

Chapter 3. Airport Classifications

3.1. Introduction

North Dakota's aviation system comprises 89 public-use airports, including both commercial service and general aviation (GA) airports. While commercial service airports are widely recognized for their role in supporting passenger air travel, GA airports play an equally vital role in the state's transportation network. Together, these airports form an integrated system, each serving a distinct purpose to ensure efficient and accessible air transportation across the state.

While together these airports operate as a system, it is also important to recognize that no two airports in North Dakota are the same, making it important to classify airports according to the role they serve within the system. Numerous factors influence the role an airport serves within the system, including physical attributes like runway length, aircraft storage availability, and navigational aids (NAVAIDs), as well as external elements such as geographic location, nearby population density, and access to local markets.

The diversity of North Dakota's airports is a key factor in system planning as every airport does not require the same level of infrastructure. Passenger terminals, large parking facilities, and other amenities would be unnecessary at a GA airport primarily supporting flight training, air cargo operations, recreational flying, agricultural spraying, or corporate aviation. Airports of different sizes, ownership structures, service offerings, and operational capabilities work together to meet a wide range of aviation needs. Some GA airports provide critical services that may not be feasible at larger commercial airports, such as aerial firefighting, pipeline patrol, or agricultural spraying. Others help to reduce congestion at busy commercial service airports by accommodating private and corporate aircraft. Similarly, airports with extensive flight training programs, like Grand Forks International Airport (GFK), support the development of new pilots, ensuring a strong future workforce for the aviation industry. Categorizing airports based on their functions ensures a well-balanced network that continues to support the state's economy, rural and urban connectivity, and critical services, where each airport effectively supports key aviation activities without unnecessary overlap or redundancy.

This chapter provides an overview of the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA's) National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) classification process, defines the airport classifications for the 2025 North Dakota State Aviation System Plan (NDSASP), and evaluates non-NPIAS airports to determine eligibility for potential future NPIAS inclusion.



3.2. National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS)

As mentioned in **Chapter 1. Introduction**, the FAA oversees aviation facility planning at the national level, which includes the development of the NPIAS. Published biennially in accordance with *Title 49 United States Code (U.S.C.)*, *Section 47103*, the NPIAS identifies aviation facilities across the United States (U.S.) that are considered essential to the National Airspace System (NAS). The latest edition (2025-2029 NPIAS), released in September 2024, classifies these facilities by the role they serve at the federal level, indicating the level of service they provide and the types of infrastructure they support. The NPIAS is updated biennially to reflect the latest available information.

The NPIAS also highlights the infrastructure funding needs associated with Airport Improvement Program (AIP) eligible projects at NPIAS airports for that funding period. AIP funding is federally allocated and restricted to NPIAS facilities. For the 2025-2029 funding period, the NPIAS identifies 3,287 nationwide public-use aviation facilities as essential to the NAS and estimates approximately \$67.5 billion in AIP-eligible development needs between 2025 and 2029.

The NPIAS includes landing sites for fixed-wing aircraft, helicopters, and sea plane bases, with 68% of the nationwide public-use facilities airports included in the NPIAS. Within North Dakota's aviation system, 54 of the 89 public use airports are recognized in the 2025-2029 NPIAS.

3.2.1. NPIAS Classification Process

Airports included in the NPIAS are evaluated and classified into distinct roles based on criteria established by the FAA Order 5090.5, Formulation of the National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems (NPIAS) and the Airports Capital Improvement Plan (ACIP) (issued September 2019). This revised order cancelled out prior FAA Orders 5090.3C, Field Formulation of the NPIAS and 5100.39A, Airports Capital Improvement Plan, both issued in 2000.

Classifying facilities for the NPIAS involves multiple steps. First, facilities must meet eligibility criteria through a preliminary screening. This evaluation determines whether existing or proposed aviation facilities not currently part of the NPIAS meet the eligibility requirements for inclusion. Facilities already in the NPIAS have previously passed this screening. The following sections outline the criteria and process for NPIAS eligibility, provided here¹:

Existing commercial service airports must meet all the following criteria:

- Publicly owned, publicly accessible airport
- Receive scheduled air carrier service
- Annually enplane 2,500 or more passengers

¹ Initial screening requirements sourced from Table 3-3 of FAA Order 5090.5, Formulation of the NPIAS and ACIP, 2019.



