

# Maine to Alaska

A pilot guide for newcomers



Andy Roberts

2025



# The adventure of a lifetime

- 8600 miles
- 98 hrs logged
- 85 hrs tach
- 700 gal
- 1 month

*No itinerary*





Spectacular scenery around every turn

# Topics

- **Routes to Alaska**
- **Preparation**
- **Aircraft tools and supplies**
- **Procedures in Canada**
- **Tips and Lessons Learned**





Anchorage

Gulf of Alaska

YUKON

NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Canada

Whitehorse

Yellowknife

Juneau

Sitka

Ketchikan

Trench  
Text

Cassiar

Edmonton

Calgary

Medicine Hat

Saskatoon

Regina

Estevan

Nanaimo  
Vancouver

Map control panel including:  
- Compass icon  
- Scale bar  
- Time indicator: 0:00  
- Route icon  
- Zoom in (+) and zoom out (-) buttons



Watson Lake

Fort Nelson

Fort St. John

Peace River

Prince Rupert

Edmonton

BRITISH COLUMBIA

ALBERTA

Kitimat

Mount Edziza Provincial Park

Stikine River Provincial Park

Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness Provincial Park

Finlay-Russet Provincial Park

Chase Provincial Park

Graham-Laurier Provincial Park

Sustut Provincial Park

Omineca Provincial Park

Misty Fjords National Monument Wilderness

Swain Lake/Kispiox River Provincial Park

Kitisnoo Provincial Park

Smelters

Rubyrock Lake Provincial Park

Carp Lake Provincial Park

Monkman Provincial Park

Tazuli Wyiez Bin/Burnie-Sheo Provincial Park

Roch Silttooyes Provincial Park

Morieh Lake Provincial Park

Prince George

Kakwa Provincial Park

Grande Cache

Entiako Provincial Park

Tweedsmuir Provincial Park

Itcha Ilgachuz Provincial Park

Bowron Lake Provincial Park

Willmore Wilderness Park

Mount Robson Provincial Park

Wood Buffalo National Park

Birch River Wildland Provincial Park

Kitaskino Nuwenene Wildland Provincial Park

Fort M

Slave Lake

Whitecourt

Edmonton

Leduc

Red Deer

Hecate Strait

Naikoon Provincial Park

Tracy Ashcroft Terror Wilderness

Petersburg

Stikine LeConte Wilderness

Prince of Wales Island

Kitasnoo Provincial Park

