



Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
www.dnr.illinois.gov

Bruce Rauner, Governor

Wayne A. Rosenthal, Director

April 15, 2015

Ken Eng
Illinois Department of Transportation
201 West Center Court
Schaumburg, IL 60196

RE: FAP 372/373 (Illinois Route 171) SB and NB Bridges Over the Des Plaines River
Project Number(s): 1511009 [N20150021]
County: Cook

Dear Mr. Eng:

This letter is in reference to the above project recently submitted for consultation regarding an Office of Water Resources application. The natural resource review provided by EcoCAT identified protected resources in the vicinity of the proposed action. To mitigate potential impacts, the Department recommends the following:

Records of the state-threatened peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) exist in the vicinity of the proposed project. The Department recommends the bridge be surveyed for peregrine falcon nesting by a qualified biologist before any disturbance activities occur.

Note: The Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board recently decided to remove the peregrine falcon from state-listing. Final de-listing is pending and will become effective when published in the Illinois Register. However, this species will remain protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. If the species is found nesting on the bridge, further coordination with the US Fish & Wildlife Service would be necessary. If the species remains state-listed during the proposed bridge work, further coordination with the Department would also be necessary.

The project was also reviewed for cultural resource impacts and was determined to be in compliance with the Illinois State Agency Historic Resources Preservation Act.

Consultation under 17 Ill. Adm. Code Part 1075 is terminated. This consultation is valid for two years unless new information becomes available that was not previously considered; the proposed action is modified; or additional species, essential habitat, or Natural Areas are identified in the vicinity. If the project has not been implemented within two years of the date of this letter, or any of the above listed conditions develop, a new consultation is necessary.

The natural resource review reflects the information existing in the Illinois Natural Heritage Database at the time of the project submittal, and should not be regarded as a final statement on the site being considered, nor should it be a substitute for detailed site surveys or field surveys

required for environmental assessments. If additional protected resources are encountered during the project's implementation, you must comply with the applicable statutes and regulations. Also, note that termination does not imply IDNR's authorization or endorsement of the proposed action.

Please contact me if you have questions regarding this review.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nathan Grider". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'N'.

Nathan Grider
Division of Ecosystems and Environment
217-785-5500

cc: Gary Jereb – IDNR, OWR