Background Data: Nevada County Airport and Environs

INTRODUCTION

Chapter 3 documents information regarding Nevada County Airport and its environs to provide the setting upon which this *Nevada County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan* is based. The physical configuration of the runway system and the volume and characteristics of the aircraft operations are critical determinants of the impacts that aircraft activity has on surrounding land uses. As described in this chapter, changes to the runway configuration are expected at Nevada County Airport. These changes, coupled with projected growth of aircraft operations at the airport, have been taken into account in the plan preparation.

The character of current and planned land uses in the area surrounding the airport is also considered in the development of the compatibility policies. Planned Loma Rica land uses are detailed later in this chapter. A significant land use proposal in the airport environs is the Loma Rica Ranch Specific Plan (Loma Rica). It is important that any new development, whether in Loma Rica or elsewhere in the airport influence area, take place in a manner that is compatible with the airport.

AIRPORT HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT

Located in western Nevada County and 1 mile east of the City of Grass Valley, Nevada County airport is a general aviation facility serving Grass Valley, Nevada City, and the nearby Sierra Foothills region. It functions as a transportation facility for local business aircraft, a point of access for visitors to the community, a base for aerial fire attack aircraft, a site for emergency access to the community, and a base for local personal and recreational flyers. The airport is owned and operated by the County of Nevada.

The airport was constructed in 1933 by the Idaho-Maryland Mine Company to serve nearby mines. Other important events in the airport's history include:

- > In 1941, the Army Air Corps utilizes the airport as a squadron training site.
- > In 1959, the 3,200-foot-long and 50-foot-wide runway is paved.
- > Circa 1960, the Forest Service establishes an air tanker base at the east end of the airport.

- ➤ Circa 1966, the runway pavement is extended 1,200 feet eastward and the western 500 feet is designated as an overrun, resulting in a runway length of 3,900 feet. The midfield apron area also is constructed.
- ➤ In 1970, the runway length is established as 4,400 feet with a 500-foot displaced threshold at the west end.
- ➤ In 1978, the runway length is redefined as 3,920 feet with the western 500 feet designated as an overrun. The 20 feet is obtained by including the 10-foot long, painted runway threshold stripe at each end of the runway into the calculation.
- > In 1981, an Airport Master Plan was adopted.
- > In 1987, the Foothill Airport Land Use Commission adopts the Comprehensive Land Use Plan for the airport based on the 1981 Master Plan.
- > In 1992, a new Airport Master Plan was adopted.
- ➤ In 1996, the runway is extended from 3,920 to 4,350 feet.

Existing Airfield System

Nevada County Airport has a single runway that is aligned east to west. The runway is 4,350-feet long and 75 feet wide, and designated as Runway 7-25. The Airport Reference Code (ARC)

classification for the airport is ARC B-I (Small). This means the airport is used primarily by aircraft with approach speeds lower than 121 knots, wingspans less than 49 feet, and weighs less than 12,500 pounds. However, the airport is capable of accommodating larger and heavier aircraft at the pilot's discretion. The designated design aircraft is the twin-engine Cessna 421. Other major features at Nevada County Airport are detailed further in **Exhibit 3-1**, The Airport Features Summary.

Airport Reference Code (ARC). A coding system defined by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to relate airport design criteria to the operation and physical characteristics of the airplanes intended to operate at an airport.

AIRPORT PLANS

Airport land use compatibility plans and airport master plans are closely interrelated. Section 21675(a) of the California Public Utilities Code requires that an airport land use compatibility plan be based upon a long-range airport master plan adopted by the airport owner/proprietor. If such a plan does not exist for a particular airport, an airport layout plan may be used with the approval of the California Division of Aeronautics. Furthermore, the compatibility plan must reflect "the anticipated growth of the airport during at least the next 20 years."

Airport Master Plan Status

In 1992, Nevada County prepared an Airport Master Plan for the airport. This study evaluated the airport's capabilities and role, forecast future aviation demand for 2010, and identified development of new or expanded facilities that would be required to accommodate anticipated increases in aircraft activity. On January 28, 1992, the Master Plan was adopted by the Nevada County Board of Supervisors and has not been updated since then. The significant development proposed in the Master Plan was extending the runway from 3,920 to 4,350 feet, which was completed in 1996.

Airport Layout Plan Status

Modifications to the configuration of the airfield must be considered in the Compatibility Plan, as noise and safety impacts may shift and affect surrounding land uses previously excluded from the airport influence area. Proposed alterations to the airfield system are illustrated on the latest Nevada County Airport Layout Plan (ALP) drawing.

Exhibit 3-2 illustrates the most recent ALP drawing, dated April 2009, and conditionally approved by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) in February 2010. The conditional approval requires that an environmental determination be completed by the airport proprietor prior to project construction of projects shown on the plan. The principal development proposal shown on the ALP is to relocate the Runway 25 threshold 300 feet east to the existing end of pavement, resulting in a runway length of 4,650 feet, and the acquisition of property and avigation easements.

