

**PROPOSED COMMERCIAL AIRLINE SERVICE AT BISHOP AIRPORT
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION
NOTICE OF A PUBLIC WORKSHOP/PUBLIC HEARING**

Environmental Assessment

The Inyo County Department of Public Works provides notice that a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (42 United States Code §§ 4321 – 4355), to assess the proposed introduction of commercial air passenger service to Bishop Airport (BIH) is available for review and comment. Approval and implementation of the Proposed Action requires one or more federal actions by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). The Draft EA includes an analysis of a Proposed Action, alternatives, and potential environmental impacts. The Proposed Action comprises the following elements:

- Inyo County request for approval of a 14 Code of Federal Regulations Part 139 Class I Airport Operating Certificate to allow commercial air service at Bishop Airport;
- Inyo County proposed implementation of declared distances on Runway 12/30 at BIH; and,
- SkyWest Airlines request for amendment to their Operations Specifications, to allow scheduled commercial air service to and from BIH.

Initial Study/Negative Declaration

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the Inyo County CEQA Guidelines, Inyo County has also prepared an Initial Study (IS) for the Proposed Project and hereby gives notice of its intent to adopt a Negative Declaration (ND).

Public Workshop and Public Hearing

Inyo County invites you to attend a virtual Public Workshop to learn more about the environmental analyses conducted for the Proposed Action/Proposed Project. The Public Workshop will begin with a presentation that includes information regarding the draft environmental documents and the NEPA and CEQA processes and will include a Question and Answer session. The Public Workshop will be held Between 6:00 PM and 7:00 PM on April 1, 2021. A Public Hearing to receive formal verbal comments from the public will be held immediately after the Public Workshop between 7:00 PM and 8:00 PM. All formal verbal comments made during the Public Hearing will be transcribed and responded to in the final documents.

Both the Public Workshop and Public Hearing will be conducted in virtual format on the Zoom® videoconferencing platform. This virtual format provides attendees with the maximum opportunity for safe and accessible public engagement during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Date: Thursday, April 1, 2021

Time: 6:00-8:00 PM

Registration: <http://bit.ly/bishopairportregistration>

Phone (Audio only for those without internet access): 877 853 5247 (Toll Free) -
Webinar ID: 897 2107 2579

More information on the Public Workshop/Public Hearing can be found at <https://www.inyocounty.us/services/public-works>

Public Review

The Draft documents will be available for a 40-day public review beginning Tuesday, March 2, 2021, and ending Monday, April 12, 2021.

The Draft EA and Draft IS/ND are available for review at:

- *Online* at <https://www.inyocounty.us/services/public-works>
- *Inyo County Department of Public Works*
168 N. Edwards St., Independence, CA 93526
- *Inyo County Free Library – Bishop Branch*
210 Academy Ave., Bishop, CA 93514
Contact: bishoplib@inyocounty.us or (760) 873-5115
- *Mono County Free Library – Mammoth Lakes Branch*
400 Sierra Park Rd., Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546
Contact: mammothlakeslibrary@monocoe.org or (760) 934-4777

NOTE: Both the Inyo County Free Library and the Mono County Free Library are currently closed; however, curbside pick-up is available by calling or emailing the library in advance.

Inyo County will provide a hardcopy, CD-ROM, or flash drive of either the Draft EA, Draft IS/ND, and/or the Public Workshop presentation upon request. Please call (760) 878-0200 to request a specific copy of the materials. Comments of the Draft EA may be submitted electronically to BIHPart139EA@esassoc.com. Comments on the Draft IS/ND may be submitted to BIH_ISND@esassoc.com.

Written comments may be submitted via U.S. Mail to the address below. Please ensure adequate time for receipt. All comments must be received by 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time on April 12, 2021.

Inyo County Public Works
Attention: Ashley Helms,
Deputy Public Works Director – Airports
168 N. Edwards St.
Independence, CA 93526

All comments received will be responded to in the final documents.

PRIVACY NOTICE: Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment – including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.