

# **Environmental Impact Assessment Report**

McHugh Multi-Use Bridge Windsor, Ontario SWW187089

Submitted to:

The Corporation of the City of Windsor 2450 McDougall Windsor, Ontario Canada N8X 3N6



Submitted by:

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, a division of Wood Canada Limited 900 Maple Grove Road, Unit 10 Cambridge, ON N3H 4R7

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#### **INTRODUCTION**

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, a division of Wood Canada Limited (Wood) has been retained by the City of Windsor (City) to complete the Environmental Assessment and to prepare a scoped *Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Report* for the detail design and construction of the McHugh Multi-Use Bridge crossing over the Little River; herein referred to as the Project. The Project is being completed as a Schedule 'B' project under the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (MCEA) (June 2000, as amended in 2007, 2011, and 2015) process. This report was developed in consultation with regulatory agencies as applicable. The field survey program as described below was executed following standard biological inventory and assessment procedures under the *Environmental Assessment Act* and the *Conservation Authorities Act* and protocols developed by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) to meet the requirements of the Provincial Policy Statement (PPS).

This report provides a summary of the outcome of the field survey program relating to aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem resources, including an assessment of natural heritage features and functions within the vicinity of the Project. Field surveys visually assessed and documented fish habitat features within the Little River, catalogued botanical species, delineated vegetation communities, identified significant natural features and reported on potential for wildlife occurrences. With respect to Species at Risk (SAR), this report also provides a summary of background information, including consultation with MNRF, and provides an evaluation of potential SAR occurrence based on habitat preferences for species where potential occurrences are known.

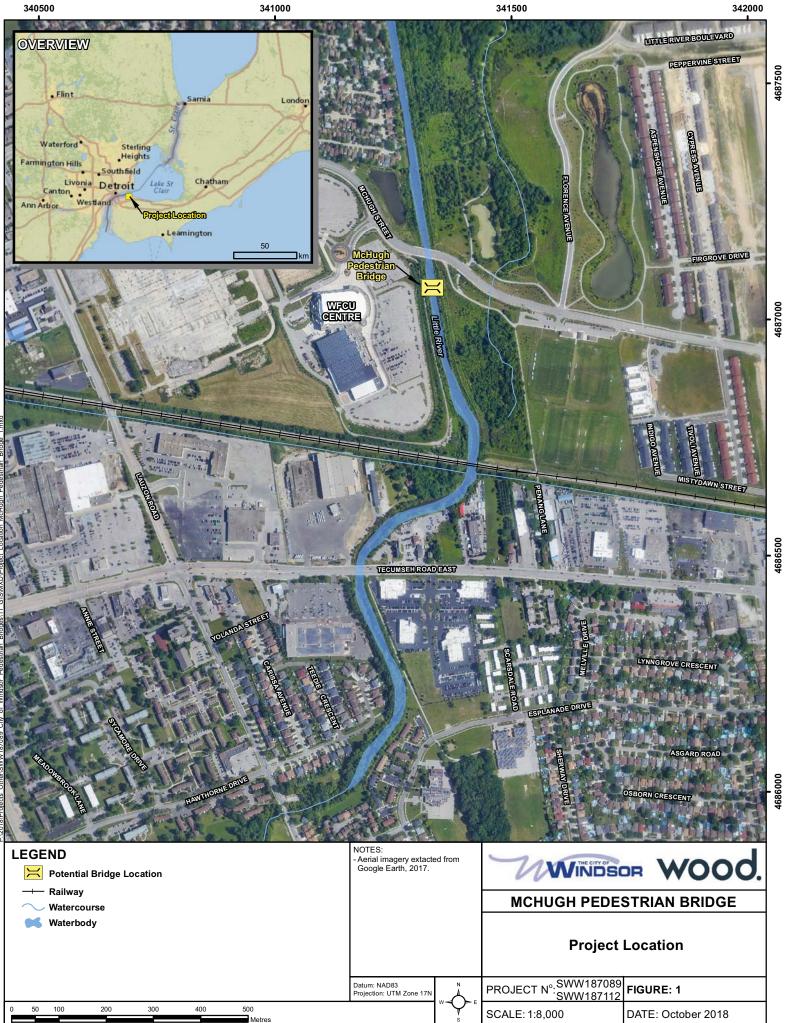
The report also provides a description of the detail design of the proposed bridge crossing, environmental concerns related to the Project, assessment of impacts, both temporary and permanent, and recommendations for mitigation measures and strategies to be implemented during construction. The preferred alternative design for the multi-use bridge was developed as part of the MCEA Study and carried forward within this report.

The primary intent of this report is to serve as the technical submission to support the review and approval by the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) under the *Conservation Authorities* Act – Ontario Regulation (O. Reg.) 150/06 - Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses. To further support this submission and to facilitate the initiation of the formal review process by ERCA, an application form is provided in (Appendix A).



#### Study Area

The proposed McHugh Multi-Use Bridge crosses the Little River approximately 65 m south of McHugh Street, east of the Windsor Family Credit Union (WFCU) Centre (Figure 1). Relative to aquatic resources, the Project study area included an approximately 350 m reach of the Little River including the adjacent landscape, while the terrestrial ecosystem study area included a 120 m buffer around the bridge crossing.





#### SECONDARY SOURCE REVIEW

Secondary sources of information were gathered to contribute to a review of natural heritage elements within the Project study area including database searches to ascertain species community compositions and potential occurrences of SAR either in or adjacent to the Project study area. Resources used to conduct the secondary source review include:

- Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) database (1km<sup>2</sup> square 17LG4187);
- Atlas of the Breeding Bird of Ontario (100 km<sup>2</sup> 17LG48) (ABBO; Cadman et al., 2007);
- eBird.org (Little River Hotspot beside Aspen Lake, 1 km northeast) (Cornell Lab of Ornithology, 2017);
- Atlas of the Mammals of Ontario (AMO; Dobbyn, 1994);
- Bat Conservation International (BCI 2017);
- Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas (100km<sup>2</sup> square 17LG48) (ORRA; Ontario Nature, 2015);
- Ontario Butterfly Atlas (100 km<sup>2</sup> square 17LG48) (OBA; MacNaughton et al. 2016);
- Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) publications including watershed report cards;
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada Aquatic SAR maps; and,
- Municipal records associated with the Official and Master Plans and/or other planning documents.

In addition to the secondary sources listed above, ERCA and the Aylmer District MNRF were contacted for natural heritage and species information in the vicinity of the Project study area. The MNRF was contacted by Wood on April 23, 2018. SAR records, significant natural heritage features and fish community information for the Project study area and surrounding lands were requested at that time. MNRF provided a response to this request on June 28, 2018. Details of the response are provided in the sections below. ERCA was solicited for fish community information and fish sampling records from known sampling stations within the watershed on April 23, 2018. ERCA responded to this request on May 11, 2018. Copies of all relevant agency correspondence is included in Appendix B.



#### **FIELD SURVEY METHODOLOGIES**

Qualified Wood staff executed the field survey program as described below on the mornings of May 28 and July 10, 2018. Field surveys were completed during suitable weather conditions for observing wildlife. Surveys occurred on foot to assess the aquatic and terrestrial ecosystem conditions, as well as searches for potential SAR and evaluation of SAR habitat.

#### Aquatic Ecosystem

To augment the secondary source information, an aquatic habitat assessment was undertaken within the Little River to document fish habitat features and general fluvial conditions. Field conditions were assessed in accordance with the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) Environmental Guide for Fish and Fish Habitat (MTO 2009). The Project study area included a zone of detailed assessment extending 30 m upstream to 30 m downstream of the bridge crossing. Completed habitat mapping field sheets are provided in Appendix C. Due to water depth and lack of water clarity, detailed channel characteristics were not measured within the Little River, only visual observations from the embankments are provided within this report. No formal fish community surveys were undertaken as sufficient background information was available to infer the sensitivity and significance of the fish community present. A photographic record of Little River is provided in Appendix D. Water chemistry and habitat characteristics are summarized below.

#### **Terrestrial Ecosystem**

#### **Vegetation Communities and Plant Inventories**

Site investigations included visiting accessible vegetation units within the terrestrial study area. Vegetation ecosites were delineated and classified as per the Ontario Ecological Land Classifications (ELC) System (ELC; Lee et al.1998). Field sheets are provided in Appendix E and a list of botanical species observed is provided in Appendix F. The First Approximation of ELC (Lee et al. 1998) was applied for the determination of ecosite type; however, the 2008 catalogue of ecosite types was applied where ecosites could not be determined through the application of the First Approximation. The occurrence of ELC communities were cross-referenced with provincially significant vegetation communities as identified in the Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide (OMNR 2000) and Significant Wildlife Habitat Criteria Schedules (SWHCS) for Ecoregion 7E (OMNR 2015) to determine whether these habitats exist with the Project study area.

Botanical species occurrences were cross-referenced with the NHIC database to determine existence of rare species within the Project study area. Common and scientific names of botanical species are based on the current nomenclature as listed in the NHIC database.



Vegetation inventories were conducted by walking linear transects, parallel to Little River, throughout the study area. All plant species observed were recorded, and the entire study area was surveyed for SAR botanical species.

## **Wildlife Inventories**

Wildlife inventories were compiled based on incidental observations, including evidence of tracks and/or scat. Habitat was assessed for significant wildlife habitat attributes as per the SWHCS for Ecoregion 7E. The MNRF defines Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH) as ecologically important in terms of features, functions, representation or amount, and contributing to the quality and diversity of an identifiable geographic area or Natural Heritage System (OMNR 2000; OMNR 2015). SWH is divided into four (4) main categories:

- Seasonal Concentration Areas of Animals;
- Rare Vegetation Communities and Specialized Habitat for Wildlife;
- Habitat for Species of Conservation Concern (excluding Endangered or Threatened species); and
- Animal Movement Corridors.

To determine the existence of SWH within the Natural Heritage System, the SWHCS identify ecosites and/or natural features suitable for wildlife to carry our critical life processes (listed within the four main categories described above). As the Project study area falls within Ecoregion 7E (Lake Erie Lake Ontario Ecoregion), the SWHCS for Ecoregion 7E applies to determination of candidate SWH within the Project study area.

#### Species at Risk

In Ontario, SAR are those species whose individuals or populations are considered Extirpated, Endangered, Threatened, or Special Concern, as determined by the provincial Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario (COSSARO), and are regulated by the provincial *Endangered Species Act, 2007* (ESA). The federal *Species at Risk Act, 2002* (SARA) also applies in Ontario; however, federal agencies typically defer responsibility for SAR to the province unless the subject lands are federally-owned.

The potential for SAR and rare species to occur with the Project study area was determined based on a review of background information, agency consultation and the completion of site level reconnaissance surveys. The background information included a review of the NHIC online database of significant floral and faunal species near the Project study area. The background



information noted above (i.e., wildlife atlases) were also used to develop a complete list of SAR and rare species occurrences that may overlap the Project study area for the purpose of evaluating the potential for SAR occurrence based on habitat preferences for each species. Additionally, correspondence with MNRF contributed to the list of potential SAR within the Project study area.

Visual surveys for SAR and SAR habitat were conducted within the study area, with particular attention to those species identified through background information and following consultation with MNRF (Appendix B).



#### 4 EXISTING CONDITIONS

#### 4 Aquatic Ecosystem

The Little River watershed covers an area of 64.9 kilometer (km)<sup>2</sup>, with the Upper Little River watershed, which includes the location of the Project, covering an area of 45 km<sup>2</sup>. To support agricultural land uses, the Upper Little River watershed has been historically dredged, ditches have been constructed and tile drains were installed to improve drainage (Chapman and Putnam, 1984). Within the Project study area, Little River flows in a northward direction along the western margin of McHugh Park and the Little River Corridor to the Detroit River. The Detroit River is approximately 2.4 river km (rkm) downstream of the proposed bridge crossing. The morphology of Little River downstream of the Project study area has been modified and straightened and is considered to be highly altered nearing the confluence of the Detroit River. Downstream alterations have included shoreline hardening (i.e. sheet pile walls) and dredging for recreational use and flood control.

Previous fish community studies undertaken in 2009 and 2011 within the Little River watershed resulted in catch dominated by coolwater species. Species that were identified as part of these studies include White Sucker (*Catostomus commersonii*), Common Shiner (*Luxilus cornutus*), Creek Chub (*Semotilus atromaculatus*) and Quillback (*Carpiodes cyprinus*). Within smaller tributaries of the Little River watershed Brown Bullhead (*Ameiurus nebulosus*), Bluegill Sunfish (*Lepomis macrochirus*), Rock Bass (*Ambloplites rupestris*), Banded Killifish (*Fundulus diaphanus*) and Yellow Perch (*Perca flavescens*) were captured during these previous studies. These studies also reported warmwater species, including Pumpkinseed Sunfish (*Lepomis gibbosus*) and Largemouth Bass (*Micropterus salmoides*). Fish catch was noted to be greater, with the highest diversity of species identified, within Little River near Lauzon Road (Hydro One, 2010), upstream of the Project site. This section of the Little River is noted to be in a more natural state compared to downstream reaches near the Detroit River, with a well developed, yet narrow, riparian buffer and where natural channel meandering is evident from aerial satellite imagery.

Previous reports (Stantec, 2017) indicate that fish surveys completed by ERCA from 1979 until 2007 included stations in the Upper Little River Watershed. Fish species identified from these historical surveys that were not identified during the 2009 and 2011 studies include:

 <u>Warmwater fish species</u>: Green Sunfish (*Lepomis cyanellus*), Goldfish (*Carassius auratus*), Tadpole Madtom (*Noturus gyrinus*), Tubenose Goby\* (*Proterorhinus semilunaris*), Round Goby\* (*Neogobius melanostomus*), Freshwater Drum (*Aplodinotus grunniens*) and Logperch (*Percina caprodes*).



- <u>Coolwater fish species</u>: Hornyhead Chub (*Nocomis biguttatus*), Black Crappie (*Pomoxis nigromaculatus*), White Crappie (*Pomoxis annularis*), Northern Pike (*Esox lucius*), Golden Shiner (*Notemigonus crysoleucas*) and Blackside Darter (*Percina maculata*).
- <u>Coldwater fish species</u>: Mottled Sculpin (*Cottus bairdii*) and Brook Stickleback (*Culaea inconstans*).

#### \*invasive species

MNRF was consulted as it related to fish records, but no historical or current fish records for the Little River were available; however, fish records were provided for the adjacent Hawkins Drain. Fish species identified in Hawkins Drain include Killifish (*Fundulus sp.*), Bluegill Sunfish, White Sucker, Gizzard Shad (*Dorosoma cepedianum*), Largemouth Bass, Spottail Shiner (*Notropis hudsonius*) and Yellow Perch. Hawkins Drain is approximately 400 m south of the proposed bridge crossing location and runs parallel to the Via rail corridor.

Channel diagnostics of the Little River as determined from the field survey were noted to be generally consistent throughout the Project study area, where flow characteristics were described as a slow moving flat morphology. Water clarity was turbid and brown in colouration with limited visibility below the water surface. Substrate composition could not be examined due to lack of visibility below the surface and water depth at the centre of the watercourse. At the proposed bridge crossing location, the Little River wetted width is approximately 15 m and has a straight planform alignment within the overall valley. The water depth was estimated to be greater than 1.0 m. Observable nearshore substrates included cobble substrate. Given the observed turbid water colouration, local and watershed topography and proximity to the Detroit River, it is expected that fine materials comprise the majority of substrate within the study area. The embankments of the Little River at the proposed crossing are densely vegetated with shrub and herbaceous species, including European Reed (*Phragmites australis ssp. australis*), which provide some form of thermoregulation to immediate nearshore areas only. There was no evidence of instability or erosion along the embankments within the study area. An existing Multi-Use Path (MUP) is present on each side of the Little River. The MUPs are beyond the top of the bank and run parallel to the Little River. West of the Little River and the MUP, a stormwater drainage feature is present. The stormwater feature runs parallel to the Little River and captures surface flow from the adjoining WFCU Centre parking lot. Standing shallow water and dense European Reed were observed in the stormwater drainage feature. The stormwater drainage feature was not considered to provide fish habitat as it is not directly hydraulically connected to the Little River, but rather to a downstream stormwater management facility. East of the Little River, a small natural area is present within the valley of which was estimated to be 150 m in width. Soccer fields and residential development were noted farther east of the valley. Two (2) stormwater management ponds are present to the northeast (~125 m) and northwest (~135 m) of the proposed bridge crossing, one of which connects to the previously noted stormwater drainage feature. As



interpreted by aerial satellite imagery, no direct overland connections of these facilities to the Little River were observed. A larger stormwater management facility was also observed approximately 345 m northeast of the proposed bridge crossing. This facility was identified as Aspen Lake and is likely to service the adjacent residential areas off Cypress Avenue. Aspen Lake is east of Florence Avenue and approximately 200 m east of the Project study area.

# Water Quality

Surface water quality parameters were measured during each field survey. Water temperatures of the Little River were recorded as 21.7 °C and 24.1°C, respectively. While, pH was recorded as 7.7 and 7.5, and conductivity was recorded as 1162  $\mu$ s/cm and 1349  $\mu$ s/cm, during the respective visits.

## Fish Habitat Characteristics

The observed nearshore gravel substrate provides some opportunities for cover, though the extent is unknown. As indicated above, substrate composition is likely to include finer material rather that coarse material. Minor areas of undercutting were noted along each embankment through this reach; however, due to water level and inaccessibility, a full assessment could not be readily completed. Areas of undercutting are known to provide cover and refuge for fish. No structures were observed within any reach of the Little River with minor areas of emergent instream vegetation noted of which may provide cover for fish along the immediate shoreline area. Channel armouring (riprap) is situated on the mid-slope area of both banks along this reach. Incidental observations of fish noted two (2) Common Carp (Cyprinus carpio) and one (1) Longnose Gar (Lepisosteus osseus) during the July (summer) survey. No significant or critical habitat features were observed or noted during the completion of the field surveys. As noted above, the Little River is known to provide habitat for a variety of species and as such these species are likely dependent on the available resources for foraging, reproduction and nursery functions. The lack of rare and/or unique habitat features, including significant aquatic vegetation, boulder clusters, submerged logs, most often utilized by fish suggests that the local habitat available is not critical for their survival.

# 4 Species at Risk

Occurrence potential for SAR to inhabit the Little River was determined through a search of the MNRF's NHIC (MNRF, 2018a), a review of DFO's federal aquatic SAR mapping (DFO, 2018) and through consultation with MNRF. SAR that were identified within the NHIC square encompassing the proposed bridge crossing location and provided by MNRF include:



- Snapping Turtle, *Chelydra serpentina*, (Listing Status - Special Concern)

Snapping Turtles generally inhabit areas with soft substrate and abundant aquatic vegetation. Minimal aquatic vegetation was observed within the Project study area. Potential for soft substrate does exist as noted above in Section 4.1. Slow moving water within shallow nearshore areas of the Little River were noted to provide suitable habitat for this species (Appendix D). Although Snapping Turtle are currently listed as Special Concern, they receive no specific protection under the ESA.

No federally protected SAR were identified from DFO mapping (DFO, 2018); however, occurrence records were noted for Pike Creek which lies east of the Little River watershed. Protected species identified include Grass Pickerel (*Esox americanus vermiculatus*), Northern Brook Lamprey (*Ichthyomyzon fossor*), Silver Chub (*Macrhybopsis storeriana*), Silver Lamprey (*Ichthyomyzon unicuspis*), Spotted Sucker (*Minytrema melanops*) and Warmouth (*Lepomis gulosus*). Based on species habitat requirements, these species are not expected to inhabit the Little River within the study area.

## 4 Terrestrial Ecosystem

#### Physiography

The Project study area is located within Essex Clay Plain and St. Clair Plain Physiographic Region. The St. Clair Plain Physiographic Region covers an area of 5,900 km<sup>2</sup> within Essex and Kent County. The area is comprised mostly of agricultural land on clay and sand plains of ancient lake bottoms and bedrock. Typically, sand and clay plains extend down 30 to 60 m before bedrock is encountered. Ground surface elevation is between 175 and 213 meters above sea level (masl). Thea area is generally flat and varies little topographically (Chapman and Putnam, 1984).

#### Soils

Soils in Essex County are generally considered to be poorly-drained. Significant alterations to drainage have been undertaken historically to improve agricultural production. The construction of drainage ditches and tiling are the most common practice employed to improve drainage. Some small undrained areas contain peat or muck accumulations. Three (3) major soil associations in Essex County are:

- 1. Brookston Soil Association (most predominant);
- 2. Berrien Association; and,
- □□ Haldimand Association.



Brookston Soil consists of very deep, poorly drained soils of silty material and the underlying loamy till in depressions on till plains and moraines.

Geotechnical investigations undertaken as part of this assignment indicate the presence of a thin veneer of topsoil followed by silty clay at the proposed bridge crossing. The silty clay layer was stratified between the weathered zone and the crust zone. The weathered zone extended in depths ranging from 2.1 m to 2.9 m below the ground surface. The crust zone extended in depths ranging from 4.6 m to 4.9 m below the ground surface. Underlying the crust was the grey zone where the boreholes terminated. The grey zone stratum was characterized by increases in natural moisture content and virtually no fissures as compared to stratum above. A total of three (3) boreholes were investigated at the proposed crossing. Complete results of these evaluations can be found in the associated technical reports (Wood, 2018).

