2020 IS Science Colorado Aviation System Plan and Economic Impact Study

MEEKER/COULTER FIELD

Meeker Airport/Coulter Field (EEO) is a general aviation airport in northwest Colorado, located two miles east of the town of Meeker. The airport is owned and operated by Rio Blanco County. EEO has a single asphalt runway (3/21) that is 6,500 feet long by 100 feet wide and is equipped with a nonprecision instrument approach. The airport is primarily used for recreational flying, aerial photography, and aerial crop application. Additionally, EEO supports U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management firefighting operations each year during peak fire season. The airport is a critical asset for safety of the local community as it also supports emergency medical evacuations and search and rescue operations.

Airport Classification

The 2020 Colorado Aviation System Plan (CASP) has identified six functional classifications for Colorado's 65 publicly-owned, public-use airports and one privately-owned, public-use airport. The six classifications were newly developed for the 2020 CASP and replace the roles previously developed in the 2011 study. These classifications follow the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) role categories as defined by the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) and the ASSET study. However, the CASP expands upon these roles to create more specific classifications for airports that are not included in the NPIAS. Airports that are included in the NPIAS are eligible for federal funding. As of the 2019 NPIAS publication, 48 publicly-owned airports and one privately-owned airport in the Colorado airport system are included in the NPIAS, while 17 publicly-owned airports are not.

Meeker Airport/Coulter Field is one of 16 airports in Colorado classified as a GA-Community airport. GA-Community airports are defined as being publicly-owned and having at least 10 based aircraft or being located 30 miles from the nearest NPIAS airport. Additionally, these facilities can support Native American communities and/or are used by federal government agencies. GA-Community airports often support quality-of-life activities such as emergency services and medical transport and can provide economic benefits to surrounding areas.



C EEO

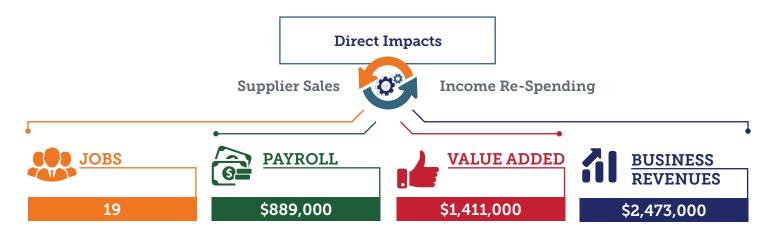


Meeker/Coulter Field Features

	Associated City/County	Meeker/Rio Blanco
	Associated OEDIT Region	11 - Northwest Colorado Region
- 🗮 - F	FAA GA ASSET Classification	Basic
* *	Annual Operations (2018)	8,070
×	Number of Based Aircraft (2018)	10
F	Runway(s)	1
1	Air Traffic Control Tower	No

Economic Impacts of EEO

The 2020 Colorado Aviation Economic Impact Study (CEIS) measured the economic impacts of all airports in the state. Meeker/Coulter Field is one of 56 general aviation airports contributing to the state's aviation economic impacts. The components that comprise the total economic impacts for EEO are summarized below. Visit the project website to learn more about the methodology used to determine the economic impacts of EEO and all other Colorado airports.





Airport Needs and Recommendations

The 2020 CASP identified several performance measures (PMs) and facility and service objectives (FSOs) to provide a baseline for the infrastructure, facilities, and service capabilities required to best support the type and volume of aviation activity typified by each classification. The CASP identified gaps between the airport's existing condition and the needs to satisfy PMs, FSOs, and/or future facility needs driven by aviation demand forecasts. It is important to note that the PMs and FSOs are not requirements or mandates for airports to meet, rather, they serve as guidelines for airports and CDOT Division of Aeronautics to use during the airport planning process. Airports considered to be deficient in meeting the PMs and/or FSOs were reviewed to determine the recommended projects needed to satisfy those components.

