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**ALABAMA**  
**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

AERONAUTICS BUREAU  
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John R. Cooper  
TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR

April 8, 2021

The Honorable David Grissom  
Mayor, City of Russellville  
P.O. Box 1000  
Russellville, Alabama 35653

**Subject: Corrective Actions Completed  
Bill Pugh Field Airport (M22)**

Dear Mayor Grissom:

An inspection of the Bill Pugh Field Airport was conducted by personnel of the Alabama Department of Transportation Aeronautics Bureau on January 20, 2021. The purpose of the inspection was to update the information currently on file regarding the airport and to ascertain compliance with the rules and regulations of the Alabama Department of Transportation governing licensed public-use airports within the State of Alabama.

At the time of inspection, several trees obstructed the Required ALDOT 20:1 Approach/Departure Path. A re-inspection was conducted on April 2, 2021, confirming that the trees in violation had been removed and that other maintenance items had been corrected. The airport now meets the requirements for the issuance of an operating license. The license is issued in full effect and a signed license document will be mailed separately within a few weeks.

If you should have any questions concerning the inspection or corrective actions, please do not hesitate to contact the Aeronautics Bureau at (334) 242-6820.

Sincerely,

Frank Farmer  
Chief, Aeronautics Bureau

Copy: Mr. Rans Black, FAA/ADO  
Mr. Wes Mittlesteadt, FAA/ADO  
Mr. Harry Mattox, Airport Manager  
Mr. Randall Richards, Garver



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John R. Cooper  
TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR

January 22, 2021

The Honorable David Grissom  
Mayor, City of Russellville  
P.O. Box 1000  
Russellville, Alabama 35653

**Subject: Annual Inspection Report  
Bill Pugh Field Airport (M22)**

Dear Mayor Grissom:

An inspection of the Bill Pugh Field Airport was conducted by personnel of the Alabama Department of Transportation Aeronautics Bureau on January 20, 2021. The purpose of the inspection was to update the information currently on file regarding the airport and to ascertain compliance with the rules and regulations of the Alabama Department of Transportation governing licensed public-use airports within the State of Alabama.

Attached you will find a copy of the Annual Inspection Report for Bill Pugh Field Airport. As noted in the report, the airport **does not meet** the requirements for the issuance of an operating license. Trees obstruct the Required 20:1 Approach/Departure Path to Runway 02. There are also obstructions to the outer limits of the Primary Surface. Furthermore, there are several maintenance items that should be addressed as soon as possible. The license is being **withheld** pending the completion of the required actions detailed in the report.

Additionally, the Wind Direction Indicator (WDI) lights are currently out of service. This places a **Day Only** restriction on the airport. Please **close** the airport to **all night operations** until the WDI lights are repaired. To close the airport to night operations, please contact the Leidos Flight Service Station at 1-877-487-6867 and issue a Notice to Airmen (NOTAM), notifying pilots of the nighttime closure.

If you should have any questions concerning the inspection or corrective actions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Gus Slaten with the Aeronautics Bureau at (334) 242-6820.

Sincerely,

Frank Farmer  
Chief, Aeronautics Bureau

Copy: Mr. Wes Mittlesteadt, FAA/ADO  
Mr. Harry Mattox, Airport Manager  
Mr. Randall Richards, Garver

# ANNUAL INSPECTION REPORT

January 20, 2021



**Bill Pugh Field**  
**Russellville, Alabama**

**Annual Inspection Report  
Bill Pugh Field Airport (M22)  
Russellville, Alabama**

January 20, 2021

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# Annual Inspection Report Bill Pugh Field Airport (M22) Russellville, Alabama

January 20, 2021

## **Introduction:**

**Code of Alabama 23-1-357(c).** The department may perform such acts, issue and amend such orders and make, promulgate, or amend general or special rules, regulations, and procedures and establish minimum standards, consistent with the provisions of this article as it shall deem necessary to carry out the provisions of this article and to perform its duties hereunder, all commensurate with and for the purpose of protecting and insuring the general public interest, health, welfare, and safety. (Act 2000-220, 10.)

