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Mari-Stranack Productions

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**Application for filming with a drone - Snæfellsjökull national park- Skógafoss – Gullfoss – Grábrók – Arnarstapi.**

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from Mari-Stranack Productions, dated 20<sup>th</sup> of December, for a permit to film with a drone within the protected areas: Snæfellsjökull National Park (Lóndrangar and Djúpalónssandur), Skógafoss, Gullfoss, Grábrók and Arnarstapi. The application also includes Kirkjufell which is not under the responsibility of the Environment Agency of Iceland.

- Any type of economic activity in the Snæfellsjökull National Park is subject to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.
- Gullfoss is protected as a nature reserve. Using an unmanned aircraft/drone within the protected area is subject to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

***Description of the project:***

The purpose of the project is to film and capture the beauty of protected areas and national parks. The filming will be primarily aerial photography, with some on the ground with DSLR, handheld filming. The aerial flight path will be a 270-degree flight rotation of the Grábrók, Arnarstapi, Lóndrangar, Skógafoss and Gullfoss at approximately 150 feet for a 15-30-minute flight for each location. The dates of the projects will be, Gullfoss and Skógafoss on January 4th, 2019 (starting at 1pm) and Snæfellsjökull National Park and the areas close to the park on January 5th (starting at 11am), 2019.

***Impact assessment:***

Based on the information from the applicant the Environment Agency of Iceland considers the project not likely to have negative impact on the conservation value of the areas. Flying a drone can have negative impact on visitor 's experience. Due to the season of the project, when there are no birds in the cliffs, filming at Skógafoss, Grábrók and Arnarstapi is not subject to a permit from the Environment Agency.

***Conclusions and conditions:***

The Environment Agency of Iceland hereby grants a permission on its behalf for flying a drone at **Gullfoss, Lóndrangar and Djúpalónssandur (within Snæfellsjökull national park)** according to information from applicant on following conditions:

- Keep this letter with you on site during the project.
- If the dates of the project change the Environment Agency shall be notified as soon as possible.
- The Environment Agency should be informed if there will be any changes to the project description.
- The Environment Agency requests that the rangers will be contacted at least 24 hours before starting the project and inform them on your intentions.
- Off-road driving in Iceland is strictly prohibited.
- Crew members should always stay on authorized paths/tracks/roads.
- Fauna, geological formations and landscape should not be disturbed in any way.
- The project's staff is required to prevent all disturbance to the environment and make sure that all litter is removed from the sites.

***Regarding usage of drones:***

- Drone should take off and land where there are no people around.
- All disturbance to animals and wildlife is strictly prohibited.
- The conductor of the unmanned aircraft shall wear high visibility clothing so that he can be identified as the conductor of the unmanned aircraft.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- 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/>).

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 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 Vésteinsdóttir*  
Hildur Vésteinsdóttir  
Director

*Linda Björk Hallgrímsd.*  
Linda Björk Hallgrímsdóttir  
Advisor