

Creative Artists Iceland ehf.  
Holtsgötu 13  
101 Reykjavík

Vestmannaeyjum 28. september 2018  
UST201809-218/P.V.B.

**Subject: Drone permitt**

**Subject:**

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from Creative Artist Iceland, dated 17<sup>th</sup> of September, for filming with a drone within Gullfoss and Geysir areas for one day in the period of 30<sup>th</sup> of September to the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October.

Gullfoss is protected as a nature reserve which is protected by act no. 60/2013 on nature conservation, cf. Regulation no. 141/1979. Disturbance to geological formations, vegetation and wild animal life in the protected area is prohibited.

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

***Description of the project:***

The project applied for is using a drone to film Gullfoss and Strokk from above. There is no specific flight plan for Gullfoss but will probably capture a variety of angles around the falls (sweeping shots by the falls, flying high and near the top of the falls, etc). The plan is also to shoot general b-roll/interview footage around Gullfoss on the ground with cameras on shoulder rigs. Drone will be used outside Strokkur when it erupts to carry a thermal camera. Strokkur will be filmed from variety of angles. If a thermal camera is not available the filming will just take place from the ground. Thermometer will be placed on the outer rim of Strokkur so it's not in the immediate blast range. The film crew will stay on paths at Strokkur and work around tourists in the area.

***Impact assessment:***

Regarding flying a drone in the areas, based on the information from the applicant the Environmental Agency of Iceland consider the project not likely to have negative impact on the conservation value of the areas. Due to the high number of visitors in these areas, flying a drone might impact visitors experience in a negative way.

Regarding installing a thermometer into Strokkur, based on the information from the applicant, the Environmental Agency considers the project to be likely to have temporary

negative impact on the silica formations around the area due to the need to go off paths during installation and removal of the equipment.

***Conclusions and conditions:***

The installation of thermometer at the rim of Strokkur is considered likely to have negative affect on the silica. The request for the instillation is therefore declined. The Environment Agency of Iceland hereby grants Creative Artist Iceland a permission on its behalf for flying a drone at Gullfoss areas on following conditions:

- Keep this letter with you on site during the project.
- If the dates of the project change the Environment Agency shall be notified, with at least 5 days notice, if possible, when the project starts. Otherwise as soon as possible.
- The Environment Agency should be informed if there will be any changes to the project description.
- The Environment Agency requests that the ranger will be contacted before starting the project and inform him on your intentions.
- Crew members should always stay on authorized paths/tracks/roads.
- Fauna, geological formations and landscape should not be disturbed in any way.
- All disturbance to animals and wildlife is strictly prohibited.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- The usage of a drone shall be according to regulation no. 990/2017 on the operation of remotely piloted aircraft (<https://www.icetra.is/aviation/drones/>).
- If any complications occur during the project, please contact the ranger or the Environment Agency of Iceland, tel. +354 591 2000.

According to art. 88 in act no. 60/2013 on nature conservation the ranger has the authority to stop the project if the project is likely to cause damage to the area.

A permission from the landowners and/or the municipality might be needed for the project.

***Permission fee:***

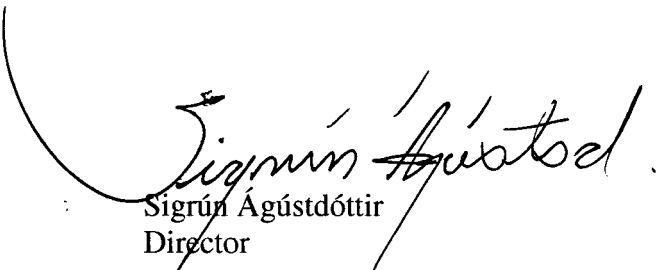
Environment Agency of Iceland charges a fee for processing applications for permits in protected areas based on Article 92 of Act no. 61/2013 on Nature Conservation. The fee for

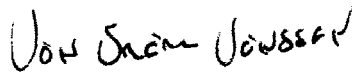
cinematography and/or photography is 52.600 ISK according to art. 24. b. in the agency's tariff no. 535/2015.

***Supervision:***

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

Sincerely

  
Sigrún Ágústdóttir  
Director

  
Jón Smári Jónsson  
Advisor