As the 2009 ALP represents the airport proprietor's ultimate vision for the airport, the 2009 ALP is used as the basis of this *Compatibility Plan*. In accordance with state law (Section 21675(a)), the FAA-approved 2009 ALP was submitted to and accepted by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Division of Aeronautics on April 27, 2011, for the purposes of this *Compatibility Plan*.

Airspace Plan

The Airspace Plan included in the 2009 ALP drawing set is presented in **Exhibit 3-3**. The drawing depicts the Federal Aviation Regulations (FAR) Part 77 airspace surfaces for the airport, reflecting the future runway length and straight-in instrument approaches. The size and shape of imaginary surfaces are a function of the type of aircraft using a runway and the lowest visibility minimums allowed for that runway.

The Airspace Plan is based upon a nonprecision approach to Runway 7 and a visual approach to Runway 25. No additional instrument approaches or lower visual minimums are proposed for the airport.

FAR Part 77 Surfaces. Imaginary airspace surfaces established with relation to each runway of an airport. There are five types of surfaces: primary, approach, transitional, horizontal, and conical. FAR Part 77 establishes standards and notification requirements for objects affecting navigable airspace. Notification allows the FAA to evaluate the potential hazardous effect of proposed construction on air navigation and to identify mitigation measures to prevent or minimize the adverse impacts to the safe use of navigable airspace.

AIRCRAFT ACTIVITY DATA AND FORECASTS

As noted above, state law (Section 21675(a)) requires that the *Compatibility Plan* reflect the anticipated growth of the airport during at least the next 20 years. Nothing in the law precludes ALUCs from extending the planning horizon beyond 20 years. In fact, some ALUCs will base a *Compatibility Plan* on an arbitrary forecast year or on the ultimate growth of the airport (e.g., build-out).

The purpose of extending the forecast period beyond the required 20-year timeframe, if prudent, is to take a more conservative approach by assessing the greatest extents of off-airport impacts based on a higher level of future aircraft activity. The decision to extend the forecast horizon is based on the airport proprietor's goals and objectives for expansion at the airport and the initiatives in place to fulfill those objectives.

Existing Activity

The airport is a non-towered general aviation facility. Therefore, precise operational statistics are not available. Instead, current activity levels, fleet mix and flight patterns must be deciphered through conversations with airport management and users of the airport.

Discussions with airport management indicate that operations can vary greatly from day to day and depend heavily on the season. On clear days with low winds, over 100 operations (landings and takeoffs) may take place. Throughout the fire season (typically between May and November), Cal Fire attack aircraft will use the airport to assist in battling wild and forest fires in the region. During the winter months, visibility can drop below minimums and operations are curtailed for days at a time. After analysis, it was determined that approximately 30,000 annual operations (an average of 82 operations daily) occurred at the airport in 2010. Exhibit 3-4 summarizes base year (2010) aircraft activity data at the airport.

Cal Fire maintains three fire attack aircraft (2 Grumman S-2 Trackers and 1 OV-10 Bronco) at the base during fire season. These aircraft, along with a Bell Super Huey helicopter will stage fire attack operations at the airport and refill with retardant, water, or fuel. When regional fires are large enough, additional fire attack aircraft will operate from the airport.

Operations by fire attack aircraft are dependent on the size and frequency of fires in a season. Historical data was acquired from which details operations by fire attack aircraft over the last 5 years. An average of 1,575 annual operations (landings and takeoffs) has taken place over the past five years (2006-2010), with a high of 2,000 annual operations occurring in 2007.

During visual conditions, the direction of landings and takeoffs by small aircraft are usually dictated by the prevailing winds, which are from the west. Operations will occur on Runway 25 about 90% of the time. This creates a traffic flow from east to west, with aircraft departing towards Grass Valley and overflying portions of the City.

An unusual characteristic of the airport that affects aircraft operations is the severity of the runway gradient. The slope of the runway rises steeply by 1.9% to the east. When winds are out of the east, aircraft may still depart to the west on Runway 25 and head downslope, even with a moderate tailwind. For departures on Runway 7, winds from the east need to be fairly strong to overcome the effect of the uphill slope.

Notices are in place discouraging nighttime takeoffs on Runway 7 and landings on Runway 25 for all aircraft. This is due to the runway slope, rising terrain to the east of the Airport, and residential lots just to the east of the Airport. Larger and heavier aircraft, such as fire attack aircraft, will always land on Runway 7 and takeoff on Runway 25. The slope of the runway is utilized by larger aircraft to aid in slowing down the aircraft on arrival and improving lift on departures.

