

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION	
CERTIFICATE OF WAIVER OR AUTHORIZATION	
ISSUED TO Public Agency – University of Colorado, Boulder	Part 91
ADDRESS University of Colorado, Boulder 3775 Discovery Drive Boulder, CO 80309	
This certificate is issued for the operations specifically described hereinafter. No person shall conduct any operation pursuant to the authority of this certificate except in accordance with the standard and special provisions contained in this certificate, and such other requirements of the Federal Aviation Regulations not specifically waived by this certificate.	
OPERATIONS AUTHORIZED Operation of the DRAK Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) in Class E and G airspace, at or below 2000 feet AGL in the vicinity of La Marque, Texas and southwest Chambers County, Texas, under the jurisdiction of Houston Terminal Radar Approach Control (I90 TRACON). See Special Provisions.	
LIST OF WAIVED REGULATIONS BY SECTION AND TITLE N/A	
STANDARD PROVISIONS	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. A copy of the application made for this certificate shall be attached and become a part hereof.</li><li>2. This certificate shall be presented for inspection upon the request of any authorized representative of the Federal Aviation Administration, or of any State or municipal official charged with the duty of enforcing local laws or regulations.</li><li>3. The holder of this certificate shall be responsible for the strict observance of the terms and provisions contained herein.</li><li>4. This certificate is nontransferable.</li></ol>	
Note-This certificate constitutes a waiver of those Federal rules or regulations specifically referred to above. It does not constitute a waiver of any State law or local ordinance.	
SPECIAL PROVISIONS	
Special Provisions A thru H, inclusive, are set forth on the reverse side hereof.	
This certificate is effective from <b>March 23, 2021</b> to <b>March 22, 2023</b> and is subject to cancellation at any time upon notice by the Administrator or his/her authorized representative.	
BY DIRECTION OF THE ADMINISTRATOR	
<u>FAA Central Service Area</u> (Region)	<u>Vonnie L. Giles</u> (Signature)
<u>Manager, Tactical Operations Team (AJV-C23)</u> (Title)	

**Purpose:** To prescribe UAS operating requirements in the National Airspace System (NAS) for the purpose of Public Aircraft Operations. The holder of this COA will be referred herein as the “Proponent”.

Public Aircraft

1. A public aircraft operation is determined by statutes, 49 USC §40102(a) (41) and §40125.
2. All public aircraft flights conducted under a COA must comply with the terms of the statute.
3. All flights must be conducted per the declarations submitted in the application, and as specified in the following Special Provisions.
4. This COA provides an alternate means of complying with 14 CFR §91.113(b) for unmanned aircraft operations.
5. All operations will be conducted in compliance with Title 14 CFR §91 and the conditions of the authorization issued herein. If the operator cannot adhere to any of these requirements, a separate FAA Form 7711-2 waiver application may be required.

## **SPECIAL PROVISIONS**

### **A. General.**

1. All personnel connected with the UAS operation must read and comply with the contents of this authorization and its provisions.
2. A copy of the COA including the special limitations must be immediately available to all operational personnel at each operating location whenever UAS operations are conducted.
3. This authorization may be canceled at any time by the Administrator, the person authorized to grant the authorization, or the representative designated to monitor a specific operation. As a general rule, this authorization may be canceled when it is no longer required, there is an abuse of its provisions, or when unforeseen safety factors develop. Failure to comply with the authorization is cause for cancellation. The proponent will receive a written notice of cancellation.
4. During the time this COA is approved and active, a site safety evaluation/visit may be accomplished to ensure COA compliance, assess any adverse impact on ATC or airspace, and ensure this COA is not burdensome or ineffective. Deviations, accidents/incidents/mishaps, complaints, etc., will prompt a COA review or site visit to address the issue. Refusal to allow a site safety evaluation/visit may result in cancellation of the COA. Note: This section does not pertain to agencies that have other existing agreements in place with the FAA.

5. Radiofrequency spectrum authorization is independent of the COA process and requires the proponent to obtain Federal Communications Commission (FCC) equipment certification (47 CFR Part 2, Subpart J and 47 CFR Part 87, Subpart D) and frequency licenses (47 CFR Part 87) in the Aeronautical Radionavigation, Aeronautical Mobile (Route), or Aeronautical Mobile Services, as appropriate, for the control link, ATC radios, transponders, detect and avoid systems, and navigation systems used to support this COA. For systems operating exclusively below 400 feet, and within visual line of sight, the control link equipment may be licensed under 47 CFR Part 15 (Radio Frequency Devices). Equipment licensed under 47 CFR Part 5 (Experimental) does not provide the protection necessary for NAS operations.

