



**U.S. Department of Transportation**

**Privacy Impact Assessment  
Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)  
Air Traffic Organization (ATO)  
Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability  
(LAANC)/B4UFLY**

**Responsible Official**

Marcy Wolf  
Email: [marcy.wolf@faa.gov](mailto:marcy.wolf@faa.gov)  
Phone Number: 609 485-5127

**Reviewing Official**

Karyn Gorman  
Chief Privacy Officer  
Office of the Chief Information Officer  
[privacy@dot.gov](mailto:privacy@dot.gov)



## Executive Summary

This is an update to the Low Altitude Authorization and Notification Capability (LAANC) Privacy Impact Assessment (PIA). A significant change to the LAANC system is the integration of the B4UFLY program, an airspace awareness application that is free to the public. The FAA determined that combining B4UFLY with the LAANC program will enhance situational awareness and provide broader airspace access for recreational and commercial small unmanned aircraft system (sUAS) pilots. This will increase safety throughout the National Airspace System (NAS) by providing more complete information data sets on which users can base their operational choices.

The UAS Service Supplier (USS) Aloft (formerly Kittyhawk) developed [original B4UFLY mobile application](#) in 2016 and maintained it in a single-source public-private partnership with the FAA until February 2024 when the B4UFLY Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Aloft expired. The FAA has since integrated B4UFLY's capabilities into the LAANC ecosystem. Now, all USSs in the LAANC cohort can become B4UFLY providers. LAANC USSs that wish to become B4UFLY-qualified must comply with the B4UFLY Addendum to the LAANC MOA which was published in March 2024<sup>1</sup>

This update continues to inform the public of the privacy risks and mitigation strategies associated with the FAA's collection, use, dissemination, and retention of Personally Identifiable Information (PII) resulting from LAANC.

## What is a Privacy Impact Assessment?

*The Privacy Act of 1974 articulates concepts for how the federal government should treat individuals and their information and imposes duties upon federal agencies regarding the collection, use, dissemination, and maintenance of personally identifiable information (PII). The E-Government Act of 2002, Section 208, establishes the requirement for agencies to conduct privacy impact assessments (PIAs) for electronic information systems and collections. The assessment is a practical method for evaluating privacy in information systems and collections, and documented assurance that privacy issues have been identified and adequately addressed. The PIA is an analysis of how information is handled to—i) ensure handling conforms to applicable legal, regulatory, and policy requirements regarding privacy; ii) determine the risks and effects of collecting, maintaining and disseminating information in identifiable form in an electronic information system; and iii)*

---

<sup>1</sup> The B4UFLY Addendum to the LAANC MOA was published in March 2024 and is located here: [https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs\\_partnerships/data\\_exchange/B4UFLY-Addendum](https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs_partnerships/data_exchange/B4UFLY-Addendum)



*examine and evaluate protections and alternative processes for handling information to mitigate potential privacy risks.<sup>2</sup>*

*Conducting a PIA ensures compliance with laws and regulations governing privacy and demonstrates the DOT's commitment to protect the privacy of any personal information we collect, store, retrieve, use and share. It is a comprehensive analysis of how the DOT's electronic information systems and collections handle personally identifiable information (PII). The goals accomplished in completing a PIA include:*

- *Making informed policy and system design or procurement decisions. These decisions must be based on an understanding of privacy risk, and of options available for mitigating that risk;*
- *Accountability for privacy issues;*
- *Analyzing both technical and legal compliance with applicable privacy law and regulations, as well as accepted privacy policy; and*
- *Providing documentation on the flow of personal information and information requirements within DOT systems.*

*Upon reviewing the PIA, you should have a broad understanding of the risks and potential effects associated with the Department activities, processes, and systems described and approaches taken to mitigate any potential privacy risks.*

## **Introduction & System Overview**

There are no changes from the previously published PIAs in the information that is collected from both LAANC and B4UFLY.

### LAANC

The FAA uses information collected through LAANC to approve/deny requests for authorization to fly certain unmanned aircraft (UAS) in controlled airspace. More specifically, requests for authorizations to fly in controlled airspace are approved or denied based on the flight plan information submitted through LAANC and current NAS conditions. Individual members of the public who wish to fly sUAS weighing less than 55 pounds in controlled airspace (Class B, Class C, Class D, or within the lateral boundaries of the surface area of Class E airspace designated for an airport<sup>3</sup>) must request and receive prior authorization from the FAA before conducting flight operations. These individuals are divided into two general groups: (1) limited recreational operators as described in 49 U.S.C. § 44809(a) and (2) part 107 operators as described in 14 C.F.R. part 107. LAANC provides services to anyone who requests authorization to fly a sUAS under either § 44809(a) or part

---

<sup>2</sup>Office of Management and Budget's (OMB) definition of the PIA taken from guidance on implementing the privacy provisions of the E-Government Act of 2002 (see OMB memo of M-03-22 dated September 26, 2003).

