

Montana and the Sky

Montana Department of Transportation

Aeronautics Division

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April 2022

Montana Aviation Conference in Missoula Huge Success!



The 2022, 37th annual, Aviation Organizations of Montana's Montana Aviation Conference was a resounding success! Governor Gianforte kicked off the conference on Thursday, March 3 at noon. The conference hosted a diverse group of presenters, speaking on topics from airspace, to medicine, search and rescue, safety, regulations, stories of adventure, and much more. Dr. Amy Hoover of Ellensburg, WA, who was recently named National Flight Instructor of the Year by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) was also honored at the Friday awards ceremony. In addition, two Wright Brothers Master Pilot awards were issued to two Montana Pilots Association (MPA) members: Rod Bitney of Kalispell, United States Air Force (USAF) and National Guard pilot, Airline Transport Pilot (ATP) certificate holder, former Certified Flight Instructor (CFI), and four-term Montana House Representative; and Rob Buckles of Bozeman, MSU graduate, who flew skydivers and charters, and retired from a career as Boeing 787 Captain for American Airlines. He now flies a Cessna CJ-4 out of Bozeman and his own Cessna 182, 310, and Taylorcraft. Congratulations to all three on these well-deserved recognitions!

Additional sponsors to the scholarship program stepped forward prior to the awards ceremony to offer a new scholarship, bringing the already record-high \$38,000 in scholarship awards to \$41,000 worth of scholarships! These awards were presented to 25 winners during the Friday afternoon luncheon and awards ceremony. Many of these scholarship recipients attended the conference, and got a taste of what their exciting futures hold.

Three excellent keynote speakers entertained and educated during keynote presentations: Tim Sheehy, Kerry McCauley, and Adrian Eichhorn. The exhibit hall was full, and nearly sixty students received a certificate of completion for continuing education. The Montana Pilots Association (MPA) partnered with Robert Peccia Associates and North Star Jet Center/ Neptune Aviation to offer a static display and social at the Missoula airport Friday afternoon. A famous DC-3 named Miss Montana, Montana Air National Guard C-130, Montana Army National Guard Blackhawk helicopter, and a Neptune BAe 146 air tanker were open for tours.

The 2023, 38th annual Aviation Organizations of Montana's Montana Aviation Conference is scheduled to be held March 2-4, 2023 at the Billings Hotel & Convention Center. We can't wait to see you there!

All photos courtesy of Karen Conway and Aeronautics staff

More Conference continued on Page 2



Montana Aviation Conference, cont.

Thanks to all who volunteered, sponsored, exhibited, attended, and enjoyed this year's conference; you make the conference a success! We hope you'll join us again next year in Billings!



All photos courtesy of Karen Conway and Aeronautics staff



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2022 Mechanics Refresher and IA Renewal at the Montana Aviation Conference in Missoula

Another successful Mechanics Refresher and Inspection Authorization (IA) Renewal Seminar was completed at the Montana Aviation Conference on March 4 and 5, 2022. IA's are required to receive 8 hours of recurrent classroom training between April 1 and March 31 if they do not meet the eligibility requirements of Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 14 Part 65.93. Over ninety people attended this year, several of whom are current Aircraft & Powerplant mechanic students in Montana, and others who came to learn more about aircraft maintenance. Nearly sixty mechanics received a certificate of completion. There were eight speakers, including two new speakers this year, and two from the Federal Aviation Administration. Aeronautics would like to thank all the speakers for their time and expertise to assist mechanics in providing better aircraft maintenance. A total of 18 hours of training was provided to allow the mechanics to complete all their training in one day, or choose the classes they wished to attend over both days, including the option of watching a video during the lunch breaks.

The Montana Aeronautics Division had the first state-sponsored IA renewal course in the nation in 1963 and have provided it annually since then. The IA Mechanics Renewal Seminar will be offered again next year at the 38th annual Montana Aviation Conference in Billings, MT, in early March.

If you or anyone you know is interested in presenting a topic on aviation maintenance, please contact the Aeronautics Division at (406) 444-2506. We would love to hear your suggestions!

Build a Hangar in a Beautiful Location!

Are you looking for a place to build a hangar? The Lincoln airport has recently received an additional taxi lane to provide more space for up to seventeen more hangar locations. There are two remaining hangar pads on the main taxiway that are ready to build on; they could be combined to build one large hangar. Also, the airport pavements received a fog and crack seal with new paint markings. The airport offers a 4,200-foot lighted runway with a wildlife perimeter fence and an electric access gate. Please contact Aeronautics at (406) 444-2506 for more information, or if you are interested in building a hangar at this prime mountain valley airport!

