

Natural History Museum of Crete - University of Crete  
Knossou Ave.  
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Reykavík 3. maí 2019  
UST201904-142/P.V.B.

**Subject: permit to fly a drone at Skógafoss**

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from Nikolakakis Manolis, dated April 10<sup>th</sup>, for permit to fly a drone at Skógafoss area.

Skógafoss is protected as a natural monument by act no. 60/2013 on nature conservation, cf. Regulation no. 477/1987. Disturbance wild animal life in the protected area is prohibited.

***Description of the project:***

The drone will be in at least 50 meters in front of Skógafoss and maximum altitude will be 100 meters. The primary goal is taking spherical panoramas from a height which gives good 360/180 degrees view of the surrounding area. The flights will take place in one day during 3rd of 5th and 5th of May when the wind velocity will not be high. The duration of the flights will not exceed 10 mins each and the drone will always be in the line of sight of the pilot.

***Impact assessment:***

The Environment Agency of Iceland considers the project likely to have negative effect on birdlife and visitors in the area while the drone flight takes place. By following the conditions of the permit, keeping the flight time to minimum and staying 50 meters or more from the canyon in front of the waterfall the affects will be short term.

***Conclusions and conditions:***

The Environment Agency of Iceland hereby grants Nikolakakis Manolis a permission on its behalf to film within Skógafoss area May 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>, as described above, on following conditions:

- Keep this letter with you on site during the project. The permit conditions should be introduced to the staff before the work begins.
- If the dates of the project or project description changes the Environment Agency shall be notified as soon as possible.
- The applicant shall contact rangers in the areas 24 hours before the film crew arrives in the area and inform him on your intentions.
- Crew members should always stay on authorized paths/tracks/roads.

- Fauna, geological formations and landscape should not be disturbed in any way.
- All disturbance to animals and wildlife is prohibited.
- 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.
- 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.
- It is not allowed to fly the drone over areas while people occupy the area.
- The drone should not be flown closer than 50 meters to the canyon in front of the waterfall
- It is not allowed to fly the drone in the canyon in front of the waterfall at Skógafoss nature reserve.
- All traces of the work must be removed carefully off the site by the end of the work/project.
- Take off and landing of the drone should be in areas where number of people is minimum. It is not allowed to enter areas that are closed for traffic.
- An unmanned aircraft should never be flown near people. Please take precaution not to disturb people's experience, their safety or personal privacy, nor the general peace of the protected areas filmed.
- The conductor of the unmanned aircraft is responsible for the aircraft within the protected area. This includes responsibility so that people, fauna and nature is unharmed because of the aircraft's use and that no permanent mark be left on the site in question. Should the aircraft crash, all components from it must be collected and removed from the area.
- If any complications occur during the project, please contact the ranger or the Environment Agency of Iceland, tel. +354 591 2000.

If the developer causes damage to the 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. ordered the licensee to fix damage to the nature and vegetation and/or stop the project.

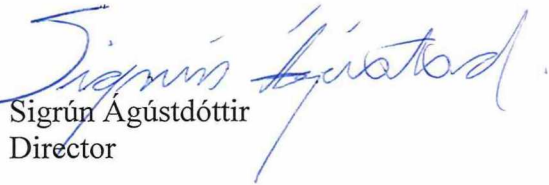
The usage of a drone shall be according to regulation no. 990/2017 on the operation of remotely piloted aircraft (<https://www.icetra.is/aviation/drones/>). Please note that according to the regulation all drones used for commercial flight need to be registered at the Icelandic Transport Authority.

A permission from the landowners and/or the municipality might be needed for the project.

***Supervision:***

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

Sincerely



Sigrún Ágúsdóttir  
Director



Daníel Freyr Jónsson  
Advisor