TFDM Tech Talk: Surface Metering Programs (Part 2)



Introductions

Keith Henry FAA TFDM CSIT Lead

Melissa Brown MITRE TFDM Systems Engineering

Isaac Robeson Mosaic TFDM Systems Engineering



Agenda

- Terminal Flight Data Manager (TFDM) & Surface Management Programs (SMP) Overview
- SMP Parameters
 - SMP Parameters in TTP
 - SMP Recommendation
 - TMC Action Affirm/Defer/Reject
 - Delayed or Cancelled Flights
 - SMP Adjustments
 - Metering Mode
 - Traffic Management Initiatives (TMIs)
- Next Steps



Terminal Flight Data Manager (TFDM) Overview



TFDM Program Overview

TFDM is the surface management solution for NextGen and iTBO.

https://www.faa.gov/air traffic/technology/tfdm/

- TFDM will provide an integrated tower flight data automation system, which will improve controllers' common situational awareness.
- TFDM will improve efficiencies on the airport surface and terminal airspace by providing:
 - Electronic Flight Strips in the Tower
 - Collaborative Decision
 Making for the Surface
 - Traffic Flow Management Integration
 - Systems Consolidation



Key Benefits:

- Fuel Savings
- Carbon Emission Savings
- Improved Situational Awareness
- Pre-scheduling flights



TFDM Program Roll-Out Overview

Build 1

Key Site - PHX

- > Full hardware development to support the deployment of Build 1 & 2
- ➤ Improved Electronic Flight Data Exchange and Electronic Flight Strips
- Runway Assignment Predictions
- ➤ Maintenance tools for life cycle support
- ➤ <u>B1 TTP Service Offered</u>

Initial Operating Capability: June 2020

In-Service Decision: September 2020

Dates being replanned due to COVID-19 Impacts B1 IOC will not occur before November 2021

Build 2

Key Site - CLT

In addition to the Build 1 capabilities

- Surface Scheduling
- Surface Metering
- Runway Load Balancing
- Metric Reporting & Analysis (MRA)
- ▶ B2 TTP and TFCS Services Offered

- Initial Operating Capability: May 2021
- In-Service Decision: September 2021

Dates being replanned due to COVID-19 Impacts B2 IOC will not occur before November 2022



Surface Metering Program (SMP) Overview

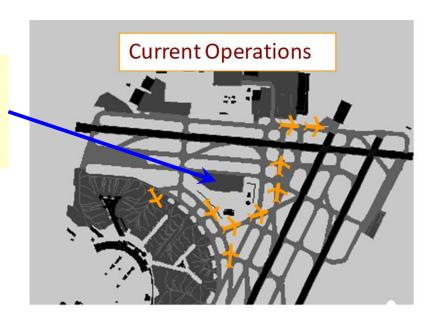


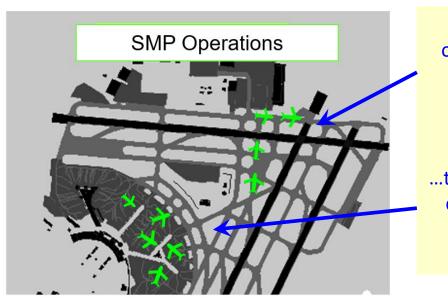


The TFDM SMP Concept

- Departure operations in the NAS are largely managed on a first come, first served basis
- The result is often long departure queues, surface congestion and excess fuel burn
- The goal of SMP operations is to manage the departure queue length by assigning equitable off block times without reducing departure throughput

Long departure queue develops as flights begin taxi as soon as they are ready





SMP operations result in shorter queues...

...through the control of pushback times



TFDM's Interface to Industry

- To interact with TFDM, stakeholders will utilize two SWIM interfaces:
 - **TFDM Terminal Publication (TTP)** Pub/sub service that provides all of TFDM's data across six business functions:
 - Flight Data
 - Airport Information
 - Flight Delay
 - Traffic Management Restrictions
 - Operational Metrics
 - Surface Management Programs
 - TFDM FOS Collaboration Service (TFCS) Request/reply service that allows stakeholders to request substitution during surface metering and indicate ramp closures/gridlock events



SMP Parameters

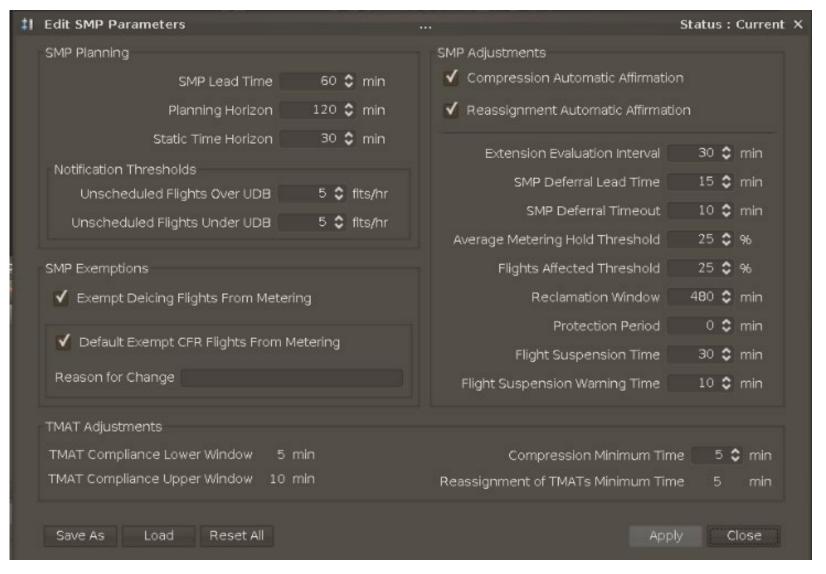


SMP Parameters Overview

- SMP Parameters are adapted or configured values that TFDM uses to predict surface schedules and meter departures
- SMP Parameters will need to be calibrated at each TFDM site
- SMP Parameters will be discussed as part of the Surface Working Groups at each TFDM site
- The TMC can update configurable SMP Parameters as needed
- SMP Parameter updates are published through TTP

