

# AFTW Practice Area Reporting Points – Phoenix Area

## Conventions & Best Practices:

- 1) CONFLICT RESOLUTION – Safely and Professionally  
*This is a key reason for the existence of the AFTW. Please stay polite and professional – agree to disagree if you must, until a discussion on the ground can take place. Many airspace users are not regular participants of AFTW, but we try to work with everyone.*
- 2) *Reference to airports & navaids (8-pt compass direction + distance), as well as marked “Visual Reporting Points” & major geographic features, can also be used in lieu of named points below.*
- 3) *Aircraft are requested to monitor practice area frequencies while in them (whenever possible) and to call when entering or leaving, and periodically otherwise.*
- 4) *Training aircraft frequently operate at or near all airports & navaids on the TAC, including use of published and unpublished practice instrument approaches.*
- 5) *Sector lines are suggested for maintaining separation between nearby points. Sectors may be split vertically (often about 5,000’ MSL), or subdivided by mutual agreement between pilots.*
- 6) *Aircraft maneuvering below 2000’ AGL should: a) Remain clear of airport traffic patterns/ private strips; b) Remain clear of populated areas, or groups of people; c) Respect marked wildlife/ wilderness areas.*

## Major Separators of Practice Areas:

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1. NW & NE Areas         | PXR 359 degree radial (V327-562-567) runs over KSDL & Carefree             |
| 2. NE & SE Areas         | East Mesa & Apache Junction, including foothills west of Superstition Mtns |
| 3. SE & Picacho Areas    | Coolidge (P08) / CGZ instrument approach corridors                         |
| 4. SE & SW Areas         | I-10 and KCGZ airport traffic area   |
| 5. SW & Rainbow Valley   | Estrella Mtns & Sailport (E68), South past POTER intersection to I-8       |
| 6. Rainbow & Buckeye S   | BXK VOR 180 degree radial  |
| 7. Buckeye North & South | V16 (BXK 262 degree radial)  |
| 8. Buckeye N & NW Area   | BXK VOR 000 degree radial & west edge of A-231                             |

## Practice Area Frequencies (other than instrument / practice approaches):

- |                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| 1. NW & NE Areas         | 122.75 MHz  |
| 2. SW, SE, Picacho Areas | 122.85 MHz (SE area: APS aerobatics uses 131.375 MHz)             |
| 3. Rainbow Valley        | 128.925 MHz   |
| 4. Buckeye North & South | 130.625 MHz (west of BXK 000/180 radials & west of A-231)         |
| 5. Luke SATR Airspace    | North – 118.15 MHz South – 125.45 MHz (Luke still has 120.5 also) |

**Luke “Special Air Traffic Rule” (SATR) requires permission to enter when in use.**

*When outside of **all** practice areas, airport traffic areas, etc., if you have an available COM radio, we encourage monitoring 121.500 MHz – workload permitting. Rotor & aerobatic training aircraft often have only one COM radio, which may be dedicated to a company / “base” frequency.*

**Gray Zones:**

*Gray zones are marked in areas where numerous Instrument Approaches, etc., are conducted (practice or IFR). Non-approach/ departure traffic should avoid these areas when possible due to increased likelihood of traffic conflicts above 1000' AGL, or within marked altitude ranges.*

**Common Users of Practice Areas:**

KDVT	NW Area
KGEU	NW, SE, SW Areas
KSDL	NW, NE Areas
KFFZ	NE, SE Areas
KIWA	SE, Picacho, SW Areas
KCHD & P19	SE, SW Areas
KGYR & KBXK	SW, Rainbow Valley and "Buckeye North" & "Buckeye South" areas

*Note: most towered airports, and many non-towered airports, have flight training activity in the vicinity.*

***Aerobatic boxes marked in red with maximum altitudes are per the A/FD, and may be used frequently or rarely depending on who is authorized to use each one.***

