Observer Qualifications/Responsibilities

For all flights, a dedicated observer is a part of the field crew. The observer must be able to obtain a Class II Medical Certificate and must be able to visually locate the plane at a range of 1 km against a clear sky in full sunlight. Additionally the observer should be trained on FAR Part 91 regulations. The observer is responsible for regularly scanning the UAV airspace for potential safety threats. On identification, the observer signals the field crew and then maintains visual contact with the incoming aircraft, audibly providing the estimated distance and bearing to the PIC. In addition to monitoring the airspace, the observer is also responsible for monitoring the takeoff and landing zones during operation to ensure the plane has a clear path to return to ground in an emergency. The observer must be in constant voice contact with the PIC.