

2024 Seafair Weekend Festival (Boat Race and Airshow)

Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Non-participant Mitigation Plan

Overview

The Seafair Weekend Festival operates on August 02-05, 2024, in and around Genesee Park and Lake Washington in Seattle Washington. The event features an airshow and boat races, including appearances by the US Navy Blue Angels and Unlimited Hydroplane Boat Racing. The event attracts crowds on the lake shore and on the water. Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)/Drones are among the prohibited items coming through the entrance screening points.

Federal Temporary Flight Restrictions (TFRs) are in place for the airspace above the active elements of the airshow and boat racing.

Non-participant UAS are not permitted within the Seafair TFRs and event geography, either on land or water, in accordance with federal regulations. (49 USC 40103(b)(3))

Mitigation

Security and emergency management resources are partnering with the US Department of Homeland Security (HDS) and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to locate the operator of any non-participant UAS. The unauthorized UAS operation could result in electronic mitigation measures deployed to mitigate any unauthorized UAS operation.

UAS flight activities over the event site may be terminated in the interest of safety in the event a non-participant UAS is operating in the restricted or waived airspace.

The Department of Homeland Security, Mobile Detection Deployment Program may take mitigation and enforcement action against non-approved UAS threats.

Authorities

“Pursuant to 49 USC 40103(b)(3), the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) classifies the airspace defined herein as ‘National Defense Airspace’. Pilots who do not adhere to the following restrictions may be intercepted, detained and interviewed by law enforcement/security personnel. Any of the following additional actions may also be taken against a pilot who does not comply with the requirements, or any special instructions or procedures announced in the NOTAM:

- A) The FAA may take administrative action, including imposing civil penalties and the suspension or revocation of airmen certificates; or
- B) The United States government may pursue criminal charges, including charges under 49 USC Section 46307; or
- C) The United States government may use deadly force against the airborne UAS aircraft, if it is determined that the aircraft poses an imminent security threat.

Pursuant to 14 CFR 99.7, Special Security Instructions (SSI), all Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) flight operations are prohibited within the area, dates and times described in NOTAM FDC 4/9306.”