West Yellowstone Elementary School Students Visit Yellowstone Airport

Once again, Yellowstone Airport (WYS) hosted an annual field trip on May 29, 2018, for the first and fourth grade students of West Yellowstone School. The students spent half a day learning about activities involved in operating an airport.

To begin the field trip, the students received a tour of the SkyWest Airlines ticket counter where they learned about the check-in process. From there, they continued on to the Transportation Security Administration’s (TSA) checkpoint and learned about TSA’s purpose and function. They were also able to go through the walkthrough metal detector and see what a carry-on bag and its contents look like as it goes through the x-ray machine.

Next, the students headed out to the ramp where the SkyWest agent, Michael Castagnet, taught them how passengers and checked bags are loaded onto the airplane and how the planes are safely marshalled into and out of the ramp area. The kids had a blast pretending that the SkyWest agent was a plane and marshalling him in and out of the airline ramp area.

The field trip ended with the students rotating through a variety of activities. They had the opportunity to fly a Cessna 172 flight simulator, tour a Beechcraft Bonanza, climb through the airport’s two firetrucks, build a balsa wood aircraft, and learn about Air Methods’ medical transport helicopter and operations. The students had a great time at the airport, and many hope to make a career for themselves in the aviation industry in the future.
Yellowstone Airport (WYS)
Intern Hired For Summer Season

Megan Moll, MDT Aeronautics Division Yellowstone Airport intern

The Yellowstone Airport staff is excited to welcome Megan Moll as the newest member of their team. Megan is filling the airport management internship position at the airport for the summer. Originally from Middleton, Wisconsin, Megan is currently a senior at the University of Dubuque in Dubuque, Iowa, where she is majoring in aviation management and accounting with a minor in business. She is also a member of the University of Dubuque women’s soccer team and president of the school’s American Association of Airport Executives (AAAE) student chapter.

This is Megan’s second job in the aviation industry, having completed an internship at the Dubuque Regional Airport. Megan is excited to have the opportunity to learn more about airport operations and administration and is eager to serve as a member of the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) Aeronautics Division team, as well as experience life outside of the Midwest.

Aeronautics Board Loan & Grant Application Reminder

As a reminder to loan and grant applicants, the Loan and Grant online portal (http://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/loans-grants.shtml) will accept FY 2020 applications starting July 1, 2018, through November 15, 2018. If you cannot enter the website, you may have a previous award that needs a closeout form or a status report filed.

Additionally, make sure projects are broken down as required. As an example, asphalt projects should be broken down by runway, apron and taxiway, not as one project lumped together. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Wade Cebulski at (406) 444-9581 or wcebulski@mt.gov.

Follow MDT on social media!
The Tiber Dam Airport (B70) in north central Montana is one of 16 state-owned, public use airports maintained by the Montana Department of Transportation – Aeronautics Division. The turf runway 12/30 is 2,550’ long and 90’ wide at an elevation of 3,023’ Mean Sea Level (MSL). Located 51 Nautical Miles (NM) north of Great Falls International Airport (KGTF), B70 opened in 1959 and lies along the southeast shore of Lake Elwell. Lake Elwell, also known as Tiber Reservoir, is a man-made reservoir created by the Tiber Dam (completed in 1956) on the Marias River with a surface area of 23 square miles. The area offers spectacular views, hiking, fishing, and birdwatching. The Bureau of Reclamation operates a nice public use Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) campground and shelter next to the airport. More information about the campground can be found at: https://www.visitmt.com/listings/general/recreation-area-campground/vfw-campground.html.

Montana Ninety-Nines Chapter
Air-Marking Season Opens

The Montana 99’s Chapter started its air-marking season at Yellowstone Airport in West Yellowstone on May 26 - 27, 2018. The fresh air-marking contrasts well with the new apron that was completed just last summer. The Ninety-Nines may be at an airport near you. Air-marking events are updated regularly at https://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/events.shtml.

Interested in knowing why and how the air-marking program began? Read an interesting and comprehensive article written by Ellen Nobles-Harris at https://www.ninety-nines.org/air-marking.htm
Fly into Philipsburg Airport / Riddick Field 
to See the Many Improvements

Adapted from Riddick Field 2017/2018 Manager Report by Vince Reece

If you haven’t flown into Philipsburg / Riddick Field in the last 12 months you are in for a nice surprise. Interim manager of Riddick Field, Vince Reece, with the help of many, has made quite a few accomplishments.

The Airport Board and the Commissioners approved the purchase of a courtesy car for Riddick Field. Many pilots get a welcome surprise when they land and learn there is a courtesy car available. The response from pilots using the car to go into Philipsburg has been positive.

A clean and weekly serviced port-a-potty was deposited at Riddick Field to replace the dilapidated door-less shed that served as a toilet for pilots and their guests. This was a much-appreciated addition to the airport.

The County Commissioners approved an Airport Board-recommended resolution 2017-9. That resolution included several goals, one being to clean up the airport concerning non-aviation use. Several hangars had been used for storage of personal items not leaving room for an airplane. Another goal of the resolution is to repair or remove hangars that cannot structurally house an aircraft. Two hangars have been demolished and removed. Building codes for new hangars will be addressed at the next board meeting. The resolution also brings forth new leases and liability insurance requirements.

The perimeter fence around the airport and entrance gate were in terrible shape. The gate has been replaced and the fence straightened and tightened after replacing missing wire and posts. The improved fence, although not the best, serves its purpose and the gate is working nicely.

There are a number of additional items on the list for future improvements; runway, taxiway, and ramp repair, to name a few. A survey and cost estimate have been completed and approved, and funding avenues are being explored.

