General Aviation

April 2025

TRACON Issues LTA for U42

The Salt Lake City Terminal Radar Approach Control (TRACON) has issued a new Letter to Airmen (LTA) in response to a growing number of incidents of aircraft departing from South Valley Regional Airport (U42) and unintentionally entering the Salt Lake Bravo (SLC Bravo) airspace. These airspace violations present serious safety concerns and directly affect operations at Salt Lake City International Airport (SLC).

The primary goal of this LTA is to provide pilots with important safety considerations when operating at U42 and the SLC Bravo airspace. These guidelines are designed to reduce the risk of traffic conflicts, increase safety margins and improve overall airspace management in the region.

SLC Bravo airspace starts at 6,000 feet mean sea level (MSL) directly over U42, with the Bravo surface area extending about 3 nautical miles north of the airport. U42 is surrounded by several additional airspace layers. Aircraft on northbound approaches SLC often descend over U42, reaching 6,100 feet MSL within approximately 3 nautical miles north of U42. This area is prone to Traffic Alert and Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) alerts. To help mitigate this issue, VFR aircraft are encouraged to maintain a 100 foot buffer below the SLC Bravo airspace whenever possible (see images below).

IFR departures and arrivals at U42 may experience significant delays at certain times of day. Both the South Valley One Departure and the U42 RNAV (GPS) Runway 34 procedures pass through Restricted Area R-6412 (from SFC to 10,000 feet MSL), where there are no restrictions in place to protect the airspace. Additionally, SLC's scheduled arrivals and departures are directly affected by U42 operations, as these cannot occur simultaneously due to airspace constraints and protections around SLC.

FAA Attachment 1 (LTA-S56-14)

FAA Attachment 2 (LTA-S56-14)

North and West Departures

IFR clearance will be provided once airborne, west of Salt Lake City International Airport (SLC) and clear of any traffic conflicts. Depart the U42 traffic pattern and proceed beneath the SLC Bravo airspace toward the Garfield Stack (VPGFS). Once the pilot is comfortable leaving the U42 CTAF, they must contact SLC Approach on 120.9 to request IFR clearance.

North and East Departures

IFR clearance can be expected once the aircraft is east of I-15 and clear of SLC arrivals and departures. Proceed toward South Interchange (VPBEE) and remain clear of the SLC Bravo airspace. Be mindful of the SLC Bravo airspace shelves during departure (see images above). Exercise caution due to the high volume of VFR aircraft maneuvering north and south over I-15.

Most SLC VFR aircraft will transition the I-15 corridor between 5,500 and 8,000 feet. Once comfortable leaving the U42 CTAF, contact SLC Tower on 120.2 (if heading north) or 120.9 (if heading east or south), and request I-15 Bravo clearance to begin the climb for an IFR pickup.

South Departures

IFR clearance can be expected in the vicinity of FFU VORTAC. R-6412 is approximately 10 nautical miles south of U42. It frequently goes active below 10,000 feet. When departing U42 southbound, it is recommended to depart east towards I-15 to avoid this airspace. Be aware of the SLC Bravo airspace shelves upon departure (see images above).

When comfortable leaving U42 CTAF, contact SLC Approach on 120.9 if north of Point of the Mountain (VPPTM), or 118.85 if south of Point of the Mountain (VPPTM) to request IFR clearance.

VFR Departure Procedures

Pilots arriving and departing South Valley Regional Airport should consider the following:

- Review the VFR Terminal Area Chart and Flyway SALT LAKE CITY

- Be aware of the aircraft's altitude and the relation to the SLC Bravo airspace. The shelf directly above the airport is from 6,000 feet MSL to 12,000 feet MSL. The Bravo surface area begins approximately 3 nautical miles north of the airport.
- If departing VFR to the west or northwest, maintain VFR below the SLC Bravo airspace and navigate toward the Garfield Stack (VPGFS).
- If departing VFR north, east or south, maintain VFR below the SLC Bravo airspace and south of the SLC Bravo surface area and navigate toward I-15. If transitioning Bravo airspace to the north, contact SLC Tower on 120.2. If proceeding south, contact SLC Approach on 120.9 if north of Point of the Mountain, or 118.85 if south of Point of the Mountain.

Salt Lake City General Aviation Team strongly encourages all pilots operating in and around U42 to carefully review the LTA guidelines to avoid violations of the SLC Bravo airspace and minimize the risk of traffic conflicts. By following these procedures, pilots play an essential role in ensuring safety and efficiency within the Salt Lake City airspace.

Upcoming Events & News

April 15 at 6 p.m.
FAASTeam Meeting: Mid Air Collision Avoidance
Representatives from Hill Air Force Base and the Utah Test and Training Range will provide a briefing and answer questions. Meeting will take place at SLC Airport Training and Activities Center (ATAC), 1911 North 2200 West, Salt Lake City. The building is located at the north end of Salt Lake City International Airport, directly across from Red Rock Medical Supply. Please enter through the vehicle gate and park in the lot on the south side of the facility. The main entrance is located on the south side of the building.

April 16 at 1 p.m.
FAASTeam Meeting: Approval of Aircraft Parts and Clues on Identifying Suspected Unapproved Parts
Meeting will take place at Utah Valley University Airport Campus, 1185 Mike Jense Parkway, Provo. Enter the main building and ask front desk for directions to the classroom.

April 17 at 8 p.m.
FAASTeam Meeting: Two Scenarios, VFR and IFR Problems to be Solved
Meeting will take place at Civil Air Patrol Utah Wing Headquarters Building, 640 North 2360 West, Salt Lake City. Proceed to upstairs level.

April 18 at 6 p.m.
FAASTeam Meeting: 2025 National Pause for GA Safety- EAA's VMC Club
Meeting will take place at SLC Airport Training and Activities Center (ATAC), 1911 North 2200 West, Salt Lake City. The building is located at the north end of Salt Lake City International Airport, directly across from Red Rock Medical Supply. Please enter through the vehicle gate and park in the lot on the south side of the facility. The main entrance is located on the south side of the building.

Points of Contact

General aviation operations, facilities maintenance, SLCDA GA newsletter, airfield and SLC Title 16 questions: Kevin Thornock, General Aviation Manager, (801) 531-4777 or kevin.thornock@slc.gov

FBO Operations, general aviation operations, facilities maintenance, airfield and SLC Title 16 questions: Sam Allen, FBO Manager, (801) 561-7531 or samuel.allen@slc.gov

Hangar lease and repair questions: Michelle Andreadakis Rudd, Airport Property Specialist,

(801) 575-2957 or michelle.rudd@slc.gov

Aviation security questions: Gary Bilbrey, SLCDA Airport Operations, (801) 575-2401 or gary.bilbrey@slcgov.com

Gate access problems: Airport Control Center, (801) 575-2401.

Emergencies: SLCIA, (801) 575-2911. TVY or U42, 911 then (801) 575-2911.

For additional GA information call the GA Hotline: (801) 575-2443

Salt Lake City International Airport | 3920 W. Terminal Drive | Salt Lake City, UT 84122 US

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