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UST202301-277/p.V.B.
09.04.00

Subject: permit to film and fly a drone

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from Carlos Pérez Romero, dated January 18th 2023 with additional information April 14th 2023, for a filming permit within Arnarstapi and Hellnar, Dimmuborgir, Dynjandi, Dyrhólaey, Fjallabak, Geysir area, Goðafoss, Gullfoss, Háifoss, Mývatn, Skógafoss, Skútustaðargígar and Snæfellsjökull national park.

Dimmuborgir is protected as a natural monument, cf. regulation no. 1262/2011. Disturbance to geological formations, vegetation and wild animal life in the protected area is prohibited. Events and commercial filming are subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

Dynjandi is protected as a natural monument, cf. regulation no. 348/1971. Construction work, disturbance to geological formations and other changes to landscape is subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland. According to the rules of conduct operating an unmanned aircraft/drone within the protected area is subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

Dyrhólaey is protected as a nature reserve, cf. regulation no.101/1978. Construction work and disturbance to geological formations and wild animal life in the protected area is prohibited. Operating an unmanned aircraft/drone within the protected area is subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

Fjallabak is protected as a nature reserve, cf. regulation no. 354/1979. Construction work, extraction of minerals, disturbance to geological formations, vegetation and wild animal life in the protected area is prohibited. The use of unmanned aircraft (drones) within the nature reserve from 15th June – 15th September is subject to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

Geysir is protected as natural monument, cf. regulation no. 660/2020. All disturbance of geological monuments is prohibited, incl. any inscriptions and disturbance of the activity and water level of the hot spring area, disturbance of hot springs, hot springs, soils and rocks, without permission.

Helicopters and other manned aircraft may not land within the area without the permission of the Environment Agency. Operating an unmanned aircraft/drone within the protected area is subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

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.

Goðafoss is protected as natural monument, cf. regulation no. 1261/2011. Disturbance to vegetation, wildlife and geological formation is prohibited. Operating an unmanned aircraft/drone within the protected area is subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

Hjálparfoss, Gjáin, Háifoss and Granni are protected as natural monument, cf. regulation no. 110/2020. Disturbance to geological formations, vegetation and wild animal life in the protected area is prohibited. Permission must be obtained from the Environment Agency for organized events and projects that pose a risk of disturbance to geological formations, wildlife or guests in the area. Operating an unmanned aircraft/drone within the protected area is subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

Látrabjarg is protected as a nature reserve, cf. regulation no. 300/2021. Helicopters and other manned aircraft may not land within the area without the permission of the Environment Agency. Operating an unmanned aircraft/drone within the protected area is subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland. Disturbance to vegetation and wildlife is prohibited both on land and in the sea. Disturbance to geological formation is prohibited except with permission. Permission must be obtained from the Environment Agency of Iceland for organized events and projects that need facilities, labour force or use of equipment within the protected area such as filming, at events and ceremonies.

Mývatn and Laxá area is protected according to act no. 97/2004. Permission from the Environment Agency of Iceland is needed for construction work and all activity that can affect wildlife, geological formations, vegetation and landscape in the area.

Skógafoss is protected as a natural monument, cf. regulation no. 477/1987. Disturbance to geological formations, vegetation and wild animal life in the protected area is prohibited. Photography, cinemaphotography and events that can affect visitors experience in the area are subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland. Operating an unmanned aircraft/drone within the protected area is subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

The coast at Stapi and Hellnar is protected as a nature reserve cf. regulation no. 284/1988. Disturbance to geological formations, vegetation and wild animal life in the protected area is prohibited. Operating an unmanned aircraft/drone within the protected area is subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

Snæfellsjökull National park is protected cf. regulation no. 935/2021. Operating an unmanned aircraft within the national park is subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland according to art. 7 in the Regulation during nesting season.

Locations for Fjallabak, take off and landing 5 and for Dyrhólaey take off and landing 1 are not within protected areas. Location for takeoff and landing are just outside the boundaries of the nature reserve at Látrabjarg. The applicant needs to apply directly to the landowner/municipality of the areas.

Description of the project:

It is requested to film on ground and fly a drone in several locations within Dimmuborgir, Dynjanda Fjallabak, Geysir area, Goðafoss, Gullfoss, Háifoss and Snæfellsjökull national park and to film on ground at Arnarstapi and Hellnar, Látrabjarg, Mývatn, Skógafoss and Skútustaðargígar in the period of June 1st – 30th 2023. There is no need to go off path while filming. Description of where drone flight would take place and flight areas were received on January 28th and updated information were received on April 14th 2023. Number of employee is 4 persons. Production plan with dates when filming will take place in each site was included in the application.

Impact assessment:

The Environment Agency of Iceland considers the project not likely to have negative impact on nature and conservation value at all the sites except at the site requested to fly the drone in Snæfellsjökull national park if conditions of the permit are followed. The site requested a permit to fly a drone in Snæfellsjökull national park is a nesting area and the drone flight is considered to have negative affect on birdlife in the area during nesting season. The Environment Agency considers that the drone flight might have negative effect on other visitors in all the areas but the impact can be reduced if conditions of the permit are followed.

Conclusions and conditions:

The Environment Agency of Iceland hereby declines Carlos Pérez Romero application to fly a drone within Snæfellsjökull national park on the period of June 1st -30th 2023.

The Environment Agency of Iceland hereby grants Carlos Pérez Romero permission on its behalf to film on ground within Arnarstapi and Hellnar, Látrabjarg, Mývatn, Skógafoss, Skútustaðargígar and Snæfellsjökull national park and both on ground and with a drone within Dimmuborgir, Dynjandi, Fjallabak, Geysir area, Goðafoss, Gullfoss, Háifoss and Skógafoss as described above on June 1st -30th 2023 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.
- 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.
- The crew must follow rules of conduct that apply to the area.
- If any complications occur during the project, please contact the ranger or the Environment Agency of Iceland, tel. +354 591 2000.
- 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. 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.
- Off-road driving in Iceland is strictly prohibited.
- The project's staff is required to prevent all disturbance to the environment and make sure that all litter is removed from the sites.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- **For safety reasons, it is prohibited to fly a drone below 50m above Strokkur and Geysir.**
- **It is forbidden to fly drones in the canyon in front of the waterfall at Skógafoss.**
- **It is forbidden to fly drones next to bird cliffs in a closer proximity than 200 meters during nesting season.**

If the applicant 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.

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

Hákon Ásgeirsson
park manager

Pórdís Vilhelmína Bragadóttir
advisor