Existing GA airports must meet all the following criteria:

- Operated by a sponsor eligible to receive federal funds and meet FAA grant obligations
- Used by at least 10 operational and airworthy aircraft based at the airport validated against the FAA Aircraft Registry (i.e., basedaircraft.com)
- Located at least 30 miles from the nearest NPIAS airport (including airports located in adjacent states)
- Demonstrates an identifiable role in the national system (such as a Basic, Local, Regional, or National²)
- Included in a state or territory aviation system plan with a role similar to the federal role and recommended by the airport's state or territory aviation authority to be a part of the NPIAS
- No significant airfield design standard deficiencies, compliance violations, or wetland or wildlife issues based on a review by the FAA

Proposed commercial service or GA airports must meet the applicable eligibility criteria listed above (for existing airports) and meet the following additional requirements:

- Demonstrates how it will meet the operational activity required (for its proposed role) within the first five years of operation through a forecast validated by the FAA
- Provides enhanced facilities that will accommodate the current aviation activity and improve the functionality, as well as provide room for future development based on imminent justified demand
- Shows a benefit-cost analysis rating of 1.0 or more (FAA Order 5100.38, *Airport Improvement Program Handbook* provides information on when and how to conduct a benefit-cost analysis)
- Presents a detailed financial plan for the proposed airport to accomplish its construction and ongoing maintenance
- Level of local support/consensus is adequate to achieve the development of the new airport

"Special justification" may be given to an existing or proposed airport that does not meet all criteria listed above in the following cases:

- Operated by or serving needs of a Native American Community
- Identified and used by the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Marshals, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol, U.S. Postal Service, or has Essential Air Service

Airports that fulfill the initial screening criteria are subsequently categorized as either a Primary or Nonprimary airport. Primary airports are then further classified into a hub size (Large, Medium, Small, and Nonhub), whereas Nonprimary airports are further classified into one of the following roles: National, Regional, Local, Basic, and Unclassified. It's important to note that

² If an existing NPIAS airport does not meet the criteria for at least a Basic role, it is identified as Unclassified, which is not considered an official FAA "role." An airport will be considered Unclassified until it can meet criteria for a role presented in **Table 3-2**.



these categories, and associated criteria, were initially established by the 2012 and 2014 FAA ASSET studies to better classify GA airports into distinct roles. As of 2017, the ASSET categories and criteria were integrated into the NPIAS classification process. Therefore, the roles initially identified in the ASSET studies (National, Regional, Local, Basic, and Unclassified) are now reflected in the NPIAS classifications. The Unclassified category is unique because airports in this category do not meet the minimum criteria of a Basic airport and have limited access to federal funding compared to airports in other categories. La Moure Rott Municipal is the only system airport to be categorized as Unclassified in the 2025-2029 NPIAS.

Figure 3-1 illustrates the federal classification structure, showing the different classifications under the Primary and Nonprimary hierarchy.

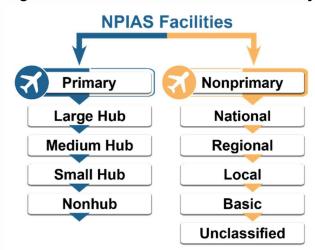


Figure 3-1. Federal Classifications Hierarchy

Sources: FAA Order 5090.5; Kimley-Horn, 2025.

Primary airports are those that provide scheduled commercial airline service and support a minimum of 10,000 passenger enplanements annually. These airports are further segmented into various hub classifications based on the proportion of total annual enplanements they contribute to the overall U.S. passenger traffic. **Table 3-1** offers an overview of each primary airport hub classification, including its defining characteristics and criteria.

Hub Size Hub Description Hub Criteria

These airports primarily focus on commercial airline and freight operations, with minimal general aviation (GA) activity.

Receives 1.0 percent or more of the annual U.S. commercial enplanements

Table 3-1. Primary Airport Hub Sizes



Hub Size	Hub Description	Hub Criteria
Medium Hub	These airports typically have ample capacity to handle air carrier operations and a significant amount of general aviation (GA) activity.	Receives 0.25 to 1.0 percent of the annual U.S. commercial enplanements
Small Hub	These airports are generally uncongested, free of major air traffic delays, and may experience considerable general aviation (GA) activity.	Receives 0.05 to 0.25 percent of the annual U.S. commercial service enplanements
Nonhub	These airports form the largest group of primary airports and represent nearly 15 percent of development needs.	Receives less than 0.05 percent but more than 10,000 annual U.S. commercial enplanements

Sources: FAA Order 5090.5; Kimley-Horn, 2025.

