

**VATSIM FORT WORTH ARTCC (ZFW) AND HOUSTON ARTCC (ZHU)
LETTER OF AGREEMENT**

SUBJ: Intrafacility Coordination Procedures

This order describes interfacility procedures between the Fort Worth ARTCC (ZFW) and the Houston ARTCC (ZHU) . The provisions and procedures described below are supplemental to and in accordance with Fort Worth ARTCC General Policy and FAA Order JO 7110.65, as well as any published FAA guidelines and procedures. The information contained in this document is to be used for flight simulation purposes only on the VATSIM network. It is not intended, nor should it be used for real-world navigation. This site is not affiliated with the FAA, the actual Fort Worth ARTCC/Houston ARTCC, or any governing aviation body. All content contained herein is approved only for use on the VATSIM network.

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Effective 06/23/2025

This order cancels all previous versions of the ZFW-ZHU LOA

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1. Abbreviations

AIT	Automated Information Transfer
ARAC	Army Radar Approach Control
ARTC	Air Route Traffic Control
ATC	Air Traffic Control
ERAM	En Route Automation Modernization
FL	Flight Level
H	High Altitude Sector
IAW	In accordance with
L	Low Altitude Sector
LOA	Letter of Agreement
MIT	Miles-in-trail
NM	Nautical Mile
SID	Standard Instrument Departure
STAR	Standard Terminal Arrival Route
T	Terminal Area
TRACON	Terminal Radar Approach Control
U	Ultra-High Sector
VFR	Visual Flight Rules
ZFW	Fort Worth ARTC Center
ZHU	Houston ARTC Center

2. Definitions

- a. Known Traffic: Aircraft the receiving/transferring controller has received or transferred a radar hand-off or point-out.

NAME	ABBREVIATION	AIRPORTS
Alexandria	AEXT	AEX, ESF
Austin	AUST	3R9, AUS, BMQ, DZB, EDC, HYI, GTU, RYW, T74
College Station	CLLT	11R, 60R, CFD, CLL, LHB, RWV
Longview	GGGT	GGG, TYR
Midland	MAFT	MAF, MDD, ODO
San Antonio	SATT	5C1, BAZ, CVB, PEZ, RND, SAT, SKF, SSF, T82
Shreveport	SHVT	ASL, BAD, DTN, MNE, SHV
Waco	ACTT	ACT, CNW, LXY, PWG, T15

3. Sectors

ZHU		
#	NAME	ABBREVIATION
26	WOODVILLE HIGH	IZD-H
38	DAISETTA LOW	DAS-L
40	POLK LOW	POE-L
42	ALEXANDRIA HIGH	AEX-H
46	HOUSTON HIGH	HOU-H
49	LUFKIN LOW	LFK-L
50	STONEWALL LOW	STV-L
74	ALAMO HIGH	ALAMO-H
76	SLIMM ULTRA-HIGH	SLIMM-U
78	AUSTIN-HIGH	AUS-H
81	ESLER-ULTRA-HIGH	ESF-U
82	BILEE HIGH	BILEE-H
83	CUGAR LOW	CUGAR-L
86	HUMBLE LOW	IAH-L
88	FRIIO ULTRA-HIGH	FRIIO-U
96	BERGSTROM LOW	BSM-L
97	JUNCTION HIGH	JCT-H
98	ROCKSPRINGS LOW	RSG-L

ZFW		
#	NAME	ABBREVIATION
24	ODESSA ULTRA-HIGH	ODS-U
25	UNION ULTRA-HIGH	UNN-H
28	EL DORADO HIGH	ELD-H
29	DONIE LOW	DON-L
30	MONROE LOW	MLU-L
40	MIDLAND LOW	MAF-L
46	DALLAS HIGH	DAL-H
61	LEE HIGH	LEE-H
62	EDNAS LOW	EDN-L
63	ABILENE LOW	ABI-L
65	HICOE HIGH	HIC-H
82	WINK HIGH	INK-H
86	PAXTO HIGH	PAX-H
89	FRANKSTON HIGH	FZT-H
96	WACO LOW	ACT-L

4. Procedures

- a. Departures less than 5 minutes flying time from the common boundary shall be verbally coordinated.
- b. Planned flow changes shall be coordinated at least 15 minutes prior between the ZFW and ZHU TMU.
 - i. During events, flow changes shall be communicated between:
 1. TMU-TMU
 2. TMU-CIC
 3. CIC-CIC
 - ii. Each above unit shall ensure the flow change is properly communicated to each respective ATCS/facility
 - iii. In non-event periods, this coordination shall be accomplished via the built in ATC chat system in controller clients.
- c. ZFW/ZHU controllers shall advise the other ARTCC of the current flow at D10/I90/AUST. When ZFW/ZHU is offline, controllers shall follow the real-world flow.
- d. Each ARTCC may change transponder codes upon initial contact.
- e. Radar handoff acceptance shall constitute approval for aircraft climbing or descending to requested or interim altitude appropriate for direction of flight. Changes after radar acceptance shall be coordinated verbally.
- f. All RNAV capable turbojet aircraft shall be cleared IAW with the flow charts listed at the end of this publication.
- g. Low altitude sectors are stratified at FL230 and below for low altitude and FL240 and above for high altitude with the following exceptions:

