

Integrating Activities for Advanced Communities



D2.6 - Guide on research permit systems for all arctic countries on INTERACT website

Project No.871120– INTERACT

H2020-INFRAIA-2019-1

Start date of project: 2020/01/01

Duration: 48 months

Due date of deliverable: 2021/02/28 (M14)

Actual Submission date: 2021/03/29

Lead partner for deliverable: APECS

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Dissemination Level		
PU	Public	X
PP	Restricted to other programme participants (including the Commission Services)	
RE	Restricted to a group specified by the Consortium (including the Commission Services)	
CO	Confidential, only for members of the Consortium (including the Commission Services)	

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Publishable Executive Summary

On 23 May 2018, a new agreement between all eight Arctic states came into force - *Agreement on Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Cooperation*. The agreement aims to increase international research collaboration and to support easier movement of researchers and research equipment across the Arctic region. As a service to scientists, INTERACT SMF in collaboration with APECS therefore decided to provide an overview of the most common types of permits needed to conduct science in the Arctic countries.

In the process, a template was developed and distributed to country representatives who provided information on national permit systems for their respective countries. Here, managers of INTERACT research stations were a valuable source and contributed with their knowledge of national and local permit systems. National permit systems have been identified for (i) cross border travel (persons, equipment, samples, chemicals), (ii) access to specific areas, (iii) permits to conduct fieldwork and collect samples, (iv) field instrumentation, (v) safety equipment and (vi) regional local permits.

While the staff at the INTERACT Station Managers' Forum and APECS has done their best to check, validate and streamline the data, there was a need to develop a disclaimer to be published with the information, as rules, regulations and websites change over time.

The platform is hosted on the INTERACT website (<https://eu-interact.org/>), to benefit not only scientists, but also international infrastructure organisations, national authorities and Arctic Council representatives who are also encouraged to review the information and provide corrections or recommendations for changes to ensure that the information is updated and hence remains a valuable resource for scientific, logistic and government purposes.

1. Introduction

1.1. Purpose

The main objective of INTERACT's Station Managers' Forum (SMF) is to foster a culture of cooperation among research stations in an advanced infrastructure community, and between this advanced infrastructure community and scientific communities, industries, local communities and infrastructures in other regions. This task (2.2 Transport and communication) will contribute to INTERACT's Societal Challenge 2 and WP5 through assessment of current permit systems and identification of bottlenecks for the free mobility of scientists and their samples based on station managers and TA users' perspectives. The results of the survey will be communicated to the Arctic Council via WP5 as input to their work on implementation of the *Agreement on Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Cooperation*.

The *Agreement on Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Cooperation* (in force since 23 May 2018) aims at increasing international research collaboration and to support easier movement of researchers and research equipment across the Arctic region.

In order to ensure its effectiveness, we started a review of the permit systems of relevance for scientists travelling to any of the eight Arctic countries. Permits needed to conduct science in the Arctic include station access systems, visa application systems, sample and equipment import/export systems as well as other authority permits. While scientists are responsible for ensuring they possess all relevant permits, navigating through all the different national permit systems appears to be a challenge. So far, no country provides a singly entry point for scientists or a central research coordination platform. Because of changing and complex regulations, many scientists identify this as a bottleneck to their research. Often, problems already start with identifying the relevant permits needed. Furthermore, running through the application processes shows to be challenging. This status quo hampers cross-border science cooperation.

Therefore, we developed the information platform on the INTERACT website concerning permit procedures relevant to scientists. The collected information should guide scientists through the most common types of permits needed to conduct science in Arctic countries. This initiative therefore facilitates cross border collaboration and improve international cooperation across the Arctic.

1.2. Template development and country representatives

A draft template for describing national permit systems was drafted by the leadership of the INTERACT Station Managers' Forum and APECS. This template was circulated among selected station managers in the eight arctic countries together with a draft example from Greenland.

Country representatives provided comments to the template. The leadership of INTERACT SMF and APECS developed the final template and distributed this to country representatives who provided information on national permit systems for their respective countries.

Abisko Scientific Research Station, Sweden
Aktru Research Station/ Research Station Samoylov Island, Russia
CEN stations, Canada
FINI, Faroe Islands
Finse Research Station/The Research Council of Norway, Norway
Greenland Natural Resource Institute, Greenland

Pallas-Sodankylä Stations, Finland
Sudernes Science and Learning Center, Iceland
Sverdrup Research Station/Norwegian Polar Institute, Svalbard
Toolik Field Station, USA

Final template (structure changed later to improve usability for scientists)

- A. Cross border travel
 - *People's entry into country (Visa)*

- B. Research related permits (National level)
 - *Permit to conduct research (Studies, incl. observations and sample collection, in geology, biology, cultural heritage/archaeology, human health)*
 - *Access to specific areas (e.g. regions (incl. border districts), remote areas and protected areas)*
 - *Sample collection*
 - o *Genetic resources collection permit (e.g. related to the Nagoya Protocol under the Convention on Biological Diversity)*
 - o *Import/Export permits for samples (e.g. CITES)*
 - *Instrumentation*
 - o *Area allotment (for field instruments)*
 - o *Permits for drone use*
 - o *Import/export permits*
 - *Instrumentation*
 - *Chemicals*

- C. Research related permits (Regional/local level)
 - *Please specify any permits that are managed at the regional/local level (must apply for all regions in the country. i.e. not regional specific permits). Take from above list or add other general permit types.*

- D. Other relevant sites that contain information on international research

1.3. Information gathering

The collection of information on all types of national permits proved challenging in most countries. No country had a single-entry point for scientists to identify relevant permits for their studies. Scientists are, however, still obliged to obtain all relevant permits. This can be a challenge when permits are distributed across many different authorities and often with no centrally coordinating unit/website to help guide scientists.

INTERACT research stations are long-term infrastructures providing access to the Arctic. Hence, the managers of these stations possess good knowledge of most national and local permit systems, and hence were a valuable source to tap into during our work to identify the most common permit types of national permit systems in the Arctic. In some cases, however, station managers contributing to this initiative had to consult university administrations and various national authorities to be able to provide comprehensive information on the permits identified for this initiative.

While station managers and staff of INTERACT SMF and APECS have done their best to identify all relevant permits and provide linkages to these, it is possible that we have missed information about some permit types. Rules, regulations and their websites also change over time, meaning that some of the information we present here will become out dated. While we strive to update and quality assure the information (see 1.4), we also saw a need to develop a disclaimer to be published with the information (see 2.1).

Information gathering from three countries proved more challenging than others, so it is work in progress to broaden the included permit systems for these countries.

1.4. Quality assurance

The data presented here has been checked, validated and streamlined by APECS and INTERACT SMF staff, and country representatives and authorities have been contacted to ensure that the information presented here is as correct as possible. All permit system descriptions are provided with a date for completion, to let people know when it was last updated.

When the system is launched on the INTERACT website, scientists and international infrastructure organisations (e.g. Forum of Arctic Research Operators - FARO), national authorities and Arctic Council representatives are encouraged to review the national permit systems and provide corrections or recommendations for changes (see section 3).

1.5. Website placement

The information is presented on the INTERACT website. The description of national permit systems is placed under the front-page heading 'Accessing the Arctic' - <https://eu-interact.org/>. Hereunder you find information related to access to Arctic research stations and INTERACT funding mechanisms. Hence, we found this to be the natural spot for external scientists to find the information.

There will be linkages to this part of the web site from the 'Managing stations' pages (also on INTERACT website).

The initiative has sparked interest among other infrastructure communities and the Arctic Council *Agreement on Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Cooperation*, and we will promote linkages to the information from websites of other relevant organisations and institutions.

2. Website contents

2.1. Front page text incl. disclaimer of PDFs

Arctic Research Permit Systems

Conducting science in the Arctic often requires permits founded in national or local legislation. This information platform aims at providing an overview of the most common permit types relevant for scientists travelling to and working in the Arctic.

National permit systems have been identified for:

- Cross border travel (persons, equipment, samples, chemicals)
- Access to specific areas
- Permits to conduct fieldwork and collect samples
- Field instrumentation
- Safety equipment
- Regional/local permits

Listed are also additional information sources relevant for conducting science in the specific countries.

National permit systems

Alaska, USA

Canada

Faroe Islands

Finland

Greenland

Iceland

Norway (mainland)

Russia

Svalbard, Norway

Sweden

Disclaimer: INTERACT takes no responsibility for lacking or wrong information presented here. The information platform only addresses the most common permit types - certain studies may therefore require permits that is not covered by this initiative. Note also that new regulations may be implemented, rules may change and links may become outdated or dead – and there may be a delay in the updates on these pages, so if you encounter dead links, updates or have suggestions for additional permit types we can include, please contact us at <https://eu-interact.org/contact/>.

Note that, as a scientist, you are responsible for ensuring that you possess all relevant permits before you embark on your scientific quest. National authorities and station managers can often guide you to relevant national and local permits. You can find links to websites of relevant authorities on these pages and contact information for station managers on the INTERACT website under 'Field sites' (<https://eu-interact.org/field-sites/>) or on the stations' own websites.

Additional information about the initiative

On 23 May 2018, a new agreement between all eight Arctic states came into force - *Agreement on Enhancing International Arctic Scientific Cooperation*. The agreement aims to increase international research collaboration and to support easier movement of researchers and research equipment across the Arctic region. INTERACT has more than 85 member's stations distributed across all Arctic states and INTERACT provides Transnational Access for scientists to more than 50 stations.

As a service to scientists, INTERACT in collaboration with APECS (Association of Polar Early Career Scientists) therefore decided to provide an overview of the most common types of permits needed to conduct science in the Arctic countries. Considered were local and national legislation and international agreements, e.g. the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (RAMSAR), etc.

The permit types selected here are based on experiences of representative station managers of all Arctic countries (Toolik Field Station (USA), CEN stations (Canada), Greenland Institute of Natural Resources (Greenland), Sverdrup Research Station/Norwegian Polar Institute (Svalbard/Norway), Abisko Scientific Research Station (Sweden), Pallas-Sodankylä Research Station (Finland) as well as Aktru Research Station and Research Station Samoylov Island (Russia)), experience from INTERACT Transnational Access and the experiences of early career scientists making their first endeavours into the jungle of Arctic permit systems.

Structure under each country

Cross border travel

- People
- Instrumentation (import/export)
- Samples (import/export) (including chemicals)

Access to specific areas

- Remote areas
- Protected areas
- Restricted areas

Fieldwork and sample collection

- Permit to conduct research (observations, handling and sampling within all disciplines, incl. collection of genetic resources)

Field Instrumentation

- Area allotment for instrumentation
- Drone use

Safety related permits

- Weapon
- Radio permits

Regional/local level permits

Additional information of relevance

2.2. Country info

2.2.1. Alaska, USA

Cross border travel

People

Visa

You may need a visa to enter the United States of America, it depends on your citizenship.

Read more about entry into the USA and the different types of visas here:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas.html>.

Some countries participate in the Visa Waiver Program, and if you are a citizen of one of those countries, you will not need a visa as long as you apply for the *Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA)*, which is good for two years. *ESTA* will allow you to enter for stays in the USA of 90 days or less. When you apply for *ESTA*, you (as a scientist) need to indicate that your purpose is business, not tourism.

Find a list of countries that participate in the Visa Waiver Program, and *ESTA* application information here: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/visa-waiver-program.html#ESTA>.

For more information, see FAQs: <https://esta.cbp.dhs.gov/faq>.

If your country does not participate in the Visa Waiver Program, you (as a scientist) will need to obtain a **B-1 visa for short-term business**. Do not get a tourist visa, as that will make it difficult or impossible to have your travel expenses reimbursed by a U.S. field station.

All researchers will also need a letter of invitation from the hosting field station, for customs (whether you use *ESTA* or not).

If you are planning to study or work at a university in the USA for longer than 90 days (for example for a sabbatical or exchange program), you will need to apply for a **J-1 visa**, which requires sponsorship by an educational institution in the U.S. Other forms of employment visas and immigration require a different process.

Note that all visa applications (and *ESTA* application) may require payment of a fee to process the applications!

Note that it takes time to process an application!

