Golden Leaf Agrivoltaics Inc.

Records Review

Golden Leaf Agrivoltaics Project, Township of Drummond-North Elmsley, Ontario

Our File: 26-3072

November 2026

Submitted by
Dillon Consulting Limited

David Restivo, Partner
235 Yorkland Boulevard
Suite 700
Toronto, ON M2J 4Y8

P: 416.229.4647 ext. 2438
E: DRestivo@dillon.ca

Dillon Consulting Limited
235 Yorkland Boulevard, Suite 700
Toronto, Ontario, Canada, M2J 4Y8
416.229.4646 | www.dillon.ca

November 12, 2026

Golden Leaf Agrivoltaics Inc.
c/o Compass Greenfield Development Inc.
192 Spadina Ave., Suite 506
Toronto, Ontario
M5T 2C2

Attention: Jonathan Cheszes

Draft Records Review

Dear Jonathan,

Dillon is pleased to provide this records review for the Golden Leaf Agrivoltaics Project.

Sincerely,

Dillon Consulting Limited

DRAFT

David (Dave) Restivo, B.Sc.(Hons), EP
Project Manager, Partner

DR:lld

Encl.

Our file: 26-3072

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Acronyms, Abbreviations, Definitions

ANSI	Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest
CA	Conservation Authority
CBC	Christmas Bird Count
dbh	Diameter at breast height
DFO	Fisheries and Oceans Canada
FOIBIS	Flora Ontario – Integrated Botanical Information System
GEO	Geospatial Ontario
MBCA	*Migratory Birds Convention Act*
MECP	Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
MMAH	Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
MNR (also MNRF)	Ministry of Natural Resources (formerly the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry)
MTO	Ministry of Transportation
MWac	Megawatts alternating current
NHA	Natural Heritage Assessment
NHIC	Natural Heritage Information Centre
OBA	Ontario Butterfly Atlas
OBBA	Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas
OMA	Ontario Moth Atlas
OMAFRA	Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
OOA	Ontario Odonata Atlas
ORAA	Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas
PPS	Provincial Planning Statement
PTTW	Permit to Take Water

REA	Renewable Energy Approval under Ontario Regulation 359/09 (O. Reg. 359/09)
SAR	Species at Risk
SARA	*Species at Risk Act*
SCA	*Species Conservation Act*
SCC	Species of Conservation Concern
S-Ranks	Rarity rankings applied to species at the provincial level (e.g., S1 to S3 are considered Extremely Rare to Rare-Uncommon)
SWH	Significant Wildlife Habitat

Executive Summary

Project Overview

Golden Leaf Agrivoltaics Inc. is proposing the Golden Leaf Agrivoltaics Project, a proposed Class 3 ground-mounted solar facility with a maximum nameplate capacity of up to 13.2 Megawatts alternating current (MWac). The project is proposed on private land in the Township of Drummond-North Elmsley, Ontario.

Regulatory Context and Purpose

This Natural Heritage Assessment (NHA) Records Review was prepared to support the Renewable Energy Approval (REA) application for the project under *Ontario Regulation (O. Reg.) 359/09*, made under Part V.0.1 of the *Environmental Protection Act*. In accordance with Section 25 and Table 1 of *O. Reg. 359/09* and the *Natural Heritage Assessment Guide for Renewable Energy Projects* (Third Edition, 2026), the purpose of this review is to evaluate secondary source information to determine whether the Project Location is situated in, or within 120 metres of, provincial parks, conservation reserves, or natural features, including wetlands, coastal wetlands, woodlands, valleylands, wildlife habitat, and Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs).

Key Findings

Based on a comprehensive review of background resources, municipal policies, provincial databases, and wildlife atlases, the following determinations were made:

- **Protected Areas and ANSIs:** No Provincial Parks, Conservation Reserves, Important Bird Areas, or Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs) were identified within 120 metres of the Project Location.
- **Valleylands:** No significant valleylands were identified in background mapping within 120 metres of the Project Location; field verification during the site investigation will confirm presence or absence.
- **Wetlands and Woodlands:** Unevaluated wetland units were identified within 120 m of the Project Location, and various wooded areas were identified within and adjacent to the site. These natural features will be carried forward for site investigation to determine their boundaries, ecological functions, and species composition.

- **Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH):** The records review identified candidate habitat potential within 120 metres of the Project Location across four SWH categories: Seasonal Concentration Areas, Rare Vegetation Communities and Specialized Wildlife Habitats, Habitats of Species of Conservation Concern (SCC), and Animal Movement Corridors. These candidate habitats will be assessed during the site investigation stage.
- **Species of Conservation Concern (SCC)**: The records review found potential habitat for SCC (including provincial Species at Risk) within 120 metres of the Project Location. These potential habitats will be assessed during the site investigation stage.

Next Steps

In accordance with Section 26 of *O. Reg. 359/09*, natural features identified as potentially present within 120 metres of the Project Location will be carried forward to a Site Investigation. The site investigation will verify feature presence, correct or refine boundaries, and document site characteristics. Features confirmed to be present will then be evaluated for significance in accordance with Section 27. Where project infrastructure is proposed within 120 metres of a significant natural feature (or feature treated as significant), an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) will be completed under Section 38 to evaluate potential negative effects and specify appropriate mitigation and monitoring commitments.

1.0 Introduction

Golden Leaf Agrivoltaics Inc. (Golden Leaf Agrivoltaics) proposes to develop a Class 3 ground-mounted solar facility with a maximum nameplate capacity up to 13.2 Megawatts alternating current (MWac), which consists of solar panels and associated equipment and infrastructure located on private land in the Township of Drummond-North Elmsley, Ontario (the Project Location; **Figure 1**). Figures are provided in **Appendix A**.

The project will require approval under Ontario Regulation 359/09- *Renewable Energy Approval (REA or O. Reg. 359/09*) under Part V.0.1 of the *Ontario Environmental Protection Act*. The REA process replaces previous requirements for several approvals under (among others) the *Environmental Assessment Act*, *Planning Act* and *Environmental Protection Act.* Section 24 of *O. Reg. 359/09* requires that all renewable energy projects conduct a Natural Heritage Assessment (NHA). In accordance with Section 25 of *O. Reg. 359/09* and the *Natural Heritage Assessment Guide for Renewable Energy Projects (Third Edition, 2026)*, renewable energy projects must complete a records review of natural heritage features within and the Project Location and adjacent 120m.

This Records Review Report was completed in partial fulfillment of the regulatory requirements for the REA application process. Additional details regarding the natural features, their significance, potential impacts and mitigation measures required to protect these features will be provided in separate reports, including the Site Investigation, Evaluation of Significance and Environmental Impact Study Reports. Discussion of species at risk (SAR), fish habitat, water bodies and other information needs are included under separate cover(s) in compliance with the REA and other applicable provincial and federal legislation and regulations.

Additional information about the Project can be found in the Construction Plan Report, Design and Operations Report and the Project Description Report. Technical studies associated with the REA are prepared or underway to support the REA submission. In addition to this report the draft REA submission package includes:

- Project Description Report
- Archaeological Assessment Report(s):
  - Protected Properties / Cultural Heritage Self-Assessment
  - Cultural Heritage Assessment Report (required if a potential heritage resource is identified)
- Construction Plan Report

- Design and Operations Report:
  - Noise Assessment Report
  - Stormwater Management and Erosion Control Plan
  - Environmental Effects Monitoring Plan (EEMP)
  - Post Construction Monitoring Plan (potentially integrated into the EEMP)
  - Emergency Response and Communications Plan
- Decommissioning Plan Report
- Water Assessment Report and Water Body Report (if required)
- Natural Heritage Assessment Reports:
  - Site Investigation
  - Evaluation of Significance
  - Environmental Impact Study
- Supporting Documents

2.0 The Proponent

Golden Leaf Agrivoltaics Inc. (Golden Leaf Agrivoltaics) is the proponent partnership between Compass Greenfield Development Inc. (Compass) & Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation (AOPFN) responsible for the development and permitting of the Golden Leaf Agrivoltaics Project (the Project) renewable energy facility. Compass is a renewable and clean energy developer, investor and asset manager working across Canada. Compass advances greenfield development opportunities for solar and battery energy storage (Compass Greenfield, 2026).