If an airport does not provide scheduled air service or provides scheduled air service with fewer than 10,000 annual enplanements, it is considered a Nonprimary facility. Nonprimary facilities are classified into five distinct roles that indicate the level of service they provide and the type of users they typically serve. The five roles and the criteria associated with each are presented in **Table 3-2.**

It is essential to highlight that the criteria outlined in **Table 3-2** are applied alongside a thorough evaluation of additional factors and consideration by the FAA during its biennial review process. Furthermore, no facilities can be added to or removed from the NPIAS without close collaboration between the facility, the FAA, and the North Dakota Aeronautics Commission (NDAC).



Table 3-2. Nonprimary Airport Classifications

Airport Classification	Classification Description	Classification Criteria (Must Meet at Least One Criterion)
National	High levels of activity that offer alternatives to Primary airports for GA operations, support aviation on a national scale and are located in metropolitan areas near major business centers and accommodate many jet, multiengine, and propeller aircraft.	 5,000 or more instrument operations, 11 or more validated based jets, and 20 or more international flights or 500 or more interstate departures 10,000 or more enplanements and at least one carrier enplanement by a large, certificated air carrier 500 million pounds or more of landed cargo weight
Regional	Serves large metropolitan areas and regional economies and have high levels of activity, accommodating jet, multiengine, and propeller aircraft.	 In a metropolitan or micropolitan statistical area, 10 or more domestic flights over 500 miles, 1,000 or more instrument operations, and 1 or more validated based jets or 100 or more validated based aircraft Nonprimary commercial service airport (requiring scheduled service) within a metropolitan statistical area Currently designated by the FAA as a reliever with 90 or more validated based aircraft
Local	Provides access for local communities to regional and local markets and are commonly located near larger population centers with moderate activity levels serving some multiengine or propeller aircraft.	 Publicly owned, 10 or more instrument operations, and 15 or more validated based aircraft Publicly owned and 2,500 or more annual enplanements



Airport Classification	Classification Description	Classification Criteria (Must Meet at Least One Criterion)
Basic	Provides a link for a community to the national system, see moderate activity levels that support GA operations such as private flying, medical or firefighting and support occasional to no activity for propeller driven and jet aircraft.	 Publicly owned with 10 or more validated based aircraft, or four or more validated based helicopters if a heliport Publicly owned and located 30 or more miles from the nearest NPIAS airport Owned by or serving a Native American Community Identified and used by the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Marshals, U.S. Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Postal Service, or has Essential Air Service A new or replacement publicly owned airport that has opened within the last 10 years Unique circumstances related to special aeronautical use
Unclassified	Receives very limited activity with some having no based aircraft.	 Airports that do not meet one of the criteria in other nonprimary roles are considered Unclassified. These facilities are evaluated with the normal biennial NPIAS review cycle and reclassified accordingly.

Sources: FAA Order 5090.5; Kimley-Horn, 2025.



3.3. 2025 NDSASP Classification

As mentioned in **Section 3.1**, the 89 airports included in North Dakota's aviation system serve a variety of critical roles that support transportation, connectivity, quality of life, emergency response, and economic development across the state. Prior to the FAA ASSET study publication, and its ultimate integration into the NPIAS, many state system plans established a unique methodology to identify the roles that GA airports served in the state. With the NPIAS now offering criteria to better classify Nonprimary airports based on the unique roles they serve, many states are adopting the NPIAS classifications as their state classifications. The 2014 NDSASP was the first iteration of the state's system plan that used the same classifications and criteria used at the federal level to classify system airports, with a slight modification to airports that provided scheduled air service and to airports categorized as Unclassified. With North Dakota's aviation system also recognizing non-NPIAS airports, additional criteria were included to assign roles to those airports as well. The methodology for assigning classifications at the state level remains consistent with the 2014 approach. This methodology classifies any airport offering scheduled air service as serving a commercial service role, regardless of its federal designation as Primary or Nonprimary. Other Nonprimary airports, excluding NPIAS Unclassified airports, that do not offer scheduled air service are identified as serving the same role as their NPIAS role. The Unclassified and non-NPIAS airports are then classified as either Community Paved or Community Turf based on their primary runway surface. Figure 3-2 illustrates the 2025 NDSASP methodology, outlining how airports are categorized within the state's aviation system. The 2025 NDSASP classifications and associated 2025-2029 NPIAS classifications for the system airports are listed in Table 3-3. Airports are listed in alphabetical order by associated city. The hub size for Primary airports is also included in Table 3-3 for additional context. A map figure presenting the 2025 NDSASP classifications is presented in Figure 3-3, following Table 3-3.