Covid-19

It is highly recommended to check with the *US Department of State website*

(<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/ea/covid-19-information.html>), the *US*

Customs and Border Protection website (<https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/coronavirus>), *Alaska State*

website (<https://covid19.alaska.gov/>), and/or air carriers, to evaluate the current situation before booking plane tickets.

More information on travel restrictions can be found here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html>.

Note that travelers in violation of travel restrictions will have their *ESTA* and/or visas canceled!

Instrumentation (import/export)

There are no general permits required for bringing scientific instruments into the US, and they are normally not subject to duty. However, you will need to declare them to customs. Find more

information here: <https://www.cbp.gov/document/guidance/3550-073a-duty-free-entry-scientific-instruments>.

Samples (import/export)

Import/Export of threatened species (listed by the CITES convention)

The US is a party to CITES and the *US Fish and Wildlife Service* is the agency with responsibility for implementing CITES in the US. For more information and lists of species, see <https://www.fws.gov/international/cites/>.

Import/Export of plant samples

Import: The US may require a permit for import of plants depending on the species and whether there is associated soil or not. Find more information here: <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth/import-information>.

Export: The US does not require export permits for plant samples, however if your home country requires a “phytosanitary certificate” for import of plant samples from the U.S., you may obtain one through the *US Department of Agriculture* here: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth/sa_export/export-services-program.

Import/Export of soil

Import: Importation of soils into the US always requires a permit, and is strictly regulated by the *US Department of Agriculture*, because of the possibility of introducing pathogenic organisms. Find more information here: https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/planthealth/import-information/permits/plant-pests/sa_soil.

Export: Export of soils from the US does not require a US permit, but may require a permit from your home country, which should be obtained ahead of time, as a copy of the permit will be needed for shipping.

Import/Export of chemicals

In general, it is recommended to use a shipping/transport agency, in order to reassure compliance with the complex set of regulations. An excellent alternative to bringing your own chemicals with you is to order them from US chemical vendors and have them shipped directly to the field station at which you will be working. In addition, there may be some chemicals available at the field station, if you need only small quantities. Please consult with the station that is offering you access.

Transport and disposal of Chemicals and radio isotopes

There are strict regulations in the US that govern the transport and disposal of chemicals and radioisotopes, and these must be followed even if chemicals are imported. In addition, there may be customs considerations for imported chemicals.

All **chemicals** imported into the US must comply with the **Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)**. More information on the TSCA can be found here: <https://www.epa.gov/tsc-import-export-requirements/tsc-requirements-importing-chemicals>.

Use and transport of **radioisotopes** are regulated by the **Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)**. Find more information here: <https://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/cfr/part110/full-text.html>.

Access to specific areas

Protected areas

Alaska State Special Areas

If your work is in a State of Alaska legislatively designated **Special Area** (state game refuge, critical habitat area, or wildlife sanctuary), you may need a special area permit. More information can be found here: http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=uselicense.do_i_need_permit.

Find a map and information about where Special Areas are located here: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=conservationareas.locator>.

Contact details of the local habitat section offices can be found here: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=uselicense.contacts>.

US. National Parks and Wildlife Refuges

Within **U.S. National Parks and Wildlife Refuges** located in Alaska, access may be regulated, and destructive research and sample collection are generally not permitted. Contact the relevant National Park, Preserve, or Wildlife Refuge Office, as regulations vary from one protected area to another.

Find an overall list of Parks in Alaska here: <https://www.nps.gov/state/ak/index.htm>.

Some Parks and Refuges that may be of interest to researchers working in Alaska:

- Gates of the Arctic National Park: <https://www.nps.gov/gaar/index.htm>.
- Bering Land Bridge National Preserve: <https://www.nps.gov/bela/index.htm>.
- Cape Krusenstern National Monument: <https://www.nps.gov/cakr/index.htm>.
- Kobuk Valley National Park: <https://www.nps.gov/kova/index.htm>.
- Noatak National Preserve: <https://www.nps.gov/noat/index.htm>.
- Denali National Park and Preserve: <https://www.nps.gov/dena/index.htm>.
- Arctic National Wildlife Refuge: <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/arctic/>.

Remote and restricted areas

No permits identified

Fieldwork and sample collection

You may need **zero, one or more research permits** when conducting research in Alaska. Whether you need to obtain permits depends on the area you want to go to and the type of research you conduct. The most general permits are described below.

There is no central coordination of research applications in the USA, so scientists need to identify all relevant permits themselves and obtain these from relevant authorities. Both national and regional agencies are included in this section.

Note that it may take up to 6 months to process an application!

Permit to conduct research (observations, handling and sampling within all disciplines, incl. collection of genetic resources)

It is recommended to begin the permitting process six months prior to research activities.

A good overview on **permits and policies** can be found on the website of **Toolik Field Station**:

<https://www.uaf.edu/toolik/handbook/permits-policies.php?tab=permits>.

Genetic resources

The USA is not yet a signatory to the Nagoya Protocol of the Convention on Biological Diversity (**CBD**), and there are no national permits required for **collection of genetic samples**. However, your home country may have rules about the importation of genetic samples.

Land use permits

Land use permits for research: In Alaska, land-use permits for research are handled by agencies that own or have jurisdiction over the land. These land-use permits also cover research instrumentation installed at your research site.

Maps showing land status of the **State of Alaska**, the area around **Toolik Field Station**, and the area around **Utqiagvik** may be found at: <https://www.uaf.edu/toolik/gis/maps/general.php>.

Research involving animals

Depending on their intended use of fish or wildlife, researchers and educators may need one or more **aquatic resource permits** (for fish, amphibians or aquatic plants) or an **educational, wildlife possession, or scientific collection permit** (for mammals, birds, or reptiles) from the *Alaska Department of Fish and Game*. More information and application forms can be found here: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=otherlicense.main>.

Researchers who wish to capture, collect, or repeatedly disturb wild Alaska mammals, birds, or reptiles for scientific purposes need a **scientific permit**. More information can be found on the website of *Alaska Department of Fish and Game*:

<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=otherlicense.collection>.

For research that involves fish or waters containing fish, you may need a **fish habitat permit** from the *Alaska Department of Fish and Game* (which regulates all waters in Alaska, whether under the control of the State of Alaska directly or not). Find information here:

http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=uselicense.do_i_need_permit.

Find an overview of **fish, amphibian and aquatic plants permits** here:

http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=otherlicense.aquatic_overview.

Any research involving the handling of animals (e.g. trapping, surgery, etc.) requires an approved protocol from a University's *Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee*, which is usually obtained by the researcher's home institution.

Field Instrumentation

Area allotment for instrumentation

See **Land use permits for research** under 'Permit to conduct research' above.

Drone use

The regulatory environment for drone use is complex and challenging. Therefore, it is recommended to contact the managers at the field stations well in advance to check, if they can meet your needs (e.g. with licensed operators who can collect imagery for you).

The *Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)* regulates the use of drones in the USA. Use of a drone for research falls under commercial regulations. Part 107 Commercial Use requires international users to obtain a **Remote Pilot's Certificate (RPC)** or be supervised by a person with a current RPC under the stipulation that the person holding the RPC must be able to take immediate control of the drone in case of emergency. To obtain an RPC, international users must pass an in-person aeronautical knowledge test administered at a designated testing center. Testing centers are only located in the US.

Note that the *FAA* currently does not recognize any foreign drone licensure.

If the drone is registered in a foreign country, you must submit an application

(<https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/docs/Part%20375%2012%20flight%20SA%20Instructions%202011.pdf>) for a Part 375 foreign aircraft permit at least 15 days in advance of the flight.

If the home country does not require drone registration, you must contact the *Department of Transportation Air Carrier Licensing Division* for help completing the foreign aircraft permit application.

Register the drone using the **FAA's DroneZone** website: <https://faadronezone.faa.gov/#/>. This is different from the above foreign aircraft permit, and both must be done. After registering with the FAA, you are required to mark your drone with the registration number.

Additional resources:

- *Office of the Secretary of Transportation (OST), Office of International Aviation*
- Information for International UAS Operators in the US:
https://www.faa.gov/uas/resources/foreign_operators/.
- *Department of Transportation* foreign aircraft permit (Part 375 application):
<https://www.transportation.gov/policy/aviation-policy/licensing/foreign-carriers>.

Safety related permits

Weapon

If you wish to bring a firearm and/or ammunition into the US, you will need a permit from the *Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF)* (<https://www.atf.gov/>).

Find the application/permit form for temporary import of firearms and ammunition by nonimmigrant aliens here: <https://www.atf.gov/resource-center/docs/atf-f-5330-3dpdf/download>

Note that the processing time to receive approval varies, but can easily be as long as 2 – 3 months!

The permit is valid for one year. You may use it to cross the border with your firearms any number of times during that period. The form must include serial numbers of all firearms and any ammunition you will bringing into the country. You will undergo an ATF background check. Your form will be returned to you indicating whether or not it has been approved.

When you arrive at the border, you must declare your firearm, provide the required documents, and answer all questions truthfully. The border services officer must be satisfied that you have a

valid reason for importing the firearm, and may check to ensure that you have stored your firearm properly for transportation. They will review your paperwork and may verify that the firearm you have with you matches the one described in the documents.

You should also check **field station specific requirements** for using a firearm (e.g. safety training, storage plan).

Radio permits

Radios and **Personal Locator Beacons (PLBs)** are licensed by the *US Federal Communications Commission (FCC)*. Information can be found here: <https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/bureau-divisions/mobility-division/personal-radio-services>.

You can operate a **Personal Locator Beacon (PLB)** device in any place where the *FCC* regulates radio communications. A PLB device must be certified by the *FCC*. A certified PLB device has an identifying label placed on it by the manufacturer. Find more information on how to operate a PLB device here: <https://www.fcc.gov/wireless/bureau-divisions/mobility-division/personal-locator-beacons-plbs>.

Each PLB device must be registered with the *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)*. Registering your PLB device provides emergency information to search and rescue personnel. You can register your PLB device in the *NOAA Beacon Registration database*: <https://beaconregistration.noaa.gov/RGDB/>.

Use of **radios** requires an **FCC license** (which is good for 10 years). It is recommended that you check with the field station that you are accessing to see if licensed radios are available for check-out. For more information on radios, see: <https://www.fcc.gov/general-mobile-radio-service-gmrs>.

Regional/local level permits

It is highly recommended to ask for guidance from the research station you plan to visit! Information about station specific permits and policies can be found on their respective websites. All stations are listed at: <https://eu-interact.org/field-sites/>.

Additional information of relevance

National Science Foundation – <https://www.nsf.gov/>.

2.2.2. Canada

Cross border travel

People

Visa

You may need a visa to enter Canada, it depends on your citizenship.

Here is a link to help you find out if you need or do not need a visa to enter Canada:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/visit-canada.html>.

You can be allowed to stay in Canada for a maximum of up to six months depending on your citizenship but an extension of your stay can be granted. Find more information here:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/immigration-refugees-citizenship/services/visit-canada/after-apply-next-steps.html>.

Note that it takes time to process an application!

Covid-19

You can find general information and links to relevant COVID-19 related information on the website of the *Canadian government*: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19.html>.

You can find further information regarding the Canadian travel restrictions and quarantine here:

<https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid>.

Instrumentation (import/export)

If planning to bring machinery or instrumentations, you will need to verify and comply with dangerous goods transportation regulations at the international and national level. Find more information here: <https://tc.canada.ca/en/dangerous-goods/transportation-dangerous-goods-canada>.

Find information about restricted and prohibited goods at the website of *Canada Border Service Agency*: <https://www.cbsa-asfc.gc.ca/travel-voyage/rpg-mrp-eng.html>.

General information about customs can be found here: <https://travel.gc.ca/returning/customs>.

Samples (import/export)

Import/Export of threatened species

Canada is party to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (**CITES**). The *Canadian Wildlife Service* is the responsible authority for permits. Find more information here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/wildlife-plants-species/international-trade-protected-animals-plants.html>.

See also 'Regional/local level permits' below.

Import/Export of chemicals

In general, it is recommended to use a **shipping/transport agency**, in order to reassure compliance with the complex set of regulations.