# 4 Vegetation Communities and Habitat

The Project study area is located within the Carolinian Deciduous Forest Region (Rowe, 1972). Typical species include Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*) and American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), mixed with Basswood (*Tilia Americana*), Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*), Red Oak (*Quercus rubra*), White Oak (*Quercus alba*), and Bur Oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*). Secondary species include Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*), Sycamore (*Platanus occidentalis*) and Shagbark Hickory (*Carya ovata*). Less common species include Butternut (*Juglans cinerea*), a provincial SAR, and Bitternut Hickory (*Carya cordiformis*), Rock Elm (*Ulmus thomasii*), Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*) and Blue Beech (*Carpinus caroliniana*). The presence of coniferous species is generally limited in Essex County; however White Pine (*Pinus strobus*), Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) and Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*) are reported. Rare coniferous species include Black Spruce (*Picea mariana*), Tamarack (*Larix laricina*) and Eastern White Cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*). Tree cover within the Little River watershed is estimated to be 2.2% (ERCA, 2013).

The Project study area is within Ecoregion 7E, the *Lake Erie-Lake Ontario Ecoregion*. Approximately 78% of the ecoregion is cropland and pasture, with forest cover comprised of deciduous (11%) and mixed forest (<1%) covering a majority of the remaining natural landscape (Crins et al. 2009).

Within the Project study area, west and east of the Little River includes dense residential and commercial development beyond the valley. The embankments and floodplain on the east side of the Little River are considered to be a cultural meadow with scattered deciduous trees. A complete listing of species observed can be found in Appendix D.



# 4.2.1.1 Ecological Land Classification

Field surveys classified the vegetation surrounding the Little River in accordance with the Ecological Land Classification (ELC) of Southern Ontario Guide (Lee et al. 1998 and 2008 amendments). Field sheets are provided in Appendix E. The following vegetation communities were identified:

- CUT: Cultural Thicket (Little River embankments and west of river);
- CUM: Cultural Meadow (east side of Little River);
- FOD7: Fresh-moist Lowland Deciduous Forest (southeast corner of the Study Area).

Land use in the general vicinity of the proposed bridge crossing, including areas that are not anticipated to be impacted by the Project, area shown in Figure 2 and summarised in Table 1 below.

| Land Type Classification         | Description  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| CUM1                             | Most of the east side of Little River within the study area is   |
| Mineral Cultural Meadow Ecosite  | comprised of cultural meadow, consisting of largely of early     |
|                                  | successional groundcover species including native and non-       |
|                                  | native grasses and forbs with minimal (<25%) shrub cover.        |
| CUT1                             | The embankments of Little River throughout the study area        |
| Mineral Cultural Thicket Ecosite | consisted of >25% shrub cover, comprised of Wild Plum, Gray      |
|                                  | Dogwood, Staghorn Sumac and a variety of planted tree and        |
|                                  | shrub species. Groundcover vegetation consisted of typical early |
|                                  | successional meadow species of grasses and forbs, similar to the |
|                                  | CUM1 ecosite located to the east within the study area.          |
| FOD7                             | Small woodlot on the southeast portion of the site with >60%     |
| Fresh-Moist Lowland Deciduous    | tree cover. Dominant tree species included Black Walnut, White   |
| Forest Ecosite                   | Elm, Silver Maple, Green Ash, Eastern Cottonwood and Hawthorn    |
|                                  | species. Understory species included Gray Dogwood, Staghorn      |
|                                  | Sumac with abundant Poison Ivy, Wild Grape and Virginia          |
|                                  | Creeper. Groundcover herbaceous species were limited in certain  |
|                                  | portions of the site due to canopy cover and wet conditions.     |
|                                  | Species included sedges, Sensitive Fern, Swamp Agrimony and      |
|                                  | other species typical of wet early successional forest in 7E.    |

## **Table 1: Ecological Land Classification**



# 4.2.1.2 Vegetation and Botanical Species

The areas to be directly impacted along the embankments of the Little River are currently dominated by typical plant species of disturbed, sunny habitats, including a mixture of native and non-native species. No plant SAR or provincially rare species were observed within the area of impact or elsewhere in the area investigated as part of the field surveys. A complete species list is provided in Appendix F.

# 4.2.1.3 Natural Heritage Features

The Essex Region Natural Heritage System Strategy (ERNHSS) (ERCA, 2013) was developed is to assist the County of Essex in determining an appropriate strategy to protect natural heritage features and their functions as part of the update to the Official Plan process. A component of the ERNHSS is to scientifically identify and prioritize the system of natural heritage features from a regional perspective. The ERNHSS identified an *Existing Natural Feature – Terrestrial* area and an *Identified Restoration Opportunity – Riparian Buffer* area within the Project study area. The priority areas generally extend along the east side of McHugh Park from the Via rail corridor northerly to Wyandotte Street East. These priority areas do not occur within the direct footprint of the proposed bridge crossing or connecting MUP. Figure 2 illustrates the location of these priority areas relative to the proposed bridge crossing.

#### 4 Wildlife

Inventories of wildlife were compiled from available literature and resource atlases. Based on a review of background information, 107 species of birds, 17 species of butterfly, 23 species of mammals, 9 species of reptiles, and 5 species of amphibians are reported to occur within the region encompassing the Project study area. A compiled species list with conservation ranks and the record sources is provided in Appendix F.

#### Birds

Using the ABBO list, eBird location approximately 345 m northeast of the proposed bridge crossing location, results from the 2018 field surveys and MNRF correspondence, 107 identified species of birds, including five (5) Endangered or Threatened SAR, were identified for the Project study area. The ABBO lists 82 species within the appropriate square, with 52 of these species confirmed to be breeding. The three (3) species identified through correspondence with MNRF are also included in the ABBO list.



The Project study area, including the McHugh Street Bridge, was surveyed for the presence of bird nests and evidence of breeding activity during the field surveys. No nests or breeding activity were observed. A total of 13 species of birds were observed, including American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*), American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*), Barn Swallows (*Hirundo rustica*), Brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*), Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*), Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*), Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*), Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*), Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*), Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*), Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*), Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*), Yellow Warbler (*Setophaga petechia*) and Willow Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii*). Approximately 50 Cliff Swallow nests were observed under the McHugh Street Bridge (approximately 65 m downstream of the proposed multi-use bridge).

## Mammals

Within the vicinity of the Project study area, 19 species of mammals were reported in the AMO (Dobbyn, 1994), additionally, MNRF correspondence identified that Endangered SAR bats are known to occur in the general area. Bat Conservation International (BCI) ranges for bats in Ontario includes four (4) Endangered bat species whose ranges encompass the Project study area. None of these species are identified as occurring within the Project study area in the AMO. It is important to note that the exact locations of species occurrences are not available from the Atlas or BCI. Consequently, it is likely that many of these species do not occur within the Project study area.

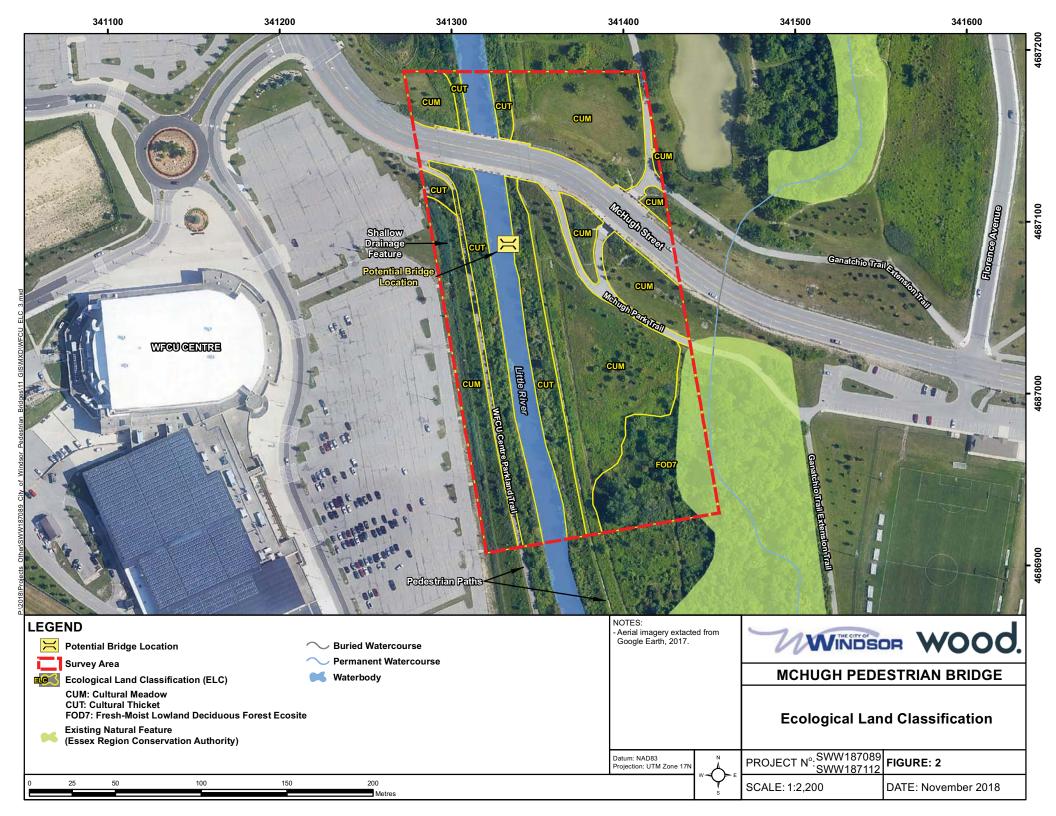
White-tailed deer are the primary resident mammal wildlife in Essex County with ranges and habitat usage reflective of the season and current urban and agricultural land use practices. Deer can be typically found along forest/woodlot edges for the majority of the year with increased congregating occurring in denser cover during the winter. The availability of woodlots and suitable wintering yards are known limiting habitat features for deer in Essex County. Land resource mapping indicates that deer habitat in Essex County is considered to be Class 2 (very slight limitations to the production of ungulates) and Class 2W (Class 2 winter ranges) (CLI, 1990).

Many distinct species of mammals are found in Essex County. According to Eder (2002) a total of 34 mammals species have ranges including Essex County and may overlap the Project study area. Mammal species common to Essex County include the Little and Big Brown Bats (*Myotis lucifugus & Eptesicus fuscus*), Eastern Grey Squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*), Eastern Cottontail (*Sylvilagus floridanus*), Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), Striped Skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), Red Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*), Coyote (*Canis latrans*) and White-tailed Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*). Of the 34 mammal species found in Essex County, three (3) are considered rare. These include the Gray Fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*) (considered Threatened by MNRF and COSEWIC); the Eastern Pipistrelle (*Pipistrellus subflavus*) and the Eastern Mole (*Scalopus aquaticus*). Of these species, only the



Eastern Mole has been recorded in Essex County and the species was identified 1997 in the Learnington area. This species is considered Special Concern (SC) both provincially and federally and imperiled (S2) by NHIC (2009).

No mammals were observed during the completion of the field survey program.





### **Reptiles and Amphibians**

Within the vicinity of the Project study area, nine (9) species of reptiles and five (5) species of amphibians were reported in the ORAA (Ontario Nature, 2017) and NHIC database and through MNRF correspondence. It is important to note that the exact locations of species occurrences are not available from the Atlas. Consequently, it is likely that many of these species do not occur within the Project study area. No reptiles or amphibians were observed during the completion of the field survey program.

Within the Project study area, the Little River is slow moving, turbid and brown in colouration which may be suitable for reptiles and amphibians. The lack of significant aquatic vegetation and presence of some gravel substrate limits suitability for turtles. The adjacent habitat east of the Little River may provide suitable habitat where meadow type areas and deciduous trees are present. Previously noted stormwater management facilities to the north may also provide habitat which may be linked to the Little River. Several crayfish burrows were observed in a low-lying gully east of the Little River, 25 m south of the proposed bridge crossing. Crayfish burrows are known to be used by Butler's Gartersnake (*Thamnophis butleri*) as active season refugia and as overwintering sites. The noted riprap on the embankments of the Little River and naturalized lowland to the east of the project which were considered to provide suitable thermoregulation, cover and foraging habitat for reptiles and amphibians. The WFCU Centre west of the Little River was not considered to be suitable habitat for reptiles or amphibians.

#### Invertebrates

Background research using NHIC, OBA, and MNRF correspondence included 17 species of butterfly (only invertebrates identified), none of which are Threatened or Endangered. It is important to note that the exact locations of species occurrences are not available from these sources. No invertebrates were observed during completion of the field survey program; however, Milkweed species, an attractant for Butterflies, particularly Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*), was observed in sporadic areas. Additionally, and as noted above, crayfish burrows within a low-lying gully east of the Little River were observed.

#### 4 Natural Heritage Features and Areas

The Little River and the adjacent narrow natural riparian area provide refuge to wildlife from the surrounding residential and commercial development within the valley corridor. This natural corridor is suitable to provide foraging, thermoregulation and nesting habitat to a variety of wildlife species.



## 4 4 Significant Wildlife Habitat

### 4.2.4.1 Seasonal Concentration Areas

Seasonal concentration areas are those habitats where large numbers of a single species or many species congregate at one or several times a year. The SWH Criterion Schedules (SWHCS) for Ecoregion 7E outlines 14 wildlife habitats meeting the criteria for seasonal concentration areas of animals. Based on habitats and ecosites documented during field surveys, no candidate seasonal concentration areas are present within the Project study area.

## 4.2.4.2 Rare Vegetation Communities

Rare vegetation communities often contain rare species, particularly plants and small invertebrates, which depend on such habitats for their survival and cannot readily move to or find alternative habitats. The SWHCS for Ecoregion 7E outlines seven (7) wildlife habitats meeting the criteria for rare vegetation communities. Based on habitats and ecosites documented during field surveys, no candidate rare vegetation communities are present within the Project study area.

# 4.2.4.3 Specialized Habitat of Wildlife

Specialized habitat for wildlife are those microhabitats that are critical to a species or several species. The SWHCS for Ecoregion 7E outlines seven (7) wildlife habitats meeting the criteria for specialized habitat for wildlife. Based on habitats and ecosites documented during field surveys, no candidate specialized habitat for wildlife is present within the Project study area.

#### 4.2.4.4 Habitat for Species of Conservation Concern

Habitat for species of conservation concern includes habitat for wildlife species classified as Special Concern or rare in Ontario, as well as several other rare habitats. Candidate habitat for species of Special Concern is present in the Project study area. These species are discussed above and in Table 2 below.

The probabilities provided in Table 2 (and Table 3) are based on an assessment of each species' habitat preferences/needs in conjunction with existing conditions observed during the field survey and background information. Additional species may come into the area or species already occurring in the area may be up-listed at any time. For this reason, ongoing communication with the MNRF is strongly recommended to ensure compliance with the ESA (2007). The probabilities of occurrence are defined as 'High', 'Moderate', 'Low', and 'None' and are based on the following definitions:



- **High**: Those species recorded in the vicinity of the project (typically within 10 km and recorded in the past 20 years) and whose preferred habitat is abundant within the Project study area. Species with high probability of occurrence would be expected to breed within or frequently use the habitats available within the Project study area and would be known to have a high relative abundance within the region (i.e., compared to other regions in Ontario).
- **Moderate**: Those species in the vicinity of the project but have limited suitable habitat within the Project study area. Species with moderate probabilities of occurrence may not occur within the Project study area frequently, but may intermittently use it for foraging, migration or movement to other parts of their home-range.
- **Low**: Those species recorded in the vicinity of the Project study area, but whose preferred habitat does not occur or is extremely limited within the Project study area. These species may intermittently move through the Project study area but are unlikely to become permanent residents.
- **None**: Those species whose preferred habitat is completely absent from the Project study and may only migrate intermittently through the Project study area.



# Table 2: Special Concern Species Potential Occurrence

| Species Name, Status (SARA <sup>1</sup> ,<br>ESA <sup>2</sup> , S-Rank <sup>3</sup> ), and Data Source <sup>4</sup>                      | Preferred Habitat  | Potential Species<br>Habitat/Occurrence <sup>5</sup>  |
|--|--|---|
|  | Special Concern Birds  | <u>.</u>  |
| Bald Eagle<br>(Haliaeetus leucocephalus)<br>SARA: No Status<br>ESA: Special Concern<br>S-Rank: S4<br>Source: eBird (2017)                | Habitat is mature forest with scattered<br>supercanopy trees located adjacent to large<br>productive waterbodies. Nest trees are<br>generally among the largest available trees in<br>the area, with a full crown and multiple<br>accessible perches. The trees typically have<br>accessible broad crotches capable of<br>supporting a nest, and unobstructed view<br>and flight paths in all directions, but<br>especially towards the water. Bald Eagles will<br>nest in a variety of trees that can provide the<br>required structural characteristics (Armstrong<br>2014). | <b>Moderate</b> – Species observed near<br>man-made water body<br>approximately 1 km northeast. No<br>nesting habitat in project footprint.   |
| Eastern Wood-Pewee<br>( <i>Contopus virens</i> )<br>SARA: Special Concern<br>ESA: Special Concern<br>S-Rank: S4B<br>Source: eBird (2017) | Usually found in clearings and forest edges,<br>this species breeds in nearly any type of<br>wooded habitat including mature woodlands,<br>urban shade trees, roadsides and orchards,<br>but typically prefers deciduous forest and to<br>a lesser extent, open pine woodlands of the<br>south and mixed hardwood-conifer forest of<br>the north (CLO 2015; McCarty 1996).   | <b>Moderate</b> – Species recorded<br>adjacent to the man-made<br>waterbody 1 km northeast of the<br>potential bridge location. Potential<br>nesting habitat in study area.   |
|  | Special Concern Reptile - Turtles  | •   |
| Northern Map Turtle<br>(Graptemys geographica)<br>SARA: Special Concern<br>ESA: Special Concern<br>S-Rank: S3<br>Source: ORAA (2017)     | Inhabit slow-moving large rivers and lakes<br>with a soft bottom. Habitat required that<br>supports the female's mollusk prey (ECCC<br>2017b).   | <b>Moderate</b> – The Little river is slow-<br>moving and large. Substrate was not<br>suitable within the proposed bridge<br>location, however some suitable<br>may have been present within the<br>study area. Water quality may not<br>be suitable for the mollusc prey this<br>species feeds on. |
| Snapping Turtle<br>(Chelydra serpentina)<br>SARA: Special Concern<br>ESA: Special Concern<br>S-Rank: S3<br>Source: ORAA (2017)           | Slow moving water with a soft mud bottom<br>and dense aquatic vegetation usually in<br>ponds, sloughs, shallow bays or river edges<br>and slow streams and wetlands (COSEWIC<br>2008a).  | <b>Moderate</b> – The river is slow<br>moving, however aquatic vegetation<br>is sparse and mud bottom may be<br>absent or limited.  |



| -  | s Name, Status (SARA <sup>1</sup> ,<br>Rank <sup>3</sup> ), and Data Source <sup>4</sup> | Preferred Habitat  | Potential Species<br>Habitat/Occurrence <sup>5</sup>   |
|--|--|--|--|
|  |  | Special Concern Invertebrates  |  |
| Monarch<br>(Danaus pr<br>SARA:<br>ESA:<br>S-Rank:<br>Source:   | <i>lexippus</i> )<br>Special Concern<br>Special Concern<br>S4B<br>OBA (2017)             | Larvae feed on the leaves, flowers and fruits<br>of milkweed plants, usually for nine to fifteen<br>days. This species overwinters in Mexico,<br>returning to Ontario usually in May or June,<br>until August to October (Environment<br>Canada 2014)  | <b>Moderate</b> –Common Milkweed<br>( <i>Asclepias syriaca</i> ) was observed<br>within the study area during the<br>2018 field surveys. |
|  |  | Special Concern Plants   |  |
| Climbing<br>(Juglans ci<br>SARA:<br>ESA:<br>S-Rank:<br>Source: | Prairie Rose<br>ineres)<br>Special Concern<br>Special Concern<br>S2S3<br>NHIC (1992)     | Occurs in open or early successional habitat<br>including prairie remnants, open woods,<br>shrub thickets, old fields and abandoned<br>agricultural and urban land. Disturbed areas<br>where the plant may be found includes<br>pastureland, hedgerows, drainage<br>embankments, roadsides and ditch slopes.<br>The plant may also persist in semi-shade<br>habitat (Environment Canada 2013). | <b>None</b> – No plants were found within<br>the project footprint or study area<br>during field surveys.                                |

<sup>1</sup> Species At Risk Act, 2002 (SARA).

<sup>2</sup> Endangered Species Act, 2007 (ESA).

<sup>3</sup> S1 - Extremely rare throughout its range in the province; S2 - Rare throughout its range in the province; S3 - Uncommon or vulnerable species; S4 - Apparently Secure Species; S5 - Secure Species; SX - Extirpated; B - Breeding; N - Non-breeding; ? - Uncertainty

<sup>4</sup> Dates shown are the most recent record. NHIC = Natural Heritage Information Centre, ABBO = Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Ontario, AMO = Atlas of Mammals of Ontario, ORAA = Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas.

<sup>5</sup> Definitions provided in Section 4.2.5

#### 4.2.4.5 Animal Movement Corridors

Animal movement corridors are habitats that link two (2) or more wildlife habitats that are critical to the maintenance of a population of a particular species or group of species particularly in highly fragmented landscapes (OMNR 2000, OMNR 2015). These corridor habitats serve a key ecological function to enable wildlife to move between areas of SWH or core natural areas with minimal risk of mortality (OMNR 2000, OMNR 2015). Animal movement corridors are elongated, naturally vegetated parts of the landscape used by animals to move from one habitat to another (OMNR 2000). These corridors may include valleylands, dense vegetated riparian buffer areas, and hedgerows, and are potentially used by a variety of wildlife species including migratory and breeding birds, reptiles, and amphibians. The SWHCS for Ecoregion 7E outlines one (1) wildlife habitat meeting the criteria for animal movement corridor habitat.



Based on a review of ecosites and wildlife present, candidate amphibian movement corridor habitat may occur within the study area. These corridors are found in all ecosites that are associated with water. Given the Project study area includes a section of the Little River, two (2) stormwater management facilities, and a larger stormwater management facility immediately outside of the Project study area, amphibians may move through the Project study area. However, significant amphibian movement corridors must connect amphibian breeding habitats, which do not appear to occur within the Project study area, and it is unknown whether such habitats exist outside the Project study area.

# 4 Species at Risk

An online search of the MNRF's NHIC (MNRF, 2017b) was conducted within the 1 km<sup>2</sup> square encompassing the Project study area to identify potential presence of provincial SAR. No provincially regulated SAR was identified within the NHIC database, though one (1) terrestrial Special Concern species, Snapping Turtle, was listed. MNRF was solicited for further information pertaining to SAR and significant natural heritage features in the vicinity of the site. Correspondence with MNRF identified the local presence of five (5) SAR and the potential for bat SAR (Appendix B).

Background data collection using the ABBO, ORAA, OBA, MNRF NHIC, DFO Aquatic SAR Maps, MNRF correspondence and field surveys for this project suggest that a total of twelve (12) regulated SAR that may occur within proximity of the Project study area (Table 3). These species and their potential for occurrence are summarized in Table 3 below.

The ABBO lists species breeding within a square as possible, probable or confirmed based on observed behaviour and/or nesting evidence. Species confirmed to be within the appropriate square are included in this section. The ABBO, AMO, OBA and ORAA utilize a provincial wide 10 km x 10 km (100 km<sup>2</sup>) square grid system. Due to the large spatial extent (100 km<sup>2</sup>), the potential presence of these SAR within a given area should be interpreted with caution.



# Table 3: Species at Risk Potential Occurrence

| -  | s Name, Status (SARA <sup>1</sup> ,<br>Rank <sup>3</sup> ), and Data Source <sup>4</sup> | Preferred Habitat   | Potential SAR<br>Habitat/Occurrence⁵  |
|--|--|---|---|
|  |  | SAR Birds   |   |
| Bank Swal<br>( <i>Riparia rip</i><br>SARA:<br>ESA:<br>S-Rank:<br>Source: |  | Nesting occurs in vertical or near-vertical<br>banks of substrate such as fine sand or silt,<br>such as eroding lake bluffs and river banks,<br>topsoil piles in construction areas and<br>extraction faces in aggregate pits. Foraging<br>occurs in a variety of open terrestrial and<br>aquatic habitats (Falconer et. al. 2016).   | <b>Low</b> - No suitable nesting habitat in<br>the immediate vicinity of the<br>proposed bridge location. Potential<br>suitable foraging habitat present<br>within the study area.  |
| Barn Swal<br>(Hirundo ru<br>SARA:<br>ESA:<br>S-Rank:<br>Source:          |  | Often found feeding in a range of open<br>habitats including fields, marshes, meadows,<br>and ponds. They primarily use man-made<br>structures such as building, bridges, and<br>culverts for nesting (COSEWIC 2011a).  | <b>Low</b> – No structures suitable for<br>nesting is present at the potential<br>pedestrian bridge location. The area<br>to the east of Little River is<br>dominated by shrubs and grasses<br>and provides open areas for<br>foraging. |
| Bobolink<br>( <i>Dolichony:</i><br>SARA:<br>ESA:<br>S-Rank:<br>Source:   | x oryzivorus)<br>Threatened<br>Threatened<br>S4B<br>ABBO (2001-2005)                     | Bobolink nest primarily in forage crops,<br>hayfields and associated pastures are their<br>preferred habitat. Bobolink also occur in wet<br>prairie, graminoid peatlands and abandoned<br>fields dominated by tall grasses, no-till<br>cropland, small-grain fields, reed beds and<br>irrigated fields in arid regions. This species<br>does not generally occupy fields of row crops<br>or pastures in valleys with high shrub density<br>or intensively grazed pastures (COSEWIC<br>2010a). | <b>Low</b> – No suitable habitat within the vicinity of the potential bridge location or study area.  |
| Chimney S<br>(Chaetura )<br>SARA:<br>ESA:<br>S-Rank:<br>Source:          |  | Nesting and roosting habitat is generally a<br>dark, sheltered spot with vertical surfaces to<br>attach the nest to. Hollow trees were the<br>main nesting habitat prior to European<br>settlement. Artificial structures became<br>commonly used after European settlement,<br>including chimneys and barns. Feeding often<br>occurs near water due to the abundance of<br>insects (COSEWIC 2007a).  | <b>Low</b> – No suitable nesting habitat<br>within the vicinity of the potential<br>bridge location. Potential suitable<br>foraging habitat may occur within<br>the Little River area.  |
| Common<br>(Chordeiles<br>SARA:<br>ESA:<br>S-Rank:<br>Source:             | Nighthawk<br>s minor)<br>Threatened<br>Special Concern<br>S4B<br>ABBO (2001-2005)        | Breeding habitat includes open habitat such<br>as sand dunes, beaches, forest clearings,<br>short-grass prairies, pastures, and a variety of<br>other landscapes. Urban and natural areas<br>are used for nesting and feeding, though<br>natural areas seem to be preferred (COSEWIC<br>2007b).   | <b>Low</b> –Potential suitable nesting and foraging habitat may occur within the study area.  |



| Species Name, Status (SARA <sup>1</sup> ,<br>ESA <sup>2</sup> , S-Rank <sup>3</sup> ), and Data Source <sup>4</sup>   | Preferred Habitat  | Potential SAR<br>Habitat/Occurrence <sup>5</sup>  |
|---|--|---|
| Eastern Meadowlark<br>(Sturnella magna)<br>SARA: Threatened<br>ESA: Threatened<br>S-Rank: S4B<br>Source: ABBO (2001–2005)   | A bird most common in native grasslands,<br>pastures and savannas. It also uses a wide<br>variety of other anthropogenic grassland<br>habitats. As with other grassland bird species,<br>the suitability of grassland habitat for this<br>species involves a combination of landscape<br>and patch characteristics (COSEWIC 2011b).  | <b>Low</b> – The habitat within the study<br>area is not suitable for Eastern<br>Meadowlark.  |
| Red-headed Woodpecker(Melanerpes erythrocephalus)SARA:ThreatenedESA:Special ConcernS-Rank:S4BSource:ABBO (2001–2005)  | Generally, prefer open deciduous forests,<br>particularly with oak and beech, forest edges,<br>riparian forests, grasslands, orchards,<br>pastures, roadsides, urban parks, golf<br>courses, cemeteries, as well as along beaver<br>ponds and brooks (COSEWIC 2007c).  | <b>Low</b> – Potential suitable habitat in the vegetated riparian area.   |
|   | SAR Reptiles – Turtles   |   |
| Blanding's Turtle<br>(Emydoidea blandingii)<br>Great Lakes – St. Lawrence<br>population<br>SARA: Threatened<br>ESA: Threatened<br>S-Rank: S3<br>Source: ORAA (2009) | Prefers lakes, permanent or temporary pools,<br>slow-flowing streams, marshes and swamps<br>that are shallow and rich in nutrients, organic<br>soil and dense vegetation. Females dig their<br>nest various loose substrates, including sand,<br>gravel, organic soil and cobblestone up to<br>400 m from a waterbody (ECCC 2017a).  | <b>Moderate</b> – The Little River is slow-<br>flowing with shallow areas along the<br>west shore. However limited aquatic<br>vegetation present.             |
|   | SAR Reptiles –Snakes   |   |
| Butler's Gartersnake<br>( <i>Thamnophis butleri</i> )<br>SARA: Endangered<br>ESA: Endangered<br>S-Rank: S2<br>Source: ORAA (2014)                                   | Inhabits open areas with dense grasses<br>(cultural meadows, grasslands, old fields,<br>tallgrass prairie communities) in close<br>proximity to wet areas (small marshes,<br>seasonal wet areas, small bodies of water).<br>Also found in early successional habitat with<br>shrubs and trees, along treed edges and in<br>vacant lots, small parks and abandoned sites<br>in urban areas (Environment Canada 2016). | <b>Moderate</b> – Potential suitable<br>habitat within the study area,<br>though limited due to the short-<br>manicured lawn surrounding the<br>Little River. |
| Eastern Foxsnake(Pantheropis gloydi)Carolinian populationSARA:EndangeredESA:EndangeredS-Rank:S3Source:ORAA (2018)   | Use a mosaic of habitat types, including early<br>successional habitat (marsh and coastal<br>meadow marsh, prairie, savannah, old field,<br>sand dunes and dune-slough complexes)<br>(ECCC 2017). Also associated with<br>anthropogenic features including residential<br>areas bordering suitable natural habitat.  | <b>Moderate</b> – Potential suitable<br>habitat within the study area,<br>though limited due to the short-<br>manicured lawn surrounding the<br>Little River. |



| -  | s Name, Status (SARA <sup>1</sup> ,<br>Rank <sup>3</sup> ), and Data Source <sup>4</sup> | Preferred Habitat  | Potential SAR<br>Habitat/Occurrence <sup>5</sup>  |
|--|--|--|---|
|  |  | SAR Mammals  |   |
| Eastern Small-footed Myotis<br>(Myodis leibii) |  | Roosts under loose rocks on exposed rock<br>outcrops, crevices and cliffs, and occasionally<br>in buildings, under bridges and highway   | <b>Low</b> – No suitable habitat within the<br>Project footprint. Not known to<br>occur in Windsor (Humphrey 2017). |
| SARA:<br>ESA:<br>S-Rank:<br>Source:            | No Status<br>Endangered<br>S2S3<br>MNRF correspondence                                   | overpasses and under tree bark. Caves and<br>mines that remain above 0°C provide<br>overwintering habitat (Humphrey 2017).   |   |
| Little Brow                                    |  | Roosts in tree cavity, including small spaces  | <b>Low</b> – Limited trees present within   |
| (Myotis luc                                    | ifugus)  | or crevices found in loose bark, hollow trees, rock faces and human structures such as   | the study area; however no trees present within the direct project  |
| SARA:<br>ESA:<br>S-Rank:<br>Source:            | Endangered<br>Endangered<br>S4<br>MNRF correspondence                                    | attics, walls and bat boxes. Hibernates in<br>caves and abandoned mines during the<br>winter months. Typically forages over water<br>with surrounding open habitat (COSEWIC<br>2013).  | footprint.  |
| Northern<br>(Myotis sep<br>SARA:               | <b>Myotis</b><br>otentrionalis)<br>Endangered  | Roosts in usually decaying tree cavity,<br>including small spaces or crevices found in<br>loose bark, hollow trees, rock faces and<br>human structures such as attics, walls and bat<br>boxes. Hibernates in caves and abandoned | <b>Low</b> – Trees present within the study area.   |
| ESA:<br>S-Rank:<br>Source:                     | Endangered<br>S3<br>MNRF correspondence  | mines during the winter months. Typically<br>forages for primarily terrestrial insects<br>(Environment Canada 2015).   |   |
| <b>Tri-colour</b><br>(Perimyotis               | <b>ed bat</b><br>s subflavus)  | Roosting habitat includes trees, dead clusters<br>of leaves or arboreal lichens on trees. Barns<br>or similar structures may also be used. Caves   | <b>Low</b> – Trees present within the study area.   |
| SARA:<br>ESA:<br>S-Rank:<br>Source:            | Endangered<br>Endangered<br>S5<br>MNRF correspondence                                    | and mines that remain above 0°C provide<br>overwintering habitat (Environment Canada<br>2015).   |   |
| SAR Fish                                       |  |  |   |
| Northern<br>(Noturus st                        |  | Prefers riffles and runs in medium to large<br>streams and rivers with clear to turbid waters<br>and moderate to swift current over sand to  | <b>Low</b> – No suitable habitat within the<br>Little River. Extended periods of<br>turbid water likely restricts   |
| SARA:<br>ESA:<br>S-Rank:<br>Source:            | No Status<br>Endangered<br>S1<br>MNRF correspondence                                     | rock substrate.  | occupancy.  |

<sup>1</sup> Species At Risk Act, 2002 (SARA).

<sup>2</sup> Endangered Species Act, 2007 (ESA).

<sup>3</sup> S1 - Extremely rare throughout its range in the province; S2 - Rare throughout its range in the province; S3 - Uncommon or vulnerable species; S4 - Apparently Secure Species; S5 - Secure Species; SX - Extirpated; B - Breeding; N - Non-breeding; ? - Uncertainty



<sup>4</sup> Dates shown are the most recent record. NHIC = Natural Heritage Information Centre, ABBO = Atlas of the Breeding Birds of Ontario, AMO = Atlas of Mammals of Ontario, ORAA = Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas.

<sup>5</sup> Definitions provided in Section 4.2.5

Tri-colored Bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) primarily roost in tree foliage (mainly within clustered oak or maple leaves), with leaf roosts shaped like umbrellas with a "roof" and a hollow core where bats rest. Little Brown Myotis (*Myotis lucifugus*) and Northern Myotis (*Myotis septentrionalis*) roost in tree cavities, including small spaces or crevices found in loose bark, hollow trees, rock faces, and human structures such as attics, walls, and bat boxes. Eastern Small-footed Myotis (*Myotis leibii*) prefer heavily forested, mountain regions and frequently roosts in caves within hemlock forests. Suitable snags (i.e. standing live or dead trees) meeting the requirements of maternity roost sites (i.e. a >10 cm diameter at breast height [DBH] exhibiting cracks, crevices, hollows, cavities, and/or loose or naturally exfoliating bark) were not observed within the Project study area.

Northern Madtom (*Noturus stigmosus*) was included in the Wood correspondence to MNRF though this fish species was located in an NHIC square outside of the Project study area. The MNRF did not indicate records of this species in the vicinity of the Project study area. The Northern Madtom typically inhabits large creeks and small rivers and has been captured locally in deep water within the Detroit River and Lake St. Clair. The Northern Madtom usually avoids turbid waters and demonstrates a preference for areas with little cover and a moderate current and rocky substrate.

Confirmation of the results presented above related to SAR and Project implications under the ESA (2007) were sought from the MNRF. A technical letter outlining the results of the field survey program and occurrence probabilities was provided to the MNRF for review on September 25, 2018. The MNRF confirmed on October 12, 2018 that the Project would not likely result in any impacts to SAR and additional approvals under the ESA (2007) were not likely necessary. The MNRF further provided a list of mitigation measures relative to SAR of which must be implemented to ensure continued compliance with the ESA (2007) during construction. These mitigation measures are provided below in Section 6.5. MNRF correspondence is provided in Appendix B.



#### **PROPOSED PROJECT DETAILS**

The proposed McHugh Multi-Use Bridge crossing over the Little River is a pony truss clear span superstructure design with supporting abutments at the top of bank. No in-water piers are included as part of the design. The span of the bridge is 35 m with a travelled width of 2.44 m. The centerline of the bridge is approximately 3.39 m above the design water level of 175.44 meters above sea level (masl) and 4.65 m above the approximate stream bed elevation. Embankments below the abutments will not change. Grading following backfill of the abutment excavations will match existing. General arrangement drawings are provided in Appendix G and Figure 3 below provides an illustration of a similar type representation of the bridge crossing structure being proposed. This image is of a bridge crossing the Little River downstream of the proposed McHugh Multi-Use Bridge.



#### Figure 3: Representation of the Proposed Bridge Structure

\*installed downstream of Project Site on Little River

#### **Description of the Work**

A temporary staging and storage area will be delineated within the parking lot of the WFCU Centre. On the east side of the Little River, access to the site of the proposed bridge crossing will follow the existing MUP and cut grass trails/paths to the extent possible. Access to the MUP path on the west side of the Little River will be off McHugh Street. No staging or temporary storage will be permitted on the east side of the bridge.



Excavations for abutment construction will be required on both sides of the Little River. The excavations will be above the existing water level and set back from the water's edge by approximately 8 m - 9 m. All excavated material will be removed from the site and stored within the temporary staging and storage area. Excess material not used as backfill will be removed off site as per applicable provincial requirements. Construction of connecting pathways from the MUP to the bridge will include removal of the existing topsoil layer, placement of gravel material and compaction. Completion of these works requires the removal of existing vegetation, including select riparian trees directly adjacent to the Little River. To the greatest extent possible, tree removals will be limited. Trees within the direct footprint of the path and excavation will be removed. It is estimated that 75 m<sup>2</sup> of existing riparian vegetation along the east embankment will be removed permanently as a result of the Project. The area of permanent vegetation impact on the west embankment is estimated to be 30 m<sup>2</sup>. Project related footprint impacts related to the removal of vegetation are presented in Figure 4. No temporary or permanent fill will be placed below the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) at any point during the Project.

Erection of the bridge superstructure will occur from the west side of the crossing given ease of access and minimal clearance restrictions. The erection process will occur from above the top of bank and will not require any entry into the watercourse or access to the embankments below the abutments.

Based on the information provided to date and proximity to the Little River, it is assumed that dewatering of the excavations will be required to facilitate construction of the new abutments as the excavation is likely to contain seeping groundwater (Wood, 2018). It is further assumed that dewatering can be managed daily to be below 50,000 L/day and as such dewatering activities related to the project works do not require registration in the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Park's (MECP) Environmental Activity Sector Registry (EASR). Should conditions or the scope of work change during the course construction, requirements for compliance under the *Ontario Water Resources Act* (OWRA) should be further reviewed by the Project Team.

# Additional Works

The MUP is proposed to extend to the WFCU Centre parking lot. This extension requires the construction of a crossing structure within the previously identified stormwater drainage feature. To support the MUP a 3.0 m x 1.8 m x 3.8 m precast concrete box culvert will be installed. As noted above, the drainage feature was determined not to support or provide fish habitat. Impacts to the surrounding natural environment as result of the construction of this culvert are anticipated to be minimal.





### IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RECOMMENDED MITIGATION

The following sections have been prepared to provide a summary of potential direct and indirect impacts to the natural environment relative to the Project works and recommendations for mitigation measures and strategies to avoid, minimize and/or reduce these impacts.

Identified project related impacts include exposure of protected soils, increased erosion and sediment mobilization potential and equipment and machinery operating adjacent to a watercourse. The use of industrial equipment has the potential to leak and/or result in spills of petroleum products, hydraulic fluids and/or oil/grease into the Little River. Increases in containments to surface water features, including sediment, can result in the displacement of aquatic species, alterations to habitat form, function and value, reductions in respiratory functions and feeding efficiencies, direct acute toxic effects, increases in stress responses and/or delayed impacts resulting from chronic exposure or persistence of the contaminant in the environment.

In general, anticipated impacts to the Little River, on wildlife, particularly SAR, are anticipated to be negligible as the Project's permanent footprint is small in extent and is not within areas identified as critical, rare or of particular importance to local resident wildlife. Temporary works related to construction has been identified as the main vector of potential project related impacts for the construction of the new bridge crossing; however, as presented below the implementation of the recommended mitigation measures will reduce risk of impacts to the aquatic ecosystem.

Permanent footprint impacts as a result of the project are expected to result in the loss of local wildlife habitat that consists primarily of non-native, tolerant and early successional species. The footprint impact is expected to cover approximately 30 m<sup>2</sup> and 75 m<sup>2</sup> on the west and east sides of the bridge crossing respectively. Within the impacted area no critical, limiting and/or significant aquatic habitat was documented. Similarly, no rare or significant vegetation species or communities, including SAR, or SWH was documented within the impacted area.

# **General Mitigation**

The following general mitigation strategies will be implemented during construction:

- Staging will occur within the designated area of the WFCU Centre parking lot to avoid disturbing the natural environment beyond the Project footprint.
- No access to the natural shoreline and areas adjacent to the Little River beyond the abutment excavation will occur, to protect environmentally sensitive areas. Silt fence will be installed around the perimeter of the work area to provide a visual barrier to



construction staff and equipment operators and to minimize the likelihood of a potential release of sediment into the Little River.

- Operate, store, and maintain equipment, vehicles, and associated materials in a manner that prevents the entry of any deleterious substance from entering the Little River.
- Implement drip pans under machinery (i.e. generators, pumps, etc.) in operation within the work area.
- Any re-fuelling is to be undertaken at least 30 m from the Little River and any other surface drainage feature; to the greatest extent possible given the limitations imposed by the site layout.
- Temporarily store, handle and dispose of all materials used or generated (e.g. organics, soils, construction waste and debris, etc.) during site preparation, construction, and cleanup in a manner that prevents their entry to the Little River.
- Ensure a Spill Management Plan (including spill kit materials, instructions regarding their use, education of staff, and emergency contact numbers) is present on-site at all times for implementation in the event of an accidental spill. All spills are to be reported to the MECP's Spills Action Centre (SAC) at 1-800-268-6060.
- All Project related works are to be undertaken in compliance with Ontario Provincial Standard Specifications (OPSS) 182 General Specification for Environmental Protection for Construction In and Around Waterbodies and on Watercourse Banks.
- Ensure that machinery arrives on site in a clean condition and is maintained free of fluid leaks, invasive species and noxious weeds.
- Identify local regulatory authorities and have contact information available on site. Local regulatory authorities are to include a minimum the MECP, MNRF, DFO, the City of Windsor, ERCA and local emergency service providers.

# **Erosion and Sediment Control Measures**

- Design and implement standard Erosion and Sediment Control (ESC) measures, consistent with current OPSS and Ontario Standard Provincial Drawings (OPSD), to contain/isolate the work area, manage site drainage/runoff and prevent erosion of exposed soils and migration of sediment. ESC measures will be implemented prior to commencement of works, and maintained through all phases of the project, until vegetation is re-established, and all disturbed ground is permanently stabilized. The layout of prescribed ESC measures is provided in Appendix G as part of the detail design drawing package. The drawing illustrates the layout of the proposed ESC measures to be implemented during the course of construction
- ESC measures will include:
  - Installation of effective ESC measures before starting work to prevent sediment from entering the Little River. Silt fence barrier will be installed along the down



slope where upgradient areas have been disturbed or exposed as a result of site access requirements or construction activities. Silt fence barrier will also be installed around any staging/storage areas where material with the potential to result in sediment mobilization into the Little River is present. Silt fence barrier will be installed as per OPSS 805 and OPSD 219.110. Silt fence shall be free of a reinforcing netting to avoid possible wildlife entanglement.

- Dewatering shall be undertaken in agreement with relevant legislation and approval. At a minimum, a filter bag to remove suspended sediment from dewatering activities will be used. The filter bag will be located in an area where vegetation is present to sufficiently provide a stabilized flow path as the effluent returns to the Little River. Monitor flow discharge path for evidence of erosion and implement additional measures as required. Where possible, existing SWM facilities will be utilized as a part of the water management program during construction.
- Waste material (e.g., excavation spoils, construction waste and materials) shall be stored and contained beyond the top of bank, and away from surface drainage features to prevent re-entry.
- Regular inspection and maintenance of ESC measures and structures during construction.
- Removal of non-biodegradable ESC materials once site is stabilized.
- Stabilization will include the application of a standard seed mix as per OPSS 804.

# **Fish and Fish Habitat**

- To protect the local fish community during critical life stages (i.e. spawning and rearing), no in-water work will be permitted from March 31<sup>st</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup> in any given year. It is noted that no direct in-water work is required for this Project; however, in-water work is defined as 'all works following earth disturbance along the embankment in preparation for abutment excavation to backfill, grading and embankment stabilization with topsoil and seed'. The erection of the superstructure can be completed outside of the timing restriction as this work does not pose any significant risk of impacting the Little River.
- All dewatering discharge, if required, shall be directed to a filter bag to remove sediments. The filter bag shall be located in an area that is sufficiently vegetated, stable and does not display any evidence of erosion or instability.
- Immediately stabilize disturbed embankments resulting from project activities to prevent erosion and/or sedimentation, preferably through re-vegetation with native species suitable for the site.
- Remove all construction materials from site upon project completion.
- Concrete wash water to be managed in agreement with regulatory requirements.



# 4 Wildlife

- Removal of woody vegetation will occur outside of the migratory bird nesting period (April 1<sup>st</sup> to August 15<sup>th</sup>) and activities will occur in accordance with the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* (MBCA) and *Migratory Bird Regulations*. These timing constraints should not be perceived as absolutes. This period represents the core breeding period, although some species may nest in March and September. Ultimately, the objective from a compliance perspective is to not circumvent the MBCA. As such, due diligence measures should be implemented and documented for any nest searching efforts, including record control, to ensure compliance with the MBCA;
- For activities which may occur during bird nesting season, surveys to identify nesting activity will be completed by a qualified Avian Biologist within 48 hours of scheduled work activities. The Avian Biologist conducting the surveys must be able to identify birds by species and be knowledgeable of nesting seasons and activities for appropriate species.
- If nesting activity is detected within the work area, activities which may potentially impact the nest will not be undertaken.

## Species at Risk and Significant Wildlife Habitat

The following measures have been provided by the MNRF and must be employed to ensure Project works do not contravene the ESA (2007) (MNRF, 2018b).

- Any species listed as Endangered or Threatened on the (SARO) List that is encountered within the Project area must be protected from all harm and harassment.
- Any SAR incidentally encountered must be protected from harm and harassment. If a SAR species is encountered, it should be given adequate time to leave the area before starting work. If a SAR species must be moved, a qualified Biologist should be contacted for advice/help before it is moved.
- Any SAR individual that is present at the project site should be reported to the MNRF Aylmer District staff (519-773-4751 or ESA.Aylmer@ontario.ca) within 48 hours of the observation or the next working day, whichever comes first.
- If an injured or deceased SAR is found or a SAR individual is accidentally unearthed from overwintering, the specimen must be placed in a non-airtight container that is maintained at an appropriate temperature and a Wildlife Custodian (authorized under the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act) should be contacted. A list of authorized Wildlife Custodians, their locations and their specialties available (e.g. reptiles) is at https://www.ontario.ca/page/find-wildlife-rehabilitator. MNRF must be contacted immediately after the occurrence.



- As a cold-blooded species, snakes are generally slow moving in periods of cool temperatures, and therefore, are more susceptible to harm. To the extent possible, any digging/excavation activities and vegetation clearing associated with the project should be conducted before <u>March 30<sup>th</sup></u> or after <u>June 1<sup>st</sup></u>, to ensure work is completed when snake individuals are either over-wintering or are active and most able to flee areas of disturbance. When this is not possible, the area to be excavated/cleared of vegetation must be walked and visually surveyed for the presence of SAR snakes each day prior to (re)initiating these activities.
- Prior to project commencement, temporary snake barrier fencing should be installed along the limits of the construction footprint in order to exclude snakes from entering the area. Reptile and Amphibian Exclusion Fencing for installation specifications are provided in Appendix H. The location of fencing is depicted on the drawings in Appendix G. Fencing must also be placed around the full perimeter, including access points, of the temporary staging and storage area. Fencing at access can be temporarily repositioned during the day with full closure to be re-instated at the end of the working day. The height of the fencing should meet requirements to exclude both Eastern Foxsnake (2.0 m) and Butler's Gartersnake (0.6 m).
- The use of mesh or netting type stabilization material must not be used for ESC measures. To prevent the entanglement of SAR snakes, an alternative product such as Curlex Netfree® blanket or the use of rip-rap over geotextile fabric is recommended.
- Construction and vegetation clearing equipment that is left idle for over one (1) hour or is parked overnight on the property should be surveyed for the presence of SAR snakes before (re)ignition. This visual examination should include all lower components of the machinery, including operational extensions and running gear.
- Butler's Gartersnake will utilize animal and crayfish burrows to overwinter and escape extreme heat during the summer period. They will also utilize natural and artificial cover objects such as logs, rocks, rock piles, brush piles and debris for thermoregulation and to forage under for earthworms. These specific features must be flagged for avoidance and protected from all disturbances that would result in damage and destruction of their habitat functions.
- Care should be taken to limit the creation and duration of debris stockpiles (i.e. lumber, topsoil, bricks, other construction materials, etc.) to ensure that no potential Eastern Foxsnake habitat is created during the construction period.

# Adaptive Management

To ensure the mitigation strategies are implemented as intended and to provide any 'field fit' recommendations, compliance monitoring as part of Contract Administration services will be provided by Wood during the course of construction.

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#### **DFO Self-Assessment**

As the proposed project works are being conducted in or near a waterbody that support fish that are part of or that support a Commercial, Recreational or Aboriginal (CRA) fishery, a Self-Assessment was undertaken as per requirements of the *Fisheries Act*. The DFO provides a framework to evaluate project related impacts and requirements for review and/or project authorization under the federal *Fisheries Act*.

The assessment of Project related impacts was undertaken utilizing the DFO Risk Management Framework (RMF) (DFO, 2005). The RMF is decision-making processes of which applies a risk management approach to evaluate project impacts with habitat protection provisions of the *Fisheries Act*. The RMF identifies Pathways of Effects (PoE) diagrams that are used to describe development project in terms of the activities that are involved, the type of cause-effect relationships that are known to exist, and the mechanisms by which stressors ultimately lead to effects in the aquatic environment.

On the PoE diagrams, cause-and-effect pathways connect the activity to a potential stressor, and a stressor to an ultimate effect on fish and fish habitat. Each pathway provides the opportunity to apply mitigation measures of which can reduce or eliminate a potential effect. If mitigation measures cannot be implemented or if the mitigation measures do not fully address an identified stressor, then the effects are considered to be residual. The series of PoE diagrams provided by DFO include common land-based and in-water activities associated with a broad range of development projects (DFO, 2014).

Identified residual effects are then determine on their likelihood to result in serious harm as defined under the *Fisheries Act*. DFO defined serious harm as follows (DFO, 2005):

- the **death of fish**;
- a **permanent alteration** to fish habitat of a spatial scale, duration or intensity that limits or diminishes the ability of fish to use such habitats as spawning grounds, or as nursery, rearing, or food supply areas, or as a migration corridor, or any other area in order to carry out one or more of their life processes;
- the destruction of fish habitat of a spatial scale, duration, or intensity that fish can no longer rely upon such habitats for use as spawning grounds, or as nursery, rearing, or food supply areas, or as a migration corridor, or any other area in order to carry out one or more of their life processes.

Through a review of project activities under the RMF, the identification of applicable PoE diagrams, the project works were screened to determine if there was potential to cause serious harm to fish

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and fish habitat. Through this assessment the areas to be temporarily and permanently impacted as a result of the project were considered to seasonally accessible to fish and did not provide any significant value as habitat that would be considered critical for any potential species present in the Little River. The determination of habitat was based on an evaluation of flow characteristics and the hydraulic regime, substrate composition and availability of features that could provide structure (cover or refuge) for inhabiting fish species or suitable areas for spawning. The identification of these habitat components was determined to be generally consistent within the immediate area of the proposed bridge crossing. Furthermore, these components were determined to not be rare or limiting within the Project study area and as such were considered to not be critical for the functioning of the aquatic ecosystem.

The following PoE diagrams were applicable to this Project:

Land-Based Activities: Excavation, Grading, Use of Industrial Equipment and Vegetation Clearing.

**In-Water Activities**: Placement of Material or Structures in Water, Use of Industrial Equipment, Wastewater Management and Water Extraction.

The extent, duration and intensity of impacts, including residual effects, under the Placement of Material or Structure in Water PoE was considered to result in residual effects from the permanent construction of the abutments below the OHWM. The area to be permanently impacted was considered to be small relative to the available habitat within the Project study area. The area of impact below the OHWM was estimated to total 10.14 m<sup>2</sup> of which includes both bridge abutment areas. The area of permanent impact occurs directly at the top of bank of the Little River and does not occur within any portion of the normal wetted area of the Little River. The resulting residual effects were determined to not result in changes to the food supply, habitat structure or cover, sediment concentrations, or nutrient concentration. With the application of mitigation measures as presented above, no other residual effects were identified and as such the Project was not considered to cause serious harm to fish or fish habitat under the *Fisheries Act* and as such notification to DFO is not required for this Project.



# **CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The results of this study as documented within this report indicate that the proposed Project poses minimal risk to inhabiting wildlife species and is not expected to result in the significant loss or alteration of any ecological form or function of habitat. The implementation of the mitigation measures as presented above will limit any temporary impacts on the natural environment and ensure compliance with the ESA (2007). As noted above, MNRF has confirmed that impacts to SAR are not anticipated and as, such permitting under the ESA (2007) would not be required for this project to proceed (Appendix B).

Through the DFO Self-Assessment process as presented above, identified impacts were determined to not cause serious harm to fish and fish habitat as defined under the *Fisheries Act*. A formal Request for Review by DFO is not required for the project to proceed. Though work below the OHWM will be required, the work will occur within a small area and appropriate mitigation measures will be applied to mitigate identified impacts. The construction of new bridge abutments are not anticipated to alter the natural channel form or function through this stretch of the Little River. Embankment restoration immediately following construction will promote long term stability and re-naturalization of the Little River top of bank area.

To protect the natural environment during the course of construction, the following key mitigation features will be implemented:

- Implement ESC measures as presented in Appendix G, ensuring controls are in place to minimize the likelihood of sediment entering Little River;
- Removal of woody vegetation will occur outside of the migratory bird nesting period (<u>April 1<sup>st</sup></u> to <u>August 15<sup>th</sup></u>) and activities will occur in accordance with the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* (MBCA) and *Migratory Bird Regulations*.
- Restrict in-water work from March 31<sup>st</sup> to July 1<sup>st</sup> to protect the critical life stages of fish;
- Restrict digging/excavation activities and vegetation clearing to before March 30<sup>th</sup> or after June 1<sup>st</sup>, to ensure work is completed when snake individuals are either over-wintering or are active and most able to flee areas of disturbance; and,
- Contact Aylmer District MNRF for any encounters or sightings of SAR.

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**CLOSURE** 

This Report has been prepared based on a review of secondary source information, agency consultation, the execution of a field survey program and is based on the anticipated Project footprint as presented as part of the most current design (Appendix G). We trust that this memorandum provides a level of detail and technical expertise to meet the requirements of ERCA for a formal submission and subsequent approval for the Project under O. Reg. 158/06.

If you should have any questions regarding this submittal or require further project related information, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, a Division of Wood Canada Limited

Prepared By:

Lana an

Roxanne Dibbley, B.Sc. Biologist Direct Tel 1-519-650-7109 E-mail roxanne.dibbley@woodplc.com

Reviewed by:

Peter Andrew-McBride, M.Sc., EP, CPESC Senior Environmental Scientist

Reviewed By:

Bradley Dufour, M.Sc., CAN-CISEC, CPESC Senior Environmental Specialist

Reviewed by:

Husm ?

Season Snyder, PhD Senior Ecologist



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# APPENDIX A

ERCA - Application for Development, Interference With Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Permit



regs@erca.org P.519.776.5209 F.519.776.8688 360 Fairview Avenue West Suite 311, Essex, ON N8M 1Y6

# LANDOWNER AUTHORIZATION

| I, We, City of Windsor |                               | are the owner(s)              | _ are the owner(s) of property described |  |  |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
| (name of               | f property owner)             |                               |  |  |  |
| as Lot                 | , Plan Number                 | or Concession,                |  |  |  |
| Roll Number            |                               | _, municipal address known as |  |  |  |
|                        | in the Town(ship              | ) of <u>City of Windsor</u>   | and hereby                               |  |  |
| authorize Bradley Dufo | ur - Wood<br>name of agent)   | (contact numbe                | r) <u>519-650-7109</u>                   |  |  |
| to act as agent to ob  | tain information from the E   | ssex Region Conservation      | on Authority                             |  |  |
| regarding the above-   | referenced property and, fu   | urther, to authorize Rep      | resentatives of the                      |  |  |
| Essex Region Conser    | vation Authority to underta   | ke field investigations, s    | survey and/or                            |  |  |
| prepare reports rega   | rding Authority issues for th | ne above-referenced pro       | operty.                                  |  |  |
| 105                    | Dec.                          | 5 118                         |  |  |  |
| Signature of Owner     | Date                          |                               |  |  |  |
|                        |                               |                               |  |  |  |

Signature of Owner

Date





# **Essex Region Conservation Authority**

360 Fairview Ave. W., Essex, ON, N8M 1Y6, p: (519)776-5209, f: (519)776-8688, www.erca.org

#### APPLICATION FOR PERMIT FOR DEVELOPMENT, INTERFERENCE WITH WETLANDS AND ALTERATION TO SHORELINES AND WATERCOURSES

| Section 28 - Conservation   | Authorities Act as amended | APPLICATION FEE | APPLICATION NUMBER |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Section 14 - Public Lands A | Act as amended             |                 |                    |

Applicant/Owner:

| Name  | Telephone              |  |
|---|------------------------|--|
| City of Windsor - Trevor Duquette                       | 519-253-2300 x2772     |  |
| Complete Mailing Address - Street No. & Name, Town/City | Postal Code            |  |
| 2450 McDougall Avenue                                   | N8X3N6                 |  |
| E-mail Address  | Cell #                 |  |
| tduquette@citywindsor.ca                                | 519-890-1593           |  |
| Contractor/Agent: (if applicable)                       |                        |  |
| Name  | Telephone 519-650-7109 |  |
| Bradley Dufour - Wood                                   | Email bradley.dufour@  |  |
| Complete Mailing Address - Street No. & Name, Town/City | Postal Code            |  |
| 900 Maple Grove Road, Unit 10, Cambridge, Ontario       | N3H4R7                 |  |

#### Location of Proposed Works:

| Municipality                  | Waterway              |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|
| City of Windsor               | Littler River         |
| Municipal Street Address      | Legal Description:    |
| south of McHugh Street Bridge | (Lot/Plan/Concession) |

Proposed Works to be Undertaken See Schedule "B" attached

| CONSTRUCTIO  | ON OF BREAKW  | ALL, DOC  | K, BOAT                             | HOUSE/L        | AUNCH/RAMP       | etc.  |
|--|---|---|-------------------------------------|----------------|------------------|---|
| area:  | length:   |   | width:                              |                |                  | OFFICE USE  |
| Construction De  | etails:   |   |                                     |                |                  | Floodproofing Elevation:  |
| CONSTRUCTIO  | ON OF A DWELL   | ING, GAR  | AGE, AD                             | DITION, C      | THER STRUCT      | URE   |
| area: 90 m   | length: 18  | 3   | width:                              | 5 m            |                  | OFFICE USE  |
| Setback from W   | <sup>/aterway:</sup> abutm  | ients are   | 8-9 m fr                            | om norm        | al wetted edg    | E Floodproofing Elevation:                                      |
| Drainage Detail  | S (ie. side yard swale  | s, retaining wa   | ulls):                              |                |                  |   |
| PLACEMENT 8  | GRADING OF  | FILL  |                                     |                |                  |   |
| Dimensions of a  | area to be filled   | length:   |                                     | width          | : 0              | depth:  |
| Type of material   | ls to be used   | sand  | earth                               | gravel         | armour stone     | other   |
| Erosion/silting p  | revention (describe)  |   |                                     |                |                  |   |
| OTHER  |   |   |                                     |                |                  |   |
| Construction of  | bridge abutment   | s below the   | e OHWM d                            | of the Little  | River. Bridge to | be 3.388 m above  |
| <ol> <li>2) Size, location and din</li> <li>3) Location, dimensions</li> <li>4) Elevation of any wind</li> </ol> | n relation to surrounding<br>nensions of property - all<br>and elevation of all prop<br>ows, doors, vents, or oth | existing structur<br>osed structures,<br>er exterior open | res<br>and fill<br>ings in relation | to final grade |                  |   |
|  | must be in complete fin<br>ion by the Board of Dire   |   |                                     |                |                  | lected under the authority of<br>will be used only by programme |

approved, does not preclude any approvals by any other existing laws and approved, does not preclude any approved statement contained in this application. Questions about the collection of personal information should be directed to: ERCA, 360 Fairview Avenue West, Essex, Ontario, N8M 1Y6

Applicant's Signature

Dec. 5-118



**Planning Act Applications** 

# Conservation Authority 2018 FEE SCHEDULE

# Watershed Management Services

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|   | 2018            | HST                     | Total            |
|---|-----------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| Floodplain Regulations and Related Development Applications   |                 |                         |                  |
| 1) Requests for information on regulations for property transaction (lawyers, owners, purchasers or agents)   | \$ 175.00       | \$ 22.75                | \$ 197.75        |
| 2) Applications for renewal of existing permits within one calendar year of expiration of original permit   |                 | x                       | \$ 115.00        |
| 3) Technical review and clearance where permit or site visit is not required  | \$ 115.00       | x                       | \$ 115.00        |
| 4) Placing or grading of fill within regulated areas, light repair of existing breakwalls, small building additions, small out buildings not requiring a survey   | \$ 150.00       | x                       | \$ 150.00        |
| 5) Completing files required for approvals complying with the DART Protocol for Municipal Drainage Act/Section 28   | \$ 200.00       | x                       | \$ 200.00        |
| 6) Technical evaluations (elevation, setback survey or site report; property evaluation for tax assessment; ecological evaluation and/or report)  | \$ 775.00       | \$ 100.75               | \$ 875.75        |
| 7) Alteration to waterways/shorelines including breakwalls, finger docks less than 15 square metres, crossings, outlets, etc. (not requiring engineering or other detailed analysis)  | \$ 500.00       | x                       | \$ 500.00        |
| 8) Alteration to waterways/shorelines including breakwalls, crossings, outlets, etc. (requiring engineering or other<br>detailed analysis) & docks exceeding 15 sq. metres that include lifts, PWC platforms or other accessories | \$ 800.00       | х                       | \$ 800.00        |
| 9) Applications for new building construction including renovations and for sites not directly abutting shorelines or watercourses  | \$ 500.00       | х                       | \$ 500.00        |
| 10) Applications for building construction sites directly abutting shorelines or watercourses (including additions impacting on setback)  |                 | x                       | \$ 800.00        |
| 11) Application for non-inhabitable garage/storage building <53.5 m <sup>2</sup> ) and for <50% building additions not including other renovations  |                 | х                       | \$ 250.00        |
| 12) Applications involving more than one regulated activity, or those requiring engineering studies/designs, environmental studies  | \$ 1,200.00     | х                       | \$ 1,200.00      |
| 13) Applications where work has proceeded without authorization and/or prior to application of permit   | Double noted fe | ees to reflect costs in | these situations |
| 14) Development proposals involving multiple dwelling units (more Base cost (up to 5 lots)  | \$ 2,000.00     | х                       | \$ 2,000.00      |
| than 5 lots) where stormwater management or other engineering Cost per additional lot   | \$ 160.00       | х                       | \$ 160.00        |
| evaluations are required. Maximum   | \$ 5,000.00     | х                       | \$ 5,000.00      |
| 15) Commercial/industrial/institutional developments where Base cost (up to one hectare)  | \$ 1,750.00     | х                       | \$ 1,750.00      |
| stormwater management or other engineering evaluations are Cost per additional hectare  | \$ 400.00       | х                       | \$ 400.00        |
| required. Maximum   | \$ 4,000.00     | х                       | \$ 4,000.00      |
| 16) Municipal Infrastructure/Recreational Projects involving one or<br>more regulated activities or those requiring specific engineering design   | \$2,500.00      | х                       | \$ 2,500.00      |
| and or Environmental studies. Max Cost for projects over 20 ha or multi disciplinary  | \$6,500.00      | х                       | \$ 6,500.00      |
| 17) Input/review/comment on full Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) done by consultants  | \$ 1,025.00     | х                       | \$ 1,025.00      |
| 18) Input/review/comment on scoped EIAs done by consultants   | \$ 500.00       | х                       | \$ 500.00        |
| 19) Technical review and clearance where EIA is not required  | \$ 115.00       | х                       | \$ 115.00        |
| 20) Input, review, clearances on substantial drainage proposals in defined areas of environmental concern   | \$ 800.00       | х                       | \$ 800.00        |
| 21) Input, review, clearances on other drainage proposals   | \$ 150.00       | х                       | \$ 150.00        |
| Other Development Services  |                 |                         | ]                |
| 22) Survey services   | \$ 425.00       | \$ 55.25                | \$ 480.25        |
| 23) Technical review fee assessed on resubmission of previously reviewed technical or environmental studies   | \$ 250.00       | х                       | \$ 250.00        |

Watershed Planning

24) Minor Variance \$ 115.00 \$ 115.00 х 25) Draft Plan of Subdivision/Condominium Approval \$ 300.00 \$ 300.00 Х 26) Clearance Letters for Subdivision /Condominium Approval (applies to each phase of subdivision requested) \$ 115.00 \$ 115.00 Х 27) Consent \$ 200.00 \$ 200.00 х 28) Multiple Consent applications on a single application (up to 3) \$ 200.00 \$ 200.00 Х 29) Multiple Minor Variance applications on a single application (up to 3) \$ 115.00 115.00 \$ Х 30) Minor Official Plan/Zoning By-Law Amdendment (E.g., Single Family Residence) 200.00 \$ 200.00 х \$ 31) Major Official Plan/Zoning By-Law Amendment (E.g., Industrial, Commercial, Institutional, Subdivision etc) \$ 300.00 \$ 300.00 х 32) Site Plan Control \$ 200.00 \$ 200.00 х 33) Official Plan Amendment and Zoning By-law Amendment Combination \$ 275.00 \$ 275.00 Х 34) Part Lot Control Exemption \$ 115.00 \$ 115.00 Х 35) Consent with Zoning By-Law Amendment Combination 250.00 \$ 250.00 \$ х 36) Consent with Minor Variance Combination \$ 250.00 250.00 \$ х

"X" indicates that the fee is exempt from HST



APPENDIX B

Agency Correspondence

# **Dufour, Bradley**

| From:    | ESA-Aylmer (MNRF) <esa.aylmer@ontario.ca></esa.aylmer@ontario.ca>              |
|----------|--|
| Sent:    | Friday, October 12, 2018 9:54 AM   |
| То:      | Dufour, Bradley  |
| Cc:      | Andrew-Mcbride, Peter; MacLeod, Shane D; tduquette@citywindsor.ca; Dibbley,    |
|          | Roxanne  |
| Subject: | RE: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, |
|          | Windsor, Ontario   |

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From: Dufour, Bradley [mailto:bradley.dufour@woodplc.com]

Sent: October 11, 2018 11:41 AM

To: ESA-Aylmer (MNRF) <ESA.Aylmer@ontario.ca>

**Cc:** Andrew-Mcbride, Peter <peter.andrew-mcbride@woodplc.com>; MacLeod, Shane D

<shane.macleod@woodplc.com>; tduquette@citywindsor.ca; Dibbley, Roxanne <roxanne.dibbley@woodplc.com> Subject: RE: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

Karissa,

Please find an updated figure that depicts the revised and final location of the McHugh Pedestrian Bridge over Little River. The crossing has shifted to the north by approximately 10-15 m. The project footprint is now further away from the identified crayfish burrows. I trust that this slight alignment alteration does not impact your decision with regards to ESA compliance. Please confirm this conclusion.

Regards, Brad

Bradley Dufour, M.Sc., CAN-CISEC, CPESC

 From: Dufour, Bradley
Sent: Tuesday, October 09, 2018 8:28 AM
To: ESA-Aylmer (MNRF) <<u>ESA.Aylmer@ontario.ca</u>>
Cc: Andrew-Mcbride, Peter <<u>peter.andrew-mcbride@woodplc.com</u>>; MacLeod, Shane D
<<u>shane.macleod@woodplc.com</u>>; tduquette@citywindsor.ca; Dibbley, Roxanne <<u>roxanne.dibbley@woodplc.com</u>>
Subject: RE: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

Karissa,

Thank you for the prompt response We will ensure the mitigation measures outlined in your letter are incorporated into the design and construction phasing for this project. Should you require any further project notifications related to design or compliance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Brad

Bradley Dufour, M.Sc., CAN-CISEC, CPESC

From: ESA-Aylmer (MNRF) <<u>ESA.Aylmer@ontario.ca</u>>
Sent: Friday, October 05, 2018 4:13 PM
To: Dufour, Bradley <<u>bradley.dufour@woodplc.com</u>>
Cc: Andrew-Mcbride, Peter <<u>peter.andrew-mcbride@woodplc.com</u>>; MacLeod, Shane D
<<u>shane.macleod@woodplc.com</u>>; tduquette@citywindsor.ca; Dibbley, Roxanne <<u>roxanne.dibbley@woodplc.com</u>>
Subject: RE: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

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From: Dufour, Bradley [mailto:bradley.dufour@woodplc.com] Sent: September 25, 2018 2:02 PM To: ESA-Aylmer (MNRF) < ESA.Aylmer@ontario.ca>

Cc: Andrew-Mcbride, Peter <<u>peter.andrew-mcbride@woodplc.com</u>>; MacLeod, Shane D <<u>shane.macleod@woodplc.com</u>>; <u>tduquette@citywindsor.ca</u>; Dibbley, Roxanne <<u>roxanne.dibbley@woodplc.com</u>> Subject: RE: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

Hi Karissa,

Please find attached two (2) figures that outline anticipated project impacts for each of the bridge crossings. These figures outline permanent footprint impacts of the new bridges and temporary work areas that are to be utilized by the Contractor during construction. All areas still require refinement as our study progresses. We will provide updates if any substantial changes are to occur beyond what is presented in the figures. Our engineering team is still developing drawings, once complete those can be provided for your reference and inclusion in the project file.

I've also provided a markup on the McHugh Pedestrian Bridge figure which highlights the area where the crayfish burrows were found during the field surveys. The area was a low depression in the ground.

If you require further information or have additional questions, please feel free to contact me.

Brad

## Bradley Dufour, M.Sc., CAN-CISEC, CPESC

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From: ESA-Aylmer (MNRF) <<u>ESA.Aylmer@ontario.ca</u>>
Sent: Friday, September 07, 2018 5:01 PM
To: Dufour, Bradley <<u>bradley.dufour@woodplc.com</u>>
Cc: Andrew-Mcbride, Peter <<u>peter.andrew-mcbride@woodplc.com</u>>; MacLeod, Shane D
<<u>shane.macleod@woodplc.com</u>>; tduquette@citywindsor.ca; Dibbley, Roxanne <<u>roxanne.dibbley@woodplc.com</u>>
Subject: RE: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

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From: Dufour, Bradley [mailto:bradley.dufour@woodplc.com]
Sent: August 24, 2018 2:04 PM
To: ESA-Aylmer (MNRF) <<u>ESA.Aylmer@ontario.ca</u>>
Cc: Andrew-Mcbride, Peter <<u>peter.andrew-mcbride@woodplc.com</u>>; MacLeod, Shane D
<<u>shane.macleod@woodplc.com</u>>; tduquette@citywindsor.ca; Dibbley, Roxanne <<u>roxanne.dibbley@woodplc.com</u>>
Subject: RE: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

Good afternoon Karissa,

Please find attached a Species at Risk screening letter that provides an outline of field surveys undertaken, habitat potential and anticipated project related impacts to the listed species as provided below. With this submission, we are looking for your acceptance of our conclusions to ensure compliance with the *Endangered Species Act*, 2007. We are in the process of preparing a formal Environmental Impact Assessment report of which we can provide to your office for further review once complete.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards, Brad

Bradley Dufour, M.Sc., CAN-CISEC, CPESC

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From: ESA-Aylmer (MNRF) <<u>ESA.Aylmer@ontario.ca</u>>
Sent: Thursday, June 28, 2018 10:43 AM
To: Dufour, Bradley <<u>bradley.dufour@woodplc.com</u>>; <u>tduquette@citywindsor.ca</u>
Cc: Andrew-Mcbride, Peter <<u>peter.andrew-mcbride@woodplc.com</u>>; MacLeod, Shane D
<<u>shane.macleod@woodplc.com</u>>
Subject: RE: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

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#### Species at Risk (SAR)

# An initial SAR (Endangered and Threatened species) screening has been completed for the above-noted property.

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Based on the information provided for this project, MNRF considers there to be high likelihood for the abovenoted species and/or habitat to occur within the proposed project footprint. It is rear to our the d Second S

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 Karissa Reischke, MSc.
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From: Dufour, Bradley [mailto:bradley.dufour@woodplc.com]
Sent: April 23, 2018 7:50 AM
To: ESA-Aylmer (MNRF) <<u>ESA.Aylmer@ontario.ca</u>>
Cc: Andrew-Mcbride, Peter <<u>peter.andrew-mcbride@woodplc.com</u>>; MacLeod, Shane D
<<u>shane.macleod@woodplc.com</u>>
Subject: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

Please find attached an information request to support the design and construction of 2 pedestrian bridges over the Little River in Windsor, Ontario.

If additional information is required, please let me know.

Regards, Brad

#### Bradley Dufour, M.Sc., CAN-CISEC, CPESC

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Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, a Division of Wood Canada Limited 900 Maple Grove Road, Unit 10 Cambridge, ON N3H 4R7 Canada T: 519-650-7100 www.woodplc.com

August 22, 2018 SWW187089

Karissa Reischke Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Aylmer District 615 John St N Aylmer ON, N5H 2S8

# RE: Little River Multi-Use Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

Dear Ms. Reischke,

# **Proponent Information**

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, a Division of Wood Canada Limited (Wood) has been retained by the Corporation of the City of Windsor (COW) to complete the detailed design and site-specific environmental studies for construction of two (2) new multi-use pedestrian bridges in Windsor, Ontario. Wood has previously submitted an Information Request to the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNRF) on April 23, 2018 and a response was received June 28, 2018. On site natural heritage screening was undertaken in the spring and summer of this year, specifically focused on potential for Species at Risk (SAR) occurrences at the each of the proposed bridge locations.

# Purpose of the Memorandum

The following provides a summary of on site observations related to occurrences of SAR and identification of typical habitat elements required for each of the identified species. The intent of this summary is to provide the MNRF with site specific information to inform future project direction and to determine requirements for approvals under the *Endangered Species Act*, 2007 (ESA).

# **Contact Information**

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions 900 Maple Grove Road, Unit 10 Cambridge, Ontario N3H 4R7 Tel: (519) 650-7100 Attn: Bradley Dufour The Corporation of the City of Windsor Parks and Recreation 2450 McDougall Street Windsor, Ontario N8X 3N6 Tel: (519) 253-2300 x2772 Attn: Trevor Duquette



Karissa Reischke, MNRF Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions 22-Aug-18

# Location

The proposed multi-use bridges are located in Windsor, Ontario, spanning the Little River; McHugh bridge and concrete box culvert (UTM 17T 341331.11 m E 4687068.31 m N) and Hawthorne bridge (UTM 17T 341263.95 m E 4686177.94 m N) (Figure 1).

At the proposed location of the McHugh bridge, the embankments of the Little River contain visible cobble material and are densely vegetated with shrub and herbaceous species. An existing Multi-Use Path (MUP) is present on each side of the Littler River. The MUPs are beyond the top of the bank and run parallel to the Little River within the area of study. West of the Little River and the Windsor Family Credit Union (WFCU) Parkland Trail, a stormwater drainage feature is present. The stormwater feature runs parallel to the Little River and captures surface flow from the adjoining WFCU Centre parking lot. Standing shallow water and dense common reed (*Phragmites australis*) were observed in the stormwater feature. East of the Little River, a small natural area is present, with soccer fields and residential development farther east of the natural area, south of the proposed bridge location. A stormwater pond was noted approximately 330 m northeast of the proposed bridge crossing. The McHugh Street bridge is approximately 60 m upstream of the proposed bridge crossing.

At the proposed location of the Hawthorne bridge, a narrow buffer of deciduous trees along each side of the Littler River is present. A MUP, the Teedie North/South Trail, is present, running parallel, on each side of the Little River. West of the Little River, a narrow area of manicured lawn is present, with residential development and roads immediately farther west. East of the Little River, a large area of manicured lawn is present with residential development and roads south of the proposed bridge crossing. Commercial development is beyond the manicured lawns, approximately 60 m northeast of the proposed bridge crossing.

Figures 2 and 3 below illustrate the general characterizations of natural heritage and environmental features identified above. To provide additional site specific context, representative photographs are provided below in Attachment 1.

# **General Description of Proposed Activities**

The proposed bridge crossing structures will be clear spans that will be set at an elevation at or above the top of bank. No in-water supporting structures or permanent alterations to the embankment below the Ordinary High Water Mark (OHWM) are anticipated. A connecting path to the Ganatchio Trail will be made on both sides at each bridge. Connecting paths are anticipated to be 3.0 m in width. Footprint impacts will be minimized to the greatest extent possible, with specific consideration given to minimizing removal of vegetation and trees at the top of bank. Karissa Reischke, MNRF Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions 22-Aug-18

The detailed design for each bridge will be refined as the study progresses and information from other technical disciplines is compiled and reviewed by the project team.

# **Additional Information**

Background data collection using the Natural Heritage Information Centre (MNRF NHIC) and correspondence with MNRF identified eight (8) SAR as potentially occurring within the general project area (Table 1).

# Table 1: Species at Risk and Rare Species Occurrences in the Vicinity of the Proposed McHughand Hawthorn Bridge Crossings

| Common Name  | Scientific Name             | Provincial Status<br>(ESA, 2007) |  |  |  |
|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Reptiles <sup>1,2</sup>                                  |                             |                                  |  |  |  |
| Butler's Gartersnake <sup>1,2</sup>                      | Thamnophis butleri          | Endangered                       |  |  |  |
| Eastern Foxsnake<br>(Carolinian population) <sup>2</sup> | Pantherophis gloydi         | Endangered                       |  |  |  |
| Snapping Turtle <sup>1</sup>                             | Chelydra serpentina         | Special Concern                  |  |  |  |
| Birds <sup>2</sup>                                       |                             |                                  |  |  |  |
| Bank Swallow <sup>2</sup>                                | Riparia riparia             | Threatened                       |  |  |  |
| Barn Swallow <sup>2</sup>                                | Hirundo rustica             | Threatened                       |  |  |  |
| Eastern Meadowlark <sup>2</sup>                          | Sturnella magna             | Threatened                       |  |  |  |
| Plants <sup>2</sup>                                      |                             |                                  |  |  |  |
| Climbing Prairie Rose <sup>2</sup>                       | Rosa setigera               | Special Concern                  |  |  |  |
| Fish <sup>1</sup>  |                             |                                  |  |  |  |
|  | Notorus sugmosus Endangered |                                  |  |  |  |

<sup>1</sup> Listed in MNRF NHIC records as occurring within the last 30 years

<sup>2</sup> MNRF correspondence received June 28, 2018

Surveys of the proposed bridge crossings were undertaken by two (2) qualified Wood biologists in May and July 2018. Field surveys were completed during appropriate weather conditions to observe and detect wildlife. No SAR vegetation was observed within proximity to either proposed bridge site. Overall,



potential reptile SAR habitat was present on both banks at the McHugh bridge location and east of the McHugh bridge location while SAR habitat was very limited in proximity to the Hawthorne bridge location. The Little River was slow moving and turbid in colouration, with no visibility below the surface at both bridge sites during both surveys. Substrate could not be examined due to the water depth (greater than 1 m) and the lack of visibility below the surface. The observed turbid water and slow current are not the preferred habitat for Northern Madtom.

Meadow habitat east of the Little River at the McHugh bridge location is potentially suitable for Butler's Gartersnake (BGS) and Eastern Foxsnake (EFS). Crayfish burrows were observed, which are known to be used by BGS as access to underground overwintering sites. This area of meadow habitat is bordered to the southeast by deciduous trees which are considered to not be ideal habitat for either SAR snake species. The vegetation east of the MUP, north of the McHugh Street bridge, and east of the paved path south of the McHugh Street bridge is mowed, however, and less ideal than the drain banks or the naturalized area south of the bridge. Barn swallows were observed flying over Little River near the McHugh bridge location during the July survey; however, there was no evidence of nesting nearby, particularly under the McHugh bridge. No other avian SAR were observed or heard during the surveys. The surrounding meadow habitat is likely too small to support grassland nesting birds such as Eastern Meadowlark. This species was also not observed or heard calling during surveys which occurred during the breeding bird season.

None of the SAR listed in Table 1, or their habitat, were observed at the Hawthorne bridge. Manicured lawns and residential development surrounding the Hawthorne bridge was considered to not be suitable for the aforementioned SAR. The short grass does not have a thatch layer to provide thermoregulation opportunities for snakes or suitable vegetation for Eastern Meadowlark nesting. Similar to the McHugh bridge, visibility to observe substrate within the Little River was restricted due to turbid colouration and water depth.

# Closure

Historical records of SAR occurrences are provided for the general area at McHugh and Hawthorne bridge locations and following the completion of field surveys, it is our opinion that potential suitable habitat for BGS and EFS exists only at the McHugh bridge location. Direct impacts to these species or detrimental destruction of key habitat features are not anticipated to result from the proposed works as footprint impacts are minimal and staging/storage areas will be outside of the identified potential habitat area. During construction, project commitments will be made to ensure standard mitigation measures are implemented of which will ensure any area resident or migrant wildlife, including SAR, are suitably protected during construction.

Karissa Reischke, MNRF Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions 22-Aug-18

With the above noted, Wood, on behalf of COW, requests a further SAR screening by MNRF for the proposed project. Should you require further information related to this project or if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned. Thank you for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, a Division of Wood Canada Limited

Roxance Delle

Roxanne Dibbley, B. Sc. Biologist Direct Tel.: 226-387-0623 E-mail: roxanne.dibbley@woodplc.com

Le R

Bradley Dufour, M. Sc., CISEC, CPESC Senior Environmental Specialist Direct Tel.: 519-650-7109 E-mail: Bradley.dufour@woodplc.com



Karissa Reischke, MNRF Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions 22-Aug-18

Attachment #1

**Photographic Record** 





Photo 1: McHugh Bridge – Facing downstream from bridge approximately 60 m upstream.



Photo 2: McHugh Bridge – Potential snake habitat east of Little River.





Photo 3: McHugh Bridge – Crayfish burrow east of the river.



Photo 4: McHugh Bridge – Public path east of the river, facing south.





Photo 5: McHugh Bridge – West bank and pedestrian path, facing north.



Photo 6: McHugh Bridge – Facing west bank and WFCU recreation complex from east bank of river.





Photo 7: Hawthorne Bridge – Adjacent land on the west side of the river.



Photo 8: Hawthorne Bridge – Pedestrian path and residential development immediately west of the river.



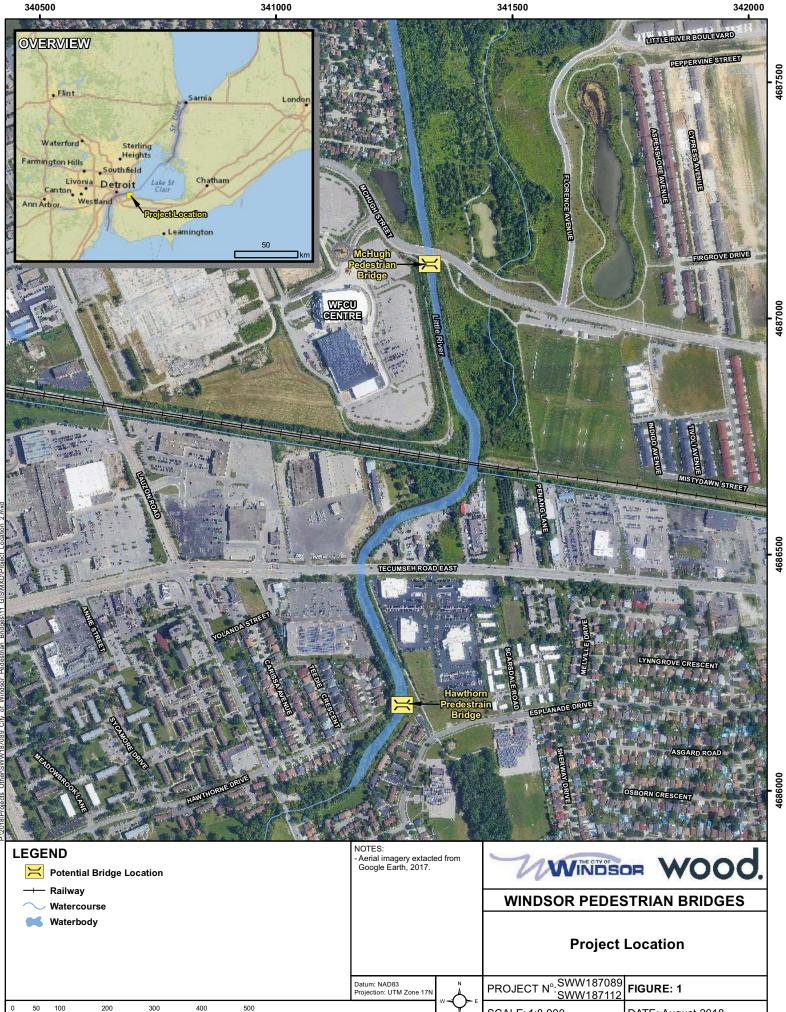


Photo 9: Hawthorne Bridge – Adjacent land on the east side of the river, facing south.



Photo 10: Hawthorne Bridge – Facing east from the river toward manicured lawn and development.

