

Lost communication procedures

Total lost communications should not occur due to multiple means of redundant communication for each party to contact the other parties that can communicate mission abort procedures. The GCS can communicate to ATC directly or Range Control. Range Control can communicate directly to the GCS through ATC or VHF radio. Range Control and ATC also have land line communication to the GCS. The GCS can also communicate to ATC and Range Control via FM hand held or cellular phone.

Contingencies in the event of lost communication

In the event of lost communication (all radio, landline and cellular links fail) UAS will squawk 7600 and return to lost link loiter point that will be designated to be within R-5802 and orbit to re-establish communications. The position of the GCS is in such a manner that a member of the UAS crew could quickly walk up to Muir Operations and inform personnel of the situation and to relay to tower. Tower will advise the crew member and give instructions for recovery of the UAS at Muir AAF. If no means of communication can be established with Muir Tower, the UAS will continue to squawk 7600. The UAS VO will make a radio calls in the blind indicating their intention to land and the IDENT. The UAS will proceed to its appropriate TALS loiter point for landing.