



ForeFlight

SEARCH & RESCUE

Guide



ForeFlight

A Boeing Company

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DEFINITIONS

Abbreviation	Definition
CAP	Civil Air Patrol
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
ELT	Emergency Locator Transmitter
FAA	Federal Aviation Administration
GARS	Grid Area Reference System
GPS	Global Positioning System
ILS	Instrument Landing System
Lat/Lon	Latitude/Longitude
MGRS	Military Grid Reference System
SAR	Search and Rescue
UPS	Universal Polar Stereographic
UTM	Universal Transverse Mercator

INTRODUCTION

ForeFlight Mobile includes a Search and Rescue (SAR) feature to assist pilots with planning and executing search and rescue flights. This guide outlines how to enable the SAR feature, display map overlays, define search patterns, enter various latitude and longitude formats, and share the flight plan.

This guide focuses solely on the SAR feature. It does not cover the full scope of search and rescue operations. For comprehensive information on using ForeFlight Mobile, refer to the ForeFlight Mobile Pilot's Guide, available in ForeFlight Mobile under **Documents > ForeFlight (Drive) > ForeFlight Mobile Guide** or online at www.foreflight.com/support/pilots-guide/.

SETTINGS

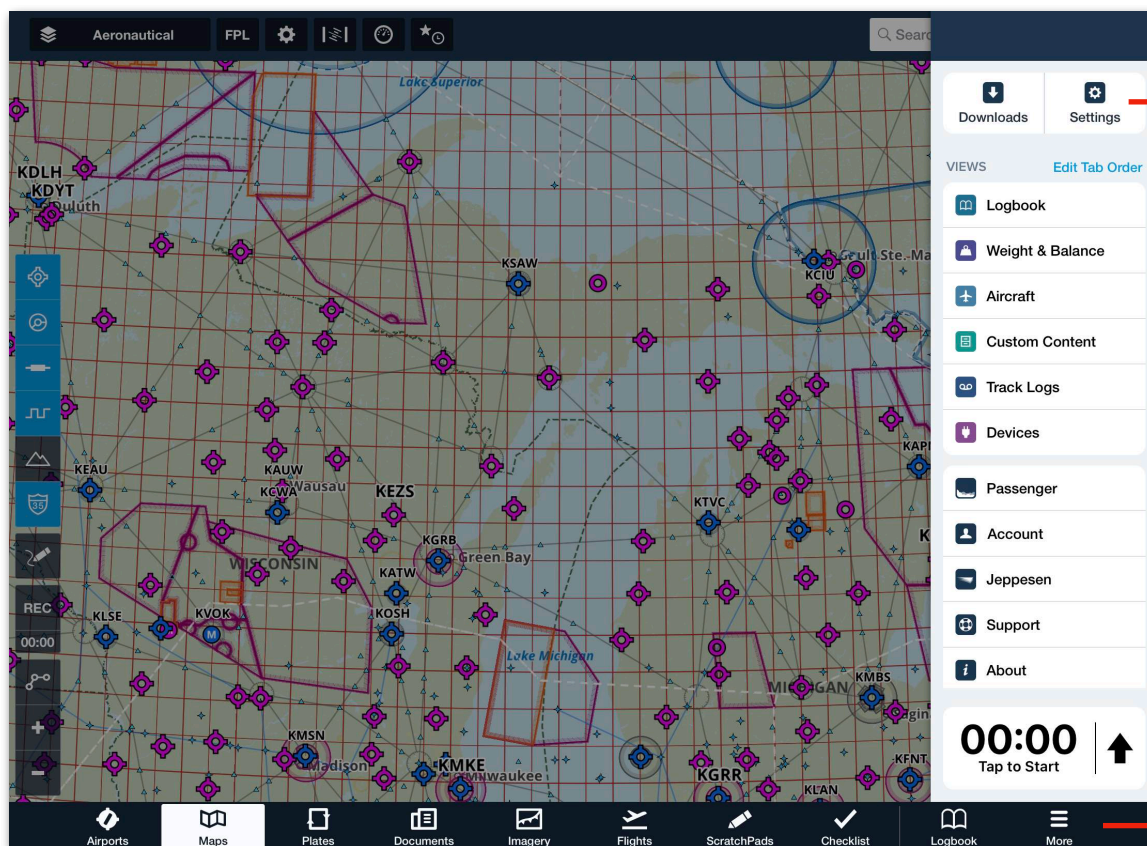
The Search and Rescue (SAR) feature in ForeFlight Mobile has minimal settings, allowing for customization of the feature's functionality. Available options include:

- Enabling the SAR feature
- Displaying waypoints as coordinates
- Selecting the desired coordinate format for display.

This section outlines the SAR feature settings.

To access the settings:

1. Go to the **More** page.
2. Select **Settings**.



Settings
Button

More
Button

1. SETTINGS

1.1 Enabling SAR Features

SAR features are disabled by default. Enabling these features allows:

- The display SAR grids on the Maps page (see [SAR Grid Overlays](#)).
- Adding SAR patterns to a flight plan on the Maps page (see [Search & Rescue Patterns](#)).

To enable SAR features:

1. Tap **More**.
2. Tap **Settings**.
3. Scroll down to the SEARCH AND RESCUE section.
4. Turn **SAR Features** on by sliding the switch to the right.



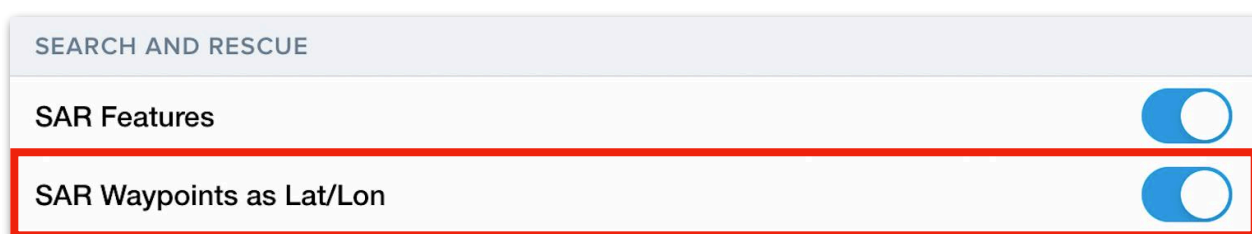
SAR Features enabled

1. SETTINGS

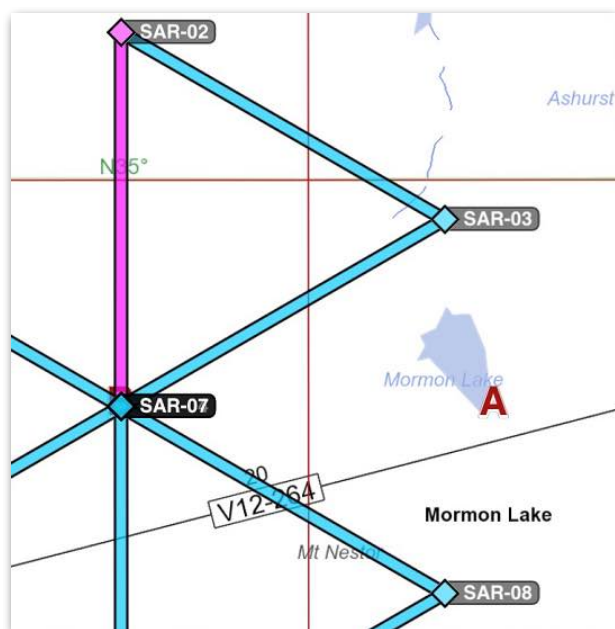
1.2 Displaying SAR Waypoints as Coordinates

SAR patterns in a flight plan are defined by waypoints named sequentially (e.g., SAR-01, SAR-02). To display SAR waypoints as coordinates:

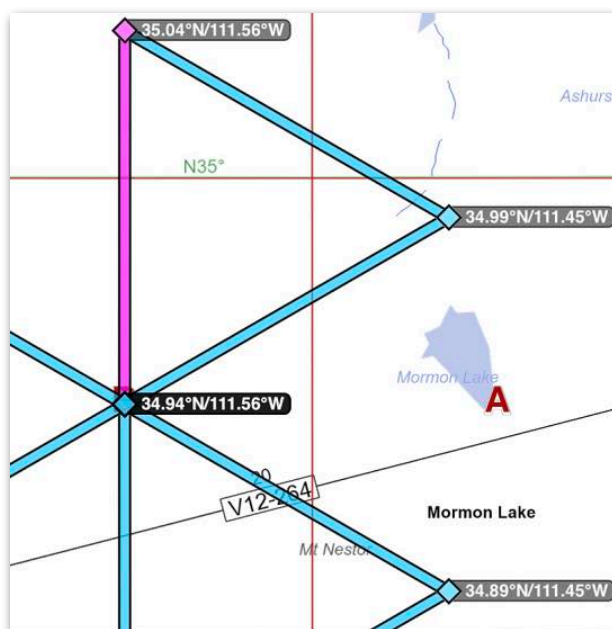
1. Tap **More**.
2. Tap **Settings**.
3. Scroll down to the SEARCH AND RESCUE section.
4. Turn **SAR Waypoints as Lat/Lon** by sliding the switch to the right.



SAR Waypoints as Lat/Lon enabled



SAR waypoints (Default)



Latitude and longitude SAR waypoints (Enabled)

1. SETTINGS

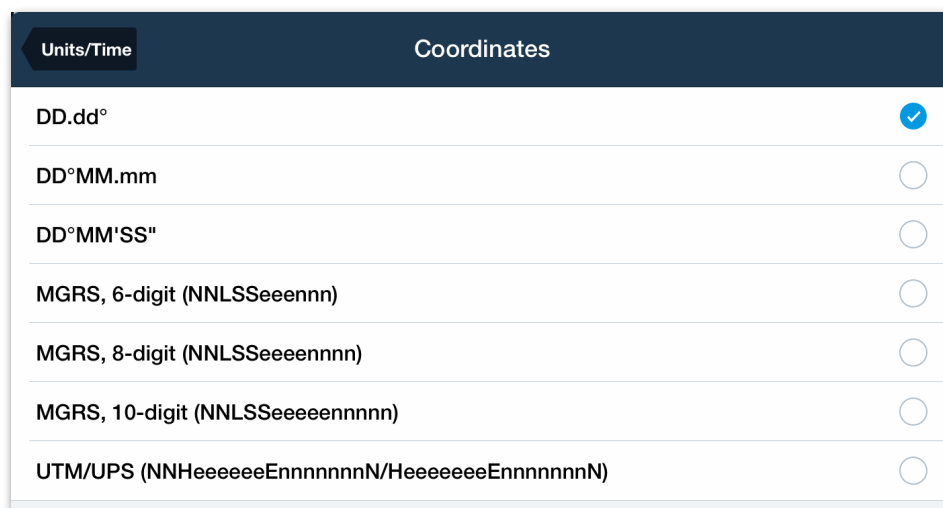
1.3 Setting Coordinate Format

ForeFlight Mobile supports multiple coordinate formats for entering and displaying latitude and longitude values (see [Latitude & Longitude Formatting](#)). To match the entry format with the display format, ensure the selected format in Settings is consistent. The supported formats are:

- DD.dd°
- DD°MM.mm
- DD°MM'SS"
- UPS
- MGRS, 6-digit
- MGRS, 8-digit
- MGRS, 10-digit
- UTM.

To set the coordinate format for display:

1. Tap **More**.
2. Tap **Settings**.
3. Scroll to the Preferences section.
4. Select **Units/Time**.
5. Select **Coordinates**.
6. Choose the desired coordinate format.



NOTE: Coordinates are automatically converted to an ATC-friendly format (DD.dd°) when exporting a flight plan, regardless of the display format selected.

SAR GRID OVERLAYS

When the Search and Rescue (SAR) features are **enabled**, the Maps page Layer Selector menu offers three grid overlay options:

- CAP Grid
- Cell CAP Grid
- GARS Grid.

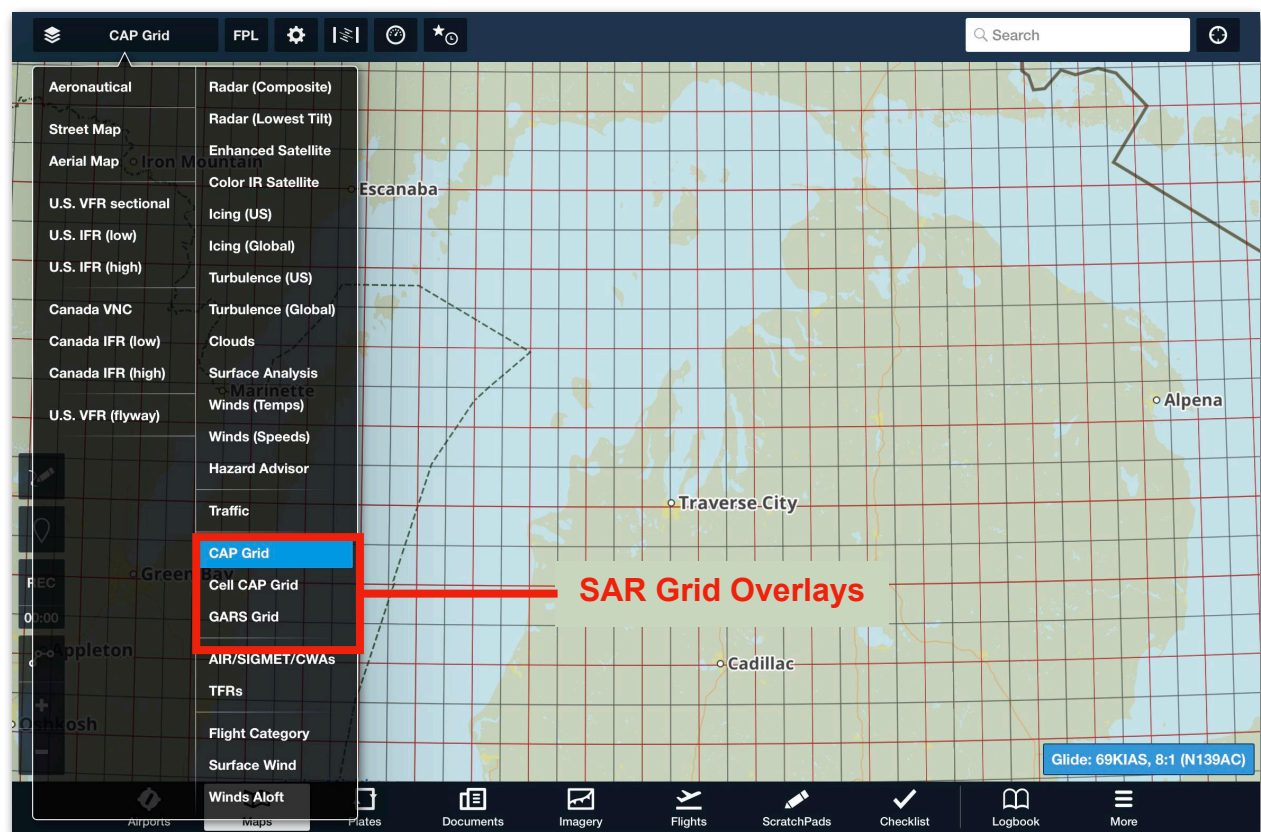
For instructions on entering grid identifiers as waypoints in a route, refer to the **Grid Identifiers as Waypoints** section.

2.1 Selecting a Grid Overlay

To enable a grid overlay:

1. Navigate to the **Maps** page.
2. Open the **Layer Selector** menu in the upper-left corner.
3. Tap the desired grid type required for the flight from the right-hand column.

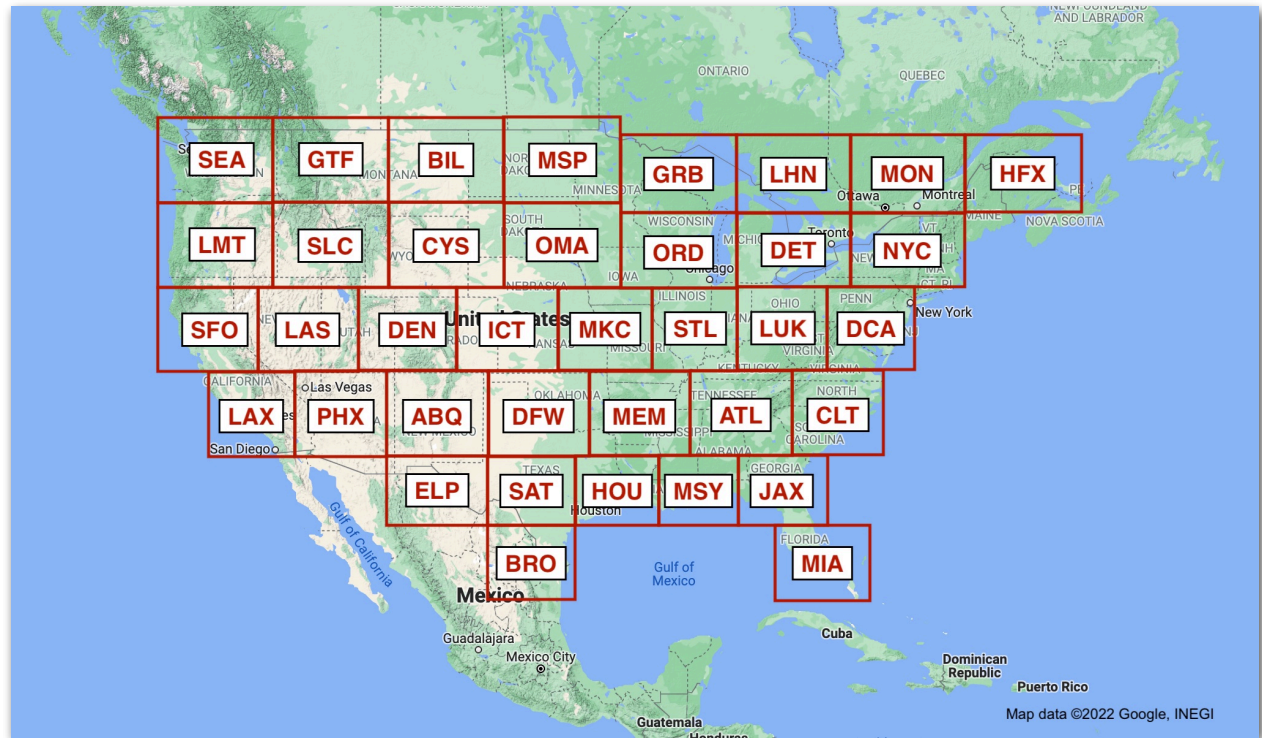
Once a grid is selected, zoom in or out to dynamically display or hide grid divisions and labels.



2. SAR GRID OVERLAYS

2.1.1 CAP Grid

The CAP (Civil Air Patrol) Grid covers the continental U.S. with 15-minute quadrangle grid squares. There are 37 squares of varying sizes, each named after an airport identifier within its boundaries.



U.S. CAP Grid quadrangles with airport codes

2.1.1.1 Cap Grid Waypoint Naming Convention

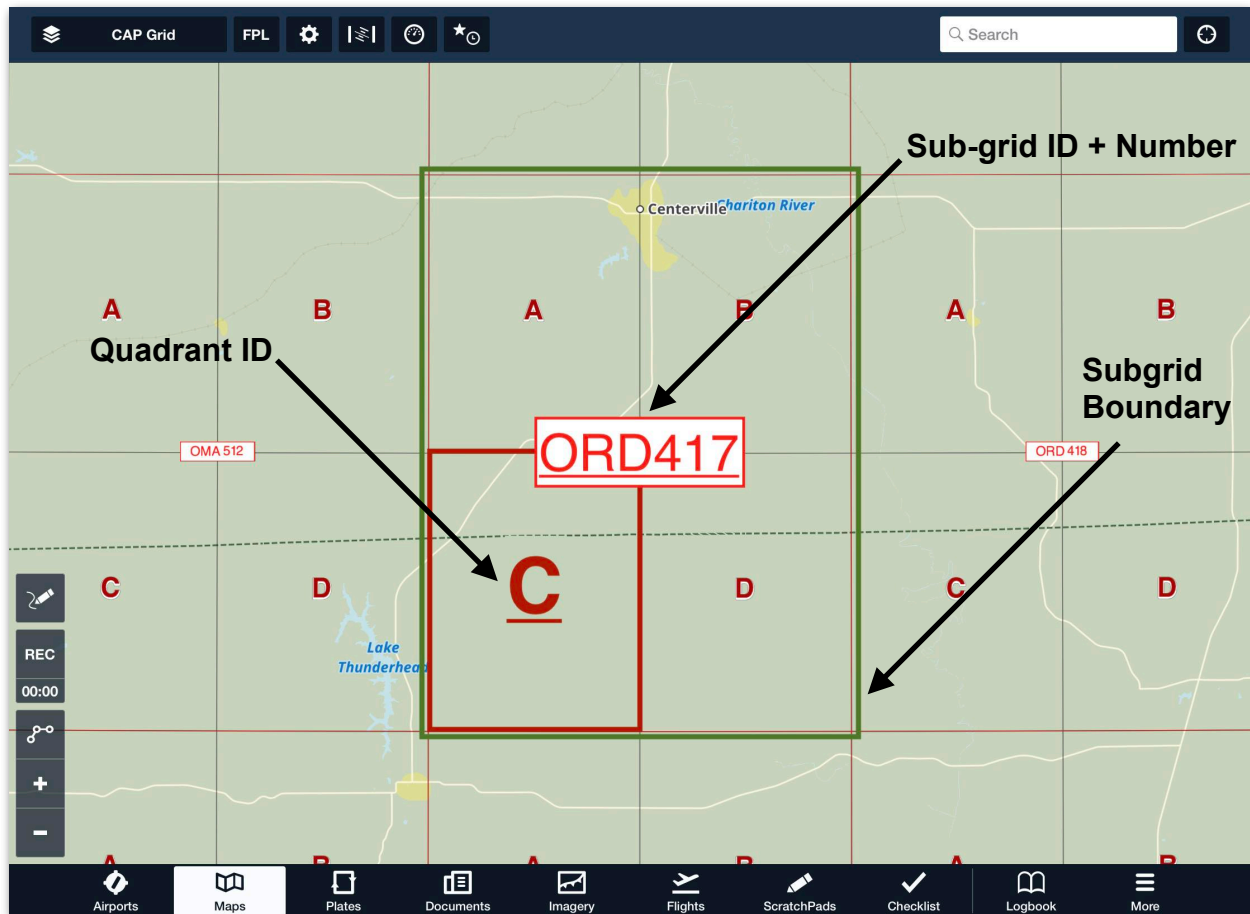
CAP Grid waypoints are identified by the following elements:

- **Major Grid ID:** The three-letter airport identifier (e.g., ORD for O'Hare).
- **Sub-grid Number:** A 1-, 2-, or 3-digit number indicating the sub-grid (numbering left to right, top to bottom) within the major grid. Each major grid may contain 384 to 576 sub-grids.
- **Quadrants:** Each sub-grid is further divided into four quadrants (7.5-minute quadrangles) labeled A, B, C, and D (left to right, top to bottom).

