

South & browse gmbh
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Reykjavík, þriðjudagur, 12. júlí 2022
UST202207-113/P.B.S.
09.06.01

Permit to fly a Drone and film at Geysir and Skógafoss

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from South & browse gmbh dated 11th of July, for filming with a drone within Geysir and Skógafoss protected sites.

Geysir is protected as natural monument, cf. regulation no. 660/2020. All disturbance of geological monuments is prohibited, incl. any inscriptions and disturbance of the activity and water level of the hot spring area, disturbance of hot springs, hot springs, soils and rocks, without permission. Helicopters and other manned aircraft may not land within the area without the permission of the Environment Agency. Operating an unmanned aircraft/drone within the protected area is subjected 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. Camping overnight is only allowed in a designated campsite. This includes tents, motorhomes, and campers. Photography, cinemaphotography and events that can affect visitors experience in the area are subjected to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

Description of the project:

The project will take place from 12th–14th of July and no disturbance will be on the protected sites. The project consists of a small team that will be interviewing scientists and filming short videos with a drone.

Impact assessment:

The Environment Agency of Iceland considers the project to be minimal and not likely to have negative impact on the protected sites.

Conclusions and conditions:

The Environment Agency of Iceland hereby grants South & browse gmbh dated permission on its behalf to fly a drone within Geysir and Skógafoss as described above on 12-14th of July on the following conditions:

- Keep this letter with you on site during the project and fly the drone with the permission from the ranger. The permit conditions should be introduced to the staff of the project before work begins.
- Crew members should always stay on authorized paths/tracks/roads.
- 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 being 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.
- Flight time should be kept to a minimum and flight should be avoided during the area's busiest times of the day.
- If the use of unmanned aircraft causes disturbance to wildlife in the area, its use should be ceased at once.
- The conductor of the unmanned aircraft is responsible for the aircraft within the protected area. This includes taking responsibility of any possible risk of harm to people, fauna and nature and leaving no permanent marks on the site in question. Should the aircraft crash, all components from it must be collected and removed from the area.
- For safety reasons, the pilot of an unmanned aerial vehicle must wear marked clothing so that the person can be identified.
- **It is forbidden to fly drones in the canyon in front of the waterfall at Skógafoss.**
- It is forbidden to fly drones next to bird cliffs in a closer proximity than 200 meters during nesting season. For rest of the year, it is not allowed to fly in a closer proximity to bird cliffs than 50 meters, if birds are in the cliffs.

Unmanned aircraft should take off and land in a safe distance from other visitors according to regulation 990/2017 on unmanned aircrafts.

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/>).

Permission fee: Environmental and Natural Resources Board of Appeal

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

Daníel Freyr Jónsson
advisor

Þórdís Björt Sigþórsdóttir
Team leader