

systems. The state of technology at that time provided no basis for a digital replacement. Skyrise is proposing to replace the current mechanical primary flight controls on the Model R66 helicopter with a digital FBW FCS. Because of the loss of pilot awareness that would have been provided by mechanical system feedback to the cyclic, an annunciation requirement is necessary through these special conditions.

Type Certification Basis

Under the provisions of 14 CFR 21.101, Skyrise must show that the Robinson Model R66 helicopter, as changed, continues to meet the applicable provisions of the regulations incorporated by reference in Type Certificate No. R00015LA or the applicable regulations in effect on the date of application for the change.

If the Administrator finds that the applicable airworthiness regulations (*i.e.*, 14 CFR part 27) do not contain adequate or appropriate safety standards for the Robinson Model R66 helicopter because of a novel or unusual design feature, special conditions are prescribed under the provisions of § 21.16.

Special conditions are initially applicable to the model for which they are issued. Should the applicant apply for an STC to modify any other model included on the same type certificate to incorporate the same novel or unusual design feature, these special conditions would also apply to the other model under § 21.101.

In addition to the applicable airworthiness regulations and special conditions, the Robinson Model R66 helicopter must comply with the fuel-vent and exhaust-emission requirements of 14 CFR part 34, and the noise-certification requirements of 14 CFR part 36.

The FAA issues special conditions, as defined in 14 CFR 11.19, in accordance with § 11.38, and they become part of the type certification basis under § 21.101.

Novel or Unusual Design Features

The Robinson Model R66 helicopter would incorporate the following novel or unusual design feature:

A primary FCS that replaces the mechanical cyclic and collective with an FBW FCS. Skyrise applied for a supplemental type certificate for a system with aircraft-agnostic flight automation technology, the SkyOS, in Robinson Model R66 rotorcraft. The flight control inputs from this FBW system will replace the tactical feedback from pushrods with a position

calculated by a computer. The SkyOS does not modify the engine, main rotor, tail rotor, or physical travel limits of the flight control surfaces.

Discussion

The special conditions contain the additional safety standards that the Administrator considers necessary to establish a level of safety equivalent to that established by the existing airworthiness standards. The special conditions are required to address the gap in the regulation that was created by the replacement of mechanical primary flight control with digital controls. Section 27.695 is based on the ability of the pilot to manage control of the rotorcraft with tactile feedback, which does not exist in the proposed FBW design. As such, to provide the same level of safety, these special conditions would require a display of the commanded positions of the primary flight controls and any information regarding the FBW system state of operation.

The special conditions contain the additional safety standards that the Administrator considers necessary to establish a level of safety equivalent to that established by the existing airworthiness standards.

Discussion of Comments

The FAA issued Notice of Proposed Special Conditions No. 27–26–01–SC for the Robinson Model R66 helicopter, which was published in the **Federal Register** on April 21, 2026 (91 FR 21268). One commenter stated general disagreement without explanation and without requesting a change to the proposed special conditions.

The special conditions are adopted as proposed.

Applicability

As discussed above, these special conditions are applicable to the Robinson Model R66 helicopter. Should Skyrise apply at a later date for a supplemental type certificate to modify any other model included on Type Certificate No. R00015LA to incorporate the same novel or unusual design feature, these special conditions would apply to that model as well.

Conclusion

This action affects only a certain novel or unusual design feature on one helicopter model. It is not a rule of general applicability and affects only the applicant who applied to the FAA for approval of these features on the helicopter.

List of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 27

Aircraft, Aviation safety, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

Authority Citation

The authority citation for these special conditions is as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(f), 40113, 44701, 44702, 44704.

The Special Conditions

Accordingly, pursuant to the authority delegated to me by the Administrator, the following special conditions are issued as part of the type certification basis for the Robinson Helicopter Company (Robinson) Model R66 helicopter, as modified by Skyrise.

Flight Control Systems

The flight control system functions, controls, indications, and alerts must be designed to minimize flightcrew errors and confusion concerning operation of the flight control system. This includes any degraded functions required for continued safe flight and landing. Means must be provided to indicate the current mode of operation to the pilot. The controls and indications must be grouped and presented to the pilot in a format that clearly defines the flight control system functions. The displayed information must be visible to the flightcrew under all expected lighting conditions.