2. SAR GRID OVERLAYS

Example: ORD417C

- **ORD**: Chicago grid.
- **417**: Sub-grid number.
- **C**: Lower-left quadrant of the sub-grid.



CAP Grid ORD417C sub-grid and quadrant

2. SAR GRID OVERLAYS

2.1.2 Cell CAP Grid

The Cell CAP Grid system covers the continental U.S., using one-degree squares of latitude and longitude. Each grid square is designated by the shortened degree coordinates from the grid's lower-right corner.

2.1.2.1 Cell Cap Grid Waypoint Naming Convention

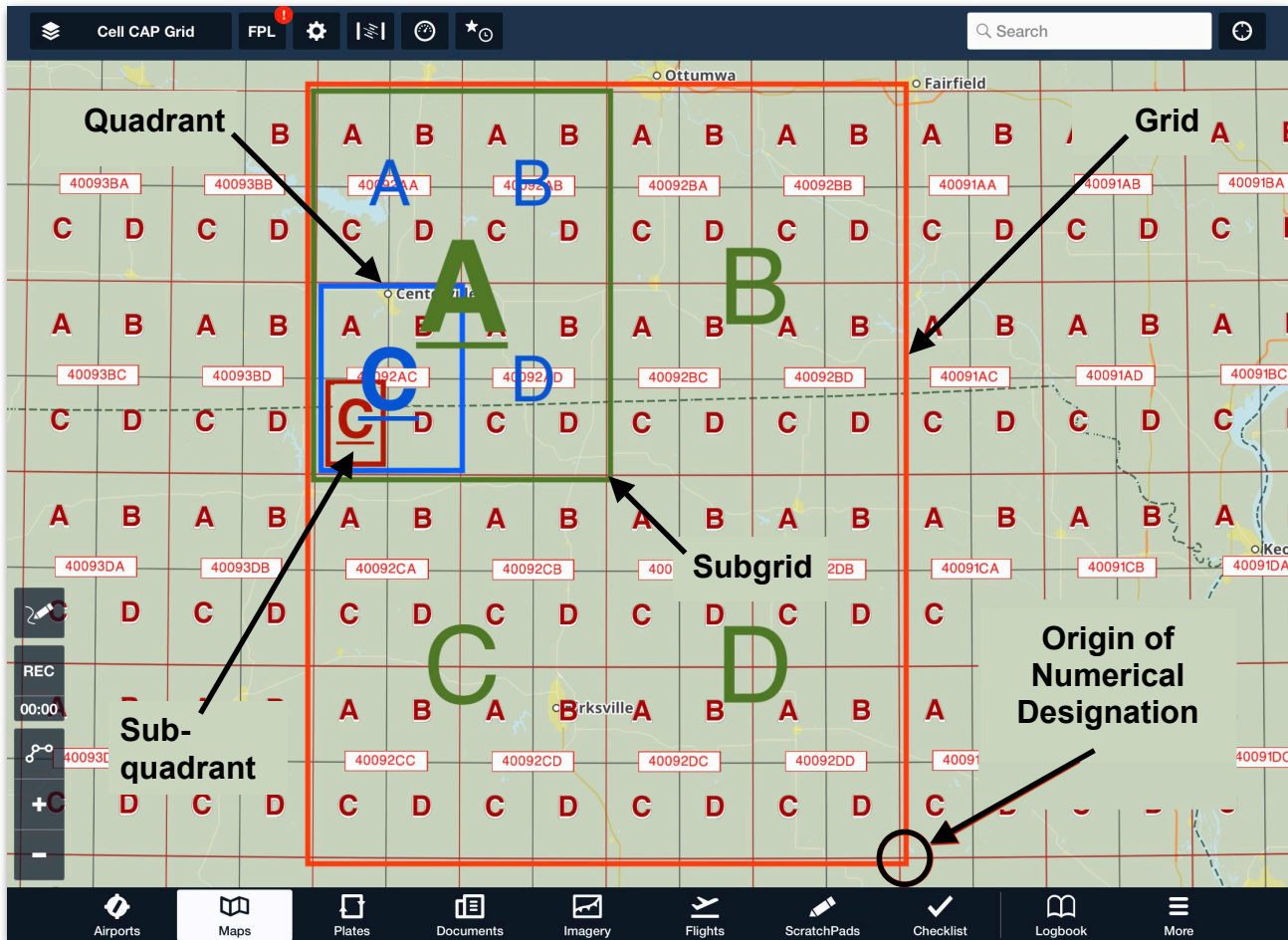
Cell Cap Grid waypoints are identified by the following elements:

- **Grid Identifier:** The first two digits represent latitude, and the next three digits represent longitude (with leading zeros if needed).
- **Sub-grids:** Each grid is divided into four sub-grids, labeled A, B, C, and D (left to right, top to bottom).
- **Quadrants:** Each sub-grid is divided into four quadrants labeled A, B, C, and D (left to right, top to bottom).
- **Sub-quadrants:** Each quadrant is divided into four sub-quadrants labeled A, B, C, and D (left to right, top to bottom).

2. SAR GRID OVERLAYS

Example: 40092ACC

- **40092**: 40° latitude, 092° longitude grid.
- **A**: Sub-grid identifier.
- **C**: Lower-left quadrant.
- **C**: Lower-left sub-quadrant.



Cell CAP Grid 40092ACC

2. SAR GRID OVERLAYS

2.1.3 GARS Grid

The GARS (Grid Area Reference System) Grid is a global grid system, but within ForeFlight Mobile, it is limited to most of North America. The GARS grid consists of 30-minute cells.

2.1.3.1 GARS Grid Waypoint Naming Convention

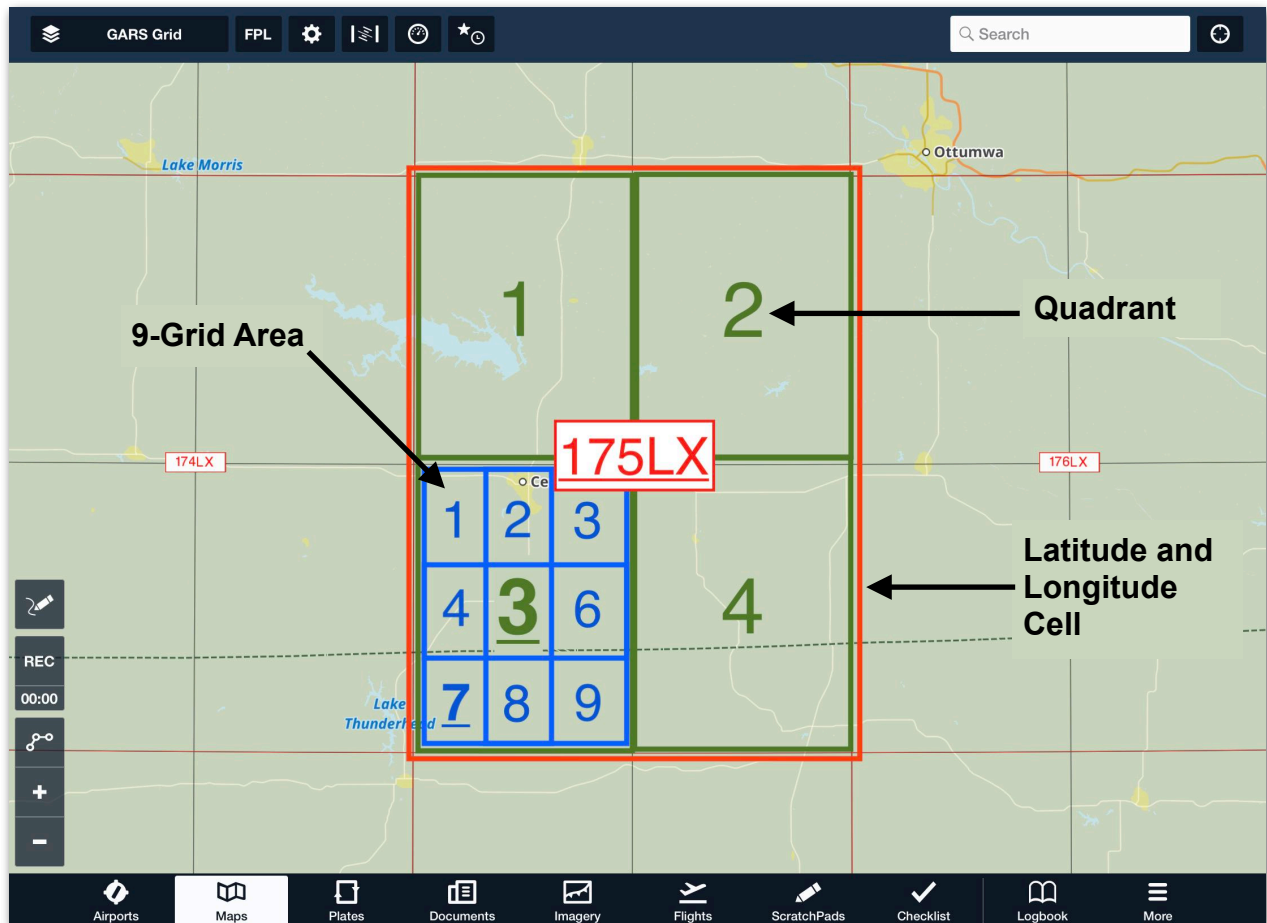
GARS Grid waypoints are identified by the following elements:

- **Longitude:** The first three digits indicate the longitudinal band, numbered from 001 to 720, starting from the 180-degree meridian and moving eastward.
- **Latitude:** The following two letters represent the 30-minute latitudinal band (ranging from AA to QZ, south to north).
- **Quadrants and Areas:** Each 30-minute cell is divided into four 15-minute quadrants and nine 5-minute areas.

2. SAR GRID OVERLAYS

Example: 175LX37

- **175**: Longitudinal band.
- **LX**: 30-minute latitude.
- **3**: 15-minute quadrant.
- **7**: Lower-left 5-minute area in a nine-quadrangle grid.



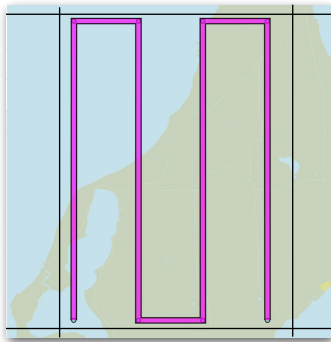
GARS Grid 175LX37

SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS

ForeFlight Mobile supports seven customizable SAR patterns. These patterns can be drawn on the map and added to a flight plan for SAR operations.

3.1 Types of SAR Patterns

SAR patterns are selected based on factors such as the last known position, flight plan, and environmental conditions like wind or current drift. Below are the available SAR patterns and their customization options:



Grid Aligned - Confined to a single CAP Grid, Cell CAP Grid, or GARS Grid (use "GARS@" before coordinates). Customization options include:

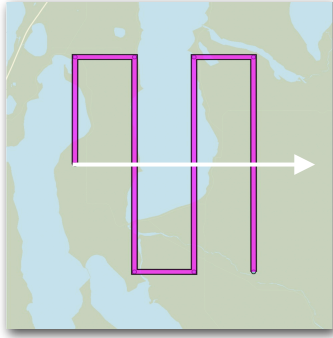
- Initial track (N, S, E, W)
- Initial turn direction (Left or Right)
- Leg spacing (0.5 - 9.9 nm)
- Buffer from grid lines (0 - 3.0 nm).

The Grid Aligned pattern is the only pattern restricted to a grid.



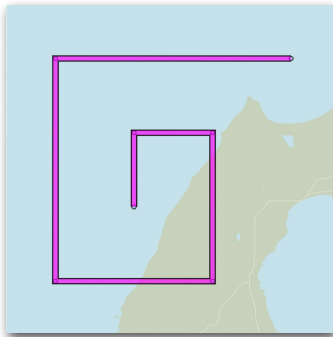
Circle - Used to search within a specified radius around a waypoint (grid identifier, navaid, aviation waypoint, user waypoint, or coordinates). Customization is limited to a search radius between 0.5 - 30.0 nm.

3. SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS



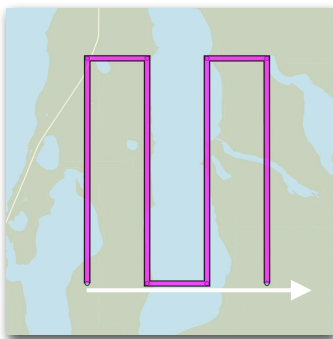
Creeping Line - Used when searching both sides of an area, starting from an initial waypoint (grid identifier, navaid, aviation waypoint, user waypoint, or coordinates) and moving in a specific direction. Customization options include:

- Initial track ($^{\circ}$ T)
- Initial turn direction (Left or Right)
- Leg length (1.0 - 499.9 nm)
- Spacing (0.05 - 29.9 nm)
- Number of legs (1 - 40).



Expanding Square - Starts from a waypoint (grid identifier, navaid, aviation waypoint, user waypoint, or coordinates) and expands outward in a square pattern. Customization options include:

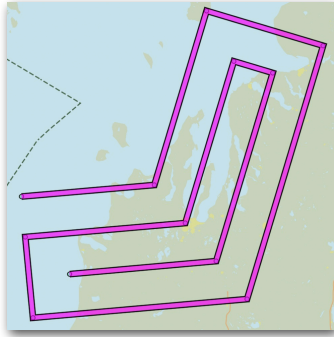
- Initial track ($^{\circ}$ T)
- Initial turn direction (Left or Right)
- Leg spacing (0.05 - 29.9 nm)
- Number of legs (1 - 60).



Parallel - Searches one side of an area starting from an initial waypoint (grid identifier, navaid, aviation waypoint, user waypoint, or coordinates) and moving in a specified direction. Customization options include:

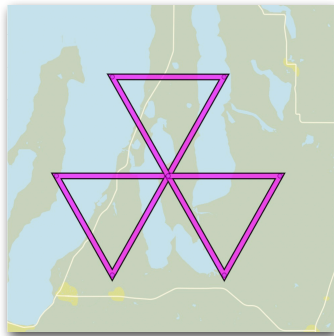
- Initial track ($^{\circ}$ T)
- Initial turn direction (Left or Right)
- Leg length (1.0 - 499.9 nm)
- Spacing (0.05 - 29.9 nm)
- Number of legs (1 - 40).

3. SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS



Route Search - Used to search along a specified route, with the pattern expanding as passes are added. Customization options include:

- Leg spacing (0.05 - 29.9 nm)
- The number of passes (1 - 4).



Sector - Conducts a rotating search pattern while repeatedly passing over the origination waypoint (grid identifier, navaid, aviation waypoint, user waypoint, or coordinates). Customization options include:

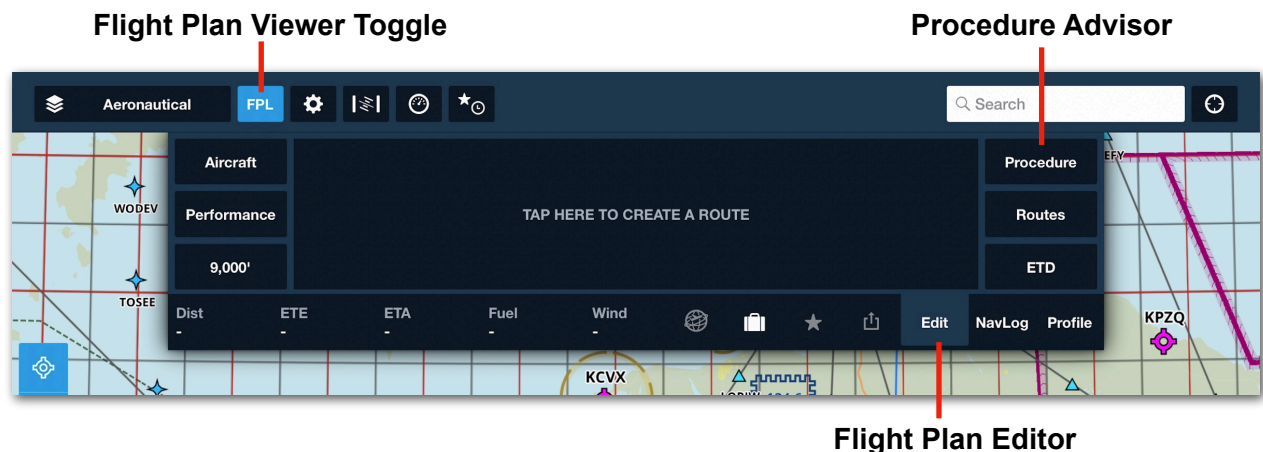
- Initial track ($^{\circ}$ T)
- Initial turn direction (Left or Right)
- Leg length (0.5 - 10.0 nm).

3. SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS

3.2 Adding a Search Pattern to a Flight Plan

To add a SAR pattern to a flight plan:

1. Open the **Maps** view.
2. Tap **FPL** to open the Flight Plan Editor.
3. Select the **Edit** button in the lower-right corner of the Flight Plan Editor.
4. Tap **Procedure** on the right side of the flight plan viewer to open the Procedure Advisor.
5. Select **Search and Rescue**.
6. Select **Pattern**.
7. Choose a pattern from the list.
8. Enter the pattern details. The following sections provide detailed instructions for each pattern type.
9. Tap **Add to Route** to add the selected pattern to the route.
10. Tap **Close** to exit the Procedure Advisor.



NOTE: By default, the last type of search pattern used is displayed.

3. SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS

3.3 Pattern Setup and Definitions

This section outlines how to add and configure each Search and Rescue pattern within the Flight Plan (FPL) on the Maps page.

3.3.1 Grid Aligned (Parallel Grid, Grid Search)

To add a **Grid Aligned** search pattern:

1. Go to the **Maps** page.
2. Select the **FPL** button.
3. Tap **Edit** in the flight plan viewer.
4. Select **Procedure**.
5. Select **Search and Rescue**.
6. Tap **Pattern**.
7. Select **Grid Aligned**.
8. Enter the pattern definitions for the following fields:
 - **Grid Cell:** Reference point for the search pattern grid (see **Grid Locations as Waypoints**).
 - **Initial DTK:** Direction of the initial track (North, South, East, or West).
 - **Initial Turn:** Direction of the first turn after the initial leg (Left or Right).
 - **Spacing:** Distance between legs in nautical miles (0.5 - 9.9 nm).
 - **Buffer:** Distance from the grid edge (0 - 3.0 nm).
9. Tap **Add to Route**.

3. SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS

Back

SAR GRID ALIGNED PATTERN

Close

PatternGrid Aligned >

Grid CellCAP@GRB414C

Initial DTKNorth >

Initial TurnRight >

Spacing1.50nm
0.5 - 9.9nm

Buffer0.2nm
0 - 3.0nm

Number of Legs: 4 - Length: 7.1 nm

Add to Route

The map displays a SAR grid aligned search pattern over a coastal area. The pattern consists of four vertical legs connected by horizontal segments. Annotations include: 'Initial Turn' at the top-left corner of the first leg, 'Spacing' between the first and second legs, 'Buffer' at the top-right and bottom-left corners, and 'Initial DTK' at the bottom of the first leg. A red circle highlights the top-left corner of the first leg. A note at the bottom right states '*Gridlines added for clarity'.

