

Ár kvikmyndafélag ehf.
Furuhlíð 9
550 Sauðárkrókur
Iceland

Reykjavík, 27. august 2020
UST202008-123/H.H.
09.06.01

Subject: permit to fly drone in protected areas.

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from Ár kvikmyndafélag ehf., dated August 17th, for permit to fly drone within Bláfjallafólkvangs, Kerlingafjöll, Friðland að Fjallabaki and Dyrhólaey.

Bláfjallafólkvangur is protected as a country park, cf. no. 173/1985. Disturbance to geological formations is prohibited.

Dyrhólaey is protected as a nature reserve, cf. no.101/1978. Construction work and disturbance to geological formations and wild animal life in the protected area is prohibited. A permit from the Environment Agency is needed for camping inside the nature reserve. This includes tents, motorhomes and campers.

Fjallabak is protected as a nature reserve, cf. no. 354/1979. Construction work, extraction of minerals, disturbance to geological formations, vegetation and wild animal life in the protected area is prohibited.

Kerlingafjöll were protected as area of protected landscape on August 10th, 2020. All disturbance of geological monuments is not allowed within the protection area, except with a special permit. Hot springs and other springs in the area must not be disturbed.

Description of the project:

The project is to fly drone at:

Bláfjallafólkvangs: September 23rd, 2020

Kerlingafjöll: September 24th, 2020

Friðland að Fjallabaki (few location): September 25th – 27th, 2020

Dyrhólaey: September 30th, 2020

The aim is to be in each location for about 1 day and record material. 5-6 employees will be involved in the project, but there will be no need to install any equipment or go off marked paths in the areas. The flight will be under 120 meters altitude.

Impact assessment:

The Environment Agency of Iceland has concluded, based on the information given by the applicant, code of conduct that applies to the area according to the regulation on protection, that the project is not subject to a permit from the Environment Agency at Bláfjallafólkvangur, Kerlingarfjöll or Friðland að Fjallabaki.

The Environment Agency of Iceland considers the project to have short term negative impact on the birdlife and guest at Dyrhólaey.

Conclusions and conditions:

The Environment Agency of Iceland hereby grants Ár kvikmyndafélag ehf permission on its behalf to fly drone at Dyrhólaey as described above on September 30th, 2020 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.
- 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. During early morning and late afternoon, there are less people visiting 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.
- 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.
- It is forbidden to fly drones in a closer proximity to bird cliffs than 50 meters, if birds are in the cliffs.
- 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 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 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



Hildur Hafbergdóttir
advisor



Magnús Freyr Sigurkarlsson
advisor