Yes No Is the airport identified in the NPIAS? No No Does the airport Is the airport Yes Does the Yes designated by the provide scheduled airport have a NPIAS as Unclassified? air service? paved runway? No Yes NDSASP Role = NDSASP Role = NDSASP Role = NDSASP Role = Community Paved **Community Turf** Commercial Service NPIAS Role Sources: Kimley-Horn, 2025.

Figure 3-2. NDSASP Airport Classification System

Table 3-3. 2025 NDSASP Facility Categories

Associated City	Airport Name	FAA ID	2025 NDSASP Role	2025-2029 NPIAS Role	
Arthur	Arthur Airport	1A2	Community Turf	Non-NPIAS	
Ashley	Ashley Municipal Airport	ASY	Local	Local	
Beach	Beach Airport	20U	Basic	Basic	
Beulah	Beulah Municipal Airport	95D	Community Paved	Non-NPIAS	
Bismarck	marck Bismarck Municipal Airport		Commercial Service	Primary (Nonhub)	
Bottineau	Bottineau Municipal Airport	D09	Local	Local	
Bowbells	Bowbells Municipal Airport	5B4	Community Turf	Non-NPIAS	
Bowman	Bowman Regional Airport	BWW	Local	Local	
Cando	Cando Municipal Airport	9D7	Basic	Basic	
Carrington	Carrington Municipal Airport	46D	Basic	Basic	
Casselton	Casselton Robert Miller Regional Airport	5N8	Local	Local	



Associated City	Airport Name	FAA ID	2025 NDSASP Role	2025-2029 NPIAS Role	
Cavalier	Cavalier Municipal Airport	2C8	Local	Local	
Columbus	Columbus Municipal Airport	D49	Community Turf	Non-NPIAS	
Cooperstown	Operstown Cooperstown Municipal Airport		Local	Local	
Crosby	Crosby Municipal Airport	D50	Local	Local	
Devils Lake	Devils Lake Regional Airport		Commercial Service	Local	
Dickinson	Dickinson - Roosevelt Regional Airport	DIK	Commercial Service	Primary (Nonhub)	
Drayton	Drayton Drayton Municipal Airport		Community Paved	Non-NPIAS	
Dunseith	International Peace Garden Airport		Basic	Basic	
Edgeley	Edgeley Municipal Airport	51D	Basic	Basic	
Elgin	Elgin Municipal Airport	Y71	Community Turf	Non-NPIAS	
Ellendale	Ellendale Municipal Airport	4E7	Basic	Basic	
Enderlin	Sky Haven Airport	5N4	Community Paved	Non-NPIAS	
Fargo	Hector International Airport	FAR	Commercial Service	Primary (Small Hub)	
Fessenden	Fessenden - Streibel Municipal Airport	D24 Community Turf		Non-NPIAS	
Fort Yates	Standing Rock Airport	Y27	Basic	Basic	
Gackle	Gackle Municipal Airport	9G9	Community Turf	Non-NPIAS	
Garrison	Garrison Municipal Airport	D05	Local	Local	
Glen Ullin	Glen Ullin Regional Airport	D57	Basic	Basic	
Grafton	Hutson Field Airport	GAF	Local	Local	



