



PIF 7-11

July 26, 2011

Subject: Landing Runway 6

If you land or take off on Runway 6 at Shannon, you will instantly notice an absence of trees around the railroad tracks. Yes, the trees were cut and cleared away from the tracks as part of a multi-stage tree cutting project at the airport.

This does raise a very real safety concern. The trees previously at the end of the runway served as a reminder to come in for a landing so as to cross above the railroad tracks at an altitude of at least 35 feet. The problem arises if a pilot attempts to land by coming in on final too low, then adds power just above the ground. A pilot cannot see an approaching train and the train could hit a low aircraft. Given the frequency of trains and the number of training flights (and landings) that take place each day, it would only be a matter of time before a plane gets clipped by a train. I've never personally seen this, but I'm guessing the train wins.

All JLS Aviation pilots and aircraft will fly a final approach so as to clear the railroad tracks by at least 35 feet AGL. Pilots are further reminded that landing on either the blast area or the displaced threshold is prohibited.