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Manager, Operations Support Group, AJV-C2  
Airspace Study 11-AGL-52NR  
Department of Transportation  
Federal Aviation Administration  
2601 Meacham Blvd  
Fort Worth, TX 76137

To Whom It May Concern,

The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA), representing more than 400,000 general aviation members nationwide, submits the following comments in response to the United States Air Force (USAF) request to establish the Sentry and Ironwood Temporary Military Operation Areas (TMOAs) to support exercise Northern Sentry.

AOPA supports the military's requirements to train as they fight and appreciates the service of the Department of Defense. We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the proposed exercise Northern Sentry and would like to highlight a few issues of concern and offering a mitigating solution to alleviate the burden on civil operators.

#### **Impact on Victor Airways**

Based on the United States Air Force (USAF) proposal, it appears there are no major impacts on any instrument approach, arrival, or departure procedures for surrounding airports. However, there will be impacts on several Victor Airways.

V148, west of Gogebic-Iron Co (IWD) has a Minimum Enroute Altitude (MEA) of 10,000' while V191 east of IWD and V413 both have an MEA of 8,000'. To mitigate the impact on these airways, AOPA is asking that the MSP Minneapolis St. Paul Air Traffic Control Center (ARTCC) and the USAF work collaboratively to mitigate the impacts on general aviation pilots utilizing these airways under Instrument Flight Rules by allowing the transition through the MOA instead of having to be routed around the airspace when possible.

#### **Summary**

We understand the mission conducted during exercise Northern Sentry is critical to ensuring the military is able to adequately train. The coordination between the FAA and the USAF will go a long way in mitigating any impact on the general aviation community and we appreciate all efforts to assist as able. Please contact me with further questions.

Sincerely,

Sr. Government Analyst  
Air Traffic