Forecast for this Compatibility Plan

General aviation airports throughout the country have seen a decline in aircraft activity in the past few years in response to the downturn in the economy, rising fuel prices, and airport-specific circumstances. Although operations have decreased, the FAA continues to forecast long term aviation growth despite global economic conditions. As noted above, a conservative approach in operations is generally favored for compatibility planning purposes. The forecast presented in the 1992 Master Plan (116,000 annual operations) is based on an activity level that is more than twice the activity level currently estimated for 2010 (30,000 annual operations). The new data suggests that the forecast presented in the Master Plan is overly aggressive given current aircraft activity levels and is no longer suitable as the basis for policy in this *Compatibility Plan*.

Using current operational data described above, a forecast of 60,000 annual operations was developed for the purposes of this *Compatibility Plan*. This forecast is double the current (2010) activity level of 30,000 annual operations and is more representative of the airport's current condition and potential growth, yet is less than the activity level historically achieved.

The forecast is derived by applying the average annual growth rate of 2.2% from the 1992 Master Plan to current (2010) operations of 30,000 annual operations and extending it out to cover a 30-year timeframe. This methodology yields 60,000 annual operations by 2040. This forecast level is also achieved if the airport reaches its basing capacity for aircraft, as reflected in the 2009 ALP. The 2009 ALP indicates that the future parking capacity is 270 spaces (hangars and tiedowns). According to management, the existing based aircraft count is 135 and the total operations per based aircraft is 222 (30,000 divided by 135). If the total basing capacity of the airport is reached and operations per based aircraft remains constant, aircraft activity would total about 60,000 annual operations (270 spaces times 222 operations per based aircraft).

The 2009 ALP also identifies lands north and southwest of the airfield slated for future airport acquisition. Although not specified on the ALP, the airport's basing capacity could be higher if additional aircraft storage facilities or a Cal Fire base able to accommodate more aircraft were developed on these lands. Note that no official planning or design work has been done for these areas. As such, the forecast for this *Compatibility Plan* is 60,000 annual operations. The anticipated share of the forecast activity by specific types of aircraft is also summarized in Exhibit 3-4. The future fleet mix for the airport is expected to match national trends. The FAA anticipates that the growth in business and corporate general aviation aircraft will outpace growth of aircraft used for sport or personal use. Business/corporate aircraft typically include turboprops and business jets, while personal/sport aircraft include single- and multi-engine piston powered aircraft.

OTHER COMPATIBILITY FACTORS FOR THIS COMPATIBILITY PLAN

Noise Contours and Overflight Areas

The future noise contours for the airport are shown in **Exhibit 3-5**. The mapped noise contours represent a forecast of 60,000 annual operations on the future runway configuration as presented in the 2009 ALP. Also depicted are the flight tracks that were modeled to create the noise contours. These flight tracks reflect the common traffic patterns at the airport. The estimated distribution of aircraft activity on each track is detailed in Exhibit 3-4. The extended arrival tracks to Runway 7 are used by the large fire attack aircraft when landing.

Safety Zones

Generic safety zones based upon runway length and operation patterns are depicted in Exhibit 3-6, using the generic safety zones from the California Airport Land Use Planning Handbook published

by the Caltrans Division of Aeronautics in January 2002. These safety zones translate nationwide aircraft accident distribution pattern data into a set of distinct zones with regular geometric shapes and sizes. The generic safety zones shown are for medium general aviation runways (4,000 to 5,999 feet). On the east side of the airport, two set of safety zones are shown reflecting the existing and future ends of Runway 25. The safety zones reflecting the proposed runway extension are shown as dashed lines. The general risk factors prevalent in each zone are noted below.

- > Zone 1: Runway Protection Zone encompasses lands immediately beyond the runways. This area is exposed to the highest degree of risk.
- > Zone 2: Inner Approach/Departure Zone encompasses areas overflown at low altitudes typically only 200 to 400 feet above runway elevation.
- ➤ Zone 3: Inner Turning Zone encompasses locations where aircraft are typically turning from the base to final approach legs of the standard traffic pattern and are descending from traffic pattern altitude.
- ➤ Zone 4: Outer Approach/Departure Zone is situated along the extended runway centerline beyond Zone 2 and is especially significant at airports that have straight-in instrument approach procedures or a high volume of operations that result in an extended traffic pattern.
- > Zone 5: Sideline Zone encompasses close-in areas lateral to runways and, for most airports, lies on airport property.
- ➤ Zone 6: Traffic Pattern Zone contains the aircraft traffic pattern. Risk concern primarily is with uses for which potential consequences are severe (e.g., children's schools, hospitals, power plants).

AIRPORT ENVIRONS

The airport lies in the Sierra Nevada Foothills at an elevation of 3,154 feet above mean sea level (MSL). The topography around the airport is very hilly. Terrain falls to the west and rises to the east. Lands within unincorporated Nevada County and the cities of Grass Valley and Nevada City are all affected by airport activity and located within the airport's influence area.

