

**Meeting Title:** FAA-Industry Gulf of Mexico (GOM) Agreement Implementation Committee Meeting  
**Date/Time:** October 13, 2021/1500 CDT  
**Location:** Zoom

**Meeting Attendees**

NAME	ORGANIZATION / COMPANY	EMAIL
Rana Obeid	FAA/SBS Gulf Sustainment	rana.obeid@faa.gov
Colleen Ahlers	FAA/SBS Gulf Sustainment	cahlers@gems-inc.com
Roseanne Albrecht	FAA/SBS Gulf Sustainment	ralbrecht@gems-inc.com
Rhonda Carraway	FAA/SBS Gulf Sustainment	rhonda@gems-inc.com
Bob Herak	FAA/SBS Gulf Sustainment	bherak@regulus-group.com
William Majeau	FAA/SBS Gulf Sustainment	wmajeau@gems-inc.com
Allan Overbey	FAA/SBS Gulf Sustainment	adoverbey@gems-inc.com
Samantha Haugle	FAA ZHU	samantha.j.haugle@faa.gov
Beth Richardson	FAA ZHU	beth.richardson@faa.gov
Michael Hanson	BSEE	michael.hanson@bsee.gov
Andrew Wareham	BSEE	andrew.wareham@bsee.gov
Victor Murphy	NWS	victor.murpy@noaa.gov
Bryan Buchanan	BP	bryan.buchanan@bp.com
Jason Glynn	Bristow	jason.glynn@bristowgroup.com
Stuart Soirez	Bristow	ssoirez@bristowgroup.com
Brian Holley	Chevron	bholley@chevron.com
Jose Jaramillo	Chevron	jjaramillo@chevron.com
Chris Martone	Chevron	cmartone@chevron.com
Rick Sloan	Chevron	rsqy@chevron.com
Harold Summers	HAI	harold.summers@rotor.com
Jeff Goyer	Hess	jgoyer@hess.com
Michael Nance	Occidental	michael_nance@oxy.com
Pat Attaway	PHI	pattaway@phihelico.com
James Maner	PHI	jmaner@phihelico.com
Michael Turner	PHI	meturner@phihelico.com
Jason Melancon	RLC	jmelancon@rlcllc.net
John Jacobs	Shell	john.jacobs2@shell.com
Reggie Wycoff	Shell	reginald.wycoff@shell.com
Don Robson	Westwind	drobson@westwindhelicopters.com
Mark Lezak	Williams	mark.lezak@williams.com
Tito Vasquez	Williams	tito.vasquez@williams.com

**Background and Purpose of Agreement Implementation Committee:**

- The Agreement Implementation Committee is a product of the 2006 FAA-Industry Gulf of Mexico Memorandum of Agreement and subsequently endorsed by the 2021 FAA-Industry Memorandum of Understanding for aviation safety in the Gulf of Mexico
- The purpose of the AIC is to foster cooperation, commitment, accountability, and trust to improve and sustain quality Air Traffic Services in the Gulf
- The AIC assists the FAA in strategic planning by providing feedback / recommendations
- The AIC is used to assess the coverage of installed FAA equipment and whether additional areas should be addressed

Item	Agenda Item Description
1.	FAA Infrastructure
2.	Current FAA Coverage
3.	Weather Deviation Area Expansion
4.	Watch Items
5.	Items for AIC Consideration
6.	Community Awareness

Item	Key Points/Decisions/Recommendations
1.	AIC supported decommissioning/recovery of MZG AWOS at Mustang Island A85A; RLC offered assistance in recovery
2.	AIC supported the FAA investigate feasibility of Ship Shoal 28P and the onshore Tank Battery facility west of Cameron as potential AWOS candidate relocation sites
3.	AIC supported assisting Flight Standards and National Weather Service in Weather Deviation Area Expansion in the regulatory process

