

# Grand Canyon National Park

Special Flight Rules Area in the Vicinity of Grand Canyon National Park

National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior



## Alternative Comparison

	Routes	Annual Allocation	Daily Cap	Quiet-technology Aircraft	General Aviation	Seasonal Curfews
<b>Alternative A</b> No Action/Current Condition	Continue current management and current helicopter and fixed-wing air-tour routes  Long- and short-loop air tours operate in Zuni Point and Dragon Corridors year-round	93,971 air-tour flights	None	No quiet-technology incentives or conversion requirement	Four existing corridors	Allowable operation times May-Sept. 8am-6pm, Oct.-Apr. 9am-5pm. Curfew applies only to Zuni Point and Dragon Corridors
<b>Alternative E</b> Alternating Seasonal Use	Short-loop air tours alternate between Zuni Point and Dragon Corridors seasonally, with Dragon Corridor open for use Sept. 16 to June 30, and Zuni Point Corridor open for use July 1 to Sept. 15  No long-loop tours over North Rim; no routes over Marble Canyon; dogleg in Dragon Corridor	93,971 air-tour and air-tour-related flights	364 air-tour and air-tour-related flights	Full conversion to best-available quiet-technology aircraft by date to be determined  Only best-available quiet-technology aircraft allowed on East End routes early and late hours of flight day	Three modified corridors	Allowable operation times based on sunrise and sunset times; also a mid-day curfew. Curfew applies only to Zuni Point and Dragon Corridors
<b>Alternative F</b> Modified Current Condition	Similar to current routes and altitudes, except seasonal shift in Dragon Corridor, and changes in West End routes except seasonal shift in Dragon Corridor Dec. 1 to Jan. 31	93,971 air-tour flights	None	Incentives for quiet-technology aircraft; conversion to quiet-technology aircraft in 10 to 12 years	One corridor eliminated; three same as Alternative A	Same as Alternative A
<b>NPS Preferred Alternative</b>	Short-loop air tours alternate between Zuni Point and Dragon Corridors seasonally, with Dragon Corridor open for short-loop tour use May 1 to Oct. 31, and Zuni Point Corridor open for short-loop tour use Nov. 1 to Apr. 30  Long-loop air-tour routes over North Rim open year-round, phased-in for quiet-technology only  Air-tour route changes to better protect Nankoweap area, Little Colorado River confluence, Marble Canyon  Dogleg in Dragon Corridor; increased altitudes for some air-tour route segments	65,000 air-tour and air-tour-related flights	364 air-tour flights	Incentives for quiet-technology aircraft; conversion to quiet-technology aircraft required within 10 years	Four corridors with modifications in two	Allowable operation times May-Sept. 8am-5pm, Oct.-Apr. 9am-4pm. Curfew applies to entire East End, including Marble Canyon