# Restrictions for Migratory Birds NJSP-16-06A

**1.0** **Description.** Swallows or other bird species protected by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act may be nesting under the bridge or bridges that will be repaired under this contract.

**2.0** **Restrictions.** To comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, nests of protected species cannot be disturbed when active (eggs or young are present). Generally, nests are active between April 1 and July 31, but active nests can be present outside of these dates.

**[DRAFTERS NOTE: Section 2.1 is deleted if MoDOT staff is not maintaining the structure free of nests prior to the Notice to Proceed]**

**2.1** **MoDOT to Maintain Prior to the Notice to Proceed.** The bridge, or bridges, associated with the work for this contract have been evaluated and any inactive nests found have been removed by MoDOT staff. MoDOT staff will maintain the structures to be free of nests until the Notice to Proceed date. At the notice to proceed, the contractor shall be responsible to maintain the structures to be free of nests until the work on the applicable bridge, or bridges, is complete.

**3.0 Avoidance** **Measures.** The contractor shall not disturb active nests or destroy adults, eggs or young birds. In an effort to comply with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the contractor operations will be limited to the options established in the following sections.

**3.1 Inactive or** **Partially Constructed Nests.** If nests are present and MoDOT determines that the nests are inactive or partially constructed, the contractor may remove the nests provided that the colony's inactive or partially constructed nests are completely removed by March 15 and the contractor maintains a nest free condition until the bridge work is complete. Dry removal methods shall be used when practicable. If dry removal is not practicable, hydro cleaning may be used if approved by the Engineer and only if water is free of blasting grit, chemicals, or detergents, and applied using pressure less than 5,000 PSI. Clean water such as that from municipal water treatment plants or wells shall be used. Use of source water from Waters of the State (i.e., streams or lakes), is allowable, if the appropriate methods to prevent the possible spread of invasive aquatic species are implemented.

**3.2 Water and Equipment Used for Hydro cleaning.** Aquatic invasives such as zebra mussels and some algae species have infested several bodies of water in the United States and can be transported by vessels (barges, boats, tugs, tankers, etc.) and equipment (tanks, tubing, pumps, etc.) that have been used in areas that contain these invasive species. If equipment is not properly inspected and treated to prevent the spread of invasives, these species can be introduced into areas not currently known to have a population. These invasive species are detrimental to existing ecosystems and can outcompete native species. To assist in preventing the introduction and spread of aquatic invasive species through MoDOT projects in Missouri streams and lakes, the following precautions shall be followed.

**3.2.1** **Use of Water from Streams, Lakes or Ponds.** Contractors shall not use water for nest removal from streams, lakes or ponds, unless they have implemented appropriate methods to prevent the possible spread of invasive aquatic species. Water sources from municipal water treatment plants or wells may be used without following these measures provided the equipment to be used has not previously contained waters from streams, lakes or ponds. If the equipment has previously contained waters from other streams or lakes, the following measures must be implemented prior to use.

**3.2.1.1** **Equipment Washing.** Prior to the use or re-use of equipment following any use with water from streams, lakes or ponds, all equipment shall be washed and rinsed thoroughly with hard spray (power wash) and hot(minimum 120o F) water, for at least one minute.

**3.2.1.2 Equipment Treating or Drying.** Equipment shall be treated or dried in one of the following manners.

**3.2.1.2.1** Equipment interior and/or other surfaces shall be treated with a 10% bleach solution to kill any aquatic nuisance species. This solution must also be run through all intake lines and hoses, to sterilize interior components. When chlorine treatment is used, all chlorine runoff from equipment washing must be collected and properly treated and/or disposed of in accordance with Sec 806.

**3.2.1.2.2** Equipment interior and/or other surfaces shall be treated with 140º F water for a minimum of 10 seconds contact on all surfaces. 140 º F water must also be run through all intake lines and hoses, to purge any standing water.

**3.2.1.2.3** Equipment shall be flushed of all non-municipal water, and dried thoroughly, in the sun before using in or transporting between streams and lakes. Dry times will depend on the season the equipment is being used. Equipment must dry a minimum of 7 days for June-September, 18 days for March-May; 18 days for October-November, and 30 days for December-February. The drying method should be reserved as a last resort option.

**3.2.2** Prior to use of equipment, contractors shall provide the MoDOT inspector written documentation of the equipment’s geographic origin (including the water body it was last used in), as well as defining the specified treatment method used to adequately ensure protection against invasive species. The written documentation will include a statement indicating the contractor is aware of these provisions and will also treat the equipment appropriately after completion of the project.

**3.3 Active Nests.** The contractor maywork on the bridge if active nests are present, as long as the work does not impact or disturb the birds and/or nests. At a minimum, work shall not be performed within 10 feet of an active nest; however, the contractor is responsible for ensuring their activities donot impact the nests, eggs,or young.

**4.0 Additional Responsibilities.** If active bird nests remain after all reasonable avoidance measures have been taken, or if bird nests are observed during project construction, thecontractor shall notify the Resident Engineer and contact the MoDOT Environmental Section (573-526-4778) to determine if there are other allowable options.