Issued in Fort Worth, Texas, on August 8, 2026.

Jorge R. Castillo,

Manager, Technical Policy Branch, Policy and Standards Division, Aircraft Certification Service.

[FR Doc. 2026–16412 Filed 8–11–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

14 CFR Part 71

[Docket No. FAA–2026–6370; Airspace Docket No. 26–AEA–9]

RIN 2120–AA66

Amendment of Class E Airspace Over Staunton, VA

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This action amends Class E airspace over Staunton, VA. This action expands that portion of the Staunton, VA Class E5 airspace extending to the northwest of Bridgewater Air Park from “within 1.5 miles either side of the 338°

bearing from the airport extending from the 8.3-mile radius to 10 miles northwest of the airport” to “within 3.2 miles each side of the 329° bearing from the airport extending from the 8.3-mile radius to 15.2 miles northwest of the airport.” This modification is necessary to contain Instrument Flight Rules (IFR) operations utilizing new special instrument approach procedures at Bridgewater Air Park. This action also updates the geographic coordinates for Bridgewater Air Park, Bridgewater, VA, in the Staunton, VA Class E5 airspace legal description.

DATES: Effective 0901 UTC, October 29, 2026. The Director of the Federal Register approves this incorporation by reference action under 1 CFR part 51, subject to the annual revision of FAA Order JO 7400.11 and publication of conforming amendments.

ADDRESSES: A copy of the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM), all comments received, this final rule, and all background material may be viewed online at www.regulations.gov using the FAA Docket number. Electronic retrieval help and guidelines are available on the website. It is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. An electronic copy of this document may also be downloaded from www.federalregister.gov.

FAA Order JO 7400.11K, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, as well as subsequent amendments, can be viewed online at www.faa.gov/air_traffic/publications/. For further information, you may also contact the Rules and Regulations Group, Policy Directorate, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20597; telephone: (202) 267–8783.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Marc Ellerbee, Operations Support Group, Eastern Service Center, Federal Aviation Administration, 1701 Columbia Avenue, College Park, GA 30337; telephone: (404) 305–5589.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Authority for This Rulemaking

The FAA’s authority to issue rules regarding aviation safety is found in Title 49 of the United States Code. Subtitle I, Section 106 describes the authority of the FAA Administrator. Subtitle VII, Aviation Programs, describes in more detail the scope of the agency’s authority. This rulemaking is promulgated under the authority described in Subtitle VII, Part A, Subpart I, Section 40103. Under that section, the FAA is charged with prescribing regulations to assign the use of airspace necessary to ensure the

safety of aircraft and the efficient use of airspace. This regulation is within the scope of that authority as it amends Class E airspace in Staunton, VA.

History

The FAA published an NPRM for Docket No. FAA–2026–6370 in the **Federal Register** (91 FR 36549; June 17, 2026), proposing to amend Class E airspace in Staunton, VA. Interested parties were invited to participate in this rulemaking effort by submitting written comments on the proposal to the FAA. No comments were received.

Incorporation by Reference

Class E airspace designations are published in paragraph 6005 of FAA Order JO 7400.11, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, which is incorporated by reference in 14 CFR 71.1 on an annual basis. This document amends the latest version of that order, FAA Order JO 7400.11K, dated August 4, 2025, and effective September 15, 2025. These amendments will be published in the next update to FAA Order JO 7400.11. FAA Order JO 7400.11K, which lists Class A, B, C, D, and E airspace areas, air traffic service routes, and reporting points, is publicly available as listed in the **ADDRESSES** section of this document.

