

Fins Up – Jimmy Buffet – Musician, Aviator, Entrepreneur



The Villages Aviation Club Safety Brief

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Jimmy Buffett Aviation Facts

- 1. Jimmy, Mississippi native, was born Christmas Day 1946 and passed on Sept. 1, 2023, after a four year battle with Merkel Cell Skin Cancer.
- 2. Jimmy was a pilot and loved the sky almost as much as he loved the ocean.
- 3. He was introduced to flying by a college friend at the Univ. Of Southern Mississippi. He put flying on hold until he reached success (money) in the music world.
- 4. Jimmy toured using his Falcon 50 and then later Falcon 900, he was typed in both jets.
- 5. He owned & flew Grumman Albatross, the Hemisphere Dancer & would visit Lakeland Fl Sun'Fun Aerospace Expo.
- 6. Jimmy other aircraft included a Boeing Stearman, Cessna Citation 500, Cessna Caravan. & his first airplane, a Lake Renegade named "Lady of the Waters."
- 7. Jimmy secretly donated WWII-era planes to Mobile's Battleship Memorial Park.
- 8. Palm Beach International Airport (PBI) put Buffett's name on one of its departure procedures BUFIT ONE, and waypoints named in his honor. Jimmy stored his fleet of planes at PBI.

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Modernization of Special Airworthiness Certification – FAA NPRM

- FAA Notice of proposed Rulemaking (NPRM)
 - Published 24 Jul 2023
 - Comment period ends 23 Oct 2023
- The FAA proposes to amend rules for the manufacture, certification, operation, maintenance, and alteration of light-sport aircraft. The proposed amendments would enable enhancements in safety and performance and would increase privileges under a number of sport pilot and light-sport aircraft rules. These enhancements include increasing suitability for flight training, limited aerial work, and personal travel. This proposed rule would expand what aircraft sport pilots may operate.
- You may have heard this referenced as the “MOSAIC NPRM”.

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- Thanks to the EAA , we can digest the 90 page document down to the impacts to Sport Pilot Airmen and Light-Sport Aircraft
- If this rule is adopted, it expands the number of aircraft sport pilots are allowed to fly
- If this rule is adopted, it expands the performance envelopes of aircraft that are categorized as “Light-Sport Aircraft”

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•“Since the 2004 rule, light-sport category aircraft have shown a lower accident rate than experimental amateur-built airplanes. The FAA considers that the successful safety record of light-sport category aircraft validates certification requirements established in the 2004 final rule and provides support for expanding the scope of certification for light-sport category aircraft and operations. As a result, the FAA identified this proposed rule as an opportunity to expand the 2004 final rule to include a wider variety of aircraft, increase performance, and increase operating privileges to extend these safety benefits to more aircraft. The FAA intends for these expansions to increase safety by encouraging aircraft owners, who may be deciding between an experimental aircraft or a light-sport category aircraft, to choose aircraft higher on the safety continuum and, therefore, meet higher aircraft certification requirements.” FAA NPRM

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Sport Pilot		
	Current	MOSAIC (July 2023 NPRM)
Aircraft privileges	Airplanes, gliders, lighter-than-air (LTA), powered-parachutes (PP), weight-shift control (WSC), kit-built, gyroplanes	Airplanes, gliders, LTA, PP, WSC, gyroplanes Some helicopters and other types with simplified flight controls
Max seats	2 (2 occupants)	4 (2 occupants)
Weight	1,320 lbs (land)/1,430 lbs (sea)	N/A (around 3,000 lbs based on other parameters)
Max stall speed clean (V_{S1})	45 knots	54 knots for airplanes, 45 knots for other types if applicable
Max airspeed level flight (V_H)	120 knots	250 knots
Powerplant	Single reciprocating engine	N/A (for airplanes, only single engine rating available)
Propeller	Fixed or ground-adjustable	Fixed, ground-adjustable, automated, or manually controllable-pitch with endorsement
Landing gear	Fixed (except glider/water)	Fixed, or retractable with endorsement
Pilot endorsements	N/A	Manually controllable-pitch prop, retractable gear, complex, night
Medical	State-issued driver's license, most recent medical not denied/suspended/revoked/SI withdrawn	State-issued driver's license, most recent medical not denied/suspended/revoked/SI withdrawn, current FAA medical certificate or BasicMed required for night only
Limitations	Day VFR at or below 10,000 MSL	Day or Night VFR at or below 10,000 MSL (night requires endorsement and a current FAA medical or BasicMed)

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Light-Sport Aircraft		
	Current	MOSAIC (July 2023 NPRM)
Aircraft class	Airplanes, gliders, LTA, PP, WSC, kit-built	Any
Max seats	2	4 seats for airplanes, 2 seats for other types
Max weight	1,320 lbs for land-based, 1,430 lbs for amphibious	N/A (around 3,000 lbs based on other parameters)
Max stall speed clean (V_{s1})	45 knots	54 knots for airplanes, 45 knots for other types if applicable
Max airspeed level flight (V_H)	120 knots	250 knots
Powerplant	Single reciprocating engine	Any
Propeller	Fixed	Any
Landing gear	Fixed (except glider/water)	Fixed or retractable
Commercial activities	Flight training	Flight training, aerial work
Alterations	All alterations approved by manufacturer or person approved by FAA	Minor alterations allowed without authorization from the manufacturer or person approved by the FAA

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- There is a lot more to the NPRM, and it may be adopted, edited, or not adopted in part or in entirety.
- Questions?
- Comments?