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UMHVERFISSTOFNUN

Reykholt 10. september 2015
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09.06.01

Subject: Permit to film in protected areas_14th to 26th of September

The Environment Agency has received a request from Mr. Matthew Newton on the 4th of September 2015, to film in various protected areas during the period of 14th to 26th of September. The areas in question are Gullfoss, Skógafoss, Dettifoss (east side), Dimmuborgir, Landmannalaugar and Dynjandi.

Description of the project:

The project title is *A traveler*, and the filming is for a personal short film. An actress will be filmed walking in the locations. The crew consists of four (4) people. They will stay on path at all times and will not set up any props in the locations. The crew will be using a camera and also request a permission to use a drone. The drone is 40x40cm, DJI Inspire.

Evaluation

The Environment Agency concludes that filming with a camera as described above will neither cause damage to geological formations or flora, nor disturb fauna or other visitors in the areas. However, the Agency views filming with unmanned aircrafts to be conditioned and subject to a permit from the Agency. After evaluating the application, the Agency therefore gives on its behalf permission for filming in the abovementioned protected areas with a drone.

The permit is subjected to the following conditions:

- An unmanned aircraft should never be flown near people. Please take precaution not to disturb people's experience, their safety or personal privacy nor the general peace of the protected areas filmed.
- An unmanned aircraft should never be flown near animals or birds, neither in nesting areas or during nesting season or any other seasonal time when animal or bird habitats are considered vulnerable.
- The conductor of the unmanned aircraft is responsible for the aircraft within the protected area. This includes responsibility so that people, fauna and nature is unharmed from the aircraft's use and that no permanent mark be left on the site in question. Should the aircraft crash, all components from it must be collected and removed from the area. The conductor should be insured for any damage that can arrive from the aircraft. The aircraft should not be flown out of sight of the conductor.
- **A special permission from the Transport Authority is needed if the unmanned aircraft is over 5 kg. The Environment Agency expects the licensee to comply to rules that apply to unmanned aircrafts. Please visit www.icetra.is or call tel. 00354 480 6000.**
- Liability for the use of unmanned aircrafts goes by Act no. 60/1998.

- The Environment Agency would like to reaffirm that Blue Ant Media is liable for the filming and use of the unmanned airplane.
- Any damage caused by the aircraft in protected areas should be reported to the Environment agency.

Additional conditions for specific sites:

Dimmuborgir is a natural monument and is protected for its geological formations and landscape. It is a popular tourist destination and therefore using a drone is limited to hours when there are few visitors in the area. The crew should remain on paths at all times.

Please contact the staff at Mývatnsstofa visitor centre, before filming in Dimmuborgir.

Detifoss is a natural monument and has been protected since 1996. No disturbance to vegetation or geological formations is allowed in the area.

Please take care while operating the aircraft as the site is a popular tourist attraction.

Dynjandi is a natural monument and all waterflow to the waterfall is protected by law since 1986. Please remain on paths at all times.

Gullfoss is a nature reserve and is protected as a water source and for its landscape. The flora and fauna of the reserve is also protected. Please take care not to damage flora or geological formations in the reserve.

Gullfoss is a high profile tourist attractions during all seasons of the year. Therefore, we advice you to film during the early or late hours of the day when less people are in the area. Between 11am and 4pm we have an estimate of 200-1000 people onsite at any given moment. Take the utmost care while using the equipment and note the abovementioned conditions regarding the use of drones near people. The crew should stay on paths at all times.

Please contact UST specialist Linda Guðmundsdóttir, tel. 00354 8224031 before filming in the area.

Landmannalaugar is within Fjallabak nature reserve. It is not permitted to cause damage to its geological formation, vegetation or wild animals. It is prohibited to bury or leave waste in the reserve. Note that Landmannalaugar receives a lot of visitors. The crew is asked to take care while operating the drone and to make sure it causes as little disturbance to other visitors as possible.


Please contact specialist Jón Björnsson, tel. 00354 8224056, for additional guidelines.


Skógafoss is a natural monument. It is forbidden to damage the vegetation and geological formations within the protected site or to disturb the fauna. The crew is advised to film off peak hours during the day to avoid disturbing other visitors in the area.

Keep a printed copy of the permit with you while filming in these locations.

Off road driving is strictly forbidden, all equipment must be carried to sites from parking lots.

Sincerely


Sigríður Kristjánsdóttir
Director


Linda Guðmundsdóttir
Advisor