Longase Provincial Park

Kitimat

Kitasnoo Provincial Park

Petersburg

Prince of Wales Island

Naikoon Provincial Park

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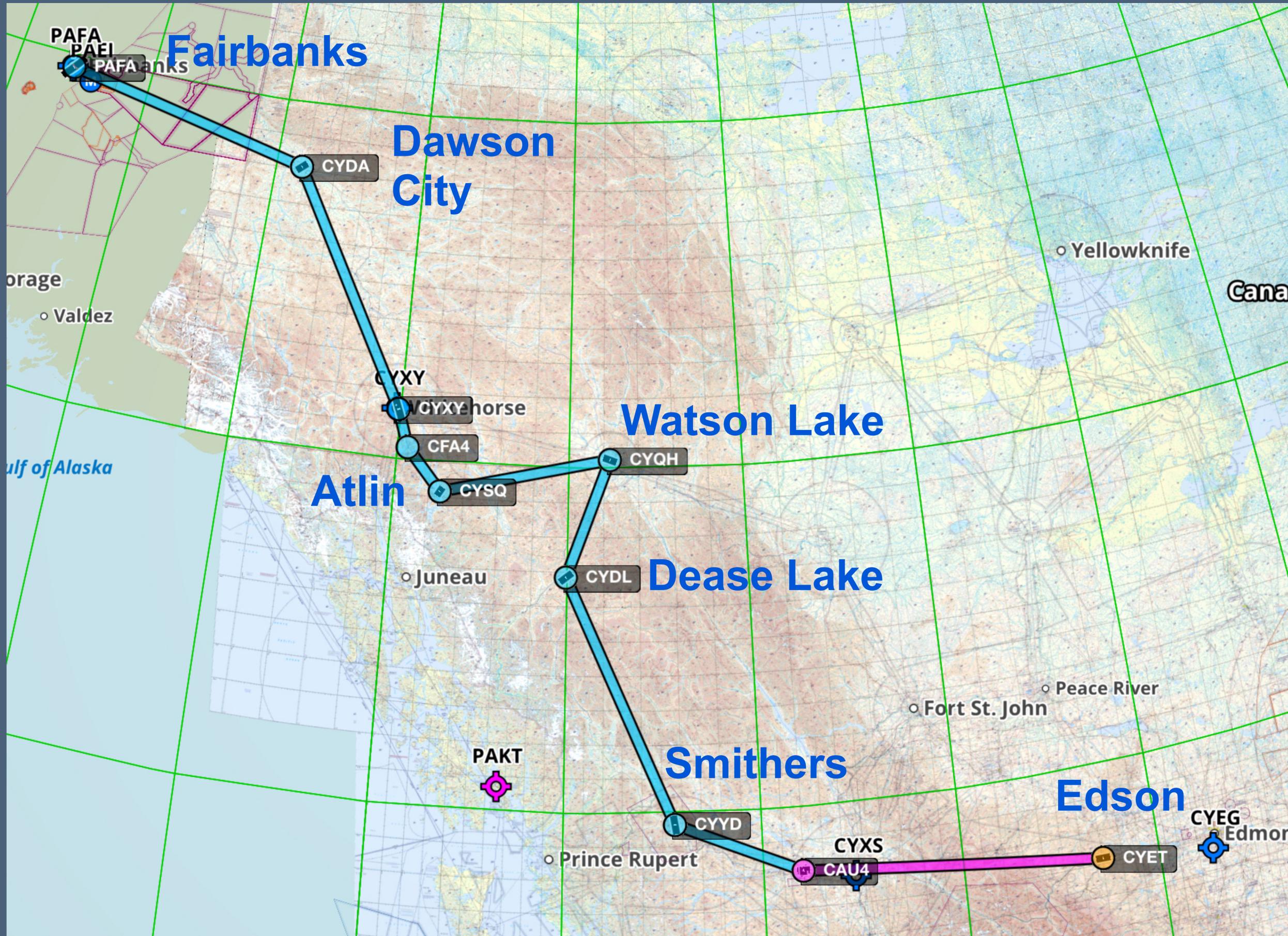
Petersburg

Prince of Wales Island

Naikoon Provincial Park



# Cassiar Highway



# LES YUKONNAIS PRENNENT LEUR ENVOL

Flying is so many parts skill, so many parts planning, so many parts maintenance, and so many parts luck. The trick is to reduce the luck by increasing the others.

## Aircraft

- Tie downs, rope, hammer, cover, inlet plugs, chocks Pitot cover, gust lock, towbar, step, rags, tool kit,
- Cargo straps, strap connectors, door bungee  
Jump starter, 2 jump extension cables, charger
- Tire change kit, jack, handle, screw jack
- Main & nose inner tubes, air pump, talc
- Electric air pump, tire pressure gauge
- Tools, socket set, 10mm socket, tire valves & wrench
- Spark plugs, spark plug wrench, breaker bar
- Multimeter, 15a fuse, wire, duct tape
- Screws, zip ties, safety wire, hose clamp,
- Nose gear cotter pin, brake reservoir Allen wrench
- Oil (9 qts), oil change drain tubing
- Emergency alternator belt
- Windshield cleaner
- Fuel carrying container, chamois filter
- Spare headset, handheld radio, flashlight, spare key
- 50-100' tie-down rope 1/2"
- Paper towels, seat cushion
- Glove for fuel hose, spare gas cap
- Relief container, toilet paper
- Life jacket (not taken)

## Electronics

- iPad, spare iPad, Stratus ADS-B
- Large power pack (2)
- Garmin InReach PLB, cable, manual
- iPad cables (C & USB), Stratus cable (2),
- Micro USB cable (2) Chargers (3),
- Spare 12v USB charger
- Extension cord 120v
- Pocket power packs  
Flashlights, headlamp, lantern
- Batteries, AAA & AA
- Charger bag, earbuds
- iPad bag, electronics bag

## Survival Vest Contents

- InReach PLB
- Compass
- Fire making
- First aid
- Flashlight
- Knife, Leatherman
- Bug repellent
- Mosquito net
- Energy bar
- Water purifier
- Water container
- Signal mirror
- Fishing hooks, lure
- Thermal blanket

