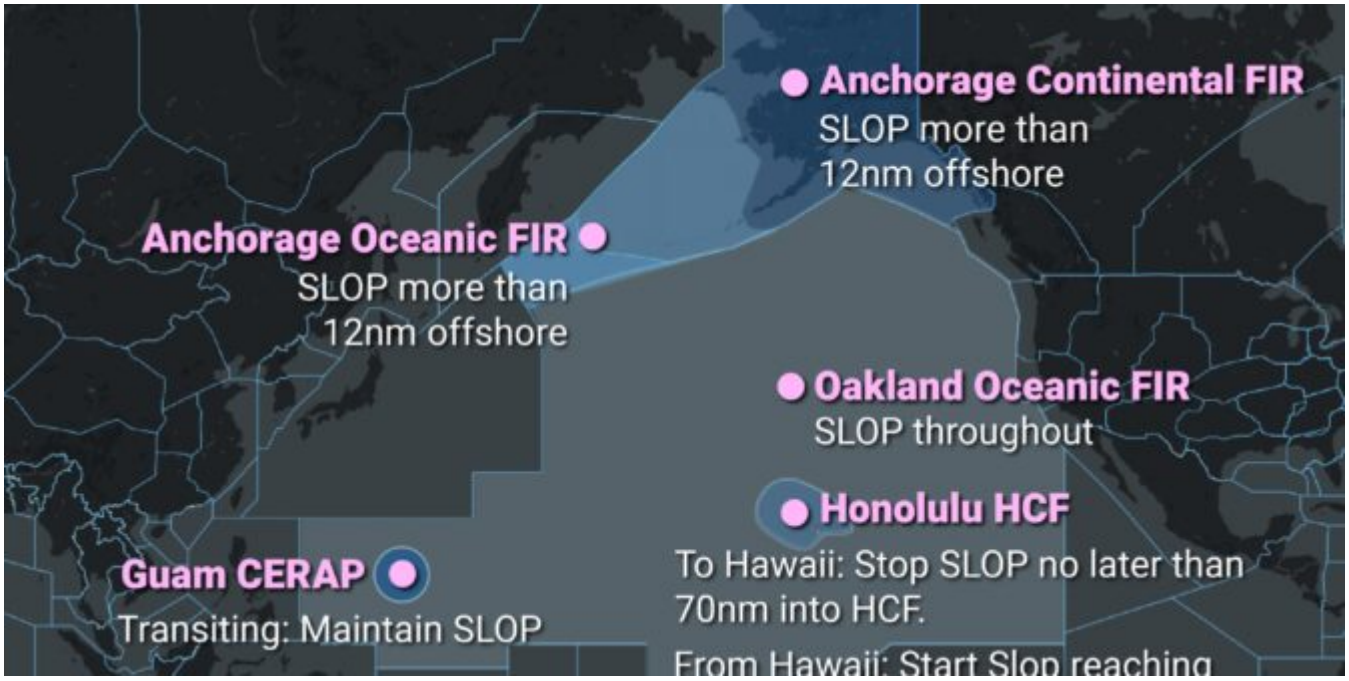
FAA Airspace SLOP Mini Guide

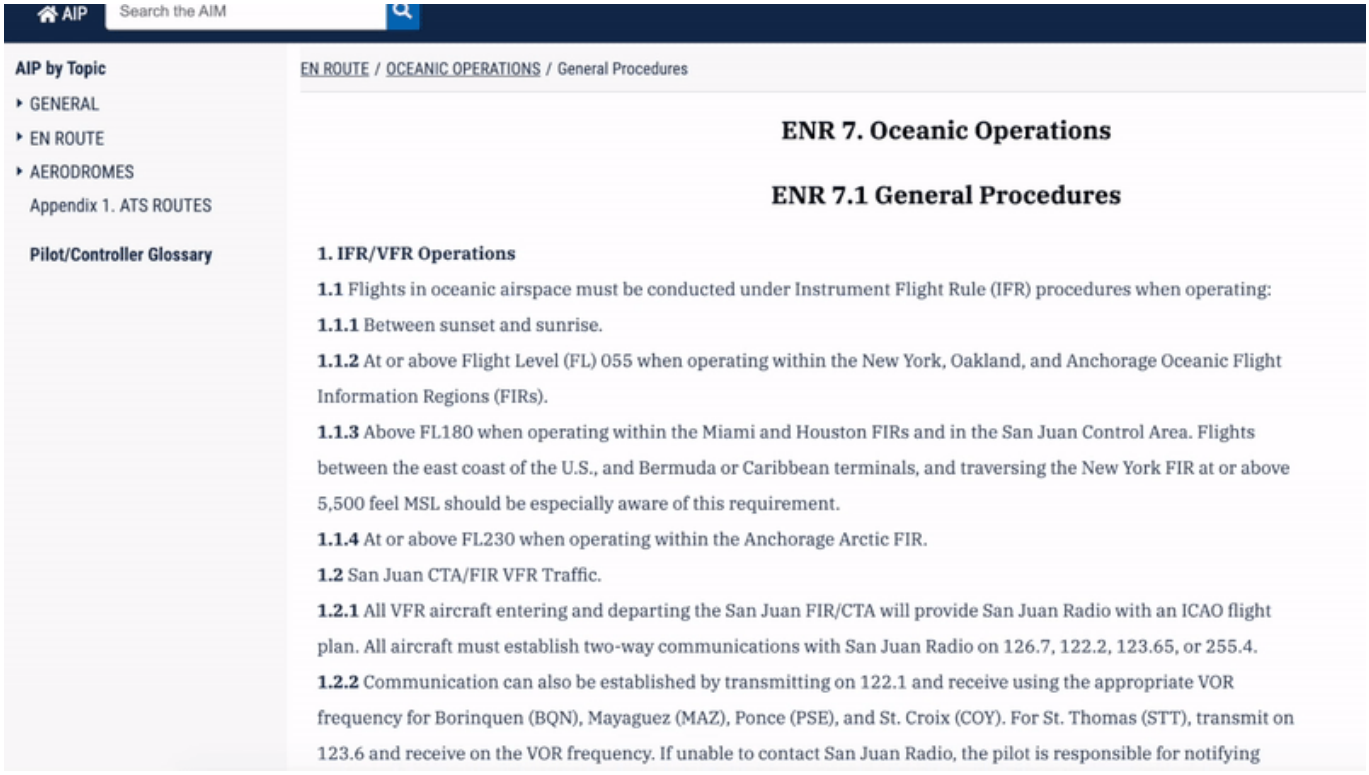
David Mumford
18 October, 2021



Strategic Lateral Offset Procedures (SLOP) in FAA-Controlled Oceanic Airspace and the Anchorage FIR are based off the **ICAO Doc 4444** SLOP rules, and can be found in the FAA AIP ENR section 7.1.

I don't want to read the FAA AIP ENR section 7.1

No, neither do we. Here's what that experience looks like:


AIP Search the AIM

AIP by Topic
- GENERAL
- EN ROUTE
- AERODROMES

Appendix 1. ATS ROUTES

Pilot/Controller Glossary

EN ROUTE / OCEANIC OPERATIONS / General Procedures

ENR 7. Oceanic Operations

ENR 7.1 General Procedures

1. IFR/VFR Operations

1.1 Flights in oceanic airspace must be conducted under Instrument Flight Rule (IFR) procedures when operating:

1.1.1 Between sunset and sunrise.

1.1.2 At or above Flight Level (FL) 055 when operating within the New York, Oakland, and Anchorage Oceanic Flight Information Regions (FIRs).

1.1.3 Above FL180 when operating within the Miami and Houston FIRs and in the San Juan Control Area. Flights between the east coast of the U.S., and Bermuda or Caribbean terminals, and traversing the New York FIR at or above 5,500 feel MSL should be especially aware of this requirement.

1.1.4 At or above FL230 when operating within the Anchorage Arctic FIR.

1.2 San Juan CTA/FIR VFR Traffic.

1.2.1 All VFR aircraft entering and departing the San Juan FIR/CTA will provide San Juan Radio with an ICAO flight plan. All aircraft must establish two-way communications with San Juan Radio on 126.7, 122.2, 123.65, or 255.4.

