

Placer County Policy for Drones (Unmanned Aircraft Systems -UAS) for Commercial Filming

FEDERAL REGULATIONS: Regulations governing commercial drone filming in airspace are established by the FAA, under Title 14 Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) Part 107. These regulations establish the minimum safety standards for small UAS operations in the United States, including the Operating Rules, Remote Pilot Certification, and Waivers. (<https://www.faa.gov/uas/>). Production companies and their subcontractors utilizing drones for commercial filming must understand and comply with all relevant FAA regulations. For instance, there are a number of prohibited operations under Part 107, including flight over people (including cast, crew, and talent), operating from vessels or vehicles, flying at night, operating in a careless or reckless manner, etc. Some of these rules are subject to relief through the issuance of a Waiver (see 14 CFR part 107.205 for rules subject to waiver).

NON-FEDERAL REGULATIONS or MUNICIPAL CODES – Regulating airspace is the exclusive domain of the FAA. State and Local authorities are limited in regard to regulating or restricting commercial drone operations or filming. Placer County may apply conditions in the following limited instances, on a case by case basis:

1. Take-off and landing of UAS may be prohibited on county-owned property. Once airborne, the drone operator must comply with applicable Federal Regulations.
2. If the drone operations are determined to impact public safety, as determined during permit review. For instance, if a drone is being flown adjacent to a county bridge & bridge road bed, the County may consider this a driving hazard to motorists and the county may require traffic control.

CONTROLLED AIRSPACE, AUTHORIZATIONS and RESTRICTIONS: Locations in the vicinity of airports may be in Controlled Airspace, or may be subject to Restriction by FAA Air Traffic Control (ATC). Commercial drone filming operations under Part 107, must obtain permission from FAA ATC to operate in Controlled Airspace. Airspace Authorizations can be obtained online through the FAA's UAS Data Exchange/Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability ([LAANC](#)) or the FAA's [DroneZone](#) website.

DOCUMENTATION – The Application won't be processed until all necessary drone documentation below has been received and verified. Please allow a minimum of 7 days to process permit applications if drone filming is proposed. Applications will not be processed until all required documents, including proof of insurance documents, are received and verified. Please provide current copies of:

1. Insurance documents, per county requirements, providing drone coverage. If the production company's insurance policy does not cover drone operations then the drone operator and/or company must provide their own proof of insurance. These documents must be attached to the application. Details: <https://www.placer.ca.gov/DocumentCenter/View/631/County-Film-Regulations-PDF?bidId=>
2. Remote Pilot's State Driver's License-must be current.
3. Remote Pilot's Airman Certificate (FAA). If not current also attach the current successfully completed FAA's Airman Knowledge Test Certificate.
4. Drone/UAS Registration (FAA).
5. Proof of insurance, per Placer County requirements, for drone film operations.
6. FAA Waivers or Airspace Authorizations related to the proposed filming operations.
7. Written description of proposed drone operations.
8. Map of drone operations area.