Grid Aligned Definitions

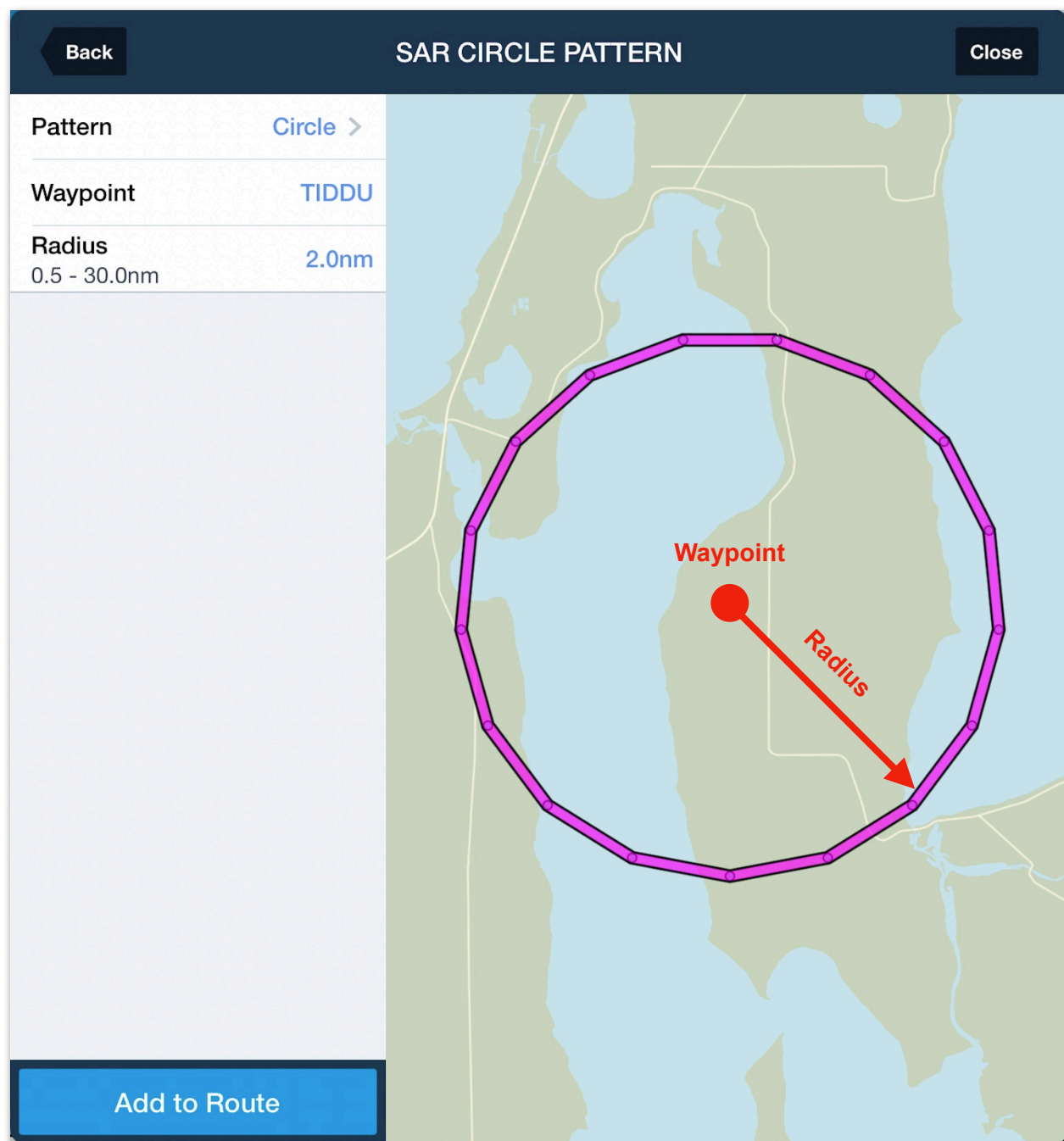
3. SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS

3.3.2 Circle

To add a **Circle** search pattern:

1. Go to the **Maps** page.
2. Select the **FPL** button.
3. Tap **Edit** in the flight plan viewer.
4. Select **Procedure**.
5. Select **Search and Rescue**.
6. Tap **Pattern**.
7. Select **Circle**.
8. Enter the pattern definitions for the following fields:
 - **Waypoint**: Center point of the search circle (a grid identifier, navaid, aviation waypoint, user waypoint, or **coordinates**).
 - **Radius**: Search radius (0.5 - 30.0 nm).
9. Tap **Add to Route**.

3. SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS



Circle Definitions

3. SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS

3.3.3 Creeping Line

To add a **Creeping Line** search pattern:

1. Go to the **Maps** page.
2. Select the **FPL** button.
3. Tap **Edit** in the flight plan viewer.
4. Select **Procedure**.
5. Select **Search and Rescue**.
6. Tap **Pattern**.
7. Select **Creeping Line**.
8. Enter the pattern definitions for the following fields:
 - **Waypoint:** Starting point for the search (a grid identifier, navaid, aviation waypoint, user waypoint, or **coordinates**).
 - **Initial DTK °T:** Initial course in degrees true (001 - 360).
 - **Initial Turn:** Direction of the first turn after the initial leg (Left or Right).
 - **Leg Length:** Length of each leg (1.0 - 499.9 nm).
 - **Spacing:** Distance between legs (0.05 - 29.9 nm).
 - **Number of Legs:** Number of legs to be flown (1 - 40).
5. Tap **Add to Route**.

3. SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS

Back

SAR CREEPING LINE PATTERN

Close

PatternCreeping Line >

WaypointTIDDU

Initial DTK °T360

Initial TurnRight >

Leg Length1.0 - 499.9nm6.0nm

Spacing0.05 - 29.9nm1.50nm

Number of Legs1 - 404

Add to Route

Creeping Line Definitions

3. SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS

3.3.4 Expanding Square

To add an **Expanding Square** search pattern:

1. Go to the **Maps** page.
2. Select the **FPL** button.
3. Tap **Edit** in the flight plan viewer.
4. Select **Procedure**.
5. Select **Search and Rescue**.
6. Tap **Pattern**.
7. Select **Expanding Square**.
8. Enter the pattern definitions for the following fields:
 - **Waypoint:** Starting point for the search (grid identifier, navaid, aviation waypoint, user waypoint, or coordinates **coordinates**).
 - **Initial DTK °T:** Initial course in degrees true (001 - 360).
 - **Initial Turn:** Direction of the first turn after the initial leg (Left or Right).
 - **Spacing:** Distance between parallel legs (0.5 - 29.9 nm).
 - **Number of Legs:** Number of legs to be flown (1 - 60).
9. Tap **Add to Route**.

3. SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS

Back

SAR EXPANDING ☐ PATTERN

Close

Pattern [Expanding Square](#) >

Waypoint [45.15/-085.67](#)

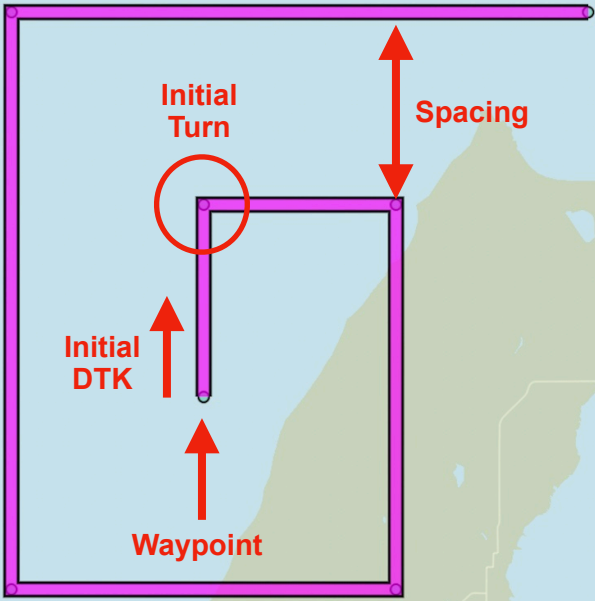
Initial DTK °T [360](#)

Initial Turn [Right](#) >

Spacing
0.05 - 29.9nm [1.50nm](#)

Number of Legs
1 - 60 [6](#)

Add to Route



Expanding Square Definitions

3. SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS

3.3.5 Parallel

To add a **Parallel** search pattern:

1. Go to the **Maps** page.
2. Select the **FPL** button.
3. Tap **Edit** in the flight plan viewer.
4. Select **Procedure**.
5. Select **Search and Rescue**.
6. Tap **Pattern**.
7. Select **Parallel**.
8. Enter the pattern definitions for the following fields:
 - **Waypoint:** Starting point for the search (a grid identifier, navaid, aviation waypoint, user waypoint, or **coordinates**).
 - **Initial DTK °T:** Initial course in degrees true (001 - 360).
 - **Initial Turn:** Direction of the first turn after the initial leg (Left or Right).
 - **Leg Length:** Length of each leg (1.0 - 499.9 nm).
 - **Spacing:** Distance between legs (0.05 - 29.9 nm).
 - **Number of Legs:** Number of legs to be flown (1 - 40).
9. Tap **Add to Route**.

3. SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS

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SAR PARALLEL PATTERN

Close

PatternParallel >

WaypointTIDDU

Initial DTK °T360

Initial TurnRight >

Leg Length6.0nm
1.0 - 499.9nm

Spacing1.50nm
0.05 - 29.9nm

Number of Legs4
1 - 40

Add to Route

The diagram illustrates a SAR Parallel Pattern on a map. A magenta line shows the search path, consisting of four vertical legs connected by horizontal segments. A red circle at the top of the first leg is labeled 'Initial Turn'. A red arrow pointing up along the first leg is labeled 'Initial DTK'. A red arrow pointing down along the second leg is labeled 'Leg Length'. A red double-headed arrow between the two legs is labeled 'Spacing'. A red arrow pointing up to the start of the first leg is labeled 'Waypoint'. A white arrow points to the right at the end of the fourth leg.

Parallel Definitions

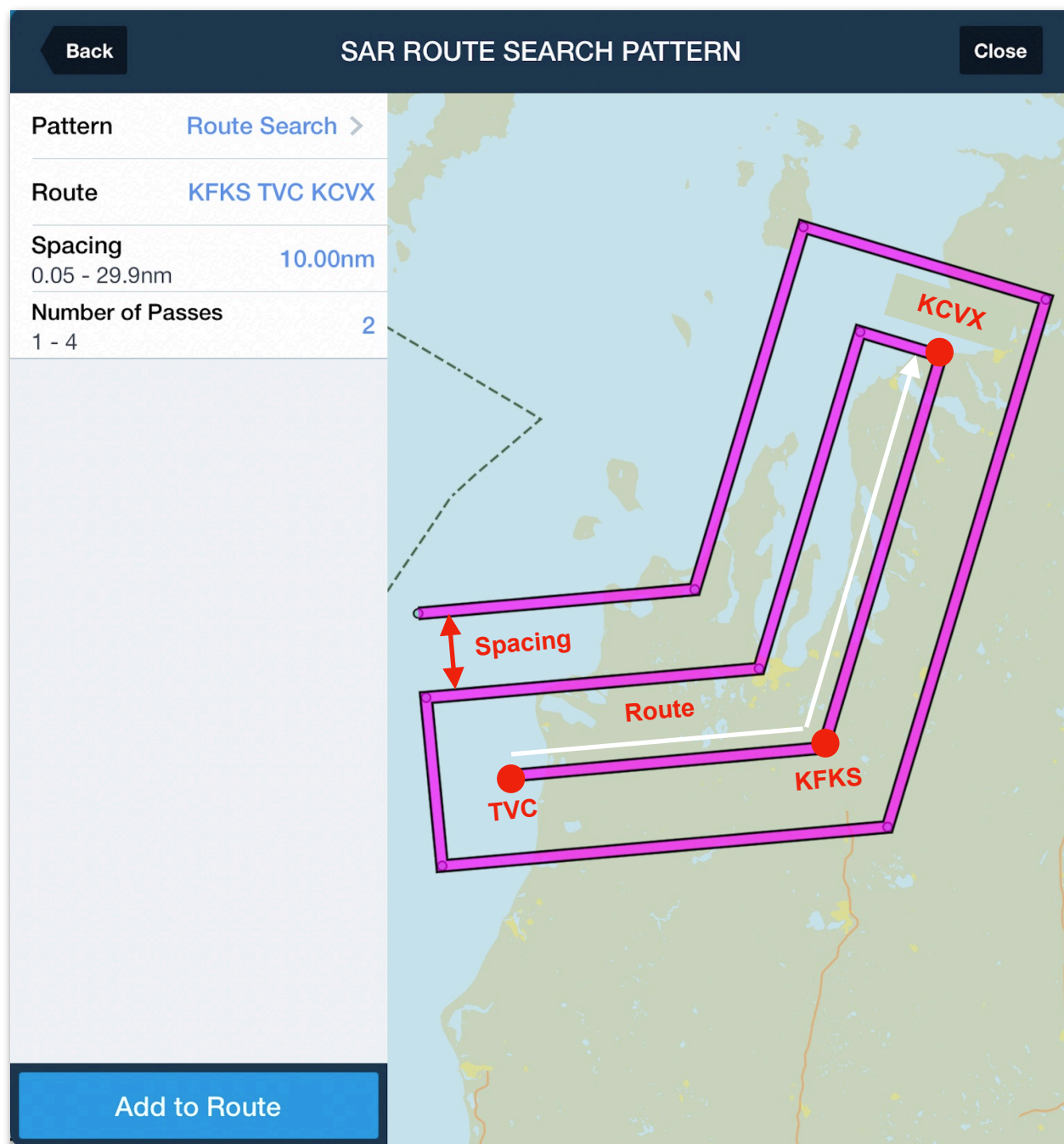
3. SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS

3.3.6 Route Search

To add a **Route Search** pattern:

1. Go to the **Maps** page.
2. Select the **FPL** button.
3. Tap **Edit** in the flight plan viewer.
4. Select **Procedure**.
5. Select **Search and Rescue**.
6. Tap **Pattern**.
7. Select **Route Search**.
8. Enter the pattern definitions for the following fields:
 - **Route:** Enter at least two waypoints (grid identifier, navaid, aviation waypoint, user waypoint, or **coordinates**).
 - **Spacing:** Distance between legs (0.05 - 29.9 nm).
 - **Number of Passes:** Number of passes to be flown (1 - 4).
9. Tap **Add to Route**.

3. SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS



Route Search Definitions

3. SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS

3.3.7 Sector

To add a **Sector** search:

1. Go to the **Maps** page.
2. Select the **FPL** button.
3. Tap **Edit** in the flight plan viewer.
4. Select **Procedure**.
5. Select **Search and Rescue**.
6. Tap **Pattern**.
7. Select **Sector**.
 - **Waypoint:** Starting point for the search (a grid identifier, navaid, aviation waypoint, user waypoint, or **coordinates**).
 - **Initial DTK °T:** Initial course in degrees true (001 - 360).
 - **Initial Turn:** Direction of the first turn after the initial leg (Left or Right).
 - **Leg Length:** Length of each leg (0.5 - 10.0 nm).
8. Tap **Add to Route**.

3. SEARCH & RESCUE PATTERNS

Back

SAR SECTOR PATTERN

Close

Pattern

Sector >

Waypoint

TIDDU

Initial DTK °T

090

Initial Turn

Right >

Leg Length

0.5 - 10.0nm

6.0nm

Add to Route

The diagram illustrates a SAR Sector Pattern on a map. A central point is labeled 'Waypoint' with a red arrow pointing to it. A horizontal line extends from the waypoint, with a red double-headed arrow labeled 'Leg Length' indicating the distance to the left. A red arrow labeled 'Initial DTK' points to the right from the waypoint. A red circle around the rightmost point of the pattern is labeled 'Initial Turn'. The pattern consists of three overlapping triangles forming a six-pointed star shape, with magenta lines and black outlines.

Sector Definitions

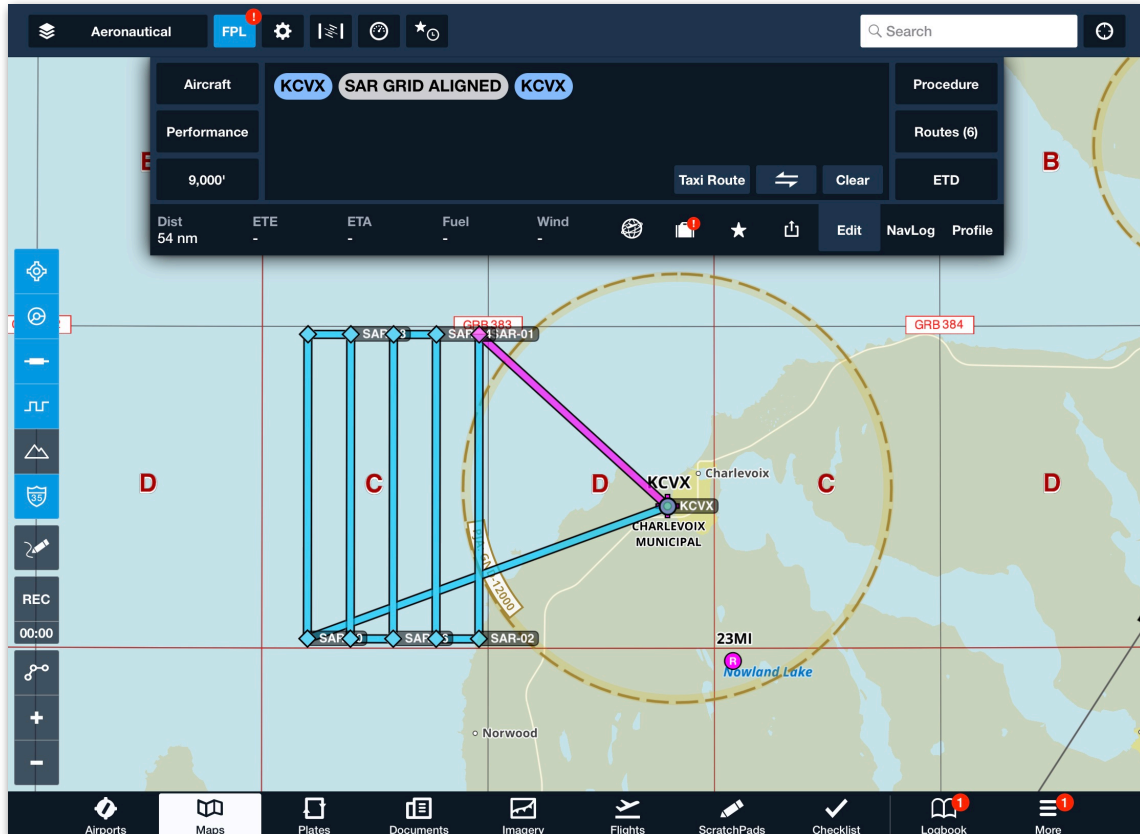
SAR FLIGHT PLAN MODIFICATION

Flight plans can incorporate a mix of waypoints and SAR patterns. These waypoints may be grid identifiers, navaids, aviation waypoints, user waypoints, or coordinates (see [Adding Waypoints to a Flight Plan](#)). Flight plans can be modified to include individual waypoints within a search pattern, enabling search pattern waypoint editing (refer to [Expanding a SAR Pattern](#)). Additionally, flight plans can include multiple SAR patterns (see [Include Multiple SAR Patterns](#)). The following sections describe these three modification scenarios.

4.1 Adding Waypoints to a Flight Plan

Waypoints can be added to a flight plan that includes a SAR pattern. This feature is useful for en route planning to and from the search area. The following methods can be used to add waypoints:

- The [SAR pattern-bubble menu](#)
- The [Flight Plan Editor](#)
- [Touch Planning on the map](#).



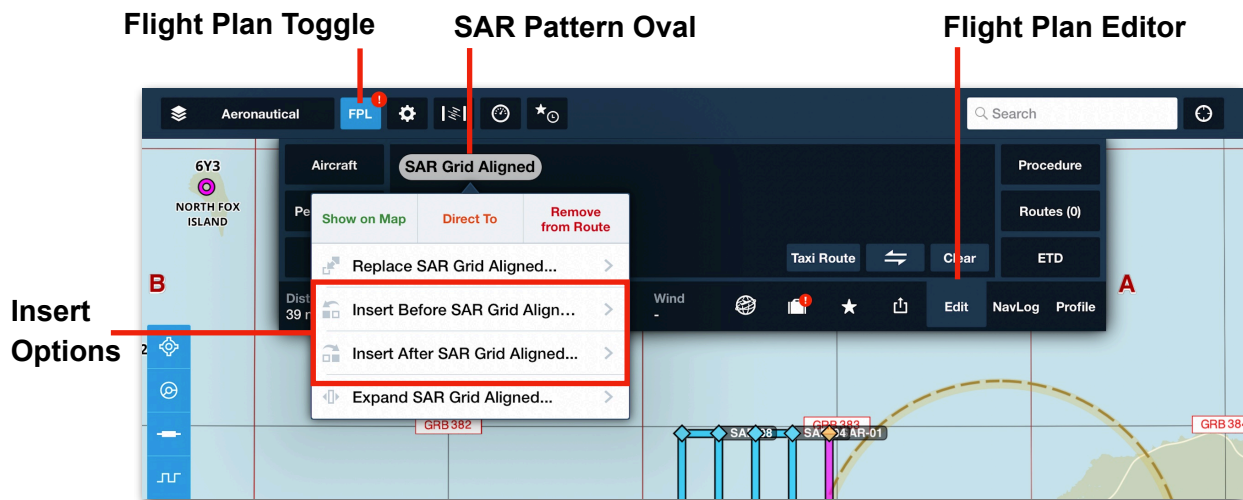
SAR pattern with departure and destination waypoints added

4. SAR FLIGHT PLAN MODIFICATION

4.1.1 Adding Waypoints Using the SAR Pattern-Bubble Menu

To add waypoints using the SAR pattern-bubble menu:

1. Add a SAR pattern to the flight plan as described in [Adding a Search Pattern](#).
2. Go to the **Maps** page.
3. Select **FPL**.
4. Tap **Edit** in the lower-right corner of the flight plan viewer.
5. Tap the gray-colored **search pattern** oval.
6. Tap **Insert Before [Pattern type]** or **Insert After [Pattern type]** to bring up the waypoint entry popover.
7. In the popover, enter a grid identifier, navaid, aviation waypoint, user waypoint, or [coordinates](#).
8. Tap **Insert**.



4. SAR FLIGHT PLAN MODIFICATION

4.1.2 Adding Waypoints Using the Flight Plan Editor

Waypoints can be added after the SAR pattern directly in the Flight Plan Editor:

1. Tap in the flight plan editor after the gray SAR pattern oval. A blue cursor will appear, and a keyboard will be displayed.
2. Use the keyboard to enter a grid identifier, navaid, aviation waypoint, user waypoint, or **coordinates**.
3. Select **Return**.