**NW Area Points**

**Features / ID**

**Lat/Long dd-mm-ss**

**Note: Luke SATR extends up to 6000' MSL**

Black Canyon City	I-17 north edge of TAC	N 34-04-00 W 112-08-00
<i>"West" versus "East of Black Canyon" uses I-17 Hwy as divider</i>		
<b>"June's Valley"</b>	east of I-17 as hills rise, some houses	N 33-58-00 W 112-04-00
<i>"West of June's Valley" remains west of I-17 Hwy</i>		
<b>"New River"</b>	<u>VPNRV</u> – community east of I-17	N 33-55-05 W 112-08-27
<b>"Anthem"</b>	community east of I-17 halfway between New River & edge of KDVT Class D	N 33-50-00 W 112-06-00
<b>"Shooting Range"</b>	west of I-17, near hills, abeam P48 airstrip	N 33-48-00 W 112-10-00
<b>"Prison"</b>	west of I-17, few miles north of Shooting Range	N 33-50-00 W 112-10-00
<b>"Outlet Mall"</b>	west of I-17 abeam Lake Pleasant	N 33-53-00 W 112-10-00
<b>"S. Lake Pleasant"</b>	dam, marina	N 33-51-00 W 112-16-00
<b>"N. Lake Pleasant"</b>	Agua Fria River flows into lake	N 33-54-00 W 112-17-00
Pleasant Valley	P48 airstrip	N 33-48-02 W 112-15-02
<i>"West of Pleasant Valley" area remains clear of P48 traffic pattern</i>		
<b>"Quintero Golf Course"</b>	<u>VPQTR</u> - 5 miles west of Lake Pleasant dam	N 33-49-32 W 112-23-35
<b>"Thunder Ridge"</b>	private airstrip along west US 60, inside SATR, sector extends North of SATR	N 33-50-00 W 112-34-00
<b>"N. Proving Grounds"</b>	inside SATR, north of Hwy 60	N 33-47-00 W 112-29-00
<b>"S. Proving Grounds"</b>	inside SATR, south of Hwy 60	N 33-42-00 W 112-30-00
<b>"Aux 1"</b>	inside SATR, west of S. Proving Grounds	N 33-43-00 W 112-32-00
<b>"Aux 2"</b>	Inside SATR, east of S. Proving Grounds, along hwy	N 33-42-00 W 112-25-00
<b>"West Proving Grounds"</b>	west side of A-231, between E25 & BXK	N 33-45-00 W 112-48-00
<b>"Pumping Station"</b>	<u>VPAQU</u> – along aqueduct canal inside A-231	N 33-40-03 W 112-41-23
<b>"Substation"</b>	north of Luke AFB, east of Aux 2 inside SATR	N 33-42-30 W 112-19-00
Arrowhead Mall	<u>VPARM</u> – inside NW corner of Loop 101 is on SE corner of Substation area	N 33-38-31 W 112-13-29
Carefree "Sky Ranch"	private airstrip north of Phoenix	N 33-49-00 W 111-54-00
<b>"Carefree Highway"</b>	runs from P48 to just south of Carefree Sky Ranch	
<b>"Bend" in Carefree Hwy</b> is 2 miles east of I-17		
Cave Creek	runs NE from KDVT to community west of Carefree	
<b>"North of Cave Creek"</b> is north of the Cave Creek Community west of Carefree		
<b>"New River Mountains"</b> seldom used due to terrain, north and east of June's Valley		

