

NEVADA WING | 2023



Members of the Nevada Wing's small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS) team gather for a 2023 exercise.

Leveraging Technology to Support the State

The Nevada Wing has wholeheartedly embraced the utility of small Unmanned Aircraft Systems (sUAS), commonly known as drones. The wing has five fully qualified sUAS teams with many others in training. These teams are available to assist with search and rescue missions by relaying information regarding terrain and risks for ground team personnel. sUAS deployment can also augment a ground team searching for a missing person, for example, by providing an extra set of eyes for incident commanders via photos and an advanced look ahead of the search team.

Not only are the Nevada Wing sUAS teams beneficial for search and rescue, but the training for sUAS flight operations provides valuable aerospace education for both cadets and adult members. Members receive hands-on training regarding principles of flight as well as experience in applying those principles.

Spearheaded by 2nd Lt. Troy Starr, the wing's director of unmanned operations, the sUAS program is

also an active part of Nevada Wing cadet encampment featuring classroom instruction in addition to actual sUAS flight training. Each cadet completing the course also earns the privilege of proudly wearing the Cadet sUAS Badge on their uniforms for their achievement.

The future involves use of sUAS in many aspects, military, civilian, and commercial. Military sUAS are now in regular use by all service branches, and commercial applications have exploded as companies realize the advantages for their operations.

The Nevada Wing's emphasis on sUAS skills development helps its members, both cadet and adults, enhance their abilities to compete for relevant employment. Additionally, wing cadets gain an interest in aircraft flight training through their participation, building the military and civilian pilot corps. The wing's sUAS program enhances members' CAP experience and meaningfully contributes to the state's and the nation's success.

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Volunteer Members

385 adult members
346 cadets
94 aircrew personnel
509 emergency responders

Squadrons

14 locations statewide

Aircraft

14 single-engine
1 glider

Vehicles

17 vehicles

Interoperable Communications

16 VHF/FM repeaters
143 VHF/FM stations
25 HF stations

Missions

7 search and rescue missions
4 lives saved*
4 finds*
**Includes lives saved and finds credited with national team support*
1 disaster relief mission
2 CAP, Air Force ROTC, and Junior ROTC cadet orientation flight missions
4 other Air Force support missions
31 training missions
1 other state support mission
6 other missions in support of partner agencies and organizations or local municipalities

Significant Events Supported in Fiscal Year 2023

Green Flag
57th Operations Support Squadron low-level route survey
Travis AFB low-level route survey
Lincoln County damage assessment
Lyon County photo support

Cadet Flying

624 CAP, Air Force ROTC, and Junior ROTC cadet orientation flights

Total Hours Flown

2,348

Financial

\$74,934 in state funding
\$2,682,437 value of wing's volunteer hours

National Commander

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