SECTOR NAME	SECTOR NUMBER	ALTITUDE
AEX-H	ZHU 42	FL240 TO FL340
ALAMO-H	ZHU 74	FL240 TO FL350
CUGAR-L	ZHU 83	9,000 FT. TO FL230
ELD-H	ZFW 28	FL240 TO FL350
ESF-U	ZHU 81	FL350 AND ABOVE
FRIO-U	ZHU 88	FL360 AND ABOVE
INK-H	ZFW 82	FL240 TO FL350
JCT-H	ZHU 97	FL280 TO FL350
LEE-H	ZFW 61	FL240 TO FL350
ODS-U	ZFW 24	FL360 AND ABOVE
RSG-L	ZHU 98	FL270 AND BELOW
SLIMM-U	ZHU 76	FL360 AND ABOVE
UNN-U	ZFW 25	FL360 AND ABOVE

5. Control

- a. Use of control boxes: The release of control within the control boxes depicted in Attachment H is limited to the altitude stratum of the transferring controller. The receiving controller shall ensure point-outs are completed with any underlying sectors before issuing control instructions that will enter that sector(s).
- b. IAW with subsection a, each ARTCC shall release control for:
 - i. Altitude, speed, and vectors
- c. All sectors, outside of control boxes, need to coordinate for control unless otherwise stated in attachments a/b.

6. ZFW Will Ensure

- a. Aircraft landing within ZHU shall be assigned a route/altitude IAW with the route/altitude charts contained within Attachment B.
- b. AUST Arrivals from DAL-H/ACT-L:
 - i. SEWZY and BLEWE STARs will be treated as one with sequencing between like types.
 - ii. Aircraft landing GTU will be assigned 13,000ft. ZFW will hand off to Gray ARAC.
 - iii. EDC, RYW, T74, and 3R9 arrivals:
 1. Will be treated as one with sequencing between like types.
 2. Will cross BLEWE at or below 16,000ft, and below all other arrivals destined to AUST.
 - iv. HYI arrivals must cross ZFW/ZHU boundary at or below FL230.
 - v. BMQ and DZB arrivals must cross ZFW/ZHU boundary at or below FL200.
 - vi. SEWZY RNAV STAR Arrivals:
 1. For aircraft at or above 17,000ft:
 - a. AUS North flow: cross SSOLO at an assigned altitude between 17,000 and FL220.
 - b. AUS South flow: cross SSOLO at an assigned altitude between 17,000 and FL190.
 2. For aircraft at or below 16,000ft or aircraft unable to maintain 280 knots at SSOLO, ZFW may assign altitudes between 13,000 and 16,000ft.
 3. ZFW may delete the 280 knot speed restriction at SSOLO. "NOSPD" must be indicated in the 4th line of the data block.
 4. ZHU will issue a "descend via" clearance.

7. ZHU Will Ensure

- a. Aircraft landing within ZFW shall be assigned a route/altitude IAW with the route/altitude charts contained within Attachment A.
- b. Aircraft on a SID, entering ZFW, shall be left on the SID.

Attachment A.

Route and Altitude Restrictions (Entering ZFW)

JEN: Glen Rose Specialty (ZFW 82, 61, 65 HIGH and 40, 43, 62 LOW)

East Satellite (ESAT): ADS, CPT, F41, F46, FWS, GKY, GPM, HQZ, JWY, LNC, RBD, TKI.

West Satellite (WSAT): 50F, AFW, DTO, FTW, LUD, NFW, WEA

CQY: Cedar Creek Specialty (ZFW 89, 86, 28 HIGH and 29, 30 LOW)

ESAT: ADS, F46, HQZ, TKI

WSAT: 50F, AFW, CPT, DTO, FTW, FWS, GKY, GPM, JWY, LNC, LUD, NFW, RBD, WEA

Attachment B. Route and Altitude Restrictions (Entering ZHU)

HOUT: All airports within Houston Terminal Area

HSATS: 54T, AXH, EFD, GLS, HPY, IWS, LBX, LVJ, SGR, T00, T41, TME

Attachment C.

ZFW High, Low, and TRACON sectors

Attachment D.

ZFW Low and TRACON Sectors

Attachment E.

ZHU Ultra High Sectors

Attachment F.

ZHU High Sectors

Attachment G.

ZHU Low Sectors

Attachment H.

Control Boxes

Attachment A.

