

Story # 2. Our pilot was on a long cross-country flight and got trapped by a weather system that moved in overnight, while our pilot was sleeping in the hotel. The weather system was extensive and covered many square miles, and the system wasn't moving anywhere fast. Our pilot exercised good judgment and stayed put for two days as the storm dumped rain on the newly repaired aircraft. The airport was in a broad expansive valley surrounded by mountains on three sides and rising high desert terrain on another. On day three "get-home-itis" got the best of our pilot and our hapless aviator asked the local pilots how to could get out of there. "Follow the highway to the river, follow the river to the next major highway and follow that to your home base. The weather was barely 1000 overcast and 3 miles visibility. Did our pilot plan for and have an escape route? Where were VFR conditions and was he capable of getting there without ending up inside a cloud? Long story short, it was a near CFIT and our pilot ended up inside the clouds, the outcome was successful with the help of ATC.