

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**



**UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS
MONTEREY DISTRICT**

March 23, 2026
Monterey District

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS ORDER NO. 720-26-004

Model aircraft and Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS or “drones”) are an emergent technology that can have a negative impact on park resources and public safety and are generally inconsistent with the park experience. Due to the dramatic growth and popularity of model aircraft and UAS, and based on concerns related to wildlife, aesthetics, visitor safety and privacy, and fire hazards, the following lands and facilities located within the Monterey District are restricted as follows:

Effective March 23, 2026, for the safety and welfare of the public, and under the authority of the California Code of Regulations, Title 14 Sections 4326 and 4301(i), the following regulations regarding Drone/UAS use shall apply to all lands owned or operated as part of Monterey District:

1. No person shall launch, land, or operate a powered unmanned aircraft or unmanned aerial system (UAS) within the Monterey District

Exceptions to this order, at the discretion of the District Superintendent, **may** include:

- a. Commercial filming with applicable FAA Certificate of Authorization (COA), appropriate park unit permits and California Film Commission approval.
- b. Non-commercial use upon completion of the park unit's special use permit application and applicable FAA registration.
- c. Use by law enforcement and Fire Personnel for official reasons.
- d. Scientific research with appropriate FAA registration and park unit permits.

If any exception is granted, as described above, all UAS/Drone equipment must be made available for inspection of safety compliance at the time of application.

Exceptions to this order may only be granted in writing by the District Superintendent of Monterey District at 2211 Garden Rd., Monterey CA 93940.

2. Any violation of this Posted Order is a violation of the California Code of Regulations Section 4326(a).
3. Nothing herein shall affect any existing private contract or property rights.
4. Nothing herein shall be construed in derogation of other provisions of law.

DocuSigned by:

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Dan Shaw
District Superintendent
Monterey District

5/22/2026

Date

Authority:

State of California Public Resources Code, Sections 5003 and 5008
California Code of Regulations, Title 14, Section 4300, 4326, and 4662
Copies of this order have been filed with the Central Division Chief's office.

DECLARATION OF POSTING

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT'S ORDER NO. 720-26-004

I hereby declare that on March 23, 2026, District Superintendent's Order No.720-26-004, hereto attached, was posted at the office of the Sector and parks where it is to be in effect, as well as at other locations which were determined necessary by the Superintendent of the Monterey District.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

DocuSigned by:

Daniel Shaw

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Dan Shaw

District Superintendent
Monterey District

5/22/2026

Date