

NEBRASKA

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

Good Life. Great Strength.



November 12, 2019

Pete Ricketts, Governor

Governor Pete Ricketts and
Patrick J. O'Donnell, Clerk of the Legislature
State Capital
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Governor Ricketts and Mr. O'Donnell:

Nebraska Revised Statute 81-827 requires the Nebraska Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) to contract all costs to maintain one single-engine air tanker (SEAT) in Nebraska available to provide aerial suppression flights in fighting wildfires. NEMA is also required to report annually, no later than December 1st, to the Governor and the Clerk of the Legislature regarding deployment of the SEAT to include:

- A. Date and time each request for deployment of the SEAT was received.
- B. Date and time each time the SEAT was deployed.
- C. Explanation for any delay of more than an hour from the time a request was received until the SEAT actually deployed.
- D. Explanation for the denial of any request for SEAT deployment.

Nebraska works in coordination with surrounding states to allow deployment of the Nebraska funded SEAT to locations outside of the state as long as fires within the state of Nebraska receive priority for deployment of the Nebraska SEAT over requests to support fires elsewhere. The Great Plains Interagency Dispatch Center (GPC) manages the deployment of all SEAT aircraft in the entire region.

The most recent contract/activation period for the Nebraska SEAT occurred July 29 through September 28, 2019 (63 operational days). A list of aerial suppression flights flown in 2019 (Table 1) as well as a report of costs associated with the SEAT program for 2019 (Table 2) are attached.

Please contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Bryan Tuma
Assistant Director

Attachments as stated

Daryl Bohac, Director

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

2433 NW. 24th Street
Lincoln, Nebraska 68524

OFFICE 402-471-7421 FAX 402-471-7433

nema.nebraska.gov

**TABLE 1 --SEAT PROGRAM
AERIAL SUPPRESSION FLIGHTS 2019**

<u>REQUEST RECEIVED</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>TIME DEPLOYED OR ON-SCENE</u>	<u>REQUEST DENIED/REASON /ACTION TAKEN</u>	<u>DEPLOYMENT DELAYED/REASON</u>	<u>FLIGHT HOURS/ SORTIES FLOWN/ BILLED TO/BY</u>	<u>RETARDANT USED/ BILLED TO/BY</u>
September 14, 2019	TRAINING/EXERCISE: Western Nebraska Engine Academy, Gering, Nebraska	SEAT participated in training/exercise with several Volunteer Fire Departments	N/A	N/A	3.0 flight hours billed to Nebraska Forest Service by NEMA.	N/A

TABLE 2 - SEAT PROGRAM
ASSOCIATED COSTS FOR 2019

	Standby AV	Flight Time FT	Ext Pilot EP	Ext Driver ET	Per Diem PD	Support Truck SM
7/29 - 8/31/19	34	2.23	0	0	85	68
9/1 - 9/28/19	28	5.14	1	1	68	559
Total	62	7.37	1	1	153	627
Price	\$ 2,750.00	\$ 2,750.00	\$ 55.00	\$ 33.00	\$ 149.00	\$ 2.45
Total Cost	\$ 170,500.00	\$ 20,267.50	\$ 55.00	\$ 33.00	\$ 22,797.00	\$ 1,536.15

\$ 112,464.10
\$ 102,724.55

Total Contract Amount billed for 2019 \$ 215,188.65

Additional costs:

Retardant	
OCIO	
Lodging - Larkin	
USDA -	
Yellow Books	
Voyager - Fuel	

\$	119,052.72
\$	69.42
\$	160.01
\$	12,000.00
\$	86.40
\$	134.28
\$	131,502.83

Total SEAT Costs 2019

\$ 346,691.48