In accordance with the provisions of the Code of Alabama 23-1-357(c) an inspection of the Bill Pugh Field Airport was conducted by Mr. Gus Slaten of the Alabama Department of Transportation Aeronautics Bureau on January 20, 2021.

The corrective actions that may be prescribed in this inspection report do not relieve the airport owner from compliance with any other Federal, State or local laws, ordinances or regulations that may be applicable. It is the responsibility of the airport owner to be aware of and obey all Federal, State or local laws, ordinances or regulations that may have a bearing on the corrective actions that may be specified in this report.

## **Inspection Methodology:**

The inspection of the required State Approach/Departure Path and Federal Runway Protection Zones was accomplished by the use of approved engineering methods and equipment. The angles, locations and heights of trees or other objects within these areas were derived by the use of a Theodolite and electronic distance measuring device.

All other areas of the inspection were conducted visually and photographed for reference purposes.

The FAA Airport Design Standards referred to in this report were taken from the Airport Layout Plan (ALP) dated August 30, 2012.

# Annual Inspection Report Bill Pugh Field Airport (M22) Russellville, Alabama

January 20, 2021

## License Status:

**Code of Alabama 23-1-375(a).** ...a person or municipality may not operate an airport, restricted landing area, or other air navigation facility without a license issued by the department.

Based upon the findings of the inspection conducted on January 20, 2021, the airport **does not meet** the requirements for the issuance of an operating license.

The inspection was conducted on the airport under the provisions of the Administrative Code for the following areas:

### **1. Approach and Departure Paths** **Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(1)** (See Appendix 1)

#### State Licensing Standards:

- For all hard surface runways the approach and departure path begins 200 feet from the runway end (runway threshold).
- The approach and departure path for all runways is centered along the extended runway centerline and extends for 1000 feet.
- The approach and departure path for all runways slopes up at a ratio of 20:1.
- All penetrations of the approach and departure paths, whether natural or manmade, constitute an obstruction to navigation and must be removed.
- The land beneath the approach and departure path must be controlled by the airport owner. This is accomplished by ownership of the property in fee simple or by written perpetual agreement with the owner of the land.

#### Inspection Results: **VIOLATION**

- Runway 02 – Trees identified as #3, #5, and #6 are obstructing the Required 20:1 Approach/Departure Path (See Photo #1, Appendix #2). It is recommended that other trees identified in Photo #1 be removed before they become obstructions.
- Runway 20 – No obstructions (See Photo # 2)