Of particular interest is the Loma Rica Ranch Specific Plan, located immediately west of the approach end for Runway 7. Although currently unincorporated, this is a proposed Special Development Area within the Planning Area of Grass Valley. The plan proposes: 314 acres of Open Space, 27 acres of Business and Light Industrial uses (Special District), 10 acres of mixed residential/commercial/retail uses (Neighborhood Center), 78 acres of Neighborhood General (6-20 dwelling units/acre), and 19 acres of Neighborhood Edge (1-8 dwelling units/acre).

Specific land uses within the airport environs are listed in **Exhibit 3-7**, which identifies existing and planned land uses and summarizes the status of local plans and policies for the jurisdictions of Nevada County, Grass Valley, and Nevada City. **Exhibit 3-8** displays land uses as designated in the Nevada County's General Plan (1995), **Exhibit 3-9** shows assigned land uses in the Grass Valley 2020 General Plan, and **Exhibit 3-10** shows the specific plan land uses for the City of Grass Valley. Note that land use data is not available in GIS format for Nevada City. An aerial photo of the airport environs along with the compatibility zones is provided in **Exhibit 3-11**.

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GENERAL INFORMATION

- ► Airport Ownership:
 - County of Nevada
 - Operated by Department of Facilities Management and Maintenance
- ► Airport Location:
 - Lies in west-central Nevada County
- ► Property Size: 120 acres ^a
- > Airport Classification: General Aviation (GA) Airport
- ► Airport Elevation: 3,154 ft. MSL (surveyed) a

RUNWAY/TAXIWAY DESIGN^a

Runway 7-25

- ► Airport Reference Code: B-I (Small)
- ► Critical Aircraft: Cessna 421
- ► Dimensions: 4,350 ft. long, 75 ft. wide
- Pavement Strength (main landing gear configuration)
 > 30,000 lbs. (single wheel)
- > Average Gradient: 1.9% (rising to east)
- Runway Lighting: Medium Intensity Runway Lights (MIRL), Runway End Identifier Lights (REILs)
- > Primary Taxiways: Taxiway A: full-length on south

APPROACH PROTECTION

- Airspace Category: Utility runway (≤12,500 lbs); nonprecision instrument runway; [A (NP)]
- Existing Runway Protection Zones (RPZ)^a
 - Runway 7: 54% on airport; proposed fee simple acquisition for remaining 46%
 - Runway 25: 93% on airport; 1% off-airport on existing avigation easement, 6% off-airport on proposed avigation easement
- ► Approach Obstacles ^b
 - > Runway 7: 20 ft. tall trees, 612 ft. from runway, 190 ft. left of centerline, clear 20:1 slope
 - Runway 25: 100 ft. tall pole (marked and lighted), 2,600 ft. from runway, 235 ft. right of centerline, clear 24:1 slope

BUILDING AREA

- Aircraft Parking Location
 - Building area south side of airfield
- Aircraft Parking Capacity ^a
 - Hangar spaces: 106
 - > Tie-downs: 173
- ► Other Facilities and Services ^b
 - > CalFire air attack base
 - > Fuel: 100LL, Jet A
 - > Airframe and powerplant service

Sources:

- ^a Airport Layout Plan (2009)
- ^b FAA Master Record Form 5010 (2011)

Exhibit 3-1

Airport Features Summary

Nevada County Airport

AIRPORT PLANNING DOCUMENTS

- ► Airport Layout Plan Drawing
 - Dated April 2009; approved by FAA February 2010; accepted by Caltrans Division of Aeronautic as basis of this Compatibility Plan on April 27, 2011
- ► Airport Master Plan:
 - > Adopted by Board of Supervisors, January 28, 1992

TRAFFIC PATTERNS AND APPROACH PROCEDURES a,b

- ► Airplane Traffic Patterns
 - > Runway 7-25: Left traffic
 - Pattern Altitude: 1,000 ft. AGL, departing aircraft advised to climb to 3,800 ft. MSL before turning
- Instrument Approach Procedures
 - > Runway 7 GPS
 - Straight-in: 1 statute mile visibility, decision height 412 ft. above touch down zone (3,540 ft. MSL)
 - > VOR/GPS-A
 - Circle to Land: 1¼ statute miles visibility, decision height 1,128 ft. above airport elevation (4,280 ft. MSL)
- Approach Aids
 - > Airport: Beacon, wind indicator, and segmented circle
 - > Runway 7: VASI (4 box), on left, 3.00° glide path
 - > Runway 25: VASI (2 box), on left, 3.50° glide path
- Traffic Advisories
 - Runway slopes downhill to west, recommended takeoffs on Runway 25
 - Night takeoffs on Runway 7 and landings on Runway 25 not recommended
 - Fire attack aircraft operate in summer and fall months; land on Runway 7 and depart on 25