<sup>3</sup> A description of the airspace classes is located at:

[https://www.faa.gov/regulations\\_policies/handbooks\\_manuals/aviation/phak/media/17\\_phak\\_ch15.pdf](https://www.faa.gov/regulations_policies/handbooks_manuals/aviation/phak/media/17_phak_ch15.pdf)



107.4 As mentioned previously, B4UFLY is an application that is now an optional added airspace awareness layer within LAANC.

### B4UFLY

The B4UFLY mobile application and web service shows recreational flyers where they can and cannot fly UAS. It provides information about controlled airspace, special use airspace, critical infrastructure, airports, national parks, military training routes, and Temporary Flight Restrictions for special events. Operators indicate within the app where they intend to fly and receive a clear status indicator that informs them whether it is safe to fly or not. The only information that may be collected by B4UFLY is the following:

- Email address *may* be collected *if* a user reaches out to FAA’s UAS Support Center (9-ATO-SECC-OPS@faa.gov) for questions.
- Email address *may* be collected *if* a user reaches out to USS for questions regarding technical issues with B4UFLY.
- Location: this could be the individual’s geolocation or otherwise selected location (the only data retained by the FAA is the latitude/longitude of the interested area of operation selected on the app)

The LAANC/B4UFLY environment includes three main parties: sUAS operator, USSs, and FAA.

### **sUAS Operator**

sUAS operators must request authorization to operate in controlled airspace.<sup>5</sup> Using LAANC, a sUAS operator is required to provide the following data, which the USS collects (and then transfer) to the FAA: first name, last name, telephone number, and flight plan information.<sup>6</sup> Flight plan information required for authorizations is the start date and time, duration, maximum altitude, airspace location, and UAS registration number (optional).

---

<sup>4</sup> Those flying under part 107 are referred to as part 107 operators. Those flying under § 44809 are referred to as limited recreational operators or recreational flyers. Throughout this document, “sUAS operators” will be used to collectively refer to part 107 operators and recreational flyers. The rules governing both groups differ slightly and, when necessary, the two groups will be discussed individually as either part 107 operators or recreational flyers or collectively as sUAS operators.

<sup>5</sup> Part 107 and § 44809 both establish that no person may operate a small unmanned aircraft in Class B, Class C, or Class D airspace or within the lateral boundaries of Class E airspace designated for an airport unless that person has prior authorization.

<sup>6</sup> Information collected by LAANC in connection with authorization is collected in furtherance of maintaining safety in the NAS. See 49 U.S.C. § 44807.



To use LAANC, sUAS operators must use an FAA-Approved USS (see below section “UAS Service Supplier”) through an application that is downloaded to the sUAS operator’s computer system or mobile device. Any fees associated with using a USS’s application is determined by the USS and the FAA is not involved with determining the costs of such use. sUAS operators are not required to use LAANC to request an airspace authorization. sUAS Operators can instead choose to contact the FAA directly to request authorization, which is at no cost to the sUAS operator.<sup>7</sup>

### **UAS Service Supplier (USS)**

USSs provide authorization communication services between sUAS operators and the FAA. USSs operate under a contractual agreement with the FAA. The USSs are responsible for developing a LAANC-approved application that sUAS operators can use to make authorization requests. In February 2024, the MOA with Aloft expired, the same USSs that are approved for LAANC have the option to develop and offer their own B4UFLY mobile application. The USSs will continue to collect the information described above a to send to the FAA.

For authorization requests, the information described in the section above is the only information that the FAA requires the USS to collect. The FAA does not require the USS to collect any PII for use of B4UFLY. If the USS collects or requests any information from sUAS Operators that the FAA does not require, that information is not sent to the FAA. Each USS is required to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the FAA.<sup>8</sup> The MOA prohibits the USS from sending information to the FAA other than the required information listed above. Information collected by the USS for its own purposes is maintained and shared according to each USS’s privacy policy. The FAA does not determine the USS’s privacy policy. However, Articles 20, 21, and 22 of the MOA define required data protection policies, which are more fully described below in the Transparency section, that USSs must adhere to. Additionally, USSs are required to provide a privacy statement to users identifying which information is required by FAA and that any additional information collected by the USS is subject to the USS’s own privacy policy. Article 21 of the MOA subjects USSs to an audit of their data protection practices and as of February 2021 the FAA is defining the audit process. If a violation of the MOA or Performance Rules occurs, the FAA may choose to terminate the MOA.

There are no changes in the business processes for LAANC in the new combined environment; however, there will be new business processes for how B4UFLY operates.

---

<sup>7</sup> This process can be completed by using FAA’s “Drone Zone” portal, by visiting <https://faadronezone.faa.gov/#/>. DroneZone’s Privacy Impact Assessment is published on DOT’s website: <https://www.transportation.gov/individuals/privacy/privacy-impact-assessments>

<sup>8</sup> The MOA is found here: [https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs\\_partnerships/data\\_exchange/moa](https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs_partnerships/data_exchange/moa)



USSs that wish to participate in B4UFLY will go through a similar business process to the current LAANC model. To become LAANC providers, USSs are subject to Performance Rules<sup>9</sup> and go through an onboarding process. Onboarding includes signing the MOA, demonstrating that USSs can meet the Performance Rules, and testing the end-to-end system and connections. For USSs to offer B4UFLY, they now go through an identical Onboarding process with B4UFLY-applicable requirements. LAANC providing USSs also communicate with the FAA through Application Programming Interfaces (API). The APIs are continuously tested, proven, controlled, and securely managed. There are no changes to how the APIs are used by LAANC and B4UFLY does not require communication with any APIs.

