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Cc: [Kevin Smith](#)
Subject: TTSA Transponder Info
Date: Tuesday, July 16, 2019 3:52:00 PM
Attachments: [7Z.Quote1744.pdf](#)
[6Z.Quote1745.pdf](#)

ACAT Team,

I just meet with Jessica and Rick Hammer. Jessica owns Sierra Aero and Rick is the mechanic/pilot for Truckee Tahoe Soaring Association (TTSA). The questions I asked are below with the response from Jessica and Rick.

1. Is there a more affordable method of equipping these aircraft with ADS-b out? Not really. The transponders are so old that installation of an augmentation system with the existing analog transponders isn't appropriate based on deficiencies with those units currently. Also the antennae needs to be changed out to make it work. The Stratus ESG is the recommended affordable solution.
2. Is Sierra Aero willing to donate their time to do the work? No but they will give the airport the 15% discount on the labor.
3. What skin does TTSA have in the game? They are ready to contribute and purchase i-pads and pay for ADS-b in to see traffic inside the cockpit.

Rick voiced his concern with the increased use of the northeast quadrant of the local airspace. This area is being used more based on the towers ability to control it and use this capacity to reduce operations over the homes west of the airport. Again, staff sees this as a safety enhancement project. We don't feel they benefit in a material way at all except they save the money for the upgrade to ADS-b should they choose to do that. I do feel they will be hard pressed to actually use their tow planes effectively without ADS-b, contrary to their claims. Aircraft do not typically fly in circles near the airport or in the approach/departure phase of flight. Because the sky dive jump plane and the tow planes fly circles while climbing they are both subject to airborne risk of collision. This is why we recommend partnering to equip these aircraft. I have attached the two estimates for installation.

I will put this topic on the agenda for discussion at the August 13th ACAT agenda. Feel free to contact me if you need additional information on this project or details from Sierra Aero or TTSA.

Thanks,

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