

Development of Air Tour Management Plans in Support of the National Parks Air Tour Management Act of 2000

Cynthia Lee

Volpe Center Acoustics Facility - Cambridge, Massachusetts

Phone: (617) 494-2372

E-mail: lee@volpe.dot.gov

Congress passed the National Parks Air Tour Management Act of 2000 (the Act) to regulate commercial air tour operations over units of the National Park System. The Act directed the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), with the cooperation of the National Park Service (NPS), to develop Air Tour Management Plans (ATMPs) for all National Parks with commercial air tours. The objective of the ATMPs is to develop acceptable and effective measures to mitigate or prevent significant adverse impacts from the air tours on the natural and cultural resources, visitor experiences, and tribal lands within the Parks.

The U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Special Programs Administration, John A. Volpe National Transportation Systems Center (Volpe Center), Environmental Measurement and Modeling Division, is supporting the FAA, Western Pacific Regional Office and Office of Environment and Energy, and working cooperatively with the NPS in the development of ATMPs. This presentation will overview the technical support being provided in the development of criteria that can be used for the assessment of aircraft noise impacts.