4.1.3 Adding Waypoints Using Touch-Planning on the Map

Waypoints can be added using touch-planning on the map. To do this:

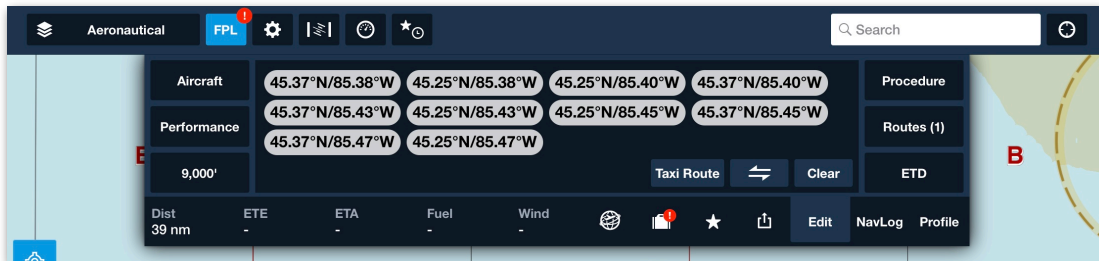
1. Place a finger on the map over a location to add to the flight plan and hold it there for a second. A slide-over will appear with a list of waypoint options to add (**coordinates**, airport, navaid, waypoints).
2. Tap on the item to be added from the slide-over to add it to the end of the flight plan.

For more information on using the flight plan editor, refer to the ForeFlight Mobile Guide available in the ForeFlight Mobile under **Documents > ForeFlight (Drive) > ForeFlight Mobile Guide**, or online at www.foreflight.com/support/pilots-guide/.

4. SAR FLIGHT PLAN MODIFICATION

4.2 Expanding a SAR Pattern

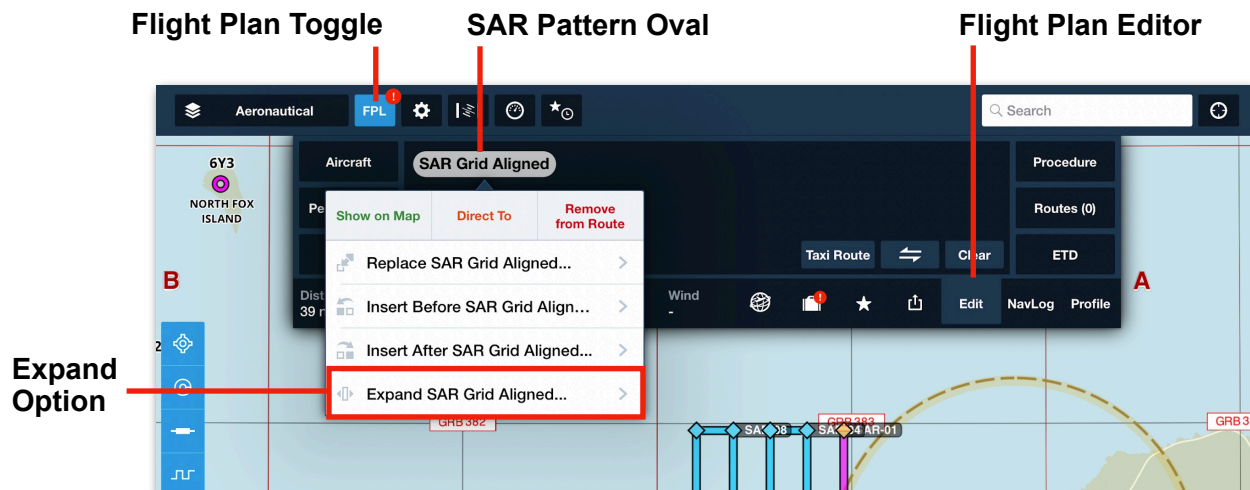
Expanding a SAR pattern into individual waypoints allows users to add or remove waypoints from the pattern or add more SAR patterns once the SAR oval is expanded.



SAR pattern expanded into individual waypoints

To expand a SAR pattern:

1. Add a SAR pattern to the flight plan as described in [Adding a Search Pattern](#).
2. Go to the **Maps** view.
3. Select **FPL**.
4. Tap **Edit** in the lower-right corner of the flight plan viewer.
5. Tap the gray-colored search pattern oval.
6. Tap **Expand SAR [Pattern type]**. The single SAR route oval will expand to display its component waypoints (coordinates). Individual waypoints can now be added or deleted.



4. SAR FLIGHT PLAN MODIFICATION

4.2.1 Adding Waypoints to an Expanded Flight Plan

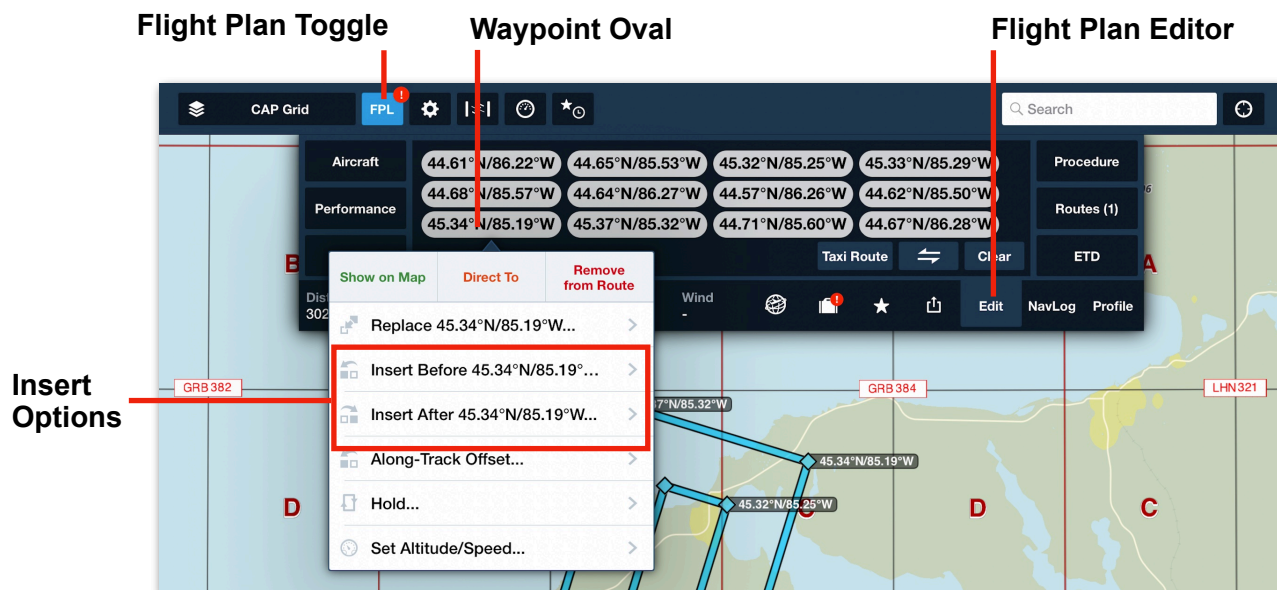
Waypoints can be added to an expanded flight plan using the following methods:

- The **SAR pattern-bubble menu**
- The **Flight Plan Editor**
- **Touch Planning on the map.**

4.2.1.1 Adding Waypoints Using the SAR Pattern-Bubble Menu

To add waypoints to an expanded SAR pattern using the SAR pattern-bubble menu:

1. Go to the **Maps** page.
2. Select **FPL**.
3. Tap **Edit** in the lower-right corner of the flight plan viewer.
4. Tap on a gray-colored coordinate oval where the new waypoint will be placed before or after.
5. Tap **Insert Before [Coordinates]** or **Insert After [Coordinates]**. A popover will appear to allow entry of a waypoint.
6. Enter a grid identifier, navaid, aviation waypoint, user waypoint, or **coordinates**.
7. Tap **Insert**.



4. SAR FLIGHT PLAN MODIFICATION

4.2.1.2 Adding Waypoints Using the Flight Plan Editor

To add waypoints to an expanded SAR pattern using the Flight Plan Editor:

1. Tap in the flight plan editor after the last gray SAR pattern oval. A blue cursor will appear, and a keyboard will be displayed.
2. Enter a grid identifier, navaid, aviation waypoint, user waypoint, or **coordinates**.

4.2.1.3 Adding Waypoints Using Touch Planning on the Map

Additionally, touch-planning may be used. To do this:

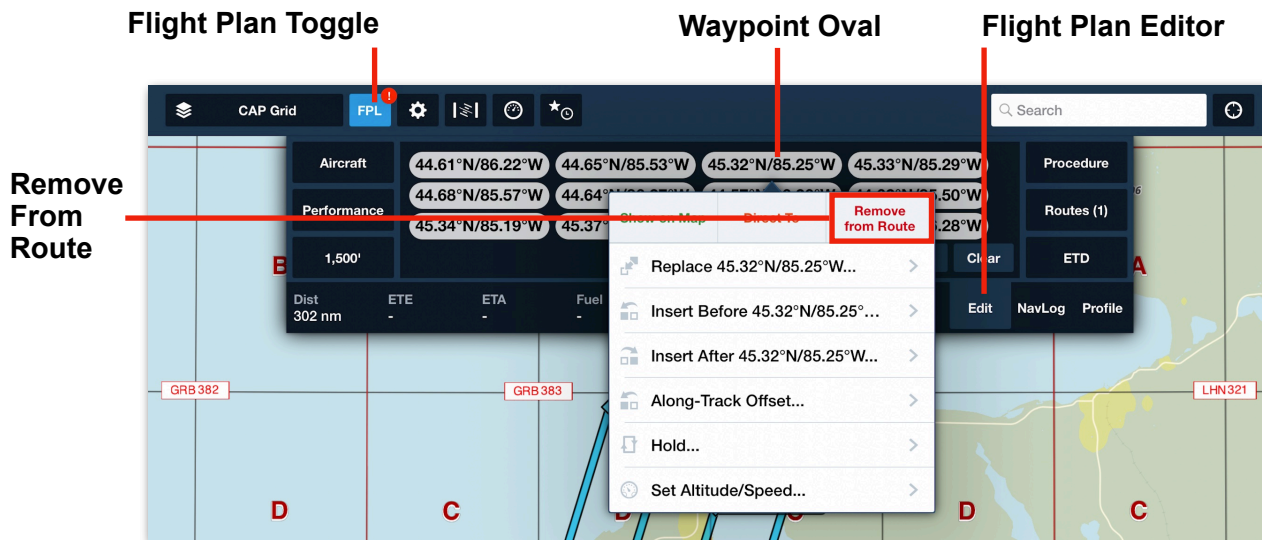
1. Place a finger on the map over the desired location for the waypoint, holding it for a second. A slide-over with waypoint options will appear.
2. Tap on the item to be added in the slide-over to add it to the end of the flight plan.

4. SAR FLIGHT PLAN MODIFICATION

4.2.2 Removing Waypoints from an Expanded Flight Plan

To remove a waypoint from a flight plan with an expanded SAR pattern:

1. Go to the **Maps** page.
2. Select **FPL**.
3. Tap **Edit** in the lower-right corner of the flight plan viewer.
4. Tap on the waypoint oval to be removed. A pop-over will appear.
5. Select **Remove from Route**.

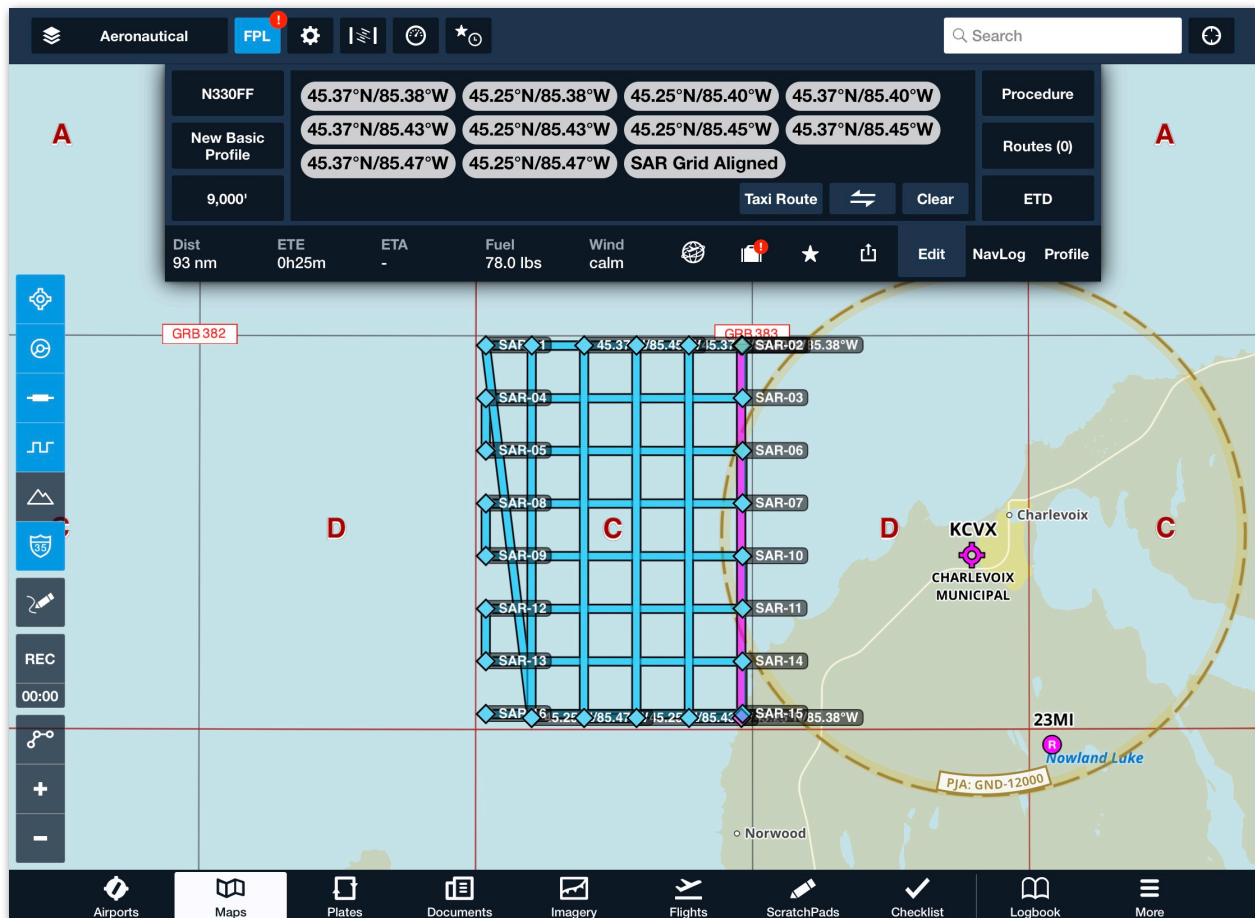


For more details on the flight plan editor, refer to the ForeFlight Mobile Guide available in ForeFlight Mobile under **Documents** > **ForeFlight** (Drive) > **ForeFlight Mobile Guide**, or online at www.foreflight.com/support/pilots-guide/.

4. SAR FLIGHT PLAN MODIFICATION

4.3 Multiple SAR Patterns in a Flight Plan

While the **FPL editor** can display only one SAR pattern oval at a time, an additional SAR pattern can be added by expanding the initial SAR pattern bubble. **Route Search** is the only pattern that does not allow adding a second SAR pattern.



Multiple SAR patterns in a flight plan

4. SAR FLIGHT PLAN MODIFICATION

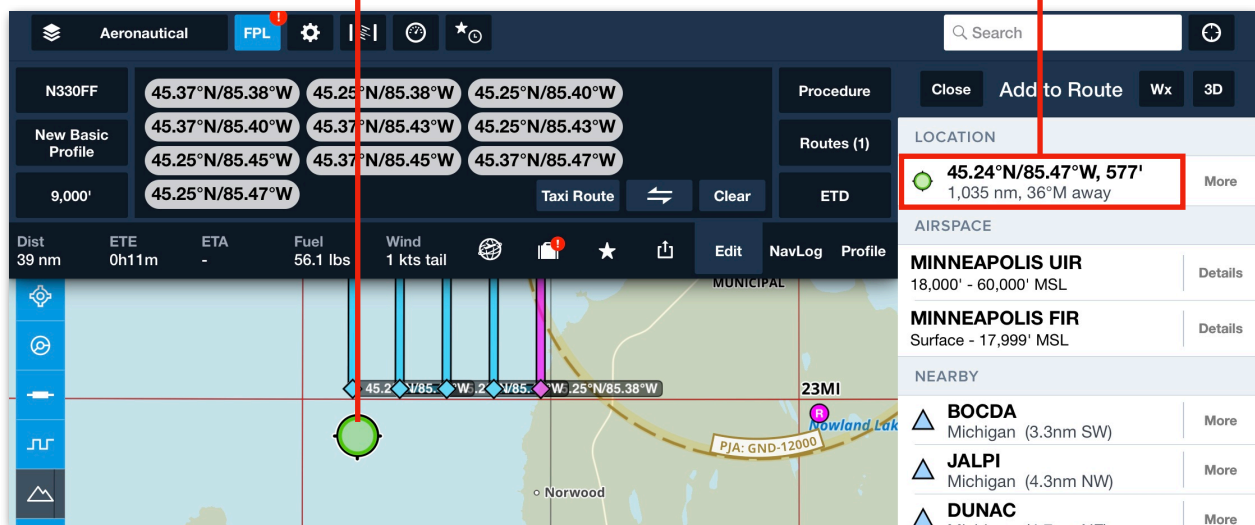
4.3.1 Adding an Additional SAR Pattern

To add an additional SAR pattern, follow these steps:

1. Add a SAR pattern to the flight plan as described in [Adding a Search Pattern](#).
2. Expand the SAR pattern as described in [Expanding a SAR Pattern](#).
3. Insert a placeholder waypoint after the initial expanded SAR pattern.
 - a. Touch the map at the desired place for more than one second.
 - b. From the slide-over, tap on the latitude and longitude location.

Touch map (1 second) to
add placeholder waypoint

Tap the latitude and longitude
value to add to route



NOTE: If attempting to add an additional SAR pattern after the last waypoint in the flight plan, the search pattern bubble will be placed before the last waypoint. Using a placeholder waypoint allows the app to add the new SAR pattern after the existing one.

4. Add the next SAR pattern by tapping on **Procedure** on the right side of the flight plan viewer.
5. Select **Search and Rescue**.
6. Select **Pattern**.

4. SAR FLIGHT PLAN MODIFICATION

7. Choose from the list of options.
8. Fill in pattern definitions as described in [Adding a Search Pattern](#).
9. Tap **Add to Route** to add the pattern.
10. Tap **Close** to exit the Procedure Advisor.
11. Delete the placeholder waypoint, which should be the last waypoint in the flight plan editor.
 - a. Tap on the waypoint bubble.
 - b. Select **Remove from Route**.

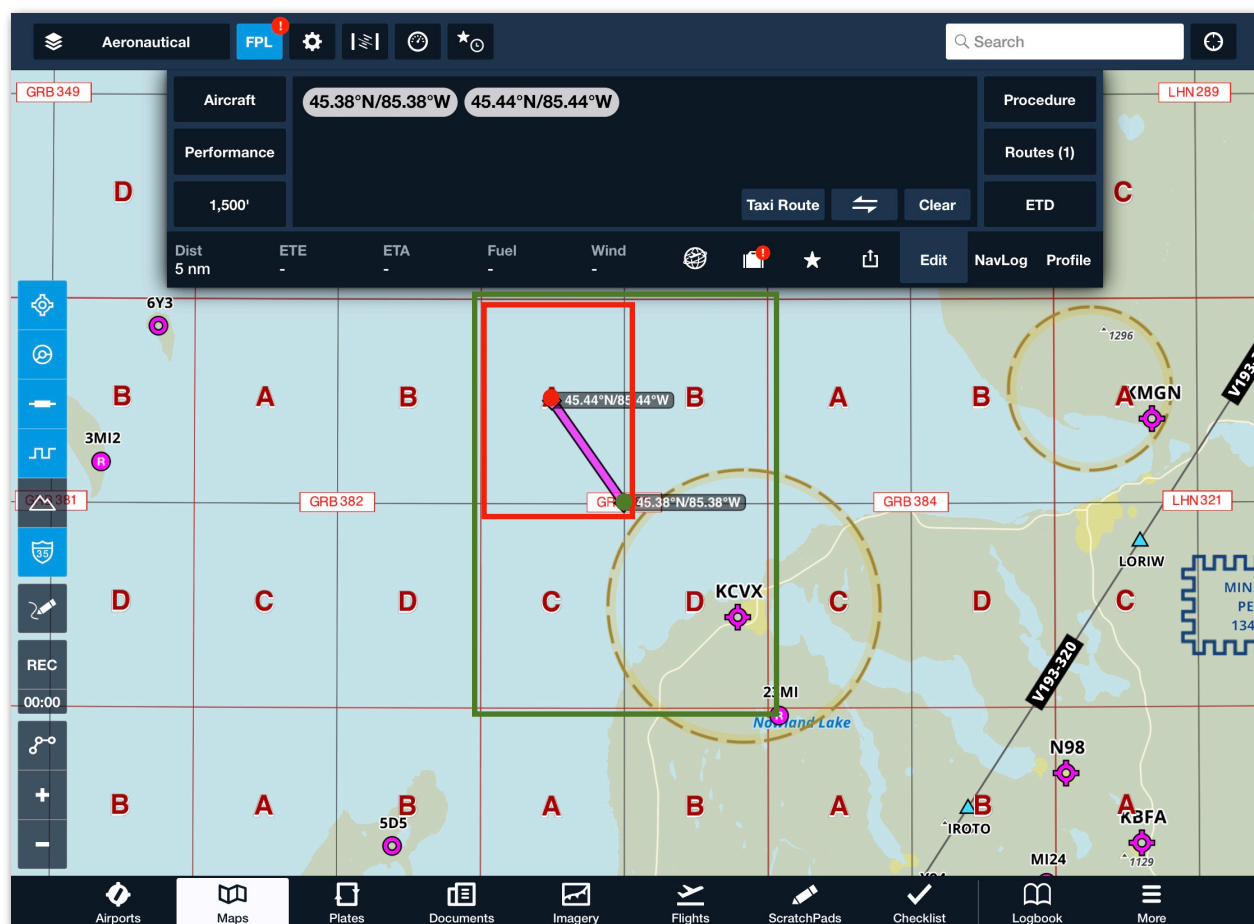
GRID IDENTIFIERS AS WAYPOINTS

Grid identifiers can be searched or used as waypoints in a flight plan. When a grid location identifier is entered, a waypoint corresponding to the center of the specified grid will be added to the flight plan as a latitude and longitude. These grid identifiers will display even if the associated grid overlay is not active. For more information on grid overlays, refer to [SAR Grid Overlays](#).

