SLSWA DRONE PATROL OPERATOR

Casual Employment | Monday-Friday | 6.30am – 11.30am

Beach Locations: Sorrento |Mullaloo| City Beach| Middleton Beach (Albany)

Commencement: TBC. Dates are variable and aligned with start of Beach Lifeguard services.

About Surf Life Saving WA Drone Operations
Our aerial surveillance operations play a vital role in protecting beachgoers across Western Australia. Using drone technology integrated directly with on-ground Lifeguard beach patrols, our UAV operators will deliver critical real-time situational awareness to enhance public safety along our coastline.

The Opportunity
We are seeking reliable, safety-focused, and tech-savvy individuals to join our lifesaving team as Drone Patrol Operators.

Working alongside Lifeguard teams, you will deliver localised aerial surveillance operations. You will be responsible for piloting UAVs to monitor coastal hazard areas, spot marine hazards, track swimmer activity, and maintain operational safety in accordance with Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) regulations and SLSWA standard operating procedures.

Key Responsibilities

- Aerial Surveillance Operations: Conduct safe drone patrol flights over designated beach, surf, and populous coastal areas in direct support of on-beach lifesaving operations.
- CASA Regulatory Compliance: Execute all flight operations in compliance with CASA statutes (CASR Part 101), aviation safety guidelines, and SLSWA operating manuals.
- Risk Management and Assessment
- : Continuously assess local weather, surf conditions, airspace, and crowd density to conduct dynamic risk assessments before and during flight operations.
- Equipment Care and Readiness: Maintain full operational readiness, battery management, security, and pre-flight checks for all drone equipment and mobile control hardware.
- Data Collection & Reporting: Complete flight logs, incident reports, and operational documentation accurately and promptly.
- Community and Public Engagement: Educate beachgoers on drone operations and coastal safety in a professional, courteous manner.

Selection Criteria

Pre-requisites and Mandatory Requirements:

- **Age:** Minimum 16 years of age.
- **Award:** Current SLSWA Drone Operator Award
- **Certifications:** Current Perform CPR Certificate (HLTAID009 or equivalent).
- **Membership Status:** Active financial member of a Surf Life Saving Club (or eligible to join).

Desirable Skills and Experience:

- Previous beach-based lifesaving experience (Nipper Rescue Certificate, Surf Rescue Certificate, Bronze Medallion, or beach Lifeguard/Patrol background.
- Understanding of coastal/surf environments and beach hazard recognition.
- Knowledge of remotely piloted aircraft systems (RPAS/UAV) and CASA flight rules.
- Strong communication skills and ability to work effectively under pressure within a lifesaving team.
- Sound decision-making skills with high personal integrity and attention to safety detail.

How to Apply

Please follow the link below to fill out the application form:
Drone Operator Application – Fill in form

SLSWA will contact you with further in formation should they wish to progress your application.