Hawthorne-Feather Airpark (8B1) is a privately-owned, public-use general aviation airport in the Monadnock region of New Hampshire (NH). It is classified as a Basic airport within the NH State Airport System Plan (NHSASP). Located three miles south of Hillsborough, the airport occupies approximately 50 acres. There is one asphalt runway at 8B1, Runway 2-20, which measures approximately 3,260’ in length. Runway 2-20 is served by a partial-parallel taxiway and visual approaches into the airport.

General aviation forecasts assess future airport activity according to the projected number of based aircraft and annual operations expected to occur at the airport. These two factors can be helpful in determining the type, size, and timing of necessary improvements. The bar graph on the right highlights the aviation forecasts for 8B1.

Overall, based aircraft are anticipated to decline from 15 to 14 over the 20-year planning period, while annual operations are expected to decline slightly during the same timeframe.

* Operations forecast is for general aviation operations only. Military and air taxi operations were excluded.
AIRPORT ROLE & RECOMMENDATIONS

8B1 serves the role of a Basic airport in NH; there are 9 such airports in the future airport system. 8B1 and the other Basic airports provide vital air access for aviation users in the state, with their key attributes being the provision of having essential facilities capable of accommodating many types of single-engine piston aircraft. Basic airports also provide the aircraft services needed to access surrounding towns that may be farther away from the state’s other economic centers.

Hawthorne-Feather provides access to the northern portion of the Monadnock region. The airport serves a range of activities including business, student training, and tourism flights accessing ski areas as well as hiking and camping. The airport’s location also ensures that critical services associated with search and rescue and patient evacuations can be conducted.

The NHSASP has categorized the NH system of airports by the role each plays. Below is a summary list of facilities and services typically found in this airport role and not present at 8B1 in priority order. This list provides a basis of support for future projects but does not reflect deficiencies at the airport.

NHSASP-Supported Facility and Service Improvements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Primary Priority</th>
<th>Secondary Priority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Manager &amp; Emergency Contact Information Posted</td>
<td>• Terminal Building - Heated</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Basic Shelter -- 100 SF</td>
<td>• 20:1 Clear Approach Slope</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Public Telephone</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In addition to these airport improvement projects, there are additional project costs that may be incurred over the next 20 years, funding for which is not guaranteed by NHDOT. Such costs are related to both capital and non-capital projects identified by the airport owners and state projects encompassing these airports. When combined, 8B1 ensures the highest level of operational safety and efficient access to serve the needs of aviation users and the state of NH.

Additional projects may include:
• Additional Airside & Landside Infrastructure
• Pavement Maintenance
• Planning/Environmental/Specialty Studies

8B1 is one of 25 airport facilities critical to the aviation component of NH’s public transportation infrastructure. Even more importantly, the system contributes to the overall economic development opportunities of the local municipalities and regions each airport serves. Implementing the capital development needs of 8B1 and the other system airports is crucial to maintaining NH’s overall success today and into the future.

HISTORIC ROOTS

8B1 is the site of the former Nathaniel Hawthorne Aviation College. For 26 years, Nathaniel Hawthorne was the premier aviation college in the region before closing in 1988.
Comprised of 3 commercial service and 22 public-use general aviation airports, the NH airport system consists of 25 facilities that serve the air transportation needs of over 1.3 million NH residents, business users, leisure travelers, and the military. The system is an important contributor to state and local economies, supporting thousands of jobs and generating millions of dollars in state tax revenue.

The NHSASP provides a guide to maintain and develop the system of airports in NH. Maintaining and improving airport infrastructure and facilities will allow NH to continue to meet future aviation demand and support its communities. However, as market demands and socioeconomic conditions vary for every airport, facility and service needs will also differ. The key components of the system plan and airport-specific improvements are summarized in this brochure.

The total economic contribution of aviation in NH is measured by both the state airport system (NHSAS) and aviation-related manufacturing. In 2013, these components contributed an estimated 12,898 jobs and $2.16 billion in revenues for NH businesses, and approximately $31.89 million in state tax revenue in 2013.

In addition to economic benefits, the NHSAS provides numerous critical services and qualitative impacts that enhance the quality of life for those who live and work in NH, including medical transportation and evacuation in rural areas, search and rescue operations, wildlife management, law enforcement flights, military exercises, and flight training.

The system plan quantifies the total economic impact of each airport in NH. Using a comprehensive survey process, both the direct economic benefits related to on-airport business and tenants, as well as the indirect benefits associated with off-airport visitor-related expenditures, were determined for each system airport. The multiplier effect of these benefits was then computed to gauge the total airport-related impacts. Thus, the total economic impact of 8B1 is the sum of all direct, indirect, and multiplier impacts. This economic analysis demonstrates that airports and aviation-related businesses support thousands of jobs and pump billions of dollars into the state economy.

For more information visit: