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DARRELL V MANNING



TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

DIVISION OF AERONAUTICS AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
3483 RICKENBACKER ST. BOISE, IDAHO 83705
PHONE 12081334-3183

January 11, 1982

Ernest D. Ables, Director Wilderness Research Center University of Idaho College of Forestry, Wildlife, & Range Sciences Moscow, ID 83843

Dear Mr. Ables:

At the request of the Salmon National Forest Wilderness Planning Team, we have completed a review of all airports located in the river of no return wilderness area. A copy of this review is enclosed.

We have also reviewed your 11-25-81 correspondence concerning the operation of the airport at Taylor Creek Ranch. We have several comments which we hope will assist you in being able to obtain your desired classification and use of the airport.

First, it appears that the University is in violation of Title 21, Section 115 of the Idaho Code and Paragraph 3.2.3a of Idaho Aeronautical Regulation No. 3 (copy enclosed). Basically, this regulation states that any airport that allows a commercial operation to be conducted on the airport, said airport shall be considered public use.

The hunting concession as mentioned in your letter probably falls under the definition of a commercial operation. From this standpoint, we would suggest that you complete your negotiations to phase the hunting operation out as soon as possible.

The Idaho Division of Aeronautics is the primary agency within the State for the dissemination of aeronautics information to the public. With your concurrence, we would like to revise the Taylor Ranch Airport listing in the Idaho Airport Facilities Directory as follows:

over ...

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TAYLOR RANCH

VALLEY COUNTY

Located 114° 50' - 45° 06', on Lower Big Creek. Runway 09/27, 2300'x100'; Gravel & Turf, Elevation 3760'.

Taylor Ranch Airport is operated by the University of Idaho in support of the Wilderness Research Center located at Taylor Ranch. Current research activities limits the airport to Emergency Use Only by the general public. Contact the University of Idaho (Telephone 208-885-6441) for further information.

We believe the above listing would alleviate your problem with uninvited landings as well as inform the public as to the reasons for the restrictions. Your comments or suggestions are invited.

Presently, we do not show Taylor Ranch on the Idaho Aeronautical Chart. The Great Falls Aeronautical Chart shows Taylor Ranch as being a restricted airport. Our next revision of the Idaho Chart will conform to the Great Falls Sectional listing.

We also seem to have an elevation discrepancy for Taylor Ranch. The Idaho Facilities Directory shows 3760', the FAA 5010 Record Data Sheet has 3500', and the Great Falls Sectional indicates 3835'. Perhaps you could provide us with the proper airport elevation.

The FAA 5010 Data Sheet should be changed to show the airport classification as "Publically owned, closed to the public" instead of the current classification of "Privately owned, closed to the public".

In order to bring our airport file up to date, we would like to make an on site record data inspection of the Taylor Ranch. This inspection would be concurrent with our other back country airport inspections scheduled for this summer.

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In summary, we would like to see the University clear up the exclusive rights problem with the hunting concession, establish a published policy of airport use for dissemination to pilots, and bring the airport record data file up to date.

Please keep us informed of your progress concerning these matters.

Sincerely,

WORTHIE M. RAUSCHER Administrator

LARRY A. HIPPLER Airport Development

Encls. LAH/vp cc: L.H., W.P., J.H.

3.2.2 Regulation Semantics

- a. SHALL A mandatory condition. Where certain requirements in the regulation are described with the "shall" stipulation, it is mandatory that these requirements be met.
- b. SHOULD An advisory condition. Where the word "should" is used, it is considered to be advisable usage, recommended but not mandatory.
- c. MAY A permissive condition. No requirement for conformance thereto is intended.

3.2.3 Airport Usage Terminology

- a. Public Use Airport This airport may be either publicly or privately owned. An airport is considered public use if the general public uses or is invited to use the airport without restriction or if commercial operations as defined in these regulations are conducted on the airport, or if the number of operations would require a permit in the interest of public safety regardless of ownership. A public use airport shall have an Idaho Airport Permit.
- b. Publicly Owned, Private Use Airport This airport is owned by a government agency and is used by that agency in the conduct of its governmental functions.
- c. Privately Owned, Private Use Airport An airport, privately owned, used only by the owner and occasional invited guests.
- d. Special Use Airport This airport is similar to the privately owned, private use airport except that the airport is used by the owner in the conduct of his business. Examples of airports in this category are fire fighting, inspection service, etc. Use by other than owner and operator and occasional invited guests will place this type of airport in the public use category, except that the owner may contract for services to be performed for him by others at a special use airport. For example, the owner of a special use airport may contract with the operator of an aircraft to fly in supplied or spare parts for use by the owner of the special use airport.

3.2.4 Airport Classification/Designation

a. Permanent Facilities

(1) Landing Strip - The lowest class airport recognized by the State of Idaho, a landing strip, is suitable for normal use under favorable conditions by light, single-engine, one to four place aircraft. Landing strips include the following usages:

TAYLOR CREEK RANCH

LOCATION:

LOWER BIG CREEK, LAT. 45° 06', LONG. 114° 50'.

OWNERSHIP AND

ACCESS:

STATE OF IDAHO, UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO,

CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC.

CLASSIFICATION:

EMERGENCY, UTILITY.

USE:

TAYLOR CREEK IS ADMINISTERED BY THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO BOARD OF REGENTS. IT SERVES AS ACCESS TO THE ADJACENT WILDERNESS RESEARCH CENTER OPERATED BY

THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO.

THE AIRPORT IS CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC BE-CAUSE OF THE SENSITIVITY OF THE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT AT THE CENTER. IT IS ASSUMED THIS STATUS WILL REMAIN AS LONG AS THE RESEARCH CENTER IS IN OPERATION. SHOULD THE STATUS OF THE RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

CHANGE, THE DIVISION OF AERONAUTICS WOULD REQUEST THE UNIVERSITY TO OPEN THE AIRPORT

TO PUBLIC USE.

MAINTENANCE REQUIREMENTS:

THE UNIVERSITY IS CURRENTLY MAINTAINING THE AIRPORT TO A STANDARD WHICH IS SATISFACTORY FOR ITS OWN USE. IT IS ASSUMED THAT THIS

MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY WILL CONTINUE.

STONEBRAKER RANCH

LOCATION:

APPROXIMATELY ONE MILE NORTH OF CHAMBERLIN

BASIN.

OWNERSHIP AND

ACCESS:

STATE OF IDAHO, DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME,

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC FOR EMERGENCY USE ONLY.

CLASSIFICATION:

EMERGENCY USE ONLY.

USE:

STONEBRAKER MEADOWS ADJACENT TO THE OLD STONEBRAKER RANCH DOES NOT APPEAR AS A DESIGNATED AIRPORT ON RECENT AIR FACILITY MANUALS OR AERONAUTICAL CHARTS. THROUGH-OUT THE YEARS, OCCASIONAL AIRCRAFT OPERA-TIONS HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED FROM THIS SITE.

MOST OF THE OPERATIONS WERE CONDUCTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH RANCH SUPPLY TRIPS. THE