## Survival (some listed under other headings)

- Fire making, 2nd thermal blanket
- First aid kit
- Hatchet, hunting knife
- Water, water purification filter, water tablets
- Backpack 25 liter with molle to carry jacket, etc
- MRE, cereal bars
- Mosquito netting
- Survival book
- Survival Vest and contents

## Camp

- Sleeping bag, tent, cot, pad
- Table, chair
- Stove, fuel, stove funnel, stove spare parts
- Pillow, pillow stuff sack
- Toilet paper, Kleenex
- Portable toilet, toilet bags, cat litter,
- Firestarter, pocket butane lighter (2)
- Long lighter, matches, newspaper,
- Hatchet, bow saw, shovel, hunting knife
- Lantern, glow sticks
- Cooler 13"x10"x9" 9 qt
- Camp towel

- Water carrier bags 1 gal, 2.5 gal
- Food container
- Rope, paracord, spare tent pegs
- Contractor bags, trash bags
- Paper towels, zip lock bags, tin foil
- Tarp
- Scissors, electrical tape, sandstone
- Nut with throw line for food catch

## Cookware

- Coffee pot, stew pot, fry pan
- Drip coffee strainer, filters
- Grill, utensils, tongs, flipper
- Popsicle stick stirrer, water bags
- Dish soap, scrub pads, dish towel
- Can opener, P38 can opener
- Camp cup with lid,
- Tall Yeti cup, can cooler
- Measuring cup (2nd camp cup)
- Coffee scoop
- Plastic plate, metal plate, bowl
- Paper plates
- Ziplock bags
- Cookware knapsack

## Hiking / Bicycling

- Day pack
- Water bottle & holder or canteen
- Carabineer clips
- Light tote with string shoulder straps

## Fire Making

- Butane lighters, wind resistant long lighter
- Petroleum jelly cotton balls, paper,
- Firestarter, stick matches

## Lighting

- Lantern, small
- Headlamp, powerful flashlight
- Small flashlights
- Means of hanging lamp in tent & lamp
- Glow sticks

## Other

- Pocket Knife
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray & liquid repellent, tick tool
- Mole pads for blister, spare boot lace
- Nitrile gloves
- Sandstone sharpener  
Fanny pack, (cooler fanny pack optional)
- Kindle, book
- Umbrella
- Laundry detergent
- Needle & thread
- Covid test record
- Outerwear tote bag
- Carry-on bag
- Towel
- Tote bags
- Calculator
- Transistor radio
- Binoculars

## Travel guides

- Alaska Airman, Alaska Milepost,
- Notes, literature, Fly2ak pdfs

## Customs

- Passport, passport card
- CANPASS registration
- US firearm Form 4457
- Canadian firearm form RCMP 5589 (3)
- US Customs Decal
- Canada EAB form
- Proof of insurance

## Bicycle

- Pedal wrench, Allen wrench
- Helmet, leg strap, center & seat bags
- Water bottle
- Bicycle light, odometer
- Spare tube, tire irons
- Hand pump
- Woodboard fork rest in aircraft

## Bear Protection

- Bear spray, transport container

### Shotgun

- Brenneke Magnum slugs
- 00 buckshot, #2 shot. #5 birdshot
- Sling, shell carrier, soft gun case
- Oil, cleaning patch

### Paperwork

- EAA AOPA AAA cards
- Visa, Travel visa, debit cards
- Cash, wallet, small wallet (for local use)

### Food

- Freeze-dried meals, Mountain House (17)
- MRE's (9)
- Hash, beef stew, spam, pudding, fruit
- Vienna sausage, soup
- Oatmeal, cereal bars, instant rice
- Coffee, honey, creamers
- Water flavoring
- Chocolate bars, Reese's peanut butter cups
- Ziplock bags, plastic top containers
- Food storage container/pack
- Beer (not taken)

### Software

- ForeFlight with Canada charts
- Canada Flight Supplement
- Alaska Flight Supplement
- Flying to Alaska
- Canada Flight Service acct. & password
- Canada flight plan form
- EAPIS

### Apps

- Windy – winds aloft, aviation weather
- TLAR – Takeoff and landing distance calculator given wind, load, temp, elevation
- AircraftPower – Power calculator given manifold pressure, RPM, altitude, temp

### Flight bag

- Pens, kneeboard, flashlight, headlamp, batteries
- Sunglasses, log book
- Canada paper charts
- Dual timer stopwatch panel mounted

