

Montana and the Sky

Montana Department of Transportation

Aeronautics Division

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February 2022

Adrian Eichhorn Keynote Speaker at Aviation Conference March 5, 2022

Adrian A. Eichhorn is an airline transport-rated pilot, currently flying an Army De Havilland Dash 8 out of Manassas, Virginia for Leidos. Prior to Leidos, he flew for JetBlue Airways as an A320 Captain. Before JetBlue, he flew for the FAA, NASA, General Dynamics, and the Washington Redskins. While flying for the FAA, he also provided flight and ground instruction of FAA flight crews and senior officials including the Deputy Administrator, Associate Administrator for Aviation Safety, and the Federal Air Surgeon. He is type rated in the Airbus 320, Gulfstream IV, III, II, 200, Challenger 604, Cessna 560 Excel, DHC-8 and the Aero Vodochody L39, with total flight time over 23,000 hours.



Photo courtesy Adrian Eichhorn

For nearly two decades Adrian has also been a guest speaker at almost every major aviation event including Aircraft Owner and Pilots Association Expo/Summit, Experimental Aircraft Association AirVenture, the American Bonanza Society, National Business Aviation Association, and Women in Aviation conventions.

He is an FAA Gold Seal flight instructor and has achieved Master Certified Flight Instructor (MCFI) and Master Ground Instructor (MGI) designations with the National Association of Flight Instructors in 2005, 2007 and the Master Instructors LLC, in 2010.

Adrian holds an Airframe & Powerplant certificate with Inspection Authorization and in 1994 he founded Alpine Aviation to provide specialized maintenance, repair, and instructional services to pilots of Beechcraft Bonanza, Baron, and Travel Air aircraft.

He has received numerous national awards, including being selected as the FAA National Safety Counselor of the Year in 2001 and most recently the 2016 FAA National Maintenance Technician of the Year. He also is the sole recipient of the highest honors given by the American Bonanza Society, the M.D. Cashion for Technical Excellence in 2005 and the Airmanship Award in 2008.

Adrian served 20 years in the United States Army Corps of Engineers, retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel. From 1996 to 2000 he was assigned to the Joint Chiefs of Staff as the Strategic Nuclear Operational Plan advisor to President William Clinton.

Education: BS Civil Engineering from Michigan Technological University in 1980; Graduate of the Army Command and General Staff College in 1992, and the Armed Forces Staff College in 1999.

Aviation Conference Information and Registration

The 37th Annual Montana Aviation Conference will be held March 3-5, 2022, in Missoula, Montana, at the Holiday Inn Downtown. The annual Montana Aviation Conference brings together Montana's aviation organizations and the flying public for three days of speakers, seminars, workshops, business meetings, and social events. It is an opportunity for those from all facets of the aviation community to learn from each other and discuss issues of mutual concern. The Montana Aviation Conference has around 500 participants each year.

Montana Aeronautics welcomes Montana's aviation community to offer suggestions for exhibitors for the upcoming conference. To submit your suggestions, or to sign up, please email mamble@mt.gov.

Conference Registration

Early bird discount for registration expired on January 31, 2022.

Please visit <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/events.shtml> for the link to online registration.

Registration Rates

- \$100 through January 31, 2022
- \$20 high school & college students through January 31, 2022
- \$125 February 1, 2022, and after
- \$25 high school & college students February 1st, 2022, and after

Note: If you log into your EventSquid profile and see 2020 Aviation Conference information, please delete and/or archive 2020 Aviation Conference, then re-login. Re-click the [2022 Montana Aviation Conference](#) link to register for the 2022 conference. If you have any questions, please contact Matt Amble at (406) 444-9580.

Attention: While online registration is preferred, if you are unable or having difficulty registering for the conference online, please call Matt Amble at (406) 444-9580 to register over the phone.

Conference registrations will be accepted at the door at full price of \$125; or a single-day pass for \$75. No discounts will be available. **Conference registration closes February 22, 2022, so be sure to register early!**

MDT Aeronautics Annual Aircraft Registration Deadline March 1, 2022

Final Reminder, Action Required!

Montana does not have any taxes for aircraft but does assess an annual registration fee in lieu of tax for aircraft registration. The fees are set by the Legislature and are determined according to the type and age of the aircraft.

Aircraft customarily kept in Montana, as well as any aircraft with a Montana address on their FAA registration, **must** be registered with the Montana Aeronautics Division on or before March 1 every year (within 30 days of purchase date for any *new* aircraft purchase). Aircraft renewal invoices are sent the first week of December, and a reminder letter is sent before the renewal deadline of March 1. **A statutory penalty for late registrations must be assessed in the amount of five times the registration fee if payment OR signed affidavit for exemption with supporting documentation isn't received by the March 1 deadline.**

PLEASE POSTMARK OR TIMESTAMP YOUR REGISTRATION PAYMENTS OR AFFIDAVIT FOR FEE EXEMPTION WITH REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION ON OR BEFORE MARCH 1ST FOR A RENEWAL (OR BEFORE 30 DAYS AFTER A NEW AIRCRAFT PURCHASE) TO AVOID THE PENALTY.

Please keep in mind that aircraft out of annual inspection are not considered "unairworthy" as defined by administrative rule and **are** subject to annual registration fees.

Online fee payment services for aircraft and pilot registration are available at: <https://app.mt.gov/aeronautics> Vendor fees apply.

For other questions, please contact the Aeronautics Division at (406) 444-2506 or mdtaerosafeted@mt.gov.

***ACTION IS REQUIRED BY AIRCRAFT OWNERS ON ALL AIRCRAFT REGISTRATIONS EACH YEAR**

MDT Aeronautics Pilot Registration

Montana is required to register all pilots in the state, with some exceptions. The annual fee is \$10, and with annual pilot registration you receive a Montana Airport Directory, subscription to the monthly *Montana and the Sky* newsletter, and your annual pilot registration card.

Registered pilot information is collected only to aid in the event of a search and rescue case, as it can help us locate and contact you sooner during an emergency.

Annual pilot registration renewal memos were mailed in December. **If you own an aircraft, you also automatically received a pilot registration form with your annual aircraft registration invoice.** Only one pilot form is required to be returned or completed online per pilot.

- To register as a pilot online, please visit: <https://app.mt.gov/aeronautics> Vendor fees apply.
- To locate and print the form online for mailing to the Aeronautics Division, please visit: <https://www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/regpilot.shtml>
- To request a Pilot Registration form be mailed or emailed to you, please call the Aeronautics Division at (406) 444-2506 or email mdtaerosafetyed@mt.gov.

Please note: Annual pilot registration with the Montana Aeronautics Division is required by state law, with some exceptions, and should *not* be confused with the Montana Pilots Association's (MPA) registration dues, should you also be a member of the MPA.

For more information, or to view the applicable statutory exceptions, please see § 67-3-211, MCA https://leg.mt.gov/bills/mca/title_0670/chapter_0030/part_0020/section_0110/0670-0030-0020-0110.



Tim Conway, Administrator

Montana and the Sky
Department of Transportation

Greg Gianforte, Governor
Malcolm Long, Director

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Aeronautics Division
Telephone - (406) 444-2506
Fax - (406) 444-2519
P.O. Box 200507
Helena, MT 59620-0507
www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/

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Follow MDT on social media!



Montana Aircraft Mechanic Refresher & I.A. Renewal Seminar

Holiday Inn Downtown

200 S. Pattee Street
Missoula, Montana

Reference rooming block
**Montana Aviation
Conference 2022** to receive the
prevailing state rate.

The Montana Aeronautics Division will once again be offering an I.A. renewal seminar held concurrently with the 2022 Montana Aviation Conference. Aviation industry representatives and the FAA will offer many interesting educational programs.

Mechanics and Authorized Inspectors attending the seminar must register for the Aviation Conference, which allows you to attend any of the conference events. Registration is online only: https://www.eventsquid.com/event.cfm?event_id=14467

Registration Rates:

\$100 through January 31, 2022
\$125 February 1, 2022 and after
\$20 high school & college students through January 31, 2022
\$25 February 1, 2022 and after
\$75 day pass at the door.

For more information, contact Derrick Olheiser at doheiser@mt.gov or (406) 444-9592.



IA Mechanic Seminar registration is now open online.
Walk-in registrations will be accepted at the conference registration desk, based on availability. Space is limited, so register online now to reserve your seat! Rate is \$25 more at the door. Online registration is preferred.

For more information regarding Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Inspection Authorization Renewal requirements and forms, visit:
https://www.faa.gov/about/office_org/field_offices/fsdo/hln/

When registering, please indicate the sessions you plan to attend.
Only 8 Hours are required to meet Part 65.93

Friday, March 4, 2022

Session 1

- 7:10 a.m. – 8:10 a.m. – Jeff Vercoe-FAA
- 8:10 a.m. – 9:10 a.m. – Alan Jesmer Precision Airmotive-RSA Fuel Injection/Marvel Schebler Float Carburetors
- 9:10 a.m. – 9:20 a.m. – Break
- 9:20 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. – Tim Gauntt Hartzell-“Just Because It’s On Your Airplane Doesn’t Make it Legal” OR “Who needs A&P’s when you have U-Tube videos!”
- 10:20 a.m. – 11:20 a.m. – Mike & Jessie Ellis-Pinnacal Tool Calibration

Total training hours for Session 1 = 4 hours

Session 2

- 11:20 a.m. - 1:45 p.m. - Lunch: FAA AMT Video option from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Session 3

- 1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. – Dick Jacob-Northwest Propeller Service
- 2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. – Tim Gauntt-Hartzell Engine Technologies Fundamentals of Turbocharging Systems
- 3:45 p.m. – 3:55 p.m. – Break
- 3:55 p.m. – 4:55 p.m. – Kristopher Holt Care & Maintenance of Lycoming Engines
- 4:55 p.m. – 5:55 p.m. – Greg Cross Cross Petroleum Service-Turbine Oil/Greases Updates

Total training hours for Session 3 = 4 hours

Saturday, March 5, 2022

Session 4

- 7:10 a.m. – 8:10 a.m. – Jeff Vercoe-FAA
- 8:10 a.m. – 9:10 a.m. – Andrew Hall Textron Aviation-Air Safety Investigator
- 9:10 a.m. – 9:20 a.m. – Break
- 9:20 a.m. – 10:20 a.m. – Michael Thompson ABS-Rigging Beechcraft/Baron & Bonanza Landing Gear Systems
- 10:20 a.m. – 11:20 a.m. – Johnny Portillo FAA-IA Listening Session/Changes in the FAA as a result of COVID

Total training hours for Session 4 = 4 hours

Session 5

- 11:20 a.m. – 1:45 p.m. - Lunch FAA AMT Video option from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Session 6

- 1:45 p.m. – 2:45 p.m. – Tim Gauntt Hartzell-“Just Because It’s On Your Airplane Doesn’t Make it Legal” OR “Who needs A&P’s when you have U-Tube videos!”
- 2:45 p.m. – 3:45 p.m. – Bryan Hansen-FAA HLN FSDO
- 3:45 p.m. – 3:55 p.m. – Break
- 3:55 p.m. – 4:55 p.m. – Greg Cross Cross-Petroleum Service
- 4:55 p.m. – 5:55 p.m. – Tim Gauntt Hartzell-Human Factors

Total training hours for Session 6 = 4 hours

Please Note: Date and time for speakers at Aircraft Mechanics Refresher Seminar & IA Renewal are subject to change without notice.

FIRC: Flight Instructor Refresher Course

The MDT Aeronautics Division is again hosting Aviation Seminars for the 2022 Flight Instructor Refresher Course (FIRC), February 11-12, 2022, at the Comfort Suites Helena Airport, 3180 Washington St, Helena, Montana. This two-day, FAA-approved course will run from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m., Friday and Saturday. The course meets FAA renewal requirements for certified flight instructors (CFIs) and includes Integrated Airman Certification and Rating Application (IACRA) renewal. You don't need to be a CFI to attend; it is fantastic knowledge for all pilots.