# Annual Inspection Report Bill Pugh Field Airport (M22) Russellville, Alabama

January 20, 2021

Photo #1 – Runway 02 Approach

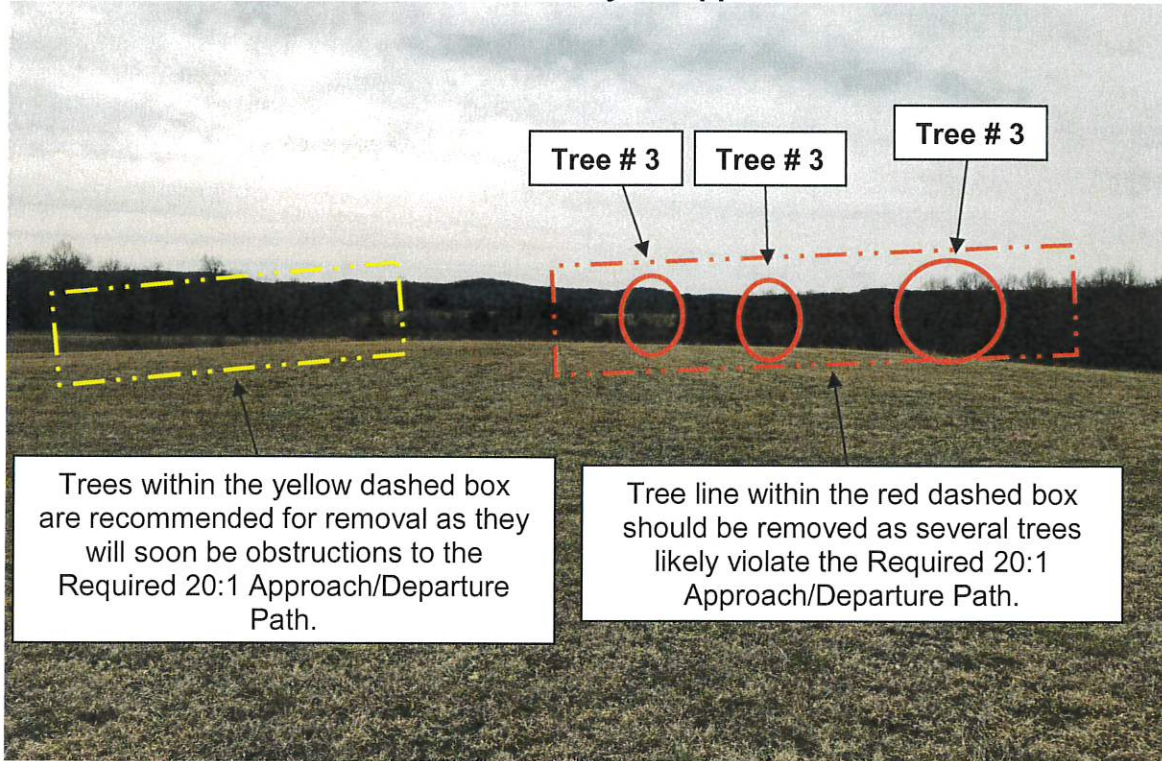
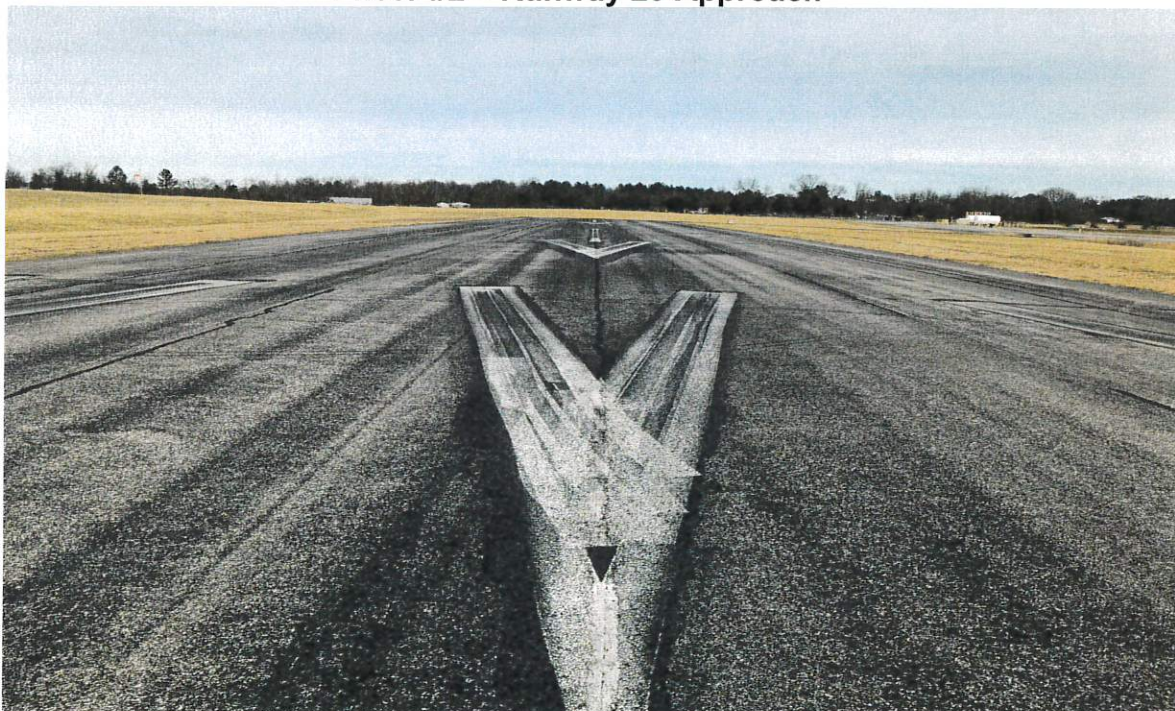