Associated City	Airport Name	FAA ID	2025 NDSASP Role	2025-2029 NPIAS Role	
Grand Forks	Grand Forks International Airport	GFK	Commercial Service	Primary (Nonhub)	
Gwinner	Gwinner - Roger Melroe Field	GWR	Basic	Basic	
Harvey	rvey Harvey Municipal Airport		Basic	Basic	
Hazelton	Hazelton Municipal Airport	6H8	Community Turf	Non-NPIAS	
Hazen	Mercer County Regional Airport	HZE	Local	Local	
Hettinger	JB Lindquist Regional Airport	HEI	Local	Local	
Hillsboro	Hillsboro Municipal Airport	3H4	Local	Local	
Jamestown	Jamestown Regional Airport		Commercial Service	Primary (NonHub)	
Kenmare	nmare Kenmare Municipal Airport		Local	Local	
Killdeer	Dunn County - Weydahl Field	9Y1	Community Paved	Non-NPIAS	
Kindred	Robert Odegaard Field	K74	Local	Local	
Kulm	Kulm Municipal Airport	D03	Community Turf	Non-NPIAS	
La Moure	La Moure Rott Municipal Airport	4F9	Community Paved*	Unclassified	
Lakota	Lakota Municipal Airport	5L0	Basic	Basic	
Langdon	Robertson Field Airport	D55	Local	Local	
Larimore	Larimore Municipal Airport	2L1 Community Paved		Non-NPIAS	
Leeds	Leeds Municipal Airport	D31 Community Paved		Non-NPIAS	
Lidgerwood	Lidgerwood Municipal Airport	4N4	Community Turf	Non-NPIAS	
Linton	Linton Municipal Airport	7L2	Local	Local	
Lisbon	Lisbon Municipal Airport	6L3	Basic	Basic	



Associated City	Airport Name	FAA ID	2025 NDSASP Role	2025-2029 NPIAS Role	
Maddock	Maddock Municipal Airport	6D3	Community Paved	Non-NPIAS	
Mandan	Mandan Regional - Lawler Field	Y19	Local	Local	
Mayville	Mayville Municipal Airport		Community Paved	Non-NPIAS	
McClusky	CClusky Municipal Airport		Community Turf	Non-NPIAS	
McVille	Wille Municipal Airport		Community Turf	Non-NPIAS	
Milnor	Milnor Municipal Airport		Community Turf	Non-NPIAS	
Minot	Minot International Airport		Commercial Service	Primary (Nonhub)	
Minto	Minto Municipal Airport D06 Community		Community Paved	Non-NPIAS	
Mohall	Mohall Municipal Airport		Local	Local	
Mott	Mott Municipal Airport	3P3	Basic	Basic	
Napoleon	Napoleon Municipal Airport	5B5	Community Paved	Non-NPIAS	
New Rockford	Tomlinson Field Airport	8J7	Community Paved	Non-NPIAS	
New Town	New Town Municipal Airport	05D	Community Paved	Non-NPIAS	
Northwood	Northwood Muni - Vince Field	4V4	Local	Local	
Oakes	Oakes Municipal Airport	2D5	Local	Local	
Page	Page Regional Airport	64G	Community Paved	Non-NPIAS	
Park River	Park River - W C Skjerven Field	Y37	Basic	Basic	
Parshall	Parshall – Hankins Airport	Y74	Basic	Basic	
Pembina	Pembina Municipal Airport	PMB	Basic	Basic	
Plaza	Trulson Field Airport	Y99	Community Turf	Non-NPIAS	



Associated City	Airport Name	FAA ID	2025 NDSASP Role	2025-2029 NPIAS Role	
Richardton	Richardton Municipal Airport	4E8	Community Turf	Non-NPIAS	
Riverdale	Garrison Dam Recreational Airpark	37N	Community Turf	Non-NPIAS	
Rolette	Polette Rolette Airport		Community Paved	Non-NPIAS	
Rolla	Rolla Municipal Airport	06D	Basic	Basic	
Rugby	Rugby Municipal Airport	RUG	Basic	Basic	
St Thomas	Thomas St. Thomas Municipal Airport		Community Paved	Non-NPIAS	
Stanley	Stanley Municipal Airport		Local	Local	
Tioga	Tioga Municipal Airport		Local	Local	
Towner	wner Towner Municipal Airport		Community Turf	Non-NPIAS	
Turtle Lake	Turtle Lake Municipal Airport	91N	Community Turf	Non-NPIAS	
Valley City	Barnes County Municipal Airport	BAC	Local	Local	
Wahpeton	Harry Stern Airport	BWP	Local	Local	
Walhalla	Walhalla Municipal Airport	96D	Basic	Basic	
Washburn	Washburn Municipal Airport	5C8	Local	Local	
Watford City	Watford City Municipal Airport	S25	Local	Local	
West Fargo	West Fargo Municipal Airport	D54	Community Paved	Non-NPIAS	
Westhope	Westhope Municipal Airport	D64	Community Paved	Non-NPIAS	
Williston	Williston Basin International Airport	XWA	Commercial Service	Primary (Nonhub)	
Wishek	Wishek Municipal Airport	6L5	Community Paved	Non-NPIAS	

Note: *La Moure Rott Municipal Airport is part of the NPIAS, but due to its Unclassified designation its role in the NDSASP is effectively that of a Community Paved airport. Sources: 2025-2029 NPIAS; Marr Arnold Planning, 2025; Kimley-Horn, 2025.



