

# Washington Skies



Washington State Department Of Transportation Aviation Division

December 19, 2023



## FROM THE FLIGHT DECK



- **Dec. 26-27:** WSDOT Aviation's building will be closed to walk-in's Dec. 26-27. The building is usually open to the public on Tuesday and Wednesday only.
- **Jan. 1:** Please [Register your Aircraft](#) or [File your Exemption](#) by Jan. 1, 2024. If you have sold your aircraft, please submit an [Aircraft Report of Sale](#).

[Second set of flights showing promise at YKM | News | nbcrightnow.com](#)

[Port of Orcas working to reduce airplane noise - theOrcasonian.com](#)

[Alaska Air was ready to grow. Hawaiian hit hard times. An airline match is made | The Seattle Times](#)

[FAA clears adding 897 feet, realignment to Lake Chelan Airport runway; water project in design phase | Local News | wenatcheeworld.com](#)

[Dent discusses Warden airport's future with Port | Columbia Basin Herald](#)

[Pullman-Moscow Regional Airport hosted ribbon cutting ceremony - Whitman County Gazette \(wcgazette.com\)](#)

[Airport adds Schweitzer name to signage | Local | dnews.com](#)

[SEA named among the best US airports to have a layover | KOMO \(komonews.com\)](#)

[3 Ways To Check TFRs Before Your Next Flight | Boldmethod](#)

[What happens when a general aviation pilot busts a Presidential TFR? – General Aviation News](#)



**Washington State  
Airport Guide  
Photo Contest**

**We want a fantastic picture  
to be on the cover of our  
printed 2024-2026  
Washington Airport Guide**

It's your chance for  
thousands of people  
to see your best  
Washington  
aviation shot!

**How to submit a photo**  
Email photos to [avphotocontest@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:avphotocontest@wsdot.wa.gov)  
by **January 8, 2024**

*(Please limit three submissions per entrant. WSDOT will compile entries for judging.)*

Winner will be selected by WSDOT  
and will be announced Friday, January 12, 2024.

**WSDOT**

## WSDOT Aviation Division 2024 Washington Airport Guide Cover Photo Contest

Washington state is full of aviation heritage and enthusiasts. WSDOT Aviation wants to celebrate the spirit of aviation in the state and is pleased to announce the 2024 photo contest to determine the new cover photo of the Washington State Airport Guide.

It's your chance for thousands of people to see your best Washington aviation shot!

### How to submit a photo:

- Send your photo submissions via email to [avphotocontest@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:avphotocontest@wsdot.wa.gov) by Jan. 8, 2024. Please limit three submissions per submission.

### Photo requirements and contest rules:

- We want something unique, striking and interesting. We want a photo that encapsulates the spirit of aviation in our beautiful state! There is so much to love about the varied geography of our state which makes it a great place to fly. Photos should capture what makes flying in Washington so special. In addition to the submission qualifications listed above, each entrant must follow the requirements and rules.

### Your photo:

- Must have an aviation theme and set in Washington state.
- Must have been taken yourself and you have the rights to submit it to this contest.
- May have been taken at any time.
- Digital photos should be taken at the highest resolution possible.

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- Minimum size of 2 Megapixels, but will ideally be 3 Megapixels.
- Please submit in JPG, TIFF, or PNG format.
- Do not break any laws or do anything unsafe in order to snap a shot.
- You may submit up to three pictures. If you submit more than three, we will only consider the first three shared.
- You will retain rights to your photograph; however, you must agree to grant us rights to use the photographs for marketing and communication purposes, which will include photo credit. We will never sell your picture.
- Submissions will not be accepted once the submission deadline has passed.

#### **Selecting a winner:**

- WSDOT will be gathering all photo submissions and staff will vote for their favorite photo. The winner will be acknowledged in the inside cover of the guide with a small biography, photo of the winner, and description of the winning photo.





# WSDOT Aviation Celebrates the Holidays



WSDOT Aviation celebrated the holidays together Dec. 15 with a staff gathering that included lots of holiday fun and sharing ideas, goals and projects for the upcoming new year.

The team is excited for what the new year will bring and hopes everyone has a happy holiday!







## CARB Awards \$513,521 for Capital Projects

The [Community Aviation Revitalization Board \(CARB\)](#) had a meeting Dec. 14 and selected two projects for funding. The capital projects are planned to improve the revenue forecasts and economic opportunities at airports in Washington state.

