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October 29, 2013

Senator Andres Ayala  
Representative Selim G. Noujaim  
Regulations Review Committee, Room 1800  
Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106

Regarding: Resubmit of Amendments to Falconry Regulations

Dear Senator Ayala and Representative Noujaim:

Pursuant to section 4-170 of the Connecticut General Statutes (CGS), I resubmit the enclosed proposed falconry regulations for your consideration and approval. The Legislative Regulations Review Committee rejected without prejudice the proposed regulations at its September meeting. We have made the changes as recommended by the Legislative Commissioner's Office, and the Attorney General's Office has reviewed our changes and agrees with the revisions.

The proposed regulations will provide clarity and consistency with federal regulation regarding governing the sport of falconry. Specifically, the proposed changes include clarifications and new definitions; remove obsolete requirements based on changes to CGS 26-55; prohibit application or sponsorship by individuals with migratory bird regulation violations; specify the conditions for the reinstatement of falconry permits; remove reciprocity language for non-resident falconry permit fees; align the dates of the bird replacement period with the permitting period; change the minimum age of a general class falconer to 16; clarify experience requirements for general and master class applicants; incorporate options to recognize the completion of falconry examinations in other states; clarify the housing requirements; clarify the allowances for the temporary custody of raptors; reference relevant laws to determine the list of species approved for use in falconry; prohibit the possession of eagles and species listed as endangered, threatened or of special concern; allow for the transfer of raptors between falconers and migratory bird wildlife rehabilitators; clarify banding and marking requirements; define allowances for possession, transfer and exchange of raptor feathers; clarify requirements for disposition of raptors that die in captivity; prohibit hacking; define acceptable training practices; outline the conditions for falconers who conduct public education programs; address the use of falconry birds in movies and other promotional events; address the conditions for falconers who conduct abatement activities; address the requirements if a falconer dies; and clarify reporting requirements.

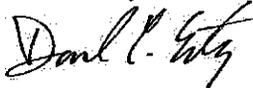
These regulations are necessary to come into compliance with the new federal falconry regulations adopted on November 7, 2008 under 50 CFR 21.29 that are eliminating federal falconry permits. As a consequence of the change in Federal regulations and this amendment, the redundant Federal permit will be

eliminated easing the burden on the regulated public with no additional burden on the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP).

Notice of Intent to adopt these proposed changes was published in the Connecticut Law Journal on April 30, 2013. A public hearing was held on June 4, 2013 and a public comment period ran through June 7, 2013. DEEP has considered fully all written and oral submissions regarding the proposed regulations and, where it deemed appropriate, has revised the proposals in response to the submissions.

If there are any questions regarding this proposal, please contact Robert LaFrance, the Department's Legislative Liaison at [Robert.lafrance@ct.gov](mailto:Robert.lafrance@ct.gov) or 860-424-3401. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

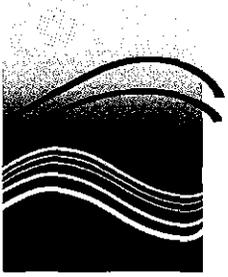
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Daniel C. Esty", written in a cursive style.

Daniel C. Esty  
Commissioner

cc: Robert LaFrance

DCE/WAH/eh  
Enclosure



Connecticut Department of

**ENERGY &  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION**

October 29, 2013

Ms. Kirstin L. Breiner  
Committee Administrator  
Legislative Regulations Review Committee  
State Capitol, Room 1800a  
Hartford, CT 06106

Regarding: Resubmit of Amendments to Falconry Regulations

Dear Ms. Briener:

Pursuant to section 4-170 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Department is resubmitting the enclosed proposed falconry regulations for the Legislative Regulations Review Committee's consideration and approval. The Legislative Regulations Review Committee had rejected without prejudice the proposed regulations at the September meeting. We have made the changes as recommended by the Legislative Commissioner's Office and the Attorney General's Office has reviewed and agrees with the revisions. A new certification sheet is included as part of this package.

If there are any questions regarding this proposal, please contact Robert LaFrance, Legislative Liaison by email at [Robert.lafrance@ct.gov](mailto:Robert.lafrance@ct.gov) or phone number 860-424-3401. Thank you for addressing this matter.

Yours truly,

Richard A. Jacobson  
Director,  
Wildlife Division

cc: Robert LaFrance  
RAJ/eh  
Enclosure