The Rule

This action amends 14 CFR part 71 by modifying Class E airspace over Staunton, VA. New special instrument approach procedures have been developed for Bridgewater Air Park, Bridgewater, VA. These new procedures include a new RNAV (GPS) approach to runway 15 at Bridgewater Air Park. A modification to the portion of the Staunton, VA Class E5 airspace serving Bridgewater Air Park is necessary to appropriately contain IFR operations at Bridgewater Air Park. This modification expands that portion of the Staunton, VA Class E5 airspace extending to the northwest of Bridgewater Air Park from “within 1.5 miles either side of the 338° bearing from the airport extending from the 8.3-mile radius to 10 miles northwest of the airport” to “within 3.2 miles each side of the 329° bearing from the airport extending from the 8.3-mile radius to 15.2 miles northwest of the airport.” This modification expands the Class E airspace to encompass IFR operations for both the new RNAV runway 15 approach and the existing RNAV runway 15 approach, which remains in service. This action also updates the geographic coordinates in the Staunton, VA Class E5 airspace legal description for Bridgewater Air Park from (Lat. 38°22′00″ N, long. 78°57′37″

W) to (Lat. 38°21′55″ N, long. 78°57′32″ W), which is five seconds of latitude and five seconds of longitude.

Environmental Review

The FAA has determined that this action qualifies for categorical exclusion under the National Environmental Policy Act in accordance with FAA Order 1050.1G, “FAA National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures” paragraph B–2.5(a). This airspace action is not expected to cause any potentially significant environmental impacts, and no extraordinary circumstances exist that warrant the preparation of an environmental assessment.

Lists of Subjects in 14 CFR Part 71

Airspace, Incorporation by reference, Navigation (air).

The Amendment

In consideration of the foregoing, the Federal Aviation Administration amends 14 CFR part 71 as follows:

PART 71—DESIGNATION OF CLASS A, B, C, D, AND E AIRSPACE AREAS; AIR TRAFFIC SERVICE ROUTES; AND REPORTING POINTS

■ 1. The authority citation for part 71 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 106(f), 106(g), 40103, 40113, 40120; E.O. 10854, 24 FR 9565, 3 CFR, 1959–1963 Comp., p. 389.

§ 71.1 [Amended]

■ 2. The incorporation by reference in 14 CFR 71.1 of FAA Order JO 7400.11K, Airspace Designations and Reporting Points, dated August 4, 2025, and effective September 15, 2025, is amended as follows:

6005 Class E Airspace Areas Extending Upward From 700 Feet or More Above the Surface of the Earth

* * * * *

AEA VA E5 Staunton, VA [Amended]

Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport, VA
(Lat. 38°15′50″ N, long. 78°53′47″ W)
Bridgewater Air Park, VA
(Lat. 38°21′55″ N, long. 78°57′32″ W)

That airspace extending upward from 700 feet above the surface within a 7.6-mile radius of the Shenandoah Valley Regional Airport, and within 4 miles each side of the 218° bearing from the airport extending from the 7.6-mile radius to 16.4 miles southwest of the airport, and within 4 miles each side of the 038° bearing from the airport extending from the 7.6-mile radius to 13.5 miles northeast of the airport, and within an 8.3-mile radius of the Bridgewater Air Park, and within 3.2 miles each side of the 329° bearing from the airport extending from the 8.3-mile radius to 15.2 miles northwest of the airport.

* * * * *

Issued in College Park, Georgia, on August 7, 2026.

Gregory R. Garmon,

Acting Manager, Airspace and Procedures North Team, Eastern Service Center, Air Traffic Organization.

[FR Doc. 2026–16393 Filed 8–11–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4910–13–P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

U.S. Customs and Border Protection

19 CFR Part 12

[CBP Dec. 26–16]

RIN 1685–AA46

Imposition of Import Restrictions on Categories of Archaeological and Ethnological Material of Nepal

AGENCY: U.S. Customs and Border Protection, Department of Homeland Security.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This document amends U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regulations to reflect the imposition of import restrictions on certain archaeological and ethnological material from the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal (Nepal). These restrictions are imposed pursuant to an agreement between the United States and Nepal, entered into under the authority of the Convention on Cultural Property Implementation Act. This document amends the CBP regulations by adding Nepal to the list of countries which have bilateral agreements with the United States imposing cultural property import restrictions and contains the Designated List, describing the archaeological and ethnological material to which the restrictions apply.