The USSs manages and stores the initial information supplied by the sUAS operator when they create an account to use the USS's platform and requests and collects information from the sUAS operator to process the transaction. It is USSs' responsibility to secure the sUAS operator's information. Security of the sUAS operator's information that is in the possession of the USS is the USS's responsibility.

USSs are required to interact with LAANC API, in accordance with information security requirements defined by NIST FIPS Publication 200, Minimum Security Requirements for Federal Information and Information Systems.<sup>10</sup> Also, the Performance Rules require the USSs to notify all sUAS operators using their service of the LAANC Privacy Act Statement.<sup>11</sup> The Privacy Act Statement advises sUAS operators of their privacy rights, that the FAA does not require sUAS operators to provide additional information to the USS, that airspace authorization requests can be sent directly to the FAA, and the security measures in place at the FAA to safeguard their information. See Transparency section below for greater detail regarding the Privacy Statement.

USSs are private entities and can be based either in the United States or in foreign countries. Therefore, it is possible that sUAS operators may encounter USSs that are not based in the USA. However, all USSs are required to conform to the same set of Performance Rules, which require all data to be maintained within the United States. Therefore, the privacy requirements and expectations are uniformly applied to all USSs regardless of where the USS is based. Additionally, sUAS operators are free to use any USS that they choose or are free to bypass USSs entirely and contact the FAA directly to make an authorization request.

---

<sup>9</sup> Performance Rules are found here:

[https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs\\_partnerships/data\\_exchange/performance-rules](https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs_partnerships/data_exchange/performance-rules)

<sup>10</sup> See <https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/FIPS/NIST.FIPS.200.pdf>

<sup>11</sup> The privacy statement is found at: [Privacy Statement for LAANC/B4UFLY and USS Providers Collection of Information | Federal Aviation Administration \(faa.gov\)](#)



## FAA

There are no changes to the information that the FAA can access from the previous LAANC PIA and B4UFLY PIA. The FAA will only receive and have access to the sUAS operator's information as described in the Introduction & System Overview section above. Any additional information the USS requests from the sUAS operator is not sent to the FAA. In rare emergency cases the FAA may reach out to the sUAS operator directly via the provided telephone number to make the sUAS operator aware of a cancellation or emergency.

The FAA owns the LAANC system. The USSs, if able to meet all the requirements described above, provide applications to sUAS operators to submit flight operations to LAANC. There is no financial relationship between the FAA and the USSs. Additionally, USSs are responsible for the design of their application. The FAA is not involved in the design of the applications other than to provide and test system requirements.

FAA Air Traffic Managers (ATMs) may access the data once it is sent to the FAA. The FAA authorizes an ATM to access this data through a secure means after the ATM's identity is authenticated. LAANC also provides data to Drone Information for Safety, Compliance, Verification, and Reporting (DISCVR). DISCVR provides real time data access for air traffic security specialists (AJR-2) for waiver & authorization data. It is a key capability for high-profile or high-security events enabling personnel to contact UAS operators in special use airspace (SUA). DISCVR improves searching, sorting, and viewing FAA DroneZone and LAANC data in real time, including Remote Identification (Remote ID)-Serial Number, Registration Number, Planned Flight, Location, Reference Number, and Time of Operation. DISCVR (formerly Remote ID) has its own PTA published in September 2019 and currently has a new PTA in development. LAANC does not rely on DISCVR in any capacity which is why it is not considered as a subsystem for LAANC.

### **Fair Information Practice Principles (FIPPs) Analysis**

*The DOT PIA template is based on the fair information practice principles (FIPPs). The FIPPs, rooted in the tenets of the Privacy Act, are mirrored in the laws of many U.S. states, as well as many foreign nations and international organizations. The FIPPs provide a framework that will support DOT efforts to appropriately identify and mitigate privacy risk. The FIPPs-based analysis conducted by DOT is predicated on the privacy control families articulated in the Federal Enterprise Architecture Security and Privacy Profile (FEA-SPP) v3<sup>12</sup>, sponsored by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), and the Federal Chief Information Officers Council and*

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.cio.gov/documents/FEA-Security-Privacy-Profile-v3-09-30-2010.pdf>



*the Privacy Controls articulated in Appendix J of the NIST Special Publication 800-53 Security and Privacy Controls for Federal Information Systems and Organizations<sup>13</sup>.*

## Transparency

*Sections 522a(e)(3) and (e)(4) of the Privacy Act and Section 208 of the E-Government Act require public notice of an organization's information practices and the privacy impact of government programs and activities. Accordingly, DOT is open and transparent about policies, procedures, and technologies that directly affect individuals and/or their personally identifiable information (PII). Additionally, the Department should not maintain any system of records the existence of which is not known to the public.*

As described above, the FAA collects information to process authorization requests. Through LAANC and B4UFLY, the FAA collects the minimum amount of information necessary to provide these services. The FAA informs sUAS operators why the information is collected in a number of ways.

