

Visual Surveillance/Detection

The NMSU/PAL UAS FTC uses visual observers to perform 'see and avoid' duties to avoid collisions with other aircraft. This includes ground based and airborne visual observers. The UAS FTC uses an FAA UAPO (AFS-407) approved standard operating procedure (SOP) to perform our chase plane operations. The airborne observer is in direct communications with the UAS pilot at all times.

Ground observers are used, and depending on location, might have from one to four visual observers. The operations plan for the UAS flights are reviewed by the UAPO prior to flight operations. Ground observers also have direct communications with the UAS pilot.

All UAS FTC observers receive training which has been reviewed by the UAPO.