

Private Video Projekt  
Alte Straße 4  
61118  
Germany

Reykjavík 6. december 2017  
UST201711-139/I.M.B.  
09.06.01

**Subject: Application for filming with a drone within protected areas in Iceland**

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from Christian Kany on behalf of Private Video Projekt, dated on the 20<sup>th</sup> of November 2017, for filming with a drone at Dyrhólaey, Geysir, Skógafoss, Hraunfossar, Gullfoss, Reynisfjara, Krafla, Fjaðrárgljúfur and Seljalandsfoss on the 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017.

Dyrhólaey, Skógafoss, Hraunfossar and Gullfoss are all protected by act no. 60/2013 on nature conservation. A permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland is needed for filming in these areas if it involves construction work or disturbance to geological formation, vegetation or wild animal life.

According to the management and protection plan for Gullfoss, flying an unmanned aircraft/drone within the boundaries of the protected site is subject to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

Reynisfjara, Krafla, Fjaðrárgljúfur, Geysir and Seljalandsfoss are listed on the Nature Conservation Register.

***Project description:***

The project applied for is a private film project that might be published on Youtube. It is not a commercial project. The drone will be flown below 100 m altitude in visual flight only. The aim of the project is to show different areas in Iceland during winter. The flights of the drone will be short, not more than 15 minutes. The filming will take place on the 27<sup>th</sup> – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017. There will be 3 employees on location, no need for going off paths and roads. No props, sets nor chemical use is needed. The flights do not require restrictions on traffic nor will they cause disturbance on geological features, soil flora and fauna.

***Impact assessment:***

Based on the information from the applicant the Environment Agency of Iceland does not consider the measurements or the cinemograph likely to have negative impact on the areas.

Due to number of visitors on the sites applied for, flying a drone can have negative impact on the visitor's experience. In Dyrhólaey there are birds in the cliffs that can be disturbed when flying a drone around the cliffs.

***Conclusions and conditions***

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 for Dyrhólaey, Geysir, Skógafoss and Hraunfossar since it is not considered that the filming will have negative impact on the sites.

**Rangers have to be notified before flying a drone within the protected areas.**

Permission is hereby granted for filming with a drone in Gullfoss protected area on following conditions:

- Keep this permit with you during your filming in within the protected areas.
- Crew members should always stay on authorized paths/tracks/roads.
- Off-road driving in Iceland is strictly prohibited.
- 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 project's staff is required to prevent all disturbance to the environment and make sure that all litter is removed from the sites.
- The crew should be conscious of other guests on the sites and make sure that filming causes as little disturbance as possible to other visitors. During early morning and late afternoon, there are less people visiting the sites.
- If the material filmed during the project is to be published on the internet, it must be specified that a permission for filming with a drone, within the protected areas, was acquired from the Environment Agency of Iceland and certain rules apply to those areas.
- 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.
- According to Icelandic law it is forbidden to fly close to cliffs where birds nest. An unmanned aircraft should never be flown near animals or birds, neither in nesting areas nor during nesting season or any other seasonal time when animals 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 because of 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.
- Liability for the use of unmanned aircraft/drone goes by Act no. 60/1998.

Please keep the following in mind:

A special permission from the Transport Authority is needed if the unmanned aircraft/drone weighs more than 5 kg. Permission is also required from ICETRA to fly the drone at a height of more than 130 metres (430 feet). Furthermore, a permission is required from an aerodrome operator to fly the aircraft/drone within 2 km from the boundary of aerodromes with scheduled air services, except where the drones are flown below the height of the highest structures in the immediate vicinity of the flight trajectory of the drone.



**ENVIRONMENT  
AGENCY**

Permission from the municipalities or/and the landowners is required for filming with a drone in other areas.

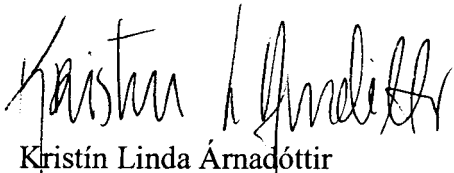
***Permission fee:***

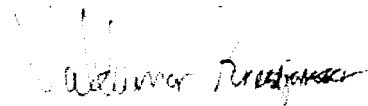
The Environment Agency of Iceland notes that the agency charges a fee for processing applications for permits in protected areas on the basis of Article 92 of Act no. 61/2013 on Nature Conservation. The fee is according to the agency's tariff no. 535/2015.

***Supervision:***

The Environment Agency will supervise the project on Gullfoss. The supervisor will be a ranger from the Environment Agency. The fee for the supervisions is according to the agency's tariff no. 535/2015 and is charged per hour 13.200 iskr.

Sincerely

  
Kristín Linda Árnadóttir  
General Director

  
Valdimar Kristjánsson  
Advisor