TO	FROM/OVER	QUALIFIER	ROUTE	RESTRICTION
DFW	RSG Specialty	RNAV Jet	(N) GUTZZ.SOCKK#	GUTZZ AOB290
			(S) GUTZZ.BOOVE#	D350
		RNAV Prop	GUTZZ.ZROBA#	(N) GUTZZ AOB290 (S) D350
		Non-RNAV	JUMBO..TTT	(N) GUTZZ AOB290 (S) D350
	AUS Specialty	Prop	(N) NAVYS.CQY# (S) NAVYS.YEAGR#	AOB180
	LFK Specialty (West of LFK)	RNAV Jet	(N) STUFT/CRIED.WHINY# (S) STUFT/CRIED.BEREE#	
		Non-RNAV Jet	CQY.CQY#	
		Prop	(N) CQY.CQY# (S) CQY.YEAGR#	AOB180
	LFK Specialty (East of LFK)	RNAV Jet	(N) PNUTS.WHINY# (S) PNUTS.BEREE#	
		Non-RNAV Jet	AEX.CQY#	
		Prop	(N) AEX.CQY# (S) AEX.YEAGR#	
DAL	RSG Specialty	RNAV Jet	(N) DITSY.DRYYE# (S) DITSY.BACHR#	DITSY AOB310
		RNAV Prop	DITSY.SWVAY#	DITSY AOB310
		Non-RNAV	JUMBO..TTT	JUMBO AOB310
	AUS Specialty	RNAV	(N) NAVYS/CHEVE.MNND0# (S) NAVYS/CHEVE.REDDN#	AOB230
		Non-RNAV	NAVYS.YEAGR#	AOB230
	LFK Specialty (West of LFK)	RNAV	(N) MAJKK.MNND0# (S) MAJKK.REDDN#	AOB300
		Non-RNAV Jet	GIFFA.YEAGR#	AOB300
		Non-RNAV Prop	LOA.YEAGR#	AOB180
	LFK Specialty (East of LFK)	RNAV	(N) PNUTS.MNND0# (S) PNUTS.REDDN#	
		Non-RNAV	AEX.YEAGR#	
DSATS	RSG Specialty	RNAV	SPPAD/BIEST.LIKES#	SPPAD/BIEST AOB270
			DITSY.SWVAY#	DITSY AOB310
		Non-RNAV	JUMBO..TTT	JUMBO AOB270
	AUS Specialty	RNAV	NAVYS/CHEVE.REEKO# (N) NAVYS/CHEVE.EESAT# (S) NAVYS/CHEVE.LOADS#	AOB230
		Non-RNAV	NAVYS.DODJE# NAVYS.YEAGR#	AOB230

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TO	FROM/OVER	QUALIFIER	ROUTE	RESTRICTION
DSATS	LFK Specialty (West of LFK)	RNAV	CRIED.REEKO# (N) GIFFA..JROAM.EESAT# (S) GIFFA..JROAM.LOADS#	AOB300
		Non-RNAV	GIFFA.YEAGR# LOA.DODJE#	
	LFK Specialty (East of LFK)	RNAV	PNUTS.REEKO# (N) PNUTS.EESAT# (S) PNUTS.LOADS#	
		Non-RNAV	AEX.DODJE# AEX.YEAGR#	
ABI/DYS	Sector 74/76	ALL	ALL	AOB280
ACTT	ZHU	ALL	ALL	D130
GGGT	ZHU	ALL	Entering F29 DON-L	D130
MLUT/ SJTT/GRKT	ZHU	ALL	ALL	D130 or lower cruise. ZFW control on contact
MAFT	West of V68	ALL	ALL	AOB260
SHVT	East of LFK	ALL	ALL	D130
ZFW	IAH/CXO/DWH Departures	Slow Climbing Jets	INDIE#/LURIC#/LFK#/ELD#	REQ FL270+ stopped at FL270. ZFW CTRL climb & speed
		All Other Jets	INDIE#/LURIC#/LFK#/ELD#	REQ FL310+ stopped at FL310. ZFW CTRL climb & speed

Attachment B.