PLANNED FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS^a

- ► Runway 7-25
 - Increase length to 4,650 feet by relocating Runway 25 threshold 300 feet east to existing end of pavement
- Land Acquisition
 - Property acquisition of 50 acres north, west, and southwest of existing airport for RPZ control (to west) and aviation related expansion
- Runway 25 RPZ
 - Shifts 300 feet east; 94% will be located on airport;
 3% on existing avigation easement, 2% on future avigation easement, 1% located off-airport
- Building Area Development
 - > Hangars to replace 29 tiedowns on southeast apron



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AIRPORT DATA					
			EXISTING	FUTURE	
AIRPORT SERVICE LEVEL (NPIAS)		General Aviation	No Change		
· · ·		B-I (Small)	No Change		
	-	Latitude	39° 13' 26.54" N	39° 13' 26.61" N	
AIRPORT REFERENCE POINT		Longitude	121° 00' 11.11" W	121° 00' 09.21" W	
AIRPORT ELEVATION (Above Mean Sea Level)		3,154'	3,157		
MEAN MAX. TEMP. (Hottest Month)		87° F (July)	No Change		
AIRPORT AND TERMINAL NAVIGATIONAL AIDS		GPS/VOR/BEACON	No Change		
GPS APPROACH ESTABLIS	PS APPROACH ESTABLISHED		Yes	No Change	
F		mple	120	190	
AIRPORT AGREAGE	Easement		23	24	
	Tiedov	vns	173	126	
SPACES	Individual Hangar Units		106	144	
	Helicopter Spaces		1	No Change	

	RU	NWAY D	A	ΓA			
			RUNWAY 7-25			7-25	
			EXISTING			FUTURE	
AIRPORT REFERENCE	CODE			B-I (Small)		No Change	
	AIRCRAFT	AIRCRAFT		Cessna 421	No Change		
CRITICAL AIRCRAFT	WINGSPAN	WINGSPAN		47.1 ¹		No Change	
	UNDERCARRIAGE WIDTH			12.07'		No Change	
	APPROACH SP	APPROACH SPEED		96 kts		No Change	
	MAX. TAKEOFF	WT. (lbs.)		7,420 lbs		No Change	
EFFECTIVE GRADIENT	(%)			1.93%		No Change	
MAXIMUM GRADIENT (%)			2.0%		No Change	
PAVEMENT DESIGN ST	RENGTH (1,000	#) - S/D/DT		30/-/-		No Change	
APPROACH VISIBILITY			7	1 SM	7	No Change	
(Minimums)			25	1 1/4 SM	25	No Change	
RUNWAY SAFETY ARE	A		7	240'	7	No Change	
(Length Beyond Runwa	y End)		25	240'	25	No Change	
RUNWAY SAFETY ARE	A WIDTH			120'		No Change	
OBJECT FREE AREA			7	240'	7	No Change	
(Length Beyond Runwa	y End)		25	240'	25	No Change	
OBJECT FREE AREA W	IDTH			250'		No Change	
OBSTACLE FREE ZON	E		7	200'	7	No Change	
(Length Beyond Runwa	y End)		25	200'	25	No Change	
OBSTACLE FREE ZON	E WIDTH			250'		No Change	
DICTANOS EDOM DWW		00	7	125'	7	No Change	
DISTAINCE FROM HWIT	. у юпосыви	na	25	125'	25	No Change	
DU NINANA MA DIKINIO			7	Basic	7	No Change	
HUNWAT MARKING			25	Basic	25	No Change	
APPROACH TYPE			7	[A(V)]	7	No Change	
(FAR Part 77 Category)			25	[A(V)]	25	No Change	
DISTANCE from RWY. Q	to PARALLEL TV	Y. କୂ		125'		No Change	
DISTANCE from TWY. Q	to FIXED or MOV/	ABLE OBJECT		45'		No Change	
TAXIWAY OBJECT FREE	AREA WIDTH		45'		No Change		
TAXIWAY SAFETY AREA	WIDTH			45'		No Change	
TAXIWAY WINGTIP CLEA	RANCE			45'		No Change	
DUNINAN END EURIATIC			7	3,070.68	7	No Change	
HUNNAT END CLEVATIO			25	3,154.38	25	3,157.44	
		Latitude	7	39° 13' 25.53"N	7	No Change	
RUNWAY END COORDIN	NATES O		25	39° 18' 27.55"N	25	39° 13' 27.69"	
	0	Longitude	7	121° 00' 38.72"W	7	No Change	
		Longitoto	25	120° 59' 48.51"W	25	120` 59' 39.70"	
RUNMAY TOUCHDOMA	ZONE ELEVATIO		7	N/A	7	No Change	
Holdina Tobolibolin	ZONE ELEVANO	NG (102)	25	N/A	25	No Change	
RUNWAY HIGH POINT				3,154.38		3,157.44	
RUNWAY LOW POINT				3,070.68	No Change		
VERTICAL LINE OF SIGHT PROVIDED		Yes		No Change			
RUNWAY LENGTH		4,350'		No Change			
RUNWAY WIDTH		75'		No Change			
RUNWAY SURFACE TYPE		Asphalt		No Change			
TAXIWAY SURFACE TYPE			Asphalt		No Change		
APPROACH SLOPE		7	20:1/20:1(ª)	7	No Change		
(Required/Clear)		25	20:1/16:1(g)	25	No Change		
RUNWAY EDGE LIGHTING			MIRL		No Change		
NAVIGATION AIDS			7	GPS/VOR	7	No Change	
			25	GPS/VOR	25	No Change	
			7	VASI/REIL	7	No Change	
100AL ALDO			25	VASI/REIL	25	No Change	