### Outer Wear

- Warm jacket with removable liner
- Light jacket, windbreaker
- Frog Toggs rain jacket, pants
- Sweatshirt, puff liner
- Shade hat, ball cap (2), wool hat,
- Flying gloves, cotton gloves, leather work gloves

### Clothing

- Shirts – Long & short sleeve, T-shirt
- Warm long-sleeve shirt, Army shirt
- Pants – jeans, tan, short pants
- Underwear, T's, socks, handkerchief
- Shower/gym shorts, red bag, robe (not taken)
- Swim trunks or swim shorts
- Spare belt

### Footwear

- Sneakers, boots, slip-on shoes (or slippers)
- Regular socks, wool socks

### Personal

- Toiletries, hairbrush, shaver, pills,
- Soap, deodorant, thermometer
- Body wash, soap holder
- Shaver, hair brush, toothpaste, brush
- Kleenex, toilet paper
- Chapstick
- Spare glasses, strap
- Sunglasses (2)
- Eyeglass cleaner
- Hand cleaner
- Sleep mask



You may not need all the items I took - but you may need some....



## Camping Supplies

12.2 Camp cooking bag  
13.6 Misc camp bag  
5.7 Stove & fuel  
7.2 Tent  
7.0 Cot  
3.0 Table  
4.4 Sleeping bag  
5.1 Chair  
4.1 Toilet  
7.0 Outerware bag  
1.1 Folding saw  
1.8 Tarp  
5.9 Shotgun  
3.5 Ammo  
7.2 Freeze dried food  
16.2 MRE's  
16.0 Canned food etc backpack  
13.8 Cooler with water 9 bottles  
6.3 Electronics bag, battery packs  
2.5 First aid kit  
3.5 Survival tote, bear spray  
20.0 Bicycle  
167.1

24.2 Carry on bag Clothes, boots, toiletries  
3.1 Survival vest

## Aircraft Equipment

25.6 Box with 9 qt. oil, jump starter, electric air pump, multi-meter, small parts,  
7.0 Flyties tie down anchor kit, small hammer  
3.8 Socket set incl deep sockets for wheel hub  
5.7 Ties down ropes (6), chocks, gust lock, rope  
10.7 Tool bag  
11.0 Jack bag: with inner tubes, jumper cable  
3.1 Aircraft survival bag  
1.6 Quick reach bag, spare headset, personal range extender, power pac  
3.2 Tow bar  
2.6 Step stool  
3.5 Aircraft cover  
5.0 Flight Bag: log book, papers, spare cables, cigarette USA  
82.8

249.9 Baggage area  
27.3 Passenger seat  
277.2 Total supplies (plus 3 qts oil, 2 gal. water)

1374.0 Acft empty wt  
277.2 Supplies  
170.0 Pilot  
300.0 50 gal fuel  
2121.2 Loaded weight  
  
2350.0 Max gross weight

# Weights

# Aircraft Tools and Supplies

- Tube change kit
- Jack up plane
- Spark plugs
- Air pump
- Oil change, oil



# Aircraft Tools and Supplies

- Test before you go
- Metric, special tools
- Alternator belt
- A way to transport & filter fuel
- Windshield cleaning
- Shovel and bow saw



# Camping Equipment and Supplies

- Cot
- Portable toilet
- Table
- Food
- Water
- Bear spray
- Shotgun





# First Aid

## Off the shelf kits are only a start

### Trauma

- Israeli Bandage
- SAM splint
- Bleed Stop
- Tourniquet
- Burn ointment
- Electrolytes

### Meds

- Antiseptics
- Pain relief
- Fever
- Diarrhea
- Muscle soreness
- Upset stomach

Digital thermometer    Dental kit    Blister kit    Booklet

***List of Contents***

# Survival Vest



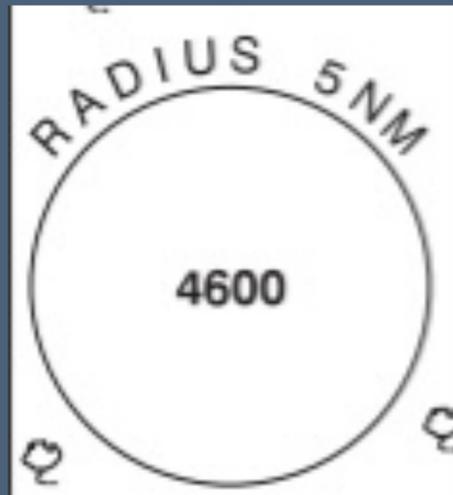






# Flying in Canada

- Mandatory Frequency
- Radio Operator
- Flight plan activation
- 122.7 traffic avoidance
- Midfield pattern entry
- No VFR on top



Note from SAR:

"Your friend Mr Koch was concerned and contacted Search & Rescue."

