

Flight Information Safety Bulletin – UAS

Issue Number: **FISB UAS/2025 01**

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Subject Area: **Unmanned Aircraft Systems Activity in Aerial Firefighting Environment**

1. Introduction

The operational use of **Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)** in airspace zones with active forest fires constitutes a high-risk activity for **flight safety** and operational continuity. During the wildfire season, the simultaneous presence of UAS and **manned aerial firefighting assets** increases the probability of mid-air collisions due to:

- operation within the same altitude range;
- lack of compatible detect-and-avoid systems; and
- increased operational workload of firefighting crews.

This bulletin is issued to ensure **coordinated, safe, and legally compliant UAS operations** in aerial firefighting areas. The **geographical restrictions** are established by decision of the **National Coordination Center for Operations & Crisis Management (E.S.K.E.DI.K.)**, which provides the necessary information to the **Hellenic Aviation Service Provider (HASP)** for the issuance and publication of the relevant **NOTAM**.

2. Legislative & Regulatory Framework

- **Regulation (EU) 2019/947** on the rules and procedures for the operation of unmanned aircraft – AMC/GM on UAS.OPEN.060 and UAS.SPEC.050 (ED Decision 2019/021/R).
 - **ICAO Annex 11 – Air Traffic Services.**
 - **EASA Safety Information Bulletins & FAA Wildfire UAS Toolkit.**
 - **Ministerial Decision 29190 οικ. Φ.109.1/2020 (Government Gazette 3005/B 20.7.2020)** – Regulation on the Organization and Operation of the National Coordination Center for Operations & Crisis Management (E.S.K.E.DI.K.), defining structure, staffing, and other provisions.
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3. Scope of Application

This bulletin applies to any UAS flight within Greek airspace under the **Open** and **Specific** categories, excluding State UAS activities or those conducted on behalf of the **Fire Service**, when:

- active aerial firefighting operations are underway; or

- geographical restriction/prohibition zones are in effect as published by **NOTAM**.

Key risks:

- mid-air collision with manned firefighting aircraft;
 - obstruction of critical operational activities;
 - grounding of the firefighting fleet;
 - endangerment of human lives and public safety.
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4. UAS Operator Obligations in Wildfire Areas

- **Prohibition of flight** within a UAS geographical zone subject to flight restriction or prohibition, as defined by **NOTAM** issued following a decision by **E.S.K.E.DI.K.** and published by **HASP**.
 - **Immediate termination of flight and landing** in case of detection of aerial firefighting activity or upon receiving a message from the **EU Emergency Number – 112** regarding a wildfire in the area of operation.
 - **Priority to manned assets** – Immediate yielding of priority to manned aircraft.
 - Immediate activation of **safe landing procedures** for the UAS in case of visual or electronic indication of danger.
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5. Penalties

Violation of the above geographical restrictions entails:

- administrative fine under the national regulatory framework;
 - criminal prosecution for obstructing an assigned public service;
 - suspension or revocation of operational declaration / remote pilot certificate;
 - seizure and confiscation of the UAS.
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6. Contact

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7. Entry into Force

This bulletin enters into force upon its publication on the HCAA website (<https://hcaa.gov.gr/el>) and remains in effect until amended or revoked by the **Hellenic Civil Aviation Authority**.