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Governor  
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August 30, 2019

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**NMDOT Aviation Division Encourages Future Aviators**

HATCH– Approximately a dozen local pilots will fly in to the Hatch Municipal Airport this weekend during the Hatch Chile Festival. Participating pilots will be on hand to showcase their aircrafts and answer questions about aviation.

Transportation Cabinet Secretary Mike Sandoval said, “The department wants to educate the public that being in aviation is attainable for New Mexicans all over the state. There are 53 public use airports are gateways to the communities, allowing local and regional pilots to participate in events and explore all our state has to offer.”

The New Mexico Department of Transportation Aviation Division will have a booth set up at the festival, which is within walking distance of the airport. Balloons and small airplanes will be provided to children.

**WHO:** Local pilots and the New Mexico Department of Aviation Division

**WHAT:** Learn about aviation opportunities and see planes up close

**WHEN:** Saturday, August 31 pilots arrive between 8:00 and 9:00 a.m. and depart between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Hatch Regional Airport

For more information on the Hatch Chile Festival visit <http://www.hatchchilefest.com/>

