



Shaping the Future of Advanced Air Mobility

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
AUGUST 2026 MEETING

Tarek Tabshouri, P.E.
Chief, Division of Aeronautics
Caltrans

8/20/2026

What is AAM?

New mode of air transportation that utilizes **innovative aircraft technology** featuring:

- Autonomous Flight
- Electric/Hybrid Propulsion System
- Vertical Take Off and Landing (VTOL)



AAM Use Cases

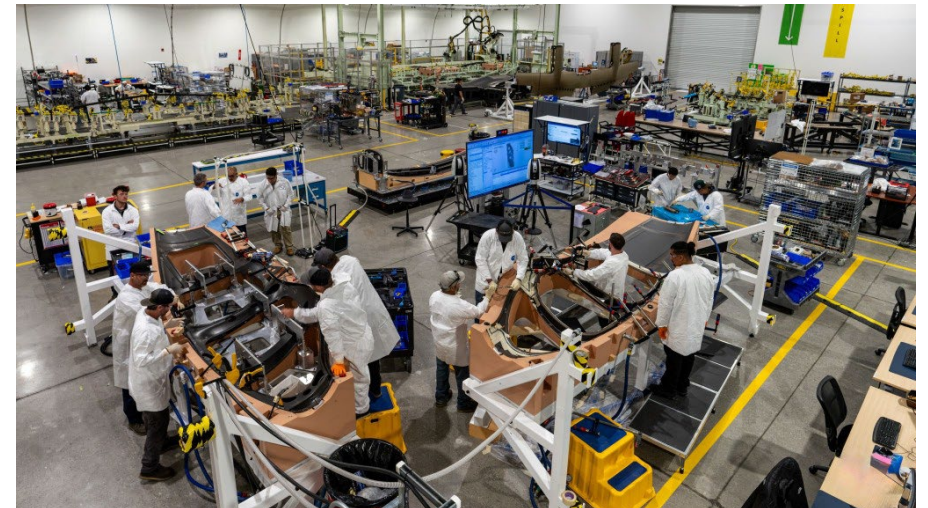
- Urban mobility
- Regional mobility
- Cargo/Logistics
- Emergency/Medical Services
- Law Enforcement
- Agriculture

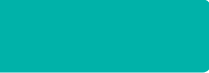


Source: USDOT

State's Investments In AAM

- GO-BIZ Infrastructure/Workforce Development Grants
 - Jobs First Catalyst
 - CAL Competes Grant
 - California Advanced Air Mobility Corridors Initiative
- Tax Credits and Sales Tax Exclusions





Caltrans AAM Initiatives

- AAM Infrastructure Readiness and Three-Year Implementation Work Plan (Senate Bill 800 Report)
- Federal Aviation Administration eVTOL Integration Pilot Program
- Caltrans Research Program Development Funding
- California AAM Inter-Agency Working Group



Part 2

Unmanned Aircraft Systems



Tab 17

Unmanned Aircraft Systems Supporting the State Highway System

CALIFORNIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Michael Hank, PLS
District Division Chief, Land Surveys
Caltrans District 11

August 20, 2026

Caltrans District 11 UAS Program

- Aligns with Caltrans Core Values:
 - Collaboration, Innovation, People First, Pride, and Stewardship
- Supports Caltrans Goals:
 - Safety, Climate Action, Prosperity, and Employee Excellence



SAFETY



CLIMATE ACTION



PROSPERITY



EMPLOYEE EXCELLENCE

- Contributes to SB-1 efficiency Cost Savings
- Facilitates professional products and services that support a thriving and connected California

