

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE February 14, 2020

## JH Airport Board Receives Response from Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Concerning Proposed Helicopter Scenic Tours

FAA Says Wind River Air, LLC Operations are Safe and Have Been Approved

**Jackson, Wyoming** – The Jackson Hole Airport Board has received a response from the FAA regarding its December 27, 2019 letter to the Denver Flight Standards District Office. The letter from the Board to FAA stated concerns over the safety of proposed scenic helicopter operations by Wind River Air, LLC in high altitude conditions surrounding Jackson Hole.

In its response, FAA stated that Wind River Air, LLC had already obtained its approval and could begin operating at any time. FAA stated, "Wind River Air, LLC and its staff have met all of the requirements necessary to continue to exercise the privileges afforded by the Letter of Authorization." The FAA letter also stated the FAA will continue its ongoing oversight to hold operators accountable for compliance in safety and operational standards.

The Airport Board had sought FAA's safety review because it was a key concern of the Airport and the community. The FAA response clearly stated that it had reviewed the concern and reconfirmed its authorization of the flights.

"This letter from FAA makes it clear that legally, we have no choice but to permit this type of aviation activity in order to comply with Federal Regulations," stated Jackson Hole Airport Board President, Jerry Blann.

The Jackson Hole Airport Board will continue to pursue all lawful avenues in order to ensure the safety of operations from the Airport and pursue measures to minimize impacts to our community and Grand Teton National Park.

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