Find more information about importing and exporting dangerous goods here:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/business/permits/federallyregulatedbusinessactivities/importpermitsrestrictions/dangerous-goods-imports-exports.html>.

Access to specific areas

Protected areas

General information on protected areas in Canada (e.g. National parks, Migratory Bird Sanctuaries, National Wildlife Areas and areas of marine protection) can be found here:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/conservation/protected-areas.html>.

For **research in National Parks**, find information on the **Parks Canada's Research and Collection Permit System** here: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/rps/page1_e.asp.

For all research conducted in federal National Parks, this researcher's guide allows you to prepare your request: https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/rps/reguide_e.asp.

If the study site is located in an area protected by *Environment and Climate Change Canada*, you will need to contact the Northern region office of the *Canadian Wildlife Service* (ec.cwspermitnorth-nordpermisscf.ec@canada.ca), give them an overview of the project and a list of supplementary authorization that are mandatory to their research permit. More information can be found here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/national-wildlife-areas/permits-activities/protected-areas.html>.

Remote and restricted areas

No permits identified

Fieldwork and sample collection

You may need **zero**, **one** or **more** research permits, licenses or authorizations when conducting research in Canada. Whether you need to obtain such document depends on the area you want to go to and the type of research you conduct. The most general permits are described below.

There is no central coordination of research applications in Canada. Scientists need to identify all relevant permits themselves and obtain these from relevant authorities.

Permit to conduct research (observations, handling and sampling within all disciplines, incl. collection of genetic resources)

General information on permits, licenses and authorization needed to make research in the Canadian Arctic can be found on Polar Knowledge Canada: <https://www.canada.ca/en/polar-knowledge/online-portal-for-researchers.html>.

You can obtain some permits applications through official process and emitting systems while in other cases you will go through local or regional organizations.

In all cases it remains compulsory to ask for authorizations when planning works in northern communities, despite the decentralized process!

Note that it takes up to six months to process an application!

Fish

Fisheries and Ocean Canada manages research on fish species and a permit request system is in place.

Find more information about scientific licences for these purposes here: <https://www.pac.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/fm-gp/licence-permis/scientific-scientifique-eng.html>.

Note that permit requests and deliverance by DFO are managed per region. Contact details of the regional offices can be found here: <https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/contact/regions/index-eng.html>.

Birds

Canadian Wildlife Service manages permits for research on birds. Find the permit application form here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/migratory-bird-permits/application-forms.html>.

Wildlife

All wildlife related projects need **animal care permits** from an animal care committee. These are usually issued by the researcher's own organization.

Field Instrumentation

Area allotment for instrumentation

No permits identified

Drone use

When flying drones, researchers will need to comply with certain rules. Information is available online, following this link: <https://tc.canada.ca/en/aviation/drone-safety/flying-your-drone-safely-legally>.

Note that specific permits may be required for flying in federal national parks! See 'Protected areas' above.

Safety related permits

Weapon

Firearms permit emission is managed at the national level by the *Royal Canadian Mounted Police* (<https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/firearms/licensing>).

Find more information for non-residents about using, borrowing or bringing a firearm to Canada here: <https://www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/en/firearms/non-residents>.

Radio permits

Canadian PLBs should be registered with the **Canadian Beacon Registry** (email: cbr@sarnet.dnd.ca). Find more information and register at <https://www.cbr-rcb.ca/cbr/>.

Regional/local level permits

Find an overview on region-specific information here: <https://www.canada.ca/en/polar-knowledge/online-portal-for-researchers.html#region-specific-information>.

Nunavut

A guide was prepared by the Nunavut Research Institute for researchers planning to work in the **Nunavut region**. It presents the most common permits, licenses and authorization required by the different authorities involved on the territory. The guide is available online: https://www.nri.nu.ca/sites/default/files/public/nri_research_licence_application_guidelines.pdf.

Sample collection and export

When planning to collect terrestrial fauna samples in national parks located in Nunavut, you will need to request authorization to *Parks Canada* research and collection permit (https://www.pc.gc.ca/apps/rps/page1_e.asp).

For biological sample exportation, you need a **wildlife export permit**. More information can be found here: https://gov.nu.ca/sites/default/files/export_brochure_4_eng.pdf.

Each community has its wildlife agent. You can request the wildlife export permit by contacting the concerned hamlet or by contacting the *Nunavut Department of Environment* (<https://gov.nu.ca/environment>).

North West Territories

A licensing system is available for researchers planning to work in the **North West Territories (NWT)** and the **Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR)**. The system manages research that fall out of Wildlife or Archaeologist legislation and is operated by the *Aurora Research Institute* (<https://nwtresearch.com/licensing/scientific-research-license>).

Other information on licenses and permits for making research in the NWT are available online: <https://www.enr.gov.nt.ca/en/services/apply-do-research>.

A specific license management system in regard to Wildlife research in the NWT is available online: <https://www.enr.gov.nt.ca/en/services/apply-research-observe-and-handle-wildlife-nwt>.

Yukon

Requesting permits for researchers planning fieldwork in the **Yukon Territory** is managed by the *Yukon government*: <https://yukon.ca/en/science-and-natural-resources/research-and-monitoring/apply-scientists-and-explorers-act-licence#apply-for-a-licence-to-conduct-research>.

Nunavik

For research in any **Nunavik** parks documentation is available at Nunavik's Park: <https://www.nunavikparks.ca/en/research-requests>.

When planning to fly in a Nunavik Park, you will need to inform the park manager. This is usually done park by park (contacting the park manager) but it is possible to contact the general management of Nunavik Parks in Kuujuaq.

If you plan to deploy instrumentation on the Nunavik region, you will need to inform and ask permission to the Landholding Corporation (<http://www.nlhca.ca/>).

Nunatsiavut

When planning research in the **Nunatsiavut** region, you need to contact the *Nunatsiavut Government* who is managing the Nunatsiavut government research advisory committee (<https://nunatsiavutresearchcentre.com/ngrac/>).

Research stations

It is highly recommended to ask for guidance from the research station you plan to visit! Field station specific information and contact details can be found on the respective websites. Most stations are listed at: <http://cnnro.ca/>.

Additional information of relevance

National Research Council Canada – <https://nrc.canada.ca/en/>.

2.2.3. Faroe Islands – In progress

The authorities for the Faroe Islands are currently reviewing their permit systems and thus we could not receive updated information so far. However, we are in contact and provide the information on the INTERACT website as soon as they get back to us.

2.2.4. Finland

Cross border travel

People

Visa

Depending on your citizenship, you may need a visa to enter Finland. Visa requirements and accepted travel documents are listed here: <https://um.fi/visa-requirement-and-travel-documents-accepted-by-finland>.

If you need a visa to enter Finland, the procedure is according to the **EU visa regulations (Schengen)**. A visa normally grants you the right to stay in the entire Schengen region for up to 90 days.

Guidelines for visa applications can be found here: <https://um.fi/visa-to-visit-finland>.

If you want to stay in Finland for a longer period than three months, you need a **residence permit**. You can find instructions to apply residence permit in Finland here: <https://um.fi/residence-permits-to-finland>.

Find information on application for **residence permit** as a researcher here: <https://migri.fi/en/researcher>.

Note that there is a fee that must be paid to process the application.

Covid-19

You can find general information and links to relevant COVID-19 related information on the website of the *Finnish government*: <https://valtioneuvosto.fi/en/information-on-coronavirus/current-restrictions>.

You can find further information regarding the temporary Finnish travel restrictions on the website of *Finnish institute for health and welfare*: <https://thl.fi/en/web/infectious-diseases-and-vaccinations/what-s-new/coronavirus-covid-19-latest-updates/travel-and-the-coronavirus-pandemic>.

Instrumentation (import/export)

General import and export restrictions for Finland can be found here: <https://tulli.fi/en/private-persons/travelling/restrictions>.

You can apply for relief from customs duty for scientific instruments from outside the EU. Find more information here: <https://tulli.fi/en/businesses/import/scientific-instruments-and-apparatus>

Find import/export information for the **European Union** here: <https://ec.europa.eu/trade/import-and-export-rules/>.

Samples (import/export)

Import/Export of threatened species

Export samples listed under The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (**CITES**) needs permission. The *Finnish Environment Institute (SYKE)* is the permitting authority in Finland, issuing permits and certificates for import, and (re)export to and from Finland. Find more information here: https://www.ymparisto.fi/en-US/Forms_permits_and_environmental_impact_assessment/Permits_notifications_and_registration/International_trade_of_endangered_species_CITES.

Import/Export of chemicals

In general, it is recommended to use a **shipping/transport agency**, in order to reassure compliance with the complex set of regulations.

Find information from the *Finnish Safety and Chemicals Agency* here: <https://tukes.fi/en/frontpage>.
Information on transporting radioactive materials can be found here: <https://www.stuk.fi/web/en/stuk-supervises/for-the-users-of-radiation/regulation-of-operations/transport-of-radioactive-substances>.

Access to specific areas

Everyman's Right ("*Jokamiehen Oikeudet*") allows access to the nature in Finland without motor vehicle (<https://www.nationalparks.fi/everymansright>).

Protected areas

Note that protected areas have limited Everyman's Right!

A permit is needed for research work carried out in protected areas! State-owned protected areas are managed by *Metsähallitus* (<https://www.metsa.fi/en/lands-and-waters/protected-areas/>).

Find information about strict nature reserves for nature research here: <https://www.metsa.fi/en/lands-and-waters/protected-areas/nature-reserves/strict-nature-reserves/>.

Instruction how to apply permission can be found here: <https://www.metsa.fi/en/lands-and-waters/permits/permits-for-research-and-photography/>.

Location of protected areas can be found here: <https://excursionmap.fi>.

A map of Finnish National Parks can be found here: <https://www.nationalparks.fi/nationalparks#mapnationalparks>.

Note that getting the permission takes some time!

Restricted areas

Special permission is needed from the *Finnish Border Guard* for activity in the Finnish-Russian border zone. Find more information here: <https://raja.fi/en/border-zone-permit>.

Remote areas

No permits identified.

Fieldwork and sample collection

You may need **zero, one or more research permits** when conducting research in Finland.

There is no central coordination of research applications in Finland, so scientists need to identify all relevant permits themselves and obtain these from relevant authorities.

Whether you need to obtain permits depends on the area you want to go to and the type of research you conduct.

Note that there may be other more specialized permits that are needed (e.g. hunting, fishing, snowmobiling). Find an overview of these activities in state-owned protected areas here:

<https://www.nationalparks.fi/hikinginfinland/feesandpermits>.

Note that it may take some time to process an application and that often you must pay a fee!

Permit to conduct research (observations, handling and sampling within all disciplines, incl. collection of genetic resources)

You need permits to conduct the following types of research in Finland:

Geological surveys

Permission for sampling from landowner is needed. You can find landowner information here:

<https://www.maanmittauslaitos.fi/en/apartments-and-real-property/services/who-owns-property-unit>.

Biological studies

Permission for sampling from landowner and permission for protected species is needed. You can find landowner information here: <https://www.maanmittauslaitos.fi/en/apartments-and-real-property/services/who-owns-property-unit>.

Most of mammals and birds are protected in Finland by national or EU legislation. In addition, some plants are also protected. Studies which disturb, catch or harm the protected species needs additional permission. Informal application is sent to the *Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment* of the location where research is conducted (<https://www.ely-keskus.fi/en/web/ely-en/contact-information>).

If permit is needed for the area of whole Finland, informal application is sent to the *Ministry of Environment* (<https://ym.fi/en/contact-information>).

If you need to transport living or dead protected species, you need permission from the *Centre for Economic Development, Transport and the Environment of Southwest Finland* with informal application (kirjaamo.varsinais-suomi@ely-keskus.fi).

Studies on reindeer need permission from owner since reindeer are owned by local reindeer herders.

Cultural heritage and archeological studies

Find more information on the website of the *Finnish Heritage Agency*:

<https://www.museovirasto.fi/en/cultural-environment/archaeological-cultural-heritage/studying-archaeological-cultural-heritage/research-permits-for-ancient-relics>.