Tuition has been dropped to only \$75 this year! A \$25 discount for current registered Montana pilots is also available; please contact the Aeronautics Division for the applicable promo code. Not yet an Aeronautics Division registered pilot? Keep in mind, pilot registration is required by law in Montana, with some exceptions. Register as a pilot now with Aeronautics for \$10.00 per year and save on FIRC tuition! All registered pilots also receive a pilot registration card, Montana Airport Directory, and monthly copy of the *Montana and the Sky* newsletter.

A block of rooms at the Comfort Suites Helena Airport has been reserved at the prevailing government rate, plus tax. Please call the hotel directly at (406) 495-0505 and reference the "FIRC" block to book your room if you would like to stay at the FIRC venue.

To register for FIRC course instruction, visit <https://www.aviationseminars.com/mt-firc/>.

Contact Aeronautics at mdtaerosafetyped@mt.gov or call (406) 444-2506 with any questions.

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Photo courtesy Aeronautics staff

Congratulations, Jeff!

Montana Aeronautics Division's own Jeff Kadlec was recently named as one of AviationPros' 2021 "Top 40 Under 40". According to AviationPros, the 2021 edition of the program "showcases the industry's top talent working to make a positive impact on the way our aviation system works" and the winning nominations were chosen for their "commitment, drive and accomplishments during their career." This year's Top 40 Under 40 program received hundreds of nominations from throughout North America, and Jeff was the only winner selected from Montana.

Jeff is currently the manager of the Yellowstone Airport (WYS) and has led the airport throughout recent growth over the last several years. As AviationPros notes, WYS has become a "self-sustaining business enterprise". While Jeff has been at the helm, Jeff has been "proactive in attracting advertisers and businesses and was instrumental in fostering the airport's first hangar development in its 66-year history", and "led the charge in 2018 to work through the federal processes to lift deed restrictions that prohibited non-aeronautical development" which "resulted in the long-term self-sustainability of the airport". In addition, Jeff also "led the charge for Congress to recognize the unique challenges of seasonal, commercial service airport operations like WYS". In 2021, United Airlines began operations at the airport, becoming the second commercial service airline operating at WYS. In addition to his role as manager at WYS, Jeff is also currently the president of MAMA, the Montana Airport Management Association.

Congratulations to Jeff on being recognized on this list of outstanding aviation professionals and representing Montana aviation on the national stage!

Excerpt from AviationPros' "The Airport Business 2021 Top 40 Under 40" article from *Airport Business* magazine, Editorial Director Joe Petrie. Articles and full list of 2021 winners available at <https://www.aviationpros.com/airports/article/21233761/2021-airport-business-top-40-under-40>

Welcome, Kelly!

In November, Kelly Garber joined Aeronautics as the new Financial Contact. Kelly grew up in Helena, MT and graduated from Helena High in 2014. She chose to continue her education at Carroll College and in 2018 she graduated with her Bachelor's in Accountancy. After completing her undergraduate degree, she opted to enroll into the Carroll College Master's in Accountancy program and graduated in December of 2019. Prior to starting her new role with Aeronautics, she was a Budget Analyst for another State of Montana department.

In her spare time, Kelly enjoys quilting, travelling, and spending time with her dog Lucy.

We are excited to have Kelly as part of the Aeronautics team!

Wilsall Airport Cleanup

By Austin Timm

In mid-December I was joined at the Wilsall, MT airport by a hardy bunch of good-hearted people. We gathered in the wind to show some love to a little strip that has fallen into decline and disuse over the last decade or two.

Everyone knows about the Wilsall Airport's gopher and badger holes of course; they have become the stuff of legend to anyone that flies in this part of the state. Even though the rodents themselves appear to have moved on, the holes were very much still there. Well, I'm pretty sure we filled and then compacted about 500 holes today with finely ground compost delivered to us courtesy of the Park County Refuse Department. We also picked rocks, pallets (not kidding), chunks of orphaned barbed wire, and disintegrated fiberglass runway cones that were dry rotted, or had been shot full of holes during target practice.

You may raise eyebrows at the idea of 500 holes, but I'm not kidding! It may have been more, I don't want to exaggerate by saying a thousand, either way, there were a lot.

