

Fire Boss Inspections



This document is intended to assist you during a Fire Boss Pre-Use Inspection. It is not intended as a manual or guide, but merely as an aide in completing an inspection.

The Fire Boss is a unique tool in the fight against wildland fires. It is well-suited for initial attack of fires located in close proximity to water sources.

The Fire Boss is an Air Tractor 802, the same airframe as a Single Engine Air Tanker (SEAT). Along with the items normally found in a SEAT Pre-Use Information and Inspection Sheet, there are a few additional items specific to the Fire Boss.

This document will cover the additional items to look at during a pre-use inspection.

Use the General Observation or Comments boxes on the SEAT Pre-Use Inspection form to document any issues.

If unsure about the condition of anything you see, consult with the pilot or crew chief.

Several photos are included in this document to assist you during your inspection.

Bow Landing Gear

This retractable front wheel gear is made from a composite material called “ScotchPly”.



Look for cracks, missing or loose bolts, excessive tire wear and overall good condition.

**It is important when parking a Fire Boss to ensure its front wheels are straight to ensure a smooth transition to taxi.*

Floats



Ensure that the floats are in good condition.



Check for loose or missing rivets. They can be spotted against the white paint scheme.

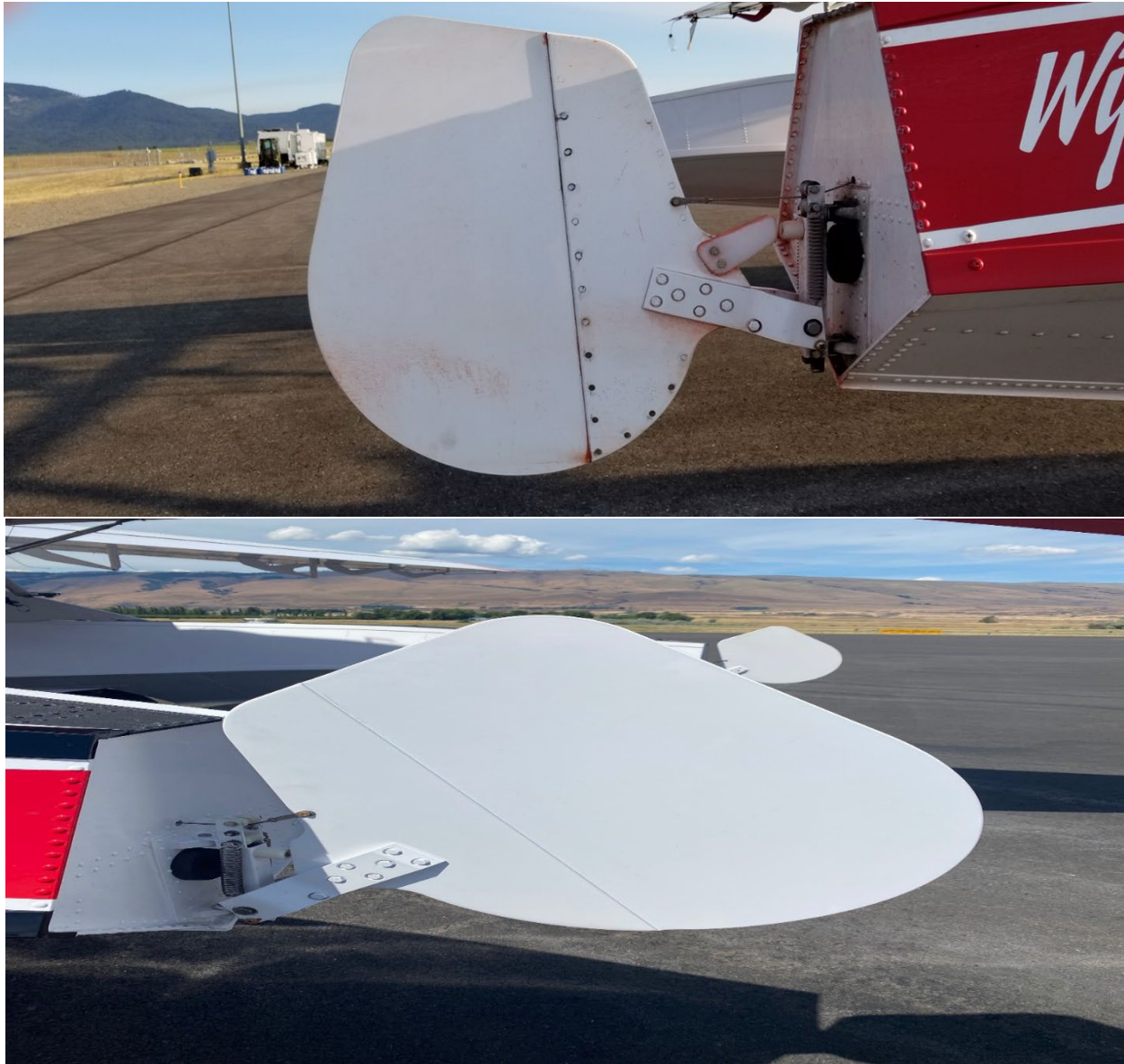
Probes



Look for damage or leaks. Leaks can be an indication of a bad or loose “Platypus Valve”. This valve is a self-closing one way valve that needs flow rate to open.

Water Rudders

The rudders are used for taxiing on the water, not during scooping operations.



Look at the cable, spring, mounting hardware and rivets for any wear or missing items.

Connecting Points: Floats



Look at the connecting points on each float for any obvious signs of damage or missing items.



Cracked or chipped paint around connecting points could be an indication of another issue. Check with the pilot or crew chief if you see this.

Kicker Struts

Pay close attention to the kicker struts located in front of the fire gate. These are designed to act like shock absorbers on your vehicle.

**Arrows indicate the location of the “Kicker Struts”.*



Ensure that the kicker struts are straight.

Examples of bent kicker struts:



Agricultural Mixing Pumps

Some Fire Boss' are equipped with agricultural mixing pumps for on-board mixing of water enhancers.



Make sure all blades are attached to prevent any damage.

Finlets

The Fire Boss has extra finlets located on the top of the horizontal stabilizer.



A wheeled SEAT does not have this.



Safety Considerations

When under the Fire Boss for inspections or loading, be aware of any hard or sharp objects.

