



The RAF  
1711 W. College Street — Bozeman, MT 59715

## THE TIME IS NOW

### "If not now, when?"

Those four words set the Recreational Aviation Foundation on our mission 13 years ago.

We believed then and we believe now that there is no better time than right now to make things happen; and, with those words in mind, the RAF set out to protect, preserve, & create recreational flying destinations. Along the way, we've marched to the beat of a little different drum, but always with a sense of urgency about the priorities on which we spend our time.

Time...it represents many things and cannot be replaced which is why we know we ask much as we express the hope that you will consider this your time to help further our mission. What we know for sure is that by wisely using the time so generously given by people like you, the RAF will continue to enjoy the success we celebrate at the end of another year.

Flip this page over to see where the RAF spent its time during the past year. I'll admit there are times when we wonder if we're spending time as wisely as we might, but I hope you agree that we've gotten a lot done by using time and resources strategically and carefully.

However, what's plain is that there is so much more to do.

We'll continue to team up with aviation organizations such as AOPA and local pilots associations. We'll work effectively with state & federal agencies, as well as private landowners. And, we'll fully engage the best team of talented people across the U.S. who volunteer their time on the RAF work.

Still, we need you. So, here is what I ask you to consider.

Can this be your time to help the RAF financially?

We get so much done with our great volunteers. And, many contribute financially. However, many benefit from the work of the RAF yet never know the joy of rolling up their sleeves and pitching in to help.

Simply put, if all of you would do two things there is so much more that the RAF could do. First, look at how you spend your time and resources and consider helping the RAF. Second, ask a friend who you know is benefiting from the work of the RAF to contribute as well.

As great as 2016 has been and as much as we have accomplished, all of us at the RAF know that 2017 can be even better with more to do and more to be proud of throughout the year.

We sincerely hope that you want to be a part of this future.

John J. McKenna Jr., President

Donate conveniently on line by going to the website [www.TheRAF.org](http://www.TheRAF.org) and clicking on the **DONATE** button.

or

Enclosed is my tax-deductible donation of:

\$25      \$50      \$100      \$250      \$500      \$1,000      Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Please update your contact information:

\_\_\_\_\_

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# RECREATIONAL AVIATION FOUNDATION

# TIMELINE OF RESULTS

2001



6 guys sat around a campfire in the backcountry and said, "If not us who? - If not now when?"

2002



Backcountry Aviation Foundation begins to transition to the Recreational Aviation Foundation

2003

Bylaws for the organization written by Jerry Cain and Chuck Jarecki

Incorporated and successful filing of 501 (c) 3 by Jerry Cain and John McKenna  
7 members

2004



First Edition of the "Land Manager's Guide", written by Chuck Jarecki became available

53 members

2005



First Newsletter created by Carmine Mowbray

1000 members

2006



Re-opened Fort Kent, Maine airstrip

2007

First Strategic Plan in Missoula, MT with Gary Burnett



RAF website rebuilt

2008



Construction Russian Flat Airstrip began. First new airstrip on Forest Service land in over 45 years.

2009



Attended AOPA Summit Tampa, Florida

2010



Russian Flat Airstrip opened to the public



RUS Tennessee

Tornado event at Sun n' Fun - Tornado Husky was born

2011

Jerry Cain, Founding Director retired

RUS Arizona, Kansas, New Mexico and Pennsylvania

Executive Assistant position created - Tricia McKenna

2012

Established caretakers for Ryan Field

RUS Vermont, Utah, South Dakota, Minnesota, Virginia and Washington

Glacier Summit - First full gathering of TEAM RAF in Kalispell, MT

4500 members

2013



Began work with Walton Foundation and The Nature Conservancy

RUS Wyoming, Oklahoma and Alaska

RAF creates an Endowment

5000 members

2014



The Red Rock Roundup - TEAM RAF gathers in St. George, UT

6200 members

RUS California, Georgia, South Carolina and Wisconsin

AOPA and Montana Dept of Transportation grant obtained for the Wildlife and Aviation Study

2015



Reopened North Fox Island Airstrip, Michigan

7000 members

Volunteer Coordinator position created made possible in part with a grant - Sarah Chandler

RUS Oregon, Wyoming, and Missouri

2016

43 State Liaisons and 9 Directors in 34 States

Ragmuff Airstrip in Maine reopened

8000+ members

First edition of "RAF Guide for Airstrip Owners" written by John Nadeau became available

U.S. Congress instructs USFS not to close backcountry airstrips

RUS Maryland

Funding announced by US Congress for Backcountry Airstrips on USFS land



Razorback Rendezvous - TEAM RAF gathers in Bentonville, Arkansas

RAF Grant Committee created to assist State Liaisons in funding projects



Two new Recreational Airstrips opened in Arkansas, Trigger Gap and Sugar Creek

RAF hosted first work party on N Fox Island. Overall, 150 pilots have landed on N Fox Island since the airstrip was reopened in 2015!

