

WILDFIRE SUPPRESSION AIRCRAFT

Texas has been 100% dependent on obtaining wildfire suppression aircraft resources through federal contracts. This model works except when wildfire activity is high across the U.S. and competition for resources becomes a problem. Because of this, the model must change.



TEXAS WILDFIRE PROTECTION PLAN

TEXAS A&M FOREST SERVICE goals



IMPROVE RESPONSE TIME

Agency-owned/managed wildfire suppression aircraft will improve response time to suppress large wildfires - helping reduce or minimize loss of life and property



INCREASE RESPONSE OPTIONS

Contracting aircraft provides additional response options and reduces reliance on the use of federal aircraft

THE ASK:

\$369.1M FOR THE BIENNIUM

\$200M is one-time funding to *purchase* aircraft

\$169.1M is for the biennium at \$84.55M/year to *contract additional* aircraft and to provide aircraft support operations

IF FUNDED Funding will purchase:

- 4 Large Airtankers
- 3 Multi-mission Aircraft
- 2 Helicopters

Full-time positions to manage and support air operations

Maintenance contracts, fuel, and hangar space

Federal contract aircraft will be used when the state's aircraft resources have been exceeded.

Funding will contract:

- 4 Single-engine Airtankers
- 1 Helicopter

Full-time positions to manage and support air operations

No additional funding will be needed for maintenance or operations as costs are covered within the agreements.