TO	FROM/OVER	QUALIFIER	ROUTE	RESTRICTION
IAH	JEN Area	RNAV Jet	(E) DIESL.GUSHR# (E) DIESL.TTORO#	Route assigned by ZHU TMU
			(W) DIESL.DRLLR# (W) DIESL.MSCOT#	
		RNAV Props	BGOHH.BAZBL#	
		All Non-RNAV	LLO.RIICE#	
	DAL Area	RNAV Jet	(E) TORNN.GUSHR#	AOB290
			(W) TORNN.DRLLR#	AOB370
		RNAV Props	ELLVR.BAZBL#	AOB230
		Non-RNAV Jets	TORNN.RIICE#	(E) AOB290 (W) AOB370
		Non-RNAV Props	TORNN.RIICE#	AOB230
	CQY Area	RNAV Jet & Turboprop	(E) SWEUP.GESNR# (W) SWEUP.ZEEKK#	ZHU will issue correct flow STAR
		RNAV Piston	SWEUP..LYMBO.OHIO#	
	SHVT/GGGT	All RNAV	(E) PLANB.GESNR# (W) PLANB.ZEEKK#	AOB230
		All Non-RNAV	LFK.OHIO#	
HOU	JEN Area	RNAV Jet	LLO.KIDDZ#	
		RNAV Prop	BGOHH.SNDAY#	
		All Non-RNAV	LLO..CLL..	
	DAL Area	RNAV Jet	NNEAL.KIDDZ#	AOB360
		RNAV Prop	ELLVR.SNDAY#	AOB280 & IAH/HOU ARRS
		All Non-RNAV	CLL..	
	CQY Area	RNAV Jet	SWEUP.WAPPL#	
		Non-RNAV Jet	SWEUP.. BRWCK.HUDZY#	
		RNAV Prop	SWEUP..CESAN.CESAN#	
		Non-RNAV Prop	SBI..KHOU	
	SHVT/GGGT	RNAV Jet	PLANB.WAPPL#	AOB230
		RNAV Prop	PLANB..CESAN.CESAN#	
		Non-RNAV Jet	LOA..CLL..	AOB180
		Non-RNAV Prop	LOA..CLL..	

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TO	FROM/OVER	QUALIFIER	ROUTE	RESTRICTION
CXO/DWH T78/6R3	JEN Area	RNAV	BGOHH.BAZBL#	
		Non-RNAV	LLO.RIICE#	
	DAL Area	RNAV	ELLVR.BAZBL#	AOB230 & IAH ARRS
		Non-RNAV	TORNN.RIICE#	
	CQY Area	All	LFK/AEX.OHIO#	LFK TRNSN AOB230

TO	FROM/OVER	QUALIFIER	ROUTE	RESTRICTION
EFD/GLS LBX	JEN Area	RNAV Jets	DILLO.KIDDZ#	
		RNAV Props	BGOHH.SNDAY#	
		All Non-RNAV	LLO..CLL..	
	DAL Area	RNAV Jets	ELLVR/NNEAL.KIDDZ#	AOB360
		RNAV Props	ELLVR/NNEAL.SNDAY#	AOB280
		All Non-RNAV	CLL..	
	CQY Area	RNAV Jet	SWEUP.WAPPL#	
		Non-RNAV Jet	SWEUP..BRWCK.HUDZY#	
		RNAV Prop	SWEUP..CESAN.CESAN#	
		Non-RNAV Prop	SBI..	
	SHVT/GGGT	RNAV Jet	PLANB.WAPPL#	AOB230
		RNAV Prop	PLANB..CESAN.CESAN#	
		All Non-RNAV	LOA..CLL..	AOB180
54T/AXH HPY/IWS LVJ/SGR TME/T00 T41	JEN Area	All RNAV	BGOHH.SNDAY#	
		All Non-RNAV	LLO..CLL..	
	DAL Area	All RNAV	ELLVR/NNEAL.SNDAY#	AOB280
		All Non-RNAV	CLL..	
	CQY Area	RNAV Jet	SWEUP.WAPPL#	
		Non-RNAV Jet	SWEUP..BRWCK.HUDZY#	
		RNAV Prop	SWEUP..CESAN.CESAN#	
		Non-RNAV Prop	SBI..	
	SHVT/GGGT	RNAV Jet	PLANB.WAPPL#	AOB230
		RNAV Prop	PLANB..CESAN.CESAN#	
		All Non-RNAV	LOA..CLL..	AOB180
CLLT	J25 East to J33	All	DIRECT	AOB230

