## STATEWIDE Annual Economic Impacts

Findings from this study show that statewide all 35 study airports are supporting:



# Summary of Economic Impacts for

## HULETT MUNICIPAL AIRPORT

Findings from the study estimate the annual economic impacts for Hulett Municipal Airport as they relate to Wyoming's statewide economy and to just the economy of the local area the airport serves. Local and state impacts for the airport follow:



In addition to jobs, payroll, and output benefits, airports in Wyoming support a variety of uses that contribute to the quality of life for all Wyoming residents and businesses. Airports in Wyoming are critical to supporting activities such as emergency response, fire fighting, insect and predator control, and doctor and patient transport. More information on the economic benefits of Hulett Municipal Airport and the state study can be obtained from:



Wyoming Department of Transportation Aeronautics Division 5300 Bishop Boulevard Cheyenne, WY 82009 ph. 307.777.3952 f. 307.637.7352 www.dot.state.wy.us/home/aeronautics.html

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# The Economic Impact of Hulett Municipal Airport

Hulett, Wyoming

## WYOMING Annual Economic Impacts

The Wyoming Department of Transportation's (WYDOT) Aeronautics Division recently completed a research project to identify potential links between state and local economies and Wyoming's 35 paved public-use commercial and general aviation airports. Statewide, as well as specific impacts for Hulett Municipal Airport, are included in this summary.

The study concluded that airports in Wyoming are important to supporting various aspects of the economy; contributing to state and local tax revenues; improving efficiency for hundreds of Wyoming businesses; and supporting many vital services which help to improve the quality of life for everyone in Wyoming.

The study considered three primary measures to express economic impacts associated with each airport:

» employment/jobs,

» annual payroll, and

\$ > annual output or economic activity.

Airport related economic impacts include both initial and multiplier impacts. Initial economic impact activities, as discussed in this report, are impacts that start with the day-to-day operation of each airport or with spending by visitors who arrive by air. Multiplier impacts are associated with the re-circulation of initial impacts in the economy being studied. Total impacts in this report are the sum of initial and multiplier impacts. All statewide economic impacts were estimated using a state model. Economic impacts for each airport were estimated using the state model, but were also estimated using a county-based model specific to each airport to quantify each airport's local economic impact.

Study Airports



# Hulett Municipal Airport (W43)

For all study airports, including Hulett Municipal Airport, initial, multiplier, and total airport related economic impacts were estimated in the following categories:

#### **ON-AIRPORT**

- » Airport administration, operation, and maintenance
- » Airport tenants or businesses
- » Capital investment to improve, maintain, or expand study airports

#### OFF-AIRPORT



» Spending associated with visitors who arrive by air

Study analysis shows that Hulett Municipal Airport supports 3 initial jobs related to on-airport activities. These jobs are associated with airport management, aviation businesses that may operate at the airport, and capital investment. When airport related capital investment is made, over the duration of the project, jobs and associated economic impacts are realized.

In addition, spending by visitors who arrive in Wyoming via Hulett Municipal Airport supports one other job. This job is supported by the spending of visitors who arrive on general aviation aircraft.

Data to develop estimates of economic impact for the airport came from airport administration, any businesses that operate at the airport, and surveys of visitors using the airport.

#### Annual Economic Impacts of the Hulett Municipal Airport on the Local Economy

Total initial employment for Hulett Municipal Airport was estimated at **4 jobs.** As these initial jobs and the payroll and annual output associated with them enter the airport's local economy, additional multiplier jobs, payroll, and output are supported. The accompanying tables show annual economic impacts estimated using a local model for the airport's market area.

## Local Economic Impacts From Airport Administration, Airport Tenants, and Capital Investment

IMPACTS	INITIAL	MULTIPLIER	TOTAL
Jobs	3	1	4
Payroll	\$117,480	\$22,280	\$139,760
Output	\$269,710	\$75,740	\$345,440

Local Economic Impacts From General Aviation Visitor Spending

IMPACTS	INITIAL	MULTIPLIER	TOTAL
Jobs	<1	<1	1
Payroll	\$20,710	\$5,320	\$26,040
Output	\$65,870	\$19,340	\$85,120

## Annual State and Local Aviation Tax Impacts for Hulett Municipal Airport

Airport and visitor related activities result in contributions to both local and state tax revenues. The WYDOT study estimated that on an annual basis activities supported by Hulett Municipal Airport contribute an estimated **\$13,970 in state and local tax revenues.** 



#### Aviation Benefits to Area Residents, Businesses, and Organizations

As part of this project, airports, airport tenants, airport visitors, and area businesses and residents were contacted to determine how they benefit from Hulett Municipal Airport. Flight records from the airport show that businesses and individuals use the airport to support their travel. Study interviews revealed that airports support medical related needs for Wyoming residents; airports bring medical specialist to local hospitals and enable residents to travel to more distant medical facilities for advanced treatment. Local businesses rely on general aviation airports for their employees and for customers and vendors who fly to Wyoming to visit them.

#### **General Aviation Flights**



This map provides a partial representation of GA departures and arrivals at Hulett Municipal Airport. Flight records indicate that in 2013, in addition to facilitating air travel to various locations in Wyoming, the airport supported direct flights to 10 other different states.

The airport supports different types of users and businesses. This research identified some of the airport's more frequent users as follows: Hulett Clinic, the U.S. Forest Service, Wyoming Pest Control, the Wyoming Wildlife Foundation, Rare Element Resources, Neiman Enterprises, Inc., Powder River Energy, Old West Turkey Shoot, the State of Wyoming Youth Hunt, and Cabela's.



#### Example Benefits From Hulett Municipal Airport

Outdoor activities, hunting, and tourism are important to Hulett's economy. The airport supports outdoor activities by accommodating people who fly to the area. One of the biggest local attractions is Devil's Tower. The airport also supports a new hotel and golf course that serve visitors to this well-known Wyoming attraction. Other airport users include Intrepid Outdoors, Cabela's, Old West Turkey Shoot, and the State of Wyoming Youth Hunt.

Rare Element Resources uses the airport; the company mines rare minerals that are used in the fiber optics industry. They have a large development project, the Bear Lodge Project, which is underway south of the Hulett area. Neiman Enterprises, Inc., Devil's Tower Forest Products, is another local company that uses the airport on regular basis. The company is engaged in sustainable forestry and has about 100 employees in the area. The airport saves time for both local and visiting businesses.

Powder River Energy is the energy provider for northwest Wyoming and is headquartered just south of Hulett. Representatives from the local energy provider fly into the airport to support various local business needs and also to fly aerial inspections of their power lines. These inspections are important to insure that power supplies to residents of the Hulett area are not interrupted.

The Hulett Medical Clinic relies on and benefits from the airport. The airport reports that flights are frequently made in emergency situations to transport patients to larger hospitals in either Rapid City or Gillette. In addition, specialty doctors arrive in Hulett via the airport to see patients at the local clinic. These activities help to improve medical services for all residents in the area.

Note: More examples of airport-specific users are included in the technical report.

