

12/16/2021

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

2021-185/10-11

1852371

To: FAA (ATM ZLA ARTCC, ATM ZOA ARTCC, AJV-A)

Info: FAA (AVP-1, AVP-200, AFS-200, AFS-280, Director of Air Traffic Operations WSA), A4A, ALPA, AOPA, APA, ASAP, ATSAP, ATSG, CAPA, IATA, IBT, ICAO, ICASS, IFALPA, IPA, NATCA, NBAA, NTSB, RAA, SWAPA

From: Becky L. Hooey, Director
NASA Aviation Safety Reporting System

Re: Similar Sounding Fix Names - PONND/PONDD

We recently received an ASRS report describing a safety concern that may involve your area of operational responsibility. We do not have sufficient details to assess either the factual accuracy or possible gravity of the report. It is our policy to relay the reported information to the appropriate authority for evaluation and any necessary follow-up. We feel you should be aware of the enclosed deidentified report.

To properly assess the usefulness of our alert message service, we would appreciate it if you would take the time to give us your feedback on the value of the information that we have provided. Please contact Dr. Becky Hooey at (408) 541-2854 or email at becky.l.hooey@nasa.gov.



Aviation Safety Reporting System
P.O. Box 189 | Moffett Field, CA | 94035-0189



ACN 1852371

DATE / TIME

Date of Occurrence 202110
Local Time Of Day 1201 to 1800

PLACE

Locale ZOA.ARTCC
State CA
Altitude - MSL 23000

ENVIRONMENT

Flight Conditions VMC

AIRCRAFT / EQUIPMENT X

ATC / Advisory - Center ZOA
Make Model Name Small Transport, Low Wing, 2 Turbojet Eng
Operating Under FAR Part 91

PERSON 1

Function - Flight Crew Captain
Function - Flight Crew Pilot Flying
Function - Flight Crew Single Pilot
ASRS Report Number 1852371

EVENTS

Anomaly Deviation - Track / Heading - All Types
Anomaly Deviation / Discrepancy - Procedural - Clearance
Anomaly Deviation / Discrepancy - Procedural - Published
Material / Policy
Detector - Person Air Traffic Control
Detector - Person Flight Crew
Result - Flight Crew Became Reoriented
Result - Flight Crew Requested ATC Assistance / Clarification

NARRATIVE 1

In central California there are apparently two waypoints with the same sounding name. PONDD (near Bakersfield) and PONND (near Fresno). This led me to inadvertently input the wrong waypoint (PONND instead of PONDD) into my navigator on departure from FAT. Recommend a review of the two way points for renaming or deletion of one to avoid future confusion for pilots and ATC.

SYNOPSIS

Pilot flying in ZOA airspace reported a navigation error due to two waypoints in the same geographic area with similar names - PONDD and PONND.