

ITEM 613.06000010 -- Environmental Monitor (Threatened/Endangered Species)

DESCRIPTION:

This work shall consist of the monitoring for and reporting threatened/endangered fauna and recommending work modifications as necessary to protect any observed nesting birds and/or other designated fauna within the project limits. Additionally the work shall consist of surveying the project limits for the presence of threatened/endangered flora and if discovered, recommending work modifications as necessary to protect the plant(s).

Specific species and related surveying, monitoring, scheduling and reporting requirements are described in the Special Note entitled “Environmental Monitor (Threatened/Endangered Species)”.

QUALIFICATIONS OF SPECIALIST:

The Contractor shall retain the services of an “Environmental Monitor” – a competent, suitably trained and experienced field biologist with specific knowledge and experience in the biology of all species to be monitored. This includes the ability to identify the designated faunal species in immature and adult stages, to identify disturbance behavior and to recognize the size differences or other distinguishing characteristics differentiating female and male of the species. The biologist must also be able to field-identify the designated floral species and have knowledge of their habitat requirements.

Prior to performing this work, the Contractor shall submit a curriculum vitae or other summary of the candidate’s education and experience to the Engineer-in-Charge (EIC) for review and approval by the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) as per the approved permit for the project or as otherwise described in the Special Note entitled “Environmental Monitor (Threatened/Endangered Species)”.

MATERIALS:

The Contractor shall provide all necessary equipment and logistical support for the Environmental Monitor to have safe access to all required locations and to enable him/her to perform the required work. All work over water shall be consistent with OSHA standards Subpart 1926.106 – Working over or near Water. The Environmental Monitor must have a suitable spotting scope/tripod and binoculars available to them.

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS:

The work shall be performed in accordance with the requirements of the Special Note entitled “Environmental Monitor (Threatened/Endangered Species)”

All Projects:

If designated faunal species are observed, the Environmental Monitor shall determine whether the work activities and/or proximity to the nest or other sensitive locations are disturbing the birds’ nesting efforts or sensitive movements and activities of other designated fauna. The Environmental Monitor shall then immediately inform the EIC who, after any necessary coordination will then order the Contractor to either suspend or modify activities to prevent further disturbance to the

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nesting birds or other fauna. If designated floral species are encountered, the Environmental Monitor shall inform the EIC who, after any necessary coordination, will then order the Contractor to either suspend or modify activities to prevent disturbing the plant.

The Environmental Monitor shall submit weekly electronic reports (by email) to the EIC describing the monitoring activities conducted within the project limits. The reports shall contain detailed maps and/or aerial photos of the inspection/survey areas indicating the precise locations of the birds, other fauna and/or plants along with details including dates/times, sex, approximate age of juveniles, distinguishing marks, behavior, etc. The reports shall be submitted by the Monday following each week of monitoring.

METHOD OF MEASUREMENT:

This work shall be measured by the number of days monitoring inspections/surveys are conducted on site, measured to the nearest half a day. No additional allowance will be made for overtime or travel time. If the EIC directs, based on project or permit requirements, more than one Environmental Monitor to be used on any given day, the work of each Monitor will be counted as one day for payment purposes. For instance: if three (3) locations each require an Environmental Monitor full-time on a given day and the EIC directs three Environmental Monitors to be present, the work that day will be measured as three (3) days.

BASIS OF PAYMENT:

The unit price bid per day shall include the cost of furnishing all labor and equipment required for an Environmental Monitor to perform the inspections, transect surveys, and any other field work and to prepare and submit weekly reports. Cost of travel for the Environmental Monitor(s) shall be part of the bid price.