Compass is coordinating and managing the approvals process for the Project. The contact at Compass is:

Full Name of Company:	*Elmbrook Agrivoltaics Inc.*
Prime Contact:	*Bhavin Mistry, Senior Manager, Development*
Address:	*192 Spadina Ave. Suite 506, Toronto, ON M5T 2C2*
Telephone:	*(416) 716-0898*
Email:	bhavin@compassgreenfield.ca

Dillon Consulting Limited (Dillon) has been retained by Elmbrook Agrivoltaics to prepare this Records Review Report for the Project. The contact at Dillon is:

Full Name of Company:	*Dillon Consulting Limited*
Prime Contact:	*Dave Restivo, Partner*
Address:	*235 Yorkland Boulevard Suite 700, Toronto, Ontario, M2J 4Y8*
Telephone:	*(416) 229-4647 ext. 2438*
Email:	drestivo@dillon.ca

3.0 Project Location

The proposed Class 3 Solar Facility is to be located within the Township of Drummond-North Elmsley, Ontario. The Project Location is generally bounded by Drummond Concession 1 to the north and Churchill Road to the east (**Figure 1**).

As defined under O. Reg. 359/09, the Project Location encompasses all land, buildings, and structures in, on, or over which the renewable energy facility is located (including temporary laydown areas and access roads). **Figure 1** illustrates the general Project Location. **Figure 2** delineates the Project Location boundaries alongside the 50m Site Investigation Area and the broader 120m Zone of Investigation (Records Review Study Area).

4.0 Records Review Purpose

A records review was completed, consistent with Section 25 of *O. Reg. 359/09*, for the project location (see **Figure 2** in **Section 6.2**) using secondary source information. Section 25 of *O. Reg. 359/09* states a Natural Heritage Assessment (NHA) for a renewable energy facility includes a records review to search for and determine whether the project location is:

1. In or within 120 m of a provincial park or conservation reserve;
2. In a natural feature, such as:
    1.1. Wetlands (i.e., coastal wetland, northern wetland or southern wetland);
    1.2. Valleylands;
    1.3. Significant wildlife habitat;
    1.4. Woodlands; and/or,
    1.5. Life Science Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs).
3. Within 50 m of an Earth Science ANSI; and/or,
4. Within 120 m of a natural feature that is not ANSI.

Further to subsection 25 (3) of the Regulation, the following information must be included in the report:

a) Description of all records reviewed. At a minimum, include the title of the record and a description of information contained in the record.
b) Source and ownership of the record.
c) Date(s) the records were searched, collected or accessed.
d) List of all organizations contacted.

The Natural Heritage Assessment Guide, Third Edition (MNR, 2026) also requires the Records Review to identify Important Bird Areas in the vicinity of the Project Location.

Species at risk listed under the federal *Species at Risk Act, 2002*, and provincial *Species Conservation Act*, 2025, with the potential to interact with the project location and/or adjacent lands, are being considered in consultation with the appropriate agency.

5.0 Records Review Methodology

For this records review, readily available resources were utilized in addition to consultation with all applicable federal, provincial and local regulatory agencies. **Table 1** outlines the sources of information used to conduct the NHA records review.

Table 1: Policies, Legislation, and Background Resources Searched

Source	Plans, Guidelines, and Supporting Documents
Government of Canada	
Environment and Climate Change Canada	• *Species at Risk Act, 2002* • Species at Risk Registry: Accessed to determine the at-risk status of wildlife species under Schedule 1 of the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA, 2002) • *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* • General Nesting Periods of Migratory Birds: Utilized to determine local nesting period at the Project Location.
Fisheries and Oceans Canada	• *Fisheries Act, 1985* • Aquatic Species at Risk Map: Accessed to determine aquatic at-risk occurrences.
Province of Ontario	
Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)	• *Species Conservation Act*, 2025[1]
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH)	• Provincial Planning Statement, 2024 (Policies within Section 4.1 related to natural heritage features; Policies within Section 4.2 related to water).

Source	Plans, Guidelines, and Supporting Documents

Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) (formerly the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry)	• District Office: Kemptville Kingston
	• Natural Heritage Assessment Guide for Renewable Energy Projects, Third Edition (MNRF, 2026)
	• Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) database (1 km Grid Squares)
	• Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) Geospatial Ontario (GEO) Ontario GeoHub database:
	  ○ Wildlife Values Areas
	  ○ Important Bird Areas
	  ○ Provincial Parks
	  ○ Conservation Reserves
	  ○ Aquatic Resources Areas
	  ○ Wetlands
	  ○ Wooded Areas
	  ○ Ontario Crown Use Policy Atlas
	  ○ Geographic Township Search
	  ○ Municipal Boundaries Search
	• Natural Heritage Reference Manual (MNRF, 2010)
	• MNRF Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH) Technical Guide (MNRF, 2000)
	• SWH Ecoregion 6E Criteria Schedules (MNRF, 2015)
	• Ecosystems of Ontario (Crins, 2009)
	• Physiography of Southern Ontario (Chapman and Putnam, 1984).

Province Plan Area Records	
Niagara Escarpment Commission	• Project Location does not fall within the Niagara Escarpment Plan Area.
Oak Ridges Conservation Plan Area	• Project Location does not fall within the Oak Ridges Conservation Plan Area.
Greenbelt Plan Area	• Project Location does not fall within the Greenbelt Plan Area.
Lake Simcoe Protection Plan	• Project Location does not fall within the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan Area

Source	Plans, Guidelines, and Supporting Documents
Municipal Policies	
Township of Drummond/North Elmsley County of Lanark	• Township of Drummond/North Elmsley Official Plan (2024), Schedule A • County of Lanark Official Plan (2026), Schedule A (Appendix A) • As per Figure 1 – Township of Drummond/North Elmsley • GIS mapping portal.
Conservation Authority	
Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA)	• Consultation with RVCA staff regarding potential regulated features. • RVCA Regulation Mapping (*O. Reg. 41/24*) and *Conservation Authorities Act, 1990*.
Wildlife Atlases	
Wildlife Atlases and Distribution Data	• Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas (OBBA; Cadman *et al.,* 2008). Second Atlas (2001-2005) – data for square grid based on 10 km^2 system • Christmas Bird Count (CBC; Birds Canada, 2024) • iNaturalist (iNaturalist, n.d.). Wildlife and plant species citizen-science observations • eBird (eBird Canada, n.d.). Bird observations • Rare Vascular Plants of Ontario (Fourth Edition; Oldham and Brinker, 2009). Distribution data for rare vascular plants • Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas (ORAA; Ontario Nature) • Ontario Butterfly Atlas (OBA; Toronto Entomologists Association) • Ontario Moth Atlas (OMA; Toronto Entomologists Association) • Ontario Odonata Atlas (OOA; Toronto Entomologists Association) • Atlas of the Mammals of Ontario (Dobbyn, 1994). Distribution data for mammals • Important Bird Areas (IBA Canada; ibacanada.org) • Online data accessed June 2026.
Manuals and Guidelines	• Ecological Land Classification for Southern Ontario, First Approximation and its Application, 1998. • Ecological Land Classification, Ecosite List, 2008. • Ontario Wetland Evaluation System, Southern Manual, Fourth Edition, December 2022.

6.0 Results – Records Review

6.1 Ecodistrict

The Project Location falls within Ecoregion 6E (Lake Simcoe-Rideau), within Ecodistrict 6E-11 (Smith Falls). The land cover in this ecoregion is dominated by cropland (44.4%), pasture and abandoned fields (12.8%), deciduous forest (16%), coniferous forest (5.3%), mixed forest (8.8%) and water (4%). (Crins *et al.*, 2009). Hardwood forest species include Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*), American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), White Ash (*Fraxinus americana*), and Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*). Lowlands include Green Ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), Silver Maple (*Acer saccharinum*), Red Maple (Acer rubrum), Eastern White Cedar (*Thuja occidentalis*), Yellow Birch (*Betula alleghaniensis*), Balsam Fir (*Abies balsamea*), and Black Ash (*Fraxinus nigra*).