ALP NOTES

(a) Elevations source: Mead & Hunt survey 2005 and 2007. Horizontal datum NAD83. Vertical datum NAVD88.

Threshold Siting Surface (TSS)- Runway 25: trees and two lighted obstruction poles penetrate the TSS. Propased disposition: lighted poles to remain. Trees are maintained on a regular basis to provide 201 slope clearance. Trees to be topped/removed as required to provide and maintain clear TSS to future runway end.

C Wind data specific to Nevada County Airport not available. Wind coverage is from Auburn Municipal Airport.

- (d) FAR Part 77 Approach Surface- Runway 25: an obstruction light pole exists 3,586' from existing runway end (outside of ALP view), slope clearance is 16:1. Proposed Disposition: light pole to remain. Trees South of runway centerline to be topped/removed as required to provide and maintain clear transitional surface to future runway end; trees North of centerline are obstruction lighted and will remain.
- e Runway end coordinates source: Nevada County, Department of Transportation and Sanitation (John Steger, County Surveyor). Horizontal datum: NAD83.

Building Restriction Line (SRL) is located based upon the historical pattern of development. Many existing buildings penetrate the transitional airspace surface. Future buildings should obtain airspace review (7460 review) prior to construction.

Aircraft Parking Line (APL) delineated to provide clearance to better accommodate operations by fire attack aircraft (Grumman S-2); 61' from the eastern-most portion of Taxiway A.

(h) Title to this parcel to be determined by the County.





	WIN	D COVE
	Runway	12 M.P.H. (10.5 Knot
	7-25	92.0%
Se Pe	ource: U.S. WEAT eriod: SURFACE \	HER BUREA

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Based Aircraft	Raso Voar ^a	Forecast ^b	Тіме
	2010	2030	
Aircraft Type	2010	2000	Prope
Single-Engine Piston	128	230	Da
Twin-Engine Piston	6	25	Ev
Turboprop	0	5	Ni
Business Jet	0	5	
Helicopter	1	5	Jets/C
Total Aircraft	135	270	Da
			. Ev Ni
AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS	Basa Vaara	Forecastb	
	Base fear	Forecast	FLIGI
Tatal	2010	2030	
Appual	20.000	60.000	
Annual Average Dev	30,000	164	Runw
Average Day	02	104	All Air
Distribution by Aircraft Type			St
Single-Engine Piston	72.8%	72.4%	45
Twin-Engine Piston	18.2%	18.1%	0
Turboprop	1.7%	1.7%	CalFir
Business Jet	0.3%	0.8%	St
Helicopter	1.7%	1.7%	45
CalFire	5.3%	5.3%	0
	<u>_</u>		All Air
Distribution by Type of Operation	4 5 0 /	1 40/	St
Local (touch-and goes)	15%	14%	Le
	85%	80%	Ri
RUNWAY USE DISTRIBUTION ^a			Runw
	Base Year	Forecast	All Air
	2010	2030	St
All Aircraft – Daytime Arrivals/Dep (except CalFire)	artures		45 Ov
Bunway 7	10%	no	All Air
Runway 25	90%	change	St
Nighttime and CalFire – Arrivals	00,0	onango	Le
Runway 7	100%	no	Ri
Runway 25	0%	change	
Nighttime and CalFire – Departure	es		
Runway 7	0%	no	
Runway 25	100%	change	
Touch-and-Go Operations	-	- 5	
(single-engine piston only)			
Runway 7	10%	no	
Runway 25	90%	change	

