

Stratus Imagery
99 Stanley RD
BOOTLE L20 7DA
United Kingdom

Reykjavík, 13. september 2024
UST202409-142/P.V.B.
09.04.00

Subject: Permit to fly a drone at Gullfoss

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from Stratus Imagery, dated September 13th 2024, for permit to fly a drone within Gullfoss area.

Gullfoss is protected as a nature reserve, cf. regulation no. 141/1979. Disturbance to geological formations, vegetation and wild animal life is prohibited. Operating an unmanned aircraft/drone within the protected area is subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

Description of the project:

The droneflight would take place on September 15th 2024. Map showing the area the drone would fly over and take of site was included with the application. Flight time is estimated 1 hour and there would be two employees.

Impact assessment:

The Environment Agency of Iceland considers the project not likely to have negative effect on conservation value of the site. The area intended as takeoff area for the drone is within area that is closed to traffic due to vegetation protection. If the take off area would be moved to another location then the impact of the project on nature could be reduced. The Environment Agency of Iceland considers the project likely to have negative impact on other visitors experience on all sites but if the impact can be reduced if conditions of the permit are followed.

Conclusions and conditions:

The Environment Agency of Iceland hereby grants Stratus Imagery permission on its behalf to fly a drone within Gullfoss area as described above on September 15th 2024 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 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.
- New location for take off site for the drone should be chosen in consultation with rangers.
- If the project dates or description changes the Environment Agency shall be notified as soon as possible.
- Crew members should always stay on authorized paths/tracks/roads.
- If any complications occur during the project, please contact the ranger or the Environment Agency of Iceland, tel. +354 591 2000.
- The project's staff is required to prevent all disturbance to the environment and make sure that all litter is removed from the sites.
- 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.
- An unmanned aircraft should never be flown in close proximity to people. Please take precaution not to disturb people's experience, their safety or personal privacy nor the general peace of the protected areas being filmed.
- Flight time should be kept to a minimum and flight should be avoided during the area's busiest times of the day.
- If the use of unmanned aircraft causes disturbance to wildlife in the area, its use should be ceased at once.
- The conductor of the unmanned aircraft is responsible for the aircraft within the protected area. This includes taking responsibility of any possible risk of harm to people, fauna and nature and leaving no permanent marks on the site in question. Should the aircraft crash, all components from it must be collected and removed from the area.
- For safety reasons, the pilot of an unmanned aerial vehicle must wear marked clothing so that the person can be identified.

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/>).

Please note that according to the regulation all drones used for commercial flight need to be registered at the Icelandic Transport Authority.

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 constructions, droneflights, cinematography and/or photography is **83.200 ISK** according to art. 29. b. in the agency's tariff no. 1410/2023.

According to the agency's tariff the Environment Agency of Iceland has authorization to charge an additional fee of ISK 41,600, equivalent to two hours of work by the Environment Agency, based on art. 1, for applications received within five working days of the intended project, based on art 29 of the Environment Agency's tariff no. 1410/2023. The applicant's application was received within five working days before the intended project was to commence. Therefore, the Environment Agency has added this amount to the fee and will charge a total of **124.800 ISK** for processing the permit.

Supervision:

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

Sincerely

Hákon Ásgeirsson
advisor

Pórdís Vilhelmína Bragadóttir
advisor