6.2 Natural Features

Based on our review and analysis of the records and resources outlined in **Table 1**, and in accordance with *O. Reg. 359/09*, the presence of natural features is documented below and determinations made whether the Project Location is in or within 50 m, 120 m or 300 m of these features. The consideration of features within 50 m, 120 m and 300 m has been completed to address the requirements of this report, and associated reports (e.g., Water Body and Surface Water Assessment Report, Construction Plan Report).

Natural heritage features identified as part of the records review are shown on **Figure 2**.

6.2.1 Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves

No Provincial Parks or Conservation Reserves were identified within 120 m of the Project Location.

6.2.2 Area of Natural and Scientific Interest

No ANSIs were identified within 120 m of the Project Location.

6.2.3 Valleylands

No valleylands were identified within 120 m of the project location. This feature type will be carried forward to site investigation to determine presence/absence of valleylands in and within 120 m of the project study area.

6.2.4 Wetlands

Unevaluated wetland units were identified within 120 m of the Project Location (see **Figure 2**). This feature type will be carried forward to site investigation to determine characteristics, ecological functions and species compositions of wetlands in and within 50 m and 120 m of the Project Location.

6.2.5 Woodlands

Woodlands are located within 120 m of the Project Location (see **Figure 2**).

6.2.6 Important Bird Areas

No Important Bird Areas were identified within 120 m of the Project Location.

6.3 Wildlife Habitat

A review of wildlife habitat in the Project Location was completed using information contained in the records and resources outlined in **Table 1**. This review identified the presence/absence of mapped significant wildlife habitat, and the presence of species that are indicators of potential significant wildlife habitat.

No mapped significant wildlife habitat was identified within the Project Location, or adjacent lands within 50 m. However, multiple types of candidate (i.e., potential) significant wildlife habitat (SWH) were identified based on the SWH Technical Guide (MNR, 2000) and the SWH Criteria Schedules for Ecoregion 6E (MNR, 2015). These types of candidate SWH will be carried forward to site investigation. In some instances, the records review deemed a type of SWH absent based on lack of habitat and no site investigation is needed.

See **Table 2** in **Section 7.0** (Conclusions) for a summary of the SWH types that are carried forward to the Site Investigation stage.

The candidate wildlife habitat that has been identified within 50 m of the Project Location is discussed below.

6.3.1 Seasonal Concentration Areas of Animals

Seasonal concentration areas are sites that support large numbers of a species to gather at one time of the year, or where several species congregate (MNR, 2015). The records review did not identify any confirmed types of SWH for seasonal concentration areas.

The following seasonal concentration areas have the potential to occur (and will be carried forward to site investigation) or are absent:

- **Waterfowl Stopover and Staging Areas (Terrestrial)**
  - The criteria for candidate terrestrial waterfowl stopover and staging areas include meadows and thickets with annual flooding, sheet water, or run-off during spring, providing important waterfowl invertebrate foraging sources. The criteria for confirmed terrestrial waterfowl stopover and staging areas Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH includes any mixed species aggregations of 100 or more waterfowl individuals with evidence of annual use (MNRF, 2015). This feature type will be carried forward to site investigation.
- **Waterfowl Stopover and Staging Areas (Aquatic)**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance includes ponds, marshes, lakes, bays, coastal inlets, and watercourses used during migration with an abundant food supply (mostly aquatic invertebrates and vegetation in shallow water). The criteria for confirmed aquatic waterfowl stopover and staging areas include aggregations of 100 or more waterfowl for seven or more days, resulting in >700 waterfowl use days (MNRF, 2015). No known features were identified within the Project Location and adjacent lands within 50 m.
- **Shorebird Migratory Stopover Area**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance includes shorelines of lakes, rivers and wetlands, including beach areas, seasonally flooded sand bars, muddy, and un-vegetated shoreline habitats. The criteria for confirmed shorebird migratory stopover area SWH include the presence of three migratory shorebird species and >1000 shorebird use days during the spring or fall migration period (MNRF, 2015). No known features were identified within the Project Location and adjacent lands within 50 m.
- **Raptor Wintering Area**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance includes a combination of fields and woodlands >20 ha that provide roosting, foraging and resting habitats for wintering raptors. The criteria for confirmed hawk/owl raptor wintering area SWH includes one or more Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*) observations or at least 10 hawk/owl individual observations with two of the listed hawk/owl species, as well as confirmed use by hawks and owls for a minimum of 20 days for three out of five years (MNRF, 2015). This feature type will be carried forward to site investigation.

- **Bat Hibernacula**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance includes caves, mine shafts, underground foundations, and Karsts. Sites with hibernating bats identified through field studies are to be considered confirmed SWH for bat hibernacula (MNRF, 2015). No known features were identified within the Project Location and adjacent lands within 50 m.
- **Bat Maternity Colonies**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance includes mature deciduous or mixed forest stands with greater than 10 large diameter (>25 cm diameter at breast height [dbh]) wildlife trees per hectare. The criteria for confirmed bat maternity colonies SWH includes maternity colonies with >10 Big Brown Bats (*Eptesicus fuscus*) and >5 adult female Silver-haired Bats (*Lasionycteris noctivagans*) (MNRF, 2015). This feature type will be carried forward to site investigation.
- **Turtle Wintering Areas**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance includes permanent water bodies, large wetlands, and bogs/fens with adequate dissolved oxygen. The criteria for confirmed turtle wintering area SWH includes the presence of five or more wintering Midland Painted Turtles (*Chrysemys picta marginata*) and/or one or more wintering Northern Map Turtles (*Graptemys geographica*) or Snapping Turtles (*Chelydra serpentina*), as identified through spring and/or fall turtle visual encounter surveys (MNRF, 2015). This feature type will be carried forward to site investigation.
- **Reptile Hibernaculum**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance includes habitat in any ecosite other than very wet ones. Reptile hibernation takes below frost lines in burrows, rock crevices, and other natural/naturalized locations, including talus, rock barren, crevice, cave, and alvar sites. The criteria for confirmed reptile hibernaculum SWH include the presence of snake hibernacula features used by a minimum of five individuals of a snake species, or individuals of two or more snake species on sunny, warm spring and/or fall days (MNRF, 2015). This feature type will be carried forward to site investigation.
- **Colonially-Nesting Bird Breeding Habitat (Bank and Cliff)**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance includes eroding banks, sandy hills, borrow pits, steep slopes, sand piles, and cliff faces. Historical use and number of nests in a colony increase habitat significance, and an identified colony can be very important to local populations.

- The criteria for confirmed bank and cliff colonially nesting bird breeding area includes the presence of one or more nesting sites with eight or more Cliff Swallow (Petrochelidon pyrrhonota) pairs and/or Northern Rough-winged Swallow (Stelgidopteryx serripennis) pairs during the breeding season (MNRF, 2015). No known features were identified within the Project Location and adjacent lands within 50 m.

- **Colonially-Nesting Bird Breeding Habitat (Tree/ Shrubs)**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance includes nests in live or dead standing trees, shrubs, or emergent vegetation in wetlands, lakes, islands, and peninsulas. Most nests in trees are 11 to 15 m from ground, near the top of the tree. These habitats may be identified by the NHIC as Mixed Wader Nesting Colonies. The criteria for confirmed tree/shrub colonially nesting bird breeding SWH includes the presence of five (5) or more active Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*) or other listed species nests (MNRF, 2015). This feature type will be carried forward to site investigation.
- **Colonially-Nesting Bird Breeding Habitat (Ground)**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance includes rocky islands or peninsulas (natural or artificial) within lakes and/or large rivers. These habitats may be identified by the NHIC as Colonial Waterbird Nesting Areas. The criteria for confirmed ground colonially-nesting bird breeding SWH include the presence of > 25 active nests for Herring gulls (*Larus argentatus*) or Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*), >5 active nests for Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo*), >2 active nests for Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne caspia*), the presence of 5 or more Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) pairs, or any active nesting colony of one or more Little Gull (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*), and Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) (MNRF, 2015). No known features were identified within the Project Location and adjacent lands within 50 m.
- **Migratory Butterfly Stopover Areas**
  - Butterfly stopover areas are defined as a minimum of 10 ha in size with a combination of field and forest habitat present and will be located within 5 km of Lake Ontario. No known features were identified within the Project Location and adjacent lands within 50 m.
- **Landbird Migratory Stopover Areas**
  - Landbird migration stopover areas are defined as woodlots >10 ha in size and within 5 km of Lake Ontario. No known features were identified within the Project Location and adjacent lands within 50 m.

- **Deer Yarding Areas**
  - Deer yarding areas are defined as areas that deer move to in response to the onset of cold winter temperatures and snow. Deer yarding areas are composed of two areas referred to as Stratum I and Stratum II. Confirmed deer yarding areas are mapped by the MNR (MNRF, 2015). A review of background information sources indicates that Deer Yarding Areas are absent from the Project Location and adjacent lands within 50 m.
- **Deer Winter Congregation Areas**
  - Deer winter congregation areas are defined as woodlots >100 ha in size. Confirmed deer winter congregation areas are mapped by the MNR (MNRF, 2015). A review of background information sources indicates that Deer Wintering Congregation Areas are absent from the Project Location and adjacent lands within 50 m.

6.3.2 Rare Vegetation Communities

Rare vegetation communities often contain rare species, particularly plants and small invertebrates. Rare vegetation communities include cliffs and talus slopes, sand barren, alvar, old growth forest, savannah, tallgrass prairie, and other rare vegetation communities with a provincial rank of S1, S2 or S3 (MNR, 2015).

The records review did not identify any confirmed types of SWH for rare vegetation communities.

Rare vegetation communities have the potential to occur and will be carried forward to site investigation.

6.3.3 Specialized Wildlife Habitat

Specialized habitats are microhabitats that are critical to some wildlife species and can be identified for species that require large areas of suitable habitat for their long-term survival and successful breeding. Some wildlife species require large areas of suitable habitat for their long-term survival. Many wildlife species require substantial areas of suitable habitat for successful breeding. Their populations decline when habitat becomes fragmented and reduced in size. Specialized habitat for wildlife is a community or diversity-based category, therefore, the more wildlife species a habitat contains, the more significant the habitat becomes to the planning area. The largest and least fragmented habitats within a planning area will support the most significant populations of wildlife (MNR, 2015).

The records review did not identify any confirmed types of SWH for specialized wildlife habitat.

Based on the potential habitat present, the following specialized wildlife habitats have the potential to occur (and will be carried forward to site investigation) or are absent:

- **Waterfowl Nesting Area**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance includes marsh, shallow aquatic, and swamp ecosites, as well as adjacence to Provincially Significant Wetlands. Waterfowl nesting area is defined as the area extending 120 m from a wetland (> 0.5 ha), or a wetland (> 0.5 ha) and any small wetlands (0.5 ha) within 120 m, or a cluster of 3 or more small wetlands (0.5 ha). Upland areas should be at least 120 m wide so that predators such as racoons, skunks, and foxes have difficulty finding nests (MNRF, 2015). This feature type will be carried forward to site investigation.
- **Bald Eagle and Osprey Nesting, Foraging, and Perching Habitat**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance includes forest communities directly adjacent to riparian areas, such as rivers, lakes, ponds, and wetlands. Osprey nests are usually at the top a tree whereas Bald Eagle nests are typically in super canopy trees in notch within the tree's canopy (MNRF, 2015). This feature type will be carried forward to site investigation.
- **Woodland Raptor Nesting Habitat**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance includes all natural or conifer plantation woodland and forest stands >30 ha with >10 ha of interior habitat, determined with a 200 m buffer. Stick nests may be found in a variety of intermediate-aged to mature conifer, deciduous, or mixed forests within tops or crotches of trees. The criteria for confirmed woodland raptor nesting SWH includes the presence of one or more active nests from the listed species (MNRF, 2015). This feature type will be carried forward to site investigation.
- **Turtle Nesting Areas**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance includes habitats close to water and away from roads; sites less prone to loss of eggs by predation from skunks, raccoons, or other animals; areas that provide sand and gravel that turtles can dig in and are in open, sunny areas; sand or gravel beaches adjacent to undisturbed shallow weedy areas of marshes, lakes, and rivers; and in stumps or under loose rock within partially wooded areas (MNRF, 2015). This feature type will be carried forward to site investigation.

- **Seeps and Springs**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance describes seeps and springs as typical of headwater areas where groundwater comes to the surface, often found at the source of cold-water streams (MNRF, 2015). This feature type will be carried forward to site investigation.
- **Amphibian Breeding Habitat (Woodland)**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance includes the presence of a wetland, pond, or woodland pool (including vernal pools) >500 m^2 (about 25 m diameter) within or adjacent to (within 120 m) a woodland. Woodlands containing permanent ponds or those containing water in most years until mid-July are more likely to be used as breeding habitat by amphibians. The criteria for confirmed woodland amphibian breeding SWH includes the presence of a breeding population of one or more of the listed newt/salamander species (including evidence of adults or egg masses), two or more of the listed frog species with at least 20 individuals, or two or more of the listed frog species at Call Code level 3 (MNRF, 2015). This feature type will be carried forward to site investigation.
- **Amphibian Breeding Habitat (Wetland)**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance wetlands >500 m^2 (~25 m diameter), supporting high species diversity, with the presence of shrubs and logs, providing structure for calling, foraging, escape, and concealment from predators. American Bullfrogs (*Lithobates catesbeianus*) require permanent waterbodies with abundant emergent vegetation. The criteria for confirmed wetland amphibian breeding SWH includes the presence of a breeding population of one or more of the listed newt/salamander species (including adults and egg masses), two or more of the listed frog/toad species with at least 20 individuals, or two or more of the listed frog/toad species at Call Codes level 3 (MNRF, 2015). No known features were identified within the Project Location and adjacent lands within 50 m.
- **Woodland Area-Sensitive Bird Breeding Habitat**
  - The habitat criteria to determine significance includes habitats where interior forest breeding birds are breeding, typically large mature (>60 years old) forest stands or woodlots >30 ha. Interior forest habitat is at least 200 m from the forest edge. This feature will be carried forward to site investigation.

6.3.4 Habitat for Species of Conservation Concern (Not Including Endangered or Threatened Species)

Habitats of Species of Conservation Concern (SCC) include species:

- Listed in Schedule 1 under the Species at Risk Act, 2002;
- Includes in the Protected Species in Ontario List under the Species Conservation Act, 2025;
- Classified as Special Concern by the Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario COSSARO); and/or
- Assigned a provincial Conservation Status Rank (SRank) of S1 (Critically Imperiled), S2 (imperiled) or S3 (Vulnerable).

Consideration of candidate SCC habitat potentially within the 50m of the Project Location was determined based on the existing land uses and general habitat requirements of the species. A search and analysis of the records and resources outlined in Table 1 identified several SCC with the potential to occur in the general area of the Project Location.

- These species are further discussed in **Section 6.3** and **Section 6.4** and outlined with respect to their status in **Appendix B**. The following habitats for SCC have been identified as having the potential to occur within the Project Location and adjacent lands within 50 m.
- Marsh Bird Breeding Habitat
  - This habitat includes all wetlands if there is shallow water with emergent aquatic vegetation present. For Green Heron (*Butorides virescens*), habitat is at the edge of water such as sluggish streams, ponds and marshes sheltered by shrubs and trees. Less frequently it may be found in upland shrubs or forest a considerable distance from water (MNRF, 2015). No known features were identified within the Project Location and adjacent lands within 50 m.
- Open Country Bird Breeding Habitat
  - This habitat includes large grassland areas (natural and cultural fields/meadows) >30 ha with a history of longevity (MNRF, 2015). This feature type will be carried forward to site investigation.
- Shrub/Early Successional Bird Breeding Habitat
  - This habitat includes large field areas (>10 ha) succeeding to shrub and thicket habitats with a history of longevity. The criteria for confirmed shrub/early successional bird breeding SWH includes the presence of one nesting/breeding indicator species and at least two of the common species (MNRF, 2015). No known features were identified within the Project Location and adjacent lands within 50 m.

- Special Concern and Rare Wildlife Species
  - Potentially suitable habitat for SCC, including Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*), Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*), Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*), Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*), Eastern Musk Turtle (*Sternotherus odoratus*), Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*), and West Virginia White (*Pieris virginensis*). Carried forward to site investigation.

6.3.5 Animal Movement Corridors

Animal movement corridors are elongated areas used by wildlife to move from one habitat to another. They are important to ensure genetic diversity in populations, to allow seasonal migration of animals, and to allow animals to move throughout their home range from feeding areas to cover areas (MNR, 2015).