S D50 **3** D49 96D **©** D64 (85) **3** D09 S28 HBC 06D **3** D55 2H9 **4S5** 9D7 D60 **XWA** [2] (3) Y37 D61 **3** 08D [2] RUG D31 [2] [2] MOT D06 **⊗** Y99 [2] 2L1 52 05D DVL 6D3 85 281 5L0 **GFK** 8M6 D05 **&** 4V4 8J7 29 **2** D24 91N S 37N S 95D HZE **©** D56 **8** 7G2 S32 9Y1 **S** 5C8 (85) 64G 1A2 8 94 BAC 94 5N8 D54 FAR 20U 4E8 3 D57 JMS Y19 BIS DIK 281 **8** 9G9 5N4 5B5 **⊗** 6H8 [85] **X** Y71 D03 S 51D 3P3 6L3 [12] 4F9 **&** 4R6 6L5 **₩** 7L2 (S) GWR BWW 2D5 Y27 [12] HEI **BWP** 8 4N4 4E7 ASY 2025 NDSASP Community Commercial Community Local **Basic** Turf Service **Paved Airport Classifications** State Interstate County **Boundaries Highways Highways**

Figure 3-3. 2025 NDSASP Classifications Map

Source: 2025-2029 NPIAS; Marr Arnold Planning, 2025; Kimley-Horn, 2025.



3.4. Recommendations for NPIAS Inclusion

Given that the NPIAS is updated every two years, it is important to evaluate changes in the system to determine if non-NPIAS airports have the potential to become eligible for inclusion in future iterations. The 35 non-NPIAS airports included in the 2025 NDSASP were evaluated using current data and the minimum entry criteria for GA airports outlined in **Section 3.2.1**. This analysis assumes that each airport has an eligible sponsor capable of receiving federal funds and can adhere to FAA grant assurances. Additionally, airports with at least eight based aircrafts are presumed to meet the minimum requirements of 10 based aircraft by the next NPIAS planning cycle. The evaluation considers the inclusion in the NDSASP, proximity to meet the nearest NPIAS airport, number of based aircraft, and whether the airport met operational standards without known deficiencies or compliance violations.

As presented in **Table 3-4** only one non-NPIAS airport, Dunn County – Weydahl Field (9Y1) is potentially eligible for inclusion into a future NPIAS publication. Although the airport currently has eight based aircraft, it is anticipated they will exceed the minimum requirement of 10 based aircraft by the next NPIAS planning cycle. In addition to its role supporting North Dakota's oil industry, 9Y1 provides vital services including air ambulance operations, aerial agriculture application, and supports regional commerce by supporting business activity, tourism, and recreation. 9Y1 plays has experienced significant public and private investment since 2014, highlighting its importance within the region and to the state's system. The FAA is aware of the growth and investment occurring at 9Y1 and has been coordinating with NDAC regarding the future of the airport. NDAC is actively monitoring this airport for future inclusion into the NPIAS for the next planning cycle and will continue to coordinate closely with the FAA to support this effort.

While only one of the non-NPIAS airports is considered eligible for NPIAS inclusion based on the initial screening requirements, the other non-NPIAS airports were evaluated to determine if they met the "special justification" considerations included in **Section 3.2.1**. Data sources listed in Appendix C of the *2025-2029 NPIAS* were reviewed for this evaluation but did not provide adequate data to make a recommendation. Some of these airports may meet one of the "special justification" criteria, such as serving or being operated by a Native American Community or otherwise serving specific needs that may be deemed a "special justification" upon FAA review, however none of these non-NPIAS airports have expressed interest in obtaining NPIAS status at the time of this report. Ongoing evaluation of their operations, growth, and regional importance, and continued coordination with NDAC, will help determine if future inclusion may be warranted.

