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Reykjavík 14. June 2019
UST201905-349/H.G.
09.06.01

Subject: Research permit - Krýsuvík

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from Wolfgang Fraedrich dated 26. May 2019 for a research permit at Krýsuvík.

Krýsuvík is located within the Reykjanes country park which was protected on the 1st of December 1975, c.f. regulation no 520/1975. According to the terms of protection disturbance to geological formations in the protective area is prohibited without permission from the Environmental Agency of Iceland. That also includes sampling for scientific research.

Project description:

The project applied for is for geological studies in Icelandic hot springs. Samples will be taken from individual hot springs and mud pools in order to determine the bacteria and archaea living in them later in the laboratory. Infrared cameras will be used to measure temperatures that will later be correlated with earthquake data. There will be no disturbance on geological features and no use of chemicals and/or chemical compounds. The samples will be taken at the tourist area of Krýsuvík. The researchers will only if necessarily go off the paths.

The Environment Agency of Iceland has concluded, based on the information given by the applicant, that the project is not subject to a permit from the Environment Agency.

Guidelines from the Environment Agency:


- Keep this letter with you during the research within the protected site.
- Off-road driving in Iceland is strictly prohibited.
- Researches should always try to stay on authorized paths/tracks/roads.
- Fauna, geological formations and landscape should not be disturbed in any way.
- All disturbance to animals and wildlife is strictly prohibited.
- All disturbance to the environment should be minimal.
- The researchers are required to prevent all disturbance to the environment and make sure that all litter is removed from the sites.
- All traces of the work must be removed carefully off the site by the end of the work/project.
- The researches should be conscious of other guests on the sites and make sure that they disturb the other visitors as little as possible. During early morning and late afternoon, there are less people visiting the sites.

A permission from the landowners and/or the municipality might be needed for research in Krýsuvík.

A permission for any researches within geothermal areas in Iceland can be subject to permission from the National Energy Authorisation (www.os.is).

If you wish to export samples from Iceland a special permit is needed from the Icelandic Institute of Natural History (www.ni.is).

Sincerely



Hlín Gísladóttir
Advisor