



this will not be an airborne eclipse observation, it will be flying, if necessary due to unfavorable skies at Casper, Wyoming on eclipse morning, from there to a different location at 430+ knots to land and observe eclipse on the ground, at or near the destination airport

never in history has there been a solar eclipse with so many large airports in path of totality - let's take advantage of this

objective will be to fly in our standby, chartered MD-82 or MD-83 jetliner with approx. 150 participants from Casper, Wyoming airport on eclipse morning August 21, departing from Casper as close before the eclipse as possible flying 430+ knots to an airport destination, if we can discern one by current satphotos confirmed by phone calls, where the weather RIGHT NOW, not "tomorrow", is not just "better than Casper", it's PERFECT, pristine blue horizon-to-horizon, or as near-perfect as we can find, in hoped-for large, cool-air high pressure system centered around the destination airport we choose - unless of course, Casper's own weather is perfect or near-perfect in which case we'll remain at Casper

for each airport, the two times at top right are UT first contact and mid-totality - on second line at right is duration of totality

for each airport, designated time of wheels-up at Casper is shown at bottom in UT followed by Casper local time, timed for arrival at destination airport approx. 60 minutes before totality - we'll need to retain flexibility to depart earlier if necessary

note this remarkable capability the jetliners will give us: as of around 8:00am Casper local time on eclipse morning we will still have option to fly to "anywhere from Idaho to South Carolina" in time to arrive approx. one hour before the moon's shadow does, adequate to disembark and set up

if we have to choose an airport not very near centerline, we'll depart Casper an extra 20 minutes earlier, and we'll phone ahead to have pre-arranged local vans with local drivers meet us "at vip area" upon landing, right next to where aircraft pulls up, so we don't have to go through terminal to parking lots, etc., so we can make rapid getaway from airport to drive towards centerline

in telephone survey early June 2017, airport managers didn't say they expect overwhelming traffic for the eclipse, room to land just before the eclipse should be no problem - we'll check with them again closer to the time