Medical studies, interviews and to use collected confidential information

Find information here: <https://www.findata.fi/en/services/data-permits/> or contact the *Social and Health Data Permit Authority* (email: info@findata.fi). Note that you may need also statement from ethical committee.

Research with Sámi people

Research that may impact Sámi cultural heritage needs approval.

Find more information about the procedure for seeking consent for research projects dealing with Sámi cultural heritage and traditional knowledge here: <https://www.samediggi.fi/procedure-for-seeking-consent-for-research-projects/?lang=en>.

Field Instrumentation

Area allotment for instrumentation

If you want to take samples, make measurements or install instruments which disturbs or impacts soil, plants and lichen (which cannot be included to Everyman's Right), you need **permission from landowner**.

You can find landowner information here: <https://www.maanmittauslaitos.fi/en/apartments-and-real-property/services/who-owns-property-unit>.

Metsähallitus (<https://www.metsa.fi/en/>) is the authority that provides permits for state-owned land.

Drone use

There are rules for drone use in Finland! Find general information (e.g. on prohibited and restricted areas) here: <https://www.droneinfo.fi/en/>.

Information about **EU drone regulations** can be found here: <https://www.droneinfo.fi/en/eu-drone-regulation>.

Safety related permits

Weapon

Find information about restrictions and permits for import and export of firearms here: <https://tulli.fi/en/private-persons/travelling/firearms>.

Radio permits

According to the Finnish legislation, all transmitters must be licensed.

The point of contact for beacon matters is the *Finnish Transport and Communication Agency (Traficom)*.

You can apply for a radio licence for a **PLB** (Personal Locator Beacon) here:

<https://www.traficom.fi/en/services/radio-licence-and-identification-number-plb>.

Regional/local level permits

It is highly recommended to ask for guidance from the research station you plan to visit! Field station specific information and contact details can be found on the respective websites. All stations are listed at: <https://eu-interact.org/field-sites/>.

Additional information of relevance

In general, you can ask the different organizations and agencies questions in English. However, in some cases you may need a Finnish partner to help out.

Ministry of Education and Culture, Science and Research – <https://minedu.fi/en/science-and-research>.

2.2.5.Greenland

Cross border travel

People

Visa

Depending on your citizenship, you may need a **visa** to enter Greenland. Here is a list of countries that need and don't need a visa to enter: <https://nyidanmark.dk/en-GB/Words-and-concepts/US/Visum/Countries-with-a-visa-requirement-and-visa-free-countries/?anchor=63F86BF9BAE84296B40028C26E06EF02&callbackItem=AADA0185A3C54C4097E85F7B4350F32C&callbackAnchor=469FFEEF7C9545F594CC7078CC6219D163F86BF9BAE84296B40028C26E06EF02>.

If you need a visa to enter Greenland, you will most likely also need a **Schengen visa**, since most travel goes through a Schengen country, such as Denmark. The application procedure for visa to enter Greenland is the same as for a Danish visa. If you are seeking to obtain a visa to enter Greenland, as well as a Schengen visa, you only need to submit a single application. Find more information here: <https://nyidanmark.dk/en-GB/You-want-to-apply/Short-stay-visa/Visa-to-the-Faroe-Island-or-Greenland/?anchor=469FFEEF7C9545F594CC7078CC6219D1anchor=63F86BF9BAE84296B40028C26E06EF02&callbackItem=AADA0185A3C54C4097E85F7B4350F32C&callbackAnchor=469FFEEF7C9545F594CC7078CC6219D1>.

A visa normally grants you the right to stay in the entire Schengen region for up to 90 days.

If you wish to stay in Denmark for a longer time, you must apply for a **residence permit**.

Read more about conditions for being a guest researcher and how to apply: <https://nyidanmark.dk/en-GB/You-want-to-apply/Work/Guest-Researcher>

Note that there is a fee that must be paid to process the application.

Covid-19

You can find general information and links to relevant COVID-19 related information for Greenland on https://nun.gl/emner/english?sc_lang=da.

Greenland can only be reached via Denmark or Iceland. You can find further information regarding the temporary Danish travel restrictions here: <https://en.coronasmitte.dk/rules-and-regulations/entry-into-denmark>. For travels to Greenland via Iceland, see permit system page for Iceland.

Research vessels

Research vessels operating in Greenland may need a permit, depending on ownership of vessel and origin of applicant. Guidelines and links to applications can be found here:

<https://naalackersuisut.gl/en/Naalackersuisut/Departments/Fiskeri-Fangst-og-Landbrug/Forskning-i-Groenland>.

Instrumentation (import/export)

There is **export control** of dual use items that potentially can be a threat to international peace and security. Read more here: <https://www.businessingreenland.gl/en/Erhverv/Export-control-of-dual-use-items>.

Contact the *Ministry of Industry* if you have questions

(<https://naalackersuisut.gl/en/Naalackersuisut/Departments/Erhverv>).

Samples (import/export)

Import/Export of threatened species

Export of threatened species (listed by the **CITES** convention) requires a permit. See which species it applies to and regulations here: <https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/About-government-of-greenland/CITES>.

The application form can be found here:

<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/~media/Nanoq/Files/Attached%20Files/Engelske-tekster/cites/App%20form%20to%20import-export.pdf>.

Contact the *Ministry of Science and Environment*

(<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Forskning-Miljoe>).

Import/Export of chemicals

In general, it is recommended to use a **shipping/transport agency**, in order to reassure compliance with the complex set of regulations.

Special regulations apply to import and export of **dangerous chemicals** to and from the EU. Find information from the *Environmental Protection Agency*: <https://eng.mst.dk/chemicals/chemicals-in-products/legal-framework-for-managing-chemicals/fact-sheets/fact-sheet-exporting-and-importing-dangerous-chemicals-and-pesticides/>.

Contact the *Ministry of Science and Environment*

(<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Forskning-Miljoe>).

The use of **radioactive substances** most likely requires a permit or registration before use. This is done via the *Danish Health Authorities*.

<https://www.sst.dk/da/Opgaver/Straalebeskyttelse/Selvbetjening>. Here you find (in Danish) different ways of registering or applying for permits depending on the radioactive source. For use in human health studies in Greenland, a copy of the permit/registration must be submitted to the *Science Ethics Board of the Greenlandic Health Authorities* (see Human health studies below).

Access to specific areas

Remote areas

A permit is required from the *Ministry of Science and Environment* to enter '**Remote parts of Greenland**' (Ice Cap, the National Park in North-east Greenland and remote coastal areas of East Greenland).

Areas, rules, procedures and information on other permit types can be found here: <https://exp.gl/>.

Application form to 'Remote parts of Greenland' is available here: <https://exp.gl/Permit-Application>.

Contact the *Ministry of Science and Environment*

(<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Forskning-Miljoe>).

Protected areas

Nature protection areas and culture protection areas may have restricted access. It is recommended that you look into relevant executive orders (most only available in Danish – see www.lovgivning.gl) or contact the responsible ministry/authority to learn about possibilities for access to these areas.

Nature protection areas

Nature protection areas are managed by the *Ministry of Science and Environment* who can grant dispensation from regulations for scientific purposes

(<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Forskning-Miljoe>).

List of protected areas (National Parks, Nature reserves and protected areas):

<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Forskning-Miljoe/Natur-og-Klimaafdelingen/Natur/Fredede-landomraader>.

Map of protected areas (in Danish):

<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/~media/Nanoq/Files/Attached%20Files/Engelske-tekster/Travellers/Protected%20areas.pdf>.

Cultural protection areas

Cultural protection areas are managed by the *Greenland National Museum and Archive* who can grant dispensation from regulations for scientific purposes.

Overview of Unesco World Heritage sites in Greenland: <https://visitgreenland.com/about-greenland/unesco-sites/>.

Contact *Greenland National Museum and Archive* at nka@natmus.gl.

Ilulissat World Heritage Site has an online dispensation application system: <https://exp.gl/Legislation--Logistics/World-Heritage-Site-Ilulissat-Icefjord>.

Bird protection areas

Bird protection areas have restricted access in the breeding period.

A map of Bird protection areas can be seen in the appendix of the executive order on protection and harvest of birds: <http://lovgivning.gl/lov?rid={5456AAE4-1602-4DD3-A45D-241041DFF511}> (in Danish).

Responsible ministry is the *Ministry of Fisheries, Hunting and Agriculture*:

<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Fiskeri-Fangst-og-Landbrug>.

Restricted areas

None (apart from above).

Fieldwork and sample collection

You may need **zero, one or more research permits** when conducting research in Greenland.

Whether you need to obtain permits depends on the area you want to go to and the type of research you conduct. The most general permits are described below!

There is no central coordination of research applications in Greenland, so scientists need to identify all relevant permits themselves and obtain these from relevant authorities.

Links to most of below application sites and ministries can be found here:

<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/About-government-of-greenland/Travel-activities-in-remote-parts-of-Greenland>.

Note that it may take up to 2 months to process an application!

Permit to conduct research (observations, handling and sampling within all disciplines, incl. collection of genetic resources)

Depending on your research aims and activities, you may need permits to conduct the following types of research in Greenland. Links to application forms are presented below. There are currently two portals that display information about permits:

- One focused on expeditions to remote parts of Greenland and additional permits that may be needed: <https://exp.gl/Permit-Application/Additional-Permits>. Contact *Ministry of Science and Environment*.
- One focused on business and land use: www.big.gl. Contact *Ministry of Industry* (isiin@nanoq.gl).

Mammals, birds and fish

You can apply to conduct research on marine mammals, birds and fish here: <https://exp.gl/Permit-Application/Additional-Permits>.

Note that the application form only states that it is related to permits falling under the Executive order on travels in remote parts of Greenland.

Contact responsible ministry if in doubt: *Ministry of Fisheries, Hunting and Agriculture* at apnn@nanoq.gl.

Biological resources

If you intend to collect samples containing biological material (species or samples from species), you need a **permit to collect biological resources** from the *Ministry of Industry*. Find regulations and the 'Application form for research on biological resources' here:

<https://www.businessingreenland.gl/en/Erhverv/Genetiske-ressourcer>.

Contact *Ministry of Industry* at isiin@nanoq.gl.

Animal welfare/Wildlife handling

Studies involving animal welfare and handling of wildlife may require a permit.

Contact the *Ministry of Industry* at isiin@nanoq.gl.

Cultural heritage

Cultural heritage studies may need permit from authorities.

Contact the *Ministry of Education, Culture and Church* at ikin@nanoq.gl.

Archaeology

Studies related to **archaeology, and collection of meteoroids and fossils** requires a permit from the *Greenland National Museum and Archive*. Guidelines and application form can be found here:

https://en.nka.gl/fileadmin/user_upload/documents/NKAGSA-1_v.2_external_application_updated_April_2020.pdf.

Contact *Greenland National Museum and Archive* at nka@natmus.gl or the *Ministry of Education, Culture and Church* at ikin@nanoq.gl.

Geological and mineral resources

Geological and mineral resources scientific surveys require a permit from the *Mineral Resources Authority*. Guidelines and application form can be found here: <https://govmin.gl/#>.

Contact the *Mineral Resources Authority* at <https://govmin.gl/about-us/contact/>.

Human health studies

Studies involving humans and their health need approval from the *Science Ethics Board of the Greenland Health Authorities*. Guidelines, forms and required documentation can be found here (in Danish) https://nun.gl/emner/english/science_ethics_committee?sc_lang=da.

Contact the *Greenland Health Authorities* at nun@nanoq.gl if in need of guidance.

Field Instrumentation

Area allotment for instrumentation

If you intend to set up field instruments for 2 months or more, you need an **area allotment**. You can apply here: <http://ver1.nunagis.gl/en/>.

Note! The application form must be submitted to the relevant municipality (see below). For the National Park in Northeast Greenland it must be submitted to the *Ministry of Science and Environment* (see below).

For a delineation of municipalities see: <http://lovgivning.gl/lov?rid={357AA123-BD0F-4AB2-B302-920E3639D2BF}> (in Danish).

Municipality and ministerial contacts

Qaasuitsup Kommunia (qaasuitsup@qaasuitsup.gl).

Kommune Qeqertalik (qeqertalik@qeqertalik.gl).