Photo #2 – Runway 20 Approach



# Annual Inspection Report Bill Pugh Field Airport (M22) Russellville, Alabama

January 20, 2021

## **Required Action:**

- Remove all obstructions to the Required 20:1 Approach/Departure Path.
- Obstructions identified in this report are representative and may not include all obstructions. **It is the airport sponsor's responsibility to identify and remove ALL obstructions to the Required 20:1 Approach/Departure Path.**

## **Maintenance Required:**

- Remove line of trees in Approach/Departure Path before they become obstructions.

## **2. Primary Surface Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(2)**

### **State Licensing Standards:**

- Primary Surface (See Appendix 1): The primary surface is 250 feet wide, centered on the runway centerline and extends 200 feet past the end of the marked runway. The primary surface is required to be free of all obstructions, manmade or natural. The only allowable objects are runway lights, guidance signs, or navigation equipment that by function is required to be within the primary surface boundaries.

### **Inspection Results: VIOLATION**

- A tree and brush are obstructing the outer limits of the Primary Surface at 111 feet to 120 feet from the runway centerline on the west side of Runway 02/20 (See Photos #3 and #4).

### **Maintenance Required:**

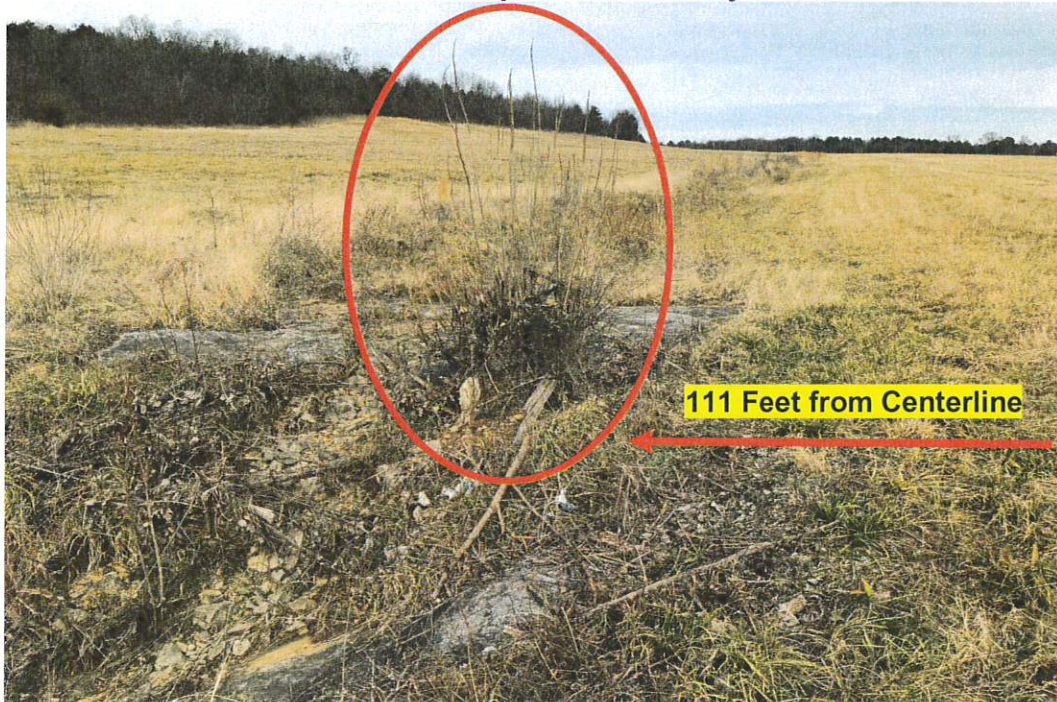
- The Primary Surface is an object free area and all vegetation within its boundaries should be removed.
- The Primary Surface vegetation has been noted in previous reports and should be permanently eradicated this time.