- Dawson Radio

Make sure designated contact knows who to call

- Canada - SAR sector
- Alaska - Fairbanks FS
- Lower 48 - FS

PLB position updates

# Tips

- Fuel Availability
- Canada Flight Supplement  
- MUST HAVE
- No ADS-B
- Cell phone & Flight Service
- Weather forecast
- TFR - ForeFlight
- Recommended route





Recommended Route

A safer route

Where they will look first

Fraser  
White Pass

Lemieux

Atlin



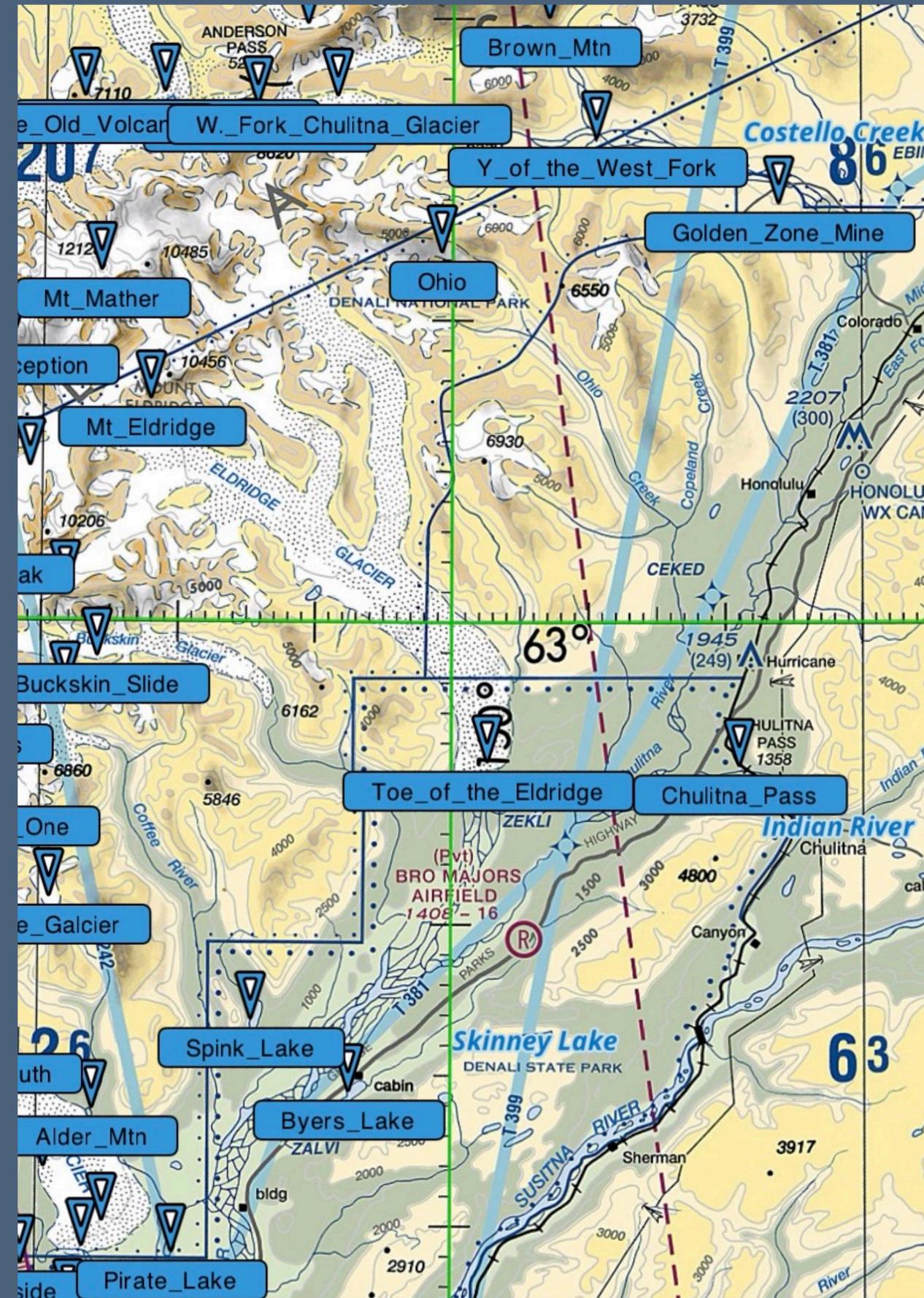
**Get used to mountains  
off your wingtip**