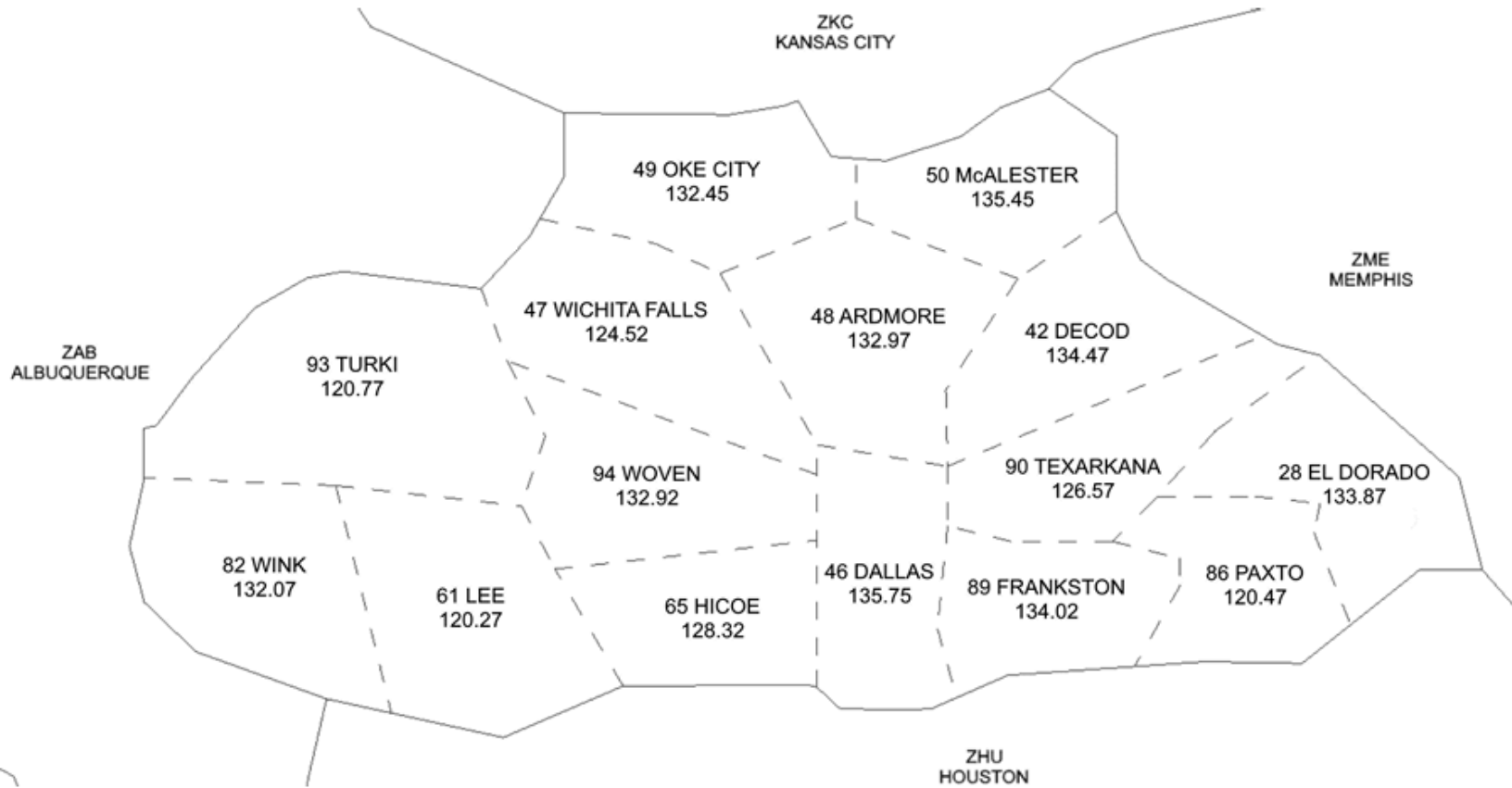
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AUS	JEN Area	RNAV Jets	UCOKA/DILLO.LAICS#	From F65 HIC-H: AOB290
		RNAV Prop	UCOKA/WINEE.SZAGI#	From F61 LEE-H: AOB350
	DAL Area	RNAV Jets & Turboprops	WINDU.SEWZY#	ZFW Gives: CROSS SSOLO between 170 and FL220 in NORTH FLOW ZFW Gives: CROSS SSOLO between 170 and FL190 in SOUTH FLOW
		Non-RNAV or Pistons	BLEWE.BLEWE#	BLEWE AOB220
	CQY Area	RNAV Jets & Turboprops	LFK..WEEED.WLEEE#	
		Non-RNAV or Pistons	IDU..IDU281R..WLEEE..	
EDC/GTU HYI/RYW T74/3R9	JEN Area	All RNAV	UCOKA/WINEE.SZAGI#	From F65 HIC-H: AOB290 From F61 LEE-H: AOB350
	DAL Area	Landing GTU	DIRECT DESTINATION	AOB130, Handoff GRK APP. GRK -> AUS at 4,000
		Landing HYI	GABOO#/BLEWE# or ..CWK..	AOB230
		All Others	GABOO#/BLEWE#	AOB160
	CQY Area	RNAV Jets & Turboprops	LFK..WEEED.POTRR#	
		Non-RNAV or Pistons	IDU..IDU281R..WLEEE..	

TO	FROM/OVER	QUALIFIER	ROUTE	RESTRICTION
SATT	JEN Area	West of SJT	SJT.TRVLL.DNKIN# or JCT.CSI#	AOB310
		East of SJT	DILLO.PPNUT.PRTZY.POPPO# or LLO.ABI.STV# or LLO.ABI.STV..	AOB290
	DAL Area	RNAV	BLEWE/NILBE/WINDU.QERVO#	
		Non-RNAV	ACT/WINDU/CWK.MARCS#	
	CQY Area	RNAV	LLEAD.QERVO#	
		Non-RNAV	LFK.MARCS# or LFK.MARCS..	
BAZ	DAL Area	ALL	ALL	AOB300