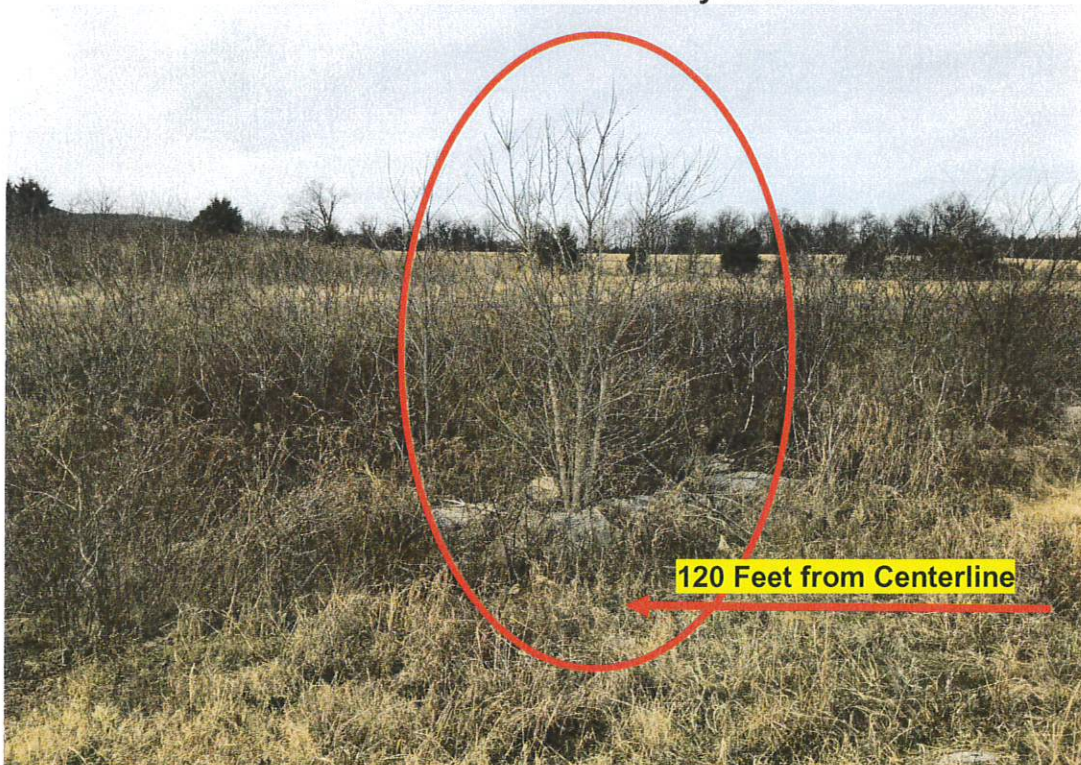
# Annual Inspection Report Bill Pugh Field Airport (M22) Russellville, Alabama

January 20, 2021

**Photo #3 – Stump within Primary Surface**



**Photo #4—Tree within Primary Surface**



**Annual Inspection Report  
Bill Pugh Field Airport (M22)  
Russellville, Alabama**

January 20, 2021

**3. Runway Safety Area  
Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(3)**

**State Licensing Standards:**

- Runway Safety Area (Appendix 1): All runways are required to maintain an obstruction free area adjacent to each runway. This area is 120 feet wide, centered on the runway centerline, and extends for a distance of 200 feet past the runway end. The area must be compacted and graded smooth with no ruts, humps, depressions or other potentially hazardous surface variations. The slope along the longitudinal centerline shall not exceed a rise or fall of three percent in elevation relative to the runway end elevation. The lip from the top of the pavement to the grade adjacent to the runway should not exceed 3 inches.

