

Interim Policy

Use of UAS/drones for recreational activities

The operation of unmanned aircraft systems (UAS), including drones and model aircraft, is regulated primarily by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Oregon State University (OSU) is working within our community to create formal policies and establish procedures to ensure compliance with legal obligations and address concerns on safety, security, and privacy while supporting use of UAS technology in the furtherance of OSU's educational, research, and land grant missions. This document will act as and serves as the interim policy until replaced.

Individuals may operate UAS for recreational purposes, provided that they follow federal, state, local, and OSU laws, regulations, and policies, including but not limited to: FAA guidelines and OSU conduct policies

Under FAA rules, recreational owners of UAS weighing between 0.55 lbs. (250 grams) and 55 lbs. (approximately 25 kg), including payloads, will need to register their aircraft.

(<http://www.faa.gov/uas/registration/>)

Please visit the FAA website before operating UAS: (<http://knowbeforeyoufly.org/>)

Link to OSU Standards & Policies webpage: <http://leadership.oregonstate.edu/policies>

Privacy & Safety

In operating a UAS for purposes of monitoring, recording or transmitting any type of data, operators must take all reasonable measures to avoid violations of areas normally considered private. Operators must comply with all applicable privacy laws, regulations and policies, including:

- UAS operations will comply with all student conduct and University policies.
- UAS shall not be used to monitor, record, or transmit in areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy in accordance with accepted social norms. UAS shall not be used to monitor or record sensitive institutional or personal information that may be found, for example, on an individual's workspaces or on computer or other electronic displays.
- FAA restricts flight over certain stadiums during sporting events. For example, the FAA prohibits all aircraft, including UAS, at or below 3,000 feet within a 3 mile radius of any stadium with a seating capacity of 30,000 or more people when there is a NCAA Division I football game occurring and one hour before and after the game.

FAA Guidelines include:

- Fly below 400 feet and remain clear of surrounding obstacles, including buildings
- Keep the aircraft within visual line of sight at all times
- Remain well clear of and do not interfere with manned aircraft operations
- Don't fly within 5 miles of an airport unless you contact the airport and control tower before flying
- Don't fly over or near people or stadiums

- Don't fly an aircraft that weighs more than 55 lbs
- Do not fly at night
- Don't be careless or reckless with your unmanned aircraft – you could be fined for endangering people or other aircraft

NOTE: FAA Guidelines for UAS are constantly changing and it is the UAS owner's and operator's responsibility to be aware of current FAA Guidelines.

Sanctions

Any violations of this policy will be dealt with in accordance with applicable OSU policies and procedures. Violations may subject an individual to institutional disciplinary proceedings, an order to leave the immediate premises or property owned or controlled by OSU by a person in charge of OSU property, or both.

Legal prohibitions regarding physical presence on campus, trespassing, and other legal action may also be pursued against individuals and organizations that operate UAS in violation of this policy.

Fines or damages incurred by individuals that do not comply with this policy will not be paid by OSU and will be the responsibility of those persons involved.

Contact

Contact the Research Office at 541-737-0647 or email mark.peters@oregonstate.edu for questions or any additional guidance.

Information, support, and contact details:

<http://research.oregonstate.edu/unmanned-systems-initiative>