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Exhibition Road
London SW7 2AZ

Reykjavík 21. júní 2018
UST201806-216/P.B.S.

Subject: Permit for research - Friðland að Fjallabaki protected area

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received a request from Andre Farinha on behalf of the Imperial college London, dated 18th of June 2018, regarding a permit to go off road on foot and to use a drone for research purpose in the Fjallabak nature reserve during the dates June 25th to July 18th, 2018.

Fjallabak was protected in 1979 according to article 254/1979. The area is characterised by colourful mountains, geothermal energy and volcanic activity. According to the regulations regarding the nature reserve people should always stay on walking paths where possible. Disturbance to flora, fauna and geological formations is prohibited. Fimmvörðuháls is partly within the nature conservation area Skógafoss which was protected in 1987 according to the article 477/1987. Disturbance to flora, fauna and geological formations is prohibited.

Description of the project:

- There will be 4 people working on the research.
- They will be testing small UAVs with total weight below 1 kg and will be exploring possibilities in remote surveying of geothermal activity. With the objective of testing system capabilities and study of post eruption recolonization of the Fimmvörðuháls.
- The only disruption expected is from people walking off-path.
- UAV flights are a potential disruption for fauna if there is any.
- Going off roads will be needed but only on foot.
- No direct sampling or influence on geological features.

Impact assessment:

Based on the information from the applicant the Environment Agency of Iceland does not consider the filming likely to have negative impact on the conservation values of the area. Flying a drone can cause negative impact on bird nesting areas and visitor's experience.

Conclusions and conditions:

The Environment Agency of Iceland hereby grants a research permit on its behalf on following conditions:

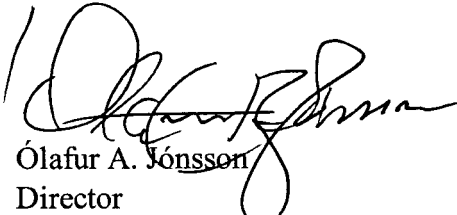
- **The Environment Agency requests that the ranger will be contacted before starting the project and inform him on your intentions.**
- Keep the signed permit letter with you at location during the research.
- If the dates of the project change the Environment Agency shall be notified, with at least 5 days' notice, if possible. Otherwise as soon as possible.
- The permit is valid for the period June 25th and to July 18th, 2018.
- Every measure should be taken to avoid damage to the sites and unnecessary disturbance during the research.
- All participants in the project must wear high-visibility clothing during field work, labelled with the identity of the researcher or the research institute.
- Crew members should always stay on authorized paths as much as possible.
- Fauna, geological formations and landscape should not be disturbed.
- All disturbance to animals and wildlife is prohibited.
- Off-road driving in Iceland is strictly prohibited.
- The Environment Agency should be informed if there will be any changes to the project description.
- The project's staff is required to prevent all disturbance to the environment and make sure that all litter is removed from the sites.
- The permit conditions should be introduced to the staff before the work begins.
- All traces of the work must be removed carefully off the site by the end of the work/project.
- If any complications occur during the project, please contact the ranger or the Environment Agency of Iceland, tel. +354 591 2000.
- **Flying a drone in Iceland should be according to regulations nr. 990/2017.**

Permission fee:

The Environment Agency of Iceland charges a fee for processing applications for permits in protected areas on the basis of Article 92 of Act no. 61/2013 on Nature Conservation. The fee is 39.400 ISK according to art. 24. B. In the agency's tariff no. 535/2015.

Supervision:

The Environment Agency will supervise the project. The supervisor will be a ranger from the Environment Agency.



Ólafur A. Jónsson
Director

Sincerely



Hákon Ásgeirsson
Advisor