



# Eclipse Activity Report (EAR)

## Nationwide Eclipse Ballooning Project

Issue #2  
8/18/2016

<http://eclipse.montana.edu>

## General Updates

### Your EARs

Eclipse Activity Reports (EARs) will be the **primary method of communication** with all the eclipse ballooning teams. While participation on ProBoards, GitHub, the monthly telecons, and social media is optional, communication is vital to the success of this project. **Every other week, we'll email the team contacts a new issue of EAR.** The EAR topics – general updates, technical activity, team activity, new FAQs, communication, and action items – will stay the same but the content will change with each issue. **Pay special attention to the action items section!** Each new EAR will also be posted in the News section of the website.

### Team Contacts

We want to make sure that each team is in direct communication with the project leadership. Please make sure to give Shane updates to points of contact. Also, make sure to forward all communication on to each team member.

### Resources

Under the 'Participants' tab on the webpage you will find continually updated resources.



- **\*NEW\*** Bill of Materials PDF on the eclipse website under the system resources tab.

### Education resources

You will find a new tab on the eclipse website: Education. Here we will be sharing links, lesson plans, eclipse related involvement activities and other educational resources/activities. If you have any resources you would like to share please contact Shane. Please share this page to anyone who may benefit from these resources/activities.

### More Supplies on the Way

Teams will be receiving additional ballooning supplies in the near future (including a metal base plate for teams who received an acrylic plate during the workshop). The ballooning supplies include everything you need for a flight except helium:

- Another 2,000 gram balloon
- Parachute
- Regulator and regulator wrench
- Balloon filling hardware
- Tarp and sheets for balloon fill

- Ballooning tape (i.e. duct tape)
- Rigging line
- White gloves for balloon handling (8 pairs)
- Plastic tub for carrying supplies

If your team will not use any of the ballooning supplies mentioned above, please let us know so we can save them for other teams.

## Technical Activity

### On ProBoards

ProBoards is an online forum that will allow you to post your technical questions and concerns where the entire Eclipse Ballooning Project community can provide feedback to one another. You can register a user or use the forum as a guest user. Please visit:

<http://eclipsedesign.proboards.com/>

### On GitHub

On Github, updated code for running various systems (such as the ground station) will be shared for you to download. You will need to create a (free) user account in order to access the repositories. Check back periodically for updates. Please visit:

<https://github.com/MSU-BOREALIS>

## Team Activity

### Send updates and pictures!

Send us pictures and brief descriptions of your eclipse ballooning activity and we'll share it here and on social media.

## New FAQs

- **\*NEW\*** How do I create a backup/new RFD or Ubiquiti SD card?
- All FAQs and associated answers will continue to be posted on the FAQ tab of the website. Please continue to ask us questions as they come up.

## Communication

- Points of Contact for eclipse path state hosts are given on the FAQ page.
- Our first group **telecom** will be Thursday September 8th, 2016 at 11 AM Mountain time. At the telecoms, we will spend about 10 minutes on updates then open the floor for questions.
  - Call toll free 855-797-9485
  - Pass code 921-692-445# then # again
- We're putting together a social media team. Anyone interested in helping, please contact Shane or Angela.
- There will be eclipse ballooning sessions at the Southeast and Western **Space Grant regional meetings** at the end of September. We invite you to share your progress if you'll be at one of these meetings.
- Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/EclipseHighAltitudeBallooning/>
- Twitter: [https://twitter.com/Eclipse\\_HAB](https://twitter.com/Eclipse_HAB)

## Action items

- Send us images of your T minus one-year activity so we can share with everyone.
- Send Shane updates to points of contact
- Telecom 9/8/16, 11 AM Mountain
- **August 21<sup>st</sup> 2016 (see below)**
- Contact Shane with 2017 eclipse dry run date preference: **Tuesday, June 20<sup>th</sup>** – or – **Saturday, June 24<sup>th</sup>**

**T MINUS ONE YEAR TO THE ECLIPSE! We encourage all teams to participate, in some form or another, in the August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2016 coordination event whether it be a flight, tethered test or lab bench test.** If you are not planning on a test of some sort during this coordination event, it is strongly recommended that your Iridium modem is turned on for a few hours on the 21<sup>st</sup> to see how the system handles all the modems on at once.