

## 10 Tanker Air Carrier

10 Tanker Air Carrier is a company operating converted Douglas DC-10 aircraft to fight wildfires. The company was founded in 2003 in California and moved its base to the Albuquerque International Sunport in 2013. Four DC-10 tankers are normally stationed at the Sunport and regularly use the Roswell International Air Center for reloading of fuel and fire retardant as well. Extensive operations were flown throughout New Mexico fighting several very large wildfires during April through June, 2022.



10 Tanker Air Carrier Douglas DC-10 in the original livery at Albuquerque in 2016.



10 Tanker Douglas DC-10 in the latest livery at ABQ in 2022.

## Erickson Aero Tanker

Erickson Aero Tanker is a company using a fleet of converted McDonnell Douglas MD-87 aircraft to fight wildfires. Erickson Aero is based in Hillsboro, OR and normally stations at least one of its MD-87's at the Alamogordo White Sands Regional Airport. During April through June, 2022, five aircraft were stationed at ABQ to fight several large wildfires throughout New Mexico at the time. On June 18 and 19, 2024, Erickson made several runs from Alamogordo fighting a large fire near Ruidoso, NM. The MD-87's also fly into and out of the Grant County Airport serving Silver City, NM.



Erickson Aero Tanker McDonnell Douglas MD-87 at Albuquerque in 2022.



Erickson Aero Tanker McDonnell Douglas MD-87 At Alamogordo.

# AeroFlite

AeroFlite is a firefighting company founded in 1963 and based in Spokane, Washington. The carrier operates a fleet of British Aerospace Avro RJ-85 and Bombardier CL-415 tankers. AeroFlite flew extensive operations throughout New Mexico during April through June, 2022 and in June, 2024. The Avro RJ-85's operated at the airports in Albuquerque, Alamogordo, and Silver City, New Mexico. The CL-415's flew mainly out of Santa Fe and Truth or Consequences, New Mexico scooping water from Heron and Elephant Butte reservoirs.



AeroFlite British Aerospace BAe-146 landing at Albuquerque in 2022.



AeroFlite Bombardier CL-415 is the type of aircraft used to scoop water from Heron Lake in June, 2022.

# Neptune Aviation Services

Neptune Aviation Services was founded in 1993 and is based in Missoula, Montana. Neptune operates a fleet of British Aerospace BAe-146 converted for firefighting. The carrier also uses the Albuquerque International Sunport and the Alamogordo White Sands Regional Airport as bases for reloading during firefighting duties. Extensive operations were performed throughout New Mexico during the Spring of 2022 and again in June, 2024.



Neptune Aviation British Aerospace BAe-146 at Albuquerque in 2016.

# Coulson Flying Tankers

Coulson Flying Tankers, based in Port Alberni, British Columbia, Canada, operates Boeing 737-300, Lockheed C-130 Hercules, and several other aircraft types for firefighting purposes. Aircraft were flown into Albuquerque and Roswell during May 2022 for extensive firefighting operations in New Mexico. In May 2024, Coulson also assisted with a large fire near Ruidoso, NM.



Coulson Flying Tankers Boeing 737-300 at Albuquerque May 20, 2022.



Coulson Flying Tankers Lockheed C-130 Hercules at Albuquerque in May, 2022 and June, 2024.