The following animal movement corridors have the potential to occur on or within 50 m (and will be carried forward to site investigation), or are absent:

- Amphibian Movement Corridors
  - Corridors are determined based on the identification of significant breeding habitat for amphibians. Movement corridors between breeding habitat and summer habitat must be determined when amphibian breeding habitat is confirmed as SWH (MNRF, 2015). This feature type will be carried forward to site investigation.
- Deer Movement Corridors
  - Corridors are determined based on the identification of confirmed Deer Wintering Areas (MNRF, 2015). No known features were identified within the Project Location and adjacent lands within 50 m.

6.4 Vascular Plant and Lichen Diversity

A search of the MNR's NHIC database for within 300 m of the Project Location returned records for botanical provincially tracked species. All five of the species are SAR:

- Butternut (*Juglans nigra*);
- Black Ash (*Fraxinus nigra*);
- Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid (*Platantera leuophaea*);
- Pale-bellied Frost Lichen (*Physconia subpallida*); and
- Ogden's Pondweed (*Potamogeton x odgenii*)).

Assessment of vascular plants will be carried forward to site investigation.

6.5 Wildlife Species Diversity

Using readily available secondary source databases and wildlife atlases outlined in **Table 1**, various wildlife species have been determined as potentially occurring in or adjacent to the Project Location. These species are discussed below. Each species has been assessed according to occurrence records and their regional, provincial and federal conservation status.

6.5.1 Birds

After reviewing records in the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas, the Christmas Bird Count, iNaturalist, eBird Canada and the NHIC, 94 avian species have been identified in the general area of the Project Location. These birds depend on a wide range of habitats including agricultural areas, woodlands and wetlands.

Of the 94 bird species identified in the records review, 14 are SCC (Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*), Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*), Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*), Eastern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*), Grasshopped Sparrow (*Ammodramus savannarum*), Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*), Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*), Eastern Woo-pewee (*Contopus virens*), Common Nighhawk (*Chordeiles minor*), Rough-legged Hawk (*Buteo lagopus*), Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus mainus*), Canvasback (*Aythya valisineria*), Long-tailed Duck (*Clangula hyemalis*), Red-necked Grebe (*Podiceps grisegena*).

Most of the bird species that have the potential to occur in the general area of the Project Location are considered Secure (SRank of S5) or Apparently Secure in Ontario (Srank of S4).

Habitat requirements for the SCC and SAR avian species are available in **Appendix B**.

These species will be considered under SWH:

- Grasshopper Sparrow, Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark will be addressed under Open Country Bird Breeding Habitat.
- Canvasback, Long-tailed Duck, and Red-necked Grebe will be addressed under Waterfowl Stopover and Staging Areas (Aquatic).

- Bank Swallow will be addressed under Colonially-Nesting Bird Breeding Habitat (Bank and Cliff).
- Golden-winged Warbler will be addressed under Shrub/Early Successional Bird Breeding Habitat.
- Evening Grosbeak, Wood Thrush, Eastern Wood-pewee, will be addressed under Woodland Area-Sensitive Bird Breeding Habitat.
- Barn Swallow, Chimney Swift, Common Nighthawk, Rough-legged Hawk and Great Black-backed Gull will be addressed individually under Habitats of Species of Conservation Concern.

6.5.2 Mammals

Digital data from the Mammals of the Western Hemisphere (Patterson *et al,* 2007) and iNaturalist was used to determine possible species occurring within or adjacent to the Project Location. The ranges of 47 mammal species overlapped the Project Location.

Most of the mammal species that have the potential to occur in the general area of the Project Location are considered Secure (SRank of S5) or Apparently Secure in Ontario (Srank of S4).

Of the 47 species identified in the records review, Eastern Red Bat, Silver-haired Bat, Hoary Bat, Eastern Small-footed Myotis, Little Brown Myotis, Northern Myotis, and Tri-colored Bat will be addressed under Habitats of Special Conservation Concern. Habitat requirements for the SAR mammal species are available in **Appendix B**.

6.5.3 Herptiles

The Ontario Herptile Atlas and iNaturalist were used to determine possible species occurring within the general area of the Project Location. Twenty-two (22) herptile species were identified with occurrence records in the general area of the Project Location. Herptiles include salamanders, frogs, toads, turtles and snakes.

The majority of the herptiles species that have the potential to occur in the general area of the Project Location are considered Secure (SRank of S5) or Apparently Secure in Ontario (Srank of S4).

Of the 22 species found in the Project Location, six (6) are SCC (Snapping Turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*), Northern Map Turtle (*Graptemys geographica*), Eastern Musk Turtle (*Sternotherus odoratus*), Common Five-lined Skink (Southern Shield population) (*Plestiodon fasciatus pop. 2*), Eastern Ribbonsnake (Great Lakes population (*Thamnophis sauritus*) and Western Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris triseriata pop. 1*))

Habitat requirements for the herptile SCC are available in **Appendix B**.

These species will be considered under SWH:

- Snapping Turtle and Northern Map Turtle will be addressed under Turtle Wintering Areas and Turtle Nesting Areas.
- Common Five-lined Skink and Eastern Ribbonsnake will be addressed under Reptile Hibernaculum.
- Western Chorus Frog will be addressed under Amphibian Breeding Habitat (Wetland).
- Eastern Musk Turtle will be addressed individually under Habitat of Species of Conservation Concern.

6.5.4 Invertebrates

The Ontario Odonata Atlas, the Ontario Moth Atlas, the Ontario Butterfly Atlas, and iNaturalist were reviewed to determine the potential for invertebrates to occur in the general area of the Project Location. One hundred and thirty-five (135) species had occurrence records in the general vicinity of the Project Location, including two SCC (Monarch (*Danaus plexippus*), and West Virginia White (*Pieris virginiensis*). Monarch and Western Virginia White will be addressed under SWH.

Most of the species that have the potential to occur in the general area of the Project Location are considered Secure (SRank of S5) or Apparently Secure in Ontario (Srank of S4).

Habitat requirements of insect SCC are available in **Appendix B**.

6.5.5 Fish

The Fisheries and Ocean Canada (DFO) Aquatic SAR map was reviewed to determine the potential for fish to occur in the general area of the Project Location. No occurrence records were recorded in the general vicinity of the Project Location.

6.6 Provincial Plan Areas

Under *O. Reg. 359/09*, if any part of the Project Location falls within a provincial plan area the project may be subject to different criterion to evaluate the applicable natural features. In addition, should development occur within the prescribed setback area of a natural feature, it may be subject to a different set of prohibitions under *O. Reg. 359/09*.

Provincial plan areas include the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan Area, the Niagara Escarpment Plan Area, the Greenbelt – Natural Heritage System, and the Greenbelt – Protected Countryside. These provincial plan areas are not applicable to the proposed project.

6.7 Species at Risk

SAR that are listed as Endangered or Threatened under the federal *Species at Risk Act, 2002*, and/or provincial *Species Conservation Act, 2025*, with the potential to interact with the Project Location and/or adjacent lands, are being considered in consultation with the appropriate agency. Reporting related to the protection of these SCC (SAR) is being provided to the appropriate agency under separate cover. This reporting format meets the NHA requirements, as set out in *O. Reg. 359/09*.

6.8 Other Required Approvals and Permitting

In addition to the natural features included in this natural heritage assessment records review, approvals and permits may also be required from the following agencies:

- **Ministry of Transportation (MTO): Permits for Highway Interaction:** MTO permits for building, land use, encroachment, and entrances under the *Public Transportation and Highway Improvement Act* for work near or within provincial highway permit control corridors.
- **Municipal Approvals: Planning and Building Permits:** Required for site development, land use, and structures under the *Planning Act* (including municipal zoning compliance/relief required under *O. Reg. 359/09*) and the *Building Code Act, 1992* (building permits for foundations and structures). Municipal entrance permits and road use agreements may also be required for site access and heavy hauling along local roadways.
- **Conservation Authority (CA) Permits:** Required for development and site alteration in regulated areas (e.g., watercourses, wetlands, and flood hazards) under Ontario Regulation 41/24 (Conservation Authorities Act).
- **Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks:** Permits or registrations under the Species Conservation Act (SCA, 2025) for Species at Risk, and Permit to Take Water (PTTW) or Environmental Activity and Sector Registry (EASR) under the *Ontario Water Resources Act* for high-volume water takings or construction dewatering.
- **Federal and Aviation Clearances:** NAV CANADA and Transport Canada reviews (e.g., aeronautical glare evaluations), and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) reviews under the *Fisheries Act* or permits/approvals under the *Species at Risk Act*, where applicable.
- **Electrical Safety Authority (ESA):** Plan Review and inspection certificates prior to connection.

