

**NORTHWEST FLORIDA REGIONAL AIRPORT (VPS)
TARMAC DELAY CONTINGENCY PLAN**

Northwest Florida Regional Airport has prepared this Tarmac Delay Contingency Plan pursuant to §42301 of the FAA Modernization and Reform Act of 2012. Questions regarding this plan can be directed to Mr. Tracy Stage at TStage@co.okaloosa.fl.us. Northwest Florida Regional Airport is filing this plan with the Department of Transportation because (1) it is a commercial airport or (2) this airport may be used by an air carrier described in USC 42301(a)(1) for diversions.

This plan describes how, following excessive tarmac delays and to the extent practicable, Northwest Florida Regional Airport will:

- Provide for the deplanement of passengers;
- Provide for the sharing of facilities and make gates available at the airport; and
- Provide a sterile area following excessive tarmac delays for passengers who have not yet cleared United States Customs & Border Protection (CBP).

Northwest Florida Regional Airport has facility constraints that limit our ability to accommodate diverted flights or maintain the airport's safe operation and strongly encourages aircraft operators to contact the airport at (850) 651-7166 for prior coordination of diverted flights, except in the case of a declared in-flight emergency. Specific facility constraints include the following: lack of international passenger processing facilities, limited numbers of aircraft parking positions, and inability to accommodate, park or service aircraft larger than FAA Aircraft Design Group IV. During diversion events Northwest Florida Regional Airport issues NOTAMs regarding its ability to accommodate diverted flights to ensure the safe and efficient operation of the airport and its ability to serve the civil aviation needs of the public during irregular operations events.

Airport Information

Name of Airport: Northwest Florida Regional Airport

Name and title of person preparing the plan: Edward McAllister, Operations Supervisor

Preparer contact number: (850) 855-1048

Preparer contact e-mail: EMcallister@co.okaloosa.fl.us

Date of submission of plan: 14 May 2012

Airport Category: Large Hub Medium Hub Small Hub Non Hub

Contact Information

In the event of diversion or other irregular operations events, aircraft operators should contact the Airport Operations Center at (850) 651-7166 for assistance.

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Plan to Provide for the Deplanement of Passengers Following Excessive Tarmac Delays

Northwest Florida Regional Airport has limited equipment and personnel needed to safely deplane passengers from air carrier aircraft. We will utilize this equipment to deplane passengers as soon as practicable after receiving requests from such airlines at the contact number listed above. We will also provide a list of airlines, ground handlers, and others who may have the necessary equipment and personnel to safely deplane passengers to airlines as soon as practicable after receiving requests from such airlines experiencing excessive tarmac delays at the contact number listed above.

Plan to Provide for the Sharing of Facilities and Make Gates Available in an Emergency

The gates at Northwest Florida Regional Airport are under preferential lease to air carriers and are not fully controlled by the airport during those time periods when the tenant's usage of that gate meets the usage specified in the preferential use lease. We may be able to direct a tenant airline to accommodate another air carrier aircraft at its preferentially leased gate during those time periods when the tenant airline is not using, or not scheduled to use, the gate. We will direct our tenant air carriers to make gates and other facilities available to an air carrier seeking to deplane at a gate during those time periods the gates are not in use or not scheduled to be in use, to the maximum extent practicable.

Plan to Provide a Sterile Area for Passengers Who Have Not Cleared United States Customs and Border Protection

Northwest Florida Regional Airport does not have international passenger processing facilities. As we are a tenant at a joint-use military field, primary responsibility for international passengers on an emergency diverted aircraft who have not yet cleared United States Customs and Border Protection rests with Eglin AFB. In the unlikely event of an emergency international diversion on the commercial side (i.e. Northwest Florida Regional Airport), we will coordinate with law enforcement officials and Pensacola CBP Port Director Frank Lenox to identify suitable areas and procedures for establishing a temporary sterile area into which the international passengers can be deplaned. A suitable area is defined as an area that prevents comingling of international passengers with domestic passengers or staff, and includes bathroom facilities and access to potable water.

Public Access to the Emergency Contingency Plan

Northwest Florida Regional Airport will provide public access to its emergency contingency plan through one or more of the following means:

- Posting in a conspicuous location on the airport website (<http://www.flyvps.com>).
- Providing notice of the availability of the plan on the airport's social media accounts.