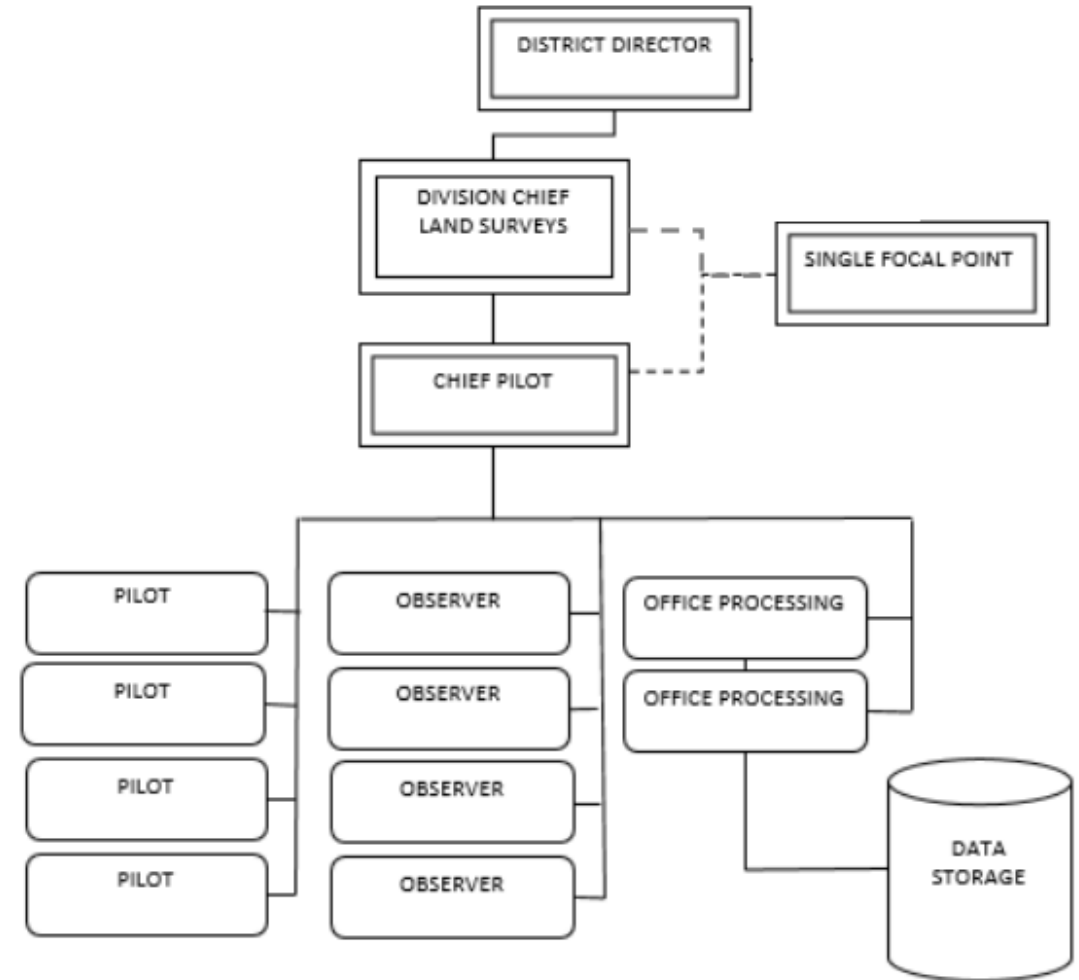
Caltrans District 11 UAS Program

Six Aircraft (Fixed Wing and Multi-Rotor)

- Oblique Photos and Videos
- Orthophotos/3D Mapping
- Culvert inspection/3D modeling

Twenty-Two FAA Licensed Remote Pilots

- 10 Maintenance
- 5 Geotechnical
- 3 Land Surveys
- 2 Construction
- 1 Planning
- 1 Traffic Operations

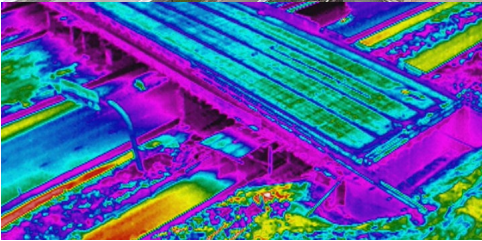
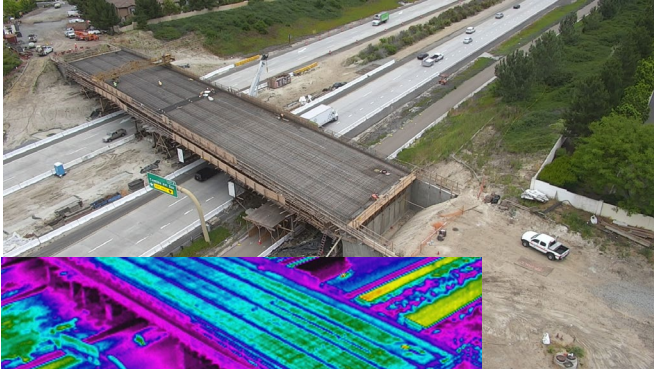