**Inspection Results:**

- There is one (1) light base on the west side of the runway within the Runway Safety Area which partially exceeds 3 inches in height (See Photo #5).

**Maintenance Required:**

- Bring grade up around light base.

# Annual Inspection Report Bill Pugh Field Airport (M22) Russellville, Alabama

January 20, 2021

Photo #5— Runway Light Base



## 4. Airport Markings Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(4)

### State Licensing Standards:

- Airport Markings: All runways are required to be marked in a manner identifying the boundaries of the landing areas. The runway markings must be painted white and be maintained in a legible condition.

### Inspection Results:

- The runway markings are **POOR** condition (See Photo #6).
- The apron and taxiway markings are in **FAIR** condition.

### Maintenance Required:

- Clean runway markings or re-apply in accordance to FAA AC 150/5340-1M.

# Annual Inspection Report Bill Pugh Field Airport (M22) Russellville, Alabama

January 20, 2021

Photo #6 – NP Markings Runway 2



## 5. Wind Direction Indicator Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(5)

### State Licensing Standards:

- Wind Direction Indicators: All airports are required to have an operational wind direction indicator. It must be installed in a highly visible area and free from obstructions to ensure true wind direction and velocity. Night operations require the indicator be lighted.

### Inspection Results: VIOLATION

- The wind direction indicator (wind cone) is in **GOOD** condition (See Photo #7). However, the lights on the indicator were out of service.

### Maintenance Required:

- Airport must be **closed to night operations** until lights atop wind indicator are made operational again.

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Bill Pugh Field Airport (M22)  
Russellville, Alabama**

January 20, 2021

**6. Airport Lighting  
Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(6)**

**State Licensing Standards:**

- Airport Lighting: Runway lights and a lighted wind direction indicator are required for night operations. A rotating beacon is suggested. All runway, threshold, and taxiway lighting shall be maintained in operational condition and shall not be obscured by natural growth such as grass and/or weeds.

**Inspection Results:**

- The results of the lighting system inspection are as follows:

- Taxiway Lights – 0 inoperative
- Runway Lights – 4 inoperative
- Threshold Lights – 0 inoperative; 1 missing on RWY 02
- REILS – 0 Inoperative

**7. Runway, Taxiway and Apron Conditions  
Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(7)**

**State Licensing Standards:**

- Runway, Taxiway and Apron Conditions: All airport pavement surfaces associated with aircraft operations must be kept smooth and free of any defect or obstruction that could damage an aircraft. The lip of the airport pavement surfaces must not exceed three (3) inches in elevation from the top of the pavement to the shoulder. The drop should only be enough to allow sufficient drainage and not pose a control problem for aircraft exiting the runway. The aircraft parking apron is for the operation and parking of aircraft only and should be smooth and free of obstructions or defects that could cause damage to aircraft during operations.

**Inspection Results:**

- The Runway is in ***FAIR*** condition, with moderate levels of weathering, thermal cracking, and joint cracking (See Photo #7).
- The Apron is in ***GOOD*** condition.
- The taxiways are in ***FAIR*** condition with moderate cracking. Taxi-lanes near the hangars are in ***POOR*** condition with moderate alligator cracking, raveling, and vegetation growth (See Photo #8).