<u>NE Area Points</u>	<u>Features / ID</u>	<u>Lat/Long dd-mm-ss</u>
"Horseshoe Reservoir" <b>"Over the Radome"</b>	along Verde River, north edge of TAC west of Horseshoe Reservoir	N 34-00-00 W 111-43-00 N 33-59-00 W 111-48-00
<b>"East of Horseshoe"</b> uses east side of the valley		
Bartlett Dam <b>"Bartlett Reservoir"</b> <b>"West of Bartlett"</b> is also <b>"East of Carefree"</b>	<u>VPBAR</u> - along Verde River south of Horseshoe includes the lake and surrounding valley	N 33-49-06 W 111-37-55
Rio Verde Community Pinnacle Peak <b>"West of Rio Verde Community"</b> and Verde River is also <b>"East of Pinnacle Peak"</b> <b>"East of Rio Verde Community"</b> should remain clear of Sycamore Creek	<u>VPRVC</u> - square shaped town along Verde River very pointy rock with resort & golf course	N 33-44-22 W 111-39-37 N 33-43-30 W 111-52-00
Fountain Hills <b>"North of Fountain Hills"</b> remains south of Verde Community, west of Verde River	<u>VPFTN</u> – SE end of McDowell Mtns, west of Verde R.	N 33-36-07 W 111-42-43
<b>"Sycamore Creek"</b>	joins Verde River NE of Fountain Hills, north of Beeline Hwy	N 33-39-00 W 111-38-00
<b>"Saguaro Lake"</b>	Salt River runs from it into Mesa	N 33-34-00 W 111-31-00
Beeline Highway <b>"North of Saguaro Lake"</b>	runs from Mesa, around Red Mountain, NE to Payson uses PHX Class B 5,000 ft shelf as southern border and stays SE of Beeline Highway	
Canyon Lake	east of Saguaro Lake	N 33-32-30 W 111-26-00
Apache Lake	northeast of Canyon Lake, base of Four Peaks	N 33-35-00 W 111-15-00
Goldfield (Ranch)	community & private airstrip along Beeline Hwy	N 33-36-00 W 111-36-00
<b>"Confluence"</b>	Salt River & Verde River join just east of Red Mountain	N 33-32-00 W 111-40-00
Red Mountain	looks like red step-pyramid, north of KFFZ & separates between traffic "north of FFZ" over Fountain Hills & "northeast of FFZ" over the Confluence	N 33-32-30 W 111-42-00

<u>SE Area Points</u>	<u>Features / ID</u>	<u>Lat/Long dd-mm-ss</u>
"Apache Junction"	north of US 60, Apache Blvd bends SE to Gold Canyon	N 33-25-00 W 111-33-00
"Gold Canyon"	large square town at bend in US 60	N 33-22-00 W 111-28-00
"Landfill"	south of Apache Jct. Between Canal & Gold Canyon	N 33-22-00 W 111-32-00
"Canal & Hwy 60"	NW corner of SE Practice Area, near "Landfill"	
"Renaissance" (festival)	<u>VPZZZ</u> - along US 60 SE of Gold Canyon	N 33-20-11 W 111-26-32
"West of Renaissance"	is west of Hwy US 60, east of <u>CAP Canal</u> & <u>KIWA Class D</u> & contains a large square "LANDFILL" just south of US 60	
"East of Renaissance"	east of Hwy US 60, use Gold Canyon for transit only	
"Florence Junction"	US 60 turns east, Hwy 79 goes south along R-2310 "North of Florence Jct." Remains north of railroad & powerlines	N 33-15-30 W 111-20-00
Florence	town at south end of R-2310	N 33-02-00 W 111-23-00
"Rittenhouse"	AZ38 - old strip SE of KIWA, west side of Canal	N 33-15-00 W 111-31-00
"Cement Plant"	along road 4 mi east from Rittenhouse, gravel pit	N 33-15-00 W 111-25-00
"East of Rittenhouse"	includes Cement Plant & dry creek bed, staying south & west of Florence Junction <b>WATCH FOR IWA INSTRUMENT APPROACH TRAFFIC – 3000' MSL and above</b>	
"Water Ski Lake"	seldom used due to <b>IWA ILS</b> practice approach, west side of Canal, 4 mi SE of Rittenhouse,	N 33-12-00 W 111-29-00
Santan Mountains	<u>VPSTN</u> – 10 mi south of KIWA	N 33-09-14 W 111-40-55
Pegasus	private airstrip 6 mi south of KIWA	N 33-12-30 W 111-37-00
Magma	intersection of railroads south of Water Ski Lake	N 33-08-00 W 111-30-00
"Johnson's Ranch"	community along Hunt Hwy, east of Santan Mtns, west of Magma railroads	N 33-09-00 W 111-35-00
"Volcano"	cone-shape 1988' hill with "C" north of the town of Coolidge, east of Florence, outside PXR 30 DME	N 33-04-00 W 111-31-00
"East" versus "West of the Volcano"	uses the railroad from Magma to Coolidge	
Sacaton Peak	5 mi NE of KCGZ	N 33-00-00 W 111-40-00
"Central AZ College"	2 mi SSE of Sacaton Peak	N 32-57-00 W 111-39-00
Coolidge	town west of P08 airport	N 32-59-00 W 111-31-00
"Sacaton"	town south of Santan Mountains	N 33-05-00 W 111-44-30
"The Gap"	middle of Santan Mtns – near <u>VPSTN</u>	N 33-10-00 W 111-41-00
"Witch's Hat"	SE end of Santan Mtns – also cone-shape, the zone west of Johnson's Ranch	N 33-07-00 W 111-40-00
"Picacho Reservoir"	between Coolidge (P08) and Eloy (E60) along canal	N 32-51-00 W 111-29-00
"Newman Peak"	4520' peak along I-10, opposite Picacho Pk, SE of Eloy	N 32-43-00 W 111-23-00
"Black Mountain"	5587' peak, east of underground pipeline & power lines	

