

Model Aircraft-means unmanned aircraft.

Small-unmanned Aircraft-means an unmanned aircraft weighing less than 55 pounds on takeoff, including everything that is on board or otherwise attached to the aircraft.

Small-unmanned aircraft system (UAS)-Means a small-unmanned aircraft and its associated elements (including communication links and components that control the small-unmanned aircraft) that are required for the safe and efficient operation of the small-unmanned aircraft in the national airspace system.

FAA Recreational use (fun) Operational rules- Public Law 112-95, Section 336—*Special rule for Model Aircraft*

- No pilot requirements
- Educational or recreational flying only
- UAS must be under 55lbs.
- Must always yield right of way to manned aircraft
- Must keep the aircraft in sight (visual line-of-sight)
- Must follow community based safety guidelines
- Must notify airport and air traffic control tower before flying within 5 miles of an airport

Forest Service Operational Rules-

- Individuals and organizations that fly UAS on National Forest System Lands follow [FAA guidance \(link is external\)](#).
- Individuals and organizations that fly UAS for hobby or recreational purposes may not operate them in areas of National Forest System lands that have [Temporary Flight Restrictions \(TFRs\) \(link is external\)](#) in place, such as wildfires, without prior approval from the U.S. Forest Service.
- UAS are considered to be "mechanized" equipment and cannot take off and land in designated [Wilderness Areas](#) on National Forest System lands.

FAA Commercial use (work) Operational Rules- Title 14 Code of Federal Regulation (14 CFR) Part 107

- Providing aerial surveying or photography services (if providing one of these services on National Forest System lands, you must apply for a Special use permit with the Forest you are conducting business on)
- Must have Remote Pilot Airman Certificate
- Must be 16 years old
- Must pass TSA vetting
- Must be less than 55lbs.
- Must undergo pre-flight check to ensure UAS is in condition for safe operation
- Glass G airspace*
- Must keep the aircraft in sight (visual line-of sight)*
- Must fly under 400 feet*
- Must fly at or below 100 mph*
- Must yield right of way to manned aircraft*
- Must NOT fly from a moving vehicle*
- Must NOT fly over people*

*These rules are subject to waiver

Identified Missions:

Resource Management:

- General remote sensing
- Forest Inventory
- Resource Mapping
- Rangeland/habitat monitoring
- Engineering-inspections, field surveys

Wildfire:

- Fire detection
- Tactical Mapping visualization
- Communication Links
- BAER response

Law Enforcement:

- SAR
- Surveillance and advanced reconnaissance
- Detection/mapping of illegal activities

| Type | Configuration | Endurance | Data Collection Altitude (agl) | Equipped Weight (lbs.) |
|------|---------------|---------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | Fixed Wing | 6-24 hrs. | 3,000-5,000' | >55 |
| | Rotorcraft | NA | NA | NA |
| 2 | Fixed Wing | 1-6 hrs. | 1,200-3,000' | 15-55 |
| | Rotorcraft | 20-60 min. | 400-1200' | 15-55 |
| 3 | Fixed Wing | 20-60 min. | 400-1200' | 5-14 |
| | Rotorcraft | 20-60 min. | <400' | 5-14 |
| 4 | Fixed wing | Up to 30 min. | 400-1200' | <5 |
| | Rotorcraft | Up to 20 min. | <400' | < 5 |