

VectorWX - Preflight Weather Checklist

Reviewed 2026-10-19 | Free planning worksheet

Site / route: _____ Aircraft: _____

Pilot: _____ Date / time (UTC): _____

[] 1. Record the Flight Plan and Source Times

Write the launch site, route, aircraft, date and landing time. Compare current METAR and TAF with conditions at the site.

[] 2. Check Flight Visibility

Confirm at least 3 statute miles of flight visibility from the control station.

[] 3. Check Cloud Clearance

Confirm at least 500 feet below clouds and 2,000 feet horizontally. A ceiling alone does not prove separation.

[] 4. Compare Wind and Gusts with Aircraft Limits

Check surface and 80 m wind, gusts and the return path. The 80 m / 262 ft layer is not a 400 ft measurement.

[] 5. Check Temperature, Precipitation and Battery

Use the aircraft instructions. Inspect for frost, ice or snow. Review the proposed Part 108 weather text separately from current rules.

[] 6. Review Kp and Navigation Warnings

Check the Kp observation time and aircraft navigation status. Kp does not test GPS or compass performance at the site.

[] 7. Check Daylight, Twilight and Night Provisions

Check the flight date and local daylight times. Review the applicable training and lighting requirements.

[] 8. Check Airspace, NOTAMs, TFRs and LAANC

Check route restrictions and required airspace authorizations. A weather result does not grant airspace access.

[] 9. Record the Decision and Reassess Changes

Resolve each open item. Record the decision, stopping conditions and landing options. Recheck if weather or the plan changes.

Decision / open items: _____

Landing / stopping conditions: _____

Planning aid only. Use an official briefing and check site conditions.

Full sources and current data: www.vectorwx.com/drone-weather/preflight-checklist

Rules: www.ecfr.gov/current/title-14/part-107 (107.49, 107.51, 107.29)

FAA airspace resources: www.faa.gov/uas/getting_started/b4ufly

Part 108 proposal: Federal Register document 2025-14992 (not a final rule).