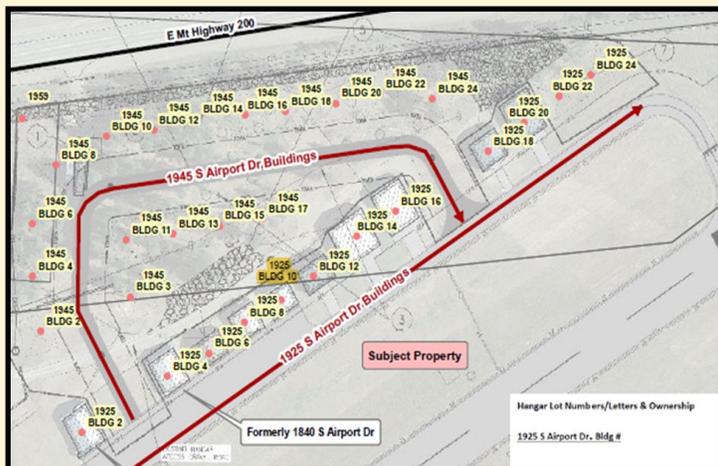


Diagram courtesy of Lewis and Clark County

Airport Work Sessions This Summer



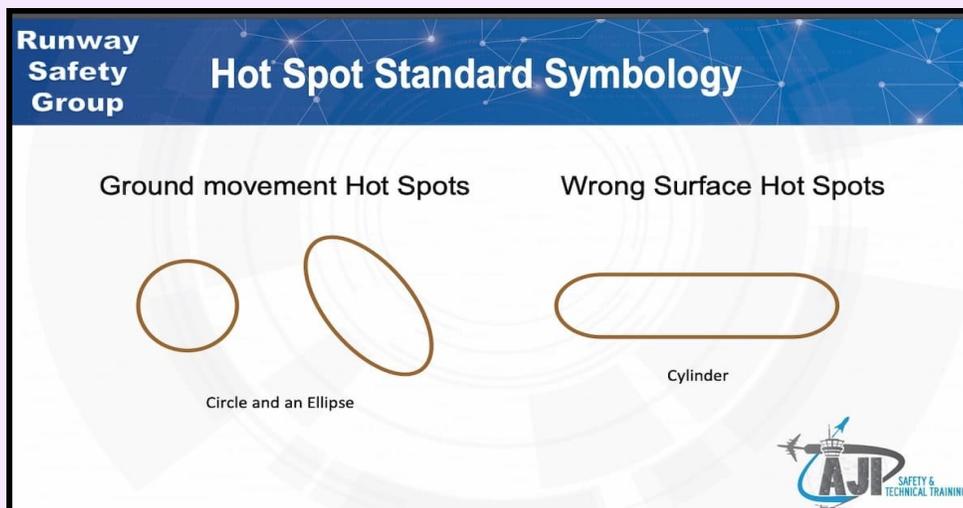
If you're dreaming of warmer weather and looking for a good way to get involved, look no further than the annual airport work sessions! Work sessions typically involve a variety of upkeep and maintenance activities, including everything from filling gopher holes to painting, weeding, replacing windsocks, repairing fences, and more. Not only are work sessions a great way to meet other aviation-minded folks in the state, these volunteers help keep our airports and backcountry airstrips going. The following work sessions are currently scheduled for this summer:

- May 28, 2022 — Spotted Bear Work Session**
- June 18, 2022 — Meadow Creek Work Session**
- July 16, 2022 — Schafer Meadows Work Session**

For more information, contact Aeronautics at (406) 444-2506.

Photo courtesy of MDT staff

New Hot Spot Symbols Introduced



Beginning May 19, 2022, the Hot Spots on Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) charts will have three shapes with two distinct meanings. The Hot Spot symbology will be standardized, and a new Arrival Alert Notice also will be released, according to FAA officials.

The changes are in response to concerns from the FAA's Runway Safety team about how many pilots have misaligned to and even landed on or departed from a wrong runway, taxiway, and even a wrong airport.

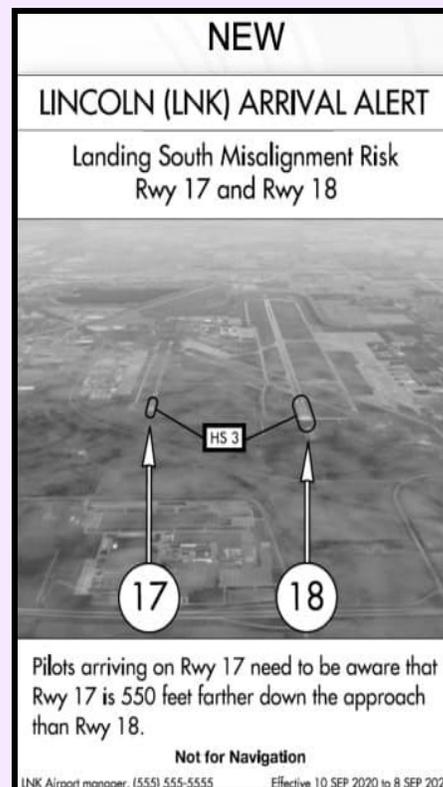
Hot spot identification is essential for pilots, particularly during preflight planning and while taxiing on airport surfaces. However, hot spots are currently depicted in a variety of shapes with no particular meaning.