Planning level costs were developed for recommended projects and were associated with the appropriate goal category, PM, or FSO. These costs were developed based on 2019 Colorado material costs and industry knowledge and were adjusted to reflect cost differentials between types, sizes, and locations of airports. Projects and associated costs from available airport master plans and the CDOT 20-year Capital Improvement Program (CIP) were also incorporated into the CASP to provide an estimate of the airport's needs based on meeting PMs and FSOs as well as forecasted future demand. The project cost estimates for Meeker/Coulter Field to meet appropriate goals, PMs, and FSOs, and projects identified by the airport from other planning efforts, are categorized by project type in the following chart.

Did You Know?

EEO was renamed as Meeker Airport/Coulter Field in 2013 to commemorate Gary Coulter, the former manager of the airport and a legend in the Colorado aviation industry. Coulter served as EEO's manager for 54 years and owned and operated Coulter Aviation, which provided charter flights, agricultural application, and aircraft repairs for users of the airport. Coulter won multiple awards for his contributions to aviation in northwest Colorado including the 2010 Colorado Agricultural Aviation Industry Outstanding Service Award and the 2011 Charles Taylor Master Mechanic Award.

Airport Project Costs by Type





Airport Report Card

Facility and service objectives (FSOs) were developed for each of the six airport classifications in the 2020 CASP. The following table details the FSOs and corresponding performance of Meeker/Coulter Field. These objectives were analyzed in conjunction with the other performance measures (PMs) to determine the airport's project needs and associated costs.

	Objective Category	GA-Community Objective	Current Condition		Meets 2020 Objective?		
1							
	ARC	B-I	B-II			Yes	
	Runway Length	Accommodate 95% small aircraft adjusted for elevation and mean maximum daily temp during hottest month	6,503 feet (7,700 feet)				Νο
	Runway Width	60 feet	100 feet			Yes	
	Runway Strength	12,500 pounds	30,000 lbs SW; 60,000 lbs DW				Yes
-	Taxiway	Turn-arounds	Partial parallel				Yes
	Runway Markings	Non-precision	Non-precision				Yes
	Lighting/NAVAIDS						
	Approach	Non-precision	Non-precision			Yes	
	Visual Aids	Rotating beacon, lighted wind cone, REILs, VGSIs	Rotating beacon, lighted wind cone, REILs, VGSIs			;,	Yes
	Runway Lighting	MIRL	MIRL				Yes
	Weather Reporting	On-site ASOS, AWOS, or Automated Unicom	ASOS				Yes
	Airport Facilities						
-	Terminal (CS and/or GA)	Facility with restrooms, pilot-lounge, and Wi-Fi	Facility with restrooms, flight planning space, Wi-Fi, and rest area			Yes	
	Apron Tie-Downs	Tie-downs for 60% of based aircraft fleet plus 25% of weekly average overnight transient storage during peak season	60% of based aircraft fleet plus 25% transient aircraft fleet:	7	Total tie- down spaces:	10	Yes
2	Hangars	Hangars for 40% of based aircraft fleet	40% of based aircraft fleet:	4	Number of based aircraft hangar spaces:	12	Yes
122	Dedicated Maintenance/SRE Storage Building	Based on community need	No			Based on community need	
	Electric Vehicle Charging Stations	Based on community need	No			Based on community need	
	Perimeter Security	AOA 3-wire fencing with appropriate signage	AOA 3-wire fencing with appropriate signage			Yes	
	Services/Other						
	Jet A Fuel	Based on community need 24/7 (Self-Serve or Call Out)					Based on community need
	AvGas Fuel	24/7 (Self-Serve or Call-Out)	Full service				Yes
	Aircraft De-icing	Based on community need	None			Based on community need	
	Courtesy Car	Yes	Yes			Yes	
	Sustainability Plan	Based on community need	No			Based on community need	
	Minimums for All Airports						
	Restroom (24-hr accessible) √	Cell Phone Service \checkmark	Airport Layo	ut Pla	an (ALP)	\checkmark	Wi-Fi Service 🗸

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With support provided by EBP US, KRAMER aerotek, and Metropolitan State University of Denver.