The chosen projects are:

- City of Deer Park Municipal Airport was awarded \$370,645 for the second phase of the airport's utilities installation project. The project will add water and electrical service to 25 new hangar sites for development.
- South Lewis County Airport (aka Ed Carlson Memorial Field) was awarded an additional \$143,876 for a new Aviation fueling facility project and to decommission an existing underground fuel storage tank. The funds were needed to pay for higher than expected project costs related to site preparation and installation of the new equipment.

The revolving loan program funds revenue-producing or cost-cutting capital projects that assist public-use, general aviation airports to become more self-sustainable. Eligible projects can include hangars, fueling facilities, business parks on airport property, paid parking facilities, passenger amenities, green energy enhancements, and other revenue-generating or cost-cutting developments.

CARB has \$2.5 million remaining for award in the 2023-2025 biennium and is accepting applications.

Please contact Dave Chenaar at [chenaud@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:chenaud@wsdot.wa.gov) or call (360) 628-1767 for information or an application form.

### Aircraft Registration due by Jan. 1 2024

A friendly reminder all aircraft owners are encouraged to renew their 2024 Washington State [aircraft registration](#) or complete a qualifying exemption request by Jan. 1, 2024.

You can pay the registration fee online with a credit card. No more waiting to receive your certificate in the mail, you can select to have it emailed and print your certificate right away! If you have sold your aircraft, please remember to submit an [Aircraft Report of Sale](#).

For any questions, please email [wsdotaviation@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:wsdotaviation@wsdot.wa.gov) or call Tracy at 360-709-8015.

## Snow at the WSDOT-Managed State Airports

*These images were captured on WSDOT web cameras and the airports are currently closed for the winter.*

### Easton State Airport



### Skykomish State Airport





## Angel Flights Making a Difference



Transportation challenges create one of the most daunting barriers to healthcare—a barrier second only to the cost. As a volunteer-driven, nonprofit organization, Angel Flight West's (AFW) volunteer pilots fly people to their medical appointments at no cost to the passenger. AFW also provides transportation for families and individuals escaping domestic violence, therapeutic programs for children and veterans, and children's specialty camps.

In the air, Angel Flight West links volunteer pilots and commercial airlines with people whose non-emergency health needs require long-distance travel to access care. On the ground, volunteer drivers ferry passengers to and from their departure and destination airports. In 2023, the organization celebrates 40 years of service and 100,000 missions flown.

One of AFW's passengers is eight-year-old Stetson from Kalispell, Montana (pictured above). He's been flying with AFW for three years to reach care for neurofibromatosis, or NF1. To date, he's had 18 angel flights to reach his specialty appointments at Children's Hospital Colorado and Primary Children's Hospital in Salt Lake City. With appreciation, Stetson's mom Tatyana says, "We wouldn't be able to go to these specialists without Angel Flight West," Tatyana says. "Those pilots are part of our village."

*"Angel Flight West missions frequently bring me to new airports and provide new experiences. I am convinced that in addition to the important support I've been able to provide to my passengers, flying for AFW has made me a better pilot."*

Are you a pilot looking for a meaningful reason to fly? AFW needs volunteer pilots to ensure each mission is fulfilled. Pilots with access to owned or rented aircraft and 250+ pilot-in-command hours are encouraged to apply. Whether you fly a mission a month or a mission a year, you'll fly away knowing you've made a life-changing difference. Visit [angelflightwest.org/pilot-page](https://angelflightwest.org/pilot-page) to learn more

## Angel Flight Experiences



**AFW Passenger Pamela, 67 angel flights to battle metastatic cancer.**

"Being sick is stressful in itself, let alone having to worry about getting to and from treatment. Angel Flight West has been a blessing to me and many others. You'll never know how these acts of kindness have impacted my whole healing process."

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**AFW Board Member and WA Command Pilot Trevor Moody**

“My flights for Angel Flight West are far and away the most meaningful flying I do. The transportation services we are able to provide our passengers are a critical part of their health care and are often their only practical option for getting to the care they need. The flying itself is also very satisfying and is unlike any other flying I do. Angel Flight West missions frequently bring me to new airports and provide new experiences. I am convinced that in addition to the important support I’ve been able to provide to my passengers, flying for AFW has made me a better pilot.”