7.0 Conclusions

This NHA Records Review Report was completed in partial fulfillment of the regulatory requirements for the Renewable Energy Approval (REA) application under Section 25 of *O. Reg. 359/09* and the *Natural Heritage Assessment Guide for Renewable Energy Projects* (Third Edition, 2026). The determinations summarized in **Table 2** establish the baseline natural heritage conditions for the Project Location and surrounding 120-metre Zone of Investigation.

Subsequent stages of the Natural Heritage Assessment will build upon these findings:

- A **Site Investigation** (Section 26) will be carried out to physically verify the presence or absence of candidate features, delineate precise boundaries, and characterize site conditions.
- An **Evaluation of Significance** (Section 27) will assess confirmed features against provincial criteria.
- An **Environmental Impact Study (EIS)** (Section 38) will be completed, where applicable, to evaluate potential negative environmental effects on confirmed or treated significant features and define required mitigation, contingency, and monitoring measures.

The NHA reports, accompanied by the required Qualified Person (QP) attestations, will be submitted to the MECP as part of the formal REA application package to protect regulated natural features within and adjacent to the Project Location.

Table 2: Summary of the Natural Heritage Assessment Records Review

Natural Feature ID	Source Information	Evaluation Status	Location Relative to Project			Carried Forward to Site Investigation
			Within Project Location and within adjacent lands within 50 m	Within 120 m	Within 300 m	
Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves						
None identified within 300 m of the Project Location.						---
Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest						
None identified within 300 m of the Project Location.						---
Wetlands						
Local unevaluated wetlands (various)	MNR Wetlands – Ontario GeoHub	Unevaluated	✓	✓	✓	✓
Woodlands						
Wooded areas (various)	MNR Wooded Areas – Ontario GeoHub	Unevaluated	✓	✓	✓	✓
Important Bird Areas						
None identified within 300 m of the Project Location.						---

Natural Feature ID	Source Information	Evaluation Status	Location Relative to Project			Carried Forward to Site Investigation
			Within Project Location and within adjacent lands within 50 m	Within 120 m	Within 300 m	
Wildlife Habitat						
Seasonal Concentration Areas						
Waterfowl Stopover and Staging Areas (Terrestrial)	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Waterfowl Stopover and Staging Areas (Aquatic)	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	---	---	---	---
Shorebird Migratory Stopover Area	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	---	---	---	---
Raptor Wintering Area	MNRF Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 5E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Bat Hibernacula	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	---	---	---	---
Bat Maternity Colonies	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Turtle Wintering Areas (includes Snapping Turtle)	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓

Natural Feature ID	Source Information	Evaluation Status	Location Relative to Project			Carried Forward to Site Investigation
			Within Project Location and within adjacent lands within 50 m	Within 120 m	Within 300 m	
Reptile Hibernaculum (includes Eastern Ribbonsnake)	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Colonially – Nesting Bird Breeding Habitat (Bank and Cliff)	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	---	---	---	---
Colonially – Nesting Bird Breeding Habitat (Tree/Shrubs)	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Colonially –Nesting Bird Breeding Habitat (Ground)	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	---	---	---	---
Migratory Butterfly Stopover Areas	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	---	---	---	---
Landover Migratory Stopover Areas	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	---	---	---	---
Deer Yarding Areas	MNR Wildlife Values Areas – Ontario GeoHub	Evaluated	---	---	---	---

Natural Feature ID	Source Information	Evaluation Status	Location Relative to Project			Carried Forward to Site Investigation
			Within Project Location and within adjacent lands within 50 m	Within 120 m	Within 300 m	
Deer Wintering Areas	MNR Wildlife Values Areas-Ontario GeoHub	Evaluated	---	---	---	---
Rare Vegetation Communities						
Cliffs and Talus Slopes	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Sand Barren	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Alvar	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Old Growth Forest	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Sand Barren	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Savannah	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓

Natural Feature ID	Source Information	Evaluation Status	Location Relative to Project			Carried Forward to Site Investigation
			Within Project Location and within adjacent lands within 50 m	Within 120 m	Within 300 m	
Tallgrass Prairie	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Specialized Wildlife Habitat						
Waterfowl Nesting Area	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Bald Eagle and Osprey Nesting, Foraging and Perching Habitat	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Woodland Raptor Nesting Habitat	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Turtle Nesting Areas	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Seeps and Springs	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Amphibian Breeding Habitat (Woodland)	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓

Natural Feature ID	Source Information	Evaluation Status	Location Relative to Project			Carried Forward to Site Investigation
			Within Project Location and within adjacent lands within 50 m	Within 120 m	Within 300 m	
Amphibian Breeding Habitat (Wetland)	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	---	---	---	---
Woodland Area Sensitive Bird Breeding Habitat	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Habitat of Species of Conservation Concern						
Marsh Breeding Bird Habitat	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	---	---	---	---
Open Country Bird Breeding Habitat (includes Grasshopper Sparrow)	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Shrub/Early Successional Bird Breeding Habitat (includes Golden-winged Warbler)	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓

Natural Feature ID	Source Information	Evaluation Status	Location Relative to Project			Carried Forward to Site Investigation
			Within Project Location and within adjacent lands within 50 m	Within 120 m	Within 300 m	
• Special Concern and Rare Wildlife Species: 1. Barn Swallow 2. Chimney Swift 3. Common Nighthawk 4. Great-backed Gull 5. Eastern Musk Turtle 6. Monarch 7. West Virginia White	NHIC, OBBA OBA, OMA, CBC, OHA, iNaturalist	Unevaluated	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown	✓
Animal Movement Corridors						
Amphibian Movement Corridors	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	---	---	---	---	---
Deer Movement Corridors	MNR Criteria Schedule for Ecoregion 6E	Unevaluated	---	---	---	---
Provincial Plan Areas						
The project does not fall within a provincial plan area.						---