Qeqqata Kommunia (qeqqata@qeqqata.gl).

Kommuneqarfik Sermersooq (kommuneqarfik@sermersooq.gl).

Kommune Kujalleq (kommune@kujalleq.gl).

Ministry of Science and Environment

(<https://naalackersuisut.gl/en/Naalackersuisut/Departments/Forskning-Miljoe>).

Drone use

There are rules for drone use in Greenland: <https://droneregler.dk/Droneflyvning-i-Groenland-og-Faeroerne#> (in Danish).

If you need dispensation from the rules, you must contact the *Danish Transport, Construction and Housing Agency* at info@tbst.dk for more information.

Safety related permits

Weapon

If you need to bring a firearm to Greenland, you need a permit from the *police*. Application form (in Danish) can be found here: <https://politi.gl/soeg-tilladelse/vaaben/tilladelse-til-indfoersel>.

If you need to bring a weapon into the National Park in Northeast Greenland you find the application form here (in Danish) <https://politi.gl/soeg-tilladelse/vaaben/vaaben-i-nationalparken>.

An English version is available here <https://exp.gl/Permit-Application/Additional-Permits>.

If in doubt, you can contact the police here <https://politi.gl/kontakt>.

Radio permits

Use of **PLBs** (Personal Locator Beacon) and **radio equipment** in Greenland requires a permit from the *Radio Administration*. Requirements and application form can be found here:

<https://exp.gl/Permit-Application/Additional-Permits>.

Contact the *Radio Administration* at RVF@nanoq.gl.

Regional/local level permits

See 'Area allotment for instrumentation' under 'Field instrumentation' above.

It is highly recommended to ask for guidance from the research station you plan to visit! Field station specific information and contact details can be found on the respective websites. All stations are listed at: <https://eu-interact.org/field-sites/>.

Additional information of relevance

The *Research Unit*, under the *Department of Environment and Research*, is tasked with managing the Government's research policies with the objective to strengthen the research efforts and cooperation in Greenland and the Arctic, also acting as a liaison between the research community and the relevant authorities:

<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Forskning-Miljoe/Forskning>.

Nunatsinni Ilisimatusarnermik Siunnersuisoqatigiit/Greenland Research Council (NIS) was established in June 2014, NIS is set up to promote research anchored in Greenland. Financing research and handle the research professional advice for e.g. Naalakkersuisut, Minister of Science and international stakeholders.

International Arctic Hub – Government secretariat that enhances interdisciplinary international cooperation related to Arctic research, education and innovation in Greenland:

<https://naalakkersuisut.gl/en/Naalakkersuisut/Departments/Forskning-Miljoe/International-Arktisk-Hub>.

ISAFFIK Arctic Gateway – Creates a user-driven platform for collaboration across border:

<https://www.isaaffik.org/>.

2.2.6. Iceland

Cross border travel

People

Visa

Depending on your citizenship, you may need a **visa** to enter Iceland.

Here is a list of countries that need a visa to visit: <https://www.utl.is/index.php/en/who-needs-a-visa>.

Here is a list of embassies and consulates issuing short stay visas (max 90 days) on behalf of Iceland:

<https://www.utl.is/index.php/en/where-you-can-apply-for-a-visa>.

A visa normally grants you the right to stay in the entire **Schengen region** for up to 90 days.

It depends on your citizenship whether you need a **residence and work permit** to be able to work in Iceland. Citizens of EU/EEA member states do not need permits but non-EU/EEA citizens do. You can read about long-term visas here: <https://www.utl.is/index.php/en/long-term-visa2>.

Note that a fee needs to be paid for all visa applications!

Covid-19

You can find general information, travel restrictions and links to relevant COVID-19 related information in Iceland here: <https://www.covid.is/english>.

Here is a list of hotels that offer accommodation during quarantine:

<https://www.ferdamalastofa.is/en/about-us/novel-coronavirus-covid-19-general-info/accommodations-that-welcome-guests-in-quarantine>.

Instrumentation (import/export)

Various goods are subjected to **special import conditions or import prohibitions** according to law, regulations or other regulatory acts. Here you can see examples of goods that are subjected to special import conditions: <https://www.tollur.is/english/individuals/customs/moving-to-iceland/import-restrictions/>.

If **scientific instruments** need to be shipped to Iceland by cargo, a permit for temporary import is required. Such permit is issued by the *Iceland Revenue and Customs office*, on form number E1. You can read more about temporary import here:

<https://www.tollur.is/english/businesses/customs/procedural-aspects/importing-to-iceland/temporary-import/>.

You will have to contact the office for more information and assistance (email: tollstjori@tollur.is).

When the equipment will be exported *Iceland Revenue and Customs* need to be notified, in order to get their confirmation of the export.

Import of fishing equipment

Infectious disease agents such as viruses and the parasite, *Gyrodactylus salaris*, have never been detected in freshwater fish in Iceland. Importing the following equipment is strictly prohibited: Used fishing equipment such as fishing rods, reels, hooks/lures/flyes, waders and nets, unless it has been disinfected by approved methods. You can read about the requirements and certificates you need here: <https://www.mast.is/en/import-export/import-of-fishing-equipment>.

Samples (import/export)

Import/Export of threatened species

Export of threatened species (listed by the **CITES** convention) requires a permit.

Find the relevant *management and scientific authorities* here: <https://cites.org/eng/parties/country-profiles/is>.

Natural history specimens and micro-organisms originating in geothermal areas and their genetic material, may not be exported from Iceland except with the permission of the *Icelandic Institute of Natural History*. A formal application can be sent with an application form:

https://en.ni.is/sites/ni.is/files/atoms/files/ni_eydublad_application_exportpermit_v06.pdf
or by sending an email to *IINH* (ni@ni.is).

Note that a fee needs to be paid for all export permits!

Cultural heritage

Samples that are considered cultural heritage may not be exported from Iceland except with a permit from the *Cultural Heritage Agency of Iceland* (email: postur@minjastofnun.is).

An application form is available here: https://www.minjastofnun.is/media/skjol-i-grein/utflutningur_umsokn.pdf (in Icelandic).

Import/Export of chemicals

In general, it is recommended to use a **shipping/transport agency**, in order to reassure compliance with the complex set of regulations. The *Environment Agency of Iceland* operates a helpdesk to serve as first point of contact for questions regarding Icelandic chemicals legislation (email: ust@ust.is).

Access to specific areas

Protected areas

If you want to conduct a **research in a protected area** in Iceland, you need to apply for it and pay a fee if you are granted permit.

The *Environment Agency of Iceland* handles these permits. Find information about applying for a research permit here: <https://ust.is/english/nature-conservations/permits-on-protected-areas/research-permit/>.

General information on protected areas can be found here: <https://ust.is/english/nature-conservations/>.

Find information where the **nature reserves** in Iceland are located here: <https://ust.is/english/nature-conservations/nature-reserves/>.

Remote and restricted areas

Off-road driving is strictly prohibited in Iceland. Should off-road driving be needed for research purposes, a permit is needed. The *Environment Agency of Iceland* (email: ust@ust.is) handles the permits, and you can find the application form here:

<https://umsokn.umhverfisstofnun.is/web/index.html> (in Icelandic).

Fieldwork and sample collection

You may need **zero, one or more research permits** when conducting research in Iceland.

There is no central coordination of research applications in Iceland, so scientists need to identify all relevant permits themselves and obtain these from relevant authorities.

Whether you need to obtain permits depends on the area you want to go to and the type of research you conduct.

Note that it can take a long time to process an application and a fee needs to be paid for most permits!

According to Icelandic laws, official research permits are not required to conduct scientific research work on Icelandic dry lands, except for research on thermophilic microorganism.

In order to assist foreign scientists to enter the country and undertake scientific research work and obtain clearance from customs authorities, the *Icelandic Centre for Research (Rannís)* issues a **Research Declaration for foreign scientists** that are planning to undertake scientific research work in Iceland. You can access the form here: <https://en.rannis.is/funding/research/research-declaration/>. Please fill out the form and send to rannis@rannis.is, preferably three months before the planned research work will be carried out. The Research Declaration can be presented at customs upon entry to the country.

Permit to conduct research (observations, handling and sampling within all disciplines, incl. collection of genetic resources)

You need permits to conduct the following types of research in Iceland:

Experiments on animals

A research permit is needed for all experiments on animals in Iceland. *The Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority (MAST)* handles the applications.

Find the application form here: <https://www.mast.is/is/annad/starfsemi-med-dyr/tilraunadyr> (in Icelandic).

Note that the application for a permit needs to be submitted at least one month before the experiment will take place! No applications are evaluated during the months of December, June and July. If an experiment is to be conducted during the period of May to August, the application needs to be delivered before April 30th.

Note that a fee needs to be paid for all permits regarding animal experiments!

Bird ringing

A ringing permit is necessary for bird ringing in Iceland. The *Icelandic Institute of Natural History* (<https://en.ni.is/>) is responsible for bird ringing in Iceland (email: fuglamerki@ni.is).

Geological resources and minerals

A permit is required to conduct research that includes **earth resources**.

The *National Energy Authority* (<https://nea.is/>) handles the permits. You can read more about the application process here: <https://orkustofnun.is/orkustofnun/leyfisveitingar/rannsoknarleyfi/> (in Icelandic).

Ocean resources

A permit is required to conduct research that includes ocean resources.

The *National Energy Authority* (<https://nea.is/>) handles the permits. Find more information about the application process here:

<https://orkustofnun.is/orkustofnun/leyfisveitingar/audlindirhafsbotns/leidbeiningar/> (in Icelandic).

For more information, please contact the *National Energy Authority* (email: os@os.is).

Archaeology

A permit is needed for archaeology research in Iceland.

The *Cultural Heritage Agency of Iceland* (<https://en.minjastofnun.is/>) handles the permits. Find an application form here: https://www.minjastofnun.is/media/skjol-i-grein/form_rannsoknarleyfi_2019.pdf (in Icelandic).

Note that the permit needs to be applied for at least four weeks before the work is planned to start!

Core drilling

A permit is needed from the *Cultural Heritage Agency of Iceland* (<https://en.minjastofnun.is/>) for core drilling. An application is available here: https://www.minjastofnun.is/media/skjol-i-grein/leyfi_kjarnabor.pdf (in Icelandic).

Field Instrumentation

Area allotment for instrumentation

If you intend to set up field instruments in Iceland, you will always need permission from the landowner. To get information about the owner you will have to contact the municipality office in the nearest town and work from there.

Drone use

There are rules for drone use in Iceland. Here you can find all the information you need about drone flying in Iceland: <https://www.icetra.is/aviation/drones/>.

A **permit for drone flying in protected areas** is needed! The *Environment Agency of Iceland* issues the permits. You can apply here: <https://ust.is/english/nature-conservations/permits-on-protected->

[areas/photography-cinematography-and-drone-flying/](#). Find some additional guidelines here:
<https://ust.is/english/nature-conservations/drones-in-protected-areas/>.

Safety related permits

Weapon

A person holding a European Firearms Permit can import the weapons stated in the license without a special permit if the stay is not for longer than three months.

Others need to apply for a permit issued by the *National Commissioner of Police*. The best way is to contact the National Commissioner of Police (email: rls@rls.is).

Radio permits

The *Post-and Telecom Administration* (<https://www.pfs.is/english>) authorizes 406 MHz PLB's, issues all radio licenses and maintains a database (email: pfs@pfs.is).

PLB registration is available online at <https://www.pfs.is/um-pfs/eydublod/umsokn-um-leyfi-til-starfraekslu-plb-neydarsendis/> (in Icelandic).

Regional/local level permits

Regional or local research related permits would mainly be needed because of land access in Iceland (see area allotment above).

If you intend to set up field instruments or get access to an area for research purposes, you will always need permission from the landowner.

To get information about the owner you will have to contact the municipality office in the nearest town and work from there. It might be helpful to contact the *Icelandic Association of Local Authorities*: <https://www.samband.is/english/>.

It is highly recommended to ask for guidance from the research station you plan to visit! Field station specific information and contact details can be found on the respective websites. All stations are listed at: <https://eu-interact.org/field-sites/>.