**AFW Passenger Tim, Battling Battle with Merkel Cell Carcinoma**

“Angel Flight West jumped out of heaven. You should have seen us! We were jubilant after finding your services. I’m positive we danced in the kitchen that night – with no music! Before this, the worry of traveling to care was as stressful as the cancer itself.”

**Board Member and Command Pilot, Eric Chadwick**

“Flying is a privilege. Once you complete your first mission, it’ll be contagious. AFW is a way for me to serve others, even if I’m only touching their lives in a small way. These passengers do as much for me as I do for them.”

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**WA Command Pilot and Wing Leader, Jeremy Katz**  
“Angel Flight West is a rewarding way to give back, to use your skills for something good. Our passengers are so grateful for what we can do,” says Jeremy, “and I’m grateful for the opportunity to do it.”

## WDFW researchers will use drones for swan and goose surveys

MILL CREEK – Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) staff will fly drones over known locations of swan and goose flocks in Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties to assess the technology’s utility in surveying abundant waterfowl.

Flights may take place from December 2023 through May 2024. WDFW staff with Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Small Unmanned Aircraft System Remote Pilot certification will conduct the flights, while following FAA and WDFW policies. Emphasis will be on flights over WDFW-managed lands, with WDFW seeking pre-approval by other landowners should flights over additional lands be considered.

The purpose of this research is to assess the Department’s ability to capture high quality images of swans and geese to better monitor the number of birds, age classes, and other data. WDFW biologists will also assess how population estimates derived from these images compare with more traditional ground counts and recommend the most appropriate ways drones can be used to improve monitoring of swans and geese.

“Overwintering geese and swans are especially numerous in the lower river valleys of the North Puget Sound Region, with more than 100,000 snow geese and 15,000 swans estimated in early 2023 counts,” said Kyle Spragens, WDFW’s waterfowl section manager. “Drone surveys show potential to significantly increase our efficiency for monitoring populations of these birds and to decrease reliance on low-flying aircraft which increases safety.”

Flight timing will depend on the presence of birds and suitable flight conditions, including favorable weather and minimizing conflict with the public using the area, including waterfowl hunting.

Pilots will maintain line of sight with their drone for awareness of potential disturbance to wildlife or people. The pilot will ground the drone if flight conditions become unsuitable to fly safely or responsibly. No area closures or significant public impacts are expected.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife works to preserve, protect and perpetuate fish, wildlife and ecosystems while providing sustainable fish and wildlife recreational and commercial opportunities.



Photo of snow geese at the Fir Island Farms Unit of Skagit Wildlife Area by Roy Murdock.



# West Coast General Aviation Response 2023 Year in Review



“I just wanted to give a very special thank you to everyone that has been a part of this year's West Coast General Aviation Response Plan (WCGARP) efforts. Through these responses, we are truly developing relationships and community that is helping to recognize the importance of general aviation in times of need. Furthermore, the meetings that will be occurring at the start of the year with emergency management at state and county levels are direct result of all the years of exercises and real-life responses that have occurred prior to that, it would not have occurred without everyone's help that's been a part of the effort. From the pilot to the ground crew to the ham operator to the community resources and agencies like emergency management along with many others that have all partnered to helping develop a truly robust response network that can take whatever this planet dishes out, I cannot express my gratitude enough as together the future is much brighter.”

- Sky Terry

NW Regional Emergency Services Director, EVAC Emergency Volunteer Air Corps

[www.evac.org](http://www.evac.org)

# Washington Airport Profile

Every month we will feature an airport profile from the 2018 Aviation Economic Impact Study. We hope this helps the aviation community see the positive impacts aviation has on the state's economy.

Airport Profile  
**74S**

**ANACORTES**  
100 COMMERCIAL AVENUE  
ANACORTES, WA 98221



WASHINGTON  
Aviation Economic Impact Study

## Washington's Airports Support Our State

The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) Aviation Division conducted an Aviation Economic Impact Study (AEIS) of Washington's 134 public-use airports to measure the annual economic impact that airports provide to local communities, geographic regions, and statewide. The study offers a detailed look into how airports contribute to our state and serves as a useful tool in communicating the economic value they bring to our world.

### Study Approach

Economic impact is quantified by first calculating the effects of on-airport activity and visitor spending, then analyzing how these effects continue to generate money as they flow through the economy. Economic impacts are calculated by individual airport, then modeled to quantify the total statewide impact of Washington's airport system.