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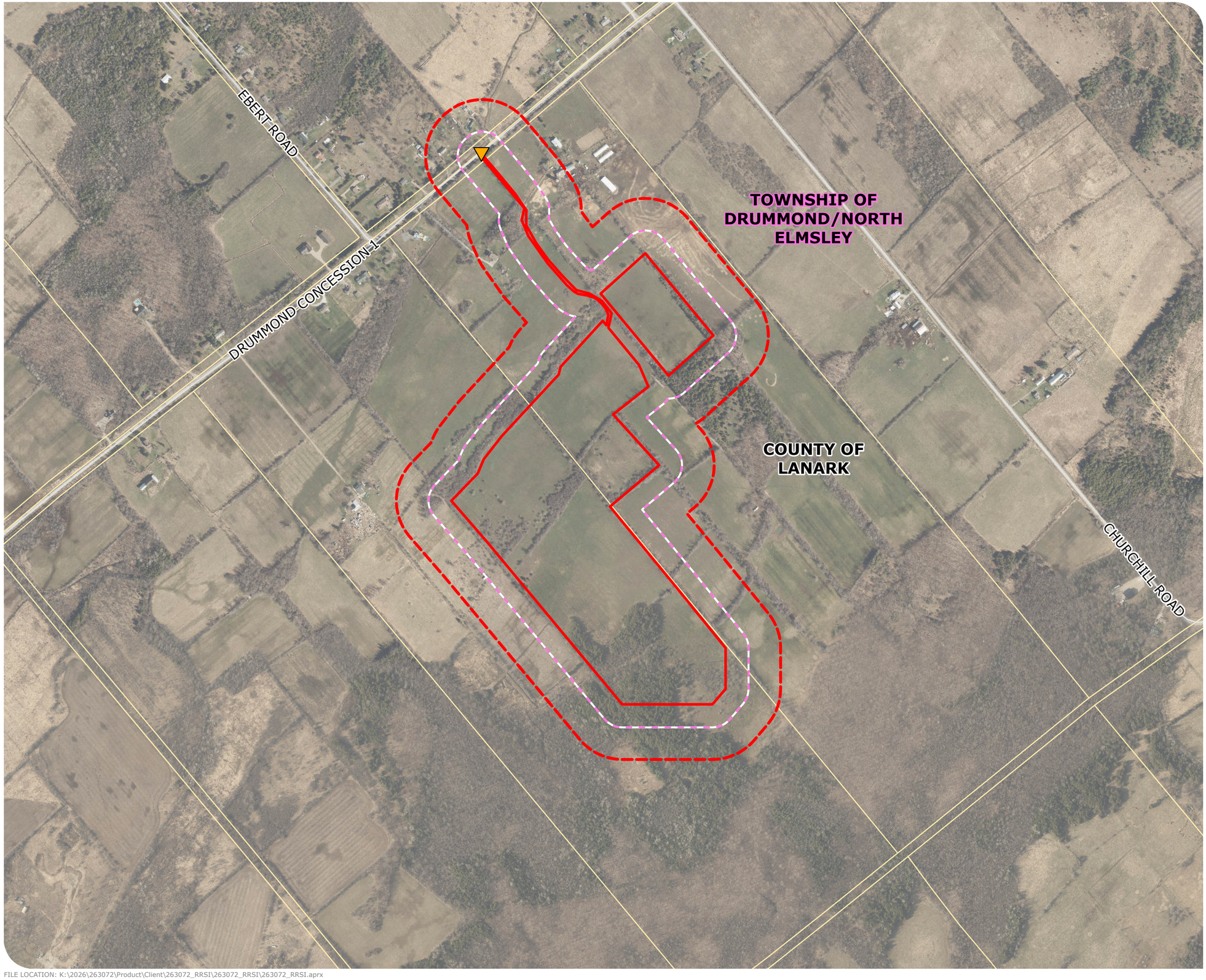
Figures

Figure 1: Project Location

Figure 2: Natural Heritage Features



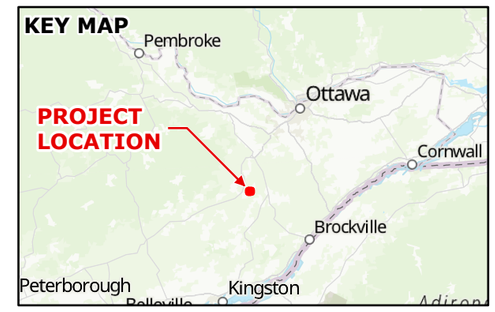
GOLDEN LEAF AGRIVOLTAICS PROJECT

RECORDS REVIEW

PROJECT LOCATION

FIGURE 1

- Project Location
- Study Area (120 m)
- 50 m Site Investigation Area
- Point of Common Coupling
- Local Road
- Lot/Concession



SCALE 1:8,000

0 100 200 400 m

N W E S

MAP DRAWING INFORMATION:
DATA PROVIDED BY MNR

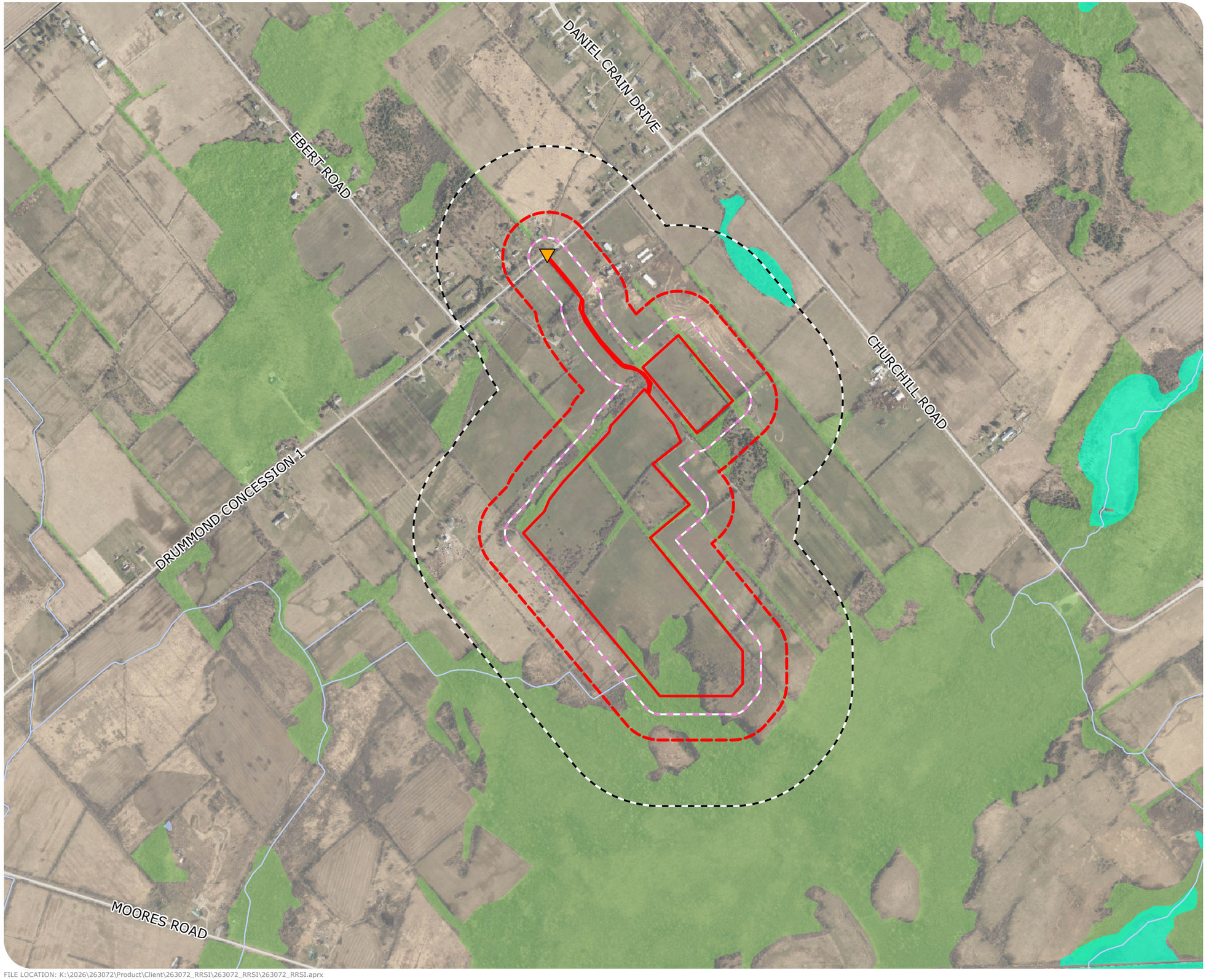
MAP CREATED BY: AEE
MAP CHECKED BY: MB
MAP PROJECTION: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N

PROJECT: 26-3072

STATUS: DRAFT

DATE: 2026-11-03

FILE LOCATION: K:\2026\263072\Product\Client\263072_RRSI\263072_RRSI\263072_RRSI.aprx



GOLDEN LEAF AGRIVOLTAICS PROJECT

RECORDS REVIEW

NATURAL HERITAGE FEATURES

FIGURE 2

- Project Location
- 50 m Site Investigation Area
- Study Area (120 m)
- Study Area (300 m)
- Point of Common Coupling
- Major Road
- Local Road
- Watercourse
- Water Body
- Unevaluated Wetland
- Wooded Area

SCALE 1:10,000

0 125 250 500 m

N W E S

MAP DRAWING INFORMATION:DATA PROVIDED BY MNR

MAP CREATED BY: AEE
MAP CHECKED BY: MB
MAP PROJECTION: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N

PROJECT: 26-3072

STATUS: DRAFT

DATE: 2026-11-03

FILE LOCATION: K:\2026\263072\Product\Client\263072_RRSI\263072_RRSI\263072_RRSI.aprx

Appendix A

Supplementary Information

LANARK COUNTY

OFFICIAL PLAN SCHEDULE A
OFFICE CONSOLIDATION JAN 2025
LAND USE DESIGNATIONS

LEGEND:
- County Boundary
- Municipal Boundary
- Rural Area
- Settlement Area
- Agricultural Land
- Licensed Aggregate Extraction Operation
- Provincially Significant Wetland
- ANSI, Life Science
- ANSI, Earth Science
- Significant Woodland
- Canadian Shield
- Floodplain
- Provincial Park and Conservation Reserve
- Transportation:
  - Provincial Highway
  - Arterial Rural
  - Collector Rural
  - Arterial Urban
  - Collector Urban
  - Local

Date: December 2025

Note: The base information on this plan was prepared from a variety of map sources and was used by permission of the County of Lanark. It is not a legal plan of survey. For precise location of plan features recourse should be had to the original source data.