Item	Key Discussion Points		
1.	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%; vertical-align: top;">FAA Infrastructure Status</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FAA Gulf of Mexico 2021 offshore projects                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ AWOS installation at Galveston 209B and Mississippi Canyon 724</li> <li>○ VHF Comm installation at Eugene Island 251A</li> <li>○ AWOS decommission/recovery at High Island A367A</li> <li>○ AWOS, VHF Comm decommission/recovery at Eugene Island 215B</li> </ul> </li> <li>• FAA Gulf of Mexico 2022 offshore projects                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ ADS-B, AWOS, VHF Comm installation at Galveston A244</li> <li>○ VHF Comm installation at Garden Banks 426</li> <li>○ AWOS installation at Green Canyon 433</li> <li>○ AWOS installation at Green Canyon 641</li> <li>○ AWOS installation at Mississippi Canyon 941</li> <li>○ AWOS installation at South Timbalier 52B</li> <li>○ AWOS decommission/recovery at Mustang Island A85A and Mississippi Canyon 311A</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>	FAA Infrastructure Status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FAA Gulf of Mexico 2021 offshore projects                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ AWOS installation at Galveston 209B and Mississippi Canyon 724</li> <li>○ VHF Comm installation at Eugene Island 251A</li> <li>○ AWOS decommission/recovery at High Island A367A</li> <li>○ AWOS, VHF Comm decommission/recovery at Eugene Island 215B</li> </ul> </li> <li>• FAA Gulf of Mexico 2022 offshore projects                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ ADS-B, AWOS, VHF Comm installation at Galveston A244</li> <li>○ VHF Comm installation at Garden Banks 426</li> <li>○ AWOS installation at Green Canyon 433</li> <li>○ AWOS installation at Green Canyon 641</li> <li>○ AWOS installation at Mississippi Canyon 941</li> <li>○ AWOS installation at South Timbalier 52B</li> <li>○ AWOS decommission/recovery at Mustang Island A85A and Mississippi Canyon 311A</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FAA AWOS infrastructure out of service in 2021:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ High Island A376B (KHQI) – shut-in/to be decommissioned</li> <li>○ Mustang Island A85A (KMZG) – long-term shut-in</li> <li>○ East Cameron 321A (KEZP) – out-of-service – storm damage</li> <li>○ Mississippi Canyon 311 (KVQT) – out of service – storm damage</li> <li>○ Vioska Knoll 786 (KVOA) – out of service – storm damage</li> <li>○ West Delta 27 (KDLP) – out of service – storm damage</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Predicted FAA equipment losses within next 5 years             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Alaminos Canyon 25 (ADS-B/AWOS)</li> <li>○ East Breaks 165 (AWOS/VHF comm)</li> <li>○ East Breaks 643A (AWOS)</li> <li>○ East Cameron 321A (ADS-B, AWOS, VHF comm)</li> <li>○ Eugene Island 215B (AWOS/VHF comm)</li> <li>○ Garden Banks 668 (ADS-B/AWOS)</li> <li>○ Mississippi Canyon 311A (AWOS)</li> <li>○ Mustang Island A85A (AWOS)</li> <li>○ South Marsh 268A (AWOS)</li> <li>○ Vermillion 331A (AWOS)</li> </ul> <p>No replacement identified, <a href="#">seeking replacement suggestions</a></p> <p>Replacement not planned</p> <p>Replacement identified</p> </li> <li>• Replacement Criteria             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Minimum 7 years longevity—5 years after commissioning</li> <li>○ Physical space for equipment in unclassified area of platform</li> <li>○ Power/telecommunications bandwidth availability</li> <li>○ Manned platform preferred</li> <li>○ Unmanned platform acceptable if visited regularly and power/telecommunications are available</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
2	Watch List	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• AWOS Inspections             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ PIREPS provided by Operators in fall 2020 allowed continued operation of the AWOS' despite not being formally inspected in 2020 because of the pandemic</li> <li>○ The FAA re-started AWOS inspections in May 2021; all 2020 inspections complete and eight of nine 2021 inspections have been completed</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Green Canyon 787 A/C out of service             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The air conditioning units installed in the FAA building at GC-787 (Atlantis) have been out of service since fall of 2020</li> <li>○ Efforts to repair them have been hampered by the pandemic and other constraints</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The FAA executed a contract in September 2021 to allow the platform owner to start the cost estimate and perform a site survey to establish repair plans</li> <li>o ADS-B radio was turned off during the summer of 2021 when the maximum safe operating temperature for that equipment was exceeded</li> <li>o VHF comm radios have a higher temp threshold and continue to operate</li> <li>• The VHF comm at Eugene Island 215 will be shut down and decommissioned before the VHF Comm at Eugene Island 251 is operational; shut down anticipated on or about October 28, 2021</li> </ul>
<p>3.</p>	<p>Weather Deviation Area Expansion Project</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volpe Gulf of Mexico Weather Analysis Report for the Weather Deviation Area Expansion Project was completed July 29, 2021</li> <li>• Final Analysis report summary and conclusions:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Offshore Weather Deviation Area expansion can be extended to 80NM between reference and paired stations</li> <li>o Stations moved or deployed within these regions could be paired with an AWOS station within 80NM to form a Weather Box measuring +/- 40NM to either side of the centerline between stations and extend the center point between the paired stations by 10NM at either end                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ This resulting box can be as large as 100NMx80NM</li> <li>▪ Volpe recommended that the regulator of FAR 135.213 determine this provision</li> </ul> </li> <li>o The recommendations are specific to the Gulf of Mexico in the general region where FAA certified AWOS stations are placed today</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Data and analysis did not support Weather Deviation Area Expansion beyond the current 40NM between reference and paired stations in two areas:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Deep-water area--A minimum of 1-year of AWOS data from stations deployed in this region would be necessary to make a recommendation on expanded Offshore Weather Deviation Areas</li> <li>o Mississippi Delta area AWOS stations that are located within coordinates designated in the Volpe Analysis</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Next steps:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o FAA Flight Standards Service (AFS) and The National Weather Service (NWS) are evaluating the results of the final report and have initiated the regulatory process</li> <li>o AFS and NWS will determine the effects on current policy, guidance, or authorizations</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>4.</p>	<p>Items for AIC Consideration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Previous AIC recommendations under investigation:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o South Marsh 107 to replace South Marsh 268</li> <li>o Garden Banks 260 as potential candidate site</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Site Elevation and Wind Sensor location will be included in AWOS Status Update beginning in 2022</li> <li>• AIC approved removal of MZG AWOS at Mustang Island A85A</li> <li>• New AWOS Candidates for Considerations             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Ship Shoal 28P</li> <li>o Tank battery west of Cameron (on shore)</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
5.	Community Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VHF Comm station at Grand Isle, LA (GNI) was destroyed by Hurricane Ida on August 29, 2021             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o The VHF Comm Station at South Lafourche Leonard Miller Jr. Airport (KGAO) was expanded to include offshore frequencies and became operational on September 14, 2021</li> <li>o The VHF Comms will continue to be provided at the KGAO location until further notice</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
6.	FAA Gulf of Mexico Core Team	<p><b>Rana Obeid:</b> Surveillance and Broadcast Services (SBS) Gulf of Mexico Sustainment Project Lead, rana.obeid@faa.gov</p> <p><b>Allan Overbey:</b> SBS Gulf Sustainment Implementation Lead, adoverbey@gems-inc.com</p> <p><b>Roseanne Albrecht:</b> SBS Gulf Sustainment Agreement Management Lead, ralbrecht@gems-inc.com</p> <p><b>Rhonda Carraway:</b> SBS Gulf Sustainment Transportation Management and Tactical O&amp;M Lead, rhonda@gems-inc.com</p> <p><b>Bob Herak:</b> SBS Gulf Sustainment Operations and Strategic Management Lead, bherak@regulus-group.com</p> <p><b>William Majeau:</b> SBS Gulf Sustainment Project Management, wmajeau@gems-inc.com</p> <p><b>Colleen Ahlers:</b> SBS Gulf Sustainment Project Management, cahlers@gems-inc.com</p> <p><b>Kevin Willis:</b> Central Service Area VHF Communication Project Engineer, kevin.n.willis@faa.gov</p> <p><b>Rafael Silva:</b> Central Service Area VHF Communication Civil Engineer, rafael.silva@faa.gov</p>