SW Area Points

Features / ID

Lat/Long dd-mm-ss

**Note: Luke SATR extends up to 7000' MSL**

P.I.R. "Gila Crossing" "South of PIR"	<u>VPPIR</u> - Phoenix International Raceway SE of KGYR <u>VPGLX</u> – crossing of Gila River bed north end of "Gila Crossing" area	N 33-22-31 W 112-18-54 N 33-16-33 W 112-10-05
Firebird Lake "West of Firebird Lake"	<u>VPFRB</u> – lake/racetrack I-10 west of KCHD over Gila River valley east of Estrella Mountains	N 33-16-21 W 111-58-06
Maricopa Estrella Sailport "North of Maricopa"	<u>VPMAR</u> – town along hwy/ railroad east of Estrella E68 – south end of Estrella Mountains also east of E68 area and north of Maricopa Hwy Maricopa Mountain (1677' hill) has letter "M" on south face	N 33-03-25 W 112-02-53 N 33-05-07 W 112-09-40
"South of Maricopa"	south of Maricopa Hwy up to 5 miles, southeast of E68, west of Ak Chin Pvt strip	
"West of Stanfield"	TFD VOR, remaining clear of practice instrument approaches	
"Bapchule"	small town west of I-10, east of road from Firebird to Maricopa, and clear of North Test Track; <b>USE CAUTION</b> for practice instrument approaches to Chandler	N 33-07-00 W 111-53-00
"North Test Track"	<u>VPNTT</u> – north of Phx Reg'l A39 airstrip, west of I-10, east of Maricopa, generally N/NW of CGZ traffic area	N 33-03-30 W 111-55-50
"U of A airstrip"	U of A Maricopa Ag Center – dirt strip west of North Test Track	
"South Test Track"	<u>VPSTT</u> – southwest of A39, remaining clear of practice instrument approaches at Stanfield / Casa Grande	N 32-56-15 W 111-59-40

Rainbow Valley

Features / ID

Lat/Long dd-mm-ss

**Note: Use caution for USAF traffic**

"Mobile"	private airstrip west of Estrella Mountains	N 33-07-00 W 112-16-00
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**REFER TO ATCA DIAGRAM FOR SECTOR NAMES AND POINTS FOR RAINBOW VALLEY AND WEST (Buckeye N & S) AREAS.**