Philipsburg and Drummond airports now have an Incident Operating Plan on file. With the help of the MDT Aeronautic Division, the County Attorney, and the Airport Board, a plan was written and approved by the Commissioners. The use of a safe airport is paramount for firefighting, and this plan gives the Air Operations team guidelines, safety procedures, and FAA Regulation concerning the airport. This Incident Operation Plan in no way interferes with the efficiency or effectiveness of the firefighters; it protects them and the airport, and they are very appreciative to have this in place.

Vince “believes that having an actual functioning airport will be a plus for the young men and women growing up in Granite County. There are so many good jobs available in Montana in the field of aviation. Things are moving ahead and stuff is getting done. My thanks again to all involved. I appreciate you all.”
Calendar of Events

July 4, 2018 – Townsend Festival of Flight (8U8) – Fly-In breakfast and Young Eagles Rally for all GA, Experimental, Classic, Vintage and Light Sport aircraft. Sponsored by EAA Chapter 344. Breakfast served 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Young Eagles® flights 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Contacts: Neil Salmi (406) 980-0544. Young Eagles: Lance Seaman (406) 442-8459.

July 7-8, 2018 – Lincoln (S69) Air Marking – Join the Ninety-Nines in their painting efforts. For further information, contact Janine Schwahn at (406) 388-8359 or email nunes@flysummit.net.

July 21, 2018 – BBQ, Campout, Poker Run & Oshkosh Pitstop – 10:00 a.m. - TBD. Kalispell City Airport (S27). For more information or to RSVP your interest email office@montanaairadventrues.com or phone (406) 755-2376.

July 21-22, 2018 – Schaffer Meadows Work Session – 9:00 a.m. For further information, contact Wade Cebulski at (406) 444-9581 or email wcebulski@mt.gov.

July 21, 2018 – Jim Bridger Fly-In & Celebration Days – Breakfast 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. Fly-In is held in conjunction with Jim Bridger days that will take place in the town of Bridger. For information contact Merrill Pfeifer at (406) 425-4218 or (406) 662-3319.

July 22, 2018 – Annual St. Ignatius (52S) Huckleberry Pancake Fly-In Breakfast – 8:00 a.m. until noon. This free event is sponsored by the EAA Chapter 1122. For more information, contact Michael Kuefler, (406) 544-444.

July 28, 2018 – Airport Open House and BBQ Potluck – Lincoln Airport, (S69). Contact Jerry Cain at (406) 461-5631 for more information.

August 2, 2018 – Young Eagles Rally at Three Forks Fly-In (9S5) – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Sponsored by Helena EAA Chapter 344, the EAA Young Eagles program strives to motivate youngsters to consider a career in aviation by providing positive experiences in the form of free airplane rides. Kids must have the permission of a parent or guardian to fly. For additional information contact Lance Seaman (406) 442-8459.

August 3-4, 2018 – 41st Annual Three Forks Fly-In – Free Admission! Two days of “Planes, Trains, & Automobiles.” Activities include: aircraft and antique car displays, ping pong ball drop for kids, followed by flour bombing and spot landing contests, interactive drone cage. Awards and prizes will be given in six categories of aircraft, oldest and youngest pilot, and farthest distance flown to the event. Young Eagles flights on Thursday from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Dinner is available Friday and Saturday as well as concessions both days. Boy Scouts will serve breakfast beginning at 7:00 a.m. and lunch at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday. Campers and RVs are welcome. Transportation to and from motels will be provided. Contact Bob Green for more information at (406) 285-6949 or Pat Green at (406) 539-1880.

August 10-11, 2018 – CanAm Aerobatic Competition – Hosted by Cut Bank International Airport. Everyone is invited whether you compete or just want to check out the high-performance aircraft. Practice will be held on August 10, competition on August 11. For more information, contact Dave Ries at (406) 229-0376 or by email at cbaa Mt@yahoo.com.

August 12, 2018 – Hysham Lions Club Fly-In and Drive-In Breakfast (6U7) – From 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. For more information contact Bob Miller at (406) 342-5252.

August 25, 2018 – Bowman Field Anaconda (3U3) Second Annual Fly-In and Car Show – Starts at 10:00 a.m. Join us for food, games, prizes and flour sack drop. Awards for best of show aircraft, car and longest distance flown. For more information contact Greg at (406) 593-1702.

August 25, 2018 – West Glacier Golf Fly-In – Kalispell City Airport (S27). For more information or to RSVP your interest email office@montanaairadventrues.com or phone (406) 755-2376.

September 8, 2018 – Polson (8S1) EAA Chapter 1122 Fly-In Breakfast – 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. For more information please contact Joe Kuberka at (719) 659-5052.

September 15, 2018 – End of Summer Bash – Kalispell City Airport (S27) For more information or to RSVP your interest email office@montanaairadventrues.com or phone (406) 755-2376.
Vision Zero: A Goal for Everyone

In 2017, there were 187 fatalities on Montana roads.

What does that mean? 187 parents, children, grandparents, friends, siblings, spouses, and other loved ones had lives that were cut short. It also means countless tears and shattered lives for those left with the aftermath of unsafe driving behaviors. Which loved one are you prepared to lose? If your answer is none, then Vision Zero is also YOUR goal.

It will take every one of us to work towards the day that Vision Zero is met, and the fatality total reads "ZERO." Two of the highest contributing factors to traffic fatalities in 2017 were alcohol and no seat belt.

These are behaviors that can be changed! Start by always wearing your seatbelt and planning for sober transportation. Remind your loved ones and those around you to do the same.

- Director Mike Tooley, MDT

Visit [www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero](http://www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero) for more information.