Additional information of relevance

The *Icelandic Institute of Natural History* conducts basic research on the zoology, botany, and geology of Iceland. IINH houses libraries, collections, handles research, and monitors various projects in Iceland. The institute also provides consulting services as well as information on permissions for fieldwork and exporting samples – <https://en.ni.is/>.

The *Environment Agency of Iceland* promotes the protection as well as sustainable use of Iceland's natural resources. It also offers information on protected areas, handling fuels, chemicals, toxic and hazardous substances, driving in uninhabited areas, and waste management – <https://ust.is/english/>

The *Icelandic Food and Veterinary Authority* – <https://www.mast.is/en>.

The *Cultural Heritage Agency of Iceland* – <https://en.minjastofnun.is/>.

Icelandic Association of Local Authorities – <https://www.samband.is/english/>.

2.2.7. Norway – In progress

We were able to collect information on permit systems for Norway, but it has not been through a review process yet. Hence, we decided to include it below, but wait to publish it on the web site until we have received feedback from the reviewers.

Cross border travel

- **People**

- Depending on your citizenship, you may need a **visa** to enter Norway.
- Find a list of persons who do not need a visa to visit Norway here: <https://www.udi.no/en/word-definitions/persons-who-do-not-need-a-visa-to-visit-norway-/#link-712>.
- More information can be found on the **Norwegian directorate of immigration**'s website: <https://www.udi.no/en/>.
- **A visa normally grants you the right to stay in the entire Schengen region for up to 90 days** (<https://www.udi.no/en/want-to-apply/visit-and-holiday/visitors-visa-to-norway/?c=phl#link-739>).
- Note that there is a **fee** that must be paid to process the application!

Covid-19

You can find general information and links to relevant COVID-19 related information on the website of The Norwegian Directorate of Immigration (UDI): <https://www.udi.no/en/about-the-corona-situation/>.

- **Instrumentation (import/export)**

- General import and export rules can be found at the website of Norwegian Customs: <https://www.toll.no/en/>.
- You can receive exemption from customs duties and value added tax on the importation of equipment for use by foreign scientific expeditions: <https://www.toll.no/en/goods/goods-for-technical-and-scientific-use/>.

- **Samples (import/export)**

- **CITES**: Export of samples listed under The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (**CITES**) needs permission. The **Norwegian Environment Agency** is the relevant authority for CITES legislation in Norway. Find contact information here: <https://www.environmentagency.no/norwegian-environment-agency/contact-us/>.
- **Note**, however, that most countries have restrictions on the import of biological material. Norwegian authorities may assist in obtaining any documentation needed for import.
- **Export duty for fish and fish products**: <https://www.toll.no/en/goods/fish/export-of-fish/export-of-fish---registration-marketing-and-research-fee-for-fish-and-fish-products/> Norwegian Seafood Council (<https://en.seafood.no/>).

- **Antiques and cultural monuments:** It is not permitted to import or export antiques or objects with special artistic, cultural or historical value without a special permit. Find more information here: <https://www.toll.no/en/goods/cultural-monuments-and-antiques/travelling-with-cultural-monuments-and-antiques/>.
- **Chemicals (import/export)**
 - In general, it is recommended to use a **shipping/transport agency**, in order to reassure compliance with the complex set of regulation.

Access to specific areas

- In Norway, you have the **right to roam** freely in forests and open country, along rivers, on lakes, and in the mountains irrespective of who owns the land (Outdoor Recreation Act 1957). General information about its limits can be found on the website of the **Norwegian Environmental Agency**: <https://www.environmentagency.no/areas-of-activity/right-to-roam/>.
- An **Environmental map** can be found here: <https://miljoatlas.miljodirektoratet.no/KlientFullEN.htm>.
- **Remote areas**
 - No information available.
- **Protected areas**
 - No information available.
- **Restricted areas**
 - No information available.

Fieldwork and sample collection

- You may need **zero, one or more research permits** when conducting research in Norway.
- There is no central coordination of research applications in Norway, so scientists need to identify all relevant permits themselves and obtain these from relevant authorities.
- **Note that it may take some time to process an application!**
- Whether you need to obtain permits depends on the area you want to go to and the type of research you conduct. The list below includes some of the main permits needed to do research in Norway!
- **Permit to conduct research** (observations, handling and sampling within all disciplines, incl. collection of genetic resources)
 - To **collect protected species** (including all vertebrate species), permission must be obtained from the Norwegian Environment Agency.
 - Interventions or experiments causing stress or pain to vertebrates must be approved by national authorities.

- All vertebrates in Norway are in principle protected, and a number of plant species and invertebrates are protected by law: <https://lovdata.no/dokument/SF/forskrift/2001-12-21-1525> (in Norwegian)
- You must obtain permission from the **Norwegian Environment Agency** to trap, kill, or collect such species. (<https://www.environmentagency.no/norwegian-environment-agency/contact-us/>).
Find more information about species in Norway here:
<https://www.environment.no/topics/species-in-norway/>.

Field Instrumentation

- **Area allotment for instrumentation**
 - You need to obtain permission from the local authorities and landowners before carrying out any interventions in the natural landscape, such as setting up fences or installing equipment that are highly visible.
- **Drone use**
 - There are rules for drone use in Norway. Find more information on the website of the **Civil Aviation Authority**: <https://luftfartstilsynet.no/en/drones/>.
 - Find a map with **No-Fly-Zones** here: <https://www.safetofly.no/>.

Safety related permits

- **Weapon**
 - To import any type of firearm, parts thereof, or violent weapons, you need a permit from the police or District Sheriff in the district where you are resident. More information can be found here: <https://www.toll.no/en/goods/weapons/>.
- **Radio permits**
 - 406 MHz **PLBs** are authorized for personal use on land, at sea and in aircraft. The **Norwegian Communications Authority** (<https://www.nkom.no/>) issues the radio licenses for PLBs and maintains a database that is accessible to the Norwegian Mission Control Centre (NMCC) and Rescue Coordination Centres (RCC) 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
 - All Norwegian 406 MHz beacons regardless of type (ELT/EPIRB or PLB) require registration and appropriate coding as per present and future international coding schemes.
 - Find more information here: <https://www.nkom.no/frekvenser-og-elektronisk-utstyr/tillatelse-til-a-bruke-frekvenser/tillatelse-til-bruk-av-personlig-nodpeilesender-plb> (in Norwegian).

Regional/local level permits

- It is recommended to contact the relevant field station in due time.
- **Finse Alpine Research Center**: <https://www.finse.uio.no/>.
The website of the station hosts a collection of useful information, web links and contacts: <https://www.finse.uio.no/user-information/rules-and-regulations/permits/>.
- **NIBIO Svanhovd Research Station**: <https://svanhovd-molecol.no/>.

Additional information of relevance

- **Norwegian Polar Institute (NPI)** – <https://www.npolar.no/en/>.
- **The Research Council of Norway** – <https://www.forskingsradet.no/en/>.
- **Norwegian Roadmap for Research Infrastructure** – you can access the **National Financing Initiative for Research Infrastructure** website here:
<https://www.forskingsradet.no/en/apply-for-funding/funding-from-the-research-council/infrastruktur/>.
Find a list of all projects here:
<https://prosjektbanken.forskingsradet.no/#/explore/projects/Kilde=FORISS&chart=bar&alcType=funding&Sprak=en&sortBy=date&sortOrder=desc&ProgAkt.3=FORINFRA&TemaEmne.1=Polar>.
(You can sort out polar projects, projects in the northern counties, marine projects, etc.)

2.2.8. Russia – In progress

We were able to collect information on permit systems for Russia, but it has not been through a review process yet. Hence, we decided to include it below, but wait to publish it on the web site until we have received feedback from the reviewers.

Cross border travel

- **People**
 - You need a **visa** to enter Russia.
 - More reliable information about the process, terms and conditions could be found on the Russian Embassies websites depending on the country you apply from.
 - The official visa centres of Russia provide support with the visa application, see for example:
Sweden: <https://sweden.interlinkservice.world/en/>.
Iceland: https://iceland.mid.ru/en/consular_section/.
 - The service for Russian electronic visa is newly open. Please, check if you may use this opportunity here: http://electronic-visa.kdmid.ru/index_en.html.
 - If you need to apply for a Russian NOT tourist visa, the best way will be to contact your Russian partner first as usually there is a letter of invitation from Russian organization (or from the Federal Russian structure) is necessary to have as a first step.
 - **Note** that visa application process takes time and that you have to pay a fee!

Covid-19

You can find general information and links to relevant COVID-19 related information on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs: <https://www.mid.ru/en/informacia-dla-rossijskih-i-inostrannyh-grazdan-v-svazis-koronavirusnoj-infekciej>.

Information on **travel restrictions** can be found on the website of the Federal Agency of Tourism: <https://tourism.gov.ru/en/contents/turistam/restriction-of-entry-to-the-territory-of-the-russian-federation-until-may-01-2020/>.

- **Instrumentation (import/export)**
 - Customs Eurasian Union Commission: <http://www.eurasiancommission.org/>.
 - The website of **Federal Customs Service of the Russian Federation** provides information on what is possible to bring to Russia: <http://www.customs.ru/en/>.

- **Samples (import/export)**
 - Export of threatened species (listed by the **CITES** convention) requires a permit.
 - The **Russian Federal Supervisory Natural Resources Management Service** is responsible for preparing permits according to CITES: <https://www.gosuslugi.ru/42579/1/info>.
 - It is also responsible for other permits such as:
 - Export of mineral raw samples
 - Export of collection materials on mineralogy and paleontology
 - Export of certain types of minerals and soil
 - Export of individual wild-growing plants and wild-growing medicinal raw materials
 - Find more information here: <https://www.gosuslugi.ru/structure/10000002823> .
 - Find information on national contacts for CITES here:
<https://cites.org/eng/parties/country-profiles/ru>.

- **Chemicals (import/export)**
 - In general, it is recommended to use a **shipping/transport agency**, in order to reassure compliance with the complex set of regulations.

Access to specific areas

- It is necessary to have a permission to enter to **Russian border districts** with research purposes. The best way to get information about access rules will be to contact your Russian partner.

- **Remote areas**
 - No information available

- **Protected areas**
 - You need permits to conduct research in **Natural Protected areas**.
Responsible Ministry: **Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment**
(<https://www.mnr.gov.ru/en/>).
 - Information how to apply for permission can be found separately for each territory.
 - A list of protected areas can be found here: <https://www.mnr.gov.ru/activity/oopt/> (in Russian).

- **Restricted areas**
 - No information available

Fieldwork and sample collection

- You may need **zero, one or more research permits** when conducting research in Russia. It depends on the geographical area you want to go to and the type of research you conduct.
 - There is no central point for the relevant information about research permits in Russia, so scientists need to identify all relevant permits themselves and obtain these from relevant authorities.
 - **Note** that it may take from 2 months up to half a year to get a permission!
 - The best way to clarify if you need to get a permission to conduct research in Russia is to contact your Russian partner.
-
- **Permit to conduct research** (observations, handling and sampling within all disciplines, incl. collection of genetic resources)
 - **Please note that most information is presented in Russian!**
 - Depending on your research aims and activities, you may need permits to conduct the following types of research in Russia:
 - If you intend to **collect samples containing biological material** (species), you need a permit to collect biological resources.
The **Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Supervision** is responsible for preparing permits (<https://fsvps.gov.ru/fsvps/main.html? language=en>) (email: info@fsvps.ru).
 - Permits for conducting **marine scientific research in the internal sea waters and the territorial sea of the Russian Federation**, in its **exclusive economic zone** and on its **continental shelf**.
Responsible Ministry: **Ministry of Science and High Education** (https://minobrnauki.gov.ru/action/public_service/sea/ (in Russian)) (email: mazurenkoar@minobrnauki.gov.ru).
 - You can find additional information about authorized unites to issue health certificates for **fish, fish products and sea food** here: <https://fsvps.gov.ru/fsvps/main.html? language=en>.
 - Permits to conduct **archaeological research**
Responsible Ministry: **Ministry of Culture** (<https://culture.gov.ru/en/>).

