

Drone Flight Plan & Wildlife Operations Checklist

Pilot Name: _____

Date of Flight: _____

Location: _____

Mission Name/ID: _____

1. Objectives

Purpose of the Flight: (Check all that apply)

- ☐ Photography/Videography
 - ☐ Research & Data Collection
 - ☐ Wildlife Monitoring
 - ☐ Deterrence
 - ☐ Other: _____
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2. Legal Compliance

- ☐ Verified required permits and approvals
 - ☐ Compliant with Transport Canada & NAV Canada regulations
 - ☐ Notified local authorities if operating on Indigenous land
 - ☐ Adhering to all local wildlife protection laws
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3. Equipment Check

- ☐ Drone model suitable for wildlife operations
- ☐ Quiet propellers installed (if available)
- ☐ Telephoto lens for minimizing proximity disturbance
- ☐ Properly registered drone
- ☐ Valid pilot certification
- ☐ Spare batteries and SD cards available

4. Flight Path & Location Assessment

- ☐ Identified safe takeoff and landing zones
 - ☐ Avoiding populated areas and aerial obstructions
 - ☐ Checked weather conditions and wind speeds
 - ☐ Assessed terrain and potential interference (trees, power lines, etc.)
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5. Wildlife Impact Assessment

- ☐ Evaluated potential impact on bears and other wildlife
 - ☐ Avoiding sensitive times (e.g., nursing, feeding)
 - ☐ Planning for minimal disturbance (altitude, noise level, speed)
 - ☐ Preparing to adapt based on wildlife behavior
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6. Safety Measures

- ☐ Roles assigned:
 - **Pilot:** _____
 - **Spotter:** _____
 - **Bear Guard (if applicable):** _____
 - ☐ Maintaining safe distance (300m launch, 100m max proximity)
 - ☐ Emergency protocols established (e.g., loss of control, bear disturbance)
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7. Risk & Response Plan

Potential Risks & Mitigation Strategies:

- ☐ _____ → _____
- ☐ _____ → _____
- ☐ _____ → _____

8. Battery & Retrieval Plan

- ☐ Fully charged batteries and backup power available
 - ☐ Flight time calculated to ensure safe return
 - ☐ Retrieval plan in case of drone malfunction (based on wildlife)
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9. Monitoring & Adaptation

- ☐ Continuously observing bear behavior
 - ☐ Adjusting flight or aborting if signs of stress occur
 - ☐ Communicating with team for real-time adjustments
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10. Post-Flight Reporting

Flight Summary & Observations:

Wildlife Reactions Noted:

Incidents or Concerns (e.g., reckless drone use observed):

Pilot Signature: _____

Date: _____