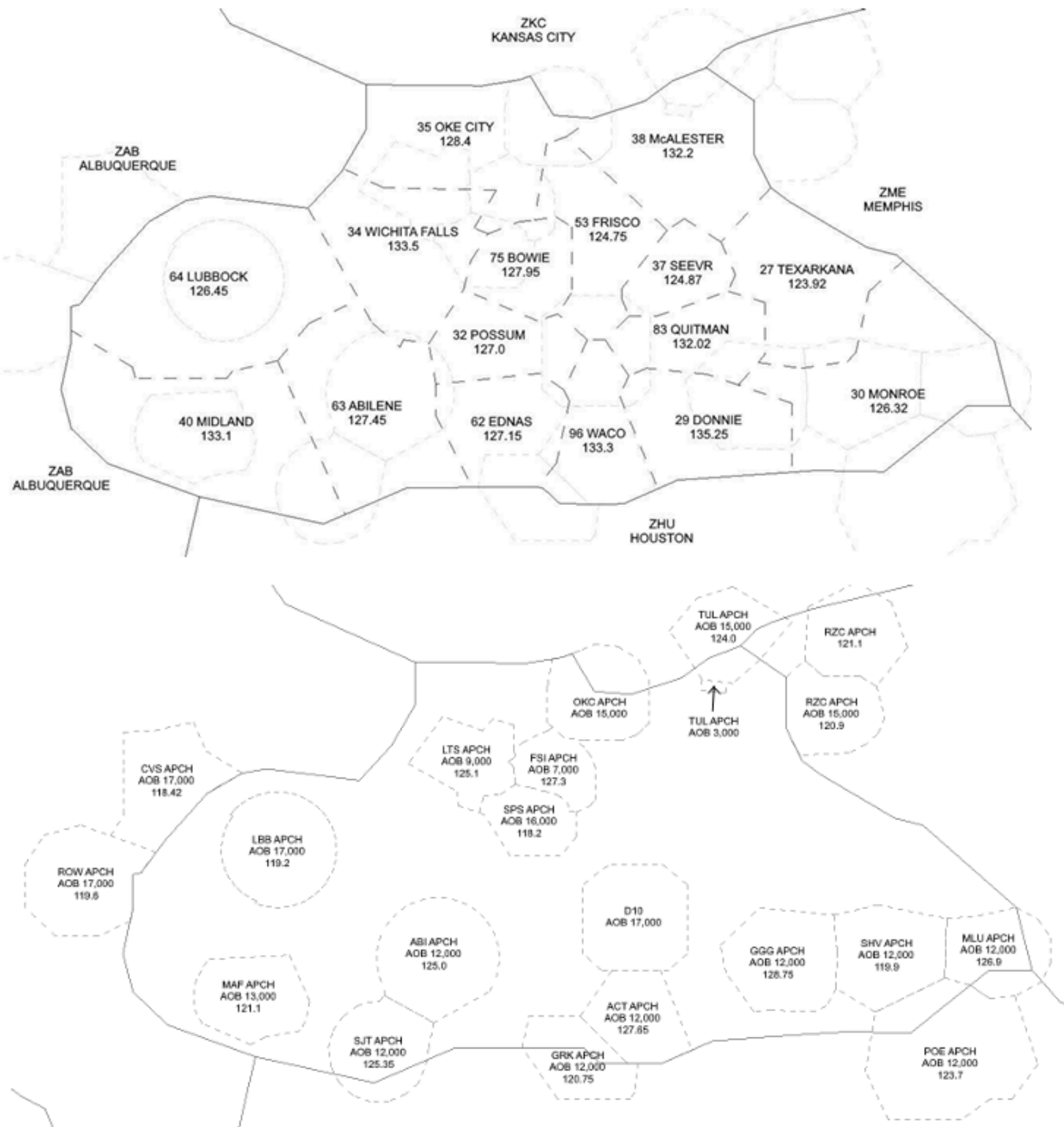
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Attachment C. ZFW High