5.1 CAP Grid Waypoint Format

CAP Grid identifiers can be entered as waypoints corresponding to the center of the specified grid (See [CAP Grid](#) for grid details). The following two formats are supported:

- Sub-Grid ID
- Sub-Grid ID with Quadrant ID



CAP@GRB383 (Sub-Grid ID) and CAP@GRB383 (Sub-Grid ID with Quadrant ID) displayed as latitude and longitude waypoints.

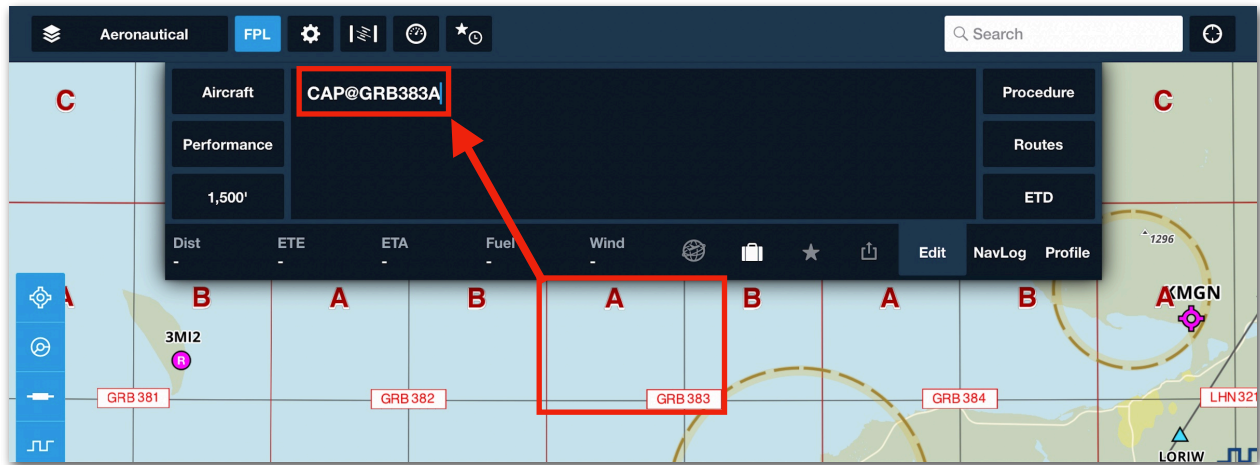
5. GRID IDENTIFIERS AS WAYPOINTS

5.1.2 Sub-Grid ID with Quadrant ID

The format for the Sub-Grid ID with Quadrant ID is **CAP@AAANNQ**, where:

- **AAA** is the grid identifier.
- **NNN** is the grid number.
- **Q** is the quadrant (A, B, C, or D).

Example: CAP@GRB383A



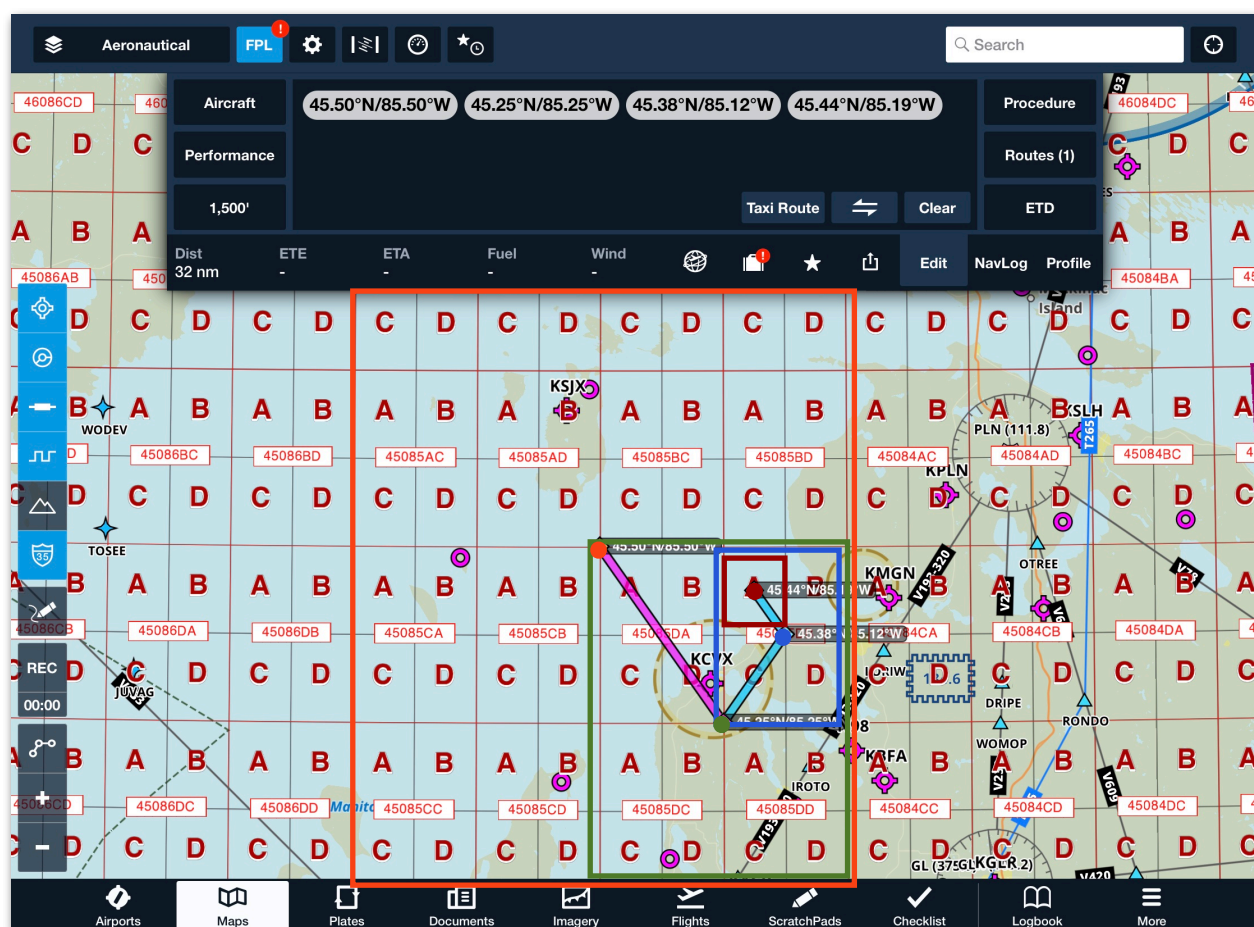
Sub-Grid ID with Quadrant ID entered as a waypoint (before selecting Return)

5. GRID IDENTIFIERS AS WAYPOINTS

5.2 Cell CAP Grid Waypoint Format

Cell CAP Grid identifiers can be entered as waypoints corresponding to the center of the specified grid (See [CAP Grid](#) for grid details). These identifiers will be converted into latitude and longitude coordinates. The following formats are supported:

- Grid Designation
- Grid with Sub-Grid Designation
- Grid with Quadrant Designation
- Grid with Sub-Quadrant Designation.



CAP@45085 (Grid Designation), CAP@45085D (Grid with Sub-Grid Designation), CAP@45085DB (Grid with Quadrant Designation), CAP@45085DBA (Grid with Sub-Quadrant Designation) displayed as latitude and longitude waypoints.

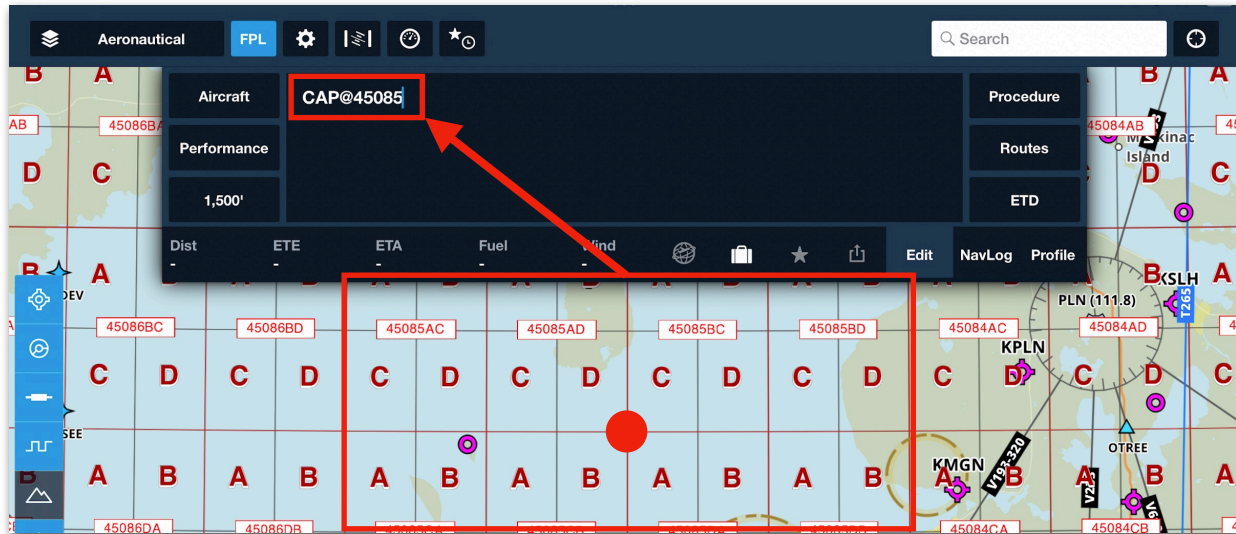
5. GRID IDENTIFIERS AS WAYPOINTS

5.2.1 Grid Designation

The format for Grid Designation is **CAP@LLNNN**, where:

- **LL** is the latitude.
- **NNN** is the longitude (leading zeros must be included if the longitude is less than 100).

Example: CAP@45085



Grid designation entered as a waypoint (before selecting Return)

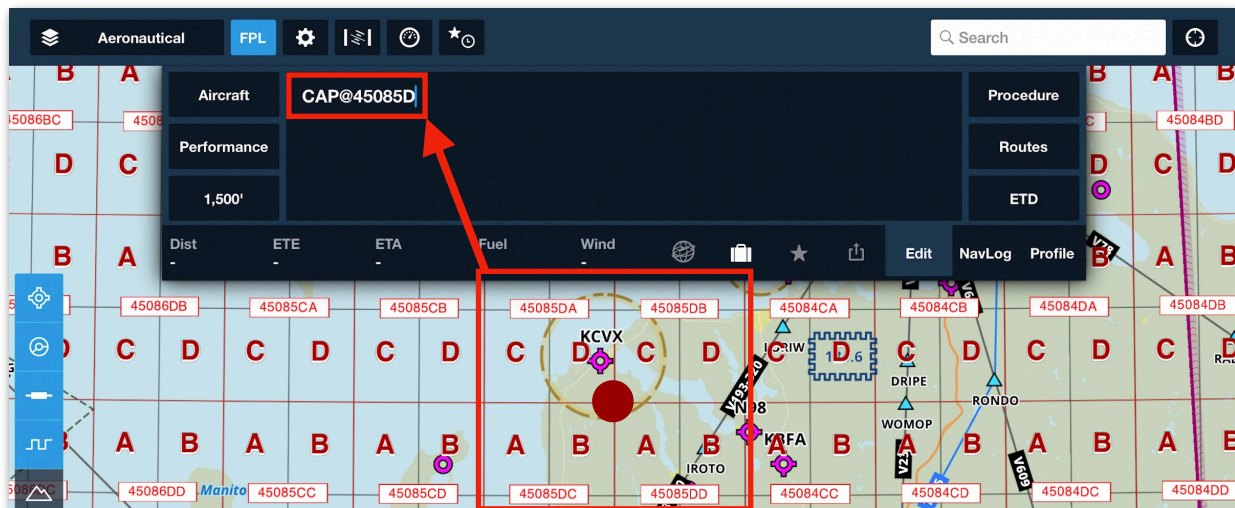
5. GRID IDENTIFIERS AS WAYPOINTS

5.2.2 Grid with Sub-Grid Designation

The format for Grid with Sub-Grid Designation is **CAP@LLNNNS**, where:

- **LL** is latitude.
- **NNN** is longitude.
- **S** is the sub-grid (A, B, C, D).

Example: CAP@45085D



Grid with Sub-Grid designation entered as a waypoint (before selecting Return)

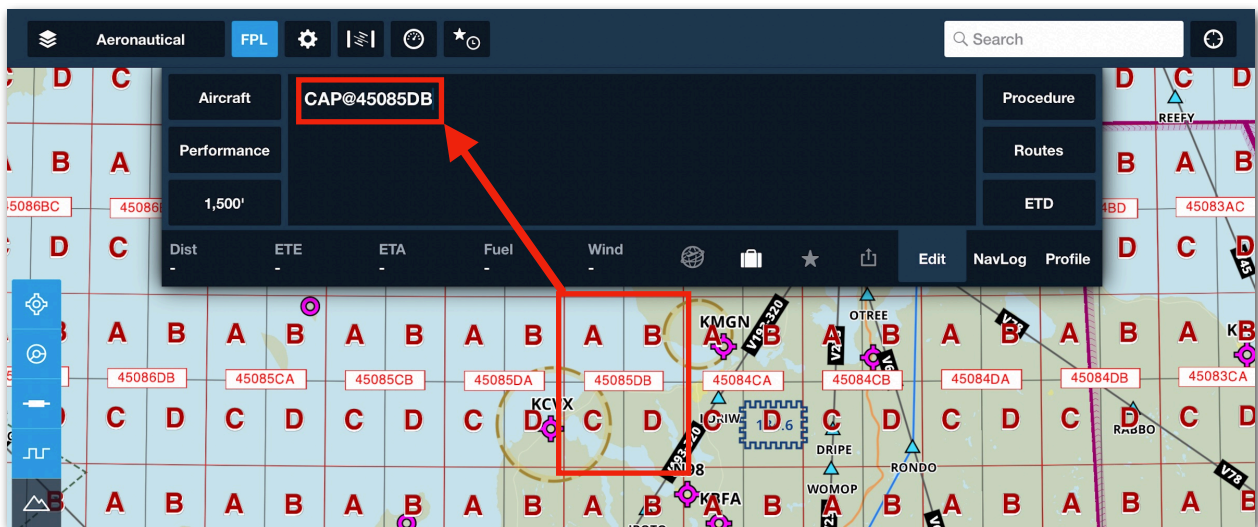
5. GRID IDENTIFIERS AS WAYPOINTS

5.2.3 Grid with Quadrant Designation

The format for Grid with Quadrant Designation is **CAP@LLNNNSQ**, where:

- **LL** is latitude.
- **NNN** is longitude.
- **S** is the sub-grid (A, B, C, D).
- **Q** is the quadrant (A, B, C, D).

Example: CAP@45085DB



Grid with Quadrant Designation entered as a waypoint
(before selecting Return)

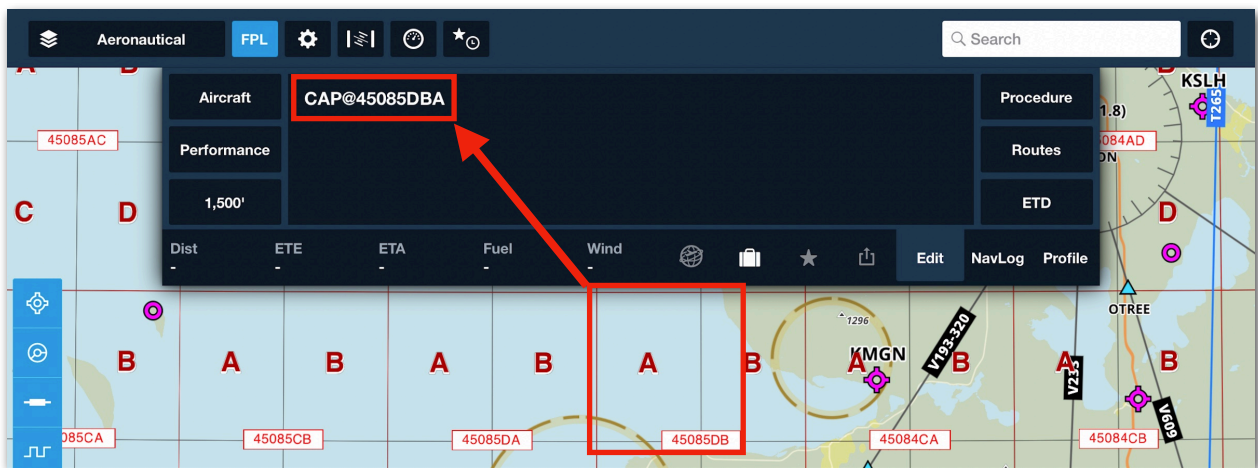
5. GRID IDENTIFIERS AS WAYPOINTS

5.2.4 Grid with Sub-Quadrant Designation

The format for Grid with Sub-Quadrant Designation is **CAP@LLNNNSQs**, where:

- **LL** is latitude.
- **NNN** is longitude.
- **S** is the sub-grid (A, B, C, D).
- **Q** is the quadrant (A, B, C, D).
- **s** is the sub-quadrant (A, B, C, D).

Example: CAP@45085DBA



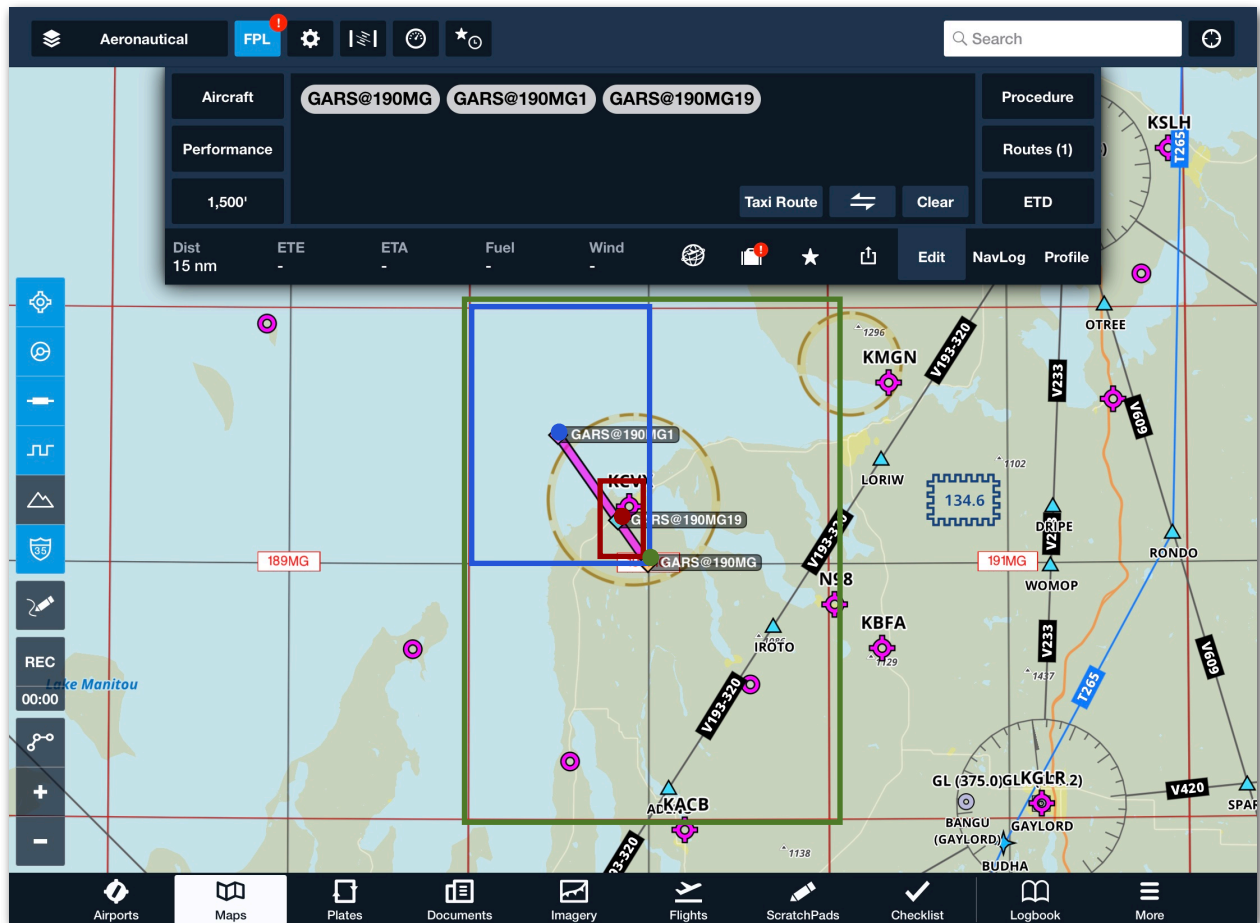
**Grid with Sub-Quadrant designation entered as a waypoint
(before selecting Return)**

5. GRID IDENTIFIERS AS WAYPOINTS

5.3 GARS Grid Waypoint Format

GARS Grid identifiers can be entered as waypoints corresponding to the center of the specified grid (see [GARS Grid](#) for grid details). The following formats are supported:

- Cell
- Quadrant
- 9-Grid Area.



GARS@190MG (Cell), GARS@190MG1 (Quadrant), and GARS@190MG19 (9-Grid Area) displayed waypoints.

