

Description of observation methods

1. Radar Observation

- a. FPN-66 radar or ASR 11 (DASR) when upgraded in FY12, as well as FAA long range radar feeds from AEX and LCH ground based sites
- b. The radar is ground based
- c. Direct, instantaneous, “open-line communications will exist between the radar observer and UAS pilot.
- d. Radar observer is fully certified radar approach controller in the Polk ARAC.
- e. The radar observer be responsible for monitoring one UAS at a time.
- f. Will the radar observer also pilot the UA? NO. Ground Based
- g. The reliability of the radar system, communications system, and other supporting systems are very high with duplicate radar and communication systems in place.
- h. What is the legal connection between the radar observers and the proponent’s organization? Radar observers are DA employees at Fort Polk .

2. Visual Observation by Ground Observers

- a. Ground Observers are qualified operators that have completed FAA private pilot ground school and passed the written exam. They could detect other airborne operations, but procedures exist to discontinue UAS departure and arrivals within the Polk class D during launch and recovery operations.
- c. One mile lateral and 3000 feet vertical range limits will be employed by the ground observers.
- d. Direct communications capabilities between each ground observer and UA pilot will be maintained.
- e. Each ground observer will be responsible to monitor no more than one aircraft.

3. Monitored by patrol/chase aircraft if available / not required.

- a. Airborne observer in chase aircraft will only be employed when the route between R3804 and R3803 is being used by the UAS.
- b. The UAS aircraft will be assigned an IFR altitude by Polk Approach. Both the UAS operator and chase aircraft will be in direct communication with Polk approach.
- c. Airborne UAS observers will not also pilot the chase aircraft.