

Helicopter training program begins today

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BULLHEAD CITY — Laughlin/Bullhead International Airport will be welcoming HMLAT 303, a light attack helicopter training squadron, to conduct training operations beginning today and running until Aug. 19. The U.S. Marine Corps squadron is based in Camp Pendleton, Calif.

The training operation will consist of daily and nightly operations of the Bell UH-1Y “Venom” and AH-1Z “Viper” Helicopter. A total of six helicopters and approximately 120 military personnel will be operating at the airport during the training.

The Marines selected the airport for training based on the excellent flying weather, available training facilities and ramp space.

Day and night training operations in the area will be an excellent benefit to pilots, as they will gain experience with elevated terrain and high temperatures. Airport Director Jeremy Keating said, “We fully support military training operations, and look forward to working with the HMLAT 303 squadron to accomplish their training goals.”

The U.S. Marines will also be hosting an open house at Signature Flight Support on Thursday from 8 to 10 a.m. Signature Flight Support is located at 2550 Laughlin View Drive, Building 40 on airport property. This is an opportunity for the public to view the helicopters up close and to learn more about the operation.

For more information, contact airport administration at 928-754-2134.