Field Instrumentation

- **Area allotment for instrumentation**
 - No information available
- **Drone use**
 - There are rules for drone use in Russia:
http://publication.pravo.gov.ru/Document/View/0001202002040016?roistat_visit=3282456 (in Russian).

-
- The most important information is that you do not need to obtain a special permit from aviation regulators for drones flights with a maximum take-off weight of up to 30 kilograms.
 - More information on the website of the **Federal Air Transport Agency** (in Russian) <https://favt.gov.ru/> (email: rusavia@scaa.ru).

Safety related permits

- **Weapon**
 - No information available
- **Radio permits**
 - No information available

Regional/local level permits

- No information available

Additional information of relevance

- **Note** that it is absolutely necessary to have Russian partner to conduct research in Russia and to consult with before going! This way you avoid losses (money, effort etc.), disappointments and time wasting.
- **The Russian Academy of Science (international cooperation in science)** – <http://www.ras.ru/about/cooperation/intcenters.aspx> (in Russian).
- **Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment** – <https://www.mnr.gov.ru/en/>.

2.2.9. Svalbard, Norway

Cross border travel

People

Visa

Depending on your citizenship, you may need a **visa** to enter Svalbard.

The Norwegian authorities do not require a special visa for entering Svalbard, but you may need a permit for entering mainland Norway /the Schengen Area, if you travel via Norway/the Schengen Area on your way to or from Svalbard.

It's important to ensure that you get a **double-entry visa** to Norway so you can return to the Schengen Area (mainland Norway) after your stay in Svalbard!

More information can be found on the *Norwegian directorate of immigration's* website:

<https://www.udi.no/en/>.

Find more information about entering Svalbard on the website of *The Governor of Svalbard*:

<https://www.sysselmannen.no/en/visas-and-immigration/>.

Note that a fee needs to be paid for all visa applications!

Covid-19

You can find general information and links to relevant COVID-19 related information here:

<https://www.sysselmannen.no/en/corona-and-svalbard/>.

Note that any mandatory quarantine must be taken in mainland Norway, not on Svalbard! Find more information and quarantine (hotels) here: [https://www.regjeringen.no/en/topics/koronavirus-covid-19/the-corona-situation-more-information-about-quarantine-](https://www.regjeringen.no/en/topics/koronavirus-covid-19/the-corona-situation-more-information-about-quarantine-hotels/id2784377/?fbclid=IwAR0CA4Rm7edxNhpaksTgxqrAHVXyJcsDBEZrtbaB-t51JTss5wBVz_NUzoQ)

[hotels/id2784377/?fbclid=IwAR0CA4Rm7edxNhpaksTgxqrAHVXyJcsDBEZrtbaB-t51JTss5wBVz_NUzoQ](https://www.regjeringen.no/en/topics/koronavirus-covid-19/the-corona-situation-more-information-about-quarantine-hotels/id2784377/?fbclid=IwAR0CA4Rm7edxNhpaksTgxqrAHVXyJcsDBEZrtbaB-t51JTss5wBVz_NUzoQ).

You can find further information regarding the temporary travel restrictions here:

<https://nyalesundresearch.no/covid-info/>.

Instrumentation (import/export)

In general, it is recommended to use a shipping/transport agency.

Note that due to limited air cargo capacity to and from Ny-Ålesund, cargo related to research activity should preferably be sent by cargo ship. *Kings Bay AS* provides logistical support. Find more information here: <https://nyalesundresearch.no/infrastructures/logistics/>.

Samples (import/export)

Import/Export of threatened species

The *Norwegian Environment Agency* processes applications for the export of parts from **CITES**-listed species such as polar bears.

Import/Export of fauna and flora

Exporting fauna and flora requires permission from the *Norwegian Environment Agency* (<https://www.environmentagency.no/>).

Importing fauna and flora to Svalbard also requires permission from the *Norwegian Environment Agency* (<https://www.environmentagency.no/>).

You do not require permission to export plant material from Svalbard to Norway if the plants are native to Svalbard. For other plants, you should contact *The Governor of Svalbard*.
For further transport to other countries, please contact the customs authority in the destination country.

Import/Export of chemicals

In general, it is recommended to use a shipping/transport agency, in order to reassure compliance with the complex set of regulations.

Access to specific areas

When applying to carry out science in Svalbard, you must apply via the **Research in Svalbard (RiS) portal** (<https://www.researchinsvalbard.no/>), here you must declare what areas you would like to work in and hence also functions an application to work in protected areas.

Enter the location of your fieldwork in the RiS database. Be as precise as possible. If you are going to carry out fieldwork at multiple locations, make sure each one is registered.

Notification and insurance: Visitors travelling outside **Management Area 10** must comply with *The Governor of Svalbard*'s notification and insurance requirements. Find more information here: <https://www.sysselmannen.no/en/tilreisende/notification-insurance-and-reporting-obligations/>.

Protected areas

Transportation and fieldwork in protected areas usually requires permission from *The Governor*, and you must apply for an exemption from specific provisions and justify why the work must be done in the protected area. Projects that can equally well be carried out outside protected areas shall be restricted to non-protected areas.

A map of areas with access restrictions can be found here:

<https://www.sysselmannen.no/siteassets/kart/temakart/ferdselsrestriksjoner/ferdselsrestriksjoner-2020-engelsk.pdf>.

Find different maps for **nature conservation areas** (including National parks, Nature reserves, Cultural heritage sites with ban on traffic, Geotop protection areas and Bird reserves) here:

<https://www.sysselmannen.no/en/maps-and-gps/thematic-maps/nature-conservations-areas/>.

Remote and restricted areas

See 'Access to specific areas' and 'Protected areas' above

Fieldwork and sample collection

Svalbard-specific Norwegian legislation, notably the **Svalbard Environmental Protection Act** (2001) (<https://www.regjeringen.no/en/dokumenter/svalbard-environmental-protection-act/id173945/>) and regulations, is highly relevant to all field research in the archipelago.

Note that, as a rule, most field activities will require permission from *The Governor of Svalbard* ("*Sysselmannen*").

The Governor of Svalbard requires that all research application and reports are submitted via the **Research in Svalbard (RiS) portal** (<https://www.researchinsvalbard.no/>). Note that the processing time can takes at least four weeks, often more.

General information for researchers

Find information for scientists conducting research in Svalbard here:

<https://www.sysselmannen.no/en/researchers/>.

A list of relevant bodies and contact information for research permissions can be found here:

<https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/svalbard-science-forum/svalbard-research-planning/research-permissions/research-permissions---relevant-bodies/>.

The **guidelines for researchers in Svalbard** provide many relevant information and a good overview on regulations. It can be found here:

(<https://www.sysselmannen.no/contentassets/f2f72d4c32ae4eb8af7de2bda7bebc83/guidelines.pdf>) or here: <https://www.sysselmannen.no/en/researchers/guidelines-for-researchers-in-svalbard/>.

Find more information on research permission at the website of the *Svalbard Science Forum*:

<https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/svalbard-science-forum/svalbard-research-planning/research-permissions/>.

Permit to conduct research (observations, handling and sampling within all disciplines, incl. collection of genetic resources)

Fauna

The rules concerning the disturbance of wildlife are very strict and also cover handling and collection. All disturbance of fauna requires permission from *The Governor*. Avoid causing any unnecessary disturbance!

The handling, marking and monitoring of animals must be approved by the *Norwegian Food Safety Authority*

(https://www.mattilsynet.no/dyr_og_dyrehold/dyrevelferd/forsoksdyr/hvilke_forsok_maa_du_sok_e_om.19638) (in Norwegian) **before the application is sent to *The Governor***. The processing time at the *Norwegian Food Safety Authority* can be long, so make sure you allow good time for this. (email: postmottak@mattilsynet.no).

Flora

It is forbidden to damage or pick plants in Svalbard. The collection of plants for research or teaching is permitted if this does not significantly impact the plant population at the site.

For all collection of flora that may have a significant impact on the plant population at the site, you must have permission from *The Governor of Svalbard* (obtained through <https://www.researchinsvalbard.no/>).

You do not require permission to collect fungi and seaweed.

Geology

In general, no separate permits are required for the collection of loose stones and fossils. This does not apply to all protected areas. Therefore, it is necessary **to check regulations for the relevant protected areas**.

For geological work that involves physical alteration to the terrain, you must have permission from *The Governor of Svalbard* (obtained through <https://www.researchinsvalbard.no/>).

Cultural heritage

The regulations governing cultural heritage are very strict.

Here are some general regulations: All fixed and loose cultural monuments and objects dating from before 1946 are automatically protected. This includes all traces of human activity such as buildings and structures

as well as all kinds of objects made by humans. Evidence of human graves of all kinds are protected regardless of their age. The same applies to skeletal remains at slaughter sites for walrus and whales and skeletal remains from polar bears in connection with self-shooting traps. The protection zone around fixed cultural monuments is 100 meters. Therefore, you must stay outside this zone if setting up camp or lighting a bonfire. It is forbidden to move automatically protected cultural monuments and objects even if they are found on the coast or in other exposed areas. **If in doubt, assume that the object is protected.**

Soil, ice, snow and water samples

You do not require permission for taking soil samples or extracting ice cores from glaciers. You also do not require permission for taking snow samples and water samples (salt and fresh water).

Field Instrumentation

Area allotment for instrumentation

If you are planning to set up installations, you need permission from *The Governor of Svalbard* and possibly *local planning authorities*.

In areas with a Land Use Plan (areas around the five largest settlements **Longyearbyen, Ny-Ålesund, Sveagruva, Pyramididen** and **Barentsburg**) you need permission from *The Governor of Svalbard* and maybe also from the local planning authority. Therefore, first assess if the project complies with the current land-use plan and then submit a notification or application to the planning authority.

Remember to specify the exact location on a map. Find an online map tool here:

<https://geokart.npolar.no/Html5Viewer/index.html?viewer=Svalbardkartet>.

Find the Land Use Plan for **Ny-Ålesund** here: <https://kingsbay.no/ny-alesund/land-use-plan>.

If you are in doubt, contact:

The Governor of Svalbard (<https://www.sysselmannen.no/>).

Longyearbyen Community Council in Longyearbyen (<https://www.lokalstyre.no/>).

Kings Bay AS in Ny-Ålesund (<https://kingsbay.no/>).

Store Norske Spitsbergen Kulkompani in Sveagruva (<https://www.snsk.no/>).

Trust Arktikugolis for projects in Barentsburg (<https://www.arcticugol.ru/>).

In areas without a Land Use Plan, you need permission from *The Governor of Svalbard*. Remember to specify the exact location on a map.

Installations and other projects also require permission from the landowner.

Drone use

All pilots flying a drone that has a camera or is heavier than 250g, needs to register themselves at *Flydrone* (<https://flydrone.no/register>).

It is forbidden to fly drones in a zone with a radius of five kilometres from the airports in **Longyearbyen** and **Svea**. **Ny-Ålesund** also has a zone of 20 km around the city with **radio silence** and drone ban.

This means that in practice there is a ban on flying drones in Ny-Ålesund and throughout **Kongsfjorden**.

Find more rules and regulations and information on prohibition zones (**no-fly-zones**) here:

<https://www.sysselmannen.no/en/drones-on-svalbard/>.

Safety related permits

It is strongly recommended that you familiarise yourself with potential hazards in Svalbard and appropriate preventive safety measures.

Weapon

Find information about firearms (buying, lending, renting, importing/exporting, storage and transport, permits) on the website of *The Governor of Svalbard*: <https://www.sysselmannen.no/en/weapon/>. *UNIS*, *NPI*, *KingsBay AS* and some other logistics providers offer safety courses and weapon rental.

Radio permits

Visitors travelling outside **Management Area 10** must comply with *The Governor of Svalbard*'s **notification and insurance requirements**. This includes being accompanied by an **emergency beacon** and *The Governor of Svalbard* must know the identity of the transmitter. Find more information on permission and notification here: <https://www.sysselmannen.no/en/tilreisende/notification-insurance-and-reporting-obligations/>. See also 'Regional/local level permits' for more information in radio regulation!