While not a part of the NPIAS inclusion analysis presented in **Table 3-4**, La Moure Rott Municipal Airport is of particular note because the facility has long been assigned the status of Unclassified in the NPIAS due to low based aircraft counts and the fact that the city's airport authority does not own the airport property but instead holds a long-term lease from a private landowner. It is the goal of NDAC and the city of La Moure for the airport to become classified with a role of at



least Basic and are therefore working together to acquire the land the airfield occupies and attract new based aircraft to the site.



Table 3-4. NPIAS Re-evaluation Results for Non-NPIAS Airports in the 2024 NDSASP

Associated City	Airport Name	FAA ID	Part of NDSASP?	30+ Miles from Nearest NPIAS Airport?	10+ Based Aircraft?	Compliance Violations?	Eligible for NPIAS Inclusion?
Arthur	Arthur Airport	1A2	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Beulah	Beulah Municipal Airport	95D	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Bowbells	Bowbells Municipal Airport	5B4	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Columbus	Columbus Municipal Airport	D49	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Drayton	Drayton Municipal Airport	D29	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Elgin	Elgin Municipal Airport	Y71	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Enderlin	Sky Haven Airport	5N4	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Fargo	West Fargo Municipal Airport	D54	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Fessenden	Fessenden-Streibel Municipal	D24	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Gackle	Gackle Municipal Airport	9G9	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Hazelton	Hazelton Municipal Airport	6H8	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Killdeer	Dunn County-Weydahl Field	9Y1	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Kulm	Kulm Municipal Airport	D03	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No



Associated City	Airport Name	FAA ID	Part of NDSASP?	30+ Miles from Nearest NPIAS Airport?	10+ Based Aircraft?	Compliance Violations?	Eligible for NPIAS Inclusion?
Larimore	Larimore Municipal Airport	2L1	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Leeds	Leeds Municipal Airport	D31	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Lidgerwood	Lidgerwood Municipal Airport	4N4	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Maddock	Maddock Municipal Airport	6D3	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Mayville	Mayville Municipal Airport	D56	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
McClusky	McClusky Municipal Airport	7G2	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
McVille	McVille Municipal Airport	8M6	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Milnor	Milnor Municipal Airport	4R6	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Minto	Minto Municipal Airport	D06	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Napoleon	Napoleon Municipal Airport	5B5	Yes	Yes*	No	Yes	No
New Rockford	Tomlinson Field Airport	8J7	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
New Town	New Town Municipal Airport	05D	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Page	Page Regional Airport	64G	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No
Plaza	Trulson Field Airport	Y99	Yes	No	No	Yes	No



Associated City	Airport Name	FAA ID	Part of NDSASP?	30+ Miles from Nearest NPIAS Airport?	10+ Based Aircraft?	Compliance Violations?	Eligible for NPIAS Inclusion?
Richardton	Richardton Airport	4E8	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Riverdale	Garrison Dam Recreational Airpark	37N	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Rolette	Rolette Airport	2H9	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
St Thomas	St. Thomas Municipal Airport	4S5	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Towner	Towner Municipal Airport	D61	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Turtle Lake	Turtle Lake Municipal Airport	91N	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Westhope	Westhope Municipal Airport	D64	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
Wishek	Wishek Municipal Airport	6L5	Yes	No	No	Yes	No

Notes: *A portion of Napoleon Municipal Airport is 30 nautical miles from the nearest NPIAS airport. Airports were considered as having design deficiencies and/or compliance violations if they have non-compliant Runway Safety Areas, if there are taxiway design standard deficiencies, or if the airport does not meet FAA runway to taxiway separation standards. Based aircraft counts are not validated by the FAA as these airports are not currently included in the NPIAS. Sources: FAA Form 5010; 2025-2029 NPIAS;

BasedAircraft.com; FAA Order 5090.5; FAA Advisory Circular 150/5300-13B; Google Earth; Marr Arnold Planning, 2025; Kimley-Horn, 2025.



3.5. Summary

There is a diverse range of aviation activity occurring across North Dakota's aviation system. This diversity encompasses a range of operations including commercial flights, agricultural aviation, air medical transport, flight training, and recreational flying. North Dakota's aviation sector plays a crucial role in the state's economy by providing essential services, generating employment, and supporting various industries. Establishing roles and categorizing system facilities is a vital component of the aviation system planning process, allowing the NDAC to make coordinated, data-informed decisions that guide projected development and policy recommendations. The airport classifications presented in this chapter serve as the foundation for evaluating performance measures and indicators in subsequent chapters, as well as for informing final recommendations and considerations.