Special thanks to the Gallatin Composite Squadron of Civil Air Patrol who made the drive out from Bozeman with a gaggle of willing cadets, some senior members, and a pile of hand tools. Without them we simply would not have had the manpower to mark the holes with flags, fill and tamp them, pick rocks, and load up a surprising amount of trash, in the span of only a few hours. Those kids put in an absolutely rockstar effort and that can't be reiterated enough, good on 'em.

Another big thanks to Jake Magalsky of ACE Roofing for graciously providing a skid steer and his own time to run it. Jake kept the pickup trucks loaded with material, which kept the cadets working efficiently. He also did a bunch of work of his own by knocking down vehicle ruts and spreading yard after yard of carbon rich material onto the thin, rocky portions of the strip such as

the north threshold, where many of the fines had been blown away by propwash. This spring, we'll likely have grass in those places because of his efforts.

Finally, thanks to those people in our local and state government who are putting in the hours necessary to make Montana a better place to fly. They're doing this sometimes by answering questions that no one else can, or by cutting red tape with a smile and a nod. These people include Marc McKee at Montana Division of Aeronautics, Gabe Chandler of Yellowstone Air Service, Matt Whitman of Park County Public Works, the Park County Refuse Department drivers who bring us the material with a big smile, Clint Tinsley of the County Commission, and the Park County Airport Board. Without these individuals and groups, today would never have gotten off the ground so to speak.

For those who couldn't make it, we'll look forward to having you out next time.

Wilsall is back.



Photo courtesy of Austin Timm



Photo courtesy of Austin Timm



Calling All Youth Artists!



The Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) Aviation Awareness Art Contest is designed to broaden awareness of the importance of aviation and aerospace to the economy and to promote careers in these industries. The contest is open to all students in grades K-12 in public, private, and home schools.

Categories Prizes Entry Requirements

Category 1:
Kindergarten - 5th grade

Category 2:
6th Grade - 8th Grade

Category 3:
9th Grade - 12th Grade

FIRST PLACE in each category:

1. A round trip flight to Helena for the winner and his/her parents (legal guardians) for the awards ceremony in Helena. Date to be decided.
2. All three first place winners will be presented with a trophy, certificate, and their framed artwork during the awards ceremony by a state official. Following the ceremony, the winners and their families will tour the Helena airport and enjoy lunch.

SECOND & THIRD PLACE in each category:

1. A trophy and Certificate of Achievement will be sent via mail.

1. Contest deadline is: Friday, April 1, 2022.
2. Contest is open to all Montana students, grades K-12.
3. Size of poster is not to exceed 11" x 14".
4. Artwork must have an aviation theme - can be color or black & white.
5. Please no tracing the images.
6. All artwork must include the following:
Name of Student, Student's Grade, Teacher's Name, School's Mailing Address and Phone Number, and Parent's Name and Phone Number.
7. Previous years' first place winners are welcome to participate but are not eligible for first place prize.

Get More Info

Submitted artwork will not be returned unless specifically requested.

Winners will be contacted after the contest deadline. Arrangements will be made at that time for air travel to Helena.

Mail Artwork To:
MDT Aeronautics Division
Attn: Art Contest
P.O. Box 200507
Helena, MT 59620-0507