Dropollor Aircraft 8		
Day (7am to 7pm)	92%	no
Evening (7pm to 10pm)	6%	change
Night (10pm to 7am)	2%	
lata (O a IFina		
Jets/CalFire	• • • • •	
Day (/am to /pm)	94%	no
Evening (7pm to 10pm)	6%	change
Night (10pm to 7am)	0%	
FLIGHT TRACK USAGE ^a		
	Base Year	Forecast
	2010	2030
Runwav 7:		
All Aircraft – Arrivals (except CalFire	e)	
Straight-in	50%	no
45° turn to downwind pattorn	40%	chango
45 turn to downwind pattern	40%	change
	10%	
Carrie - Anivais	00.00/	
	33.3%	no
45° turn to downwind pattern	33.3%	change
Overfly airport to downwind	33.3%	
All Aircraft - Departures (except Ca	lFire)	
Straight-out	10%	no
Left turn	45%	change
Right turn	45%	
Runway 25:		
All Aircraft – Arrivals (except CalFire	e)	
Straight-in	0%	no
45° turn to downwind pattern	90%	change
Overfly airport to downwind	10%	U
All Aircraft including CalFire- Depa	rtures	
Straight-out	25%	no
Left turn	50%	change
Bight turn	25%	chunge
Night turn	23/0	

OF DAY DISTRIBUTION^a

Base Year Forecast

2010

2030

Sources:

^a Estimates provided by airport management, January 2011. No changes to time of day, runway use, and flight track percentages are anticipated for the life of this plan.

^b Operation and fleet mix forecasts projected by Mead & Hunt, February 2011.

^c Local training exercises, known as touch-and-go operations, comprise 15% of total activity (source: Airport management). This percentage is significantly lower than similar general aviation airports in the region, primarily due to a steeper than normal gradient of the runway. A flight school exists on Airport, but will usually perform training activities at other airports in region.

Exhibit 3-4

Airport Activity Data Summary

Nevada County Airport





- 3. Flight tracks represent general arrival and departure routes.
- 4. Prevailing winds out of the west. Runway 25 is designated calm wind runway.
- 5. Departures on Runway 7 and arrivals on Runway 25 not recommended at night due to severe runway gradient (rising from west to east). Fire attack aircraft typically land on Runway 7.
- 6. Aircraft departing Runway 25 advised to climb to 3,800' MSL (648' above airport elevation) before turning (source: Airport management).

Nevada County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (Adopted September 2011)

Exhibit 3-5

Compatibility Factors Map: Noise and Overflight



Exhibit 3-6

Compatibility Factors Map: Safety and Airspace Protection

AIRPORT SITE

- Location
 - > Located in unincorporated western Nevada County
 - > 3 miles east of central Grass Valley
 - > 3 miles south-southeast of central Nevada City
 - > 51 miles northeast of Sacramento
 - > 67 miles west-southwest of Reno
 - > 2 miles east of State Highway 20 and 49
 - > 10 miles north of Interstate 80
- Nearby Terrain
 - > Airport situated in Sierra Nevada foothills.
 - Topography is very hilly, terrain gradually rises to the east and gradually falls to the west.
 - > The runway slopes up from west to east.

EXISTING AIRPORT AREA LAND USES

- ► General Character
 - Rural and wooded lands with large residential (estate) lots surround Airport.
 - Light industrial, commercial and airport-support development immediately border the airport to the southwest.
 - Grass Valley's downtown area located approximately 2.5 miles west of Airport.
- ► Runway Approaches
 - > West (Runway 7): Undeveloped rural, wooded land
 - East (Runway 25): Large residential estate lots in woodland area

AIRPORT ENVIRONS LAND USE JURISDICTIONS

- County of Nevada
 - > Airport and environs within unincorporated County
- City of Grass Valley
 - > City limits 0.8 miles west of Runway 7
 - Airport and environs within the city's Sphere of Influence (SOI) and Planning Area
- ► City of Nevada City
 - City limits 1.6 miles north-northwest of Runway 7;
 Sphere of Influence 1 mile north of Runway 7

STATUS OF COMMUNITY PLANS

- ► Nevada County
 - Nevada County General Plan (1995), approved by Board of Supervisors in 1996. Safety Element amended in 2008, Circulation and Housing Elements updated in 2010
 - > General Plan (1995) map updated December 2010
- Grass Valley
 - > 2020 General Plan adopted December 1999
 - > 2020 General Plan map updated January 2007
 - > Loma Rica Ranch Specific Plan adopted May 2011
- ► Nevada City
 - General Plan (1980-2000) adopted March 1986; Housing Element amended June 1992
 - > General Plan (1980-2000) map updated 2008

PLANNED AIRPORT AREA LAND USES

- ► Nevada County
 - North: Estate, Open Space, Industrial
 - > East: Estate, Rural Residential
 - South: Estate, Industrial
 - > West: Special Development Area (Business Park, Recreation, Open Space)
- City of Grass Valley
 - > North (Planning Area): Manufacturing-Industrial
 - South (Planning Area): Urban Estate, Manufacturing-Industrial
 - > West (Planning Area, SOI): Loma Rica Specific Plan
 - West (City Limits): Business Park
- ▶ Nevada City
 - North (within City Limits): Mix of rural residential and commercial
 - North (SOI): Estate, Residential, Rural Commercial, Open Space¹