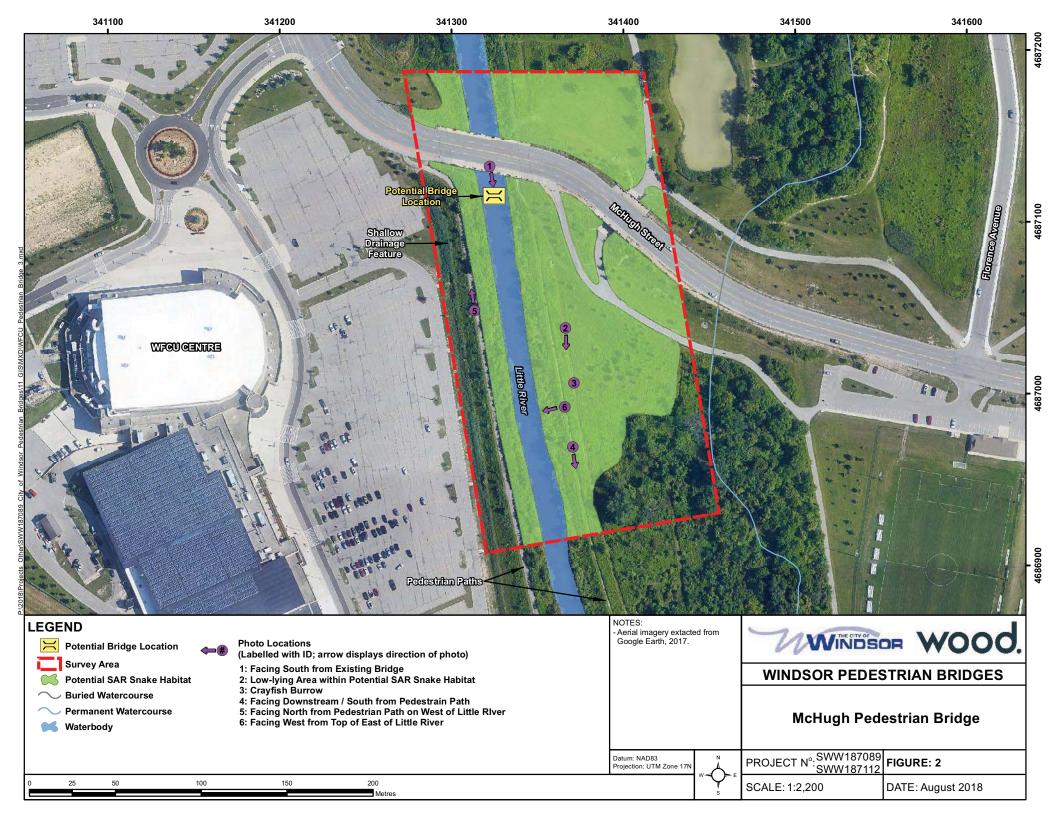




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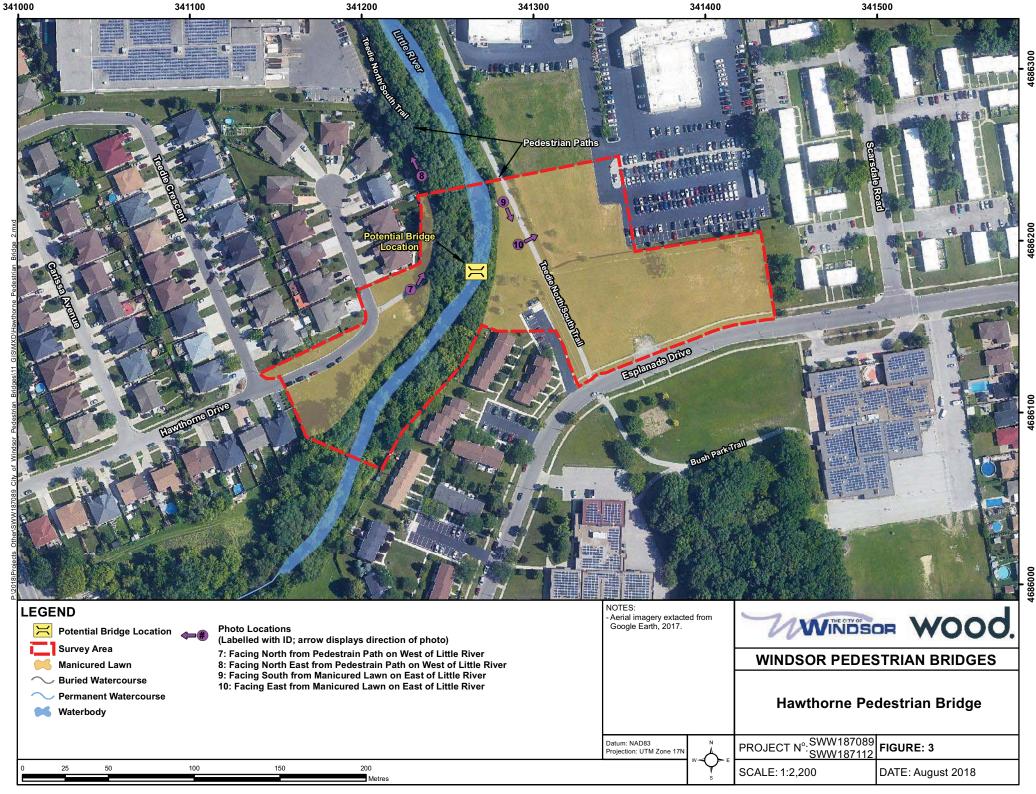




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April 23, 2018 SWW187089/SWW187112

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Aylmer District Office 615 John Street North, Aylmer, ON N5H 2S8 Phone: (519)-799-9241

#### Re: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

To Whom It May Concern:

This request and the attached figure have been prepared by Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, a Division of Wood Canada Limited (Wood), on behalf of the City of Windsor, as a formal request for Species at Risk (SAR) information for two (2) new pedestrian bridges in Windsor, Ontario (WFCU Pedestrian Bridge and Concrete Box Culvert (UTM 17T 341331.11 m E 4687068.31 m N) and Hawthorne Pedestrian Bridge (UTM 17T 341263.95 m E 4686177.94 m N)). Wood has been retained by the City of Windsor to undertake the detailed design and a site-specific environmental study for the construction of these pedestrian bridges across the Little River. The specific location of the project area is shown in the Project Location Map included as **Attachment 1**. Wood has also provided SAR information as sourced from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's (MNRF) Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) and Land Information Ontario database as **Attachment 2**.

Based on the NHIC findings, two (2) potential endangered species were reported in the two (2) 1km NHIC squares encompassing the Project area (702651 & 702650). Occurrence records for these squares within the last 30 years include Butler's Gartersnake (*Thamnophis butleri*) and Northern Madtom (*Notorus stigmosus*). We request that you please review these findings and provide comment related to compliance with the *Endangered Species Act* (ESA), 2007.

Furthermore, we also request any relevant fisheries and aquatic information for the portion of the Little River within the project area, management objectives related to fisheries resources and sensitivity of the fish community. We are also requesting confirmation of a <u>March 31<sup>st</sup></u> to <u>July 1<sup>st</sup></u> fisheries timing window, where in-water work is restricted t protect critical life stages of fish.

This information will assist in avoiding and mitigating potential environmental impacts of this project. Wood will prepare a scoped Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to summarize the environmental study and to assist the City of Windsor in the successful delivery of the project. As previously mentioned, Wood is requesting that the MNRF review the project description and



information provided and confirm if there are environmental concerns associated with the proposed project works.

If you should have any questions regarding the submittal or require further information, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely yours,

Bradley A. Dufour, M.Sc., CAN-CISEC, CPESC Senior Environmental Specialist

Le R

Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions a division of Wood Canada Limited

Direct Tel.: 1-519-650-7109 E-mail: <u>radley.dufour@woodplc.com</u>

- Enclosed: Attachment 1 Project Key Map Attachment 2 – Natural Heritage Features Map
- cc: Shane MacLeod (Wood) Peter Andrew-McBride (Wood)

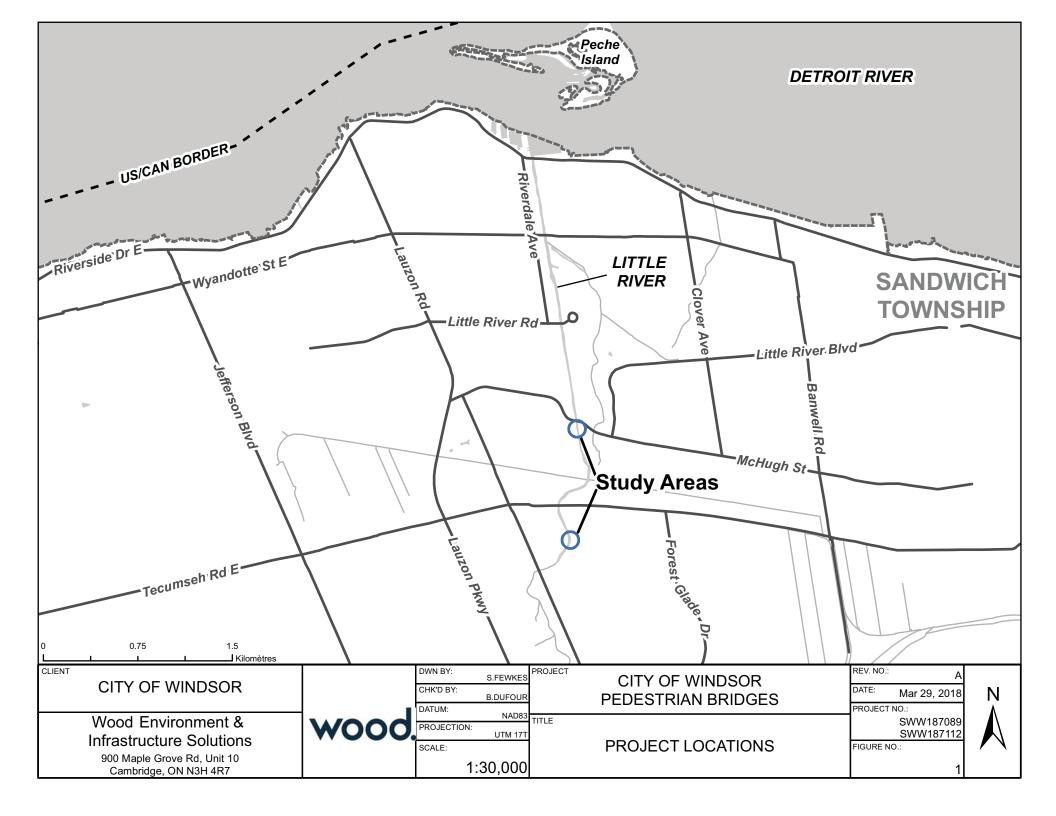




ATTACHMENT 1

**PROJECT KEY MAP** 



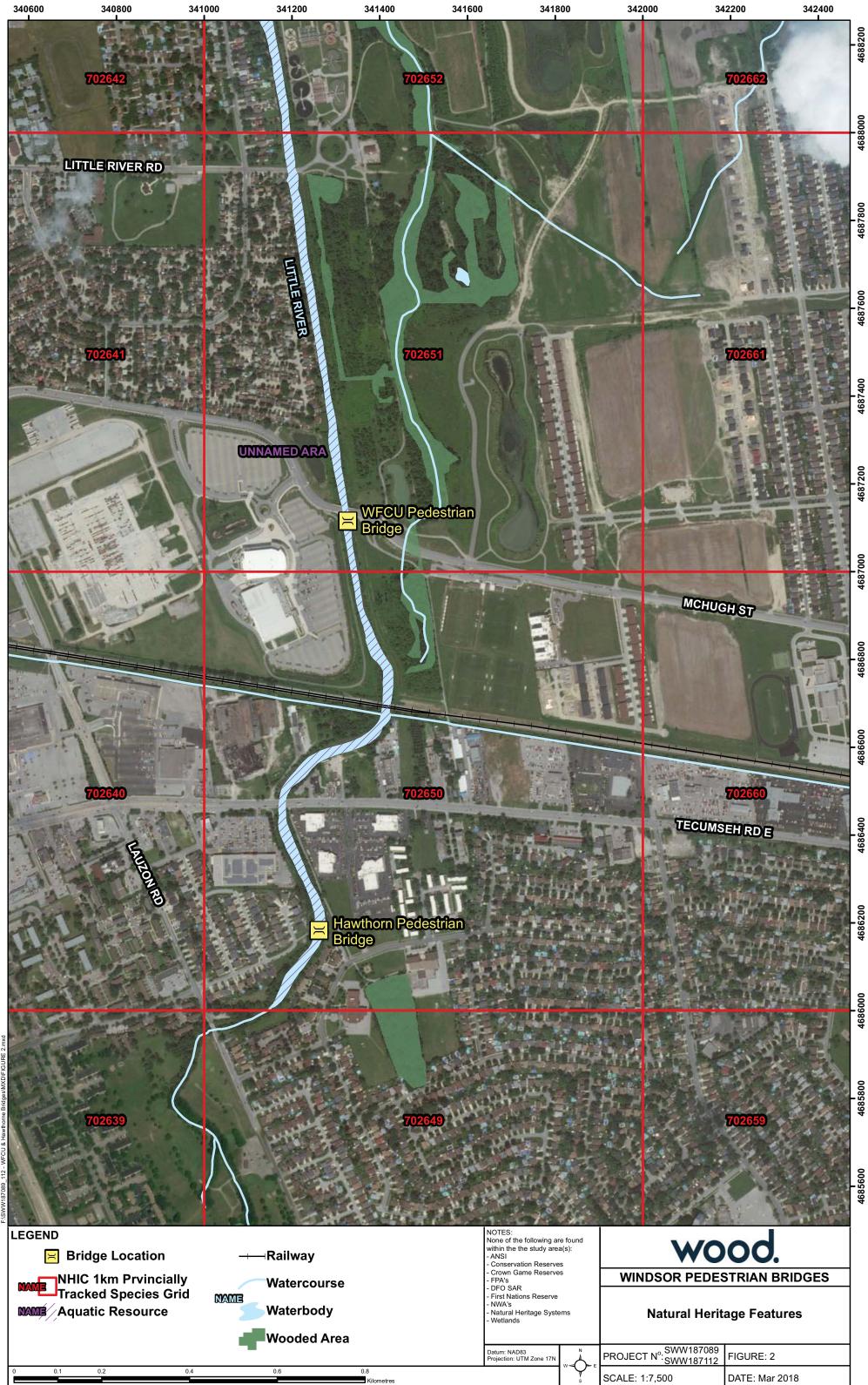




ATTACHMENT 2

NATURAL HERITAGE FEATURES MAP





#### **Dufour, Bradley**

| From:        | Cynthia Casagrande <ccasagrande@erca.org></ccasagrande@erca.org>                      |
|--------------|---|
| Sent:        | Wednesday, May 30, 2018 10:36 AM  |
| То:          | Dufour, Bradley   |
| Cc:          | Andrew-Mcbride, Peter; MacLeod, Shane D; Tom Dufour; Dan Lebedyk; Dan Jenner;         |
|              | Mike Nelson; Godo, Anna; Colucci, Sergio; Tim Byrne                                   |
| Subject:     | RE: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges,        |
|              | Windsor, Ontario  |
| Attachments: | Little River Flood Risk Map - Sheet 6.pdf; Floodline Mapping - ER8-64b.pdf; Floodline |
|              | Mapping - ER8-64a.pdf   |

#### Dear Bradley:

I acknowledge receipt of your email inquiry regarding Natural Heritage requirements for the proposed design and construction of two pedestrian bridges over the Little River. Several members of the ERCA staff have provided guidance and information regarding the Natural Heritage features and requirements for this project. I will now provide information and requirements regarding the <u>Natural Hazard</u> aspect of this proposed project.

A review of our floodplain mapping for the Little River indicates that this waterway is located within an area that is under the jurisdiction of the Essex Region Conservation Authority (ERCA) (Section 28 of the *Conservation Authorities Act*). Prior to undertaking works, a permit is required from this office.

In addition, the Little River is a municipal drain that is under the control of the City of Windsor. This proposed project should be addressed through the *Drainage Act* approval process. All inquiries regarding this proposed two new pedestrian bridges and *Drainage Act* approvals should be made with Ms. Anna Godo, Engineer III/Drainage Superintendent, City of Windsor (email address: agodo@citywindsor.ca).

As part of the *Drainage Act* approval process, the proposed project will be circulated to this office for our comments, review, approval, and issuance of a permit to the City of Windsor. Our comments regarding the proposed two new pedestrian bridge crossing installations will include the following:

The Little River is a modelled waterway. Please find attached the 1:100 year floodline mapping for these sites. The proposed structures must not adversely impact the flow regime of this waterway/drain for all storms up to and including the 1:100 year event. The proposed works cannot change the 1:100 year flood elevations.

Your submission for permit must include the following:

- letter/report describing the rationale behind the proposed design
- design drawings
- level of service of new bridge in comparison to existing bridges/culverts within the waterway/drain
- provide upstream and downstream bridge/culvert sizes
- a proposed sediment and erosion control plan
- a proposed water control plan if needed
- a contingency plan for rain events that exceed the capacity of the proposed water control system if needed
- restoration details
- details of the standard mitigation measures that are to be followed during construction

As part of the proposed work, the following mitigation measures shall be implemented to avoid any adverse effects and impacts to the waterway:

1. Work will not be conducted at times when flows are elevated due to local rain events, storms or seasonal floods. Work will be done in the dry.

2. All disturbed soils on both banks and within the channel, including spoil, must be stabilized immediately upon completion of work. The restoration of the site must be completed to a like or better condition to what existed prior to the works. The spoil material must be spread an appropriate distance from the top of the drain bank to ensure that it is not washed back into the waterway/drain.

3. To prevent sediment entry into the waterway/drain, in the event of an unexpected rainfall, silt barriers and/or traps must be placed in the channel during the works and until the site has been stabilized. All sediment and erosion control measures are to be in accordance with related Ontario Provincial Standards. It is incumbent on the proponent and his/her contractors to ensure that sediment and erosion control measures are functioning properly and are maintained/upgraded as required.

4. Silt or sand accumulated in the barriers/traps must be removed and stabilized on land once the site is stabilized.

5. All activities, including maintenance procedures, should be controlled to prevent the entry of petroleum products, debris, rubble, concrete or other deleterious substances into the water. Vehicular refueling and maintenance should be conducted away from the water.

With respect to Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) concerns and comments, the proposed works to the Little River will need to be self-assessed by you, the proponent, through the DFO website at <a href="http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/index-eng.html">http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/index-eng.html</a>. Through the self-assessment process, you will be able to determine if these works require a formal authorization under the *Fisheries Act*. Please be advised that the Little River is listed as a Type 'E' drain.

The Little River may contain significant species (aquatic species at risk as well as plants, animals, habitat, etc.) that are protected under the provincial *Endangered Species Act*. The ERCA does not screen for species that are protected under the provincial *Endangered Species Act*. It is the proponent's responsibility to ensure all issues related to the provincial *Endangered Species Act* are addressed. All inquiries regarding the provincial *Endangered Species Act* should be made with the Aylmer office of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) (<u>ESA.Aylmer@ontario.ca</u>).

Should any requirements and/or conditions regarding the proposed works be specified by the DFO and/or the MNRF, then these conditions and possible changes would need to be reflected in the ERCA authorization/approval. Please contact this office immediately if there are any changes and/or modifications to the proposed works necessitated by the DFO and MRNF review and clearance.

Based on the above information, we suggest that you provide our office with an opportunity to review your preliminary bridge proposals prior to completing the final design.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Yours truly,

*Cynthia Casagrande* Regulations Coordinator Essex Region Conservation Authority 360 Fairview Avenue West, Suite 311 Essex ON N8M 1Y6 (519) 776-5209, Ext. 349

From: Dufour, Bradley <bradley.dufour@woodplc.com> Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 8:33 AM To: Cynthia Casagrande <CCasagrande@erca.org>
 Cc: Andrew-Mcbride, Peter <peter.andrew-mcbride@woodplc.com>; MacLeod, Shane D
 <shane.macleod@woodplc.com>; Candice Kondratowicz <CKondratowicz@erca.org>
 Subject: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

Good morning Cynthia,

Please find attached an information request to support the design and construction of 2 pedestrian bridges over the Little River in Windsor, Ontario.

If additional project information is required, please let me know.

Regards, Brad

Bradley Dufour, M.Sc., CAN-CISEC, CPESC Sinior in iron int Sini list Mail rom ord int in rid in ind int ind Moil in the second second

bradley.dufour@woodplc.com www.woodplc.com



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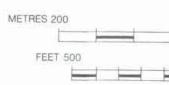
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Environnement Direction Générale des Eaux intérieures Canada



Ministry of Natural Resources Ministère des richesses naturelles Sheet

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MacLaren ENGINEERS INC



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REGULATION No \_\_\_\_\_ No DU RÉGLEMENT \_ CÉDULE No



ESSEX REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

# FLOOD RISK MAP LITTLE RIVER CARTE DE RISQUE D'INONDATION

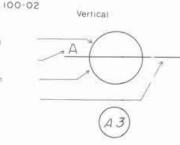
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Maximum Observed flood elevation Reach Identification 1 100 Year flood elevation Cross section number Structure identification



Courbes de cuvette

Points de contrôle

SHEET INDEX

# LÉGENDE

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# TABLEAU D'ASSEMBLAGE



### GENERAL INFORMATION

Vertical datum : Mean sea level Horizontal datum : North American (1927) Map projection Transverse Mercator Central Meridian : 81º - zone 17 Grid spacing : 250 metres Aerial Photography April 1984

# COMPILATION NOTE Production techniques used in the preparation of this map are designed for Class "A" standards.

This map was prepared under the auspices of the Canada Ontario Flood Damage Reduction Agreement signed March 31, 1978

This map is prepared for use in conjuction with the flood plain mapping report dated June 1985 prepared by MacLaren Engineers Inc. for the Essex Region Conservation Authority and forms part thereof.

