

Fujiabra Films

Vestmannaeyjum 31. janúar 2019  
UST201901-113/P.V.B.

**Subject: permit for drone flight in protected areas**

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from fujiabrafilms.com, dated January 13<sup>th</sup> 2019, for permission to fly a drone within Geysir, Gullfoss and Skógafoss area.

Gullfoss is protected as a nature reserve, cf. regulation no. 141/1979. Disturbance to geological formations, vegetation and wild animal life is prohibited. Using an unmanned aircraft/drone within the protected area is subject to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

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.

Geysir is listed on the Nature Conservation Register and under the Environment Agency supervision.

***Description of the project:***

The plan is to fly a drone over Gullfoss, Skógarfoss and Geysir. At Geysir the drone will take off and land just east of the geothermal area. The drone will not fly over the geothermal area just around it. At Gullfoss the drone will fly over the canyon. At Skógafoss the drone will fly just east of the waterfall where it will also take off and land. Flight altitude in all areas is approximately 90 meters. Emergency landing zones are marked well outside visitor areas according to flight plan maps from applicant. Filming will take place in the period of February 19-27<sup>th</sup>. Number of employees on location is 2.

***Impact assessment:***

The Environment Agency of Iceland considers the project not likely to have negative affect on Geysir and Gullfoss. Due to number of visitors visiting the sites flying a drone can have negative impact on the visitor experience.

***Conclusions and conditions:***

According to the description of the project the Environment Agency considers no permission is needed for drone flight at Skógarfoss during this time of the year. Applicant should however contact rangers in the area 24 hours before the filming starts to inform him on his intentions. The Environment Agency of Iceland hereby grants a permission on its behalf according to information from the applicant to fly a drone at Geysir and Gullfoss 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 these areas 24 hours before filming starts in each 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 strictly 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.
- It is not allowed to fly the drone in the canyon in front of the waterfall.
- It is not allowed to fly over Strokkur below 50 meters.
- 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.
- 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/>).
- 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.

***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 Vésteinsdóttir  
Director



Valdimar Kristjánsson  
Advisor