



WSDOT Aviation Monthly Report January 2007

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Air Search and Rescue to be Featured at Aviation Trade Show in Puyallup

During the Northwest Aviation Conference and Trade Show in Puyallup on February 24-25, WSDOT Aviation's emergency services trailer will be prominently displayed to educate the general aviation community on pilot safety. WSDOT Aviation is responsible for air searches in the state and has improved responsiveness by increasing the training and qualifications for becoming a volunteer search pilot. The emergency services trailer serves as a mobile command post during air search and rescue operations. At the trade show, WSDOT staff will be available to answer questions about how air searches are conducted, as well as how to become an air search pilot. Over the years the department has recognized the value of community outreach to help reduce the number of aircraft accidents and air searches. We have increased the awareness of properly maintaining emergency locator transmitters (ELTs) and will be highlighting this issue to reduce the number of false alerts.

WSDOT Aviation Awards Third Round of Local Airport Aid Grants

On January 8, 2007 WSDOT Aviation announced that it would award \$173,900 in state funds to 14 airports throughout the state. Of that \$173,900 WSDOT used \$4,842 to leverage \$183,312 in federal funds.

Nineteen different airport projects will be funded in this round of grants with a total project cost of \$394,522. This total includes state, federal and local match funding.

Funding Breakdown

State \$173,900

Federal \$183,312

Local Match \$ 37,310

Total \$394,522

Sixty-eight percent of grants will go to smaller airports that are ineligible to receive federal funding.

Projects were awarded in the following areas:

- 7 Pavement Projects \$ 46,109
- 1 Planning Project \$ 4,750
- 2 Maintenance/Other Projects \$ 4,153
- 9 Safety Projects \$118,888

This latest round of Local Airport Aid grants represents the third round that WSDOT has awarded during the 2005-2007 biennium. This round was unique in that WSDOT asked all applicants to demonstrate the ability and commitment to complete proposed projects by June 30, 2007. In the previous two rounds, WSDOT had given \$3.1 million in state funds to 47 airports, and used approximately \$378,000 to leverage more than \$14 million in federal grants.

WSDOT's next round of grants will occur in July 2007. This will be the first round in the 2007-2009 biennium, and WSDOT anticipates having \$1 million in funding for airport projects. WSDOT will solicit applications between March and May 2007.

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WSDOT Prepares to Install Web Camera at Dalles Municipal Airport

WSDOT Aviation Construction Project Manager, Jeff Kvamme, met with the airport sponsor for The Dalles Municipal Airport to discuss, among other things, the much anticipated airport Web camera.

The old terminal building will serve as the site for the new camera. Next week a bid proposal should arrive detailing equipment and installation costs.

Kvamme has been consulting with David Schmidt, Northwest Region Information Technology, on all technical issues and Schmidt's assistance has proven to be extremely helpful. Together, WSDOT and The Dalles are attempting to reach the best possible solution for the next generation of aviation web cameras. The goal is to combine low installation and operation costs, low maintenance and the latest in technological improvements.



Installation Begins on State Owned Aviation Weather Station in Oak Harbor

Monday afternoon a crew from Vaisala Corporation, Minneapolis arrived at the Wes Lupien Airport in Oak Harbor to begin installation of the first ever WSDOT owned Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS). The weather system will provide much needed weather data for local pilots traveling between the Puget Sound region, San Juan Islands, and areas beyond. The AWOS will also benefit and support commercial air service between Oak Harbor and Seattle.

The system is an AWOS IIP, which broadcasts the following data:

- Wind Speed
- Wind Gust
- Wind Direction
- Variable Wind Direction
- Temperature
- Dew Point
- Altimeter Setting
- Density Altitude
- Visibility



- Variable Visibility
- Precipitation
- Day/Night
- Cloud Height & Sky Condition
- Present Weather

It can be accessed via VHF frequency or by calling a designated phone number: The majority of the installation will take place this week with additional electrical work taking place over the next few weeks. A crew from Vaisala will return in about a month to complete the installation and coordinate the inspection and commissioning by the Federal Aviation Administration.

New Manual Helps Airports Respond to International Passengers with Communicable Diseases

As announced by U.S. Secretary of Transportation Mary E. Peters on January 25, the Department of Transportation (DOT) recently released a manual to help airlines, airports and local governments prepare to prevent the introduction of emerging diseases to the United States. The manual will help officials recognize and control pandemic outbreaks before they have a widespread impact on public health. The manual sets out the roles of the pilot-in-command, airline operations center, the airport operator, state and local health and emergency management departments, law enforcement agencies, health care facilities, support organizations and federal government agencies when a flight arrives with ill passengers on board. The manual covers the planning needed to address an incident while the plane is in flight and upon arrival at the airport. It also discusses the treatment of passengers and crew that might have been exposed to illness and discusses recovery after an incident.