

Yoann Clemente

Reykjavík, 23<sup>rd</sup> og July 2024  
UST202407-302/D.Ö.H.  
09.04.00

**Subject:** Permit to film with a drone at Hornstrandir

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from Yoann Clemente on behalf of Wild-Forest, dated 23<sup>rd</sup> of July 2024, for operating drone in Látrar, by Fljótsvatn and in Hafnarskarð within Hornstrandir Nature Reserve.

Hornstrandir is protected as a nature reserve by act no 60/2013 on nature conservation, cf. Regulation no 332/1985. Disturbance to geological formations, vegetation and wild animal life in the protected area is prohibited. According to the management plan for Hornstrandir, filming and photography that can affect wildlife and visitor experience and flying an unmanned aircraft/drone within the boundaries of the protected site is subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency.

***Description of the project:***

This project aims to highlight primary forests and areas left in natural evolution, such as the Hornstrandir Nature Reserve. For this film, the applicant would like to obtain permission to use a drone on the Hornstrandir Peninsula. The drone in question weighs less than 250 grams. The flights would take place during the week of August 19<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024, in the Látrar and Fljótsvatn regions located in the western part of the peninsula. The applicant plans to conduct three flights, each lasting a maximum of 10 minutes, and not exceeding an altitude of 120 meters.

***Impact assessment:***

The Environment Agency of Iceland considers the project to be minimal and not likely to have negative impact on Hornstrandir nature reserve, provided that the following requirements are met. The droneflight might have negative impact on other visitors experience in the sites but if conditions of the permit are followed the impact can be reduced.

***Conclusions and conditions:***

The Environment Agency of Iceland hereby grants Yoann Clemente permission on its behalf to operate drone within Hornstrandir Nature Reserve as described above during the time from August 19<sup>th</sup>- August 21<sup>st</sup> on the following conditions:

- Keep this letter with you on site during the project. The permit conditions should be introduced to the staff of the project before work begins.
- The applicant shall inform Hornstrandir about the arrival and departure. This is to be done 48 hours before entering the area and again before leaving it.
- If the project dates or description changes the Environment Agency shall be notified as soon as possible.
- If any complications occur during the project, please contact the ranger or the Environment Agency of Iceland, tel. +354 591 2000.
- The crew must follow rules of conduct that apply to the area.
- 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. An unmanned aircraft should never be flown in close proximity to people.
- If the material is meant for public viewing it must be noted in the video/subtext that permission from the Environment Agency was obtained for the filming/photography.
- All disturbance to animals and wildlife is strictly prohibited. If the use of unmanned aircraft causes disturbance to wildlife in the area, its use should be ceased at once.

If the licensee causes damage to nature, according to art. 87 in the Nature Conservation Act no. 60/2013, the Environment 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 Environment 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 Environment Agency can withdraw the permit if conditions of the permit are not complied to.

Unmanned aircraft should take off and land in a safe distance from other visitors according to regulation 990/2017 on unmanned aircrafts.

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/>).

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 droneflight for recreational flight in up to two areas is **41.600 ISK** according to art. 29. b. in the agency's tariff no. 1410/2023.

Sincerely

Kristín Ósk Jónasdóttir  
**advisor**

Sigrún Valgarðsdóttir  
**advisor**