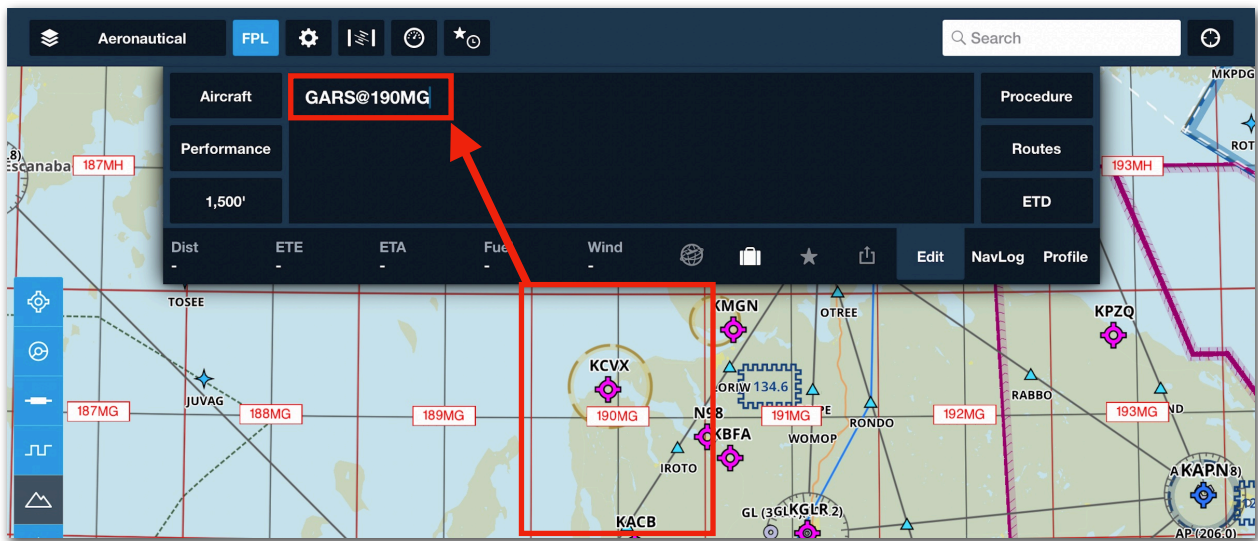
5. GRID IDENTIFIERS AS WAYPOINTS

5.3.1 Cell

The format for Cell is **GARS@NNNLL**, where:

- **NNN** is the 30-minute longitudinal band, numbered starting at the 180-degree meridian (leading zeros must be included for longitudes less than 100) and moving eastward.
- **LL** is the 30-minute latitudinal band.

Example: GARS@190MG



**GARS grid with Cell designation entered as a waypoint
(before selecting Return)**

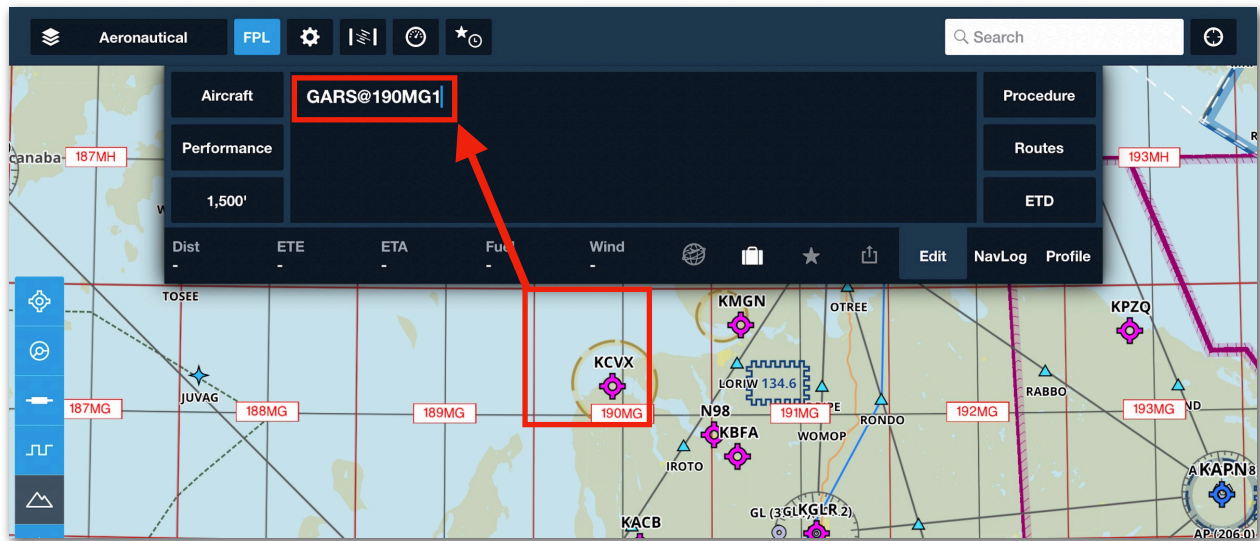
5. GRID IDENTIFIERS AS WAYPOINTS

5.3.2 Quadrant

The format for Quadrant is **GARS@NNNLLQ**, where:

- **NNN** is the longitudinal band.
- **LL** is the latitudinal band.
- **Q** is the quadrant (1-4).

Example: GARS@190MG1



**GARS grid with Cell designation entered as a waypoint
(before selecting Return)**

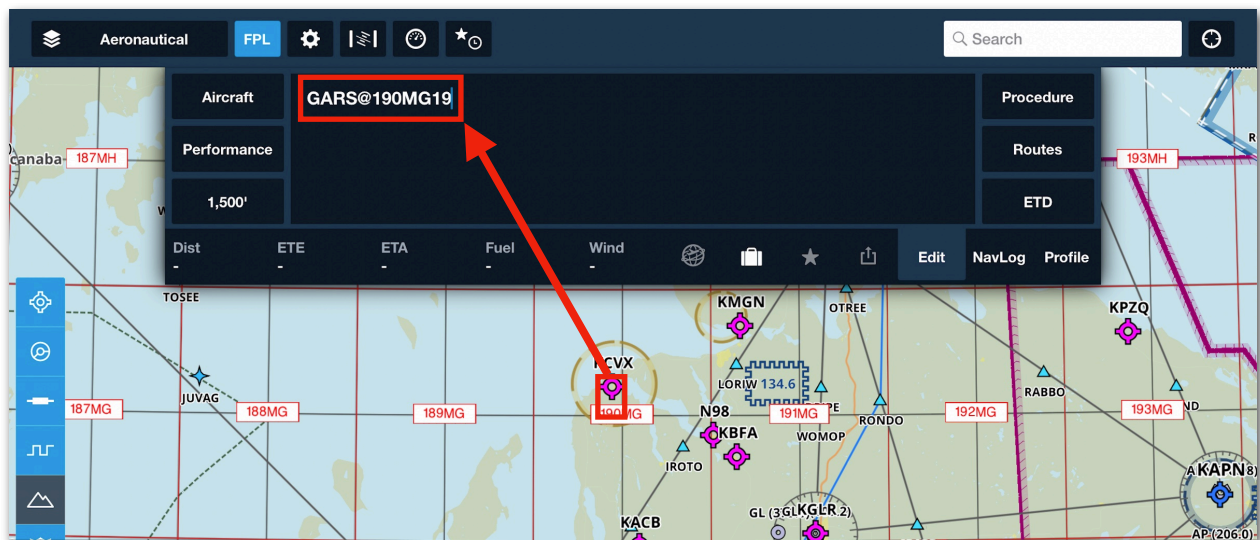
5. GRID IDENTIFIERS AS WAYPOINTS

5.3.3 9-Grid Area

The format for 9-Grid Area is **GARS@NNNLLQA**, where:

- **NNN** is the longitudinal band.
- **LL** is the latitudinal band.
- **Q** is the quadrant (1-4).
- **A** is the 9-grid area (1-9).

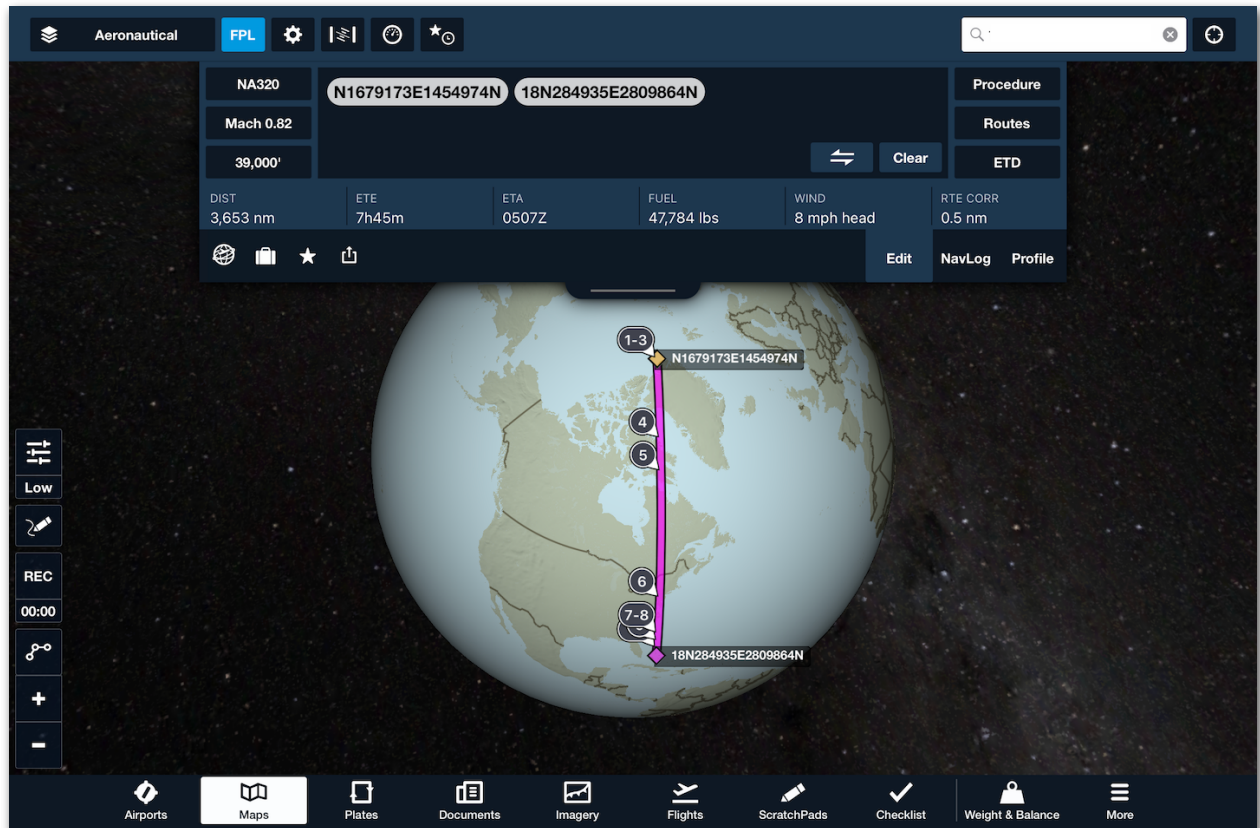
Example: GARS@190MG19



**GARS grid with 9-Grid Area designation entered as a waypoint
(before selecting Return)**

UTM, UPS, and MGRS FORMATTING

UTM (Universal Transverse Mercator), UPS (Universal Polar Stereographic), and MGRS (Military Grid Reference System) coordinates can be searched or used as waypoints in a flight plan. When a UTM, UPS, or MGRS coordinate is entered, the location is automatically converted to latitude and longitude for display and navigation unless the UTM/UPS or MGRS coordinate formats are explicitly selected in **Settings > Units/Time > Coordinates**.



UTM and UPS Waypoints

6. UTM, UPS, and MGRS GRID FORMATS

6.1 UTM Format

UTM coordinates, covering latitudes from 80°S to 84°N, can be entered as waypoints in ForeFlight Mobile despite the absence of a UTM grid overlay within the app. The following format is supported:

- NNHeeeeeeeEnnnnnnnN

6.1.1 NNHeeeeeeeEnnnnnnnN Format

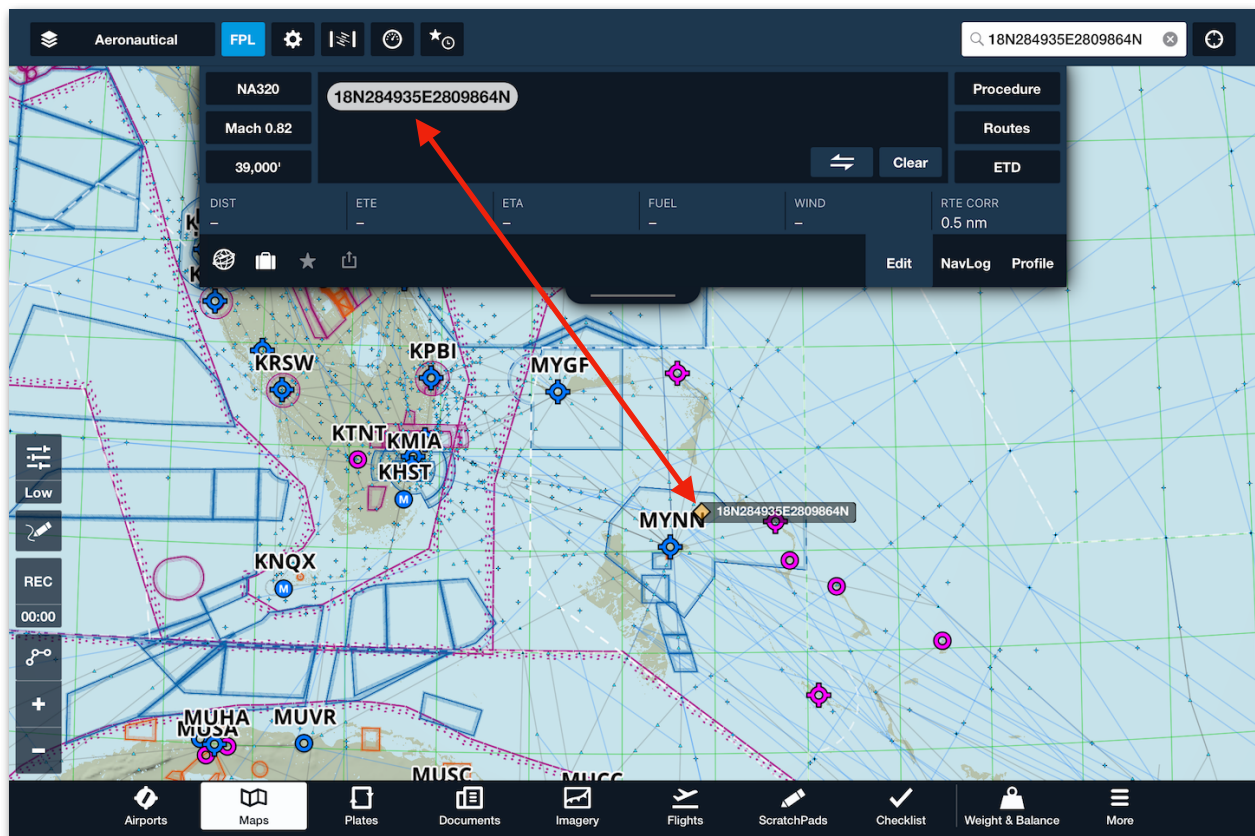
This format provides a precision level of 1 meter. The components are:

- **NN**: UTM Zone Number (01–60), identifying the 6-degree longitudinal zone (e.g., Zone 13 covers 108°W to 102°W).
- **H**: Latitude Band Letter (C–X, omitting I and O), specifying the 8-degree latitude band within the zone (e.g., S spans 32°N to 40°N).
- **eeeeee**: Easting in meters, measured from the zone's central meridian with a 500,000 m false easting.
- **E**: Easting indicator.
- **nnnnnnn**: Northing in meters, measured from the equator (Northern Hemisphere) or 10,000,000 m minus distance from the equator (Southern Hemisphere).
- **N**: Northing indicator.

6. UTM, UPS, and MGRS GRID FORMATS

Example: 18N284935E2809864N

- **18**: UTM zone (78°W–72°W).
- **N**: Latitude Band L (24°N–32°N).
- **284935**: Easting of 284,935 meters from the zone's central meridian (75°W).
- **E**: Easting indicator.
- **2809864**: Northing of 2,809,864 meters from the equator.



UTM Coordinate

6. UTM, UPS, and MGRS GRID FORMATS

6.2 UPS Format

UPS coordinates, which cover the polar regions from 84°N to 90°N (North Pole) and from 80°S to 90°S (South Pole), can be entered as waypoints in ForeFlight Mobile, despite the absence of a UPS grid overlay within the app. The following format is supported:

- HeeeeeeeEnnnnnnnN.

6.2.1 HeeeeeeeEnnnnnnnN Format

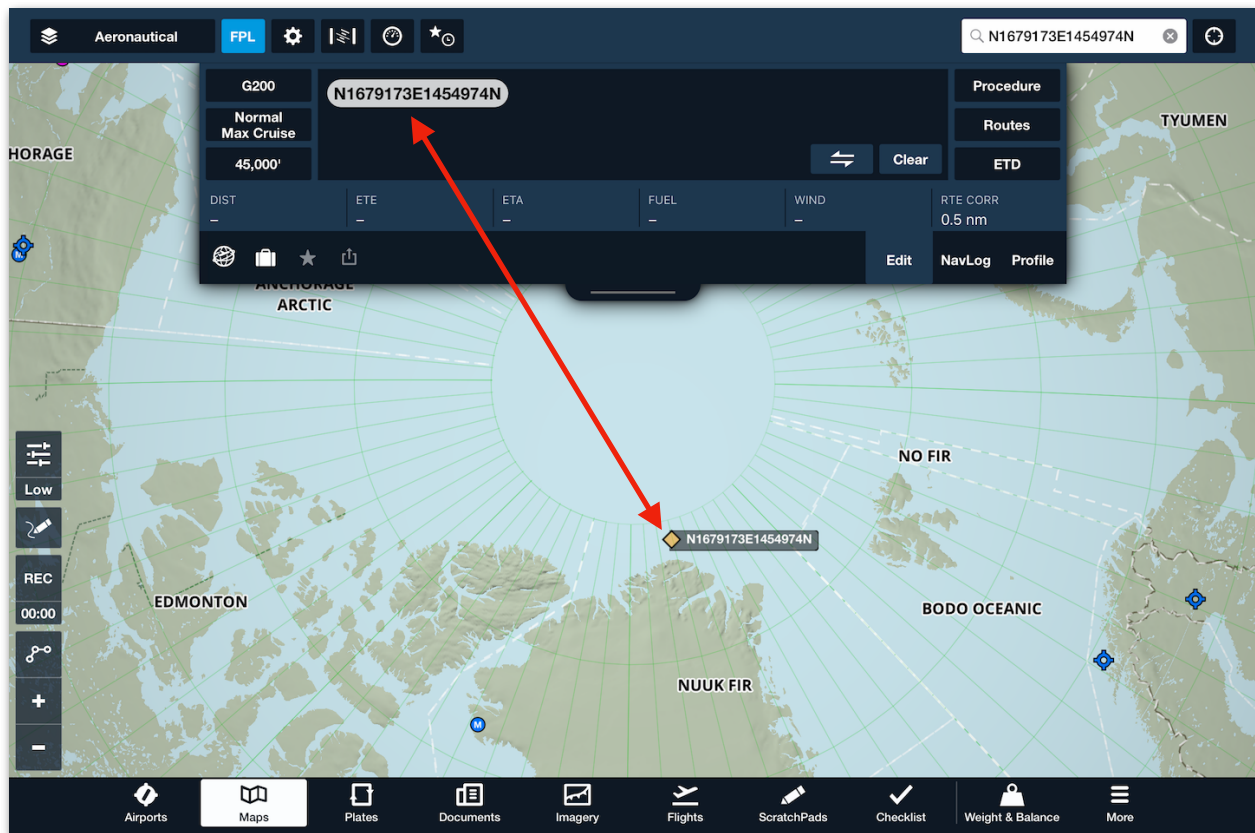
This format provides a precision level of 1 meter. The components are:

- **H**: Polar Region Indicator, specifying either "N" (for 84°N to 90°N) or "S" (for 80°S to 90°S).
- **eeeeeee**: Easting in meters indicating the distance east of the pole (North or South Pole), with a 2,000,000 m false easting applied at the pole.
- **E**: Easting indicator.
- **nnnnnnn**: Northing in meters indicating the distance north of the pole, with a 2,000,000 m false northing applied at the pole.
- **N**: Northing indicator.

6. UTM, UPS, and MGRS GRID FORMATS

Example: N1679173E1454974N

- **N**: Indicates the UPS North zone (84°N to 90°N).
- **1679173**: Easting of 1,679,173 meters (320,827 m west of the pole's 2,000,000 m false easting).
- **E**: Easting indicator.
- **1454974**: Northing of 1,454,974 meters (545,026 m south of the pole's 2,000,000 m false northing).
- **N**: Northing indicator.



