

Memorandum

To: Federal Aviation Administration

From:

Subject: December 2012 Unmanned Aerial Flight

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has request support from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) in Denver, Colorado, regarding a project to use both Raven and T Hawk unmanned aerial systems (UAS) to monitor gull hazing technique efficacy and to haze gulls on the Southeast Farallon Islands between December 1 – 22, 2012.

The project proposal indicates a necessity to fly these systems at a very low altitudes (100 – 500').

Since FWS operates in an oversight capacity, I am authorized to grant permission to the USGS National UAS Project Office for low level flights. Based on the proposal, I believe that these systems have the potential to be a significantly cost-effective hazing and monitoring tool. They will increase the information we have available to successfully complete the Farallon Island Restoration project and ultimately provide conservation benefit to the critically listed Ashy storm-petrel.

Please feel free to contact me at any time at

cc: Mark Bauer, USGS