WHAT IS NOISE?

Noise is unwanted sound that interferes with normal activities. It can interrupt an activity, interfere with communication, or disrupt sleep. When aircraft fly overhead, especially at low altitudes, many people consider it annoying and refer to what they hear as noise. The Draft EIS examines subsonic noise and supersonic noise.

Subsonic Noise

- Noise generated by aircraft engines and airframe.
- Reported as Day-Night Average Sound Level or DNL.
- DNL is a cumulative metric based on average daily aircraft operations.
- Exposure above **65 DNL** is generally considered incompatible with residential, public use, recreational, and entertainment areas.

Supersonic Noise

- Noise generated when an aircraft travels faster than the speed of sound (supersonic speed).
- Reported as C-weighted Day-Night Average Sound Level or CDNL.
- CDNL is a cumulate metric based on average daily aircraft operations.
- U.S. Army Public Health Command recommends a threshold of **62 CDNL** for noise sensitive land uses

Modeling Noise Levels

Noise analysis relies on modeling to calculate the projected DNL and CDNL. Real-time noise measurements are not possible because the proposed airspace changes have not occurred. Additionally, over such large areas, it would be virtually impossible to set up enough sensors to collect data.

For more information, please visit the project website at: www.ArizonaRegionalAirspaceEIS.com