

Fly Safe Campaign



MAINTAIN ACCIDENT AWARENESS

Don't become a statistic!

NTSB has reported 13 ag accidents including 2 fatal accidents so far this year.

DO NOT RISK YOUR LIFE, AIRCRAFT, CAREER, AND THE INDUSTRY JUST TO BUZZ SOMEONE

In 2019, an ag aviator ferrying back after completing his application mission decided to buzz his friend, who was working on a wind turbine near his return flight path. He incorrectly identified someone else as his friend and buzzed this technician, who happened to be holding a rope to stabilize a blade during maintenance. The aircraft's right wing struck the rope, throwing the technician through the air and breaking his leg and back.

The fallout from this incident led the American Clean Power Association (ACPA) to contact NAAA to complain about the accident and look for ways to prevent it from happening again. They notified NAAA that they were considering pursuing regulatory action aimed at preventing all aerial applications within and nearby wind farms. NAAA explained that this was one errant pilot who was not acting safely, professionally, or within industry guidelines and that we would continue to remind ag aviators about safety concerns related to flying in and around wind farms. The incident was a stark reminder of the PAASS motto: "Upon the Performance of Each Rests the Fate of All." One reckless act by a single pilot almost resulted in new regulations for the entire ag aviation industry.

There is absolutely no reason to buzz anyone or anything. Every aerial application is a focused mission – deliver the product uniformly and safely on the target crop, forest, or pest. Every action you take in the cockpit should undeterredly hone in on that mission. Buzzing or any other type of reckless flying not required for the mission can only result in negative consequences – a wrecked aircraft, injuries or death for yourself or a bystander, and complaints that can lead to additional regulations. Your mission is focused on controlling the targeted pest. Fly smart, fly safe, fly the application mission.

Check Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFRs)

Always check TFR NOTAMs before flying! Make sure you have proof of a preflight TFR briefing from sources such as FSS or <https://www.1800wxbrief.com>.

Make a "Fly Safe" Resolution Now!