



Economic Impact Study
White Sulphur Springs Airport
2026



MONTANA
Department of Transportation



ZENITH
ECONOMICS

White Sulphur Springs Airport Impact

White Sulphur Springs Airport is a public-use general aviation airport located in White Sulphur Springs, the county seat of Meagher County, in central Montana. The airfield features a primary runway of 6,100 feet. The airport supports general aviation activity for the community and surrounding Smith River valley, providing access for recreational flying, emergency services, and visitor travel. The facility serves a ranching community at the geographic center of Montana, where the airport provides important connectivity to medical facilities and larger population centers.



Total Economic Impact on Montana



Jobs
4



Economic Impact
\$617 Thousand



Payroll
\$204 Thousand

Qualitative Impacts

In addition to generating economic impacts, this airport supports a variety of harder to quantify “Qualitative Impacts” that support critical statewide safety and enterprise. The 2026 Montana Statewide Economic Impact of Airports Study documents the following non-inclusive list of qualitative impacts associated with the airport:



Aerial Firefighting
Supports Wildland
Firefighting Operations.



**Emergency Medical
Aviation**
Supports Air Ambulance
Operations

Montana Airports Support Our State



Jobs
39,400



Economic Impact
\$6.4 Billion



Payroll
\$2.4 Billion

Montana's airport system functions as a critical component of the state's transportation and economic infrastructure, enabling connectivity across a large and geographically dispersed landscape. Through scheduled commercial service and general aviation activity, airports provide access between Montana communities and regional, national, and international markets, supporting passenger travel, freight movement, and time-sensitive operations that cannot be efficiently served by surface transportation alone.

Beyond mobility, Montana's airports support a broad range of economic activity that contributes to employment, income generation, and business operations throughout the state. Aviation-related enterprises, on-airport and nearby businesses, visitor spending associated with air travel, and ongoing investment in airport facilities collectively generate economic activity at the local, regional, and statewide levels. These effects extend across multiple sectors, including tourism, healthcare, construction, professional services, and natural resource industries.

To document both the economic contributions and broader community functions of the state's aviation system, the Montana Department of Transportation undertook a comprehensive, statewide evaluation of Montana's airports. The **2026 Montana Statewide Economic Impact of Aviation** study examines the full scope of airport-related activity, including aviation and non-aviation businesses, visitor spending, capital investment, and secondary economic effects, while also identifying the specific roles individual airports play in supporting residents, businesses, and critical services across Montana.

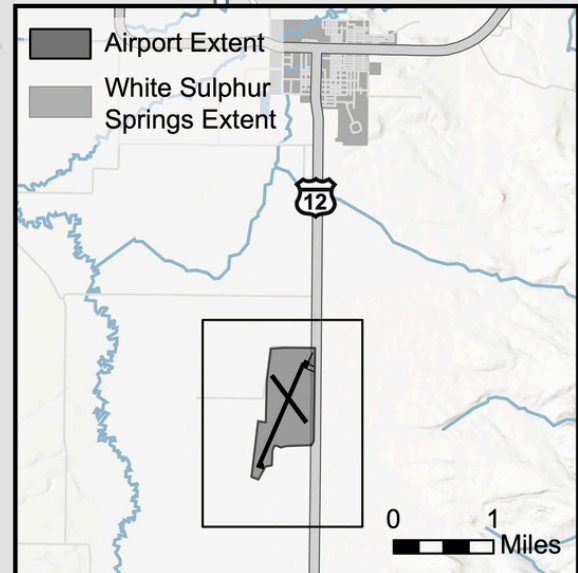
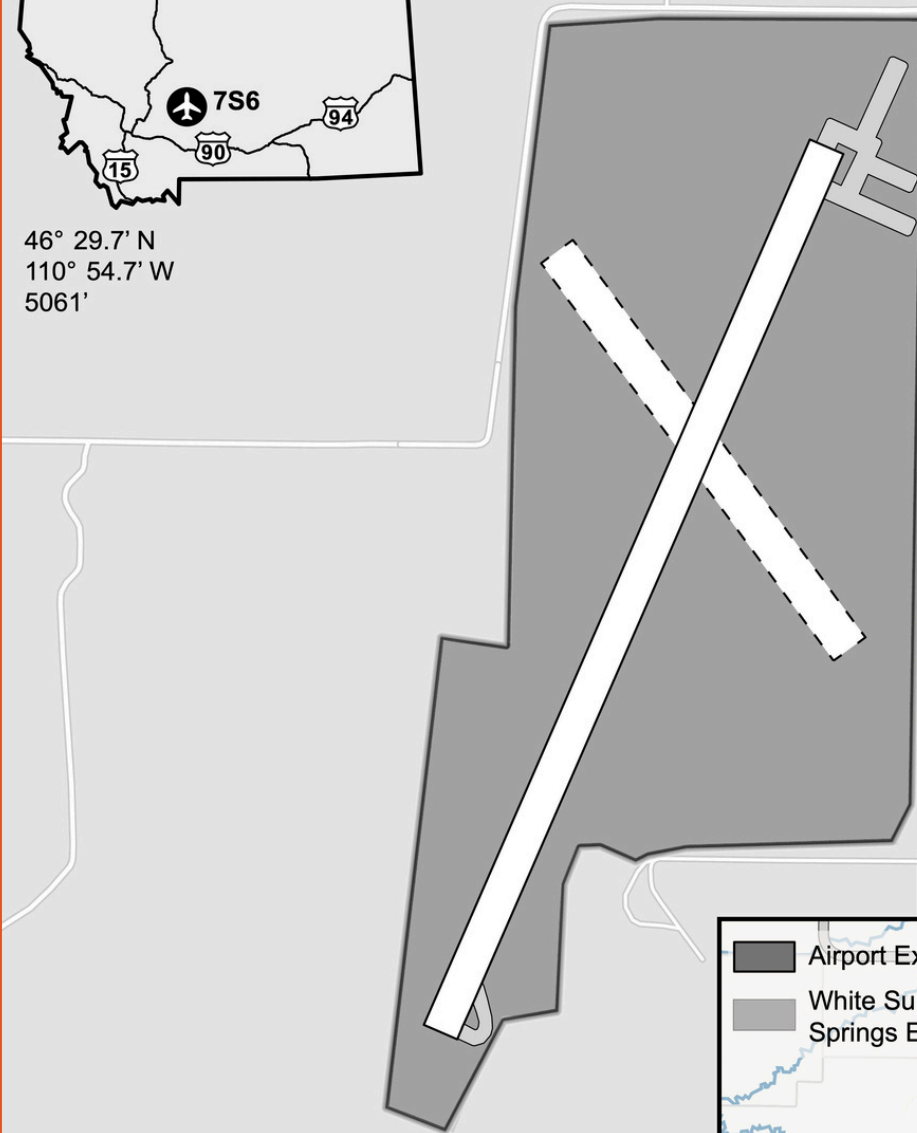


White Sulfur Springs Airport (7S6)

White Sulphur Springs, MT



46° 29.7' N
110° 54.7' W
5061'



- Airport Extent
- Paved Area
- Paved Runway
- Turf Runway



0 0.5 Miles

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