

Just4Moments  
Kievitstraat 24  
4273CM

Reykjavík 1. ágúst 2019  
UST201906-237/P.V.B.  
09 06.01

**Subject: permit for photography and overnight stay in protected areas**

The Environment Agency of Iceland has received an application from Just4Moments, dated June 22<sup>nd</sup>, for a permit to photograph and stay overnight within the areas of Dyrhólaey, Hraunfoss and Skógarfoss.

Dyrhólaey is protected as a nature reserve, cf. regulation no. 101/1978. Disturbance to geological formations, vegetation and wild animal life in the protected area is prohibited. A permit from the Environment Agency is needed for camping inside the nature reserve. This includes tents, motorhomes and campers.

Hraunfossar is protected as a natural monument, cf. regulation no. 410/1987. Disturbance to geological formations, vegetation and wild animal life in the protected area is prohibited.

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 over night is only allowed at a designated campsite. This includes tents, motorhomes and campers. Photography, cinematography and events that can affect visitors experience in the area are subject to a permit from the Environment Agency of Iceland.

***Description of the project:***

The purpose of the project is to take photographs in Dyrhólaey, Hraunfossar and Skógarfoss. Most of the photos (80%) will be taken on designated walking paths. Photos taken off path will be for taken early morning or late evening when the sites are least busy with people. At Dyrhólaey pictures will be taken on hiking paths and on cliff edges at Háey and Lágey. At Hraunfossar pictures will be taken in three locations. At Skógarfoss pictures will be taken from the viewpoint platform and on paths. All locations are shown on maps, attached to the application. In Dyrhólaey the group requests to camp overnight in 4x4 campers with toilets for one night. The group consist of 8 people and the project duration is from August 24<sup>th</sup> – September 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

***Impact assessment:***

The Environment Agency of Iceland considers the project likely to have negative effect on vegetation at Hraunfossar and Skógafoss. Great work has been done in the last few years at Hraunfossar and Skógafoss to remove unwanted tracks on the sites. The site at Skógafoss is

very sensitive since restoration work took place recently. At Hraunfoss an older path, which is now closed, is still visible and restoration work hasn't yet begun at the site. By allowing photographers to leave official paths it might encourage others to follow in their steps, either at the same time or later, in order to get the same pictures and this can create new tracks in the soil. Barnafoss is surrounded by cliffs and rocks and it is dangerous to stray off path. At Dyrhólaey it is important not to disturb the puffins, so their chicks won't leave the area before they are ready. The presence of photographers outside of designated paths in all areas will have negative effect on visitor experience in all sites and might encourage others to follow and go off path.

### *Conclusions and conditions:*

For vegetation protection the Environment Agency declines the applicants request to go off path at Skógarfoss. For safety reasons, the Environment Agency declines the applicants request to go off path in Barnafoss (the location on the far right on Hraunfossar map, attached to application) They have permission to go off path in the other two locations (see map) by Hraunfossar but must show caution near the cliffs in these locations. The Environment Agency of Iceland hereby grants Just4moments a permission for off-path photography in Dyrhólaey and in some areas of Hraunfossar, and to stay overnight in a camper in Dyrhólaey as described above in the period of August 24<sup>th</sup> – September 8<sup>th</sup> 2019 on the following conditions:

- Keep this letter with you on site during the project. The permit conditions should be introduced to staff of the project before work begins.
- If the dates of the project or the project description changes the Environment Agency shall be notified as soon as possible.
- The Environment Agency requests that the ranger of the area will be contacted 24 hours before the project begins. They need to be informed on where exactly the photography will take place and where photographs will be taken off path in Hraunfossar and Dyrhólaey, for them to give confirmation of the safety of the project and the protection of wildlife and vegetation.
- Off-road driving in Iceland is strictly prohibited.
- An over-night stay in a camper at Hraunfossar is prohibited.
- It is forbidden to go off path at Skógarfoss.
- All participants in the project must wear high-visibility clothing when going off path.
- Sleeping in a camper outside of designated campsites is usually not allowed and this is a special permit for an overnight stay in a camper in Dyrhólaey. The staff of the project is therefore required to label their clothes and vehicles with signs that clearly state that this project has received a special permission from The Environment Agency of Iceland. This is to prevent other guests of the areas to imitate going off path or sleeping in vehicles outside of regular campsites.
- Fauna, geological formations and landscape should not be disturbed in any way.
- All disturbance to animals and wildlife is strictly prohibited – especially in Dyrhólaey, the photographer must be careful to maintain distance from puffins and other birds.
- The crew should be conscious of other guests on the sites and make sure that the photoshoot causes as little disturbance as possible to other visitors.
- The project's staff is required to prevent all disturbance to the environment and make sure that all litter is removed from the sites.

- Pictures taken of path that are published official on print or online need to be labelled to indicate that permission from the Environment Agency was obtained for the photoshoot.
- If any complications occur during the project, please contact the ranger or the Environment Agency of Iceland, tell. +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 Environmental Agency of Iceland can amend the conditions, add in new conditions or withdraw the permission, if the environmental conditions change according to Article 89 (2) of the Nature Conservation Act no. 60/2013.

The Environmental Agency of Iceland can withdraw the permission if the terms of the conditions are not met according to Article 89 (1) of the Nature Conservation Act no. 60/2013.

A permission from the landowners and/or the municipality might be needed for the project.

The decision may be appealed to the Ministry for the Environment and Natural Resources according to Article 26 of Act no 37/1993 on Administrative Procedures, based on Article 91 of Act no 60/2013 on Nature Conservation within three months from the date of this letter.

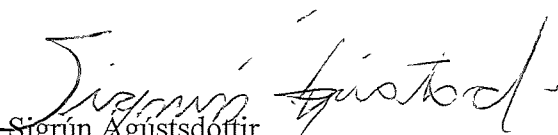
***Permission fee:***

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 the processing of the application takes more than 4 hours the Agency will charge an extra fee. The extra fee is 13.200 ISK per hour according to art. 1. in the agency's tariff no. 535/2015. The processing hours of this application are now 5 hours. Extra hours for the application is 1 hour. The Environment Agency of Iceland will therefore issue a bill for 65.800 ISK for the extra work

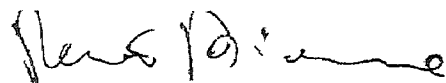
***Supervision:***

The Environment Agency will supervise the project. The supervisor will be a ranger from the Environment Agency.

Sincerely



Sigrún Agústsðóttir  
Sviðsstjóri



René Biasone  
Sérfræðingur