Subject	Decision / Key Points (Documented in FAA-industry Agreement Implementation Committee Minutes)	Remarks / Notes	Status
<b>October 13, 2021 AIC Zoom Meeting</b>			
Ship Shoal 28P / AWOS	AIC supported the FAA investigate feasibility of Ship Shoal 28P as a potential AWOS candidate relocation site		Open
Tank Battery / AWOS	AIC supported the FAA investigate feasibility of the onshore Tank Battery facility west of Cameron as a potential AWOS candidate relocation site		Open
Mustang Island A85A / MZG AWOS Recovery	AIC supported decommissioning/recovery of MZG AWOS at Mustang Island A85A; RLC offered assistance in recovery	<b>Oct 2021:</b> Recovery likely in early-mid 2022 due to number of current projects	Closed 10/2021
Weather Deviation Area Expansion Project	AIC supported assisting FAA Flight Standards Services and National Weather Service in Weather Deviation Area Expansion in the regulatory process		Closed 10/2021
<b>May 12, 2021 AIC Zoom Meeting</b>			
FAA AWOS Sensor Information	AIC requested including wind sensor and BP sensor elevation information in the Gulf AWOS Status updates	<b>Oct 2021:</b> Wind sensor elevation information will be included in the next AWOS update <b>May 2021:</b> FAA asked the AIC if there was any value in including sensor elevation information in the AIC AWOS updates.	Closed 10/2021
<b>October 7, 2020 AIC Zoom Meeting</b>			
Garden Banks 260 AWOS	Hess proposed Garden Banks 260 platform as a candidate site for an AWOS installation	<b>Oct 2021:</b> Continues to be under FAA consideration <b>May 2021:</b> Tabled consideration as an additional AWOS location for the next 2-3 years based on revised platform longevity information of the adjacent Garden Banks 172 platform 6 NM <b>Jan 2021:</b> still investigating feasibility	Open
<b>May 13, 2020 AIC Zoom Meeting</b>			
South Marsh 268A KSCF AWOS	The AIC supported South Marsh 107 platform as a candidate site for an AWOS installation to leapfrog/replace the South Marsh 268A platform SCF AWOS	<b>Oct 2021:</b> Continues to be under FAA consideration <b>May 2021:</b> Tabled consideration to leapfrog KSCF at South Marsh 268 based on revised platform longevity information <b>Jan 2021:</b> SM 107 to replace South Marsh 268—still investigating feasibility	Open