**Fly 1/3 below mountain  
tops**



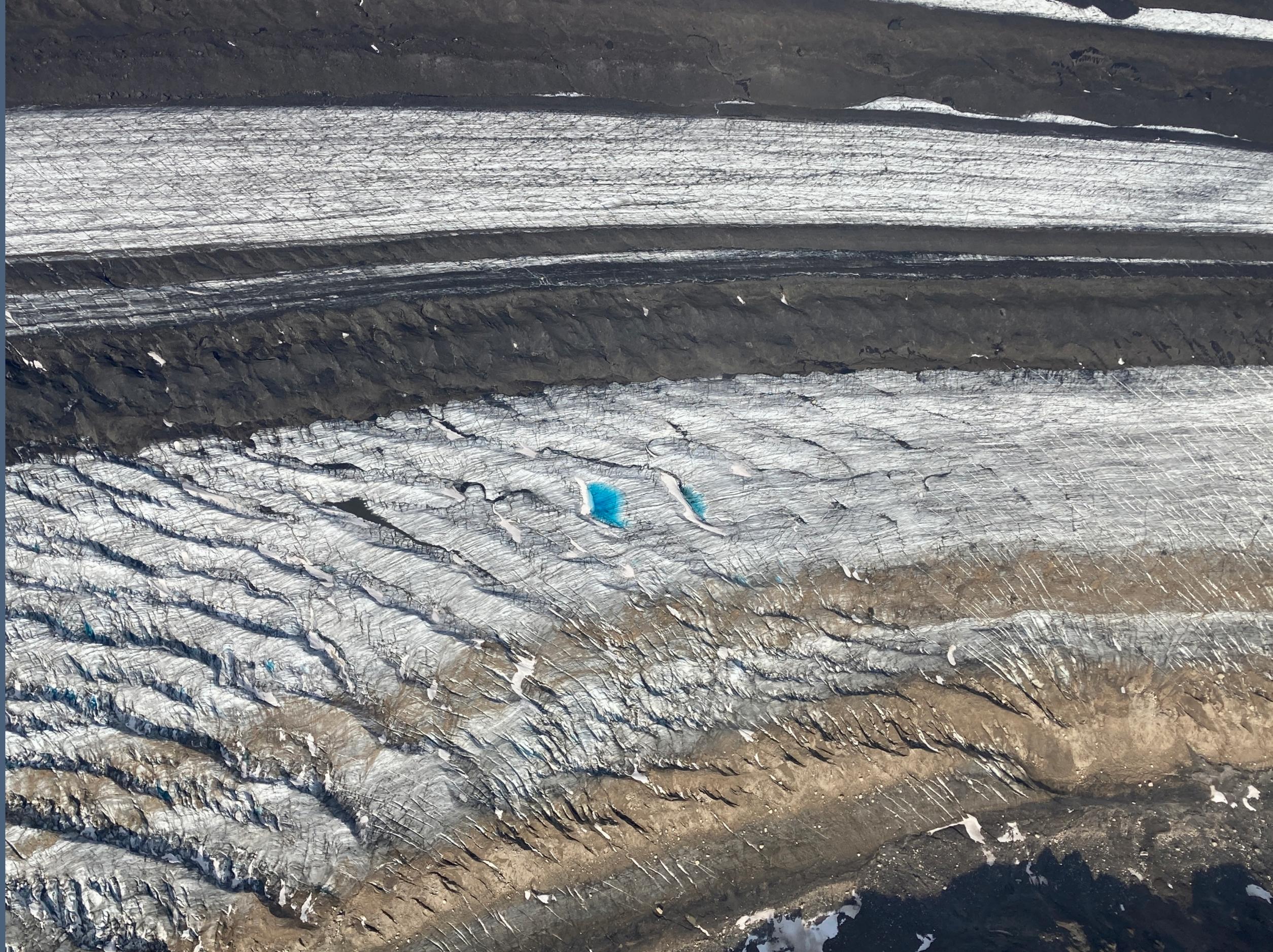
# No. 1 Tip: *Talk to local pilots*



# Local pilot