

## Launch & Recovery Description

NASA DFRC 2008 Fire Mission  
UAS COA Application Attachment

NASA Dryden Flight Research Center (DFRC) has procured from General Atomics – Aeronautical Systems Incorporated, an MQ-9 Reaper aircraft and a Ground Control Station (GCS). DFRC has assigned the number “NASA 870” to the aircraft, registered it as N870NA, and renamed it “Ikhana” (pronounced ee-kah-nah, a Native American word from the Choctaw Nation meaning intelligent, conscious, or aware).

“Track changes” is used in this document to highlight the significant differences in this attachment between the 2008 plans versus last years’ 2007 WSFM plans. Change tracking (and hence “change bars”) have been suppressed for editorial and non-philosophical changes.

The flights for the NASA Western States Fire Mission (WSFM) will start and end at Edwards Air Force Base (EAFB) within the R-2508/R-2515 special use airspace (SUA). During these missions, there is no planned flight or maneuver in the National Air Space (NAS) below FL180 (Class A airspace).

1. **Launch & Landing Location** – NASA DFRC and specifically Edwards AFB (EDW 22/04) will be the start and end location for each flight in the WSFM flight program.

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6. **Contractor takeoff/landing/cruise pilots** – Contractor UAS pilots will be used to support long duration 2007 WSFM missions. Reference the NASA 2007 Fire Mission - Flight Aircrew Qualification Description Attachment for specific requirements.