PRODUCED BY KENTING EARTH SCIENCES LIMITED OTTAWA TORONTO CALGARY ST JOHN'S

# Niveau de référence : Niveau moyen de la mer

RENSEIGNEMENTS GÉNÉRAUX

Système géodésique : Nord Americain unifié (1927) Projection : Transverse de Mercator Méridien central : 81º - zone 17 Quadrillage de : 250 métres Photographies aeriennes (Avril, 1984

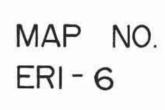
PHOTOGRAMMÉTRIE

Les normes de production de cette carte se conforment aux standards de première classe.

Cette carte a été préparée dans le cadre de l'accord Canada-Ontario de la réduction des dommages dus aux inondations conclu le 31 Mars,1978

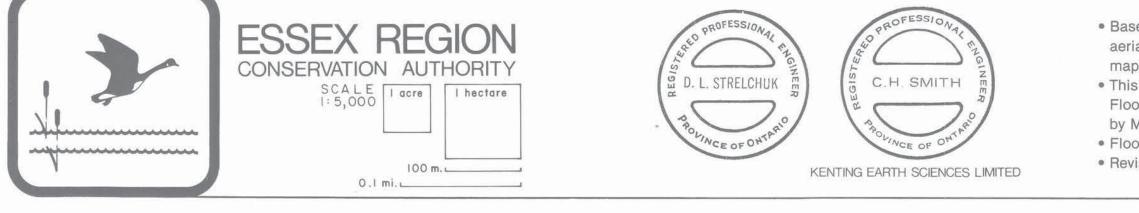
Cette carte est dressée comme apport au rapport de cartographie des plaines inondables daté le Juin 1985 préparé par MacLaren Engineers Inc. pour the Essex Region Conservation Authority et en fait partie





42141-A1





· Base maps prepared and flood line compiled by Kenting Earth Sciences Limited from aerial photographs taken 1975 and 1978 in accordance with specifications for topographic mapping prepared by the Canadian Association of Aerial Surveyors. • This map prepared Dec. 1980 as an extension to Essex County Fill and

Floodline mapping completed for the Essex Region Conservation Authority

by M.M. Dillon Ltd. dated 1976.

• Floodline based on 1:100 year flood level. • Revised calculated flood level 1979-578.4

# LEGEND

Fill line Flood line







#### **Dufour, Bradley**

| From:        | Mike Nelson <mnelson@erca.org></mnelson@erca.org>                              |
|--------------|--|
| Sent:        | Friday, May 11, 2018 3:06 PM   |
| То:          | bradley.dufour@woodplc.com   |
| Cc:          | shane.macleod@woodplc.com; Andrew-Mcbride, Peter; Planning                     |
| Subject:     | RE: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, |
|              | Windsor, Ontario   |
| Attachments: | ERCA-ltr-Info-Request-May-11-2018.pdf  |

Good afternoon Brad,

Per our previous email conversation – please see attached letter. Good luck next week with your field sampling.

Mike

From: Tom Dufour
Sent: Friday, May 11, 2018 9:09 AM
To: Andrew-Mcbride, Peter <peter.andrew-mcbride@woodplc.com>
Cc: shane.macleod@woodplc.com; Cynthia Casagrande <CCasagrande@ERCA.org>; Dan Lebedyk
<DLebedyk@ERCA.org>; bradley.dufour@woodplc.com; Mike Nelson <MNelson@ERCA.org>
Subject: RE: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

Hi Peter –

Please find attached a PDF map of the fish data in your project area. The map shows fish sampling locations from our database. These locations correspond to the [Site#] field in the attached MS Excel spreadsheet. From this information, you can see from where each record was collected.

#### DFO Species at Risk Screening -

You will also notice on the map a qualifier for the data. This lets you know that you should contact the DFO (if not already done so) for the following reasons:

- There are species at risk (SAR) present adjacent to your project location. You will need to get these records from the DFO directly. ERCA is not authorized to disseminate SAR data.

- The data provided is only the data we (ERCA) have available in our database. The DFO may have more data for this region.

On November 25, 2013 (due to amendments to the *Fisheries Act* coming into effect) the existing partnership agreements between DFO and Conservation Authorities lapsed. DFO and Conservation Ontario are currently working to develop a new Memorandum of Understanding for a partnership under the new Fisheries Protection Program. As a result, ERCA currently does not review projects for issues related to Section 35 of the *Fisheries Act*. In the interim, projects will need to be self-assessed by the proponent through the DFO website at <a href="http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/index-eng.html">http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/index-eng.html</a>. Through the self-assessment process, you will be able to determine if the proposed works require a formal authorization under the *Fisheries Act*.

#### MNR Species at Risk Screening -

It is the proponent's responsibility to ensure all issues related to the Endangered Species Act are addressed. All inquiries regarding the *Endangered Species Act* should be sent to <u>ESAScreeningRequest.AyImerDistrict@ontario.ca</u>. MNRF also has on-line information related to ESA reviews/approvals. Please refer to the MNRF website to find information related to the ESA review process.

ALSO – ERCA would very much appreciate if your company would forward any new fish records that result from your project, in any format (MS Excel, PDF Report). We are actively trying to collect as much fish data as possible for our database, and new records are always welcome!

#### TOM DUFOUR, GISP

Geomatics Technician Essex Region Conservation Authority Please consider the environment before printing this email

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Follow us on Twitter: @essexregionca

#### From: Dan Lebedyk

Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 3:18 PM

To: Andrew-Mcbride, Peter <<u>peter.andrew-mcbride@woodplc.com</u>>; <u>bradley.dufour@woodplc.com</u>
 Cc: Tom Dufour <<u>TDufour@erca.org</u>>; <u>shane.macleod@woodplc.com</u>; Cynthia Casagrande <<u>CCasagrande@erca.org</u>>
 Subject: FW: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

Dear Peter:

By way of CC, I am forwarding your request for information onto Tom Dufour, ERCA *Geomatics Technician*, who would be able to provide you with any fish/aquatic species datasets that we may have within our system, for the areas subject to the proposed pedestrian bridges.

With respect to terrestrial information, we do not currently have any data on file for the areas subject to the proposed works. Your field investigations should concentrate on identifying any species at risk, or their habitats, that may be potentially impacted by the proposed construction of the pedestrian bridges. If any are found, appropriate advice from the MNRF should be sought with respect to obtaining any required authorizations.

No other natural heritage issues would need to be addressed as part of our Permit approval process.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you should have any questions or require any additional information.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



DAN LEBEDYK Biologist/Ecologist Essex Region Conservation Authority 360 Fairview Avenue West, Suite 311 • Essex, Ontario • N8M 1Y6 P. 519-776-5209 x 409 • F. 519-776-8688 dlebedyk@erca.org essexregionconservation.ca

#### Please consider the environment before printing this email

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Follow us on Twitter: @essexregionca

From: Andrew-Mcbride, Peter peter.andrew-mcbride@woodplc.com
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2018 2:51 PM
To: Dan Lebedyk <<u>DLebedyk@erca.org</u>>
Subject: FW: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

Hi Dan,

I was just wondering if you'd be asked to weigh in on the attached? Our field team is trying to get out as soon as possible (next week), but we would prefer to have ERCA's input before we go out.

I understand you're quite busy, so I appreciate this is likely in the queue either for you or someone else on your team.

Thanks again, Pete

#### Peter Andrew-McBride

From: Dufour, Bradley [mailto:bradley.dufour@woodplc.com]
Sent: May-08-18 10:11 AM
To: Andrew-Mcbride, Peter peter.andrew-mcbride@woodplc.com
Subject: FW: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

Bradley Dufour, M.Sc., CAN-CISEC, CPESC

From: Dufour, Bradley
Sent: Tuesday, May 08, 2018 9:49 AM
To: Shams, Aniqa <<u>aniqa.shams@woodplc.com</u>>
Subject: FW: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

FYI

Bradley Dufour, M.Sc., CAN-CISEC, CPESC

From: Dufour, Bradley
Sent: Monday, April 23, 2018 8:33 AM
To: 'ccasagrande@erca.org' <<u>ccasagrande@erca.org</u>>
Cc: 'Andrew-Mcbride, Peter' <<u>peter.andrew-mcbride@woodplc.com</u>>; 'MacLeod, Shane D'
<<u>shane.macleod@woodplc.com</u>>; 'admin@erca.org' <<u>admin@erca.org</u>>
Subject: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

Good morning Cynthia,

Please find attached an information request to support the design and construction of 2 pedestrian bridges over the Little River in Windsor, Ontario.

If additional project information is required, please let me know.

Regards, Brad

#### Bradley Dufour, M.Sc., CAN-CISEC, CPESC

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May 11, 2018

regs@erca.org P.519.776.5209 F.519.776.8688 360 Fairview Avenue West Suite 311, Essex, ON N8M 1Y6

Wood Environnent & Infrastructure Solutions, a Division of Wood Canada Limited 160 Traders Blvd. East, Suite 110 Mississauga, ON, L4Z 3K7

Mr. Bradley Dufour:

#### <u>RE: Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario;</u> File No.: SWW187089/SWW187112 - Municipal Class EA Request For Information

This letter is in response to our receipt and review of the following Request For Information for the Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario. It is our understanding that this process is following the Municipal Class EA in accordance with the planning and design process for "Schedule B" projects as outlined in the Municipal Class Environmental Assessment (June 2000, as amended in 2007, 2011 and 2015) under the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act.

Our office received a request for natural heritage information on April 23, 2018. Staff from our office (Tom Dufour) provided a response on May 11, 2018 (attached) that included available fish records in our system. In addition, the response included clarification on our advice on terrestrial natural heritage considerations for the project.

Our office has also received a Notice of Study Commencement for the project and will be providing a response to that notice under separate cover. If you have any questions or require clarification, please don't hesitate to contact our office directly.

Regards,

hem

Michael Nelson Watershed Planner /mn

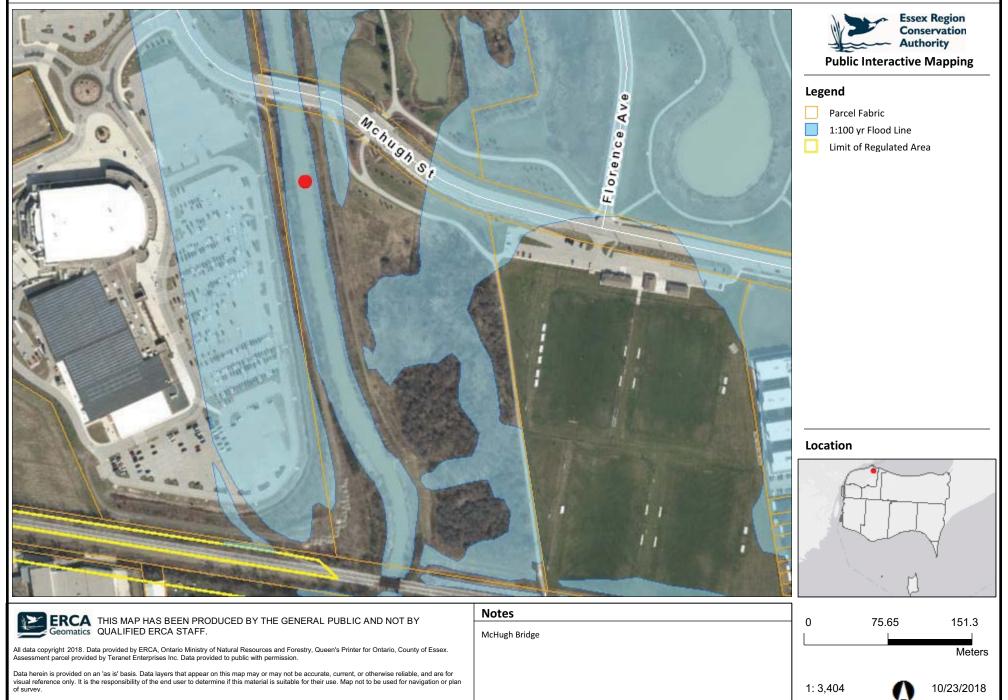
- cc: Planning@erca.org Shane MacLeod (Wood) Peter Andrew-McBride (Wood)
- Encl. E-mail response to information request



Page 1 of 1

Amherstburg / Essex / Kingsville / Lakeshore / LaSalle / Leamington / Pelee Island / Tecumseh / Windsor

## **ERCA Public Internet Mapping**



Aerial photography copyright the City of Windsor/County of Essex/Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Queen's Printer for Ontario/ERCA.

## **ERCA Public Internet Mapping**



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Data herein is provided on an 'as is' basis. Data layers that appear on this map may or may not be accurate, current, or otherwise reliable, and are for visual reference only. It is the responsibility of the end user to determine if this material is suitable for their use. Map not to be used for navigation or plan of survey.

Aerial photography copyright the City of Windsor/County of Essex/Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Queen's Printer for Ontario/ERCA.





April 23, 2018 SWW187089/SWW187112

Essex Region Conservation Authority 360 Fairview Avenue West, Suite 311 Essex, ON N8M 1Y6 Phone: (519)-776-5209

# Re: Information Request for Design and Construction of Two Pedestrian Bridges, Windsor, Ontario

To Whom It May Concern:

This request and the attached figure have been prepared by Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions, a Division of Wood Canada Limited (Wood), on behalf of the City of Windsor, as a formal request for natural heritage information for two (2) new pedestrian bridges in Windsor, Ontario (WFCU Pedestrian Bridge and Concrete Box Culvert (UTM 17T 341331.11 m E 4687068.31 m N) and Hawthorne Pedestrian Bridge (UTM 17T 341263.95 m E 4686177.94 m N)). Wood has been retained by the City of Windsor to undertake the detailed design and a site-specific environmental study for the construction of these pedestrian bridges across the Little River. The specific location of the project area is shown in the Project Location Map included as **Attachment 1**. Wood has also provided Species at Risk (SAR) information as sourced from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry's (MNRF) Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) and Land Information Ontario database as **Attachment 2**.

Please provide any aquatic or fisheries information for the portion of the Little River within the project area, which should be of consideration for the project. Additionally, please provide any terrestrial information which may be of consideration for the project.

This information will assist in developing a Terms of Reference (ToR) with your office to plan for future field surveys. As the project progresses, the information will also be used to avoid and mitigate potential environmental impacts. Wood will prepare a scoped Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to summarize the environmental study and to assist the City of Windsor in the successful delivery of the project. As previously mentioned, Wood is requesting that the Conservation Authority review the project description and information provided and confirm if there are environmental concerns associated with the proposed project works.



If you should have any questions regarding the submittal or require further information, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely yours,

Le R

Bradley A. Dufour, M.Sc., CAN-CISEC, CPESC Senior Environmental Specialist

# Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions a division of Wood Canada Limited

Direct Tel.: 1-519-650-7109 E-mail: <u>rradley.dufour@woodplc.com</u>

- Enclosed: Attachment 1 Project Key Map Attachment 2 – Natural Heritage Features Map
- cc: Shane MacLeod (Wood) Peter Andrew-McBride (Wood)

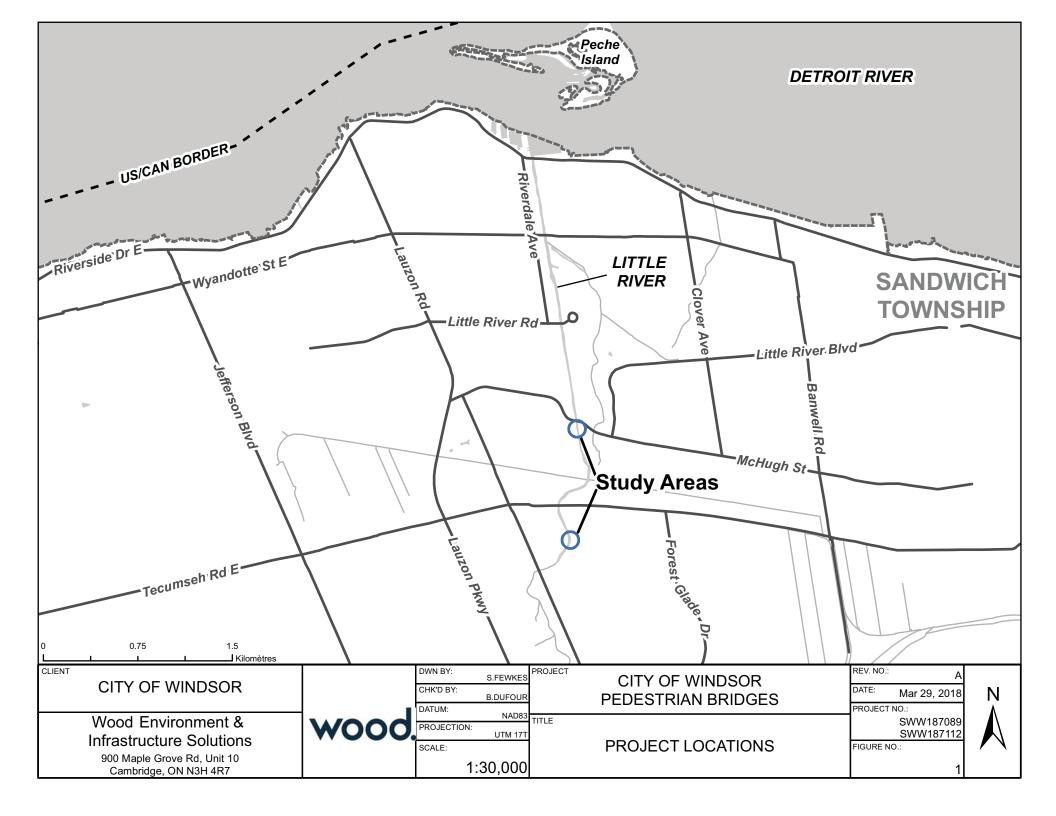




**ATTACHMENT 1** 

**PROJECT KEY MAP** 



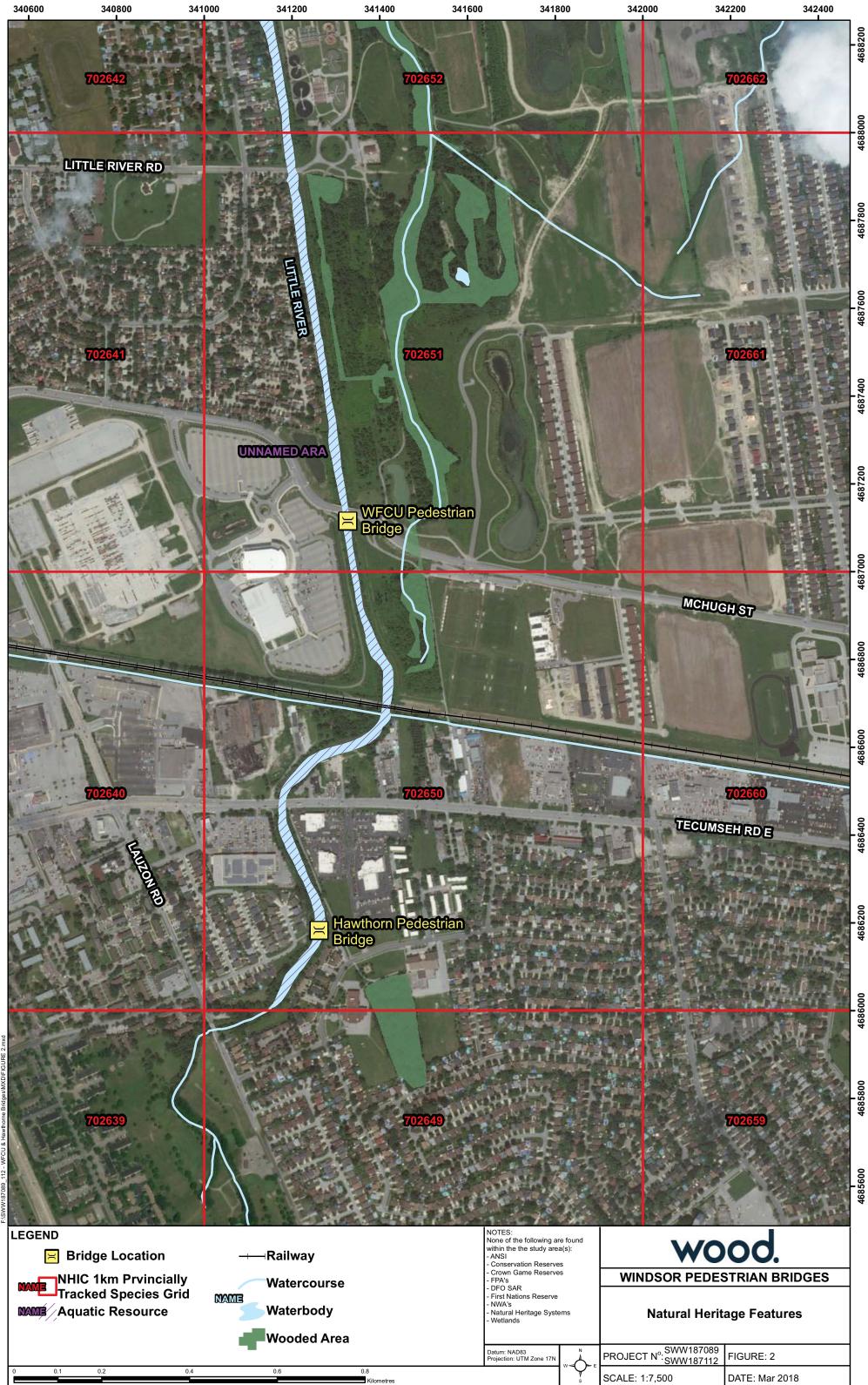




**ATTACHMENT 2** 

NATURAL HERITAGE FEATURES MAP







APPENDIX C

**Aquatic Habitat Survey Sheets** 

page lofs

#### Ministry of Transportation Environmental Guide for Fish and Fish Habitat

Section 4: Field Investigations

Appendix 4.A: Watercourse Field Record Form

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Ministry of Transportation Environmental Guide for Fish and Fish Habitat

Section 4: Field Investigations Appendix 4.C: Fish Habitat Mapping

page 20f3

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Page 3 of 3

### Ministry of Transportation

Environmental Guide for Fish and Fish Habitat

Section 4: Field Investigations Appendix 4.A: Watercourse Field Record Form

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APPENDIX D

**Photographic Record** 



City of Windsor Environmental Impact Assessment Report McHugh Multi-Use Bridge October 2018





City of Windsor Environmental Impact Assessment Report McHugh Multi-Use Bridge October 2018







**APPENDIX E** 

**Terrestrial Habitat Survey Sheets** 

|  | DESIGN | MEMORANDUM | (METRIC |
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Note: This form must be used for project calculations and original to be filed in project files.