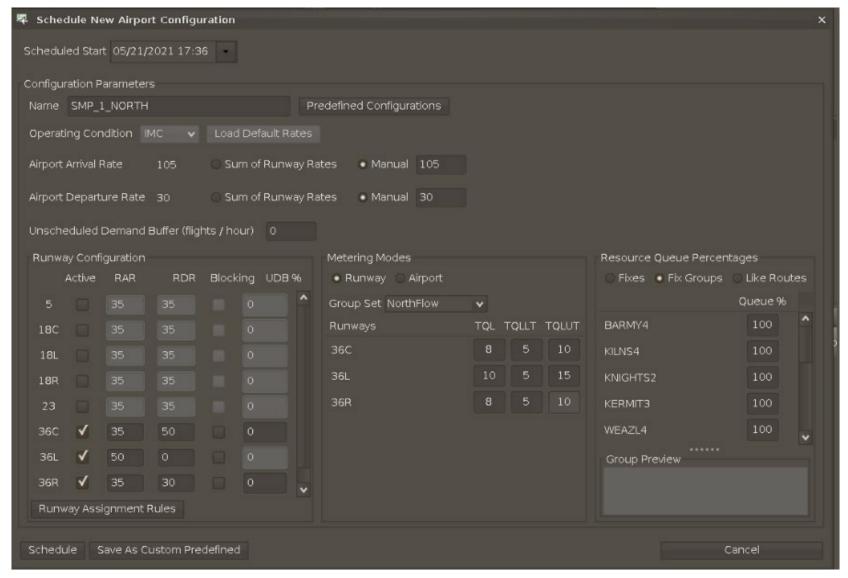


SMP Parameters





SMP Parameters associated with Airport Config



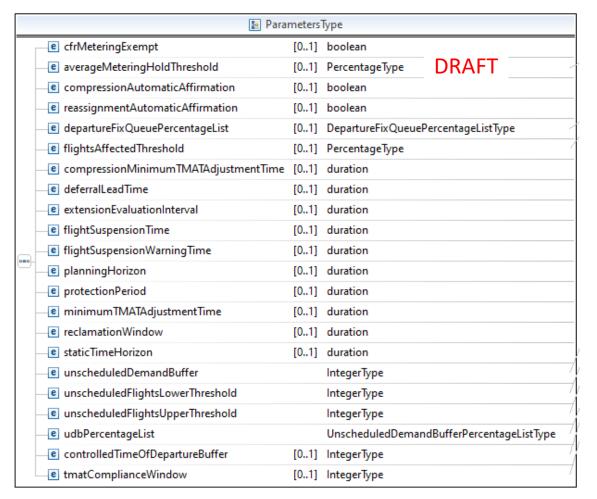


SMP Parameters in TFDM Terminal Publication (TTP)



Some SMP Parameters are independent of the airport configuration

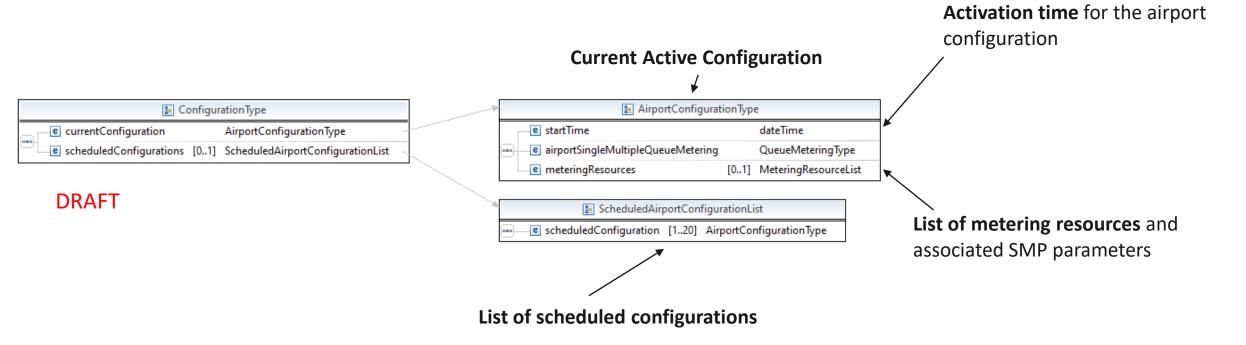
• surfaceMeteringProgram/smpDataMessage/parameters





Other SMP parameters are associated with current and scheduled configurations

surfaceMeteringProgram/smpDataMessage/configuration





SMP Parameters and SMP Recommendations



SMP Parameters – Demand and Capacity Prediction

Capacity

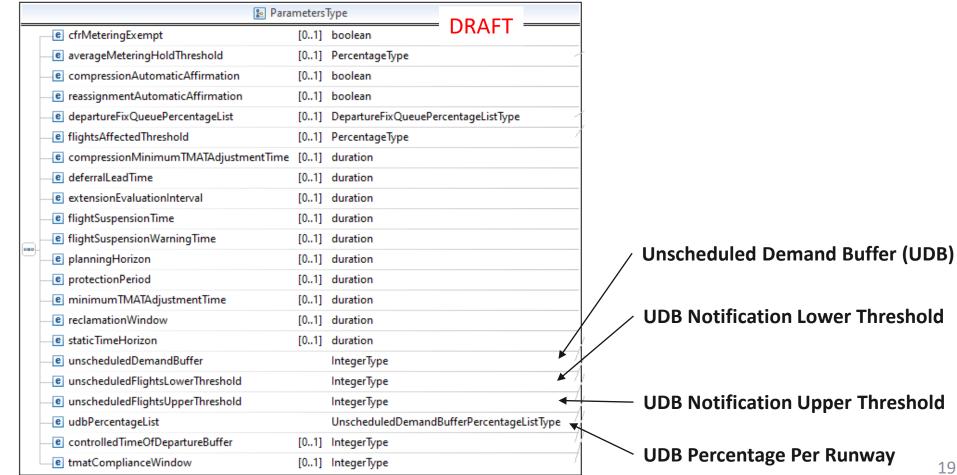
- Runway capacity based on wake vortex separation and Runway Arrival Rate (RAR) / Runway Departure Rate (RDR)
- RAR and RDR can be set by the TMC for a given configuration
- RAR and RDR are published in the TTP Airport Information Service as part of the active and scheduled configurations list

Demand

- Demand primarily based upon flight operator data (EOBTs, flight plans, etc)
- Future unscheduled demand can be accounted for by using the Unscheduled Demand Buffer (UDB)
 - Creates placeholder demand to help reduce metering uncertainty
 - UDB is split across runways based on configurable percentages
 - A notification will be sent out TTP if the number of unscheduled flights in an hour is outside set thresholds around the set UDB



- Some SMP Parameters are independent of the airport configuration
 - surfaceMeteringProgram/smpDataMessage/parameters





SMP Parameters – SMP Recommendation

Target Queue Length:

TFDM will assign metering holds to flights during an SMP to maintain the queue at the Target Queue Length

Upper Threshold:

TFDM will detect and demand/capacity imbalance if the predicted queue exceeds the Upper Threshold

SMP Lead Time:

The maximum amount of time in advance of the start of an imbalance that TFDM will recommend an SMP for that imbalance

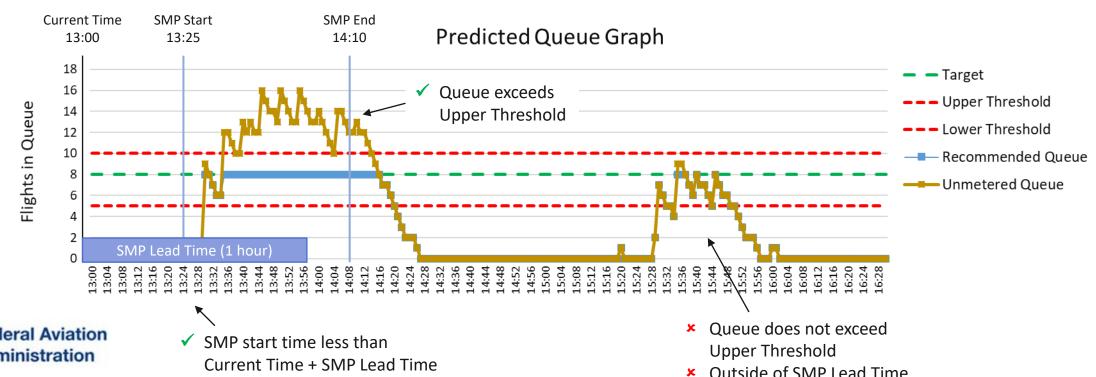
Planning Horizon:

