

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, NORTH ATLANTIC DIVISION FORT HAMILTON MILITARY COMMUNITY 302 JOHN WARREN AVENUE BROOKLYN, NY 11252-6700

CENAD-PDO

August 9, 2023

Mr. Vic Moss vic@dspalliance.org 303-748-1133

RE: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Drone Rules

Mr. Moss,

We are in receipt of your questions regarding use of drones, also referred to as Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) facilities. USACE has several regulations that pertain to the use of UAS on or over our properties. The main regulations that cover use of UAS are Engineering Circular (EC) 1110-1-109 and Title 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 327.4.

Under certain circumstances, UAS can be used on USACE lands. Title 36 CFR 327.4 states "The operation of aircraft on project lands at locations other than those designated by the District Commander is prohibited". Additionally, USACE can designate no fly zones over USACE projects through the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Operation of UAS on USACE lands is only allowed if there is a designation from the District Commander allowing them. Where allowed on USACE lands, UAS are only allowed in these designated areas.

Operating UAS off USACE property, but over USACE lands and waters may be prohibited if USACE has designated a no-fly zone in coordination with the FAA.

While UAS can be operated over USACE lands and waters from an off-government property location if there is not a designated no-fly zone, operation must be done in a safe and responsible manner consistent with applicable state and local laws as well as FAA and USACE regulations. No person will operate any aircraft while on or above projects waters or project lands in a careless, negligent, or reckless manner so as to endanger any person, property or environmental feature.

Individuals looking to use UAS on or over USACE lands and waters for either private or commercial purposes should consult with the local project office to determine if they are allowed, and if so, where they are allowed to operate as well as any other applicable USACE regulations or restrictions.

## CENAD-PD-OR SUBJECT: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Drone Rules

We appreciate you reaching out regarding this issue. If you have any further questions. Please feel free to contact Mr. Michael Vissichelli, Operations Program Manager, (718) 775-5571.

JOHN P. LLOYD Colonel, EN Commanding