



Festival Media Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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National Cherry Festival Just Named '2015 Air Show Site of the Year' by the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds

TRAVERSE CITY, MI (December 8, 2015) – The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds just announced at International Council of Air Shows that the National Cherry Festival was voted and named **'2015 Air Show Site Of the Year'**.

Attending the ICAS conference in Las Vegas, Nevada this week are members of the National Cherry Festival Air Show committee. Steve Plamondon who serves as the Festival's Air Boss, called Festival Executive Director Trevor Tkach with the news. "Steve's voice was filled with excitement and rightfully so. Steve's passion for excellence, along with the expertise and hard work of dozens of Air Show volunteers, along with Cherry Capital Airport – TVC, the U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Traverse City, and so many others responsible for hosting our air show acts, made way for this award to be presented to the National Cherry Festival," said Tkach.

"What an honor it is to receive this award, particularly after a 25 year hiatus from appearing in Traverse City during the National Cherry Festival. Furthermore, I was so proud to learn that the award is determined by the entire U.S. Air Force Thunderbird team, not just a single officer or the pilots. This honor shows just how well our entire community roles out the 'cherry red carpet' for every distinguished guest coming to the National Cherry Festival," said Plamondon.

While the U.S. Navy Blue Angels will be flying in the Festival Air Shows this upcoming summer in 2016, the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds have confirmed that they will take to the skies in 2017 during the opening weekend, July 1st and 2nd.

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