On May 19, Hot Spots on the FAA's aeronautical charts and publications will have three shapes with two distinct meanings. Circles or ellipses will depict ground movement surface safety risk areas like taxiway/runway configurations and intersections. A cylinder will highlight wrong surface event risk areas, such as offset parallel runways (which remains a threat to many pilots).

These new Arrival Alert Notices offer a visual aid to pilots to enhance situational awareness when a Wrong Surface Hot Spot related to Arrivals is identified. There are 11 airports with Arrival Alert Notices which will be evaluated over a one-year test period. Don't think Montana pilots are off the hook; one of the test areas is only an hour flight down to Idaho and we do have wrong surface landings in our state.



All photos courtesy of General Aviation News



Article summarized from *General Aviation News*, "New hot spot symbols introduced" by General Aviation News Staff, March 15, 2022. Full article available at <https://generalaviationnews.com/2022/03/15/new-hot-spot-symbols-introduced/>. Additional information, as well as a list of current hot spots, including in Montana, available at https://www.faa.gov/airports/runway_safety/hotspots/hotspots_list/

Courtesy Car Grant Application Period Open April 1- May 31, 2022

Reminder: The Airport Courtesy Car Application period is from April 1 - May 31. There are up to four reimbursable grants of up to \$5,000 available for a courtesy car. Only airport managers and sponsors may apply. Application and more information about the program can be found at:

<https://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/courtesy-cars.aspx>.

Please note that the link for the online application is available beginning April 1, 2022, and closes at 5:00 p.m. on May 31, 2022.

For more information, contact Karen Speeg at the Aeronautics Division at (406) 444-9569.



Photo courtesy of Aeronautics staff

Good News for Aviation in Montana!

Gallatin College, a division of Montana State University, will begin offering a two-year Aviation Electronics Technology (Avionics) program in Bozeman, beginning with the Fall 2022 semester.

Details about this new program as well as contact information are available at: <https://gallatin.montana.edu/programs/aviation-electronics-technology.html>.



Photo courtesy of Gallatin College
Montana State University

Aviation Quiz

(Answer Key found on Page 7)



1) Why is wing contamination such as frost an issue when discussing the topic of stalls?

- A: Excessive weight can increase stall speed
- B: It will cause early airflow separation
- C: It can create a tail-stall threat
- D: All of these

2) You're flying in Class G at 8,000 feet MSL, and you're 7,400' AGL. How far below the clouds do you need to stay during the day?

- A: Clear of clouds
- B: 500 feet
- C: 1,000 feet
- D: 2,000 feet

3) You're flying in the mountains at 12,500 feet MSL, and you're 1,050 AGL in Class G airspace. What is your minimum required visibility during the day?

- A: 3 SM
- B: 5 SM
- C: 1 SM
- D: 10 SM

4) You're flying a Cessna 172 when you start experiencing moderate turbulence. What is the maximum indicated airspeed you should you maintain?

- A: Vr
- B: Vne
- C: Vv
- D: Vx
- E: Vmc
- F: Va

5) What is the difference between a tetrahedron and a windsock?

- A: Tetrahedrons are more accurate in high wind
- B: Windsocks are lit at night, tetrahedrons are not
- C: Tetrahedrons are more accurate in light wind
- D: Tetrahedrons can be manually set to show which runway is in use

6) How many feet apart are touchdown zone markers spaced on a standard runway?

- A: 500 feet
- B: 100 feet
- C: 1,000 feet
- D: 200 feet



Calendar of Events



April 1, 2022 — Aviation Awareness Art Contest Deadline

May 20, 2022 — MAMA Airport Internship Assistance Program Application Deadline For more information, see Page 4.

May 28, 2022 — Spotted Bear Work Session Come out to 8U4 for a work party! The fun begins at 9:00 a.m.

June 11, 2022 — Big Timber Airport Fly-In and Car/Truck Show. Fly or drive in to the Big Timber Airport June 11th. Breakfast served 7:00-11:00 a.m., lunch served 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., donations accepted. Profits go to Sweet Grass Technical Institute in Big Timber. If weather turns bad, this event will be moved to June 12, 2022. For more information, contact Ken Wendland 406-224-1175.