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| -VILLON SP.            | - DEADLY NIGHTSHADE | - ~ 50 CLIFF SUMLOW NESTS |
| - DANDELION            | - 254564652         | UNDER ALLITUGH BRIDGE     |
| - HONEY SUCKLE         | - WICD GARLIC ?     | - KILLPECK                |
| + NIE. ASTER           | -GLOSSY BUCKTHOIN   | - CANARA GROSE            |
| - MOONSEED             | -HACKDERLY          | - CEDAR WAT WITH          |
| - ORCHARD GRUSS        | - MAN, MAPLE        | - CRAYFISH BURROWS        |
| - VILO PLUM            | - BASS-00D          |                           |
| +DAY LILY              | - GIANT BUD REED    |                           |
| - ROSA OLANDA          | - WILD GARROT       |                           |
| -TALL GOLDENHOD        | -JAPANESE TEASEL    |                           |
| - WILD BERGAMONT       | -WATER HOLE HOUND   |                           |
| - WILD JARSNIP         | - HMIGR PLANTAIN    | - BANKS OF LITTLE RIVER   |
| - CANDOA FLEADANE      | - CATTAIL           | VEG COMMUNITY             |
| - LANCELEAF ASTER      | - BITTENSEET        | LA RECENTLY CUT LOODY     |
| - RED CLOVER           | - GIANT RAGIED      | SHRUB SPECIES (PLUM       |
| - CUMMON MICK NOED     |                     | DOGWODD, SUMAC)           |
| - CANADO THIGTLE       |                     | IS MAINLY CONSISTED OF    |
| - MULTIFLORM           |                     | EARLY SUCCESSIONAL,       |
|                        |                     | MEADOW HERBACEONS SPECIES |
| -CLOWN VETCH<br>-PHRAG |                     | AND EMERGENT AQUPTIC      |
| - SILKY BOGWOOD        |                     | VEG ALONG BANKS           |
| - HANGE SPICETI (LOVER |                     | VEG NEON G PROFS          |
|                        |                     | BEYOND BANKS OF RIVER     |
| - HAWTHARN SP          |                     | LE TORIN CHERCIERCE       |
|                        |                     | 4 EARLY SUCCETSIONAL      |
| - RUBASIDAEUS          |                     | MENDOW W/ PLANTED         |
| - STAGHORN NMAC        |                     | TREES                     |
| - WATER DOCK           |                     | LA AREAS OF WET SEDAE     |
| - GEVM SP-             |                     | MEADOW AND THICKET        |
| - HAMRY DEOSTRAW       |                     | ╌╋╌┾╾┼╍╁╌┼╴┼╌┼╌┼╶┼╶┼╶┼╶┥  |
| - JERUSALEN ART. / TA  | SUN.                | ╶╊╶┼╍┼╍┼╍┼╍┼╍┼╍┼╸┥        |
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| - GIANT GOLDENRON      | <b>/</b>            |                           |
| - BILDSFOUT TREFOIL    |                     |                           |
| FELYMUS REPENS         |                     |                           |
| - BIND WEED            |                     |                           |
| - HIGHBASH CRAN.       |                     |                           |
| - LOTTON WOOD          |                     |                           |
|                        |                     |                           |

JULY 9, 2018 LITTLE RIVER PED. CROSSINGS ON SITE @ 8:00 am WFCU BRIDGE PLANTS WILDLIFE WILD PLUM > DOMINANT GAR PIKE ROSA CAROLINIAMA ON W BANK SONG SPARLOW SIDERIAN ELM AN GOLDGINUT R.W. BLACKBIRD WILD PARSNIP G.B. HERUN VIRGINIA CREEPER CANADA THISTLE GREEN HERON Canada Goldenvod MUNARCH Jerusalen artichoke CLIFF Swallon Wild Comot B.H. ConBIRD Kitgsa Day Lily Common Milkweed Gunn Vetch Phragm. tes Silky Dugwood English Plantain Mon. Maple Kubus occidentalis Led Oak -> planted E. Cottonword Lecol Canony Rite in the Rain .

T PLANTS abssy buck them Lanceleaf aster T Willow sp. (sandbar?) Mult; Hora T Am elm Elymus ripens Silver maple T Black chokeberry Bindneed Euthemia gramnibilia Biffersneet Red oster dogwood Burdock Agrostis gign bee Heathaster Common mater dock Frost aster Wild Grape Timothy Ammi Honeysuch Birds host fretuil Dogbane W.S. Clover tanthorn sp. Black walnut Staghorn Sumal 1 Chicon Cattail It white Mulberry Gray dogwood Grant ingweed Hackberry Kubus allegheni onsis Linden/ Bassmood 7 Rigid goldenrod Teasel Orothern biens E N.E. aster Ę Bergamont Sycamore Eur. highbush crambling Duning And leyi Ę Will straperry Early needow rul P. Green ash Curly gramber S R jevelweed Pruncha vulgaris Agrimonia Jarrow 

Cover vulpinda Junces forneyii Lythrum alatum Eleochan's sp. Water hore Lond Carex bebbii Scirpus atroviers Soft shemmed bulrush ſ Moneymost ſ Enpatorium altissimum Poison Ing Autumn olive White fine -> planted Seasche gilden od ľ ľ, I, ļ ľ,



**APPENDIX F** 

**Compiled Wildlife Species List** 

## 

| Element<br>Type | Common Name            | Scientific<br>Name | SRank | SARO<br>Status | COSEWIC<br>Status | Last Obs<br>Date | EO ID | Details URL |
|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------|-------|----------------|-------------------|------------------|-------|-------------|
| S               | □li□ ⊡n□ □r⊡ri□ □os□   | Rosa setigera      | SISI  | S              | S                 |                  |       |             |
| S               | □li□ ⊡n□ □r⊡ri□ □os□   | Rosa setigera      | SISI  | S              | S                 |                  |       |             |
| S               | □li□ ⊡n□ □r⊡ri□ □os□   | Rosa setigera      | SISI  | S              | S                 |                  |       |             |
| S               | □li□ □́n□ □r□́ri□ □os□ | Rosa setigera      | SISI  | S              | S                 |                  |       |             |

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| Element<br>Type | Common Name            | Scientific<br>Name | SRank | SARO<br>Status | COSEWIC<br>Status | Last Obs<br>Date | EO ID | Details URL  |
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| S               | □li□ □in□ □r□iri□ □os□ | Rosa setigera      | SSS   | S              | S                 |                  |       | tt mim nr o on moorts u lind t ils m<br>sour mid t il n i o id o o |
| S               | □li□ □in□ □r□iri□ □os□ | Rosa setigera      | SISI  | S              | S□                |                  |       |  |

NHIC referenced April 2018

Reptile and Amphibialn Atlas of Ontario 10 km x 10 km square 17LG48 - referenced June 10 2018

| Common Name  | Number of | Year of Observation | Month of<br>Observation | Calendar Day of<br>Observation | Observation Id |
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| Canada Goose                               |       | □it M⊡⊡nn                    |
| Mute Swan                                  |       | □it M⊡⊡nn                    |
| Mallard                                    |       | □it M⊡⊡nn                    |
| Mourning Dove                              |       | □it M⊡⊡nn                    |
| Killdeer                                   |       | □it M⊡ □nn                   |
| Ring-billed Gull                           |       |                              |
| Barn Swallow                               |       |                              |
| American Robin                             | Π     |                              |
| European Starling                          |       |                              |
| Song Sparrow                               |       |                              |
| Baltimore Oriole                           |       |                              |
| Red-winged Blackbird                       |       |                              |
| Yellow Warbler                             |       |                              |
| House Sparrow                              |       |                              |
| Green Heron                                |       |                              |
| Turkey Vulture                             |       |                              |
| Downy Woodpecker                           |       |                              |
| Northern Flicker                           |       |                              |
| Eastern Wood-Pewee                         |       |                              |
|  |       |                              |
| Philadelphia Vireo                         |       |                              |
| Red-eyed Vireo                             |       |                              |
| Northern Rough-winged<br>Tree Swallow      |       |                              |
|  |       |                              |
| Black-capped Chickadee<br>House Wren       |       | □it M                        |
| Carolina Wren                              |       |                              |
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| Blue-gray Gnatcatcher<br>Swainson's Thrush |       |                              |
|  |       |                              |
| Gray Catbird<br>American Goldfinch         |       |                              |
|  |       |                              |
| Eastern Towhee<br>Orchard Oriole           |       |                              |
| Brown-headed Cowbird                       |       |                              |
| Northern Cardinal                          |       |                              |
| Wood Duck                                  |       |                              |
| Red-tailed Hawk                            |       |                              |
|  |       |                              |
| Red-bellied Woodpecker<br>American Crow    |       | □it M □ □nn                  |
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| Ruby-crowned Kinglet                       |       |                              |
| Common Grackle                             |       |                              |
| Palm Warbler                               |       |                              |
| Yellow-rumped Warbler                      |       |                              |
| Black-throated Green                       |       | □it M □ □nn                  |
| Ring-necked Pheasant                       |       |                              |
| Pied-billed Grebe                          |       | ⊡it M⊡⊡nn                    |

| Blue Jay               |           |            | □it M⊡⊡nn      |
|------------------------|-----------|------------|----------------|
| Bufflehead             |           | <u> </u>   | M 🗀 🗆 🗆 M 🗆 🗆  |
| Hooded Merganser       |           | <u> </u>   | □it M⊡ □nn     |
| Herring Gull           |           | <u> </u>   | □it M 🗆 □nn    |
| Bald Eagle             |           |            | □it M⊡⊡nn      |
| Dark-eyed Junco        |           |            | □it M 🗆 🗆 nn   |
| American Woodcock      |           |            | □it M 🗆 □nn    |
| Rock Pigeon            |           |            | □it M⊡⊡nn      |
|                        |           |            | □it M⊡ □nn     |
| in □ s □               |           |            | □it M⊡ □nn     |
| Sharp-shinned Hawk     |           |            | □it M 🗆 □nn    |
| Cooper's Hawk          |           |            | □it M 🗆 □nn    |
| Snowy Owl              |           |            | □it M 🗆 □nn    |
|                        | 00        |            |                |
| White-crowned Sparrow  |           |            | □it M⊡⊡nn      |
| Chimney Swift          |           |            | □it M 🗆 □nn    |
| House Finch            |           |            | □it M⊡⊡nn      |
| White-throated Sparrow |           |            | □it M⊡⊡nn      |
| Swamp Sparrow          |           |            | □it M⊡⊡nn      |
| Wilson's Warbler       |           |            | □it M⊡⊡nn      |
|                        |           | □it□□□□to□ |                |
| Ruddy Duck             |           |            | □ □nis □u □uis |
| American Tree Sparrow  |           |            | □□r□n □□ss     |
| Great Blue Heron       |           |            | □□r□n □□ss     |
| Great Egret            |           |            | □□r□n □□ss     |
| Blue-winged Teal       |           |            | □□r□n □□ss     |
| American Kestrel       |           |            | □□r□n □□ss     |
|                        | d 🗆 🗆 d 🗆 | in d d d   | ds             |
| □ull s □               |           |            | □□r□n □□ss     |
| Horned Lark            |           |            | □□r□n □□ss     |

## 

| Common Name               | Sci Name                    | Month | Day | Year | Adult Count | Record type                    |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|-----|------|-------------|--------------------------------|
| Mon                       | Danaus plexippus            | u     |     |      |             | i□⊡tur⊡list □⊡oto lin□         |
|                           | Pieris rapae                | u     |     |      |             | i□⊡tur⊡list □⊡oto lin□         |
|                           | Papilio polyxenes           | ul    |     |      |             | i□⊡tur⊡list □⊡oto lin□         |
|                           | Pieris rapae                |       |     |      |             | □□ □□oto □□□lin □□lo□ in tirst |
|                           | Papilio polyxenes           | □ul   |     |      |             | i□⊡tur⊡list □⊡oto lin□         |
| Mournin 🗆 🗆 lo 🗆          | Nymphalis antiopa           | M⊡r   |     |      |             | i□ ⊡tur⊡list □⊡oto lin □       |
|                           | Celastrina sp.              | ul    |     |      |             | i□ ⊡tur⊡list □⊡oto lin □       |
| ⊡ittl □ Wood ⊡t □r        | Megisto cymela              | un    |     |      |             | i□ ⊡tur⊡list □⊡oto lin □       |
| □□□st S ī □□□r            | Ancyloxypha numitor         | M     |     |      |             | si⊡t                           |
| Mournin 🗆 🗆 lo 🗆          | Nymphalis antiopa           | M     |     |      |             | si⊡t                           |
| oo on corred Sciencr      | Pyrgus communis             | M     |     |      |             | oto                            |
| □_st⊡rn □i_nt S□_llo □t⊡l | Papilio cresphontes         | un    |     |      |             | si⊡t                           |
| □i□or□□□irstr□□□          | Satyrium caryaevorus        | un    |     |      |             | si⊡t                           |
| Mournin 🗆 🗆 lo 🗆          | Nymphalis antiopa           | M⊡r   |     |      |             | si⊡t                           |
| □⊡st⊡rn □i⊡nt S⊡⊡lo⊡t⊡il  | Papilio cresphontes         | u     |     |      | □r⊡s⊡nt     | Si□□t                          |
| □□□st S ī □□□r            | Ancyloxypha numitor         | □u□   |     |      | □r⊡s□nt     | Si□□t                          |
| □□□st S ī □□□r            | Ancyloxypha numitor         | u     |     |      | □r⊡s⊡nt     | Si□□t                          |
| □ _d s _ott _d □ur □ □    | Limenitis arthemis astyanax | □u□   |     |      | □r⊡s□nt     | Si□□t                          |
| □o□□on □in□□t             | Coenonympha tullia          | □un   |     |      |             | Si□□t                          |
| □⊡st⊡rn □i□⊡r S□⊡lo□t⊡l   | Papilio glaucus             | un    |     |      |             | Si□□t                          |
| Mournin 🗆 🗆 lo 🗆          | Nymphalis antiopa           | un    |     |      |             | Si□□t                          |
| □□st□rn □o□ □ □           | Polygonia comma             |       |     |      |             | Si□□t                          |
| Mon                       | Danaus plexippus            |       |     |      |             | Si□□t                          |
| □ ds_ott_d □ur □ □        | Limenitis arthemis astyanax | un    |     |      |             |                                |
| □ _d s _ott _d □ur □ □    | Limenitis arthemis astyanax | u     |     |      | □r⊡s⊡nt     |                                |
| □o□ □ton □ortois □s□□I    | Nymphalis I-album           | u     |     |      | □r⊡s□nt     |                                |
| □u⊡stion M⊡r□             | Polygonia interrogationis   | □u□   |     |      | □r⊡s□nt     |                                |
|                           | Lycaena hyllus              |       |     |      |             |                                |

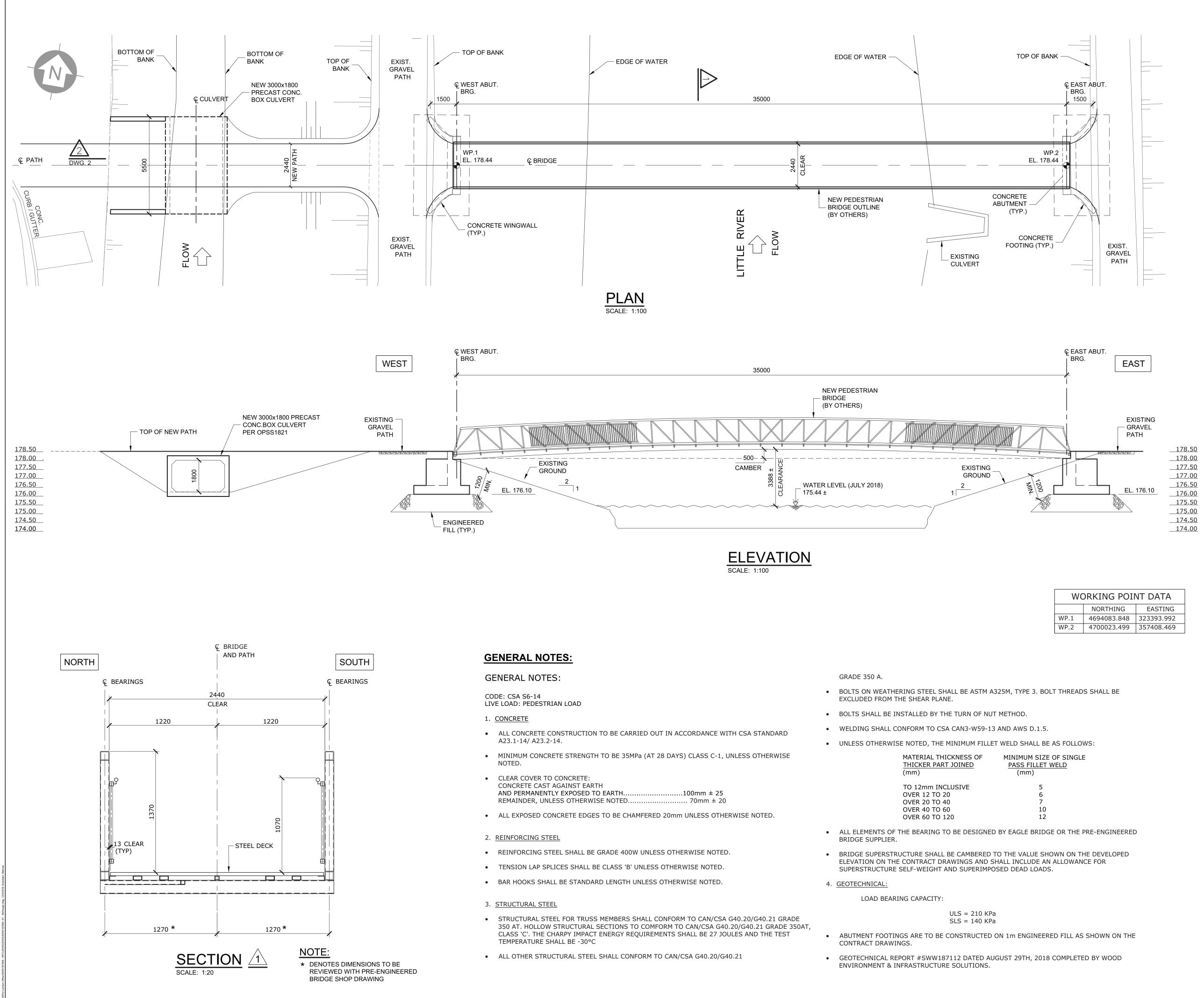
# Con [Sind] of [n of the Marcol Is of nthrio [] of ssid Soft of the of the soft of the soft

|                            |                           |                    |          | 4000.4-         | 4070 40         |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Common Name                | Scientific Name           | Within Site Square | pre-1900 | 1900 to<br>1969 | 1970 to<br>1993 |
| □ir□ini□□□ossu□            | Didelphis virginiana      | S                  |          |                 |                 |
| □ort□rn S□ortīt□il□d S□r□□ | Blarina brevicauda        | S                  |          |                 |                 |
| Sil ⊡r⊡⊡ir⊡d □⊡t           | Lasionycteris noctivagans | S                  |          |                 |                 |
| □i□ □ro□n □□t              | Eptesicus fuscus          | S                  |          |                 |                 |
| □□st□rn □□d □□t            | Lasiurus borealis         | S                  |          |                 |                 |
| □□st□rn □ottont⊡il         | Sylvilagus floridanus     | S                  |          |                 |                 |
| □r□□S□uirr□I               | Sciurus carolinensis      | S                  |          |                 |                 |
|                            | Sciurus carolinensis      | S                  |          |                 |                 |
|                            | Sciurus carolinensis      | S                  |          |                 |                 |
| □ □d S □uirr □             | Tamiasciurus hudsonicus   | S                  |          |                 |                 |
| M do ol                    | Microtus pennsylvanicus   | S                  |          |                 |                 |
| Mus⊡r⊡t                    | Ondatra zibethicus        | S                  |          |                 |                 |
|                            | Rattus norvegicus         | S                  |          |                 |                 |
| □ous□Mous□                 | Mus musculus              | S                  |          |                 |                 |
| □o⊡ot□                     | Canis latrans             | S                  |          |                 |                 |
|                            | Vulpes vulpes             | S                  |          |                 |                 |
| oon                        | Procyon lotor             | S                  |          |                 |                 |
| Min                        | Mustela vison             | S                  |          |                 |                 |
| Stri⊡d S⊡un⊡               | Mephitis mephitis         | □□S                |          |                 |                 |
|                            |                           |                    |          |                 |                 |



APPENDIX G

**Detail Design Drawings** 



| MATERIAL THICKNESS OF |
|-----------------------|
|                       |

| INICKER PART JUINEL |
|---------------------|
| (mm)                |
| TO 12mm INCLUSIVE   |
| OVER 12 TO 20       |
| OVER 20 TO 40       |
| OVER 40 TO 60       |
| OVER 60 TO 120      |
|                     |