Report points Frequency Plan B





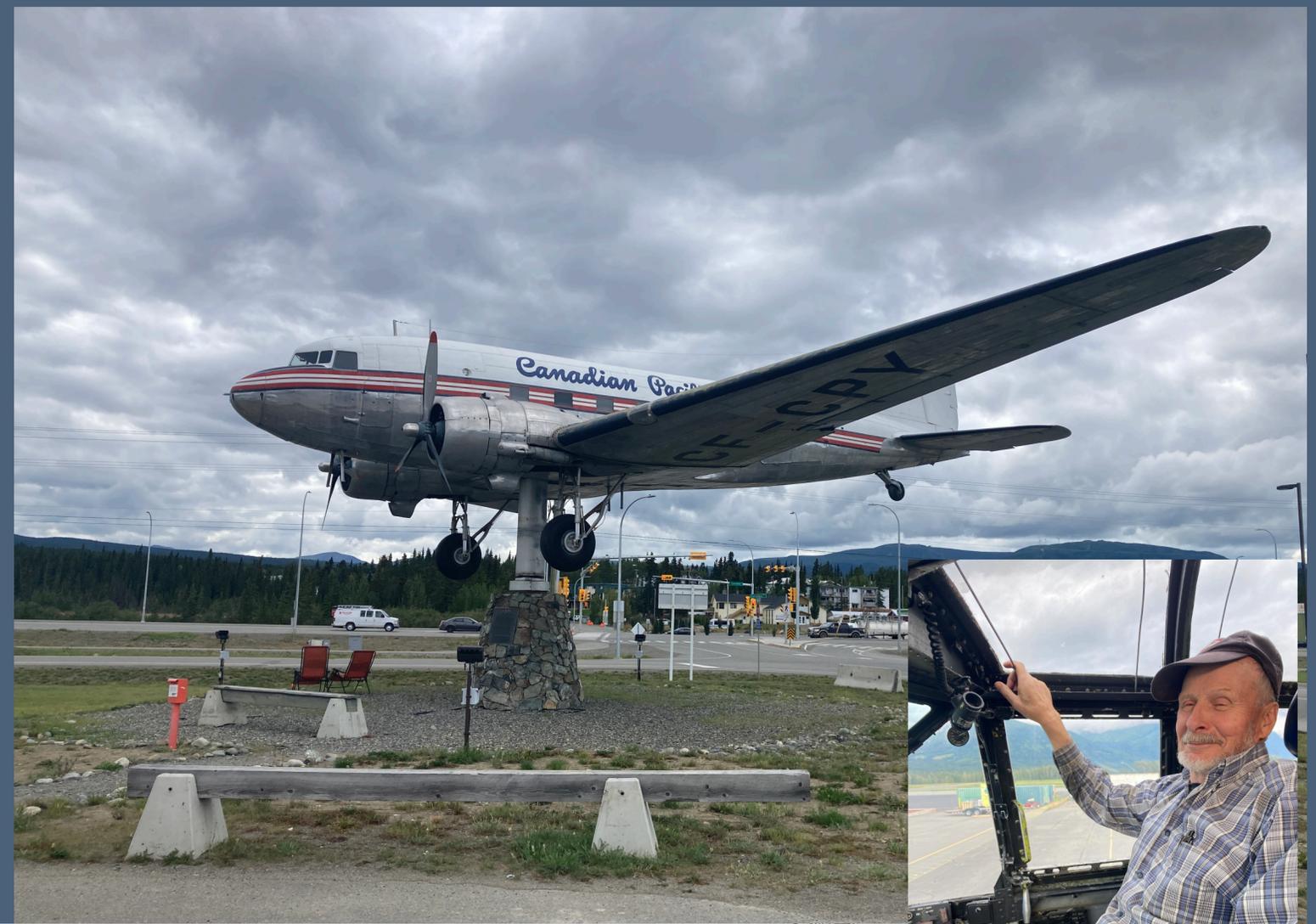




Dawson City



**HAVE FUN!**



That's all, folks