The maximum SMP duration that TFDM will recommend



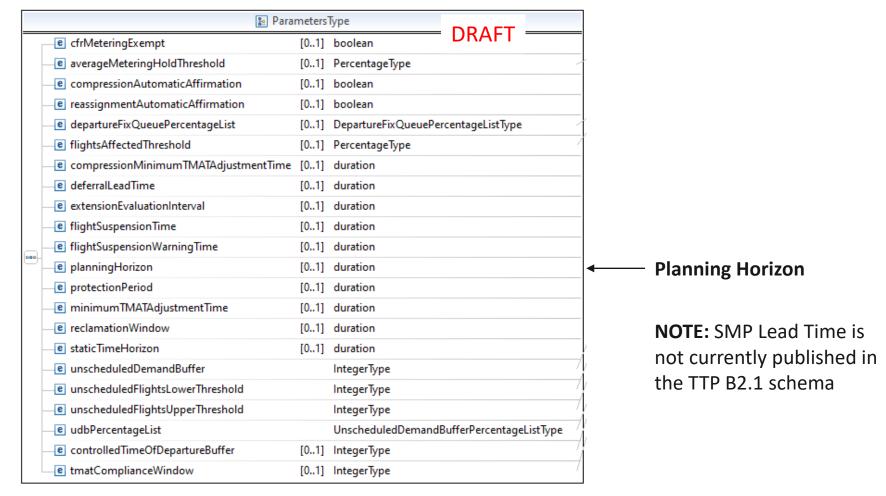
SMP Parameters – SMP Recommendation

- TFDM recommends the start and end times of the SMP based on the EOBTs of flights that will enter the queue during the imbalance
 - End time cannot be later than (Start Time + Planning Horizon)
 - In this example, Planning Horizon = 2 hours, so end time is limited by imbalance, not be the Planning Horizon



Outside of SMP Lead Time

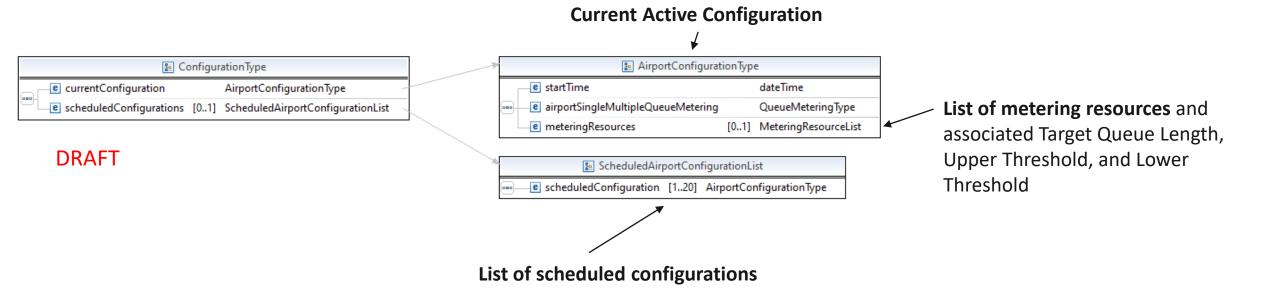
- Some SMP Parameters are independent of the airport configuration
 - surfaceMeteringProgram/smpDataMessage/parameters





Other SMP parameters are associated with current and scheduled configurations

surfaceMeteringProgram/smpDataMessage/configuration





TMC Actions



TMC actions

When an SMP is recommended the ATCT TMC can take three actions:

- Affirm: TMATs are assigned
- Reject: TMATs are not assigned
 - The TMC can also reject an affirmed or active SMP which will removed the assigned TMATs
- **Defer**: Indicate intent to wait to take action
 - The TMC then has the option to later affirm or reject the SMP



TMC Actions and Associated SMP Parameters

- Deferred SMP Parameters
 - SMP Deferral Timeout Time following the deferral of an SMP after which a
 Deferred SMP is automatically changed back to a Recommended SMP
 - **SMP Deferral Lead Time** Configurable length of time before a recommended SMP start time within which an SMP can longer be deferred
- Re-recommending a rejected SMP
 - Manually The TMC can force TFDM to re-recommend a rejected SMP
 - Automatically
 - Flights Affected Threshold If the number of affected flights changes by more than this set percentage, TFDM will automatically re-recommend the SMP
 - Average Metering Hold Threshold If the average metering hold changes by more than this set percentage, TFDM will automatically re-recommend the SMP



Some SMP Parameters are independent of the airport configuration

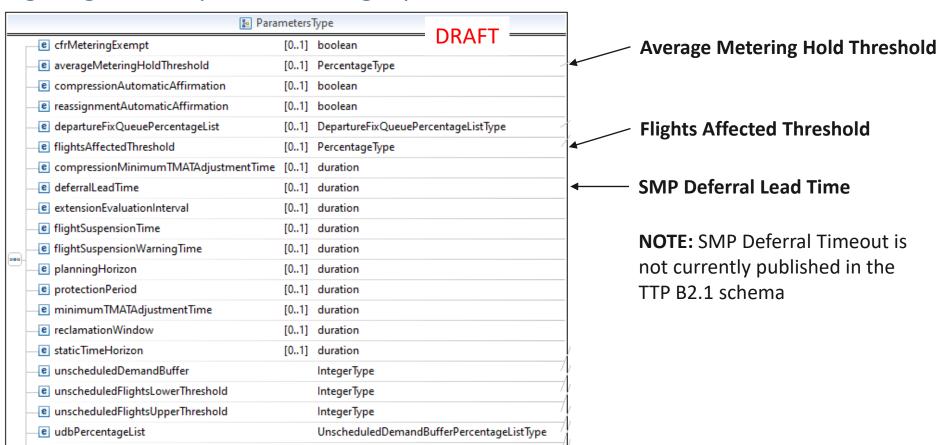
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• surfaceMeteringProgram/smpDataMessage/parameters

controlledTimeOfDepartureBuffer

e tmatComplianceWindow





SMP States

- Recommended: TFDM is recommending the SMP and no action has been taken
- Affirmed: The TMC has affirmed the SMP
- Active: A previously affirmed SMP has now started
- Completed: An active SMP has finished
- Rejected: The TMC rejected the SMP
- Deferred: The TMC deferred a recommended SMP
- Obsolete: TFDM recommended an SMP at one point, but is no longer recommending it
- Expired: No action was taken on a recommended SMP



