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**APPENDIX 5**

**Steller’s Sea-Eagles and Other Protected Birds**

**Purpose**

Define specific controls for managing *Risk*<sup>1</sup> of potential negative impact on Steller’s sea-eagles and other protected birds included in RF Red Book and Red Book of Sakhalin Region.

**Who is this for?**

- *Onshore Asset Manager;*
- *Offshore Asset Manager;*
- *Corporate Environmental Manager;*
- *Project Managers, Contract Holders and Contractors* with construction work scope potentially affecting protected birds.

To be clear, requirements 1 to 8 are applicable to operations phase. Requirements 9 to 20 are only applicable for the construction phase of projects and project expansions potentially affecting protected birds.

**Requirements for operations phase**

1. **Helicopter flight paths:** [EIA V2: Ch 3; EIA-A Chapter 4; EIA V2: 3.7.2]  
 Shall be routed to avoid Steller’s sea-eagles and other protected birds’ nests and mass migration flight paths.  
 Shall be further restricted to using a 600m (radius) zone around and 300m elevation above the **Steller’s sea-eagles** nest during the period 15 March to 15 September, except in the case of an emergency.
2. During the period from 15<sup>th</sup> of March to 15<sup>th</sup> of September **helicopter landing sites** shall be located at a distance of at least one kilometre from **Steller’s sea-eagles** nesting sites, except in the case of an emergency. [EIA-A Chapter 4 Steller’s Sea-eagle]
3. Specific mitigation measures shall be applied to each individual case where **Steller’s sea-eagles** might potentially be affected by the project. [EIA-A Chapter 4 Steller’s Sea-eagle]
  - a. A buffer zone shall be established within which no major activity shall be permitted during the nesting season (apply buffer distance of 500m from every active eagle nest).
4. The need for ongoing research and monitoring of Steller’s sea-eagles population will be assessed and incorporated into the Biodiversity Action Plan and [HSE Monitoring Overview](#), as appropriate. [EIA-A Chapter 4 Steller’s Sea-eagle]
5. The location of Steller’s Sea-eagle nests shall not be made publicly available. [EIA-A Chapter 4 Steller’s Sea-eagle]
6. During the operations phase, access to **Chaivo Spit** will be controlled and maintenance/visits to the pig station will be timed to avoid the most sensitive bird periods (nesting and migratory) to minimise impact on Kamchatka Tern and Dunlin. [EIAA Chapter 13 Material Project Changes]
7. At the areas belonging to Wildlife reserve or Important Birds Areas, the proper monitoring will be performed to control of population status and mitigation measures development. [EIAA Chapter 13 Material Project Changes]
8. Where maintenance activities are required during critical times for protected birds species (nesting, migration, etc.) hazards shall be identified, risks assessed, and controls implemented as per the [Managing Risk Standard](#). Where no appropriate mitigation measures can be taken, activities shall be postponed until such time as the risk assessment deems it safe for sensitive Red Data Book species.

<sup>1</sup> Italicized terms in this document are included in the Sakhalin Energy [HSE Glossary](#).

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**Requirements relating to Red Data Book Birds – construction activities**

9. Where practical, construction activities (e.g. vegetation clearance) that occur within or influence habitats of particular importance for coastal Red Data Book birds (waders, near water and waterfowl), shall be **timed to avoid the most sensitive nesting periods** (i.e. May-July). The footprint of areas that traverse available habitat for coastal birds shall be minimised and construction shall take place as quickly as possible. Specific measures for Steller’s sea eagle are detailed separately. [EIA VOL 3, Chapter 1, Figure 1.13; EIA VOL 4, Section 3.12.1; EIA VOL 5, Section 3.8.1; Table 1.5, Section 1.5.3]
10. If protected bird species (other than Steller’s sea-eagle which is considered separately) are encountered, Sakhalin Energy shall, whenever possible, **minimise the presence of people in the nesting and feeding grounds** during the breeding / rearing periods (April – September). [EIA, VOL 3, Section 3.7.2]
11. The **provision of artificial nesting sites for Red Data Book bird species** (e.g. owls, mandarin duck) at selected locations (e.g. river valleys, sections of dark coniferous forest) shall be investigated and implemented, if found to be appropriate. [EIA VOL 5, Section 3.8.1 and Table 1.5 in Section 1.5.3; EIAA Chapter 15 RDB and Migratory Birds]
12. In sensitive areas of wetland habitat used by breeding/migrating red data book bird species, construction work can **proceed outside of the winter period** provided that monitoring is performed prior to construction activities commencement and observations confirm no breeding/migratory red data book birds are present in the potential zone of influence;

**Requirements relating to Steller’s Sea-Eagles – construction phase**

13. Steller’s Sea-eagle Nest Mandatory Mitigation Guidelines are developed for all key construction sites. [EIA-A Chapter 4 Steller’s Sea-eagle]
14. Sakhalin Energy shall communicate the environmental strategy to contractors, provide briefings, indicating the importance of protecting Steller’s sea-eagles and, in particular, minimising the time that construction activities take in the vicinity of Steller’s Sea-eagle nesting or feeding areas. Toolbox talk and personnel environmental plan. [EIA-A Chapter 4 Steller’s Sea-eagle]
15. A buffer zone shall be established within which no construction activity shall be permitted during the Steller’s sea-eagles nesting season (Sakhalin Energy has ordered that the pipeline contractor maintain a buffer distance of 500m from every active Steller’s Sea-eagle nests). Relevant instructions identifying buffer zones to be contained within site specific mitigation guidelines (measures to be applied to each individual case where Steller’s sea-eagles nesting sites might potentially be affected by the project). [EIA-A Chapter 4 Steller’s Sea-eagle]
16. In known nesting areas of the Steller’s Sea-eagle, vegetation clearance within the Right of Way and construction itself shall be undertaken only during winter months. [EIA-A Chapter 4 Steller’s Sea-eagle]
17. Any modification or extension of the pipeline Right of Way shall not affect trees with Steller’s sea-eagle’s nests. [EIA-A Chapter 4 Steller’s Sea-eagle]
18. In situations where Steller’s sea eagle nests are located along rivers, construction work shall be scheduled for the winter, outside of the nesting/breeding season. [EIA-A Chapter 4 Steller’s Sea-eagle]
19. If necessary, artificial nest sites shall be established based on the data obtained from appropriate studies. [EIA-A Chapter 4 Steller’s Sea-eagle]
20. The wellbeing of individual pairs of Steller’s sea-eagles nesting in proximity to construction activities shall be monitored. At least one member of staff shall be responsible for documenting, on a daily basis, the behaviour of any nesting pairs / offspring and any other eagles visiting the area near construction. The frequency of observations shall be increased during elevated periods of construction. Guidance, maps, instruction and a template observation sheet shall be provided in the Mandatory Mitigation Guidelines. [EIA-A Chapter 4 Steller’s Sea-eagle; Steller’s Sea-eagle Nest Mitigation Guidelines]