

Michael Pappas
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Reykjavík 22. júlí 2019
UST201907-145/Þ.V.B.
09.06.01

Subject: Droneflight in Hornstrandir

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from Michael T. Pappas, dated July 16th, for permit to fly a drone within Hornstrandir Nature Reserve.

Hornstrandir is protected as a nature reserve by act no. 60/2013 on nature conservation, cf. 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 and flying an unmanned aircraft/drone within the boundaries of the protected site is subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

Description of the project:

It is requested to fly a drone in two locations within Hornstrandir nature reserve in the period of July 23rd to July 26th 2019 and film for personal use if weather allows. These locations are Hornbjarg and Veiðileysufjörður. At Hornbjarg the plan is to fly a drone for 3 minutes in 200 meters distance from Hornbjarg 100 meters above sea level from the northern part of the cliff to east and back. In Veiðileysufjörður the plan is to fly the drone for 3 minutes over sea in 100 meters altitude from the campsite toward the mount of the fjord and back. Flight path is shown on a map in the application for both Hornbjarg and Veiðileysufjörð.

Impact assessment:

The Environment Agency of Iceland considers the project likely to have negative effect on birdlife and visitor experience. In order to minimize the negative effect it is important to follow the conditions for permit, stay 200 meters from the cliff and follow the flight path indicated in the application.

Conclusions and conditions:

The Environment Agency grants Michael T. Pappas, permission on its behalf to fly a drone within Hornstrandir nature reserve as described in description of the project above in the period of July 23rd to July 26th 2019 on following conditions:

- Keep this letter with you on site during the project.
- 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.
- The applicant shall stay on authorized paths/tracks when possible.
- The conductor of the drone shall wear marked clothing or some kind of identification when filming.
- The applicant 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.
- In Veidileysufjörður is not allowed to fly near the campsite while other visitors stay in the campsite.
- 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.
- It is not allowed to fly the drone closer to Hornbjarg than 200 meters.
- Flying the drone should take place when visitor number on both sites is minimum. At Hornbjarg in the afternoon and at Veidileysufjörður during middle of the day.
- 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 applicant 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 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.

The usage of 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.

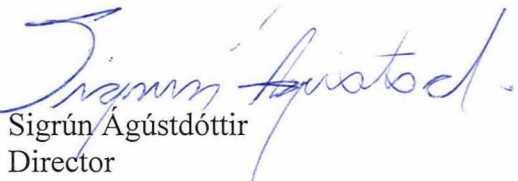
Permission fee:

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



Sigrún Ágúsdóttir
Director



Þórdís Vilhelmina Bragadóttir
Advisor