The FAA maintains and retrieves records in LAANC by the sUAS operator's name and telephone number. The FAA protects Privacy Act records in accordance with DOT/FAA 854 "Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems Waivers and Authorizations" which provides notice to the public of FAA's privacy practices regarding the collection, use, sharing, safeguarding, maintenance, and disposal of information collected from sUAS operators related to waivers and authorizations.<sup>14</sup> The FAA may collect sUAS operators email address from B4UFLY if a user reaches out to the FAA's UAS Support Center with policy related questions.

The Performance Rules require the USSs to advise sUAS operators of the Privacy Act Statement as required under the Privacy Act, 5 U.S.C. § 552a(e)(3). The Privacy Act Statement covers LAANC's information collection in detail. The Privacy Act Statement advises the sUAS operator that the information collected for FAA purposes is pursuant to 49 U.S.C. § 44809(a) and Part 107, what information is required under the law, and what information is provided to the FAA. The Privacy Act Statement further advises sUAS operators that if the USS requests information beyond what the FAA requires, that additional information is not provided to the FAA. Any additional information is protected and used in accordance with the USS's privacy policy. The Privacy Act Statement also instructs sUAS operators that they are not required to use USSs and can submit authorization requests directly to the FAA. Finally, the Privacy Act Statement advises that

<sup>13</sup> [http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/drafts/800-53-Appendix-J/IPDraft\\_800-53-privacy-appendix-J.pdf](http://csrc.nist.gov/publications/drafts/800-53-Appendix-J/IPDraft_800-53-privacy-appendix-J.pdf)

<sup>14</sup> See <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2023-08-29/pdf/2023-18289.pdf> Although DOT/FAA 854 applies to requests for both waivers and authorizations, the LAANC system will not collect requests for waivers as described at 14 CFR § 107.200.





all information sent to the FAA is protected, stored, used, and disclosed in accordance with SORN DOT/FAA 854. The Privacy Act Statement can be reviewed in its entirety at [https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs\\_partnerships/uas\\_data\\_exchange/privacy\\_statement/](https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs_partnerships/uas_data_exchange/privacy_statement/).

Under the terms of the MOA, USSs are required to inform sUAS operators in plain language and in a conspicuous location all LAANC data the USS is collecting from the sUAS operator, how long that data will be retained, any data sharing that will occur, all intended uses of the data, and any intellectual property rights the USS claims in the data. USS are also required to make all data policies opt-in for the sUAS operator and provide a manner for sUAS operators to request a copy of all LAANC data maintained by the USS and honor all requests to delete LAANC data made by sUAS operators. No sUAS operator is required to use a USS to submit an authorization request to the FAA. Authorization requests can be submitted directly to the FAA at <https://faadronezone.faa.gov/#/>. USSs are subject to an audit under Article 21 of the MOA, which will investigate whether the USSs are honoring the data protection requirements described in the MOA and adhering to all data policies and requirements.

All requests submitted through LAANC are also subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA). The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has approved LAANC collecting information from Part 107 operators under OMB Control Number 2120-0768. OMB has also approved LAANC collecting information from limited recreational operators flying under § 44809. LAANC's approval for § 44809 operators are covered under OMB Control Number 2120-0776. Information related to OMB Control Number 2120-0768 is found at [https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref\\_nbr=201712-2120-002](https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref_nbr=201712-2120-002) and for OMB Control Number 2120-0776 more information is found at [https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref\\_nbr=201905-2120-008](https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAViewICR?ref_nbr=201905-2120-008).

Finally, the publication of this PIA demonstrates FAA's commitment to provide appropriate transparency into its collection and maintenance of information through LAANC.

### **Individual Participation and Redress**

*DOT provides a reasonable opportunity and capability for individuals to make informed decisions about the collection, use, and disclosure of their PII. As required by the Privacy Act, individuals should be active participants in the decision-making process regarding the collection and use of their PII and they are provided reasonable access to their PII and the opportunity to have their PII corrected, amended, or deleted, as appropriate.*

sUAS operators are active and informed participants throughout the process of using LAANC. All use of LAANC and B4UFLY is voluntary. However, if a sUAS operator



chooses to use LAANC, the FAA-required information is necessary to determine if the sUAS operation can be done safely. USSs may require information in addition to that required by the FAA. As discussed above, sUAS operators can choose to use any USS they want and can base their decision on what information is collected. Although the manual process can be more time consuming, sUAS operators can also choose to request an authorization directly from FAA rather than requesting an authorization through LAANC using a USS. The only information collected from B4UFLY is the email address volunteered by users that reach out to FAA's UAS Support Center (9-ATO-SECC-OPS@faa.gov) for questions.

