

CROSS-ARCTIC HIGH SEAS SCIENTIFIC & SEARCH AND RESCUE

ARCTIC UAS OPERATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

Operator Contact Information: Phone: _____ Email: _____

SATCOM or Telephone #: _____ (For Vessel Launches) Radio Call Sign: _____

Vessel #: _____ Vessel Phone: _____ VSAT: _____ Iridium: _____

- A. 7 Days prior:** Distribute email, including authorization from appropriate civil aviation authorities (CAAs), to air traffic service (ATS) providers and appropriate government authorities (e.g., FAA, NavCanada, Transport Canada, U.S. Coast Guard, State Department, Defense Department, etc.). Area commercial aircraft operators shall also be notified of the pending operation.
- B. 7 Days to 24 Hours in advance:** Contact appropriate ATS provider, phone # _____, to request a Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) be issued for the operation area. Emergency and National Disaster Operations authorizations may not be able to comply with standard NOTAM issuance timelines.
- C. 1 Day prior (NLT 2200 hours):** Provide operation area manned aircraft operator's schedule for next day.
- D. By _____ (local time) on day of flight, prior to flight:** Participating manned aircraft operators will confirm their flight plan(s).
- E. 1 Hour prior:**
1. Operator files an ICAO flight plan through appropriate CAA or ATS unit. Flight plans shall be submitted in accordance with Chapter 3 of ICAO Annex 2, *Rules of the Air*.
 2. Receive weather briefing, review NOTAMs, and determine if there are any other flight plans on file for the operating area.
 3. Check Receiver Autonomous Integrity Monitoring (RAIM) notices (http://www.nstb.tc.faa.gov/24Hr_RAIM.htm) or appropriate agency website.
 4. Contact appropriate ATS unit via SATCOM or other acceptable means to confirm that any special use airspace or ALTRV is active.
- F. 10 Minutes prior to UAS launch:** In preparation for launch, broadcast a warning announcement on Marine Common FM Ch 16 and VHF _____ MHz common traffic advisory frequency (CTAF); e.g., "UAS flight operations are commencing from LAT/LONG of research vessel or coastal launch site." Maintain a listening watch on VHF _____ MHz (CTAF) and _____ MHz for any area traffic.
- G. During flight operations:** Periodically broadcast a warning announcement on Marine Common FM Ch 16 and VHF _____ MHz (CTAF); e.g., "UAS operations are in effect between the surface and 2000 feet within 10 nautical miles of LAT/LONG."
- H. Lost Link/Lost Comms (Emergency Comms):** PIC will comply with the lost link/lost comms procedures stipulated in their authorization. Operator will immediately contact appropriate ATS unit via SATCOM and report the Lost Link condition, time, and LAT/LONG. Immediately broadcast on Marine Common FM Ch 16, VHF _____ MHz (CTAF), and VHF _____ MHz or other acceptable means; e.g., "UAS flight operations are commencing emergency return at 500 feet AGL."
- I. Coordination with Coast Guard protocols:** Operator/research vessel will maintain continuous listening watch on Marine Common FM Ch 16 and the VHF and UHF 122.5 and 243.0 guard frequencies. All UAS operations will comply with Coast Guard and any other official SAR-participating aircraft or vessel requests.