**Resulting economic impacts for each airport are expressed in terms of jobs, labor income, value added benefits, and business revenues.**



### AIRPORT PROFILE

Anacortes Airport (74S) is two nautical miles west of the central business district of Anacortes, a city in Skagit County, Washington. 74S supports 27 jobs and has a total economic impact/business revenues of \$5.78 million annually. The airport is publicly owned by the Port of Anacortes and serves as a vital access point for air freight and air ambulance services from Fidalgo Island to the mainland during times of emergency. Anacortes Airport also provides access to charter aircraft visiting Skagit County.

### AIRPORT CHARACTERISTICS

Location	Service Classification	Organization
Legislative District: 40	Federal: LOCAL	Ownership Type: PUBLIC
Associated City: ANACORTES	State: COMMUNITY	Owner/Sponsor: PORT OF ANACORTES
County: SKAGIT		

### AVIATION ACTIVITIES

Key Activities			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air cargo	<input type="checkbox"/> Aerial inspections	<input type="checkbox"/> Aerospace manufacturing	<input type="checkbox"/> Pilot training and certification
<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aerial photography	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Personal transportation	<input type="checkbox"/> Commercial passenger service
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Skydiving/recreational flying	<input type="checkbox"/> Search and rescue	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medical air transport	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business and corporate travel
<input type="checkbox"/> Shipping of perishable goods	<input type="checkbox"/> Environmental patrol	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Emergency preparedness and disaster response	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> National security/military	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Firefighting		

Ground Transportation Options	
<input type="checkbox"/> Bus	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Taxi
<input type="checkbox"/> Courtesy car	<input type="checkbox"/> Rideshare
<input type="checkbox"/> Limousine service	<input type="checkbox"/> Rail
<input type="checkbox"/> Other:	

Airport Activities (2018)	
Scheduled commercial service	
Operations	N/A
Enplanements	N/A
General aviation	
Operations	6,882
Percent GA transient	40%



Sources: FAA Air Carrier Activity Information System (ACAIS), 2018 Airport Manager's Survey, FAA Terminal Area Forecast, FAA 5010 Airport Master Record (as applicable)



**ECONOMIC IMPACTS**

Direct economic impacts comprise on-airport activities including employment and construction as well as money spent off-airport by out of state visitors who depart via scheduled commercial service or general aviation.

Direct impacts have additional effects as money generated at and by airports flows through the economy. These effects are caused when a portion of direct business revenues are used to purchase goods and services in Washington (i.e., supplier sales) and worker income is re-spent within the state.

Economic impacts are expressed in terms of the following metrics:

- **Jobs:** Number of employed people
- **Labor Income:** Salaries, wages, and other benefits to workers
- **Value Added:** Value contributed to a product or service provided by a firm or group of firms (in this case, airport businesses)
- **Business Revenues:** Represents an airport's total economic impact

**Airport Economic Impacts**

Impact Types	Jobs	Labor Income	Value Added	Business Revenues
On-Airport Activity	10	\$689,000	\$1,442,000	\$3,293,000
Visitor Spending	5	\$196,000	\$288,000	\$446,000
<b>Total Direct Effects</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>\$885,000</b>	<b>\$1,730,000</b>	<b>\$3,739,000</b>
Supplier Sales	6	\$335,000	\$542,000	\$1,082,000
Re-Spending of Worker Income	7	\$294,000	\$543,000	\$963,000
<b>Total Economic Impact</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>\$1,514,000</b>	<b>\$2,816,000</b>	<b>\$5,783,000</b>

Impacts derived based on: 2018 Airport Manager's Survey, 2018 Airport Tenant's Survey, FAA 5010 Airport Master Record, FAA Terminal Area Forecast, Airline Data, Inc. Impacts modeled using IMPLAN by EBP. Analyses based on 2018 study year. **Notes:** Totals may not add due to rounding. Metrics (jobs, labor income, value added, and business revenues) represent various components of an airport's economic impact and are not additive.

**TAX IMPACTS**

Airports' direct economic impacts result in local and state tax revenues. On-airport businesses pay business and operating (B&O) taxes. Visitor spending generates taxes and fees associated with sales; hotel stays; and use of transportation services including rental cars, Transportation Network Companies (TNCs), and taxis.

