

Attachment 3: Launch & Recovery

Reference: FAA AIR-160 UAPO Guidance Document 08-01

Launch for rotorcraft UAs is accomplished at INL's dedicated runway. Rotorcrafts with solely RC are manually flown during take-off and landing. Rotorcrafts outfitted with autopilots can be manually controlled during take off and landing through the safety pilot option of the autopilot UA ground station. Optionally automated take-off and landing can occur through the autopilot with the safety pilot on stand-by and within 40 to 50 feet to take control if necessary. The autopilot is limited in approach / ascent / decent speeds to ensure slow maneuvers are maintained.

INL UA Runway

The INL has a dedicated 1000 ft by 100 ft asphalt runway for UA operations. The runway is at elevation 4891 ft, latitude 43° 35' 45.75" longitude -112° 54' 30.97", on the Idaho Falls VOR (IDA) 258° radial at 36.8 nm, and near the center of the INL reservation. The nearest inhabited structure not associated with the runway environment is several miles away. A fully equipped INL fire station is approximately five miles from the runway.



Photo 1: Typical Rotorcraft UA