**B. Operations.**

1. Unless otherwise authorized as a special provision, a maximum of one unmanned aircraft will be controlled:
  - a. From a single control station, and
  - b. By one pilot at a time.
2. When necessary, transit of airways and routes must be conducted as expeditiously as possible. The unmanned aircraft should not plan to loiter on Victor airways, jet routes, Q and T routes, IR routes, or VR routes.
3. For flights operating on an IFR clearance, the PIC must ensure positional information in reference to established National Airspace System (NAS) fixes, NAVAIDs, and/or waypoints are provided to ATC. The use of latitude/longitude positions is not authorized, except oceanic flight operations.
4. Unless installed as part of a Detect and Avoid (DAA) system, the use of a Traffic Collision Avoidance System (TCAS) in Traffic Advisory (TA) or Traffic Advisory/Resolution Advisory (TA/RA) modes while operating an unmanned aircraft is prohibited.

**C. Safety of Flight.**

1. The operator or delegated representative is responsible for halting or canceling activity in the COA area if, at any time, the safety of persons or property on the ground or in the air is in jeopardy, or if there is a failure to comply with the terms or conditions of this authorization.
  - a. Any crew member responsible for performing see-and-avoid requirements for the UA must have and maintain instantaneous communication with the PIC.
  - b. Visual observers must be used at all times except in Class A airspace, active restricted areas, and warning areas designated for aviation activities or as authorized in the Special Provisions. Observers may either be ground-based or airborne in a chase plane.
    - (1) Visual Observers:
      - (a) Must be able to communicate clearly to the pilot any instructions required to remain clear of conflicting traffic, using standard phraseology as listed in the Aeronautical Information Manual when practical.

- (b) The PIC is responsible to ensure visual observers are able to see the aircraft and the surrounding airspace throughout the entire flight, and
- (c) The PIC is responsible to ensure visual observers are able to provide the PIC with the UA's flight path, and proximity to all aviation activities and other hazards (e.g., terrain, weather, structures) sufficiently to exercise effective control of the UA to:
  - Comply with 14 CFR § 91.111, §91.113 and § 91.115, and
  - Prevent the UA from creating a collision hazard, and
  - Comply with all conditions of this COA.

**D. Notice to Airmen (NOTAM).**

1. A Distant (D) NOTAM must be issued prior to conducting UAS operations not more than 72 hours in advance, but not less than 24 hours for UAS operations prior to the operation for routine operations unless operations are contained within Class A airspace, active restricted or warning areas that are designated on the appropriate aeronautical chart or airport directory. This requirement may be accomplished:
  - a. Through the operator's local base operations or (D) NOTAM issuing authority, or
  - b. By contacting the NOTAM Flight Service Station at 1-877-4-US-NTMS (1-877-487- 6867). The issuing agency will require:
    - (1) Name and contact information of the pilot filing the NOTAM request
    - (2) Location, altitude, or operating area
    - (3) Time and nature of the activity.
2. The area of operation defined in the (D) NOTAM must only be for the actual area to be flown for each day defined by a point and the minimum radius required to conduct the operation.
3. Operator must cancel (D) NOTAMs when UAS operations are completed or will not be conducted.
4. For first responders only. Due to the immediacy of some emergency management operations, the (D) NOTAM notification requirement may be issued as soon as practical before flight and if the issuance of a (D) NOTAM may endanger the safety of persons on the ground, it may be excluded. If the (D) NOTAM is not issued, the proponent must be prepared to provide justification to the FAA upon request.

**E. Reporting Requirements.**

1. Documentation of all operations associated with UAS activities is required regardless of the airspace in which the UAS operates.
2. The Proponent must submit the number of flights on a monthly basis through the COA Application Processing System (CAPS).

