

Lost Link Procedures

In the event of a loss of link situation the UAS operator will immediately notify the appropriate ATC facility.

1. Lost Link Outside a Restricted Area. If the UAS is operating outside of restricted airspace, the UAS will fly one of the Emergency Missions indicated below depending on if it's operating from the El Mirage or the Gray Butte Test Facility.

a. El Mirage. When operating from El Mirage the UAS will fly direct to waypoint #1, N34 38 23 W117 38 06, at 6,500 MSL. The UAS will then fly in a pattern from waypoint #1 to #2, to #3, to #4, to #5, to #6 and then back to #1 until link has been restored.

El Mirage Airport Lost Link Orbit (see figures 1. and 3.)

<u>Waypoints</u>	<u>Altitude</u>
(b) (3) (A)	

b. Gray Butte. When operating from Gray Butte the UAS will fly direct to waypoint #1, N34 34 45 W117 42 58, at 6,500 MSL. The UAS will then fly in a pattern from waypoint #1 to #2, to #3, to #4, to #5, to #6 and then back to #1 until link has been restored.

Gray Butte Airport Lost Link Orbit (see figures 2. and 3.)

<u>Waypoints</u>	<u>Altitude</u>
(b) (3) (A)	

c. If link can not be re-established, the aircraft will maintain its orbit in the designated lost link pattern until it runs out of fuel. The UAS lost link profile does not over fly residences and is programmed to land in a sparsely populated area and will occur somewhere along the orbits indicated in the El Mirage Dry Lake Bed or farmland near Gray Butte. Since there is a minimum of two hours of extra fuel on board the UAS, there should be sufficient time to allow for a sweep of the area to insure it is cleared prior to landing.

d. If command link is restored to the UAS the pilot will make the decision to either continue the mission, if the cause can be determined, or recover the aircraft.

2. Lost Link in a Restricted Area. If lost link occurs while operating within a restricted area, the UAS will notify ATC. The UAS will remain within restricted airspace while the UAS pilot attempts to regain command link. If link cannot be re-established the UAS will remain in the restricted area until it runs out of fuel and impacts the ground.

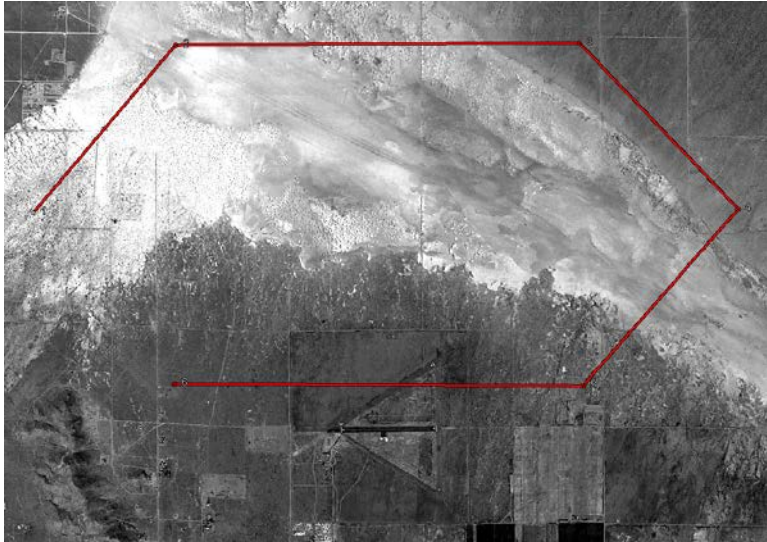


Figure 1. Satellite image of El Mirage Lost Link Orbit. Note dry lakebed.



Figure 2. Satellite image of Gray Butte Lost Link Orbit. Note farmland.

(b) (3) (A)