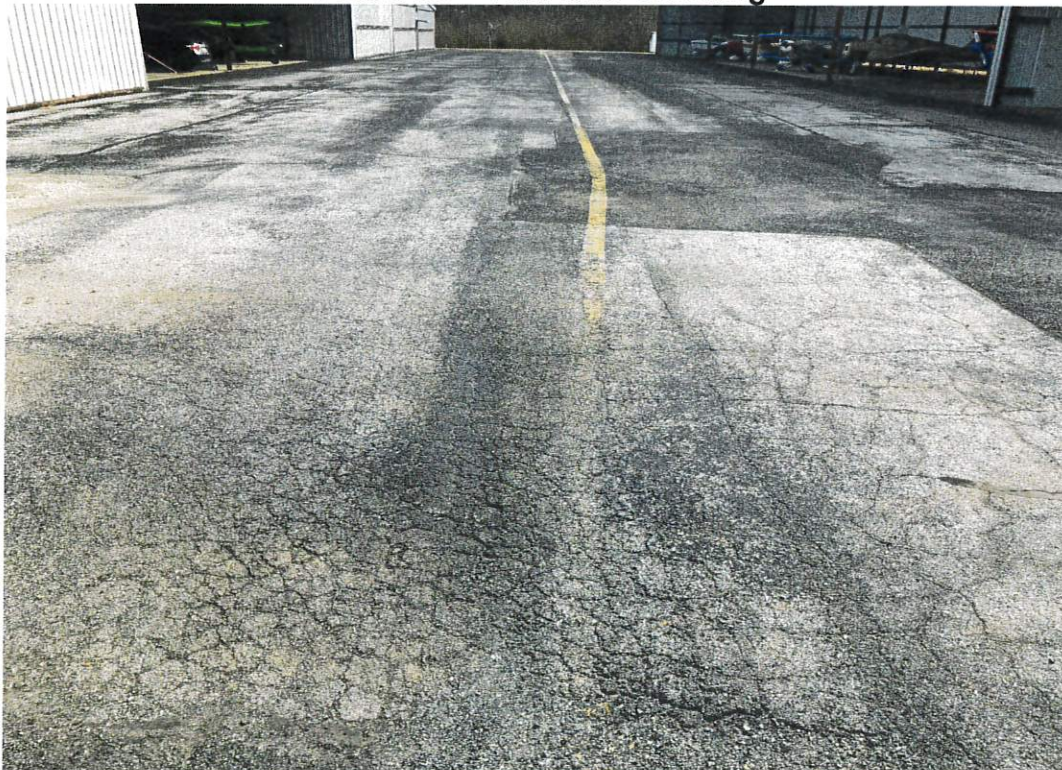
**Annual Inspection Report  
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Russellville, Alabama**

January 20, 2021

**Photo #7 – Runway Surface**



**Photo #8 – Taxi-lane Cracking**



# Annual Inspection Report Bill Pugh Field Airport (M22) Russellville, Alabama

January 20, 2021

## **Maintenance Required:**

- Airport sponsor should continue to plan a pavement rehabilitation project for the future.

## **8. Fueling Area Requirements Administrative Code 450-9-1-.12(8)**

### **State Licensing Standards:**

- Signs should be posted prohibiting open flames or smoking in fueling areas. The fueling facility must be labeled indicating the type fuel being dispensed.
- Grounding cables must be available.
- A fire extinguisher approved for the purpose of extinguishing petroleum product fires available during all fueling operations.
- Serviceable hoses and connections that would preclude a rupture or leaking of fuel.

### **Inspection Results:**

- The fueling area **meets** the requirements established by the Alabama Department of Transportation. However, the State of Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries may have additional requirements for fueling systems that were not considered during this inspection.

## **9. Prohibited Activities Administrative Code 450-9-1-.16**

### **State Licensing Standards:**

- Prohibited Activities: The use of any portion of the aircraft operations area, or airport property within the boundaries of the imaginary surfaces of a licensed airport for any purpose other than the operation of aircraft shall be deemed a non-aeronautical activity and is prohibited.

### **Inspection Results:**

- No prohibited activities were observed during the inspection.

# Annual Inspection Report Bill Pugh Field Airport (M22) Russellville, Alabama

January 20, 2021

**Summary:**

The table below summarizes items noted in this report.

