

Chang Ming Kun

Reykjavík, 9. July 2024  
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09.04.00

### **Application for a permit to use a drone at Bláhnúkur and Dynjandi**

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from Chang Ming Kun, dated 29<sup>th</sup> of June 2024, for a permit to film with a drone at Bláhnjúkur within Fjallabak Nature Reserve and at Dynjandi natural monument on the 29<sup>th</sup> of July and 5<sup>th</sup> of August 2024.

*Fjallabak Nature Reserve (Bláhnúkur)* is protected as a nature reserve, cf. regulation no. 354/1979. The use of unmanned aircraft (drones) within the nature reserve from June 15<sup>th</sup> – September 15<sup>th</sup> is subject to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

*Dynjandi* is protected as a natural monument, cf. regulation no. 348/1971. 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 during the period of May 1<sup>st</sup> – September 15<sup>th</sup>.

#### ***Description of the project:***

The project applied for is a permit to use a drone for four flights at Bláhnúkur on the 29<sup>th</sup> of July and one flight at Dynjandi on the 5<sup>th</sup> of August 2024. Maps showing the flightpaths was attached to the application.

At Bláhnúkur, each flight will not exceed 20 minutes and at Dynjandi the flight time is expected to be within 40 minutes.

#### ***Impact assessment:***

The Environment Agency of Iceland considers the project not likely to have negative impact on the protection value of the areas. It may have temporary negative impact on visitor's experience but can be reduced with following conditions.

#### ***Conclusions and conditions:***

The Environment Agency of Iceland hereby grants Chang Ming Kun permission on its behalf to fly a drone at Bláhnúkur within Fjallabak Nature Reserve on the 29<sup>th</sup> of July and at Dynjandi natural monument on the 5<sup>th</sup> of August 2024 as described above on the following conditions:

- Keep this letter with you on site during the project.
- The applicant shall inform rangers in the area about their arrival and departure.
- If the project dates or description change the Environment Agency shall be notified as soon as possible.

- Crew members should always stay on authorized paths and follow the 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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 close 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.
- If falcons or eagles are seen in the area, it is not allowed to fly the drone there.

If the developer 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 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. 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 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

Edda Kristín Eiríksdóttir

*advisor*

Ingibjörg Marta Bjarnadóttir

*advisor*