The FAA and USSs inform the sUAS operator how the government collects, uses, and discloses the sUAS operator's PII each time the sUAS operator uses LAANC. The "Transparency" section details the Privacy Statement provided to sUAS operators so that they can make informed decisions regarding LAANC.

The sUAS operator is the source of all the information provided to the USS and transferred to the FAA. The sUAS operator has the opportunity throughout the process to review and make any changes to the information provided. No records are provided to the FAA unless the sUAS operator provides and submits the information. Any additional information that a USS may ask a sUAS operator to provide is not subject to FAA approval or control beyond the disclosures required in the MOA. Aside from what the FAA requires them to collect, different USSs collect different information for their own business purposes and may have different information sharing practices. sUAS operators are free to choose or not to choose any USS to use for authorization services. As discussed above, all USSs must provide a mechanism for sUAS operators to request that their LAANC data be deleted, and USSs must honor all deletion requests.

Under the provisions of the Privacy Act, individuals may request searches of FAA records maintained in accordance with the DOT/FAA 854 SORN to determine if any records in the FAA LAANC system may pertain to them. If sUAS operators want to know about any additional data collected by their selected USS provider, they can reach out to USSs directly and/or review the USS's privacy policy.

Individuals wishing to know if their records appear in the FAA LAANC system or who have privacy concerns about the FAA LAANC system may inquire in person or in writing to:

Marcy Wolf  
LAANC Project Manager  
[Marcy.wolf@faa.gov](mailto:Marcy.wolf@faa.gov)

Federal Aviation Administration  
Privacy Office



800 Independence Ave. SW  
Washington, DC 20591

The following information must be included in the written request:

- Name
- Mailing address
- Phone number and/or email address
- A description of the records sought, and if possible, the location of the records.

Individuals expressing a complaint about the privacy practices of the FAA LAANC system should provide details of the situation or condition about which they are filing the complaint.

Individuals wanting to contest information about them that is contained in this system should make their requests in writing, detailing the reasons why the records should be corrected to the following address:

Federal Aviation Administration  
Privacy Office  
800 Independence Ave. SW  
Washington, DC 20591

### **Purpose Specification**

*DOT should (i) identify the legal bases that authorize a particular PII collection, activity, or technology that impacts privacy; and (ii) specify the purpose(s) for which it collects, uses, maintains, or disseminates PII. The PII contained in PTB is utilized for transit subsidy usage reconciliation, reporting for the agency, monitoring, and tracking participant usage.*

LAANC collects information from sUAS operators to receive and respond to requests for authorization to operate a sUAS in Class B, C, or D airspace or within the lateral boundaries of the surface area of Class E airspace designated for an airport. The information that is collected by the FAA through the USS is the minimum amount necessary to comply with 49 U.S.C. § 44807 and maintain the safety of the NAS. Information collected by the USS is maintained by the USS in accordance with its own privacy policy. The MOA between the USS and FAA, and associated Performance Rules, contain requirements for the USS to have a privacy policy in place and to provide the Privacy Statement to users (discussed above). If a violation of the MOA or Performance Rules occurs, the FAA can revoke the USS's MOA.

The FAA may use the sUAS operator's contact information to provide information about potential unsafe conditions to sUAS owners and operators and to educate those regarding possible risks to their operation.



In addition to 14 C.F.R. § 107.41 and 49 U.S.C. § 44809(a), the following authorities authorize LAANC's information collection:

- 49 U.S.C. § 44807, Special Authority for Certain Unmanned Aircraft Systems
- 49 U.S.C. § 106(f), Authority of the Secretary and the Administrator
- 49 U.S.C. § 106(g), Duties and powers of Administrator
- 49 U.S.C. § 40101, Policy
- 49 U.S.C. § 40103, Sovereignty and use of airspace
- 49 U.S.C. § 40106, Emergency powers
- 49 U.S.C. § 40113, Administrative
- 49 U.S.C. § 44701, General requirements
- 49 U.S.C. § 44721, Aeronautical charts and related products and services
- 49 U.S.C. § 46308, Interference with air navigation

### Data Minimization & Retention

*DOT should collect, use, and retain only PII that is relevant and necessary for the specified purpose for which it was originally collected.*

The DOT requests the minimum amount of information necessary to meet its statutory requirements of maintaining safe airspace and introducing sUAS to the NAS. LAANC collects and retains only the following information from sUAS operators: first name, last name, telephone number, and flight plan information (as described in the Introduction & System Overview section). Air Traffic Managers (ATMs) may use the contact information (name and phone number) to contact the sUAS operator to support NAS operations. For example, if there is an emergency that requires an immediate grounding of all sUAS operations, the ATM may want to contact the sUAS operators directly.

The B4UFLy program collects and maintains correspondence records (email addresses) with members of the public, when sUAS operators voluntarily submit feedback and/or policy-related questions. The FAA maintains these correspondence records in accordance with the Records Schedule NC1-237-77-03 item (1b), which requires the FAA to destroy the records after one year.

The FAA has obtained records disposition authority from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) for records related to authorizations as described herein. LAANC's Records Schedule Number is DAA-0237-2019-011<sup>15</sup> and requires the FAA to destroy LAANC Records at the end of every calendar year, three years after collected.