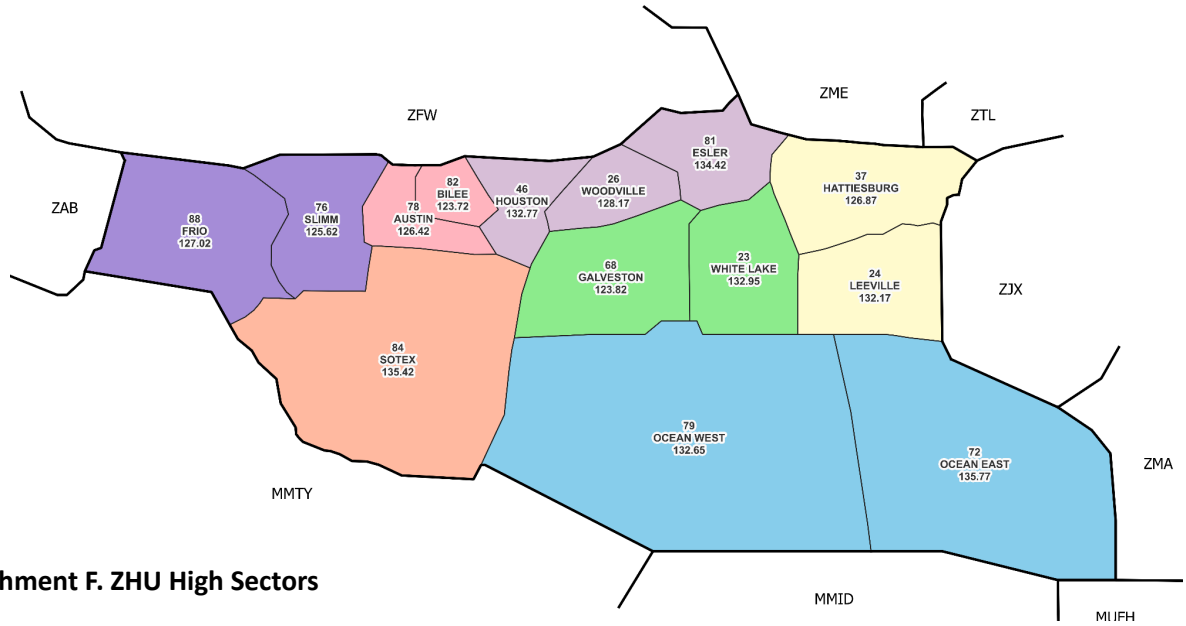
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Attachment D. ZFW LOW and TRACONS

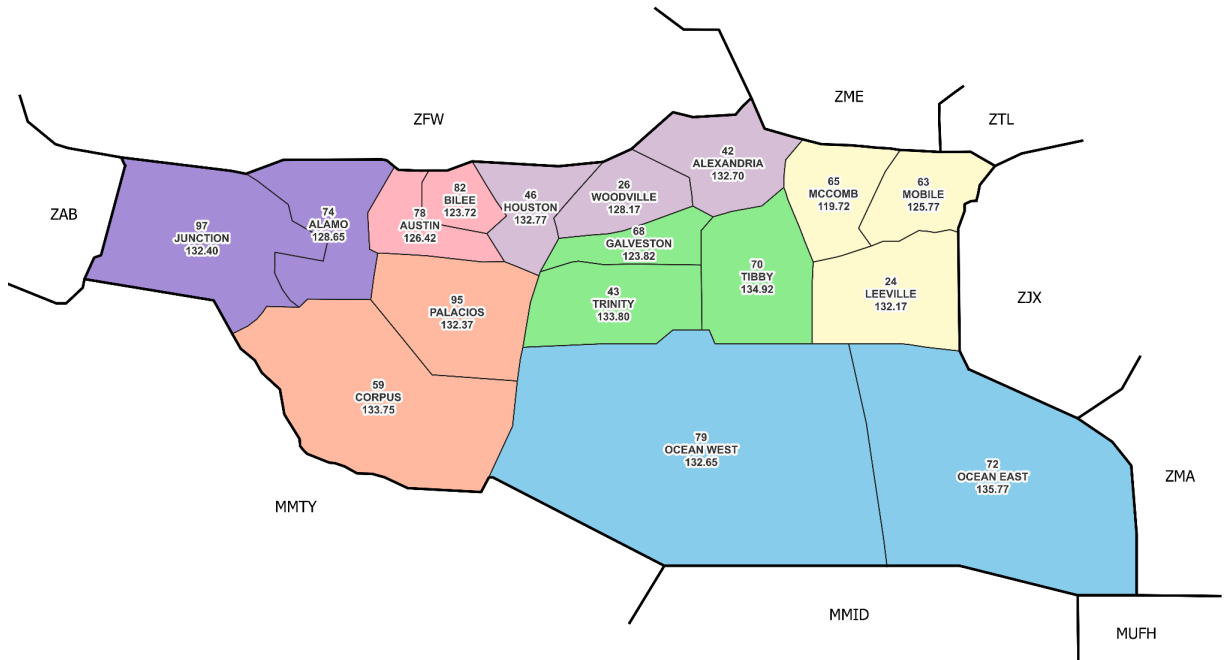


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Attachment E. ZHU Ultra High Sectors