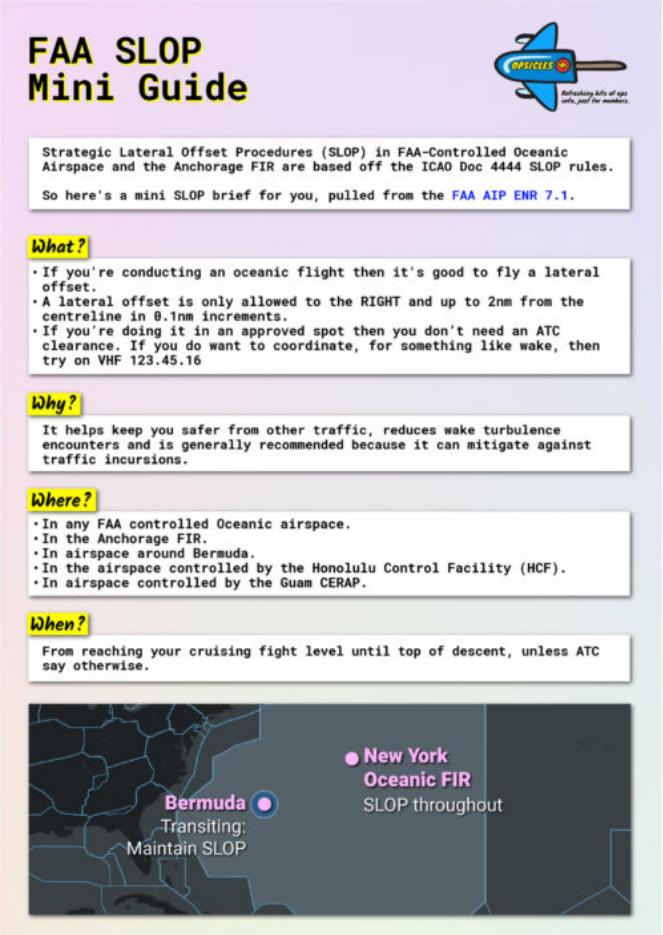
1.2.2 Communication can also be established by transmitting on 122.1 and receive using the appropriate VOR frequency for Borinquen (BQN), Mayaguez (MAZ), Ponce (PSE), and St. Croix (COY). For St. Thomas (STT), transmit on 123.6 and receive on the VOR frequency. If unable to contact San Juan Radio, the pilot is responsible for notifying

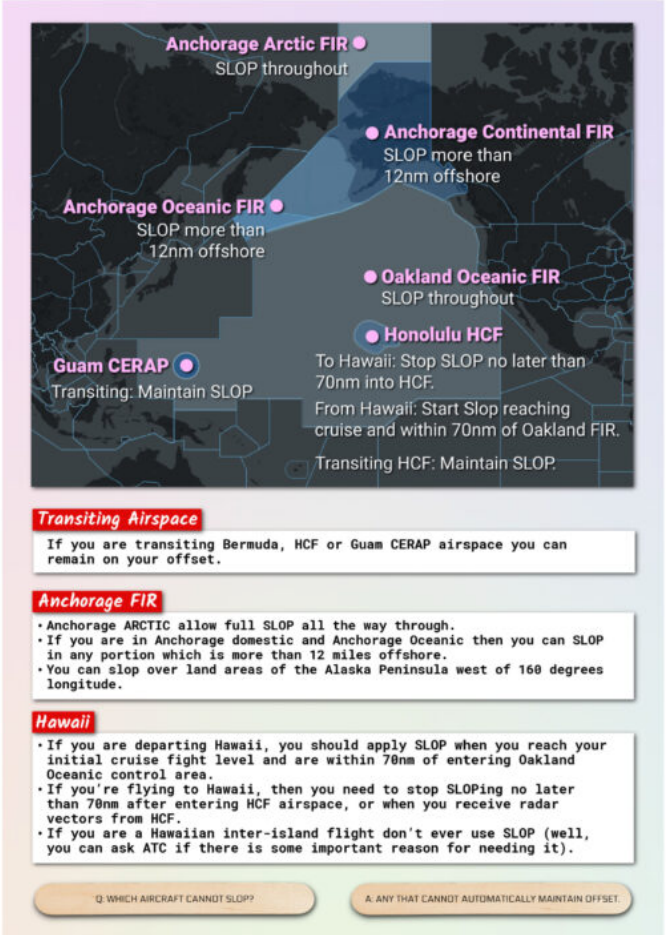
Handy info, but fairly brutal on the eyes and soul.

Is there another way to get this info?

Indeed there is!

We took all the excellent info provided by the FAA with regards to SLOP rules in FAA airspace, and turned it into a quick guide – complete with a simple map of the rules for the different regions.





OPSGROUP members can download a copy for free here.

If you're not an OPSGROUP member, but you'd like to be, you can join here. (Or you could just screenshot the image above instead – if you'd like a grainy, pixelated JPEG instead of the full, juicy PDF).

We're going to be publishing more of these little docs over the next few months. **We're calling them "Opsicles" – refreshing bits of ops info, just for members.** So keep an eye out for the next installment!