<sup>15</sup> LAANC's NARA record is located at [https://www.archives.gov/files/records-mgmt/rcs/schedules/departments/departments-of-transportation/rg-0237/daa-0237-2019-0011\\_sf115.pdf](https://www.archives.gov/files/records-mgmt/rcs/schedules/departments/departments-of-transportation/rg-0237/daa-0237-2019-0011_sf115.pdf)



## Use Limitation

*DOT shall limit the scope of its PII use to ensure that the Department does not use PII in any manner that is not specified in notices, incompatible with the specified purposes for which the information was collected, or for any purpose not otherwise permitted by law.*

PII collected by the FAA will be used only as specified in the Department’s system of records notice DOT/FAA – 854, “Small Unmanned Aircraft Systems Waivers and Authorizations” which applies to records collected in connection with sUAS authorizations submitted via LAANC or directly to the FAA.

In addition to other disclosures generally permitted under 5 U.S.C. § 552a (b) of the Privacy Act, all or a portion of the records or information contained in DOT/FAA-854 may be disclosed outside DOT as a routine use pursuant to 5 U.S.C. § 552a(b)(3) as provided in the system of notice record (SORN) that applies to those records.

1. To the public, waiver applications and decisions, including any history of previous, pending, existing, or denied requests for waivers applicable to the sUAS at issue for purposes of the waiver, and special provisions applicable to the sUAS operation that is the subject of the request. Email addresses and telephone numbers will not be disclosed pursuant to this Routine Use. Airspace authorizations the FAA issues also will not be disclosed pursuant to this Routine Use, except to the extent that an airspace authorization is listed or summarized in the terms of a waiver.
2. To law enforcement, when necessary and relevant to a FAA enforcement activity.
3. Disclose information to the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) in connection with its investigation responsibilities.
4. To government agencies, whether Federal, State, Tribal, local or foreign, information necessary or relevant to an investigation of a violation or potential violation of law, whether civil, criminal, or regulatory, that the agency is charged with investigating or enforcing; as well as, to government agencies responsible for threat detection in connection with critical infrastructure protection.
5. In the event that a system of records maintained by DOT to carry out its functions indicates a violation or potential violation of law, whether civil, criminal or regulatory in nature, and whether arising by general statute or particular program pursuant thereto, the relevant records in the system of records may be referred, as a routine use, to the appropriate agency, whether Federal, State, local or foreign, charged with the responsibility of investigating or



prosecuting such violation or charged with enforcing or implementing the statute, or rule, regulation, or order issued pursuant thereto.

6. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local agency maintaining civil, criminal, or other relevant enforcement information or other pertinent information, such as current licenses, if necessary to obtain information relevant to a DOT decision concerning the hiring or retention of an employee, the issuance of a security clearance, the letting of a contract, or the issuance of a license, grant or other benefit.
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a federal agency, in response to its request, in connection with the hiring or retention of an employee, the issuance of a security clearance, the reporting of an investigation of an employee, the letting of a contract, or the issuance a license, grant, or other benefit by the requesting agency, to the extent that the information is relevant and necessary to the requesting agency's decision on the matter.
8. It shall be a routine use of the records in this system of records to disclose them to the Department of Justice or other Federal agency conducting litigation when (a) DOT, or any agency thereof, or (b) Any employee of DOT or any agency thereof (including a member of the Coast Guard), in his/her official capacity, or (c) Any employee of DOT or any agency thereof (including a member of the Coast Guard), in his/her individual capacity where the Department of Justice has agreed to represent the employee, or (d) The United States or any agency thereof, where DOT determines that litigation is likely to affect the United States, is a party to litigation or has an interest in such litigation, and the use of such records by the Department of Justice or other Federal agency conducting the litigation is deemed by DOT to be relevant and necessary in the litigation, provided, however, that in each case, DOT determines that disclosure of the records in the litigation is a use of the information contained in the records that is compatible with the purpose for which the records were collected.
- 8b. Routine Use for Agency Disclosure in Other Proceedings. It shall be a routine use of records in this system to disclose them in proceedings before any court or adjudicative or administrative body before which DOT or any agency thereof, appears, when (a) DOT, or any agency thereof, or (b) Any employee of DOT or any agency thereof (including a member of the Coast Guard) in his/her official capacity, or (c) Any employee of DOT or any agency thereof (including a member of the Coast Guard) in his/her individual capacity where DOT has agreed to represent the employee, or (d) The United States or any agency thereof, where DOT determines that the proceeding is likely to affect the United States, is a party to the proceeding or has an interest in such proceeding, and DOT



determines that use of such records is relevant and necessary in the proceeding, provided, however, that in each case, DOT determines that disclosure of the records in the proceeding is a use of the information contained in the records that is compatible with the purpose for which the records were collected.