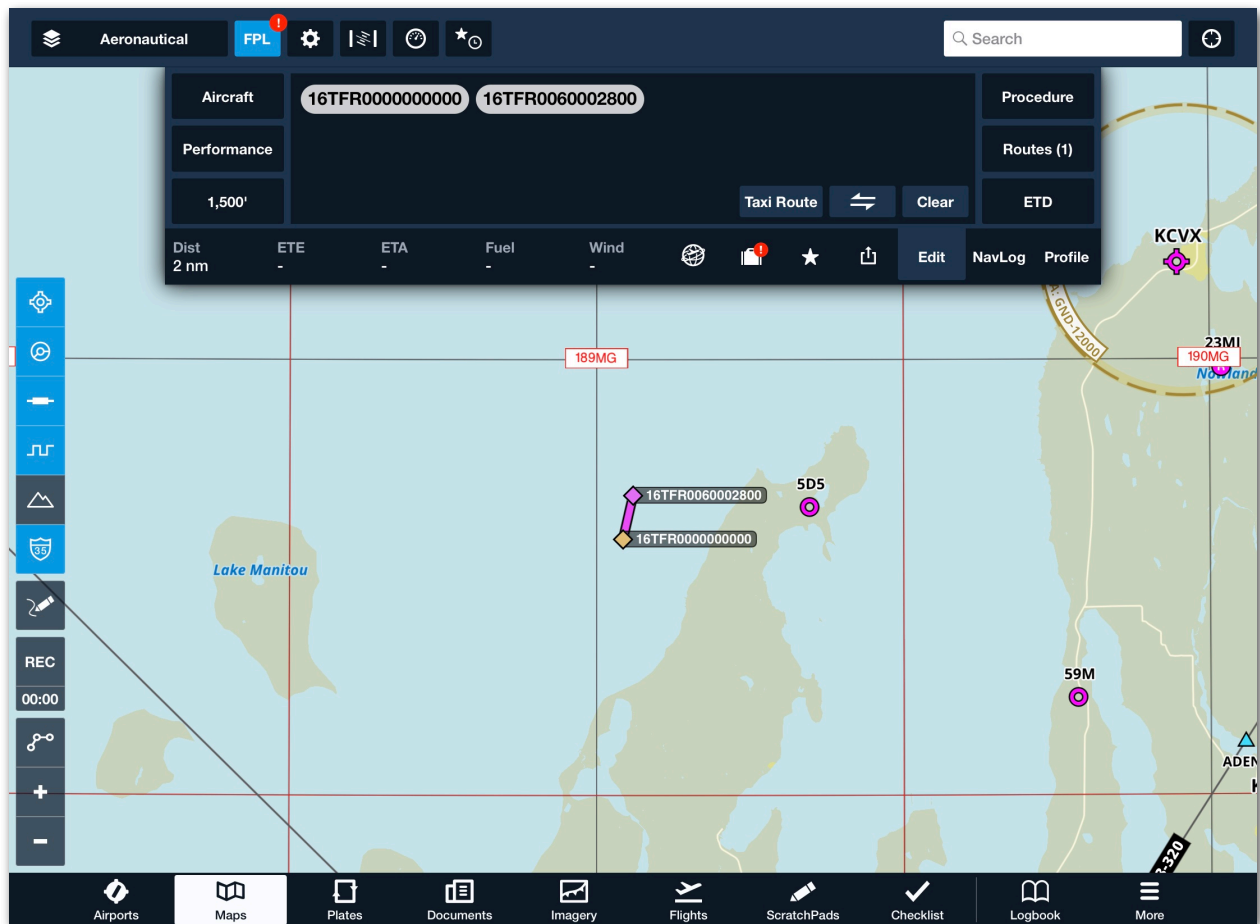
UPS Coordinate

6. UTM, UPS, and MGRS GRID FORMATS

6.3 MGRS Waypoint Format

MGRS coordinates can be entered as waypoints, even though MGRS grid overlays are not available in ForeFlight Mobile (see the [MGRS Grid Zones Chart](#)). The following formats are supported:

- MGRS@NNLSS
- MGRS@NNLSSeeennn (6 digits)
- MGRS@NNLSSeeennnn (8 digits)
- MGRS@NNLSSeeennnnnn (10 digits).

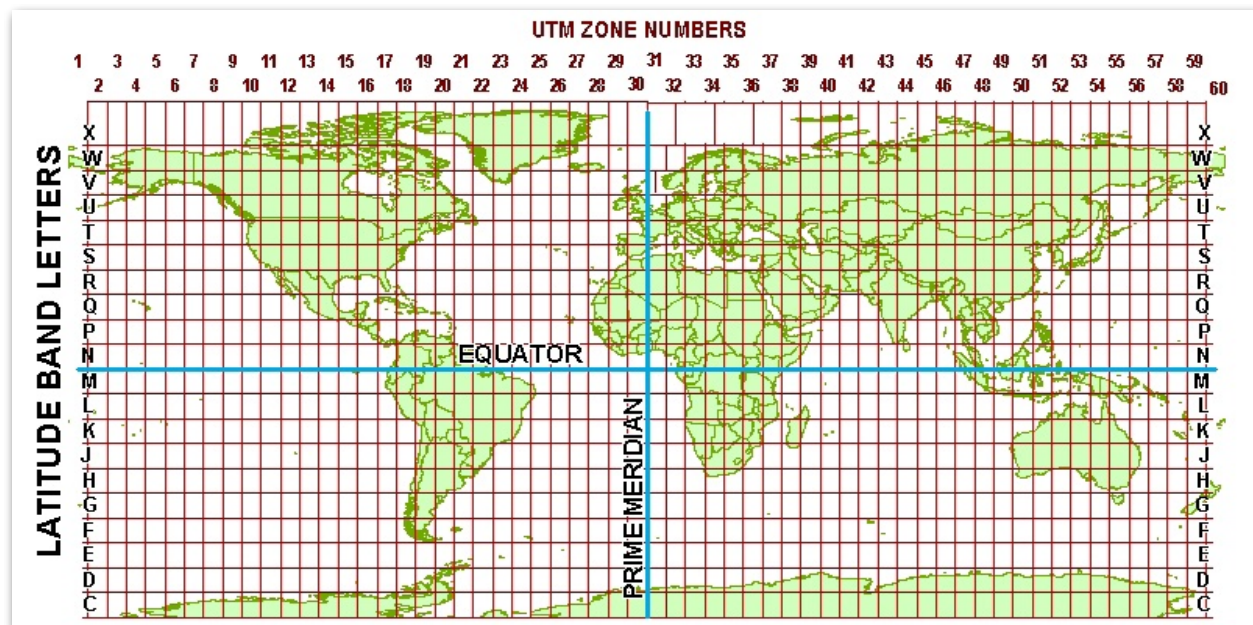


**MGRS@16TFR (MGRS@NNLSS) and MGRS@16TFR0032602811
(NNLSSeeennnnnn) added as waypoints**

6. UTM, UPS, and MGRS GRID FORMATS

6.3.1 MGRS Grid Zones Chart

The following illustration of the MGRS grid zones has been provided to assist with visualizing the MGRS grid zones.



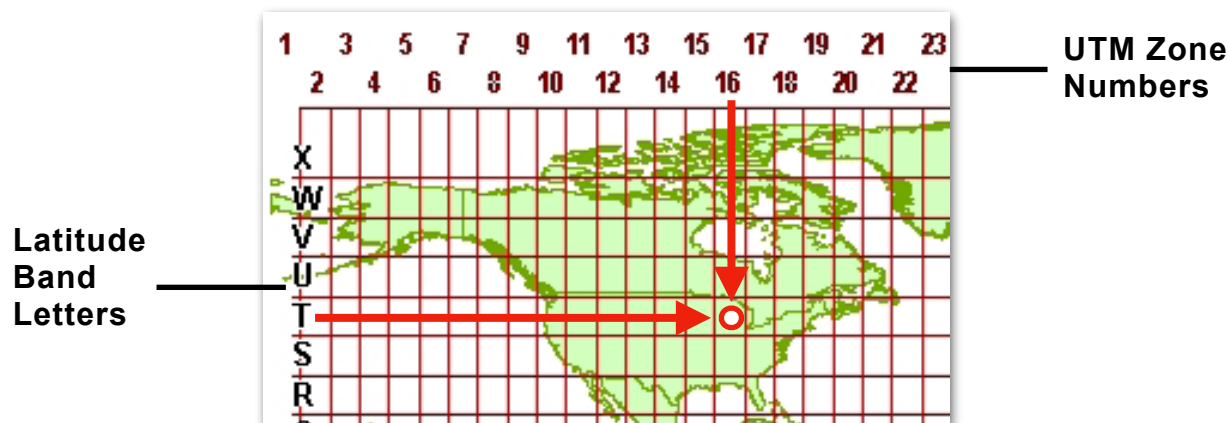
MGRS grid zones

6. UTM, UPS, and MGRS GRID FORMATS

6.3.2 MGRS@NNLSS

This format provides a precision level of 100 km and helps locate the major area of the grid. The components of this format are:

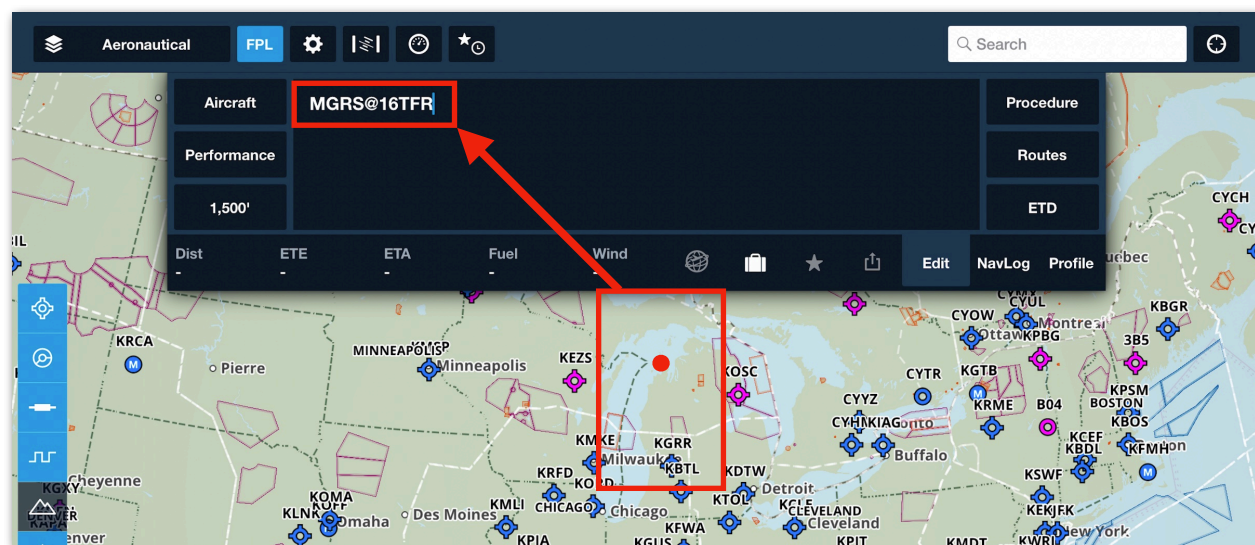
- **NN**: 6° wide UTM zone number (with leading zero included)
- **L**: Latitude band
- **SS**: 100,000m grid square within the zone.



MGRS@16TFR on the MGRS Grid

Example: MGRS@16TFR

- **16**: UTM zone
- **T**: Latitude band
- **FR**: 100,000m grid square.



MGRS grid designation entered as a waypoint (before selecting Return)

6. UTM, UPS, and MGRS GRID FORMATS

6.3.3 MGRS@NNLSSeeennn (6 digits)

This format provides a precision level of 100 meters. The components of this format are:

- **NN**: 6° wide UTM zone number (with leading zero included)
- **L**: Latitude band
- **SS**: 100,000m grid square within the zone
- **eee**: Easting value within the 100,000m grid square
- **nnn**: Northing value within the 100,000m grid square.

6.3.4 MGRS@NNLSSeeennnn (8 digits)

This format provides a precision level of 10 meters. The components of this format are:

- **NN**: 6° wide UTM zone number (with leading zero included)
- **L**: Latitude band
- **SS**: 100,000m grid square within the zone
- **eeee**: Easting value within the 100,000m grid square
- **nnnn**: Northing value within the 100,000m grid square.

6. UTM, UPS, and MGRS GRID FORMATS

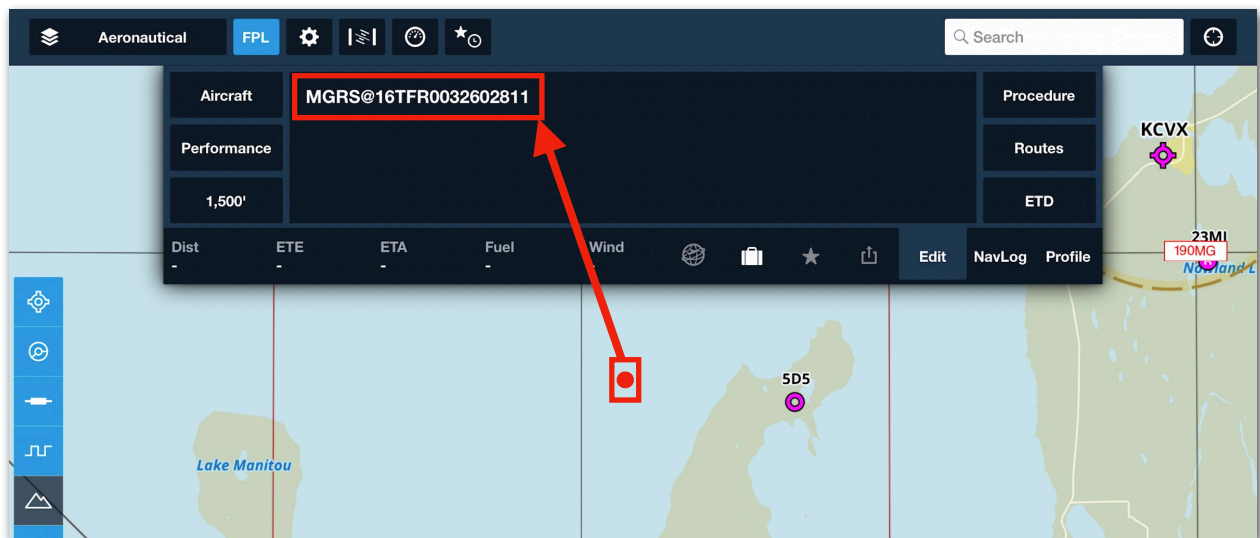
6.3.5 MGRS@NNLSSeeeeeennnnn (10 digits)

This format provides a precision level of 1 meter. The components of this format are:

- **NN**: 6° wide UTM zone number (with leading zero included)
- **L**: Latitude band
- **SS**: 100,000m grid square within the zone
- **eeeeee**: Easting value within the 100,000m grid square
- **nnnnn**: Northing value within the 100,000m grid square.

Example: MGRS@16TFR0032602811

- **16**: UTM zone
- **T**: Latitude band
- **FR**: 100,000m grid square within the zone
- **00326**: Easting value within the 100,000m grid square
- **02811**: Northing value within the 100,000m grid square.



**MGRS grid (10 digit) designation entered as a waypoint
(before selecting Return)**

NOTE: MGRS coordinates with easting and northing coordinates can also be entered without the leading MGRS@. For example: 15RTM40007000.

LATITUDE & LONGITUDE FORMATTING

ForeFlight Mobile supports multiple latitude and longitude coordinate formats. Coordinates can be entered in the Maps view search box, in the flight plan editor, or when creating custom waypoints.

7.1 Supported Coordinate Formats

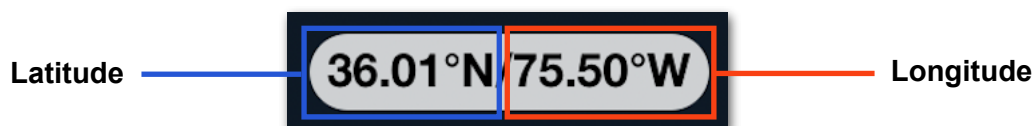
The following formats are supported for entering latitude and longitude coordinates in ForeFlight:

- Decimal Degrees (DD.dd)
- Degrees, Minutes, Seconds (DD°MM'SS)
- Degree Minutes (DD°MM.mm).

7.2 Formatting of Coordinates

When entering latitude and longitude coordinates, use the following guidelines:

- **DD**: Represents latitude and is limited to two digits (00-90).
- **DDD**: Represents longitude and is three digits long (000-180). If the longitude is less than 100, a leading zero is required in all formats except **DD.dd** (which may use or omit a leading zero).
- **dd**: Represents decimal degrees, between 00-99 for two-digit resolution.
- **MM**: Represents minutes,. Values must be between 00 and 59, as minutes are based on a 60-unit scale.
- **mm**: Represents decimal minutes. Values range from 00-99.
- **SS**: Represents seconds, values must be between 00 and 59, as seconds follow the same 60-unit scale.



To change the format displayed within ForeFlight Mobile, see [Setting Latitude and Longitude Coordinate Format](#).

6. LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE FORMATTING

7.3 Hemisphere Denoting of Latitude Coordinates

Latitude values between 0° and 90° are in the Northern Hemisphere. Latitude values between 0° and -90° are in the Southern Hemisphere.

To denote the hemisphere with letters:

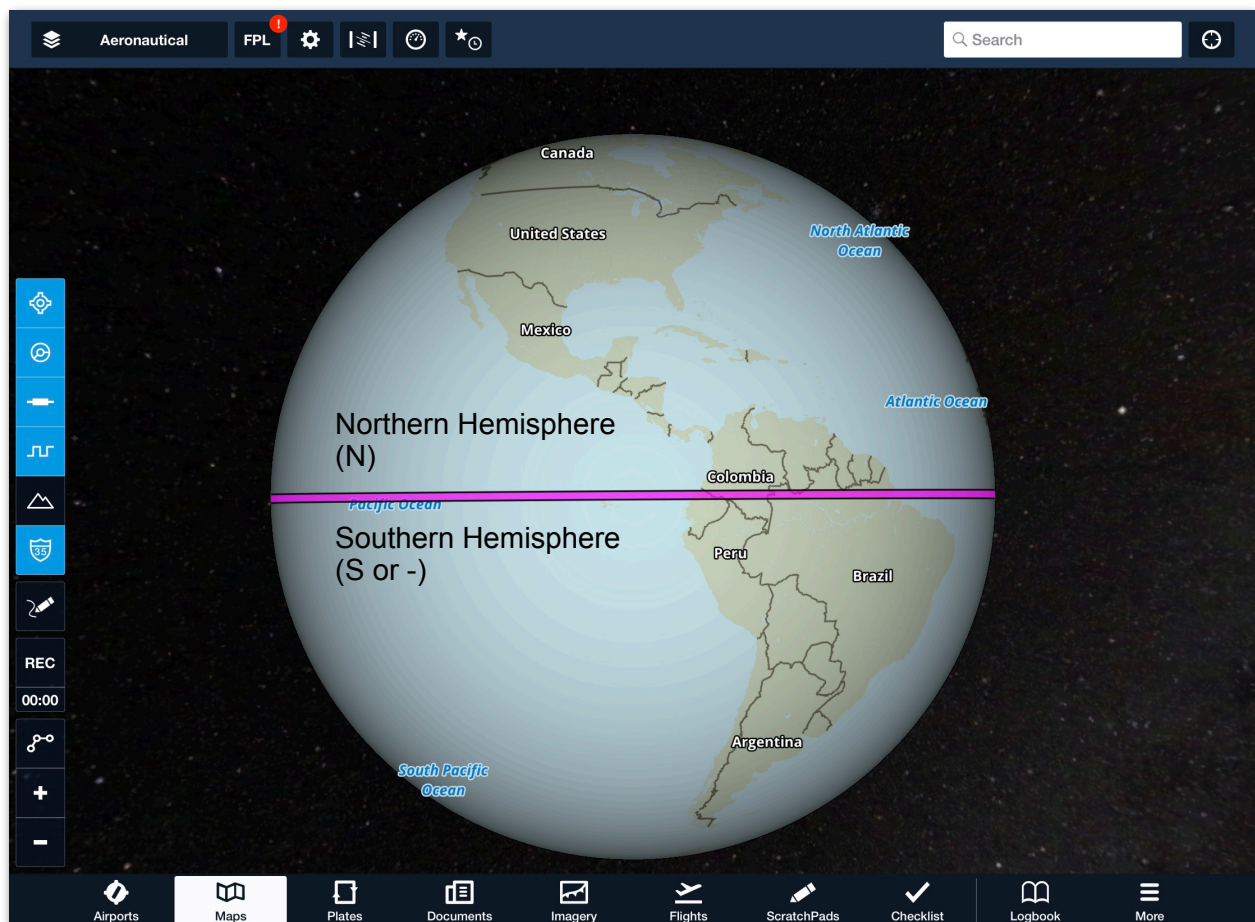
- Add **N** for Northern Hemisphere values (0° to 90°).
- Add **S** for Southern Hemisphere values (0° to -90°).

Example: $34^{\circ}12'42''\text{N}$ is 341242N in the DD°MM'SS" format.

If letters are not used:

- No prefix is required for Northern Hemisphere values (0° to 90°).
- A minus sign (-) is placed before Southern Hemisphere values (0° to -90°).

Example: $34^{\circ}12'42''\text{N}$ is 341242 in the DD°MM'SS" format.



Northern and Southern hemispheres relative to the equator

6. LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE FORMATTING

7.4 Meridian Denoting of Longitude Coordinates

Longitude values between 0° and 180° are East of the Prime Meridian. Longitude values between 0° and -180° are West of the Prime Meridian.