Metered Flight Delays and Cancellations



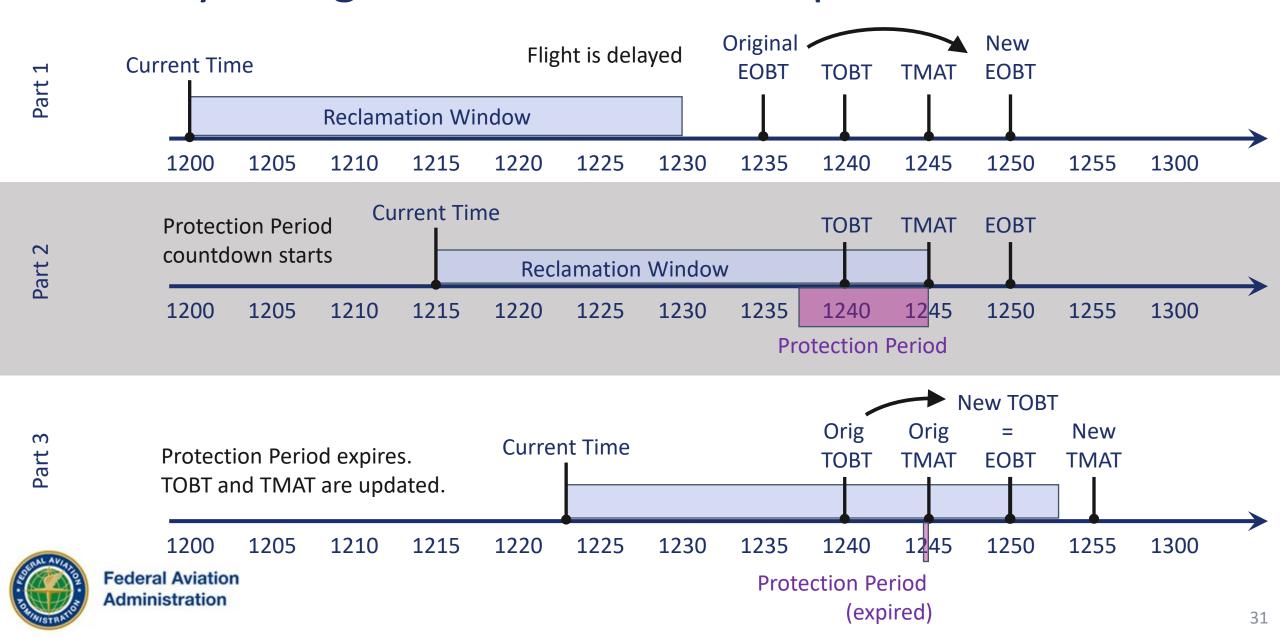
SMP Parameters—Delayed/Canceled Flights

When a flight operator cancels a metered flight or delays a metered flight such that EOBT > TOBT, the flight operator has some amount of time to substitute for the metered flight

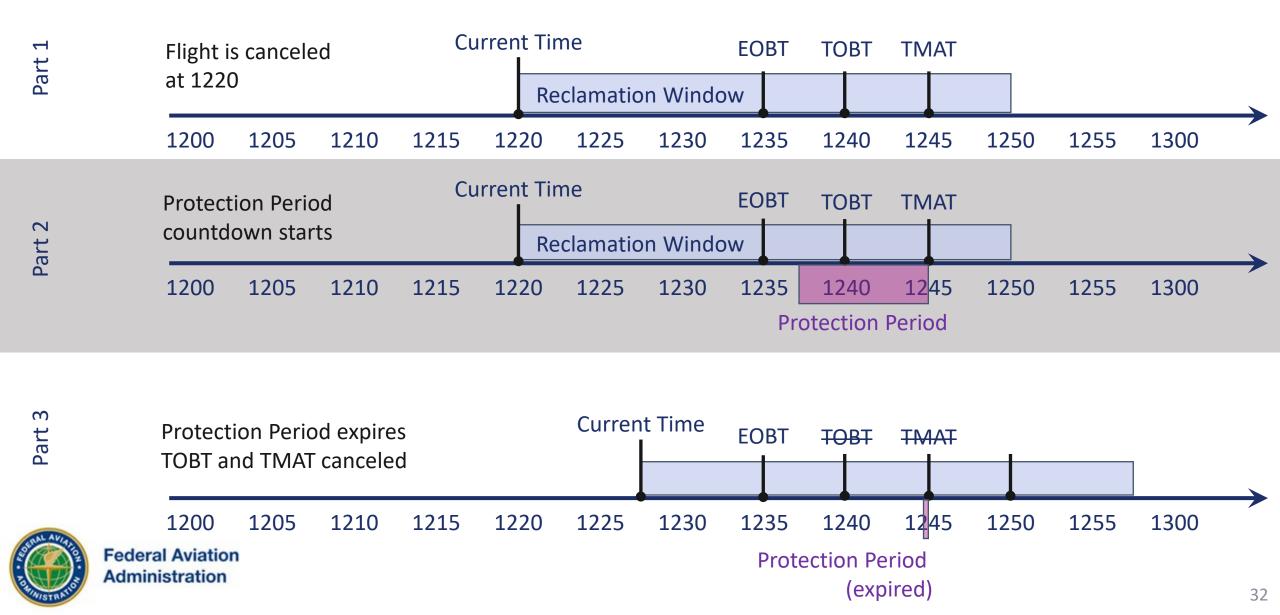
- If no action is taken,
 - A delayed flight will be assigned a new TOBT = EOBT and TMAT = EOBT + RTT
 - A canceled flight will be removed
- This amount of time is controlled by two SMP Parameters
 - **Reclamation Window:** Period of time measured from the current time forward beyond which the TFDM automation will not act on a canceled or delayed flight to reclaim capacity
 - **Protection Period:** Period of time that a flight operator has to substitute a delayed or canceled flight before the TFDM automation can reclaim the allocated capacity



Delayed Flight Reclamation Example



Canceled Flight Reclamation Example

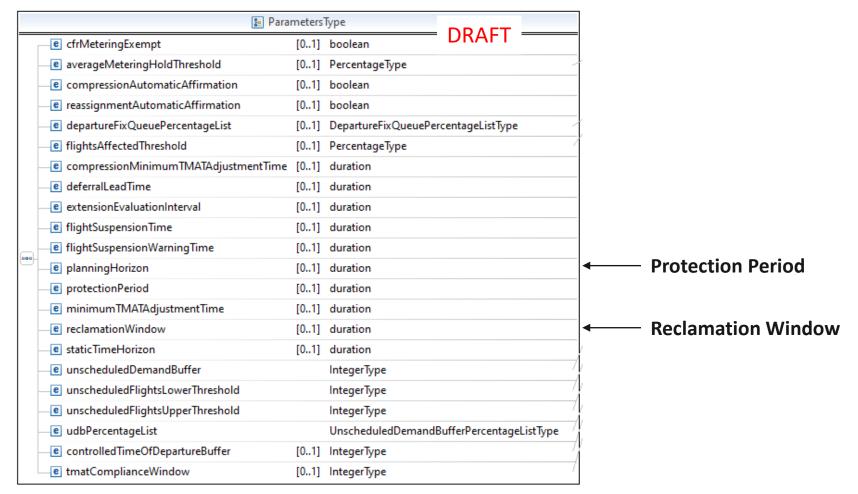


Reclamation of Delayed and Cancelled Flights

- The reclamation process can be short-circuited by the flight operator
 - Setting the flight's "TMAT relinquish" flag to TRUE via TFCS
 - Updating the EOBT such that EOBT < TOBT
 - Substituting the flight with another flight such that the new TMAT is outside the Reclamation Window
- See Tech Talk on Substitution: https://cdm.fly.faa.gov/wp-content/uploads/Tech-Talks-Substitution-FINAL.pdf
- If flight operators at a TFDM do not intend to make use of the reclamation process,
 - The Reclamation Window should be set to a large value and the Protection Period should be set to 0
 - This setting will immediately reclaim flights' TMATs and allow TFDM to compress the SMP if need be



