

Enabling Supersonic Overland Flight

Posted by the **Federal Aviation Administration** on Jul 2, 2026

ACTION:

Notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM).

SUMMARY:

This proposal would advance the United States' leadership in next-generation aviation by replacing the longstanding prohibition on civil supersonic flight over land with a modern, performance-based regulatory framework. Consistent with national policy set forth by the Executive Order of June 6, 2025, *Leading the World in Supersonic Flight*, this action would enable the safe, efficient, and commercially viable operation of civil supersonic aircraft in the United States.

Current regulations prohibit flight operations of civil aircraft at a true flight Mach number greater than 1 in the U.S., except under the conditions and limitations of an operation-specific authorization from the Administrator, to protect the public from sonic boom.

FAA has determined the general ban on civil supersonic flight is outdated and no longer appropriate due to advancements in technology, flight techniques that prevent sonic booms from reaching the surface, and increased interest in civil supersonic flight.

FAA proposes to repeal this outdated and unnecessary prohibition and establish a corresponding interim noise-based certification standard to allow supersonic flights without an operation-specific special authorization clearing the way for next-generation supersonic flight.

This rule removes regulatory barriers, provides clear pathways for testing and early commercial operations, and positions the United States to serve as the leader in setting global standards for supersonic flight. These actions will ensure that the United States leads the world in the safe, lawful, and rapid development and deployment of next-generation supersonic aviation.

DATES:

Send comments on or before August 17, 2026.

ADDRESSES:

Send comments identified by docket number FAA-2026-6935 using any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal*: Go to www.regulations.gov and follow the online instructions for sending your comments electronically. As required by 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(4), a plain language summary of the rule is also available on the Federal eRulemaking Portal.
- *Mail*: Send comments to Docket Operations, M-30; U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Room W12-140, West Building Ground Floor, Washington, DC 20590-0001.
- *Hand Delivery or Courier*: Take comments to Docket Operations in Room W12-140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.
- *Fax*: Fax comments to Docket Operations at (202) 493-2251.

Privacy: In accordance with 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to better inform its rulemaking process. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to www.regulations.gov, as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at www.dot.gov/privacy.

Docket: Background documents or comments received may be read at www.regulations.gov at any time. Follow the online instructions for accessing the docket or go to the Docket Operations in Room W12-140 of the West Building Ground Floor at 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590 between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Sterling Wiggins, Office of Environment and Energy, Federal Aviation Administration, 800 Independence Avenue SW, Washington, DC 20591; telephone 202-267-0747; email 9-APL-Supersonic-Noise-Inquiries@faa.gov.

FOR SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION – TO COMMENT and to view submitted Comments:

[View the Federal Website HERE](#)