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UST201608-037/S.P.

Research permit

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received a request from Henning Dypvik on behalf of Oslo University, dated 3rd of August 2016, regarding permits to collect silica sinter from Stapafell, Lágafell, Háleyjarbunga and Krýsuvík, from the 24th until the 28th of October. Sinter is subject to a special protection according to Article 61 of the Nature Conservative Act, no. 60/2013.

Krýsuvík is located within Reykjanes Country Park. Disturbance to geological formations in the protected area is prohibited without permission from the Environment Agency of Iceland. That includes sampling for scientific research.

Háleyjarbunga, Stapafell and Lágafell are not within a protected area and is therefore not subject to a permit from the Environment Agency. The applicant is requested to keep in mind that sinter is subject to a special protection so every measure should be taken to avoid damage to the sites and unnecessary disturbance while collecting the samples. Please also contact landowners in the areas.

Description of the project:

The research is a part of an ongoing research project PTAL (EU Horizon 2020). Applicants wish to collect 2-3 sinter samples at the solfatara site in Krýsuvík, each sample weighing about 150 g. The results of the research will be stored in an open access library at the European Space Research and Technology Centre. Three persons will participate in the sampling.

Impact assessment:

The Environment Agency has concluded that the research will not have negative affects the protected area if the condition the agency sets are followed. The Environmental Agency of Iceland hereby grants Henning Dypvik permission to collect sinter samples at Krýsuvík, The permit is subject to the following conditions:

- This permit is valid for the period 24th to 28th of October 2016.
- Contact the Environment Agency before the fieldwork begins.
- It is important that other guests in the area are aware that the researcher has a special permit to conduct their research. Please try to conduct the research when there are few guests at the site, preferably early in the morning or late in the afternoon.
- Please ensure that the sampling does not cause visible disruption in the protected area.

- Sample quantity is restricted to maximum of three samples, each not weighing more than 150 g., as described in application.
- This permit is only valid for research purposes. It does not include permit to utilize the samples for commercial purposes. The samples cannot be signed over to third party for the purpose of commercial use.
- Every measure should be taken to avoid damage to the sites and unnecessary disturbance while collecting the samples.
- Keep the signed permit letter with you during your research.

The Environment Agency notes the following:

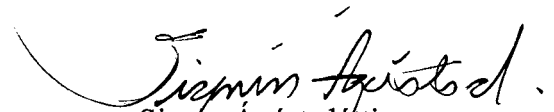
- A separate permit from the National Energy Authority in Iceland, os@os.is might be needed to conduct research at geothermal sites in Iceland, which should also be kept with you at the research site.
- If you wish to transport the samples from Iceland you will need a permission from the Icelandic Institute of Natural History (www.ni.is), e-mail: ni@ni.is
- The Environment Agency of Iceland wishes to be secured, free of charge, a copy of all reports and scientific articles that result from the research project.
- Illegal off-road driving is strictly prohibited and is punishable by fines or imprisonment.

The Environment Agency charges a fee for processing applications for permits in protected areas based on Article 92 of Act no. 60/2013 on Nature Conservation. The fee for a research permit is ISK 39.400. Invoice will be sent.

Furthermore, the Environment Agency will supervise the research at Krýsuvík, The Agency charges a fee of ISK 13.200 per hour of supervision.

Sincerely


Svava Pétursdóttir
Lawyer


Sigrún Ágústsdóttir
Director