fort Mackay/Albian aerodrome should contact Albian UNICOM for company messages and weather information. IFR pilots must contact Edmonton Centre prior to departure.

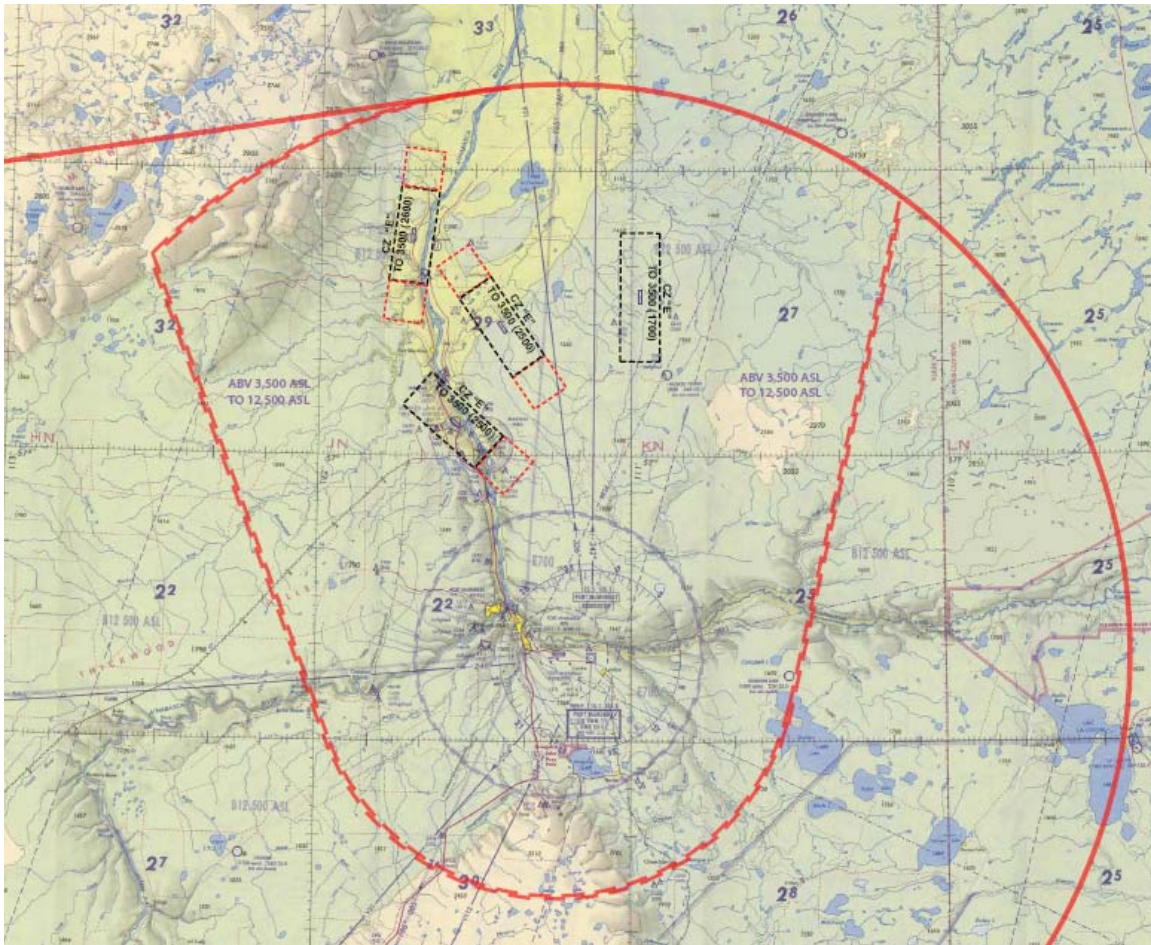
122.8 – Firebag UNICOM: All pilots arriving at, or departing from the Fort Mackay/Firebag aerodrome should contact Firebag UNICOM for company messages and weather information. IFR pilots must contact Edmonton Centre prior to departure.

122.7 – Horizon UNICOM: All pilots arriving at, or departing from the Fort Mackay/Horizon aerodrome should contact Horizon UNICOM for company messages and weather information. IFR pilots must contact Edmonton Centre prior to departure.

123.2 – Mildred Lake traffic: All pilots arriving at, or departing from the Fort McMurray/Mildred Lake aerodrome should contact Mildred Lake traffic for company messages. IFR pilots must contact Edmonton Centre prior to departure.

123.2 – Muskeg Tower: All pilots arriving at, or departing from the Muskeg Tower aerodrome should contact Muskeg fire tower for company messages.

Flight information service – en route (FISE) will continue to be provided by the Edmonton flight information centre via the Fort McMurray RCO - 123.55 MHz.



All IFR pilots within controlled airspace should use the Fort McMurray PAL 135.7 MHz for ATC communications. IFR pilots must contact Edmonton Centre prior to departure. Communication coverage on the ground may not be possible on the PAL in which case pilots are to contact Edmonton Centre via telephone to obtain a departure clearance (phone number: 780-890-8228).

All IFR pilots are to use the Fort McMurray altimeter setting when operating above at or above 4,000 ASL.

These changes will take effect 27 August 2009 at 09:01 Coordinated Time Universal (UTC) with amendments to the appropriate publications.

For further information please contact

Brian Stockall
Manager, Level of Service & Aeronautical Studies – West
NAV CANADA
Edmonton ACC
PO Box 9867
Edmonton International Airport
Edmonton, AB T5J 2T2

Tel: 780-890-3024
Fax: 780-890-4341
Email: stockab@navcanada.ca