* Risk: Lens fogs up/ices up
  + Mitigation: do not use cover outside of lens with sealed cover like GoPro cover
* Risk: Payload lands in tree
  + Mitigation: develop parachute drop mechanism with hot wire or servo retracted pin
* Risk: Balloon pops early
  + Mitigation: determine proper inflation pressure of balloon
  + Mitigation: use gloves at all times when handling balloon to prevent skin oils from contacting it (may not be necessary, check other sources)
  + Mitigation: perform balloon inflation on clean tarp to prevent popping during inflation due to ground texture
  + Mitigation: store balloon before use in dark, dry place at room temperature
* Risk: Primary GPS tracking system (SPOT) loses signal
  + Mitigation: use internal passive gimbal to force vertical orientation of GPS
  + Mitigation: use a redundant GPS system communicating via RF
* Risk: Temperatures are too low for payload electronics
  + Mitigation: use light weight Styrofoam cooler filled with hand warmers
  + Mitigation: perform static test of internal and external temperature during cold night or in freezer to ensure within range of electronics specified ratings
* Risk: Bad weather, high cloud coverage
  + Mitigation: Check weather forecast 3 days in advance and day of planned flight for low wind gusts and low cloud coverage
* Risk: Parachute failure
  + Mitigation: Tie parachute such that it is always deployed
* Risk: Recovery is impeded by 3rd party individuals
  + Mitigation: write a clear label on exterior of payload indicating the payload is Auburn University’s property, its purpose, and how to return it to the recovery team. Place large Auburn logos on each side to clearly indicate it is a University research payload and not a suspicious package.
* Risk: Balloon collides with aircraft
  + Mitigation: use radar reflector as required by FAA. Paint or tape payload with bright orange for high contrast
  + Mitigation: ensure launch and predicted landing site is decently far from airport
  + Mitigation: use rope that can be cut with 50lbs of force (according to FAA regulation) such that aircraft will not be damaged upon collision