NWCG Unmanned Aircraft System Incursion Protocol for Wildland Firefighters

**Key Points**
- UAS are like any other hazard. “If you see something, say something”.
- Fire personnel should report all unauthorized UAS, or drone, activity via the SAFECOM system. [www.safecom.gov](http://www.safecom.gov)
- UAS information (color, size, altitude, flight pattern) should be reported if known. All UAS Incursions should be reported to FAA.
- Unless a temporary flight restriction (TFR) is in place, it may be possible for the drone activity to be “legal”. If anticipating extended air operations, requesting a TFR is recommended.
- If you encounter a person operating a UAS over your incident, a simple request for them to stop should be made. If they fail to comply, law enforcement should be notified. Safety of personnel should be assessed in any operator contact.
- Dispatch centers should report UAS incursions to the nearest Air Traffic Control Center.
- Safety of flight should be primary over any fire aircraft locating the operator.
- The FAA has developed additional guidance for Law Enforcement personnel. [https://www.faa.gov/uas/regulations_policies/media/FAA_UAS-PO_LEA_Guidance.pdf](https://www.faa.gov/uas/regulations_policies/media/FAA_UAS-PO_LEA_Guidance.pdf)

Refer to NWCG Memo 16-006 Unmanned Aircraft Incursion Protocol for Wildland Firefighters