Drone Survey Mission Planning Checklist

Project: _____ Site: _____ Date: _____

Requirements

- [ ] Deliverables agreed (orthomosaic, DSM, DTM, point cloud, contours)
- [ ] Required accuracy (horizontal and vertical): _____
- [ ] Coordinate reference system: _____ Vertical datum: _____
- [ ] Target GSD: _____ cm/px

Permissions and safety

- [ ] Operator registration and pilot qualifications current
- [ ] Airspace checked; permissions obtained if required
- [ ] Landowner permission obtained
- [ ] Site risk assessment completed (people, roads, structures, wildlife)
- [ ] Weather forecast checked (wind, rain, light)

Flight plan

- [ ] Flight height for target GSD: _____ m
- [ ] Front overlap: _____ % Side overlap: _____ %
- [ ] Terrain following enabled for sloping sites
- [ ] Crossing grid or oblique images planned for 3D detail
- [ ] Batteries and flight time sufficient (with reserve)

Positioning

- [ ] Method: RTK / PPK / ground control only
- [ ] Base station or correction service set up
- [ ] Ground control points placed: _____ (distributed, including edges)
- [ ] Independent checkpoints placed: _____ (not used in processing)
- [ ] Target positions surveyed and photographed

Pre-flight

- [ ] Firmware and apps up to date
- [ ] Camera settings and lens clean
- [ ] Compass and GNSS status OK
- [ ] Return-to-home height set above obstacles

After the flight

- [ ] Image count and coverage checked on site
- [ ] Raw data and GNSS logs backed up twice
- [ ] Accuracy report against checkpoints produced

Guide: www.flexyblogs.com/blog/ground-sample-distance-drone-mapping