

New Yellowstone Airport Staff Attend ARFF Training



Aircraft rescue and egress simulator Photo Credit Aeronautics Staff

In June, two Yellowstone Airport employees attended and completed a weeklong Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) certification course at the Rocky Mountain Emergency Services Training Center in Helena, Montana. Operations and Maintenance Specialist Luke Borowicz and 2020 Summer Intern Zachary Humphrey attended the rigorous training program and learned about firefighting strategy and participated in live fire training exercises.

The 40-hour training program consists of 20 hours classroom learning about fire safety, firefighting tactics, and rescue tactics and 20 hours are spent on live fire training exercises. These exercises included extinguishing an exterior plane fire, using an Index B ARFF truck, and battling an interior fire in the Specialized Aircraft Fire Trainer (SAFT) using handheld hose lines. While participating in the interior SAFT fire exercise, ARFF personnel wear full firefighting turnout equipment which includes a jacket, pants, gloves, helmet, and a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). The protective equipment allows for individuals to safely withstand the 500-degree temperatures emitted from the interior fire simulator.

To date, all Yellowstone Airport employees are fully trained, and FAA certified to respond to an aircraft emergency or incident.



Aircraft fire simulator Photo Credit Aeronautics Staff