To denote the meridian with letters:

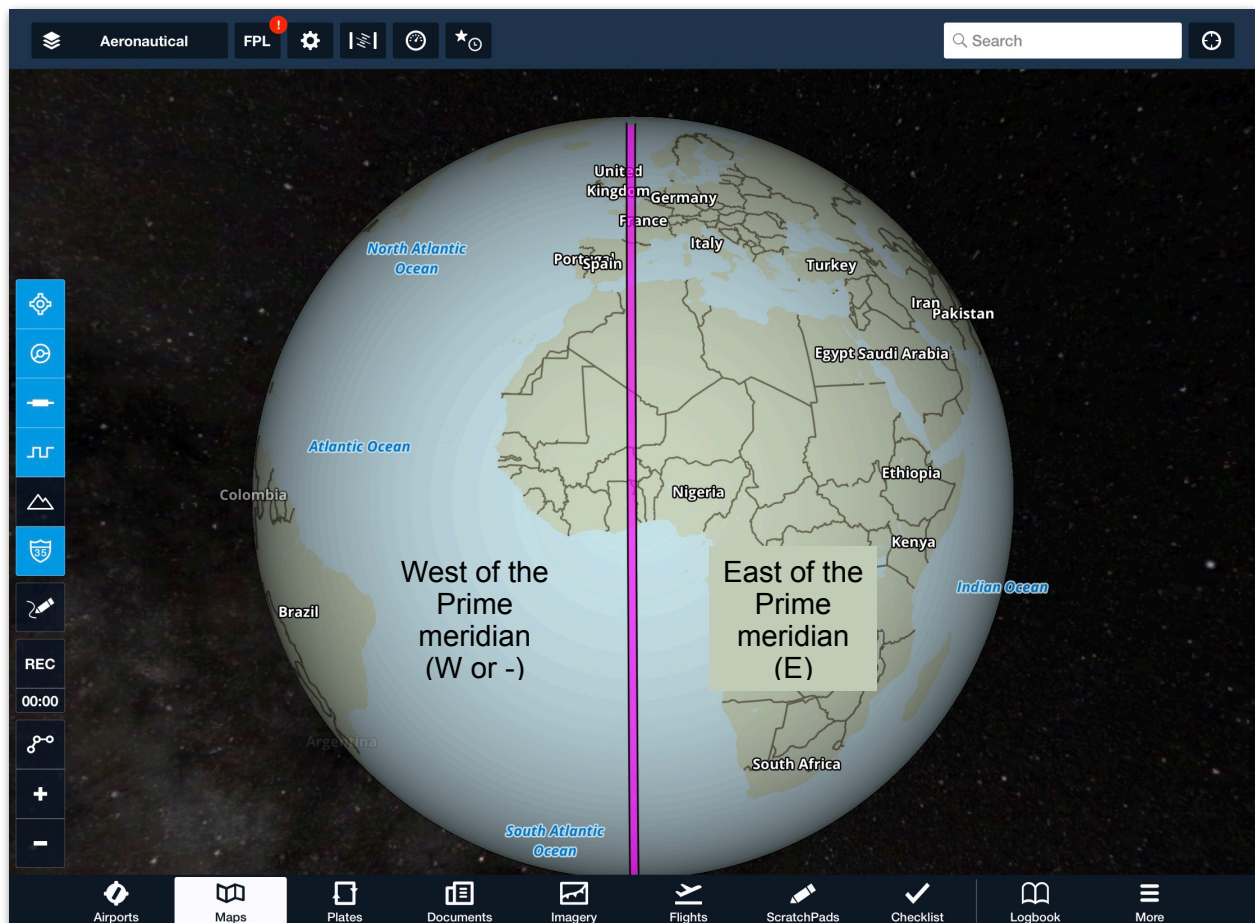
- Add **E** for East of the Prime Meridian (0° to 180°).
- Add **W** for West of the Prime Meridian (0° to -180°).

Example: $118^{\circ}29'44''\text{W}$ is 1182944W in the DD°MM'SS" format.

If letters are not used:

- No prefix is required for East of the Prime Meridian values (0° to 180°).
- A minus sign (-) is placed before West of the Prime Meridian values (0° to -180°).

Example: $118^{\circ}29'44''\text{W}$ is -1182944 in the DD°MM'SS" format.



West and East of the Prime meridian

6. LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE FORMATTING

7.5 Latitude and Longitude Entry Example

Here is an example of how supported formats can be used to enter the following DD°MM'SS" latitude and longitude value into ForeFlight:

36°00'51"N / 75°30'04"W

Format	Equivalent Latitude and longitude Value	How It Is Entered in ForeFlight
DD.dd (with letters)	36.01°N/75.50°W	36.01N/75.50W
DD.dd (with a minus)	36.01°N/75.50°W	36.01/-75.50
DD°MM'SS" (with letters)	36°00'51"N/75°30'04"W	360051N/0753004W
DD°MM'SS" (with a minus)	36°00'51"N/75°30'04"W	360051/-0753004
DD°MM.mm (with letters)	36°00.86'N/75°30.07'	3600.86N/07530.07W
DD°MM.mm (with a minus)	36°00.86'N/75°30.07'	3600.86/-07530.07

SHARING A FLIGHT PLAN

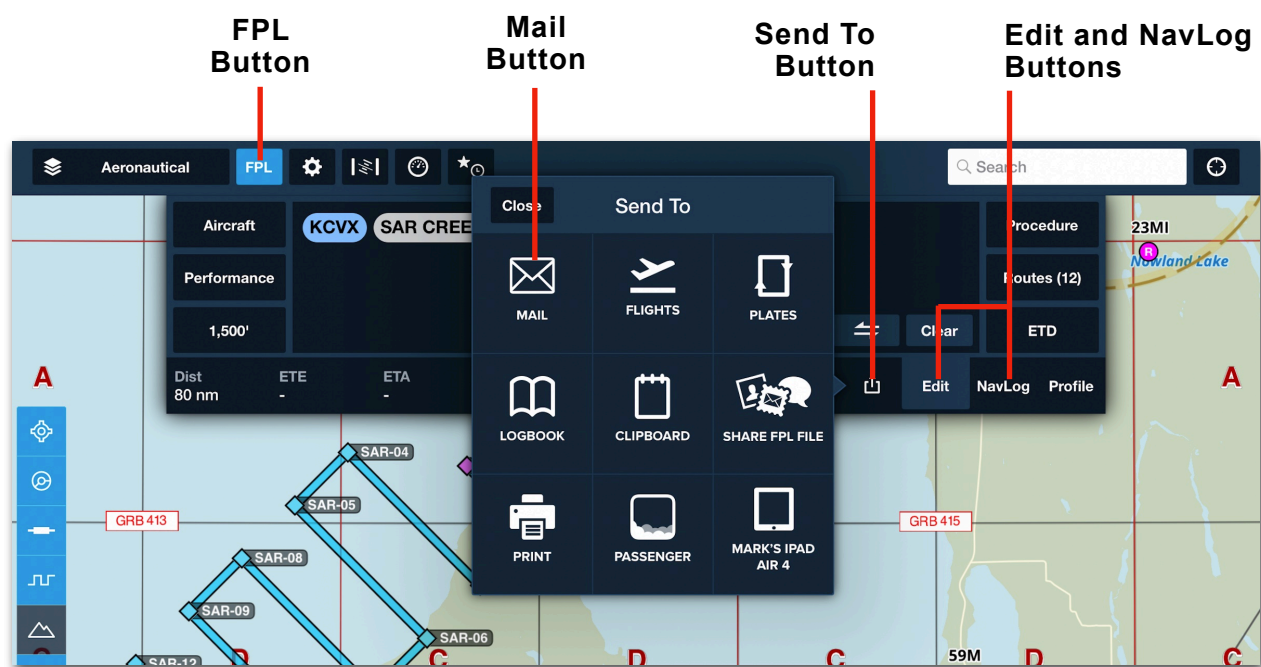
ForeFlight Mobile provides several options for sharing flight plans, including those with SAR patterns. The available sharing methods are:

- Emailing a Flight Plan
- Sharing an FPL File
- Cockpit Sharing.

8.1 Emailing a Flight Plan

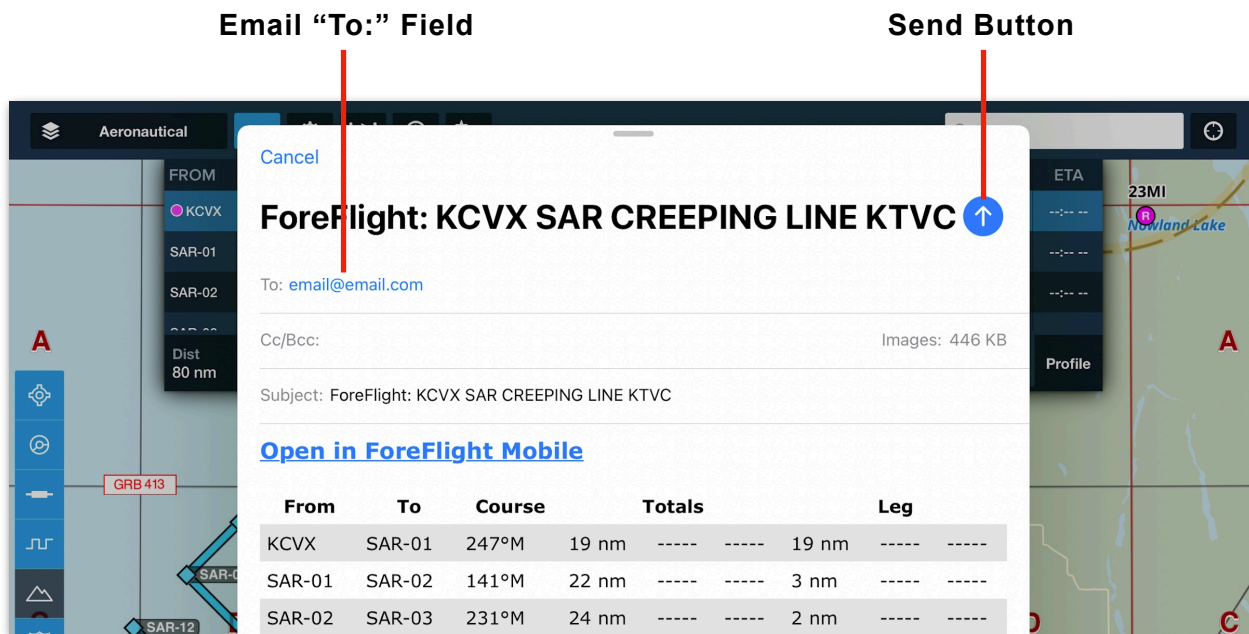
To email a flight plan, including a SAR pattern, to another person for use in ForeFlight Mobile:

1. Go to the **Maps** page.
2. Select the **FPL** button to open the flight plan viewer.
3. Tap **Edit** or **NavLog** in the lower-right corner of the flight plan viewer.
4. Tap the **Send To** button.
5. Select **Mail**. An email pop-up will appear.



6. In the email pop-up, enter the recipient's email address in the **To:** field.
7. Tap **Send**.

7. SHARING A FLIGHT PLAN



The recipient will receive an email containing the route with waypoints listed in a table as "SAR-01, SAR-02," etc. To view the route, the recipient must have ForeFlight installed on a device with an active subscription. They will then:

1. Open the **Mail** app on their iPad or iPhone.
2. Open the email containing the shared flight plan.
3. Tap **Open in ForeFlight Mobile** to view the route.

ForeFlight: KCVX SAR CREEPING LINE KTVC

[Open in ForeFlight Mobile](#)

From	To	Course	Totals		Leg	
KCVX	SAR-01	247°M	19 nm	-----	19 nm	-----
SAR-01	SAR-02	141°M	22 nm	-----	3 nm	-----
SAR-02	SAR-03	231°M	24 nm	-----	2 nm	-----
SAR-03	SAR-04	321°M	29 nm	-----	5 nm	-----
SAR-04	SAR-05	231°M	31 nm	-----	2 nm	-----

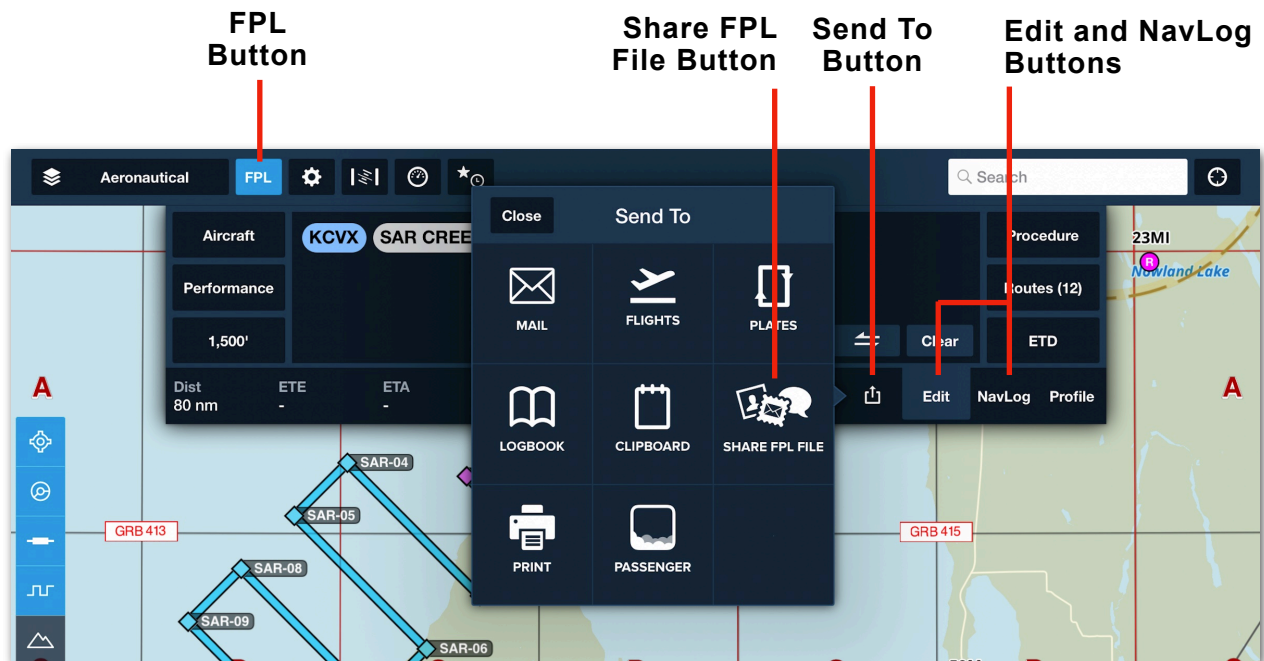
7. SHARING A FLIGHT PLAN

8.2 Sharing an FPL File

An FPL file contains flight plan information for use with ForeFlight. To share an FPL file:

1. Go to the **Maps** page.
2. Select the **FPL** button to open the flight plan viewer.
3. Tap **Edit** or **NavLog** in the lower-right corner of the flight plan viewer.
4. Tap the **Send To** button.
5. Select **Share FPL File**. A pop-up will appear.
6. In the pop-up, choose to send the file via **AirDrop**, **Messages**, **Mail**, etc.

To open the FPL file, the recipient must have ForeFlight installed and an active subscription. Once received, the file can be opened in ForeFlight.



7. SHARING A FLIGHT PLAN

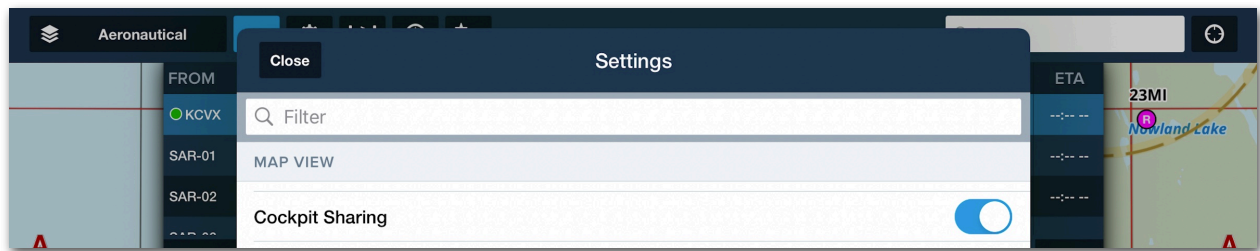
8.3 Cockpit Sharing a Flight Plan

Cockpit Sharing allows a flight plan to be shared with another device running ForeFlight Mobile when both devices are on the same Wi-Fi network. This sharing can be done over an Internet-connected Wi-Fi network, a hotspot, or a Wi-Fi-enabled ADS-B receiver like the Sentry series.

8.3.1 Enabling Cockpit Sharing

To enable Cockpit Sharing, do the following on both devices:

1. Go to the **More** view.
2. Select **Settings**.
3. Under the Map View section, toggle **Cockpit Sharing** on.



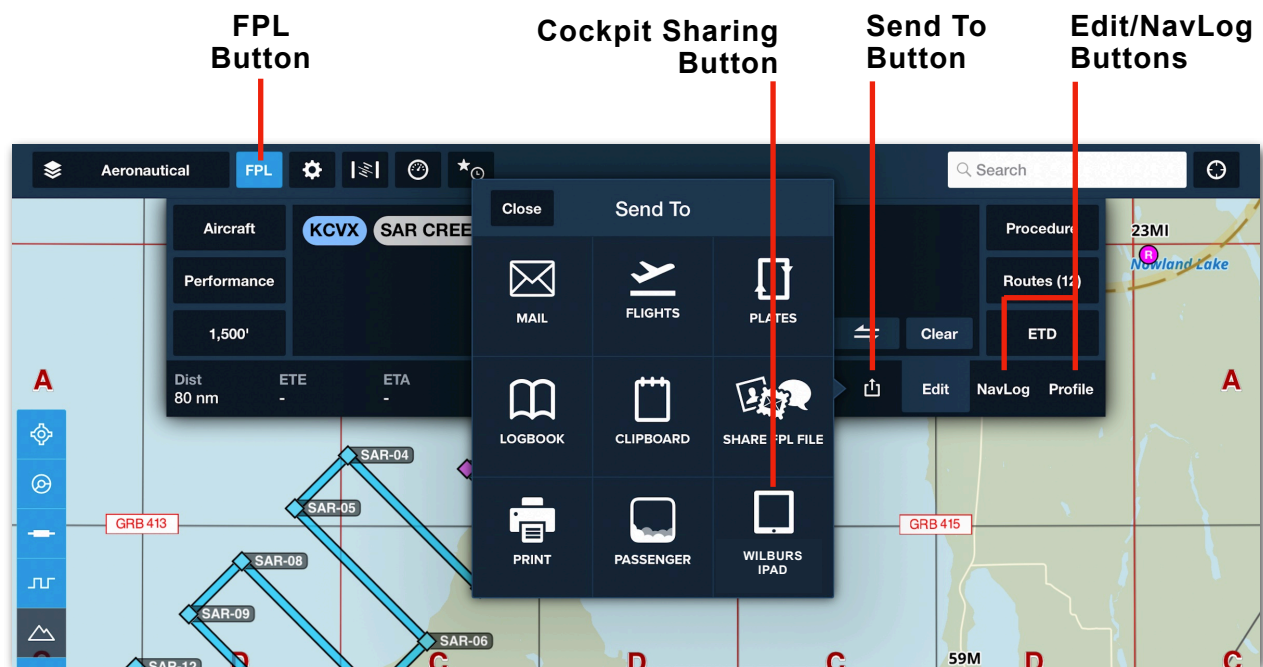
Cockpit Sharing turned on under More > Settings

7. SHARING A FLIGHT PLAN

8.3.2 Sharing a Flight via Cockpit Sharing

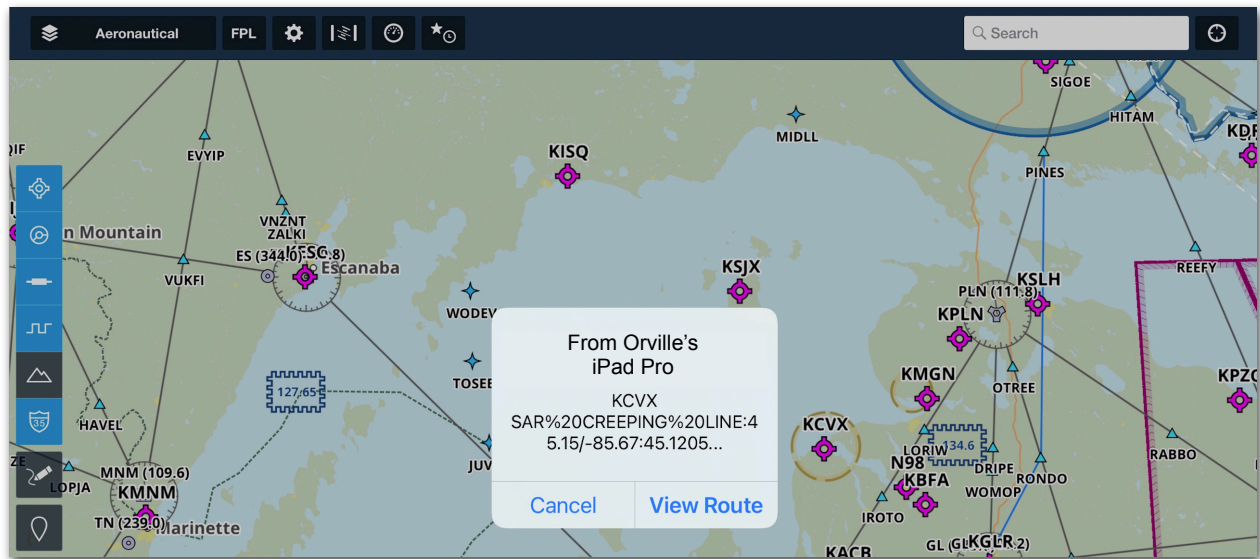
To send a flight plan to another iPad or iPhone running ForeFlight Mobile on the same Wi-Fi network:

1. Go to the **Maps** page.
2. Select the **FPL** button to open the flight plan viewer.
3. Tap **Edit** or **NavLog** in the lower-right corner.
4. Tap the **Send To** button.
5. Select the listed device.



7. SHARING A FLIGHT PLAN

The recipient will see a pop-up on their device. To add the flight plan to ForeFlight, they can tap **View Route** to load the route or **Cancel** to decline the sharing request.



Cockpit Sharing pop-up on the recipients iPad.

CHANGE HISTORY

Version	Date	Change Summary
17.3	April 2025	• Added sections 6.1 and 6.2 describing UTM/UPS coordinates • Minor updates and content review
14.5	July 2022	• Document file size reduction
14.0	January 2022	• Updated style, content, and images
9.4	October 2017	• Updated for style and consistency
7.1	June 2015	• Updated screenshots for new Procedure Advisor design
6.0	April 2014	• Updated screenshots to match new user interface
5.4.2	October 2013	• Added multiple SAR patterns section • Updated UI of Expand SAR Pattern button
5.4.1	September 2013	• Added Expand SAR Pattern button • Updated SAR Route Workflow section
5.4	September 2013	• Initial guide publication



ForeFlight

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