9. The information contained in this system of records will be disclosed to the Office of Management and Budget, OMB in connection with the review of private relief legislation as set forth in OMB Circular No. A-19 at any stage of the legislative coordination and clearance process as set forth in that Circular.
10. Disclosure may be made to a Congressional office from the record of an individual in response to any inquiry from the Congressional office made at the request of that individual. In such cases, however, the Congressional office does not have greater rights to records than the individual. Thus, the disclosure may be withheld from delivery to the individual where the file contains investigative or actual information or other materials which are being used, or are expected to be used, to support prosecution or fines against the individual for violations of a statute, or of regulations of the Department based on statutory authority. No such limitations apply to records requested for Congressional oversight or legislative purposes; release is authorized under 49 CFR 10.35(9).
11. One or more records from a system of records may be disclosed routinely to the National Archives and Records Administration in records management inspections being conducted under the authority of 44 USC 2904 and 2906.
12. Routine Use for disclosure to the Coast Guard and to Transportation Security Administration. A record from this system of records may be disclosed as a routine use to the Coast Guard and to the Transportation Security Administration if information from this system was shared with either agency when that agency was a component of the Department of Transportation before its transfer to the Department of Homeland Security and such disclosure is necessary to accomplish a DOT, TSA or Coast Guard function related to this system of records.
13. DOT may make available to another agency or instrumentality of any government jurisdiction, including State and local governments, listings of names from any system of records in DOT for use in law enforcement activities, either civil or criminal, or to expose fraudulent claims, regardless of the stated purpose of the collection of the information in the system or records. These enforcement activities are generally referred to as matching programs because two lists of names are checked for match using automated assistance. This routine use is advisory in nature and does not offer unrestricted access to system of records for such law enforcement and related antifraud activities. Each request will be considered based on its purpose, merits, cost effectiveness and alternatives using Instructions on reporting computer matching programs to the



Office of Management and Budget, OMB, Congress and the public, published by the Director, OMB, dated September 20, 1989.

14. It shall be a routine use of the information in any DOT system of records to provide to the Attorney General of the United States, or his/her designee, information indicating that a person meets any of the disqualifications for receipt, possession, shipment, or transport of a firearm under the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act. In case of a dispute concerning the validity of the information provided by DOT to the Attorney General, or his/her designee, it shall be a routine use of the information in any DOT system of records to make any disclosures of such information to the National Background Information Check System, established by the Brady Handgun Violence Prevention Act, as may be necessary to resolve such dispute.
15. DOT may disclose records from this system, as a routine use to appropriate agencies, entities and persons when (1) DOT suspects or has confirmed that the security or confidentiality of information in the system of records has been compromised; (2) DOT has determined that as a result of the suspected or confirmed compromise there is a risk of harm to economic or property interests, identify theft or fraud, or harm to the security or integrity of this system or other systems or programs (whether maintained by DOT or another agency or entity) that rely upon the, compromised information; and (3) the disclosure made to such agencies, entities, and persons is reasonably necessary to assist in connection with DOT's efforts to respond to the suspected or confirmed compromise and prevents, minimize, or remedy such harm. To another Federal agency or Federal entity, when DOT determines that information from this system of records is reasonably necessary to assist the recipient agency or entity in (1) responding to a suspected or confirmed breach or (2) preventing, minimizing, or remedying the risk of harm to individuals, the recipient agency or entity (including its information systems, programs, and operations), the Federal Government, or national security, resulting from a suspected or confirmed breach. DOT may disclose records from this system, as a routine use, to the Office of Government Information Services for the purpose of (a) resolving disputes between FOIA requesters and Federal agencies and (b) reviewing agencies' policies, procedures, and compliance in order to recommend policy changes to Congress and the President.
16. DOT may disclose records from this system, as a routine use, to contractors and their agents, experts, consultants, and others performing or working on a contract, service, cooperative agreement, or other assignment for DOT, when necessary to accomplish an agency function related to this system or records.
17. DOT may disclose records from this system, as a routine use, to and agency, organization, or individual for the purpose of performing audit or oversight





operations related to this system or records, but only such records as are necessary and relevant to the audit or oversight activity. This routine use does not apply to intra-agency sharing authorized under Section (b)(1), of the Privacy Act.

18. DOT may disclose from this system, as a routine use, records consisting of, or relating to, terrorism information (6 U.S.C. 485(a)(5)), homeland security information (6 U.S.C., 482(f)(1)), or Law enforcement information (Guideline 2 Report attached to White House Memorandum, “Information Sharing Environment, November 22, 2006) to a Federal, State, local, tribal, territorial, foreign government and/or multinational agency, either in response to its request or upon the initiative of the Component, for purposes of sharing such information as is necessary and relevant for the agencies to detect, prevent, disrupt, preempt, and mitigate the effects of terrorist activities against the territory, people, and interests of the United States of America, as contemplated by the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004,(Pub. L. 108-458) and Executive Order, 13388 (October 25, 2005).

As noted above, USSs may require information beyond what is required by the FAA. The FAA does not receive this additional information and, therefore, cannot share or disclose the information. As private entities, the USSs are not subject to the Privacy Act and SORN 854 in their maintenance and disclosure of information; the USSs’ individual privacy policies govern how the PII and other data they collect and maintain for their own purposes is disclosed. As discussed earlier, all USSs entered into a MOA with the FAA.<sup>16</sup> The MOA prohibits the USSs from providing any information or data to the FAA other than what the FAA requires (as described above in Introduction and System Overview Section of this PIA).

