

University of Oulu
Pentti Kaiteran katu 1
90570 Oulu

Garðabær, 28. ágúst 2025
202508-0077/p.V.B.
10.01.01

Subject: research permit Esjufjöll

The Nature Conservation Agency of Iceland has received an application from Jane Flury at the University of Oulu, dated August 25th 2025, for research permit in Esjufjöll within Vatnajökull national park.

Vatnajökull National Park is protected according to act no. 60/2007. According to art 15(b) of act no. 60/2007, permission must be obtained from the park manager for organized events and projects that require facilities, manpower, or the use of equipment in the national park, such as film production, art events, gatherings, and research. The park manager is authorized to set any conditions for the granting of permits that are deemed necessary, as per paragraph 2. According to paragraph 1 of art 20 of regulation 300/2000 it is prohibited to cause damage to or disturb nature, including ecosystems, geological formations, or the landscape, cultural heritage, and man-made structures within the national park.

Description of the project:

Purpose of the project is to study the adaption of *Arabidopsis lyrata* to the high-latitude environment. The plan is to collect samples from 25 individuals in Esjufjöll. Seeds would be collected from flowering stems and occasionally leaf and flower samples. Sampling would take place in the period of September 1st – 3rd 2025.

Impact assessment:

The Nature Conservation Agency of Iceland considers the project not likely to have negative impact on nature or conservation value of the site if conditions of the permit area followed.

Conclusions and conditions:

The Nature Conservation Agency of Iceland hereby grants Jane Flury at the University of Oulu permission on its behalf to conduct research and I within Vatnajökull national park as described above on September 1st – 3rd 2025 on the following conditions:

- Keep this letter with you on site during the project. The permit conditions should be introduced to other participants of the project before work begins.

- The applicant shall inform rangers in the area about their arrival and departure. This is to be done 24 hours before entering the area and again before leaving it.
- If the project dates or description changes the Nature Conservation Agency shall be notified as soon as possible.
- If any complications occur during the project, please contact the ranger or the Nature Conservation Agency of Iceland, tel. +354 556 6800.
- 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 commercial use.
- Every measure should be taken to avoid damage to the sites and unnecessary disturbance while collecting samples.

If the licensee causes damage to nature, according to art. 87 in the Nature Conservation Act no. 60/2013, the Nature Conservation Agency of Iceland can, according to the Nature Conservation Act, f.e. order the licensee to fix damage to nature and vegetation and/or stop the project.

The Nature Conservation Agency of Iceland can according to art. 89 in the Nature Conservation Act no. 60/2013 change conditions of the permit, add new conditions or withdraw the permit in order to prevent damage to nature if environmental conditions change.

According to art 89. in the Nature Conservation Act no. 60/2013 the Nature Conservation Agency can withdraw the permit if conditions of the permit are not complied to.

If you wish to export samples from Iceland a special permit is needed from the Natural Science Institute of Iceland (www.ni.is).

The Nature Conservation Agency of Iceland requests access to reports and scientific articles of the aforementioned studies, which could be used for educational purposes about the area and/or assist in its management, free of charge.

Pórhallur Jóhannsson
park manager

Pórdís Vilhelmína Bragadóttir
advisor