



WSDOT Aviation Monthly Report March 2006

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Pavement Management Reports Are Here

After a year of reviewing records, inspecting airports, and analyzing data, WSDOT Aviation's consultant, Applied Pavement Technology, has developed valuable information for airports and key decision makers:

- Individual pavement management reports for 93 individual public use airports
- 400 copies of the Washington Airport Pavement Management System *Pavement Management Manual*

Project Type	Grant Funds Requested
Pavement	\$ 720,649
Safety	\$ 373,195
Maintenance, Planning & Other	\$ 632,687
Security	\$ 4,579
Runway Safety	\$ 2,500
	\$ 1,733,610

This month WSDOT Aviation staff will distribute the reports to airport managers at the Washington Airport Management Association (WAMA) and Community Airports Association (CAA) spring conferences. Over the next few months Applied Pavement Technology will be completing the final stages of their contract by providing public outreach to airport managers, compiling statewide and Puget Sound reports and training aviation staff on use of the Micro PAVER database system.

Second Round of Local Airport Aid Grant Applications Reveals Statewide Airport Maintenance Needs

In early March Aviation's mailbox was flooded with grant applications from 29 different airport sponsors competing for the second round of Local Airport Aid Grants in the 2005 – 2007 biennium. In all, there was a total request of \$1.7 million from WSDOT Aviation to fund 51 different projects totaling \$14.8 million. WSDOT will process and rank applications, and decide which airports will receive grants.

Maintenance Work Continues at Stehekin State Airport

After several months of negotiations and survey work, the National Parks Service has approved the tree removal plan for Stehekin State Airport. The plan calls for almost 1,000 trees to be cut this winter and another 1,500 trees to be cut over several years. The trees are presently located on the approach and departure paths off of Stehekin's runway, and are hazardous to aircraft using the strip. The tree removal is taking place



this week while the 20" snow base protects the ground from damage by the heavy equipment being used to remove the logs. In addition to the tree removal, the runway grading and seeding project at Stehekin will be completed after the snow melts. Pilots can look forward to a much improved and safer airport to use this spring. The airport is operated and maintained by WSDOT Aviation under a Special Use Permit from the North Cascades National Parks Service. Under this agreement the airport is closed to aircraft from mid October to mid May.

WSDOT Aviation Addresses Washington Pilot Association Annual Meeting

During the Northwest Aviation Conference and Trade Show WSDOT Aviation Director, John Sibold, spoke to Washington Pilots Association (WPA) members about the important role they play in maintaining the state aviation system. Small airports continue to be attractive to developers; therefore, it is critical that local pilots constantly educate elected officials about the value of airports to the community. Just as important is the need for volunteers to help maintain small airports to keep them compliant with minimum Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) safety standards. To that end, WSDOT has asked WPA to stay involved in the maintenance of backcountry airports, development of local runway safety programs and airport security plans. WPA President, Jim Smith, responded to Sibold by saying, "These are three important areas where WPA membership can assist WSDOT in maintaining the airport system."