



MEDIA RELEASE
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**BILLINGS LOGAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
SUMMER 2013 RUNWAY 10L/28R CLOSURE NOTICE**

Airport officials have announced that during the Summer of 2013, the Billings Logan International Airport will be rehabilitating Runway 10L/28R, which is the main runway used by commercial service airlines to transport passengers and freight. The last time this runway was rehabilitated was in 1998. "Every 12 to 15 years, airports need to rehabilitate their main runway to ensure that the structural integrity of the runway remains intact," said Kevin Ploehn, Assistant Director of Aviation and Transit. "These runway rehabilitations are major construction projects that usually impact local air service for an extended duration of time, especially at airports like Billings Logan where there is only one main runway. After much planning with the engineering staff and the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), the staff at the Airport has elected to implement a construction program for this runway rehabilitation project that will result in the closure of this important runway for six consecutive weekends," reported Mr. Ploehn.

The weekend closures will be from Friday morning beginning at 9:00 a.m. through 6:00 p.m. Sunday evening, at which point the Airport will reopen until the next Friday morning. In 2013, the six consecutive weekends impacted with runway closures will be July 12-14, July 19-21, July 26-28, August 2-4, August 9-11, and August 16-18. Cross wind Runway 7/25 will remain open to General Aviation aircraft until the rehabilitation work to the main runway progresses to the area where it intersects with Runway 7/25. The smaller parallel Runway 10R/28L, near the General Aviation area, will remain open for smaller aircraft use.

"This construction option was selected to allow commercial air service to be sustained during the workweek and heavier travel days, as opposed to an extended two or three week continual closure," said Director of Aviation and Transit, Tom Binford. "Because this project will result in a closure of the main air carrier runway for six consecutive weekends, the planning of future events by the local citizens can be impacted, especially for events such as class reunions, weddings, vacations, and family reunions. Subsequently, the Airport is making this information available a full year in advance, so that the local community has the ability to plan accordingly." Mr. Binford also added, "The Airport's staff will be working with the airlines that serve Billings to ensure that the demands for air service in to and out of Billings will be met during the six shortened travel weeks."

Additional information will be posted to the Airport's Website as it becomes available. To access this information go to www.flybillings.com or contact Kevin Ploehn, Assistant Director of Aviation and Transit, with questions. He can be reached by e-mail at ploehnk@ci.billings.mt.us, or by calling 406-657-8484.