

Launch and Recovery Procedures

Launch/recovery (specify type/procedure). Launch and recovery of UAS will be conducted at Muir AAF under ATC control. The UAS is controlled by an automatic takeoff and landing system, it is rail catapult launched and uses a tailhook for rolling arrested recoveries, both within the area the size of a soccer field. Launch and recovery are fully automatic, but under both the visual and data link control of a AVO. Recovery and landing is typically performed autonomously by the Tactical Automated Landing System (TALS), a process similar to an Instrument Landing System (ILS) approach for manned aircraft. An AVO located in the Ground Control Station (GCS) controls the air vehicle, continually monitoring system status, and maneuvers the air vehicle as desired. The downlink data includes a display of health and status parameters such attitude, magnetic heading, indicated airspeed, GPS position, barometric altitude, rate of climb, engine instrumentation, and warnings and cautions. Air vehicle position is displayed onto a high-resolution digital map within the GCS. Emergency landings are by use of a parachute. The primary launch site is at Muir Army Airfield. A secondary launch site is still being evaluated in R-5802.