## **F. Special Use Airspace.**

1. Coordination and de-confliction between Military Training Routes (MTR) and Special Use Airspace (SUA) is the operator's responsibility. When identifying an operational area the operator must evaluate whether an MTR or SUA will be affected. In the event the UAS operational area overlaps an MTR or SUA, the operator will contact the scheduling agency as soon as practicable in advance to coordinate and de-conflict. Approval from the scheduling agency is required for regulatory SUA, but not for MTR's and non-regulatory SUA. If no response to coordination efforts, the operator must exercise extreme caution and remain vigilant of all MTRs and/ or non-regulatory SUAs.
2. Scheduling agencies for MTRs are listed in the Area Planning AP/1B Military Planning Routes North and South America. If unable to gain access to AP/1B contact the FAA at email address mail to: [9-AJV-115-UASOrganization@faa.gov](mailto:9-AJV-115-UASOrganization@faa.gov) with the IR/VR routes affected and the FAA will provide the scheduling agency information. Scheduling agencies for SUAs are listed in the FAA JO 7400.10.

## **G. Air Traffic Control Requirements.**

1. Coordination Requirements.
  - a. Contact Phone Number: (for Lost Link Emergency/Contingency Procedures)
    - I90 TRACON: 281-443-5845
  - b. Proponent filing and the issuance of a NOTAM prior to commencing UAS operations will serve as an advance notification to ATC about UAS operations.
  - c. Not later than one (1) hour and not less than thirty (30) minutes prior to commencing UA operations, proponent must contact I90 TRACON at (281-443-5845) to coordinate activity. Proponent must provide the following:
    - (1) Information on intended operating location (Site A or B)
    - (2) Expected duration of UA activity.
    - (3) Phone number of PIC or Observer for immediate contact if required.
    - (4) Applicable NOTAM number.
  - d. Proponent must notify I90 TRACON immediately upon completion of UA activity.
2. Flight Planning Requirements.
  - a. The operator is responsible for ensuring that the proposed operating area does not enter a UAS flight restricted areas as described under CFR 14 Part 99.7, Temporary Flight Restriction (TFR), Special Security Instruction (SSI). Location and contact information for the TFR SSI is depicted on the FAA website: <https://udds-faa.opendata.arcgis.com>. Proponent *must request permission* and receive authorization via contacts listed on the website prior to operating within a TFR SSI.
  - b. It is the operator's responsibility for obtaining authorization from the appropriate authority for any operations that that may result in launching and/or landing from lands or waters administered by a Federal, State or Public agency (e.g., National Parks, State Parks, Wilderness Area, and Wildlife Refuge, etc.).

3. Procedural Requirements.

- a. UAS operations are only authorized between sunrise and sunset during Visual Flight Rules (VFR) conditions.
- b. I90 TRACON may require a reduction of the operating altitude during operation.
- c. I90 TRACON may delay, limit, prohibit or terminate operation when the safety of manned aircraft operations is a concern.
- d. No UAS operations are allowed outside of Site A or B. The UAS operation(s) must be contained within the areas depicted in Attachment 1.
- e. Operations (including lost link procedures) must not be conducted over populated areas, heavily trafficked roads, or open-air assemblies of people.

**H. Lost Link Emergency/Contingency Procedures.**

1. Lost Link Procedures: ATC does not need to be notified provided the UA returns to a pre-determined location within the authorized operating area and lands.
2. Loss of Sight: If a VO loses sight of the UA, the PIC must be notified immediately. If the UA is visually reacquired promptly, the mission may continue. If not, the PIC must immediately terminate the operation and the UA must return to land at home point.
3. Loss of Communication between the PIC and VO: The PIC must execute lost link procedures. If communications are reestablished, the mission may resume. If communication cannot be promptly re-established, the flight must be terminated and the UA must return to land at home point.
4. Emergency fly-away procedure: In the event of a fly-away toward an area or airport where the PIC has determined the UA may create a hazard to aviation, the PIC must immediately notify the appropriate ATC facility. The PIC must provide the following information:
  - a. Approximate location
  - b. Direction of flight
  - c. Last known altitude
  - d. Maximum remaining flight time

**AUTHORIZATION**

This Certificate of Waiver or Authorization does not, in itself, waive any Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations not specifically stated, nor any state law or local ordinance. Should the proposed operation conflict with any state law or local ordinance, or require permission of local authorities or property owners, it is the responsibility of the proponent to resolve the matter. This COA does not authorize flight within Temporary Flight Restrictions, Special Flight Rule Areas, regulatory Special Use Airspace or the Washington DC Federal Restricted Zone (FRZ) without pre-approval. The proponent is hereby authorized to operate the Unmanned Aircraft System in the NAS within the areas defined in the Operations Authorized section of the cover page.



