



Town of Crested Butte Drone Use Policy

Effective Date: July 29, 2025

1. Purpose: The Town of Crested Butte may operate unmanned aerial systems (drones) to conduct surveys, perform assessments, and capture photographs of public assets and infrastructure. The purpose of these operations is to support maintenance, operations, and strategic and capital planning for the benefit of the Crested Butte community.

2. Scope: This policy applies to all drone operations conducted by Town employees, designated contractors, and any third parties operating under Town direction. All drone flights shall be strictly confined to Town-owned rights-of-way and public property.

3. Authorized Use:

- **Permitted Activities:**

- Conducting surveys and assessments of Town infrastructure and public assets.
- Capturing photography to document and monitor publicly owned facilities, roadways, and other assets critical to municipal planning.

- **Restricted Areas:**

- Drone operations are limited only to public property and rights-of-way. No drone flights shall occur over private properties without appropriate legal authorization.

4. Operational Guidelines:

- **Compliance:**

- All operations will adhere to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations and any applicable state or local laws.
- Operators must possess current certifications and undergo training as required by law.

- **Safety & Privacy:**

- The Town is committed to respecting quiet enjoyment and personal privacy and will not utilize drones in a manner that disregard these values.
- Drones shall be operated in a manner that minimizes risks to persons, property, and privacy.



- Any data collected will be managed in accordance with applicable privacy and public records laws.

5. Data Management and Use: Data (photographs, survey results, etc.) collected during drone operations shall be stored securely and used solely for public interest purposes. Personal or incidental data not relevant to the Town's operational goals will not be retained.

6. Authority and Review: This policy is established under the authority of the Town of Crested Butte and may be reviewed and amended periodically to ensure compliance with evolving federal, state, and local regulations.