

Regulations on the Conservation of Bjørnøya Nature Reserve in Svalbard

Section 1. (Conservation)

Bjørnøya's lands with the territorial waters out to 12 nautical miles have been protected as a nature reserve under the designation Bjørnøya Nature Reserve.

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Modified by Regulation 19 Nov 2010 no. 100 1457.

Section 2. (demarcation and scope)

The protected area includes

a)

the entire island, with the exception of a smaller land area around the station in the north, and

b)

territorial waters out to 12 nautical miles.

The nature reserve makes up approximately 177 km² of land area (including fresh water) and approximately 2805 km² of marine area. The reserve limit is set out in the attached map in scale 1:350,000 and 1:50,000, the Ministry of the Environment dated December 2008. The exact limits of the reserve should be marked where they cross land and the breakpoints should be coordinated.

The map is held at the Governor of Svalbard, in the Norwegian Environment Agency and in the Ministry of Climate and Environment.

Please visit this Governor of Svalbard website for maps:

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

Changed by regulations 12 Des 2008 no. 2008 1345, March 15, 2013 No. 284 (in effect July 1, 2013), 19. 1757 (in effect 1 Jan 2014).

Section 3. (purpose)

The purpose of the peace is to preserve an almost untouched and in the world's uniquely isolated island, with distinctive ecological system, magnificent nature, special geology, flora and fauna, distinctive forms of land and many cultural heritage sites, including especially safeguarding

a)

the island as a key area for seabirds, including vulnerable species, in the Barents Sea,

b)

the island as a resting area for migrating birds,

c)

the close connection between life in the sea and on land,

d)

the distinctive ecology developed on isolated islands and

e)

The historical perspective that cultural heritage from all the main eras of Svalbard's history represents.

Chapter II. Rescue provisions

Section 4. (landscape/natural and cultural environment)

No interventions must be taken that may alter the natural or cultural environment, such as the construction of buildings, facilities and fixed facilities, the disposal of barracks and the like, the performance of wires and cables, outlets, fulfillment, movement and storage of mass, leveling, scrapping the seabed or earth surface, drainage or other form of dry laying, drilling, blasting or similar or withdrawal of minerals or oil.

The provision does not preclude the use of permitted fishing or trapping tools.

Section 5. (plants, animals and fossils)

Animals, plants and other living organisms are protected from damage, destruction and disruption of any species that is not caused by permissible traffic. Fossils or skeletal parts must not be removed or damaged.

Except from the first subsection is fishing in the sea and the capture of non-indigenous marine mammals, which are regulated according to regulations provided by the Ministry of Fisheries and Coastal Affairs.

Sea fishing with a pole or hand line is allowed.

Plant and animal species, including genetically modified species or forms, must not be introduced.

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Changed by regulation 12 des 2008 no. 2008 1345.

Section 6. (cultural heritage)

Cultural heritage is protected in accordance with Chapter V of the Environmental Protection Act in Svalbard.

Section 7. (pollution)

All pollution to air, water or the ground that causes or may cause damage or inconvenience to the environment is prohibited, except for pollution caused by permitted motorized traffic.

Disposal or disposal of waste is prohibited.

Substances and objects that may harm plants and animals, which are unattractive or that may result in a risk of contamination, must not be stored or left behind.

Section 8. (traffic)

Landing by aircraft is prohibited. Aircraft should keep a minimum altitude of 500 meters above the reserve when weather conditions allow it.

In time from 1. April through August 31, it is forbidden to fly closer than 1 nautical mile from known concentrations of birds and mammals. During the same period, it is forbidden to use ship horn, loosen shots or otherwise cause loud noise in or within a distance of 1 nautical mile from bird cliffs.

The use of off-road vehicles is prohibited.

The prohibition in the third paragraph does not preclude

a)

snowmobile on frozen and snow-covered land for transporting supplies to the station, if weather conditions mean that ships must arrive elsewhere on the island than at the station, or

b)

traffic by snowmobile on frozen and snow-covered land in connection with the transport of necessary equipment for the maintenance of communication masts and radio lighthouse south, southeast and east of the station.

Section 9. (traffic ban in special zones)

In and near the large bird colonies, any kind of traffic is prohibited on land and watered in the period from 1. April to 31 August.

The ban does not preclude

a)

transport in water with boats up to 40 feet or

b)

connection with the use of the area as an emergency port.

In an area in the northeast of the island, any form of traffic on land and in fresh water is prohibited during the period from 15 June to 31 August for the sake of nesting birds.

The zones with traffic bans are recorded on the conservation map.

Section 10. (regulation of traffic)

The Environment Agency may by regulation prohibit or regulate any traffic throughout or part of the reserve, if it is deemed necessary to avoid disruption of wildlife or wear and tear on vegetation or cultural heritage.

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Amended by Regulation 15 March 2013 no. 284 (in effect July 1, 2013).

[Translation, , Incomplete]