LAANC USSs that wish to become B4UFLY providers must comply with the B4UFLY Addendum to the LAANC MOA which was published in March 2024<sup>17</sup>.

---

<sup>16</sup> The MOA is found here: [https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs\\_partnerships/data\\_exchange/moa](https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs_partnerships/data_exchange/moa)

<sup>17</sup> The B4UFLY Addendum to the LAANC MOA was published in March 2024 and is located here: [https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs\\_partnerships/data\\_exchange/B4UFLY-Addendum](https://www.faa.gov/uas/programs_partnerships/data_exchange/B4UFLY-Addendum)



## Data Quality and Integrity

*In accordance with Section 552a(e)(2) of the Privacy Act of 1974, DOT should ensure that any PII collected and maintained by the organization is accurate, relevant, timely, and complete for the purpose for which it is to be used, as specified in the Department's public notice(s).*

sUAS operators providing information to the FAA are responsible for ensuring the accuracy of their own data. The FAA does not collect nor is it provided any information other than what the sUAS operator supplies.

Only the sUAS operator through the USS will have the ability to input data in the PII fields. The data fields are coded so only alpha characters are allowed in name fields and numeric characters in phone number fields. Control is very carefully exercised and only those with credentialed access (which is extremely limited) are allowed access to the data beyond "read" ability. At the request of the sUAS operator the USS can change information previously submitted. No one else has access to make changes to the information. LAANC maintains a history of all data fields so if any changes are made to the data, there is a record of any change for full transparency.

Through LAANC, the FAA will provide no authorization requests unless it has received the complete information set needed to do so. All information collected and the manner in which it is used is contained in the DOT/FAA-854 SORN.

## Security

*DOT shall implement administrative, technical, and physical measures to protect PII collected or maintained by the Department against loss, unauthorized access, or disclosure, as required by the Privacy Act, and to ensure that organizational planning and responses to privacy incidents comply with OMB policies and guidance.*

FAA protects PII in its system with reasonable security safeguards against loss or unauthorized access, destruction, usage, modification, or disclosure. There are no changes to these measures with the new combined LAANC/B4UFLY environment. These safeguards incorporate standards and practices required for federal information systems under the Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA) and are detailed in Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) Publication 200, Minimum Security Requirements for Federal Information and Information Systems, dated March 2006, and National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Special Publication (SP) 800-53, Revision 4, Security and Privacy Controls for Federal Information Systems and Organizations, dated April 2013.

The FAA performed the necessary assessment on the LAANC system in all areas including architecture, capabilities, implemented security postures, and system



configuration. Security risks and deficiencies were then analyzed. After any risks and deficiencies were addressed, LAANC received an “Authority To Operate”. This process ensures that LAANC meets the necessary security standards and controls. The LAANC program will follow the System Impact Assessment process for any subsequent upgrade or enhancement efforts to ensure the LAANC system will stay secure. As described in the Information and System Overview Section, USSs are put through an onboarding test. During this testing, USSs must prove they can meet all LAANC security requirements as well as the Operating Rules. As stated above, security of the sUAS operator’s information will be the USS’s responsibility. All USSs are subject to a MOA which requires them to interact with LAANC API in accordance with information security requirements defined by NIST FIPS Publication 200, Minimum Security Requirements for Federal Information and Information Systems. The MOA also requires that the USS send only the required records to the FAA.

### **Accountability and Auditing**

*DOT shall implement effective governance controls, monitoring controls, risk management, and assessment controls to demonstrate that the Department is complying with all applicable privacy protection requirements and minimizing the privacy risk to individuals.*

FAA’s Office of the Chief Information Officer, Office of Information Systems Security, Privacy Division is responsible for governance and administration of FAA Order 1370.121A, [FAA Information Security and Privacy Program & Policy](#). FAA Order 1370.121A implements the various privacy requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974 (the Privacy Act), the E-Government Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-347), FISMA, DOT privacy regulations, OMB mandates, and other applicable DOT and FAA information and information technology management procedures and guidance.

In addition to these practices, additional policies and procedures will be consistently applied, especially as they relate to the access, protection, retention, and destruction of PII. Federal and contract employees are given clear guidance in their duties as they relate to collecting, using, processing, and security privacy data. Guidance is provided in the form of mandatory annual security and privacy awareness training as well as FAA Privacy Rules of Behavior. The DOT and FAA Privacy Offices will conduct periodic privacy compliance reviews of LAANC relative to the requirements of OMB Circular A-130.



**Responsible Official**

Marcy Wolf  
LAANC Program Manager  
Unmanned Aircraft System Services

**Approval and Signature**

Karyn Gorman  
Chief Privacy Officer  
Office of the Chief Information Officer

DOT Privacy Office - Approved - 11/19/2024



DOT Privacy Office - Approved - 11/19/2024