**POSITION DESCRIPTION FORM – SURF LIFE SAVING WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

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| **Position Title:** | Drone Patrol Operator |
| **Location:** | Beaches |
| **Main purpose of role:** | The primary role of the Drone Patrol Operator is to ensure the safe operation of a SLSWA Drone Patrol in strict compliance with all Civil Aviation Safety Authority statutes and requirements and in accordance with the SLSWA operating principles, guidelines and manuals. |
| **Reporting to:** | As Advised |

**Position Description**

The Drone Patrol Operator will conduct Drone Patrol duties in support of volunteer beach patrols.

Drone Patrol operates primarily as an integrated part of a Volunteer Beach Patrol and therefore works closely with Patrol Captains and other team members to provide localised aerial surveillance through the use of drones in support of other on-beach lifesaving services.

The Drone Patrol Operator is required to conduct operations within the legislative framework of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority and the Civil Aviation Safety Regulations Part 101. They must also be cognisant of the Aviation Transport Security Act 2004; Transport Safety Investigation Act 2003; and the Surveillance Devices Act 1988. Individuals are personally liable to prosecution for breaches of these various legislations which may result in individual prosecution and penalties ranging from fines to imprisonment. To ensure that operations are conducted in compliance with legislation, the Drone Patrol Operator must strictly follow the SLSWA operating procedures.

Drone Patrol activities undertaken by Drone Patrol Operators fall within the Civil Aviation Safety Authority Drug and Alcohol Management legislation and as such, Drone Patrol Operators may be subject to random alcohol and drug testing.

Drone Patrol Operators are responsible for the security, care and operational readiness of all equipment associated with Drone Patrol to ensure that they are operationally ready to perform patrol duties as required.

<u>Drone Patrol Operators must:</u>

- Successfully complete SLSWA Drone Patrol training and remain current as a SLSWA Drone Patrol Operator as required for the duration of all Drone Patrol activities;
- Ensure all essential qualifications are current and remain current for the duration of Drone Patrol activities;
- Assess the prevailing beach / surf / populous areas on location and undertake risk assessments in regards to safe SLSWA Drone Patrol operations;
- Complete all required documentation and data-collection in a neat, timely and satisfactory manner;
- Promptly report any relevant issues to their Club (Director or Lifesaving) and the SLSWA Aerial Surveillance Officer;
- Take an active role educating the public on public safety issues through informal discussions with the community.

| Selection Criteria | Essential / Desirable |
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| **Pre-requisites** | |
| • Minimum of 16 years of age. | Essential |
| • Active member status. | Essential |
| • Perform CPR certificate. | Essential |
| **Experience** | |
| • Previous beach-based lifesaving experience. | Desirable |
| • Knowledge of the beach and surf environment. | Desirable |
| **Skills** | |
| • Excellent communication skills. | Essential |
| • Work as part of a team. | Essential |
| • Sound decision making skills. | Essential |
| • Ability to read, understand and adhere to rules and regulations. | Essential |
| • Ability to read, understand and adhere to policies and procedures. | Essential |

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| • A professional attitude and appearance. | Essential |
| **Other** | |
| • An understanding of Surf Life Saving procedures, practices and policies. | Desirable |
| • An understanding of all applicable RPAS legislation and requirements. | Desirable |
| • An understanding of risk management principles and practices. | Desirable |
| • High level of professionalism and composure under pressure. | Essential |
| • Integrity and trustworthiness. | Essential |

**Prepared by: Lifesaving Department Manager**

**Date: October 2026**