June 11, 2022 — Butte Wings & Wheels Fly-in or drive to Bert Mooney Airport in Beautiful Butte for our second annual aircraft fly-in & car/truck show! Hosted by the Butte Composite Squadron Civil Air Patrol. Enjoy a free breakfast 7:30-10:00 (donations accepted), Avgas discount at Butte Aviation, and fun for young and old alike, plus prizes! For more information, contact Walt McIntosh at (406) 670-1846.

June 11, 2022 — Choteau Fly-In 6:30—10:00 a.m. Free breakfast, donations welcome. Young Eagles airplane rides available. Skydiving by prior sign-up. For more information, contact Scott Gasvoda at (406) 590-2836.

June 18, 2022 — Meadow Creek Work Session Starting at 9:00 a.m. Bring your shovels to 0S1 and pitch in!

June 20 - 26, 2022 Commemorative Air Force Flying Legends of Victory Tour Great Falls, MT. B-17 Flying Fortress *Sentimental Journey* and B-25 Mitchell *Maid in the Shade* will make a stop in Great Falls. Come see these historic military aircraft up close, or even purchase a flight in one. For more information, visit <https://www.azcaf.org/location/great-falls-mt-tour-stop/>

June 24 - 26 — Missouri Breaks Fly-In Join MPA for a full weekend of fun between Winifred, the Upper Missouri Breaks National Monument, Lewistown, and the Judith River. There will be fly-ins and several airstrips to explore over the course of the three days, as well as camping and cook-outs. For more information, visit https://www.montanapilots.org/content.aspx?page_id=4001&club_id=569645&action=cira

June 25, 2022 — Whitefish Fly-In Come to 58S for a fly-in June 25th! For more information, contact Bill McKinney at (406) 261-4385.

June 27 - July 4, 2022 — Commemorative Air Force Flying Legends of Victory Tour Bozeman, MT. B-17 Flying Fortress *Sentimental Journey* and B-25 Mitchell *Maid in the Shade* will make a stop in Bozeman. Come see these historic military aircraft up close, or even purchase a flight in one. For more information, visit <https://www.azcaf.org/location/bozeman-mt-tour-stop/>.

July 5 - 10, 2022 — Commemorative Air Force Flying Legends of Victory Tour Kalispell, MT. B-17 Flying Fortress *Sentimental Journey* and B-25 Mitchell *Maid in the Shade* will make a stop in Kalispell. Come see these historic military aircraft up close, or even purchase a flight in one. For more information, visit <https://www.azcaf.org/location/kalispell-mt-tour-stop/>

July 11 - 17, 2022 — Commemorative Air Force Flying Legends of Victory Tour Missoula, MT. B-17 Flying Fortress *Sentimental Journey* and B-25 Mitchell *Maid in the Shade* will make a stop in Missoula. Come see these historic military aircraft up close, or even purchase a flight in one. For more information, visit <https://www.azcaf.org/location/missoula-mt-tour-stop/>

July 16, 2022 — Schafer Meadows Work Session Fly in to Schafer for the annual work party! Work starts at 9:00 a.m.

July 23, 2022 — Lincoln Airport Annual Community Open House and BBQ Potluck Head over to S69 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for their annual community open house/barbeque potluck and fly-in. For more information, contact Jerome Cain at (406) 461-5631.

July 23 - 24, 2022 — Flight Over the Falls Montana Military Open House The Malmstrom Air Force Base 341st Missile Wing and the Montana Air National Guard 120th Airlift Wing are co-hosting a Montana Military Open House at the Great Falls airport. There will be aerial demonstrations both days, including the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, as well as a variety of other organizations and aircraft. This event is free and open to the public. For more information and safety reminders, please visit www.greatfallsairshow.com.

WANTED: Your Montana Aviation News

Do you have exciting aviation news from Montana to share? Did you know you can send it to the Aeronautics Division to be considered for publishing in the Montana and the Sky newsletter? We love to hear about and share your Montana Aviation news, photos, and stories. Please send contributions to mdtaerosafetied@mt.gov before the first Friday of each month for the next month's issue.



Aviation Quiz Answer Key: 1:D 2:B 3:C 4:F 5:D 6:A

Alternative accessible formats of this document will be provided on request. Persons who need an alternative format should contact the Office of Civil Rights, Department of Transportation, 2701 Prospect Avenue, PO Box 201001, Helena, MT 59620. Telephone 406-444-5416 or Montana Relay Service at 711.

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MDT Aeronautics FAA Weather Webcam Locations

The Montana Department of Transportation has created a map of the FAA weather web cameras that are currently in place and operational throughout Montana (green), as well as scheduled installations for 2022 (yellow) and possible future weather camera sites (orange).

This map will be updated as more cameras are added.

View all current webcams at <https://weathercams.faa.gov/>