**Airport's Estimated Taxes to Each Jurisdiction**

Impact Types	Local (County & Municipal)	State	Total
On-Airport Activity	\$260	\$14,640	\$14,900
Visitor Spending	\$7,380	\$40,160	\$47,540
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,640</b>	<b>\$54,800</b>	<b>\$62,440</b>

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding.

**Statewide Tax Collections**

The Washington State Department of Revenue reports that the state collected **\$3.18 million** in aircraft fuel and aircraft excise taxes. Together with taxes generated by on and off-airport aviation-related activities, the state's airport system, including SeaTac, generated over **\$913.3 million** in total statewide tax impacts (2018).

**STATEWIDE ECONOMIC IMPACTS**





## Opportunity to own Airport Kiosk



Is your airport in the need of a kiosk? Well, you're in luck because the Bremerton National Airport has a kiosk valued at \$2,500 in material available—for free!

The kiosk will require a coat of paint, a little TLC and a door is available as well that needs to be installed. You must provide your own transportation to pick up the kiosk, but the airport will help you load it.

The kiosk was originally used to keep stamps for the [Fly Washington Passport Program](#), but now the Bremerton National Airport has them located in their new restaurant and pilot lounge building.

The kiosks are designed to provide a link from the airport to community by displaying information about what the local area has to offer such as restaurants, lodging, attractions, Fly Washington Passport stamps, notices, upcoming NOTAMs, maps, and any other ideas to serve the airport community.

If you are interested in owning the kiosk, contact Doug Haughton at (360) 710-3481 by cell or text or email Doug at [haughtondoug@gmail.com](mailto:haughtondoug@gmail.com).





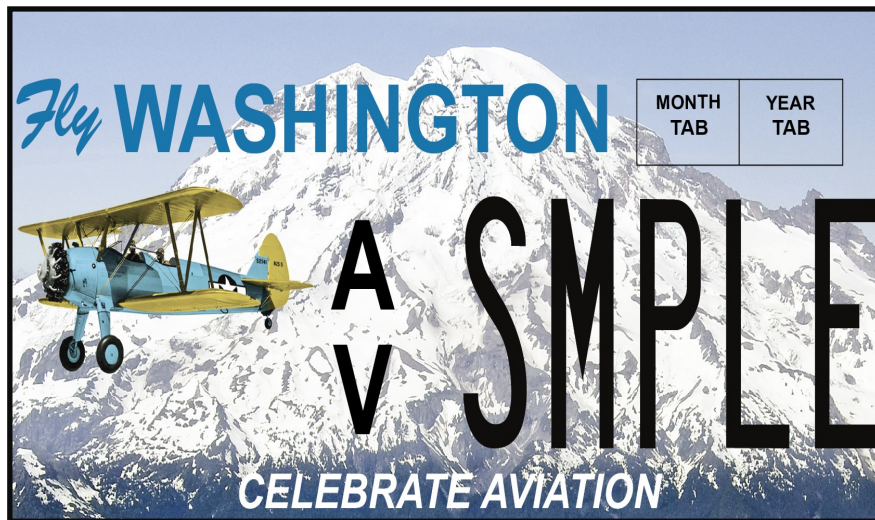
## Want something in the next newsletter?

If there are any other events, information or stories that are aviation related you would like us to distribute, please email [creac@wsdot.wa.gov](mailto:creac@wsdot.wa.gov).

## Report Wildlife Strikes

Need to report a wildlife strike? Pilots can at the [FAA Wildlife Strike Database](#). The database contains records of reported wildlife strikes since 1990. Strike reporting is voluntary. Therefore, this database only represents the information received from airlines, airports, pilots, Mandatory Occurrence Reports (MOR), incident/accident information, and other sources.

## Celebrate Washington Aviation Heritage!



The Aviation Specialty License Plate features a **Boeing Stearman Model 75** with Mount Rainier in the background, both symbols of Washington state.

**The cost for the Aviation Specialty License Plate is \$40** for the original plate in addition to specialty license plate fees and annual tab fees.

**Plate renewals are \$30** for the subsequent years in addition to annual tab fees.

You can find out the total cost by contacting your local [vehicle licensing office](#).

**To purchase your own, please visit:** [www.dol.wa.gov/vehicleregistration/specialdesign.html](http://www.dol.wa.gov/vehicleregistration/specialdesign.html).