

SECTION 1.10 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE

Article 1.10.03 Water Pollution Control: REQUIRED BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Add the following after Required Best Management Practices Number 13:

14. The bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) is a State threatened and federally protected species. Adult bald eagles have a snow-white head and tail, a brownish-black body and the bill, eyes, and feet are yellow. Immature bald eagles are uniformly grayish-brown and are often confused with golden eagles. Bald eagles are about 34 to 46 inches long and have a wingspan of 6 to 8 feet. The bald eagle's natural year-round habitat includes lakes, marshes, rivers, and seacoasts where tall trees are available for nesting and roosting, with plenty of fish nearby for consumption, along the Connecticut River, Housatonic River, and Connecticut's large lakes/reservoirs. The bald eagle nesting season occurs from January through July. Nests are typically a flat-topped mass of sticks built in trees 10 to 150 feet above ground. Though somewhat tolerant of human activity, bald eagles can be negatively affected if work is too close to an active nest or winter roost. For this reason, special conditions regarding the location and timing of work around eagle usage areas shall be adhered to.

To protect this species and project personnel, the Contractor shall not introduce new work activities and/or staging within a 600-foot radius of a confirmed active nest or winter roost as follows:

- Bald eagle nesting areas: Construction activities shall not be allowed to take place within 600 feet of a confirmed active nest between January 1 and August 1.
- Winter roost areas: Construction activities shall not be allowed to take place within 600 feet of a confirmed winter roost area between December 1 and March 31.

Additionally, the cutting of any large trees (30-inch DBH or greater) within 50 feet of any surface water shall be reviewed and approved by the Engineer in coordination with the District Environmental Coordinator (DEC) and Office of Environmental Planning (OEP) staff. Any change in construction sequencing or timing of proposed work in the Project area, which might disturb bald eagles must be coordinated through the Engineer.

The Contractor shall, through the Engineer, at least 10 days prior to the commencement of any construction activities, arrange for the Engineer, DEC and OEP or their authorized delegate to be available to meet and identify the nest location as well as discuss proper protection protocols for maintaining environmental commitments made to the protection of this species and habitat.

The bald eagle is protected by State law under CGS Sec. 26-311 and by federal law under the Bald Eagle and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940, and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) which prohibit killing, harming, taking, or keeping them in your possession.

Workers shall be notified of the existence of bald eagles in the area and be apprised of the laws protecting them. A CTDEEP Fact Sheet of the bald eagle shall be posted in the Contractor's and inspection field offices.

If any bald eagles are observed in or around the Project area, the Contractor shall contact the Engineer who will notify DEC and OEP at Andrew.Piraneo@ct.gov or at Marilyn.Gould@ct.gov. If OEP staff cannot be reached at either of the above referenced emails, the DEC will need to facilitate further coordination with OEP's Environmental Resource Compliance Unit at the earliest possible convenience.

CTDEEP's Fact Sheet for the Bald Eagle:
[Bald Eagle Fact Sheet](#)