**Attachment 1**  
(Page 1 of 2)

Operating Area(s):

**Area A** – Within 1.75 NM radius of a point defined by the following coordinates:

29°32'17.66"N 94°46'33.69"W

**Area B** – Within 1.00 NM radius of a point defined by the following coordinates

29°23'05.96"N 95°02'19.72"W

Operating Altitude: At or Below 2000 feet Above Ground Level



UA operation Areas: Area A - Orange circle Area B - Red circle



**Attachment 1**  
(Page 2 of 2)

Operating Area(s):

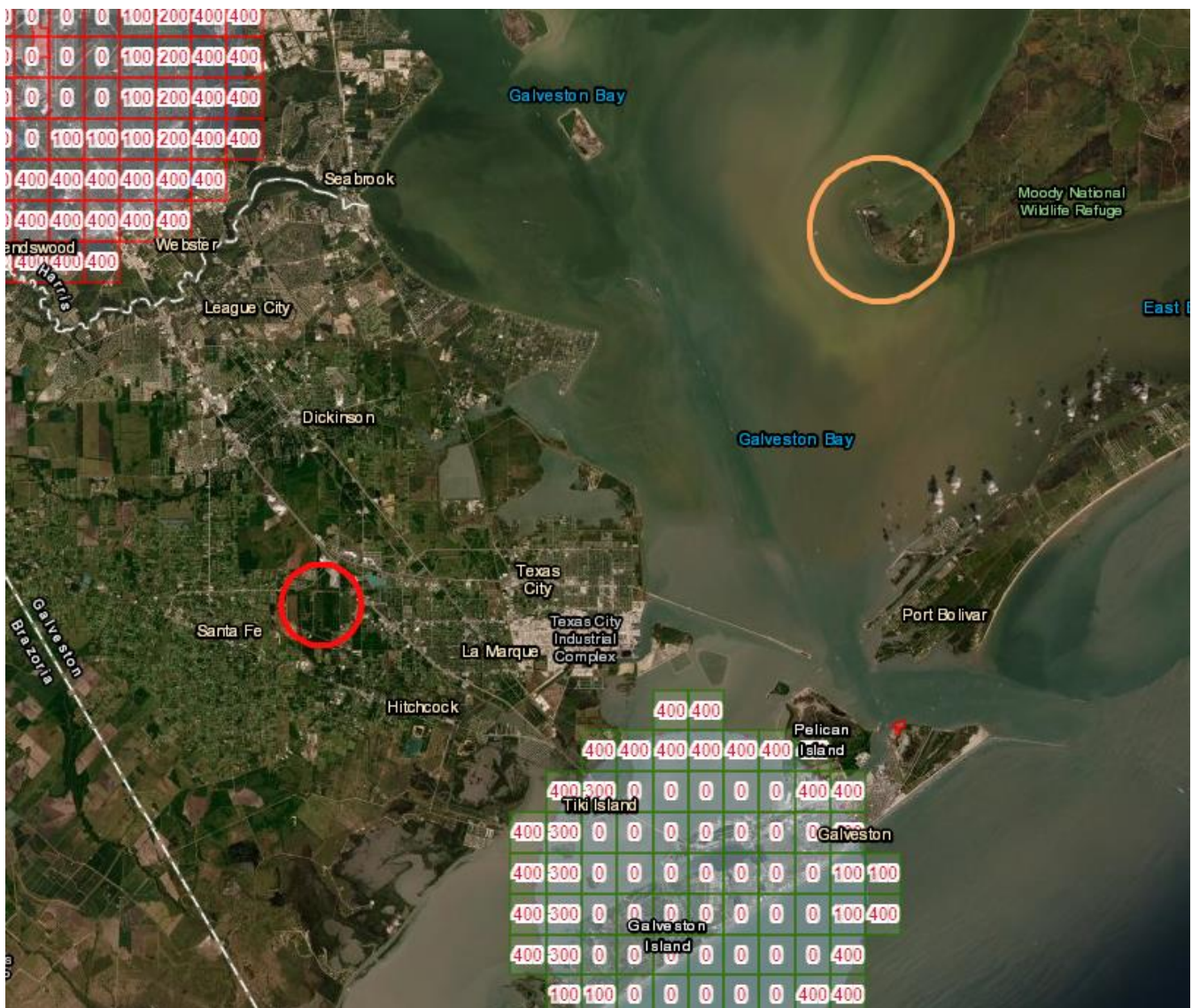
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