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Vestmannaeyjum 15. mars 2019
UST201902-068/P.V.B.

Subject: Permit for droneflight at Hornstrandir nature reserve

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from Maramedia, dated March 8th, for permit to fly a drone within Hornstrandir Nature reserve in the period March 17th – 24th. This is part of another application dated February 6th for filming permit at Hornstrandir nature reserve. Permit for that part was issued on March 1st.

Hornstrandir is protected as a nature reserve by Regulation no. 332/1985. Disturbance to geological formations, vegetation and wild animal life in the protected area is prohibited. According to the management plan for Hornstrandir, filming and photography that can affect wildlife and visitors experience as well as flying an unmanned aircraft/drone within the boundaries of the nature reserve is subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

Description of the project:

This is part of a filming project that will take place in Hornvík. The aim of the project is to film natural behaviour of arctic foxes. The purpose of the drone flight is to get a sense of landscape rather than wildlife. The flight will take place in the period March 17th – 24th while seabirds are not present. Flight altitude will be 15-90 meters. Flight paths are shown on map in application. Flightpath one is over sea in a line from Hafnarnes towards Miðfell. Flightpath two is over sea along the shoreline from Hornsá towards Hornklettur. The third flightpath is along Hornbjarg above sea. Distance from land in the flight path at Hornbjarg is 50 meters.

Impact assessment:

The Environment Agency of Iceland considers the project not likely to have negative affect on the site at this time of year. Nesting preparation hasn't started at this time of year when the flight will take place and therefore the flight is not likely to have negative impact on birdlife in Hornbjarg as it would do during nesting season.

Conclusions and conditions:

The Environment Agency of Iceland hereby grants a permission on its behalf for drone flight in the period of March 17th - 24th within Hornstrandir nature reserve 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 inform rangers in the area 48 hours before drone flight starts or when he will arrive in the area.
- Fauna, geological formations and landscape should not be disturbed in any way.
- All disturbance to animals and wildlife is strictly prohibited.
- Crew members should always stay on authorized paths/tracks when possible and wear marked clothing or some kind of identification if it is necessary to leave them.
- The crew shall be conscious of other guests on the sites and make sure that drone flight causes as little disturbance as possible to other visitors.
- If the drone flight causes disturbance to birds or other animals in the area the applicant shall cease the flight at once.
- 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.
- 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/>).

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. If processing the application takes more than 5 hours the Agency will charge extra fee. The extra fee is 13.200 ISK per hour according to art. 1. in the agency's tariff no. 535/2015. This application is part of a bigger project and a bill for 52.600 ISK has been issued. The applicant will be informed about additional cost before a bill for the extra fee will be issued when all parts of the applications regarding the project have been processed.

Sincerely

Hildur Vésteinsdóttir

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