Caltrans District 11 UAS – Emergency Response



2023 Rock Slide
Interstate 8
Mountain Springs Grade

Caltrans District 11 UAS – Construction



Caltrans District 11 UAS – Land Surveying

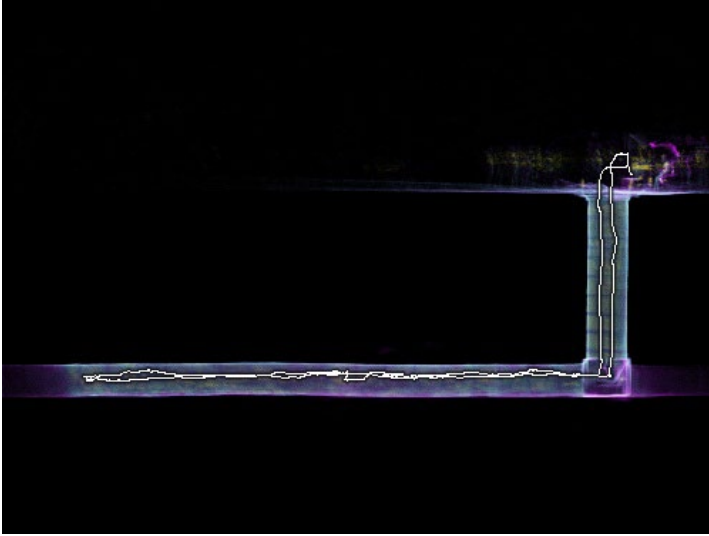


Wingtra Gen II UAS with 42-megapixel camera collects photos in 45 minutes that are used to generate a 3D Model and Orthophoto of 180 Acre Site



Combining UAS photogrammetry, Mobile Terrestrial Laser Scanning and Terrestrial Scanning to support a proposed bridge realignment on Tribal land

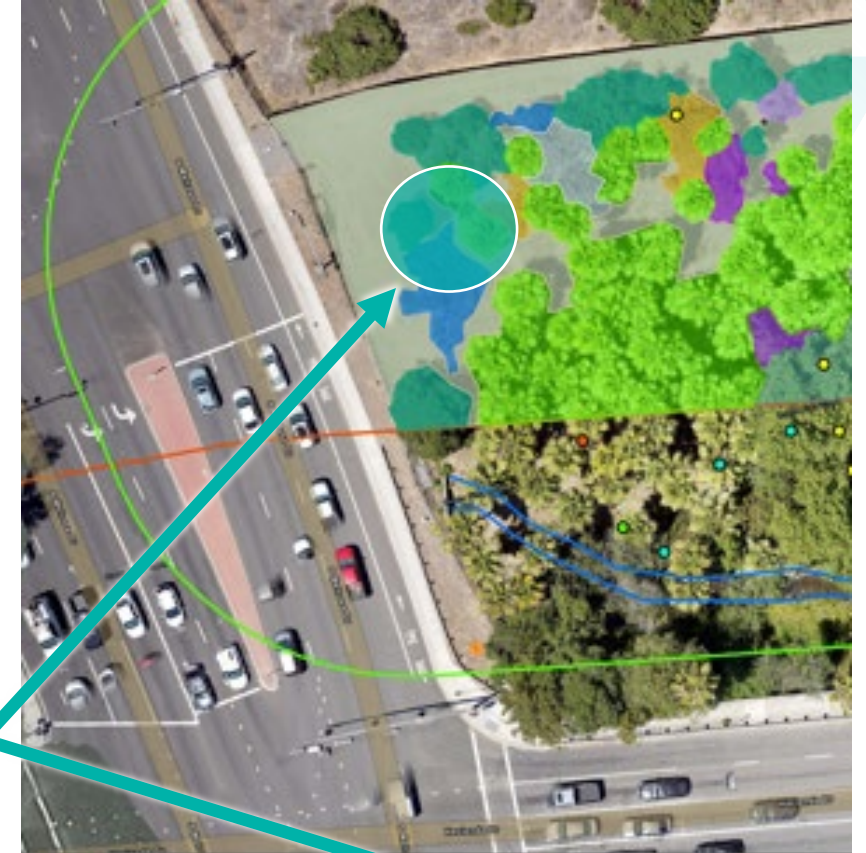
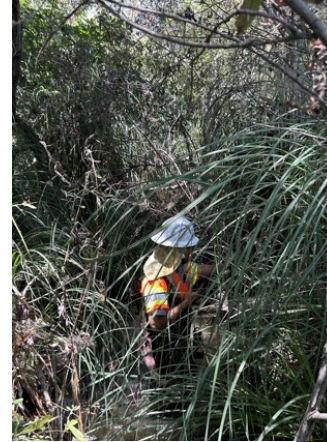
Caltrans District 11 UAS – Culvert Inspection



2024 Flyability Elios 3
Interstate 805
H Street, Chula Vista



Caltrans District 11 UAS – Environmental



- BSA (Action Area)-100'
- ROW
- Postmiles
- Temporary Impact Area (1.07 ac.)
- Disturbed Land
- Disturbed-Southern Riparian Woodland- Fremont Cottonwood Dominant
- Disturbed-Southern Riparian

2025 Buena Vista Creek
Route 78
City of Vista



Caltrans District 11 UAS – Structure Investigation



2025 Bolt investigation
Route 75 Coronado Bridge

2021 Debris investigation
Interstate 8 - Mission Valley



Caltrans District 11 UAS – LIVE Remote Flight

Aaron Chamberlin, RCE, Construction Field Systems Coordinator
San Diego-Coronado Bay Bridge, Skydio Dock for X-10
USDOT SMART Grants Program funding



Demonstration flight video





Questions

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