- Some SMP Parameters are independent of the airport configuration
 - surfaceMeteringProgram/smpDataMessage/parameters





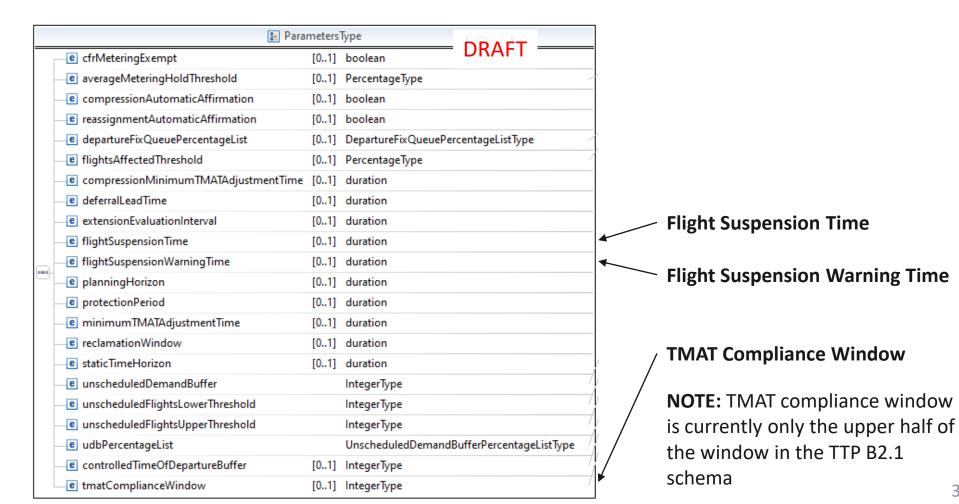
SMP Parameters -- TMAT Compliance and Missed TMATs

- Compliance is measured based on the TMAT
 - TMAT Compliance Window: Agreed upon window around the TMAT (in minutes) within which flights are considered compliant
 - TMAT Compliance Window has both an upper and lower parameter
 - Expected to be adapted nationally and symmetrically (upper = lower)
- If a flight misses its TMAT, the flight has a period of time to either update its EOBT or comply with the TMAT
 - Flight Suspension Warning Time
 - Configurable length of time after the initial missed TMAT notification indicating that if no action is taken by a specified time, the TMAT will be removed and the flight will be removed from the demand list.
 - Flight Suspension Time
 - Configurable length of time after the flight suspension warning notification indicating that if no action is taken, the TMAT will be removed and the flight will be removed from the demand list.



Some SMP Parameters are independent of the airport configuration

• surfaceMeteringProgram/smpDataMessage/parameters



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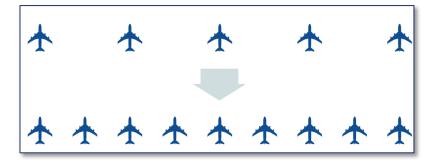


SMP Adjustments

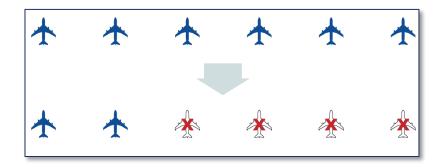


SMP Adjustment Types

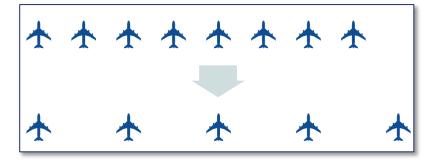
Compression



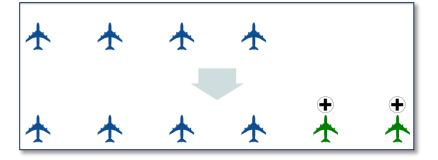
Termination



Reassignment of TMATs



Extension





Cumulative adjustments are a combination of two or more of the above types into a single SMP adjustment

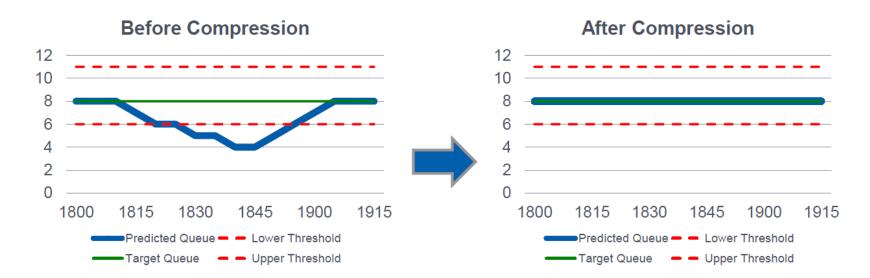
SMP Adjustment TMC Actions

- Similar to SMPs, TFDM will recommend an SMP adjustment when it detects the need
- The TMC can take one of three actions
 - Affirm: TMATs will be updated
 - Compression and Reassignment Adjustments can be auto-affirmed
 - Reject: TMATs will not be updated
 - **Defer**: Indicates TMC's intention to wait to take action



Compression Adjustments

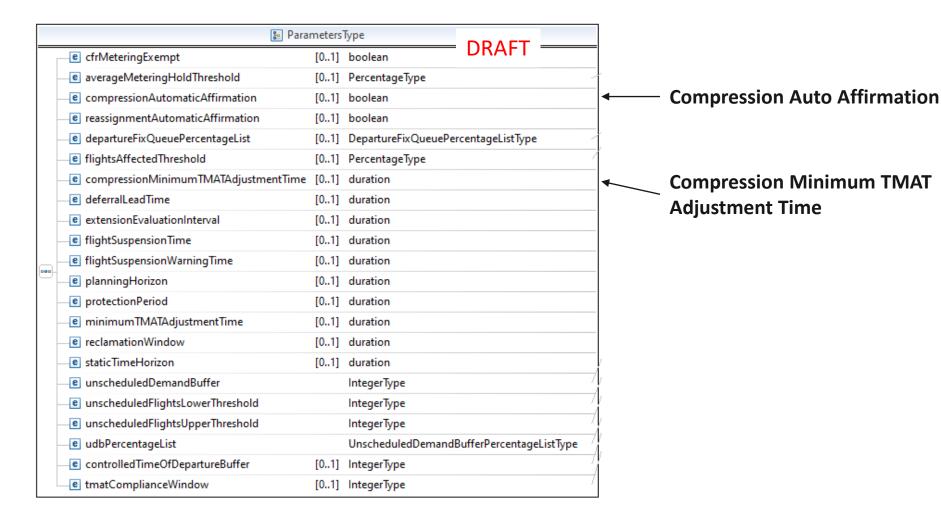
- TFDM will recommend an SMP Compression if the predicted metered queue drops below the Lower Threshold during an affirmed/active SMP
- If affirmed, TFDM will reduce metering holds on flights to increase the number of flights in queue
- A flights TOBT and TMAT cannot be compressed earlier than the flight's EOBT
- A flight's TOBT and TMAT will only change if they will be moved earlier by more than the Compression Minimum TMAT Adjustment Time





