



ESSEX COUNTY OFFICE OF THE MANAGER

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TO: All Bidders
FROM: Linda Wolf, CPA, Purchasing Agent
DATE: March 5, 2019
SUBJECT: Addendum #2 MUSSEL RELOCATION

This Addendum, issued to bid document holders of record, indicates changes to the bid documents for the *Mussel Relocation Bid Opening March 13, 2019.*

Please see the following Questions and Answers:

QUESTION

What are the limits of the area from which mussels would need to be salvaged and relocated? What are the physical dimensions of the area in which we need to search for mussels and remove them for relocation?

The Specifications provided to bidders indicate that the mussel salvage and relocation would involve mussels found within the area 100-meter upstream of the bridge to 200-meter downstream. However, Exhibit A, which provides details of the Phase II Mussel Relocation, states, "For purposes of preparing this proposal and cost estimate, it is assumed that 100 or more such individuals will require relocation within a 5-meter buffer of the area of impact as outlined by the project sponsor." Thus it is unclear if the 100-meter upstream, 200-meter downstream area (which was defined as the area for the Phase I Mussel Survey) is also the area of impact of the project. The 100-meter upstream, 200-meter downstream area is a general guideline that the NYSDEC recommends for Phase I surveys, but the survey area or mussel salvage area may also be defined as the Area of Direct Impact (ADI) plus a surrounding 5-meter buffer as per the West Virginia Mussel Survey Protocols recommended by the NYSDEC. These protocols state the ADI is considered to include the area that may be physically or hydraulically impacted by bridge construction, demolition, causeway, staging areas, etc. Depending on site- and project-specific conditions, the ADI plus 5-meter buffer may be considerably smaller than the 100-meter upstream, 200-meter downstream area

ANSWER

The phase II mussel relocation will only need to take place within the Area of Direct Impact (ADI) and the surrounding 5-meter buffer. The ADI can be found on pages 86-88 of Exhibit A of the county bid documents for the project. The area of direct impact would include the

footprint of the super sac cofferdams for all three phases of the bridge demolition, removal and dewatering.

QUESTION

Does the NYSDEC have to approve (via a site visit or verbally or in writing) the mussel relocation site prior to any mussels being moved, or if selection of the site will be at the discretion of the contractor.

ANSWER

The relocation site may be up to contractor's discretion, no prior DEC authorization is required for relocation site selection.

QUESTION

Finally, Exhibit A states it is assumed that 100 or more mussels will require relocation and that all relocated mussels should be tagged prior to relocation. Tagging of mussels is done to provide a means of assessing survival during follow-up monitoring (Phase III). Can we cap the number of mussels tagged at 100 rather than leaving that open-ended?

ANSWER

Yes, the number of tagged mussels for follow-up relocation monitoring should be capped at 100 individuals.

END OF ADDENDUM # 2