

## **ITEM 615.72----10 M -- Environmental Monitor (Peregrine Falcon)**

### **Description:**

This work shall consist of the monitoring for and reporting of Peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) nesting, and recommending work modifications as necessary to protect any observed nesting falcons within the project limits.

### **Materials:**

The Contractor shall arrange for the environmental monitor to use the contract inspection boat supplied under other contract items to perform the required monitoring observations. The Contractor shall supply a boat captain and necessary safety equipment such as personal floatation devices. All work shall be consistent with OSHA standards Subpart 1926.106 – Working over or near Water.

### **Construction Details:**

The Contractor shall retain the services of a competent, suitably trained and experienced field biologist with specific knowledge and experience in raptor biology. This includes the ability to identify the peregrine falcon in immature and adult plumage; disturbance behavior; and recognize the size differences between females and males. Prior to performing this work, a curriculum vitae or other summary of the candidate's education and experience shall be submitted for review and approval to the NYSDEC Bureau of Wildlife as per the approved permit for this project.

The environmental monitor shall be required to perform inspections three (3) days per working week or whenever there is a change in work operations type or location during the bird nesting season (February 1<sup>st</sup> to July 15<sup>th</sup> of each project year). Monitoring must be conducted on every Monday of each work week. Daily monitoring shall be conducted prior to the commencement of work activities.

If nesting birds are observed on the bridge the environmental monitor shall determine whether the work activities and/or proximity to the nest are disturbing the falcons' nesting efforts. The environmental monitor shall then inform the Engineer-in-Charge (EIC). The EIC will then order the Contractor to either suspend or modify activities to prevent further disturbance to the nesting falcons. The EIC shall immediately notify the NYSDEC Bureau of Wildlife of any disturbance and the actions taken to stop/prevent further disturbance.

The environmental monitor shall submit weekly electronic reports (by email) to the NYSDEC Bureau of Wildlife describing the monitoring activities conducted within the project limits with a copy to the EIC. The reports shall be submitted by the Monday following each week of monitoring.

### **Method of Measurement:**

This work shall be measured as the number of days falcon monitoring inspections are completed. No additional allowance shall be made for overtime.

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**Basis of Payment:**

The unit price bid per day shall include the cost of furnishing all labor and equipment required to perform the inspections during the bird nesting season and to prepare and submit weekly monitoring reports.

DISAPPROVED BY EI 12-001