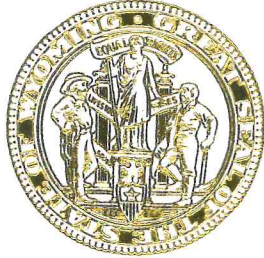


Governor's Proclamation



WHEREAS, in 1939, several significant events took place to usher in a new era of general aviation that would solidify its important place in our American society; and

WHEREAS, the American general aviation industry fully mobilized for World War II, transitioning from a slow, wood-and-fabric biplane of the aviation "Golden Age" to a fast, sleek, all-metal monoplane; and

WHEREAS, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed the Civilian Pilot Training Act, which provided a needed boost to general aviation by providing pilot training to 20,000 college students each year. At the peak of the Civilian Pilot Training Program, 1,132 educational institutions and 1,460 flight schools participated in the program; and

WHEREAS, President Roosevelt also established National Aviation Day in 1939 to celebrate Orville Wright's birthday; and

WHEREAS, the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association was founded to protect the freedom to fly while keeping general aviation safe, fun, and affordable. Today, AOPA is the largest and most trusted resource for all things related to general aviation; and

WHEREAS, general aviation nationally is composed of more over 650,000 registered pilots flying over 200,000 aircraft, using 5,100 public use airports and another 14,000 privately owned airfields while safely flying over 26 million flight hours, contributing over \$247 billion in economic impact supporting 1.2 million jobs; and

WHEREAS, General aviation in the State of Wyoming is composed of 21,195 licensed pilots operating 1,996 registered aircraft at over 40 airports, generating over \$500 million in economic activity and supporting 4,807 jobs. General aviation improves the quality of life of all Wyoming citizens by supporting emergency medical and healthcare services, law enforcement, fire-fighting, disaster relief, and the successful operation of businesses and ranches across the state. General aviation airports are critical infrastructure that ensure the economic development and growth in Wyoming's small, rural communities; and

WHEREAS, the National Celebration of General Aviation Flyover in Washington, D.C., presents a tremendous opportunity to seize the public imagination, reflect our ability to safely achieve innovative technological advancements, and be a defining moment in remembering the past, present, and future significance of general aviation in the United States. May 2024 is therefore a fitting time to commemorate in an extraordinary way the last 85 years in general aviation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK GORDON, Governor of the State of Wyoming, do hereby proclaim May 15th to be "General Aviation Month" in Wyoming.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Executive Seal of the Governor of Wyoming to be affixed this 9th day of May, 2024.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark Gordon".

The Honorable Mark Gordon
33rd Governor of the Great State of Wyoming