Some SMP Parameters are independent of the airport configuration

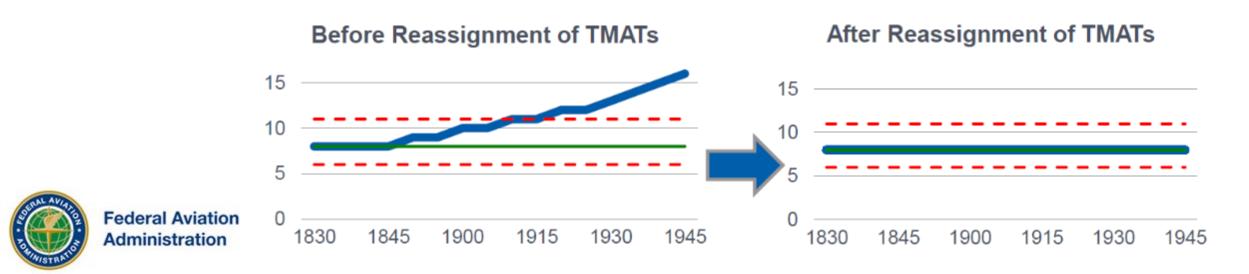
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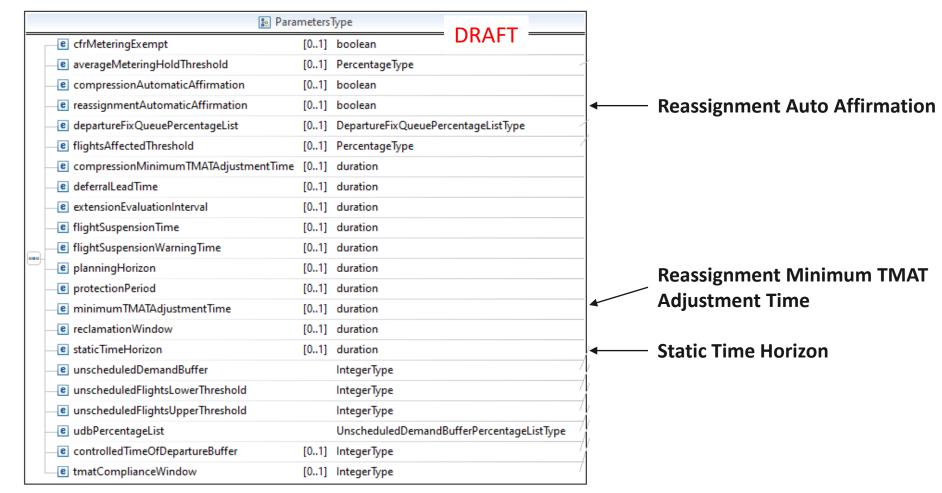


Reassignment of TMATs Adjustments

- TFDM will recommend an SMP Reassignment of TMATs if the predicted metered queue goes above the Upper Threshold during an affirmed/active SMP
- If affirmed, TFDM will increase gate holds to reduce the number of flights in queue
- TFDM will only update TMATs outside of the Static Time Horizon
- TFDM will only update a flight's TMAT if the increase in gate hold is more than the Reassignment of TMATs Minimum TMAT Adjustment Time



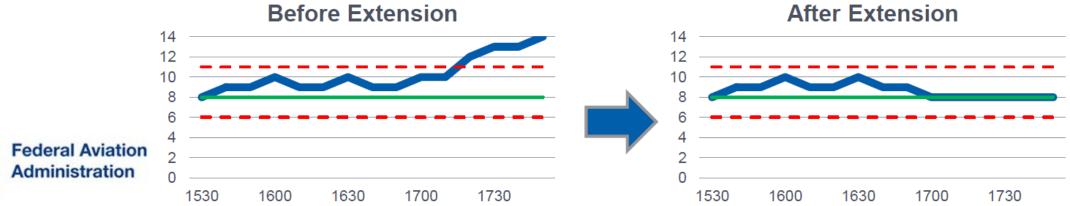
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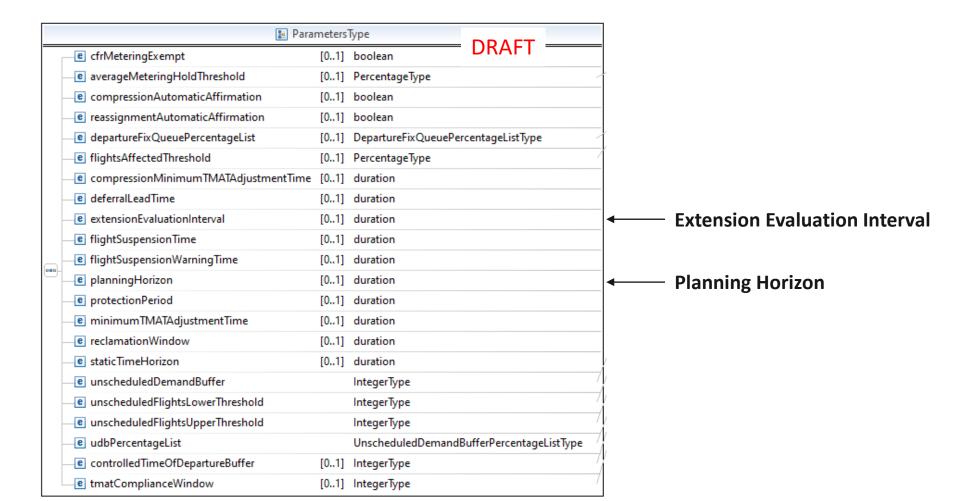


Extension Adjustments

- TFDM will recommend an SMP Extension if the predicted metered queue goes above the Upper Threshold after an affirmed/active SMP
- If affirmed, the SMP extension will move the SMP end time to the earlier of
 - Current time + Planning Horizon
 - Latest EOBT of flights that cause the predicted metered queue to exceed the Upper Threshold
- Flights within the new end time will be assigned a TOBT and TMAT
- TFDM will evaluate the need for an SMP adjustment at a rate set by the Extension Evaluation Interval