1. Land use data from Nevada County General Plan (1995)

Exhibit 3-7

Airport Environs Information

Nevada County Airport

ESTABLISHED AIRPORT COMPATIBILITY MEASURES

- Nevada County
 - Noise: Protect the safety and general welfare of people in the vicinity of the ... Nevada County Airpark by promoting the overall goals and objectives of the California Airport Noise Standards (California Administrative Code, Title 21, Section 5000 et seq.) and the California Noise Insulation Standards (California Administrative Code, Title 25, Section 28), to prevent the creation of new noise-generated complaints around the airport, and to minimize the public's exposure to excessive aircraft-generated noise. (9.4)
 - Noise: Ensure the development of compatible land uses adjacent to the Nevada County Airpark-Airport through the approval of development consistent with the land use maps of the General Plan, recommendations of the Airport Land Use Commission, and the continued enforcement of the Airport Land Use Noise Compatibility Criteria as found in the Nevada County Airpark Master Plan. (9.17)
 - Noise: The County shall enforce noise standards consistent with the airport noise policies included in the Comprehensive Land Use Plans for the... Nevada County Airpark, adopted on June 3, 1987, as those standards are in effect and may hereafter be amended. (9.19)
 - Safety: Through appropriate zoning regulations, the County shall enforce airport ground and height safety areas, and land use compatibility standards, consistent with the Comprehensive Land Use Plan for the...Nevada County Air Park. Changes in the Comprehensive Land Use Plan shall be reflected in the General Plan and/or Zoning Regulations, where appropriate. (AH-10.4.1.1)

- ► Grass Valley
 - Noise: 5-NI Prohibit new development of noisesensitive land uses in areas exposed to existing or projected future levels of noise from transportation noise sources.
 - Safety: 13-SP Continue to implement provisions of the Nevada County Airpark Comprehensive Land Use Plan, and to coordinate as appropriate with Nevada County, Airpark management, and the Airport Land Use Commission regarding airport plans and safety considerations.
 - Safety: 2-SI Utilize open space/conservation reserves and easements to restrict development in high-risk areas, such as ... airport safety zones.
- ▹ Nevada City
 - Public Safety: Maintain noise levels compatible with the rural and small-town setting of Nevada City. Adopt the Land Use Compatibility Chart "normally acceptable" range as a standard to be used in environmental evaluation of proposed uses.

Exhibit 3-7, continued



Leg	jend
Bour	ndary Lines
	Airport Property Line Proposed Airport Property Acquisition City Limits Grass Valley Planning Area Grass Valley Sphere of Influence Existing Runway (4,350') Future Runway (4,650') Airport Influence Area
Com	patibility Zones Zone A - Bunway Clear Zone
\times	 Zone B1 - Inner Approach Zone Zone B2 - Sideline Zone Zone C - Inner Turning Zone & Extended Approach Zone Zone D - Traffic Pattern Zone Zone D* - Urban Overlay Zone Zone E - Other Airport Environs
Nev	/ada County General Plan (1995) ¹
	Urban High Density Res. (max 15/20 du/ac)
	Urban Med. Density Res. (UMD) (max 6 du/ac)
	Urban Single-Fam. Density Res. (USF) (max 4 du/ac)
	Residential (RES) (max 0.667 du/ac)
	Estate (EST) (max 0.333 du/ac)
	Rural 5 Acre (RUR-5) (max 0.20 du/ac)
	Rural 10 Acre (RUR-10) (max 0.10 du/ac)
	Rural 20 Acre (RUR-20) (max 0.05 du/ac)
	Business Park (BP)
	Neighborhood Commercial (NC)
	Community Commercial (CC)
	Highway Commercial (HC)
	Office Professional (OP)
	Industrial (IND)
	Planned Development (PD)
	Special Development Area (SDA)
	Public (PUB)
	Open Space (OS)
Nat	
i. C	llustrated in the legend.

Nevada County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (Adopted September 2011)

Exhibit 3-8

General Plan Land Uses: Nevada County



Exhibit 3-9

General Plan Land Uses: City of Grass Valley





2011). Numbers 1-9 refer to specific plan areas and are not part of this Compatibility Plan.

Loma Rica Ranch Specific Plan Legend		
	Neighborhood Center (Mixed Residential/Commercial/Retail)	10.3
	Neighborhood General (6-20 du/ac)	78.2
	Neighborhood Edge (1-8 du/ac)	19.1
	Special District	26.6
	Open Space and Parks	313.9
-		

Nevada County Airport Land Use Compatibility Plan (Adopted September 2011)

Exhibit 3-10

Specific Plan Land Uses: City of Grass Valley



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