Regional/local level permits

Ny-Ålesund is a **radio silent area**, where the electromagnetic radiation activity should be kept at an absolute minimum. There are several scientific instruments in Ny-Ålesund that take advantage of the radio silence in Ny-Ålesund. **Use of wireless equipment within the frequency band 2-32 GHz (which includes both Wi-Fi and Bluetooth) is on a general basis forbidden in Ny-Ålesund itself, and in the area inside a radius of 20 km from Ny-Ålesund.**

Read more about restrictions and how to apply for permission for scientific and safety reasons here: <https://nyalesundresearch.no/research-and-monitoring/researchers-guide/using-radio-frequencies/>.

There is a web portal for the research village Ny-Ålesund with more information on research permission and applications: <https://nyalesundresearch.no/research-and-monitoring/researchers-guide/research-permissions/>.

A guide that is designed to help researchers who are considering going to Ny-Ålesund can be accessed here: <https://nyalesundresearch.no/research-and-monitoring/researchers-guide/>.

It is highly recommended to ask for guidance from the research station you plan to visit! Field station specific information and contact details can be found on the respective websites. All stations are listed at: <https://eu-interact.org/field-sites/>.

Additional information of relevance

- *Sysselmannen på Svalbard* – <https://www.sysselmannen.no/>.
- *The University Centre in Svalbard (UNIS)* offers safety courses which address Arctic- and Svalbard-relevant risks and challenges – <https://www.unis.no/>.
- *Norwegian Polar Institute* – <https://www.npolar.no/en/>.
- *Svalbard Science Forum* – <https://www.forskningsradet.no/en/svalbard-science-forum/>.
- *Svalbard Integrated Arctic Earth Observing System* – <https://sios-svalbard.org/>.

2.2.10. Sweden

Cross border travel

People

Visa

Depending on your citizenship, you may need a **visa** to enter Sweden.

Here is a list of countries that need a visa to enter: <https://www.government.se/government-policy/migration-and-asylum/list-of-foreign-citizens-who-require-visa-for-entry-into-sweden/>.

If you need a visa to enter Sweden, the procedure is according to the **EU visa regulations (Schengen)**. A visa normally grants you the right to stay in the entire Schengen region for up to 90 days.

If you want to stay in Sweden for a longer time, you must apply for a **residence permit**. Find more information here: <https://www.migrationsverket.se/English/Private-individuals/Working-in-Sweden/Employed/Special-rules-for-certain-occupations-and-citizens-of-certain-countries/Researcher.html>.

Note that there is a fee that must be paid to process the application!

Covid-19

You can find general information and links to relevant COVID-19 related information on the website of the *Swedish government*: <https://www.government.se/government-policy/the-governments-work-in-response-to-the-virus-responsible-for-covid-19/>.

You can find further information regarding the temporary Swedish travel restrictions on the website of the *Swedish Policy Authority*: <https://polisen.se/en/the-swedish-police/the-coronavirus-and-the-swedish-police/travel-to-and-from-sweden/>.

Instrumentation (import/export)

Find import/export information for the **European Union** here: <https://ec.europa.eu/trade/import-and-export-rules/>.

Find information on goods subject to **special rules** in Sweden here:

<https://www.tullverket.se/en/private/goodssubjecttospecialrules.4.311bf4f016e69d6ea0db94.html>.

You can find general information about importing goods to Sweden from countries outside the EU here:

<https://www.tullverket.se/eng/business/importinggoodstoswedenfromcountriesoutsidetheeu.4.7df61c5915510cfe9e75dc8.html>.

You can apply for authorization to import scientific instruments and apparatus from outside the EU without having to pay customs duty. Find more information and application documents here:

<https://www.tullverket.se/eng/business/importinggoodstoswedenfromcountriesoutsidetheeu/scientificinstrumentsandapparatus.4.7df61c5915510cfe9e75e27.html>.

Samples (import/export)

Import/Export of threatened species

Export samples listed under The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (**CITES**) needs permission.

The *Swedish Board of Agriculture* is the managing authority for CITES legislation in Sweden. Find more information here:

<https://djur.jordbruksverket.se/swedishboardofagriculture/engelskasidor/trade/angeredspecies/cites/citesimportantandexport.4.2c4b2c401409a334931dbac.html>.

Import/Export of chemicals

In general, it is recommended to use a **shipping/transport agency**, in order to reassure compliance with the complex set of regulations.

Contact the *Swedish Chemicals Agency* here: <https://www.kemi.se/en/about-the-swedish-chemicals-agency/contact-us>.

Access to specific areas

You have a **Right to Public Access** (“Allemansrätten”) whenever you visit Swedish nature. Find information about what is permitted here: <http://www.swedishepa.se/Enjoying-nature/The-Right-of-Public-Access/This-is-permitted/>.

Keep in mind that the Right of Public Access does not give the right to off-road driving of any kind, not even for motorhomes and caravans (<http://www.swedishepa.se/Enjoying-nature/Motor-traffic-in-nature/>).

Protected areas

National Parks and Nature Reserves

There are strict rules and regulation in **National parks, Nature Reserves and Birdlife reserves!**

Find an overview of protected areas here: <https://skyddadnatur.naturvardsverket.se/>.

Find a list of national parks here: <https://sverigesnationalparker.se/en/choose-park---list>.

National Parks and Nature Reserves on Government land are managed by *Regional County Boards*.

Websites of *Regional Counties* can be found here: <https://www.lansstyrelsen.se/> (in Swedish).

Nature Reserves on municipal land are managed by *local municipalities*. A map of municipalities can be found here: <https://public.opendatasoft.com/explore/dataset/sverige-kommuner-municipalities-of-sweden/map/?location=5,62.98907,17.56406&basemap=jawg.streets>.

Contact information for *Swedish municipalities* can be found here:

<https://skr.se/tjanster/englishpages/municipalitiesandregions.1088.html>.

Find an overview of permit and dispensation requirements for the northernmost protected areas here (use Google translate function): <https://www.lansstyrelsen.se/norrboten/other-languages/english/nature-and-rural-areas/protected-nature.html>.

Birdlife Reserves

Birdlife reserves have access bans to the public during part of the year, and a special permit is required for entering during such times.

Contact the *Swedish Environmental Protection Agency* for assistance (registrator@swedishepa.se).

Remote and restricted areas

No permits identified

Fieldwork and sample collection

You may need **zero, one or more research permits** when conducting research in Sweden.

Whether you need to obtain permits depends on the area you want to go to and the type of research you conduct. The most general permits are described below.

There is no central coordination of research applications in Sweden, so scientists need to identify all relevant permits themselves and obtain these from relevant authorities.

Note that it may take some time to process an application!

Permit to conduct research (observations, handling and sampling within all disciplines, incl. collection of genetic resources)

Depending on your research aims and activities, you may need permits to conduct the following types of research in Sweden:

Observations

No permits identified.

Sample collection

All sample removal need permission from the landowner. For areas dedicated to research, you need permission from the manager of the specific area.

Find a list of municipalities and regions here:

<https://skr.se/tjanster/englishpages/municipalitiesandregions.1088.html>.

A map of municipalities can be found here: <https://public.opendatasoft.com/explore/dataset/sverige-kommuner-municipalities-of-sweden/map/?location=5,62.98907,17.56406&basemap=jawg.streets>.

Trapping, netting and otherwise collecting animals.

You may need a permit from the *Swedish Board of Agriculture*

(<https://djur.jordbruksverket.se/swedishboardofagriculture.4.6621c2fb1231eb917e680002462.html>) (email: jordbruksverket@jordbruksverket.se).

Protected species

You need an exemption to take measurements or samples that can affect protected species or their habitats. Find information here: <https://www.lansstyrelsen.se/norrbotten/djur/hotade-arter/dispens-for-fridlysta-arter.html> (in Swedish).

The permitting body in the north of Sweden is the *environmental protection department of the regional county board of Norrbotten* (email: norrbotten@lansstyrelsen.se).

Genetic material

Collection of genetic material do not require a permit, but there may be specific rules for protected species.

Cultural heritage

At protected cultural sites permission from the *Swedish National Heritage Board* (<https://www.raa.se/in-english/>) may be needed (email: registrator@raa.se).

Note that permission may be needed for **exporting cultural goods**. Find more information here: <https://www.raa.se/in-english/exporting-cultural-goods/>.

Experiments on live animals

Experiments on live animals need an ethical approval by the *Swedish Board of Agriculture* (email: jordbruksverket@jordbruksverket.se).

Human studies

All studies of humans require permission from the *Ethics Approval Board* (email: registrator@etikprovning.se). You can find information in English here: <https://etikprovningmyndigheten.se/>. Note that the documents are only for guiding purpose - the application has to be written in Swedish with the Swedish application documents on the same website.

Field Instrumentation

Area allotment for instrumentation

Setting up instruments in the field, requires permission from the landowner.
On governmental land you need permission from the *county administrative board* (<https://www.lansstyrelsen.se/norrbottn/om-oss/kontakta-oss.html#0>).
For sites dedicated to research you need permission from the manager of the specific area.

Drone use

The *Swedish Transport Agency* is the authority responsible for the regulations regarding drones in Sweden. You can find general information here: <https://transportstyrelsen.se/en/aviation/Aircraft/drones--unmanned-aircraft/>.
Restricted areas (including e.g. nature reserves) are indicated on this drone chart: <https://daim.lfv.se/echarts/dronechart/#>.
Information on application for permits can be found here: <https://transportstyrelsen.se/en/aviation/Aircraft/drones--unmanned-aircraft/apply-for-a-permit-to-fly-unmanned-aircraft---drones/>.

Safety related permits

Weapon

You can only bring a firearm to Sweden for the purpose of hunting and competition shooting and you need a permit for this: <https://polisen.se/en/laws-and-regulations/firearms/temporary-import/>.

Radio permits

Emergency transmitters on 406 MHz and 121,5 MHz are exempted from licensing. Therefore, an individual radio license for such transmitter is no longer required, but there is still a requirement to register the beacon.
The point of contact for beacon matters (coding, registration and type approval) for **PLBs** is the *Swedish Maritime Administration* (<https://www.sjofartsverket.se/en/Quick-links/Contact-Us/>, email: sjofartsverket@sjofartsverket.se).

Regional/local level permits (if clicked, permit information folds out)

On land where a Sami village has the reindeer grazing rights, the local Sami village can veto research activities. This is especially sensitive for calving grounds and summer grazing lands, i.e. in the mountain areas.

In the **Abisko area**, the *Regional county board of Norrbotten* will contact the Sami village before giving any approval (email: norrbotten@lansstyrelsen.se). This process may be simplified if you contact the Sami village directly, well beforehand. In the Abisko area, there are three Sami villages (Laevas, Gabna, and Talma) all with their own respective lands.

It is highly recommended to ask for guidance from the research station you plan to visit! Field station specific information and contact details can be found on the respective websites. All stations are listed at: <https://eu-interact.org/field-sites/>.

Additional information of relevance

The *Swedish Polar Research Secretariat* is a government agency that promotes and coordinates Swedish Polar research – <https://polar.se/en/>

In general, you can ask the different organizations and agencies questions in English, but most permitting is to be done in Swedish. This means that you may need a Swedish partner to help out.

Note that the permitting processes can take quite a long time!

3. Revisions

National permit systems are distributed across many government agencies and no countries provide a full overview of required permits needed to conduct studies within all fields of science. This initiative therefore attempts to provide information on the most common types of permits relevant for scientists working in the Arctic. However, implementation of new regulations, changing rules and restructuring websites will require continuous updates to ensure that the information presented is as correct and up to date as possible.

When the platform is launched, not only scientists, but international infrastructure organisations, national authorities and Arctic Council representatives are encouraged to review the national permit systems and provide corrections or recommendations for changes.

We envision continuous revisions by the INTERACT/APECS communities in the future to ensure updates and possibly adapt to the users' needs. We therefore encourage users (e.g. scientists, station managers and government officials) to contact us via the INTERACT website contact form. We have also included the call for revisions in our disclaimer, by asking for notification when encountering dead links and for updates and suggestions for additional permit types. Furthermore, we will conduct annual reviews by inviting the station managers and APECS members to review the permit systems and provide updates.