

## ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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John R. Cooper TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR

December 2, 2021

Mr. Malcom Byrd Bay Minette Airport Authority 301 D' Olive Street Bay Minette, Alabama 36507

Subject: Annual Inspection Report

**Bay Minette Municipal Airport** 

Dear Mr. Byrd:

An inspection of the Bay Minette Municipal Airport was conducted by personnel of the Alabama Department of Transportation Aeronautics Bureau on November 30, 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 the airport. As noted in the report, the airport <u>does not meet</u> the requirements for the issuance of an operating license. Erosion around a threshold light base has caused a surface variation greater than 3 inches, violating the Runway Safety Area. Please work towards correcting the surface variation around the threshold light base within 360 days of receipt of this report. Please contact us after it has been addressed so that we can schedule a re-inspection. Erosion appears to be a recurring issue at the airport and has been noted on several of the recent airport inspections. It may be prudent to take a closer look at what is causing the erosion and begin working toward a plan to resolve it. Our bureau would appreciate being involved in those discussions and willing to help in any way that we can.

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

Sincerely,

Frank Farmer

Chief, Aeronautics Bureau

Copy: Mr. Rans Black, FAA/ADO

Mr. Graham Coffelt, FAA/ADO

Mr. Hank Eubanks. Volkert and Associates. Inc.

Mr. Tim Scholl, Baldwin Aviation Mr. Ashley Boothe, Airport Manager

## **ANNUAL INSPECTION REPORT**





BAY MINETTE MUNICIPAL AIRPORT
BAY MINETTE, ALABAMA

November 30, 2021

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

INTRODUCTION	PAGE 1
INSPECTION METHODOLOGY	PAGE 1
LICENSE STATUS	PAGE 2
APPROACH / DEPARTURE PATHS	PAGE 2
PRIMARY SURFACE	PAGE 4
RUNWAY SAFETY AREA	PAGE 5
AIRPORT MARKINGS	PAGE 6
WIND DIRECTION INDICATOR	PAGE 8
AIRPORT LIGHTING	PAGE 9
RUNWAY, TAXIWAY AND APRON CONDITIONS	PAGE 11
FUELING AREA REQUIREMENTS	PAGE 13
PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES	PAGE 13
SUMMARY	PAGE 14
APPENDIX 1	PAGE 15

November 30, 2021

#### **Introduction:**

<u>Code of Alabama 23-1-357(c)</u>. 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 Bay Minette Municipal Airport was conducted by Mr. Jeb Baird of the Alabama Department of Transportation Aeronautics Bureau on November 30, 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 use of approved engineering methods and equipment. The angles, locations and heights of trees or other objects within these areas were derived by 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 Drawing (ALD) dated December 2006.

November 30, 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 November 30, 2021, it was determined that 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 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:**

- Runway 8 No obstructions (See Photo #1).
- Runway 26 No obstructions (See Photo # 2).





Photo # 2 - Runway 26 Approach



November 30, 2021

## 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:**

➤ The Primary Surface <u>meets</u> state requirements (See Photo #3).



November 30, 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: VIOLATION

A Runway 8 threshold light fixture base located 4 feet from the runway end and 44 feet from runway centerline has eroded, causing a 3.5-inch surface variation (See Photo #4).

#### Required Action:

➤ Bring grade up around light fixtures so that any non-frangible components do not project more than 3 inches above the surface. This must be done in a manner that does not cause humps or hazardous surface variations.

November 30, 2021



## 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 in <u>FAIR</u> condition due to algae growth on the threshold bars (See Photo #5).
- Taxiway markings are in *FAIR* condition due to fading (See Photo #6).





Photo #6 - Runway 26 Hold Short Markings



November 30, 2021

#### **Maintenance Required:**

➤ Clean airport markings. If markings are unable to be cleaned, re mark in accordance with FAA AC 150/5340-1M.

## 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:**

➤ The wind direction indicator (windsock) is in <u>GOOD</u> condition (See Photo #7).



November 30, 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:

➤ An active NOTAM states Runway 8 REILs are out of service indefinitely

Threshold Lights 5 inoperative; 1 broken fixture

Taxiway Lights 13 inoperative Runway Lights 18 inoperative

PAPI RWY 8: 1 inoperative (See Photo #8)

RWY 26: 1 inoperative (See Photo #9)

REIL 0 inoperative
Beacon White Light Out
Windsock 1 light inoperative

#### Maintenance Required:

- Repair/replace damaged/inoperative lights.
- Remove NOTAM for Runway 8 REILS.
- Issue NOTAM for inoperative beacon light and PAPIs.





Photo #9 - Runway 26 PAPI



November 30, 2021

## 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:**

- Runway is in <u>GOOD</u> condition.
- Taxiway is in **GOOD** condition.
- Southern edge of main apron near tie downs is in <u>FAIR</u> condition due to cracking and vegetation growth (See Photo #10).
- Apron west of the maintenance hangar is in POOR condition due to extensive cracking and excessive vegetation (See Photo #11).

#### Maintenance Required:

- Remove vegetation from main apron near tie downs
- Apron west of maintenance hangar should be closed to aircraft movement in accordance with FAA AC 150/5340-1M.





November 30, 2021

## 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 <u>meets</u> 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.
- ➤ The fire extinguishers located at the self service 100LL tank are out of date (See Photo #12).

#### **Maintenance Required:**

Obtain a current inspection tag for fire extinguishers.

## 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.

November 30, 2021

#### **Summary:**

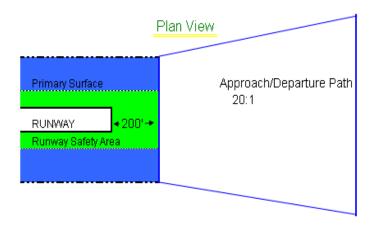
The table below summarizes items noted in this report.

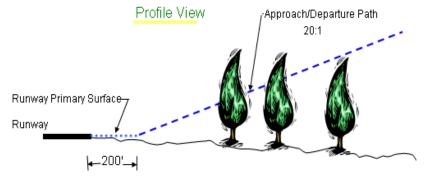
#### **INSPECTION SUMMARY**

Inspection Area	Violation/Maintenance	Corrective Action
Runway Safety Area	VIOLATION	Bring grade up around light bases. Fill in hole and compact smooth.
Airport Markings	Maintenance	Clean airport markings. If markings are unable to be cleaned, re mark in accordance with FAA AC 150/5340-1M.
Airport Lighting	Maintenance	Repair/Replace inoperative lighting. Remove NOTAM for Runway 8 REILS. Issue NOTAM for inoperative beacon light and PAPIs
Runway, Taxiway, Apron Conditions	Maintenance	Remove vegetation from main apron near tie downs Apron west of maintenance hangar should be closed to aircraft movement in accordance with FAA AC 150/5340-1M.
Fueling Area Requirements	Maintenance	Obtain current inspection for Self-Serve fueling area fire extinguishers.

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

Approach and Departure Path Dimensions				
Inner	Outer			
Width	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**