DATES: Effective on August 12, 2026.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For legal aspects, W. Richmond Beavers, Chief, Cargo Security, Carriers and Restricted Merchandise Branch, Regulations and Rulings, Office of Trade, (202) 325–0084, *ot-trrculturalproperty@cbp.dhs.gov*. For operational aspects, Christopher Mabelitini, Director, Intellectual Property Rights Policy & Programs, Trade Programs Directorate, Office of Trade, (571) 296–1269, *1USGBranch@cbp.dhs.gov*.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

The Convention on Cultural Property Implementation Act (Pub. L. 97–446, 19

U.S.C. 2601 *et seq.*) (CPIA), which implements the 1970 United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property (823 U.N.T.S. 231 (1972)) (the Convention), allows for the conclusion of an agreement between the United States and another party to the Convention to impose import restrictions on eligible archaeological and ethnological material. Pursuant to the CPIA, the United States entered into a bilateral agreement with the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal (Nepal) to impose import restrictions on categories of archaeological and ethnological material of Nepal. This rule announces that the United States is now imposing import restrictions on categories of archaeological and ethnological material of Nepal through January 8, 2031. This period may be extended for additional periods, each extension not to exceed five years, if it is determined that the factors justifying the initial agreement still pertain and no cause for suspension of the agreement exists (19 U.S.C. 2602(e); § 12.104g(a) of title 19 of the Code of Federal Regulations (19 CFR 12.104g(a))).

Determinations

Under 19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(1), the United States must make certain determinations before entering into an agreement to impose import restrictions under 19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(2). On January 24, 2024, the Assistant Secretary for Educational and Cultural Affairs, United States Department of State, after consultation with and recommendation by the Cultural Property Advisory Committee, made the determinations required under the statute with respect to categories of archaeological and ethnological material originating in Nepal that is described in the Designated List set forth below in this document.

These determinations include the following: (1) that the cultural patrimony of Nepal is in jeopardy from the pillage of archaeological material representing Nepal's cultural heritage dating from approximately 32,000 B.C.E. to 1770 C.E., and ethnological material dating from approximately the 13th century C.E. to 1950 C.E. (19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(1)(A)); (2) that the government of Nepal has taken measures consistent with the Convention to protect its cultural patrimony (19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(1)(B)); (3) that import restrictions imposed by the United States would be of substantial benefit in deterring a serious situation of pillage

and remedies less drastic are not available (19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(1)(C)); and (4) that the application of import restrictions as set forth in this final rule is consistent with the general interests of the international community in the interchange of cultural property among nations for scientific, cultural, and educational purposes (19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(1)(D)). The Assistant Secretary also found that the material described in the determinations meets the statutory definition of “archaeological or ethnological material of the State Party” (19 U.S.C. 2601(2)).

The Agreement

On January 8, 2026, the United States and Nepal entered into a bilateral agreement, “Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Nepal Concerning the Imposition of Import Restrictions on Categories of Archaeological and Ethnological Material of Nepal” (Agreement), pursuant to the provisions of 19 U.S.C. 2602(a)(2). The Agreement entered into force upon signature and enables the promulgation of import restrictions on certain archaeological material ranging in date from approximately 32,000 B.C.E. to 1770 C.E., as well as certain ethnological material dating from approximately the 13th century C.E. to 1950 C.E. A list of the categories of archaeological and ethnological material subject to the import restrictions is set forth later in this document.

Restrictions and Amendment to the Regulations

In accordance with the Agreement, importation of material designated below is subject to the restrictions of 19 U.S.C. 2606 and 19 CFR 12.104g(a) and will be restricted from entry into the United States unless the conditions set forth in 19 U.S.C. 2606 and 19 CFR 12.104c are met. CBP is amending 19 CFR 12.104g(a) to indicate that these import restrictions have been imposed.

Import restrictions listed at 19 CFR 12.104g(a) are effective for no more than five years beginning on the date on which an agreement enters into force with respect to the United States. This period may be extended for additional periods of not more than five years if it is determined that the factors which justified the agreement still pertain and no cause for suspension of the agreement exists. Therefore, the import restrictions will expire on January 8, 2031, unless extended.