

This past year has definitely been the most active in the history of the Airlift, which is absolutely compliments of our accomplishments over the years and in particular in the past couple years. Seems difficult to perceive that only a couple years ago I was not certain if / how the Airlift might endure beyond the 2020 Covid Trucking year, and now we are projecting to peak above twice the participation of those pre-Covid years.

As most of you had noted, AOPA published this past Fall a more comprehensive background on the Airlift which collected even more attention. As a result we received a volume of additional inquiries, really from across the country in addition to increased inquiries in the more local Four Corner states. All considered last year we had some 70 Aircraft, and is plausible that we could be more in the 100 aircraft range this year if the interests from the Fall hold, in addition to normal word of mouth, etc.. -- this is an intimidating volume of Aircraft to prepare for. Soooo, after some considerations and discussions in the past couple years, for the comfort and safety of the Pilots as well as overall airport handling, have directionally determined that is best to move to a multiple airport situation. We had initially reviewed this possible evolution from an airport logistics perspective in early 2022, for a possible Gallup and Winslow solution. The Navajo Nation extends across Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico so we different airports can be exercised and continue to increasingly serve the Navajo Nation.

Both airports will capably serve the Airlift mission, with teams aligned in both locations to support. We know the Gallup tarmac has plenty of ample space, with KT Aero having both fuel truck and self serve fuel available. Additionally, Gallup- provides more ready walking access to like El Charitto for a Brunch and such if desired. Similarly, there is very ample transient space at Winslow in front of the Wiseman FBO operation with both fuel truck and self serve fuel, and similar available Hanger space to temporarily store donations. The walk to restaurants in Winslow, however, may be a bit longer (1.25 miles) than many might care to endure though. I would intend to make arrangements for donuts or pastries or the like to be available at both locals. As we get closer to the Airlift timing, would appreciate collecting information on the destination location and probable days of arrival for our Airlift 'participants. I would think that ideally would be relatively balanced between the two sites, although am unclear on what / how will work though.

In reaching out to SouthWest Indian Foundation (SWIF) for their perspectives for a 2023 Airlift this November, was again an immediate alignment to absolutely plan on the Airlift and support both locations.

So full of optimism with varying background planning, believe we can leverage much of the same three-day playbook to safely navigate the collection, preparation, and delivery of the donations to the Navajo Nation. The three-day period is proposed for **Thursday, November 9th through Saturday, November 11th**. I believe the three-day Airlift plan has worked very well to date, spreading out concurrent activity on the Ramp which reduces the demand on the FBO teams, providing some flexibility for the pilots, as well as potentially providing some weather options.

After your remarkable successes last Fall that well exceeded 20K pounds, would be a monumental blessing to continue to pace the same spirit across our Pilots and Donors to help support the Navajo nation. For so many of us, the Airlift is that very special kickoff to the Holiday season and a wonderful representation through the hundreds of pilots and donors that the Navajo Airlift has touched so many hearts for almost four decades. Will share more details over the course of our preparations, as we want to ensure we are continuing to make this a successful, safe and enjoyable event for all.

If you are available and interested in participating in this year's airlift, please let me know so that we can start planning on the roster as we all start managing for our donations. In the event you may have a conflict for this year, please feel free to let me know and I can kindly remove from the distro and further email intrusions. As always, we are continuing to reach out to add to other pilots to attempt to increase the benefit we can provide for the Navajo Nation. If you might know of others that would like to participate, please do ask them to reach out to me.

Thank You for your support over the years, Blessings and Tail Winds,

Greg