

## WSDOT Aviation Monthly Report September 2006

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### [WSDOT Grant Enables New Self Serve Fuel Terminal in South Lewis County](#)

### [Concrete Town Council Discusses Airport Land Use Compatibility](#)

### [Davenport Seeks Comment on Aviation Component of Regional Transportation Plan](#)

### [Draft Graham Community Plan Amended to Address Shady Acres Airport](#)

### [Methow State Airport Aids in Firefighting Efforts](#)

## WSDOT Grant Enables New Self Serve Fuel Terminal in South Lewis County

WSDOT Aviation Construction Project Manager, Eric Johnson, stopped by the Ed Carlson Memorial Field/South Lewis County Airport to inspect the recent installation of a new self serve fuel terminal. The QT technologies M3000 fuel terminal upgraded and replaced what Airport Manager, Larry Mason, claimed to be the oldest existing system in the United States. The new system allows 24 hour self-serve fueling to general aviation pilots in the southern Lewis County region. Lower installation costs completed this project \$574 under budget. WSDOT funded \$4,035 of the \$4,921 total project cost.



## Concrete Town Council Discusses Airport Land Use Compatibility

The Concrete Town Council discussed airport land use compatibility at its meeting on Monday as part of its Airport Layout Plan for Concrete Municipal Airport. WSDOT Aviation attended Monday's meeting to provide information about its programs. Council members received a brief update about WSDOT Aviation's Long-Term Air

Transportation Study (LATS) and grant program, and learned strategies that will help them protect the airport from incompatible development. Town planner Lacy Lahr is working with the town's airport planning consultant to evaluate existing comprehensive plan policies and regulations guiding development adjacent to the airport. Lahr has requested technical assistance from WSDOT. The town planner will work with the planning commission and council to pursue amendments as necessary to protect the airport from encroachment.

### **Davenport Seeks Comment on Aviation Component of Regional Transportation Plan**

Mayor Charles Johnston of Davenport contacted WSDOT Aviation this week requesting comment on aviation language to be incorporated into the Regional Transportation Plan. The city is working to complete its Airport Layout Plan, and is developing an executive summary to highlight significant recommendations. The Town of Wilbur and Town of Odessa are also developing Airport Layout Plans and will issue executive summaries. Mayor Johnston is working with his colleagues at other jurisdictions in Lincoln County to include these documents as part of the aviation component of the QuadCo Regional Transportation Plan. WSDOT Aviation, which recommends this strategy as a way to encourage regional coordination, voiced its support for this effort and offered to provide technical assistance as the communities work to address airport issues.

### **Draft Graham Community Plan Amended to Address Shady Acres Airport**

Following comment from WSDOT Aviation, the Pierce County Community Development Committee adopted amendments to the draft Graham Community Plan last week that address airport land use compatibility adjacent to Shady Acres Airport. The initial draft of the plan, released in Spring 2006, proposed to delay adoption of policies and regulations to discourage encroachment until the next comprehensive plan update. WSDOT Aviation recommended adoption of several policies and amendments to existing development regulations; several of the recommendations have been proposed as amendments. The Graham Community Plan will be incorporated as part of the Pierce County Comprehensive Plan when it is adopted by the county commission.

### **Methow State Airport Aids in Firefighting Efforts**

Methow State Airport is the busiest helicopter base in the state this month with crews fighting the state's wild fires. Over a dozen aircraft are assigned to Methow, and most of them are heavy and medium helicopters used to drop water or fire retardant on the blazes. The airport is at times clouded with thick smoke as the wind shifts, which increases the level of difficulty for firefighting crews. WSDOT Aviation has visited the airport several times during peak use by firefighting crews to assess improvements for both regular and emergency operations. Methow is also home to the North Cascades Smoke Jumper Base.