

AgAviation.org/flysafe

April 7, 2025

DON'T BECOME A STATISTIC!

- 3 Ag Accidents reported by NTSB this year
- 1 Fatality (Including 1 not yet reported by NTSB)

KEEP YOUR FOCUS ON WIRES AND OTHER HAZARDS – WIRES HAVE ALREADY CLAIMED LIFE OF AG PILOT IN 2025

The ag aviation industry has already suffered a fatal accident in 2025. While the NTSB is still conducting their investigation, it appears the accident involved a wire strike. Over the prior five years, 20 ag pilots lost their lives in wire strike accidents; 37% of the fatal accidents over those five seasons were attributed to wire strikes. To avoid a wire strike accident, you must keep wires in the forefront of your mind throughout your application.

To help with this, remember the four conditions of awareness discussed in PAASS:

- White Mind wanders; thoughts not focusing on task at hand.
- Yellow Focused on flight tasks and maintaining situational awareness, searching for potential threats in your environment.
- Orange Attention diverted to a specific task required for operations but no longer scanning for threats.
- Red An emergency is occurring or about to occur.

Condition yellow is where you want to be when you are making aerial applications, as this is when you will be most able to notice a wire or other hazard. There are many things to keep track of during an aerial application, however, and it can be easy to shift focus to a particular task and forget about hazards and other tasks. For instance, if you are having issues with your GPS, attempting to resolve the problem will take you from condition yellow into condition orange. You are no longer scanning for threats, increasing your risk of striking a wire or other obstacle. You must remain conscious of the fact your attention has been diverted into condition orange and that you need to get back into yellow as quickly as possible.

Check TFRs	
Danis Francis	

Always check Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR) NOTAMs before flying! Make sure you have proof of a preflight TFR briefing from sources such as FSS or https://www.1800wxbrief.com

Don't Forget to Communicate

Communicate with other ag aircraft using 122.925 MHz – limit your transmissions to announcing who you are, where you are, and what you plan to do.

Make a Fly Safe Resolution Today!