Visit Our Website:
mdt.mt.gov/aviation/

Or Contact:
mdtaerosafetyed@mt.gov
406-444-2506



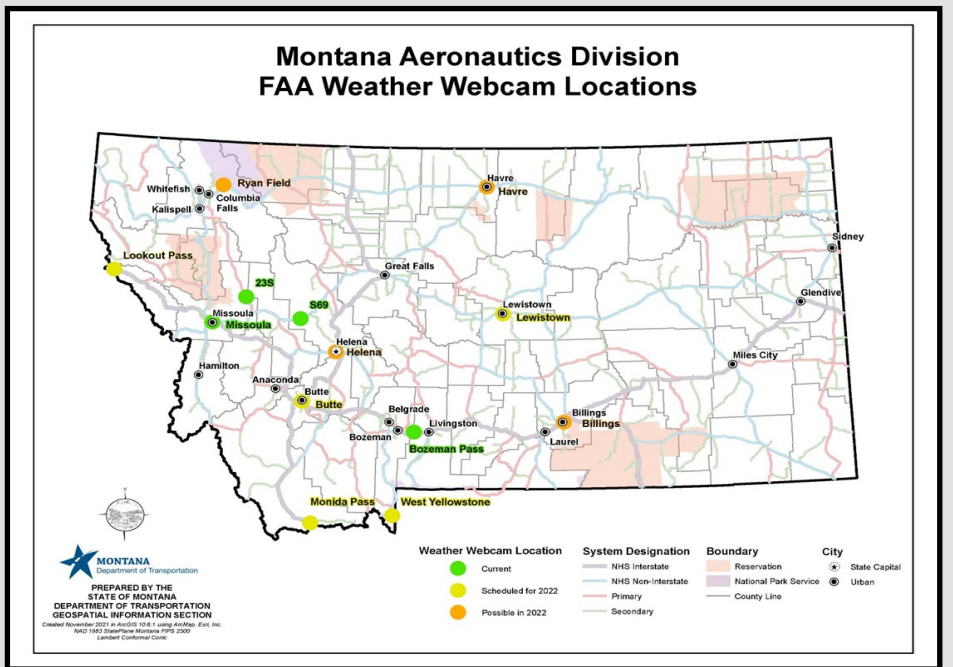
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Montana Aviation Weather Cam Locations

Aeronautics created a map of the weather cameras that are currently in place throughout Montana (green), as well as scheduled installations for 2022 (yellow) and possible future weather camera sites (orange). Existing weather camera imagery can be viewed by visiting <https://avcams.faa.gov/>

Map courtesy of the Aeronautics Division



Winter at WYS

Yellowstone Airport (WYS) is a seasonal airport that closes each winter and has done so since its inception in 1965. During the winter a third-party testing company leases the airfield for additional revenues while the airport is dormant. This company tests a myriad of products, primarily focusing on cold weather and snow performance. Winter tires, snowblowers, snowmobiles, and automobiles are some of the many different types of equipment tested at the airport each season.

WYS will open for General Aviation (GA) traffic later this spring with Commercial Airline Service commencing on May 5, 2022.

Photo courtesy of the Aeronautics Division



Calendar of Events



February 11-12, 2022 — FIRC Flight Instructor Refresher Course, Helena. For more information, see Page 4.

March 1, 2022 — Aircraft and Pilot Registration Renewal Deadline. See Page 2 for details.

March 3-5, 2022 — Montana Aviation Conference, Missoula. See Page 1 for more information.

March 4-5, 2022 — IA Seminar. For more information, see Page 3.

April 1, 2022 — Aviation Awareness Art Contest Deadline. See Page 6 for additional information.

May 28, 2022 — Spotted Bear Work Session

June 11, 2022 — Butte Wings & Wheels Fly-in or drive to Bert Mooney Airport in Beautiful Butte for our second annual aircraft fly-in & car/truck show! Hosted by the Butte Composite Squadron Civil Air Patrol. Enjoy a free breakfast 7:30-10:00 (donations accepted), Avgas discount at Butte Aviation, and fun for young and old alike, plus prizes! For more information, contact Walt McIntosh at (406) 670-1846.

June 18, 2022 — Meadow Creek Work Session

July 16, 2022 — Schafer Meadows Work Session

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Aeronautics Division
2630 Airport Road
PO Box 200507
Helena, Montana 59620-0507

Vision Zero: A Goal for Everyone



In 2021, there were 240 fatalities on Montana roads.

What does that mean? 240 parents, children, grandparents, friends, siblings, spouses, and other loved ones had lives that were cut short. It also means countless tears and shattered lives for those left with the aftermath of unsafe driving behaviors. Which loved one are you prepared to lose? If your answer is none, then Vision Zero is also YOUR goal.

It will take every one of us to work towards the day that Vision Zero is met, and the fatality total reads "ZERO." Two of the highest contributing factors to traffic fatalities in 2019 were alcohol and no seat belt.

These are behaviors that can be changed! Start by always wearing your seatbelt and planning for sober transportation. Remind your loved ones and those around you to do the same.

-Director Malcolm Long, MDT

Visit www.mdt.mt.gov/visionzero for more information.

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