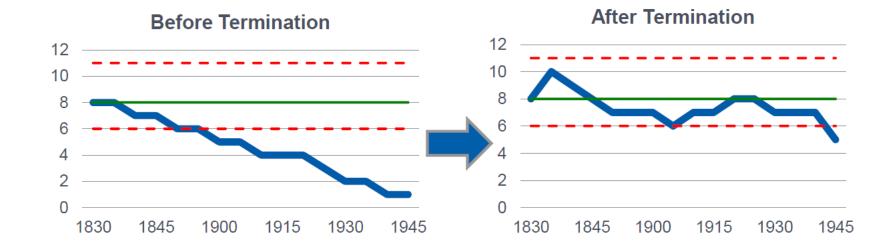
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Early Termination Adjustments

- TFDM will recommend an SMP Termination if the predicted metered queue goes below the Lower Threshold during an SMP and the predicted unmetered queue drops below the Upper Threshold
- If affirmed, TFDM will shorten the SMP and remove the TOBTs and TMATs of flights that are no longer affected by the SMP
- A TFDM termination could end an SMP immediately or it could just reduce the SMP duration





Cumulative Adjustments

- TFDM will recommend an SMP Cumulative Adjustment if two or more of the other types are recommended at the same time
- TFDM will set the state of the other adjustments to "Superseded" in this case
- The SMP parameters that apply to the other types of adjustments apply similarly to Cumulative Adjustments
 - If increasing gate holds, then the Static Time Horizon and Reassignment Minimum TMAT Adjustment Time apply
 - If reducing gate holds, then the Compression Minimum TMAT Adjustment Time applies



SMP Metering Mode

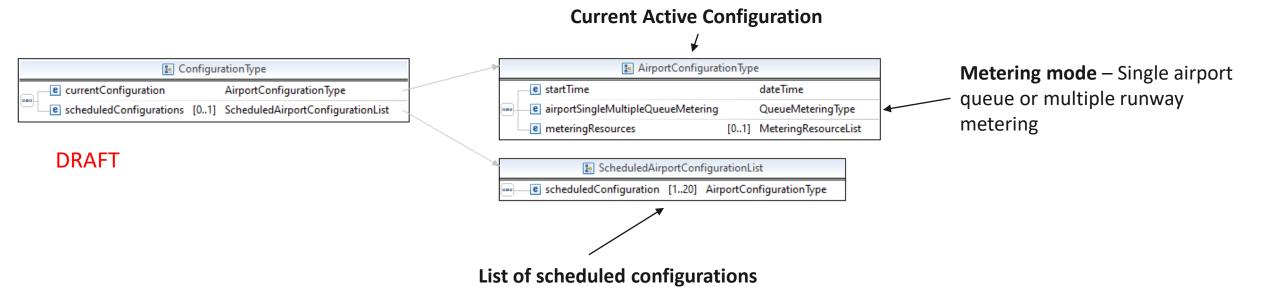


SMP Parameter – Metering Mode

- Airport Metering Model parameter
 - Indicates single-airport queue or multiple-runway queue metering
- Multiple-runway metering
 - TFDM will typically meter to each runway at an airport individually
 - TFDM can be adapted/configured to meter to different groups of runways
- Airport metering
 - All individual runway queues are summed and metered together
 - Useful if runway assignments are uncertain prior to pushback
 - Also useful at airports with only one departure runway active at a time (e.g. LGA). This mode will allow metering to run smoothly through airport configurations



- Other SMP parameters are associated with current and scheduled configurations
 - surfaceMeteringProgram/smpDataMessage/configuration





TMIs in TFDM



Overview of TMIs in TFDM

- TMI sources in TFDM
 - External sources such as TFMS (NTML or FSM) or TBFM
 - Manual entry by the ATCT
- TFDM will identify the set of flights affected by TMIs
- TFDM will publish out TMI information and the flights affected by TMIs
 - For more on TMI in TTP, see TFDM's briefing at SWIFT #12: https://www.faa.gov/air_traffic/technology/swim/swift/media/SWIFT%2012%2
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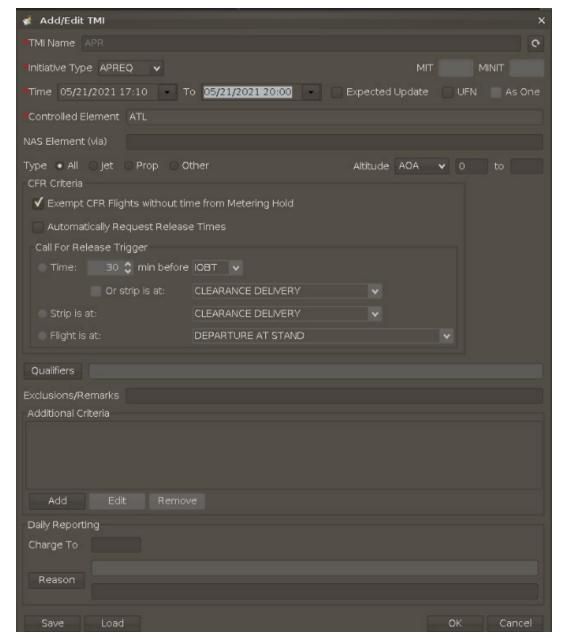


Types of TMIs in TFDM

- National TMIs
 - Ground Delay Programs (GDPs)
 - Airspace Flow Programs (AFPs)
 - Ground Stops (GSs)
 - Collaborative Trajectory Option Programs (CTOPs)
- Local TMIs
 - Miles in Trail (MITs)
 - Minutes in Trail (MINITs)
 - Approval Request (APREQ) restrictions
 - Departure Stops (STOPs)
 - Severe Weather Avoidance Programs (SWAPs)
 - Departure Spacing Programs (DSP)
 - Time Based Management (TBM)
 - Airport (Used for delay reporting only)



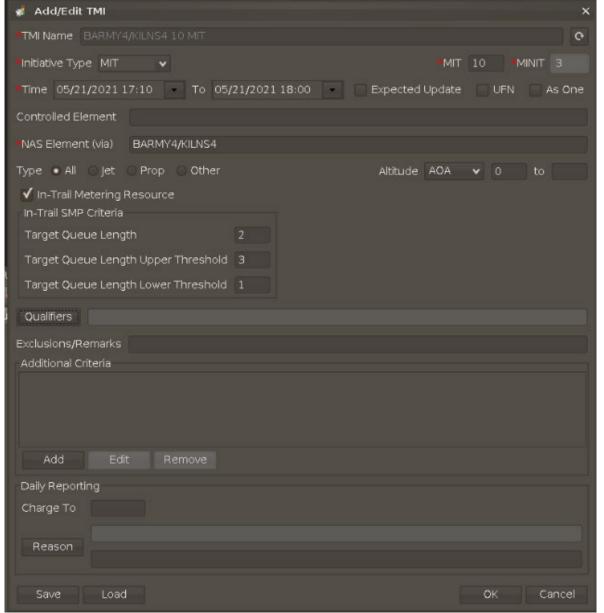
Example APREQ TMI in TFDM



NOTE: System under development. Final views subject to change. Values shown in this image are test values and are subject to change.



Example MIT TMI in TFDM



NOTE: System under development. Final views subject to change. Values shown in this image are test values and are subject to change.



