U.S. FOREST SERVICE URGES PUBLIC VISITING (NAME OF NATIONAL FOREST OR GRASSLAND) TO LEAVE DRONES AT HOME THIS (DAY OF WEEK) TO ENABLE AGENCY TO SAFELY PERFORM (TYPE OF MISSION, I.E. AERIAL DETECTION SURVEY, SPRAYING, ETC).

The U.S. Forest Service is urging members of the public who are planning to visit the (name) National (Forest or Grassland) on (day), (month) (date) to leave their drones at home to enable the agency to safely perform (type of mission, i.e. aerial detection survey, spraying, etc.).

A U.S. Forest Service (airplane or helicopter) will be flying approximately (#) feet above ground level to perform this mission. That is approximately (or close to) the same altitude that Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Safety Guidelines instruct members of the public to fly drones for hobby or recreation purposes at, which creates the potential for an accident.

The U.S. Forest Service needs to perform the (type of mission, i.e. aerial detection survey, spraying, etc.) to (explain why the mission is needed).

“It would be a real tragedy if a member of the public was flying a drone for fun while the U.S. Forest Service (airplane or helicopter) was performing the (type of mission, i.e. aerial detection survey, spraying, etc.) and either collided with the (airplane or helicopter) or caused the pilot to be distracted and crash, resulting in serious injuries or fatalities,” said (Name), (Title), with the U.S. Forest Service. “We are asking the public to work with us to help prevent that from happening.”

The U.S. Forest Service urges members of the public to contact the local Ranger District where they want to fly a drone beforehand to see if any agency natural resource management missions are planned during the time they want to fly and if so, to please plan on flying at another time or location. Contact information for all U.S. Forest Service offices in the U.S. is located at [www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us) in the “Find a Forest or Grassland” section. Information about U.S. Forest Service natural resource management flights is also available on several websites, including the FAA PilotWeb site <https://pilotweb.nas.faa.gov/PilotWeb/> <http://tfr.faa.gov/tfr_map_ims/html/> and the Defense Internet Notam Service (DINS) <https://www.notams.faa.gov/dinsQueryWeb/>

###