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Vestmannaeyjum 10 August 2016
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09.05.01

Subject: Research permit in Fjallabak Nature Reserve

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received a request from Alice Ballard, University of East Anglia dated 10th of July 2016 regarding a permit to collect rock samples for scientific purpose in the Fjallabak nature reserve on the period 28th-31st August 2016.

Laugahraun in Landmannalaugar and Namahraun are located within the Fjallabak nature reserve. Disturbance to geological formations, vegetation and wild animal life in the protected area is prohibited without permission from the Environment Agency of Iceland. That also includes sampling for scientific research.

Description of the project:

The purpose of project is to geochemically analyse Icelandic rhyolites for trace elements to compare two lava flows, Laugahraun and Namshraun. Samples of both from will be taken to the University of East Anglia to be put through an XRF and made thin sections of to study mineralogy of the rocks. Samples will be fist sizes and approximately 20 samples from 10 sites. Five sites will be in Laugahraun and five in Namahraun. Hammer and chisel will be used to remove the samples. Some samples will be collected on paths and others not to ensure unbiased samples. Two persons will collect the samples in the period 28th -31st of August 2016.

Conditions:

The Environmental Agency of Iceland grants you permission for the research project as described above at Laugahraun and Namahraun inside the Fjallabak nature reserve. The research permit is subject to the following conditions:

- This permission is granted for Laugahraun and Namahraun 28th -31st August 2016.
- The Environment Agency requests that the researcher will contact the ranger working in Landmannalaugar before field work begins and inform him of your intentions.
- Keep the signed permit letter with you during your research.
- Sample quantity should be restricted as described above and only used for research purposes.
- Samples should be taken where the laceration in the remaining rock will not be too obvious to others.
- Every measure should be taken to avoid unnecessary disturbance to vegetation on site.



- 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.
- Off road driving is prohibited and is punishable by fines or imprisonment.

Please keep in mind that you will need a permit from the Icelandic Institute of Natural History to transport the samples from Iceland, you can find information on their webpage; www.ni.is or via e-mail: ni@ni.is

The Environment Agency charges a fee for processing applications for permits in protected areas. The fee for activities and construction in protected areas is ISK 39.400.

Sincerely



Svava Pétursdóttir
Lawyer



Kristín Linda Arnadóttir
General Director

