

# National Transportation Safety Board

Office of the Chair  
Washington, DC 20594



March 3, 2022

Mr. Steve Dickson  
Administrator  
Federal Aviation Administration  
Washington, DC 20591

Dear Mr. Dickson:

This letter provides information about the National Transportation Safety Board's (NTSB) February 22, 2022, report *Require Common Traffic Advisory Frequency Areas in Alaska*, NTSB/AIR-22-03. The details of this accident investigation and the resulting safety recommendations may be found in the attached report, which can also be accessed at <http://www.nts.gov>.

As a result of this investigation, we identified the following safety issues:

- The lack of communication requirements for areas where one common traffic advisory frequency has been established.
- The lack of one common traffic advisory frequency in areas with multiple airports or scenic landmarks, and the resulting risk for midair collisions.

Accordingly, the NTSB makes the following safety recommendations to the FAA:

- Require all pilots to monitor and communicate their positions on the designated common traffic advisory frequency (CTAF) when entering and exiting dedicated CTAF areas throughout Alaska, as well as near established reporting points and airport traffic patterns within the CTAF area, unless already communicating with air traffic control.
- Establish additional common traffic advisory frequency (CTAF) areas in locations throughout Alaska at high risk of midair collisions, designate one frequency that is associated with all non-towered airports within the geographical boundaries of these CTAF areas, and define mandatory position reporting locations and reporting requirements within these areas.

The NTSB is vitally interested in these recommendations because they are designed to prevent accidents and save lives. We would appreciate a response within 90 days of the date of this letter, detailing the actions you have taken or intend to take to implement these recommendations. When replying, please refer to the safety recommendations by number (Safety Recommendations A-22-4 and A-22-5). We encourage you to submit your response to [ExecutiveSecretariat@ntsb.gov](mailto:ExecutiveSecretariat@ntsb.gov). If your reply, including attachments, exceeds 20 megabytes, please e-mail us at the same address for instructions on how to send larger documents. Please do not submit both an electronic copy and a hard copy of the same response.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Homendy  
Chair