## INSPECTION SUMMARY

Inspection Area	Violation/Maintenance	Corrective Action
Approach/Departure Path	<p style="color: red;">VIOLATION</p> <p>Maintenance</p>	<p style="color: red;">Remove all 20:1 Obstructions.</p> <p>Remove line of trees in Approach/Departure Path before they become obstructions.</p>
Primary Surface	<p style="color: red;">VIOLATION</p>	Remove ALL vegetation from the limits of the primary surface.
Runway Safety Area	Maintenance	Bring grade up around light base.
Wind Direction Indicator	<p style="color: red;">VIOLATION</p>	<b>Close airport to night operations</b> until wind indicator lights are repaired.
Airport Lighting	Maintenance	Repair/replace inoperative lights.
Runway Surfaces	Maintenance	Plan pavement rehabilitation project for the future.

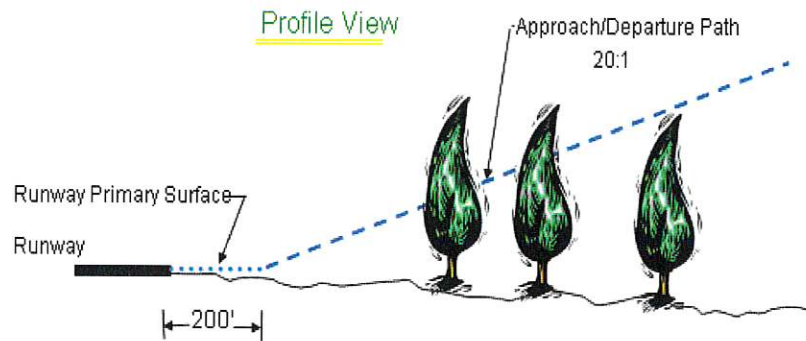
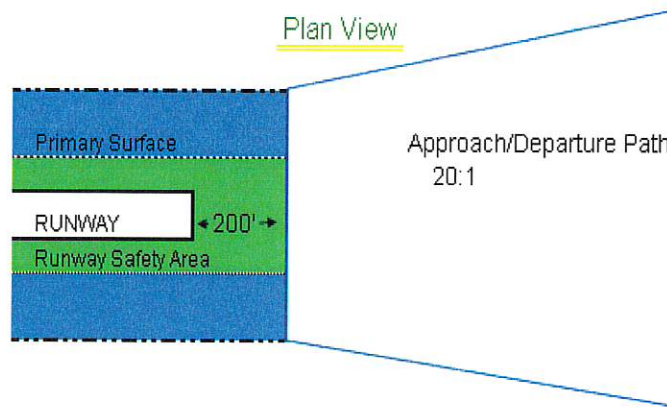
Please contact Mr. Gus Slaten with the Alabama Department of Transportation Aeronautics Bureau at (334) 242-6820 with questions concerning the Annual Inspection Report.



# Annual Inspection Report Bill Pugh Field Airport (M22) Russellville, Alabama

January 20, 2021

Approach and Departure Path Dimensions			
Inner Width	Outer Width	Length	Acreage
250 Feet	450 Feet	1,000 Feet	8.04 Acres
Primary Surface Dimensions			
250 Feet Wide Centered Along Runway Centerline Extending 200 Feet Past the Runway End			
Runway Safety Area Dimensions			
120 Feet Wide Centered Along Runway Centerline Extending 200 Feet Past the Runway End			



## APPENDIX 1

**Russellville-Bill Pugh Field**  
**Russellville, AL**  
**January 30, 2021**  
**Obstruction Evaluation**

3. Tree 17' Abv. RWY.  
 454' From RWY. End  
 38' Left of Cntln.  
 14:1 Obst. Clnc.

5. Tree 27' Abv. RWY.  
 476' From RWY. End  
 112' Left of Cntln.  
 10:1 Obst. Clnc.

6. Tree 32' Abv. RWY.  
 459' From RWY. End  
 152' Left of Cntln.  
 8:1 Obst. Clnc.

Notes:  
 1. Drawing not to scale.  
 2. For informational purposes only and not to be used for any other purpose.  
 3. Satellite image may not be current.



ALDOT 2011 APP/DEP. PATH