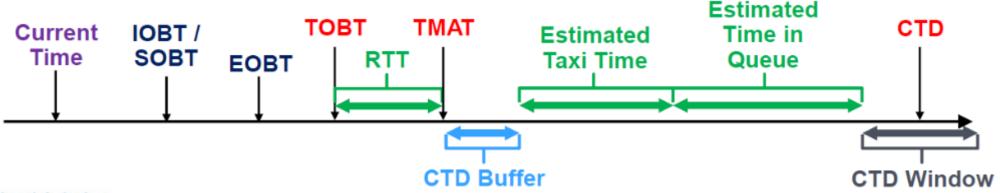
TMIs and TFDM Prediction Updates

- Expect Departure Clearance Times (EDCTs) from a GDP, AFP, or CTOP
 - The flight will be predicted to take off after the start of the EDCT compliance window
- Call for Release (CFR) Time from an APREQ restriction
 - The flight will be predicted to take off after the start of the EDCT compliance window
- MIT/MINIT restrictions
 - The ETOTs of flights in a MIT/MINIT will be spaced out based on the restriction
- GS/STOP restrictions
 - If the GS/STOP has a specified end time, then flights in the GS/STOP will be predicted to depart after the GS end time
 - If the GS/STOP is set to run until further notice (UFN), the flights in the GS/STOP will be removed from the predicted demand



Flights with a Control Time of Departure (CTD)

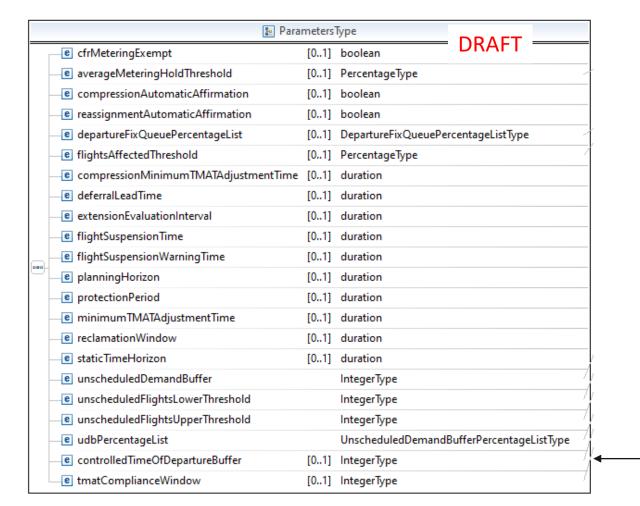
- Types of CTDs: EDCTs and CFR Times
- CTD Flights will be assigned a TOBT and TMAT based on the CTD
 - The TOBT and TMAT are assigned even if a flight is not part of an SMP
 - The Controlled Time of Departure (CTD) Buffer helps ensure that the flight will get the runway in time to comply with it's CTD
 - If part of an SMP, CTD flights cannot be substituted





Some SMP Parameters are independent of the airport configuration

• surfaceMeteringProgram/smpDataMessage/parameters





CFR Time Assignment

- TFDM will receive APREQ restrictions directly from TBFM
 - APREQ restrictions can also be manually entered if not being managed by TBFM
- CFR Times can be assigned in the following ways
 - Manual entry into TFDM by the ATCT after coordinating via phone call
 - Electronically requested from IDST display in ATCT
 - Electronically requested from TFDM directly to TBFM
 - The ATCT can make the electronic request manually
 - TFDM can be configured to automatically make the request based on set triggers
- TFDM's Earliest Feasible Takeoff Time (EFTT) Prediction
 - TFDM will predict an EFTT for all flights
 - (EFTT + CTD Buffer) is provided to ATCT as recommended release time to request
 - If TFDM is automatically requesting release times, TFDM will request EFTT + CTD Buffer



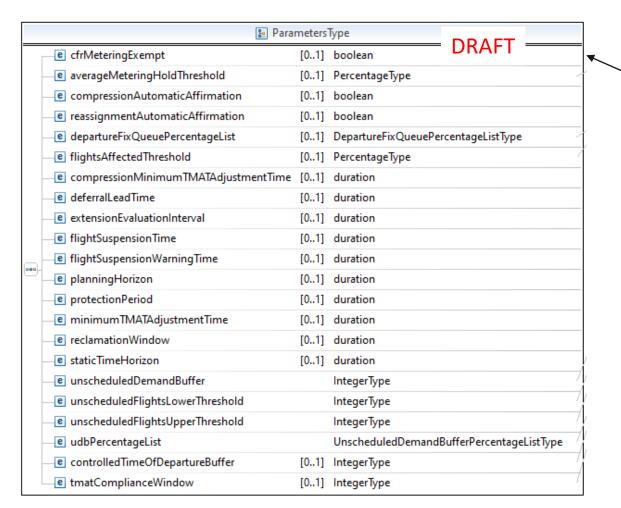
APREQ Flights in an SMP

- Once an APREQ flight has a CFR time, the TOBT and TMAT are based on the CFR time (see previous slide)
- Prior to being assigned a CFR time, an APREQ flight's TOBT and TMAT assignment depend on the "Exempt APREQ Flights from Metering Hold" parameter
 - A default value can be configured that will apply to all SMP recommendations
 - The parameter can also be set per APREQ restriction
 - If the parameter is set to TRUE for either the SMP or APREQ, then an affected flight will be exempt from rationing
 - If a flight is exempt from rationing, it will be assigned a TOBT and TMAT with zero metering hold (TOBT = EOBT) and the flight cannot be substituted
 - Otherwise, it will be assigned a TOBT and TMAT based on the standard metering algorithms and is eligible for substitutions



Some SMP Parameters are independent of the airport configuration

• surfaceMeteringProgram/smpDataMessage/parameters



Exempt APREQ Flights from Metering Hold default value for SMPs



In-Trail SMPs (Airspace Driven)

- MIT/MINIT restrictions can be configured as metering resources with a separate Target Queue Length and Thresholds
- TFDM will recommend SMPs to manage the MIT/MINIT queues
 - If the recommended SMP is affirmed, TFDM will assign TOBTs and TMATs to the affected flights
 - Flights assigned a TMAT in an in-trail SMP are exempt in any runway or airport SMPs
 - A flight in an in-trail SMP can be substituted with other flights in the same in-trail SMP
 - A flight in an in-trail SMP cannot be substituted with flights in a runway or airport SMP



Next Steps



TFDM Testbed

- TFDM has set up a testbed to allow airport stakeholders to test connectivity with a test instance of TFDM B2 software
 - Hosted in a Leidos (TFDM prime contractor) lab with simulated SWIM connections
 - Uses recorded data from CLT
- Open to airports, airlines, and 3rd party vendors to test connections to TFDM prior to TFDM B2 being deployed in the field
- If interested, contact Doug Swol (<u>Christopher.D.Swol@faa.gov</u>) or CSIT (<u>csit@faa.gov</u>)



Questions & Upcoming CSIT Events

- Tech Talk #4: Topic to be determined (CDM Data Submission)
 - Wednesday July 28th, 1pm ET
- Previous Tech Talks available at (URL)
- Follow up questions: csit@faa.gov