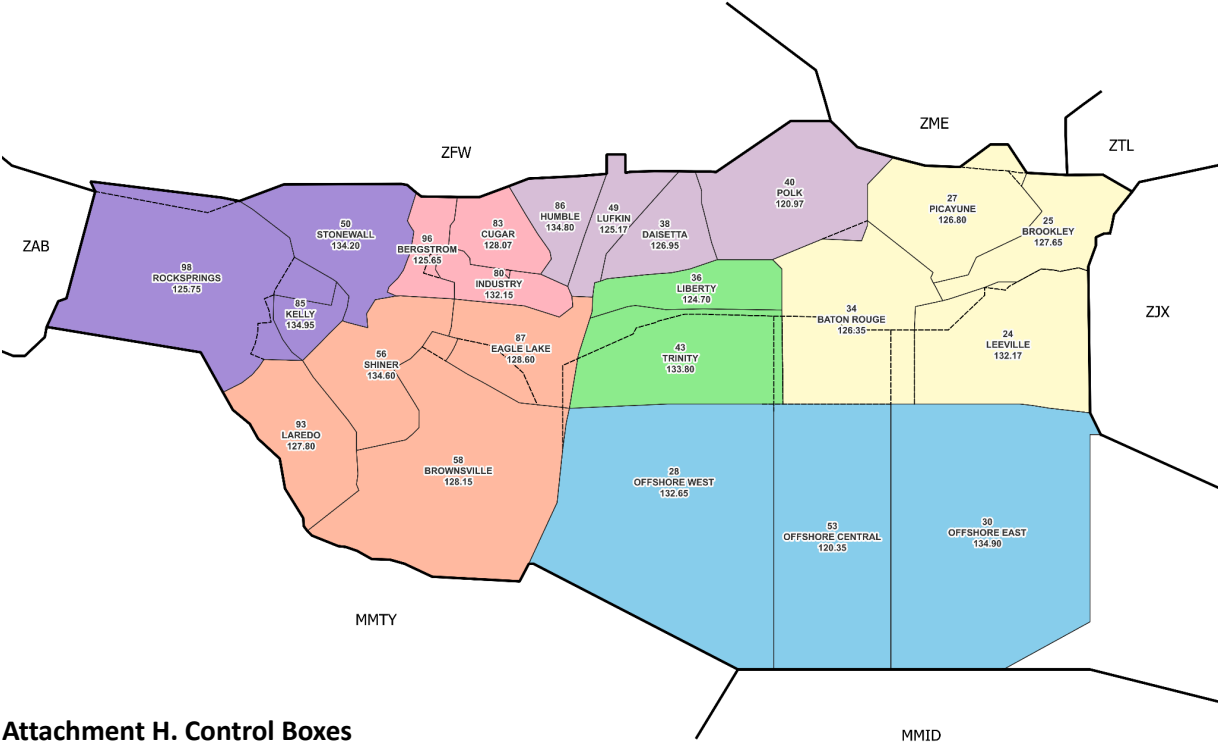


Attachment F. ZHU High Sectors

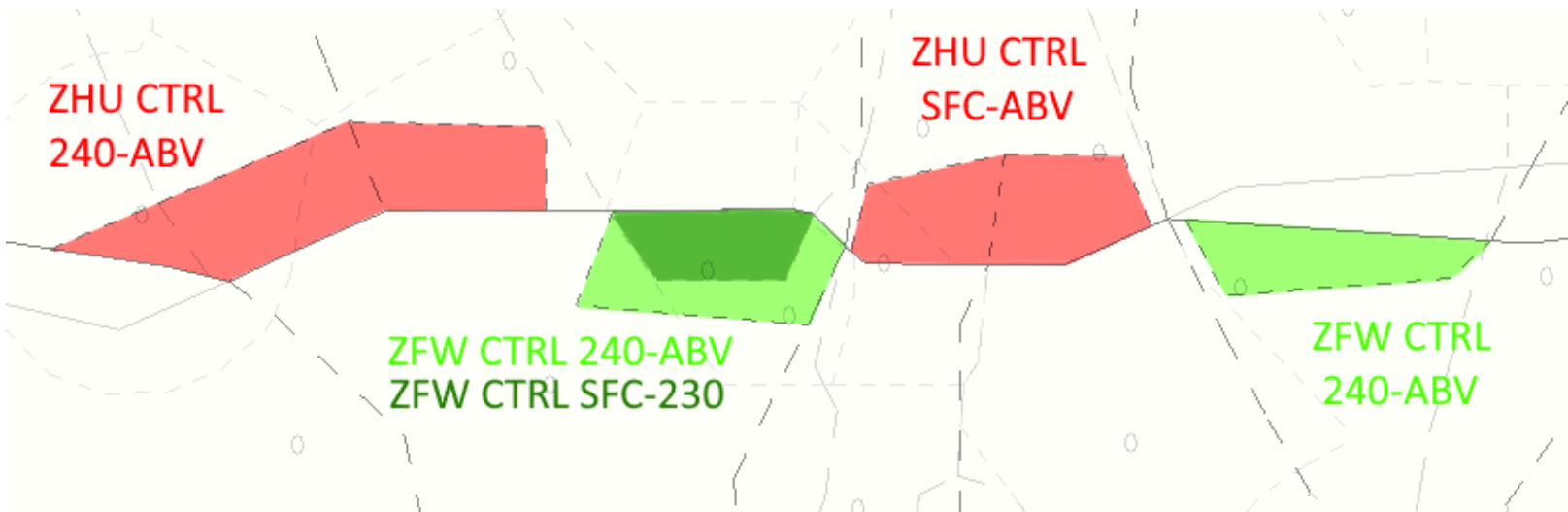


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Attachment G. ZHU Low Sectors



Attachment H. Control Boxes



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