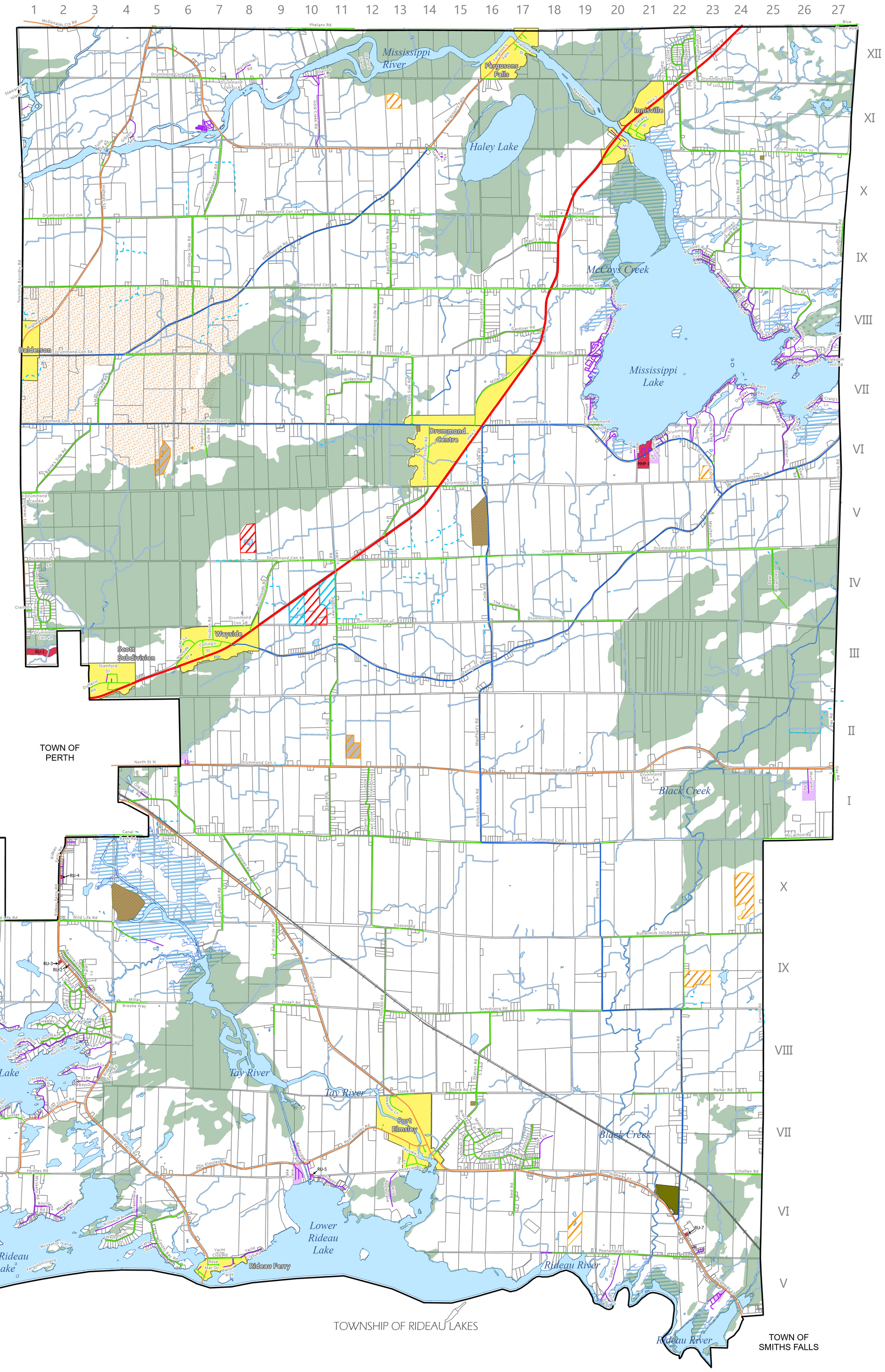
Digital Map Created By:
CGIS Spatial Solutions
52 South Street
Perth, ON K7H 2G7
TEL: 613-368-4321
www.cgis.com

1km 2km 3km 4km 5km

COUNTY OF RENFREW
WHITE LAKE
TOWNSHIP OF LANARK HIGHLANDS
TOWN OF MISSISSIPPI MILLS
CLAYTON LAKE
TAYLOR LAKE
COUNTY OF FRONTENAC
DALHOUSIE LAKE
BENNETT LAKE
MISSISSIPPI LAKE
TOWNSHIP OF BECKWITH
TAY VALLEY TOWNSHIP
TOWNSHIP OF DRUMMOND NORTH ELMSLEY
BOBS LAKE
CHRISTIE LAKE
PIKE LAKE
OTTY LAKE
BLACK LAKE
LOWER RIDEAU LAKE
BIG RIDEAU LAKE
TOWNSHIP OF MONTAGUE
UNITED COUNTIES OF LEEDS & GRENVILLE
SMITHS FALLS
CITY OF OTTAWA

OFFICIAL PLAN FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF DRUMMOND/NORTH ELMSLEY

SCHEDULE A
LAND USE





0 1 2 4 Kilometers

1:40,000

Jp2g Consultants Inc.
ENGINEERS · PLANNERS · PROJECT MANAGERS

THIS PLAN IS BASED UPON INFORMATION OBTAINED JULY, 2022 FROM THE CENTRE FOR GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (CGIS), AND FROM DATA OBTAINED FROM LAND INFORMATION ONTARIO (LIO). THIS PLAN DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A LEGAL PLAN OF SURVEY.

VERSION DATE: AUGUST 12, 2025

LEGEND

- Rail Network
- Waterbody
- Watercourse
- Municipal Drain
- Floodline
- Pit and Quarry (Active)
- Quarry (Active)
- Pit (Active)
- Pit (Inactive)
- Agriculture
- Special Policy Area
- Mobile Home Park
- Waste Disposal
- Salvage Yard
- Provincially Significant Wetlands (PSW)
- Hamlets
- Rural
- Township of Drummond/North Elmsley
- Provincial Highway
- County Roads
- Private Road
- Township Collector Road
- Township Local Road

Appendix B

Species at Risk and Species of Conservation Concern Lists

Table 1. Species at Risk and Species of Conservation Concern Screened for their Potential to Occur within or near the Project Location

Scientific Name	Common Name	SARA Status[1]	SCA Status[2]	SRank[3]	Information Source[4]	Regulated Habitat	Habitat Requirements[2,5]
BIRDS							
Hirundo rustica	Barn Swallow	THR	---	S4B	OBBA	FALSE	Farmlands or rural areas; cliffs, caves, rock niches; buildings or other man-made structures for nesting; open country near body of water.
Chlidonias niger	Black Tern	---	END	S3B	OBBA	FALSE	Wetlands, coastal or inland marshes; large cattail marshes, marshy edges of rivers, lakes or ponds, wet open fens, wet meadows; returns to same area to nest each year in loose colonies; must have shallow (0.5 to 1 m deep) water and areas of open water near nests; requires marshes >20 ha in size; feeds over adjacent grasslands for insects; also feeds on fish, crayfish and frogs.
Dolichonyx oryzivorus	Bobolink	THR	---	S4B	OBBA, NHIC	FALSE	Large, open expansive grasslands with dense ground cover; hayfields, meadows or fallow fields; marshes; requires tracts of grassland >50 ha.
Aythya valisineria	Canvasback	---	---	S1B, S4N	CBC	FALSE	large marshes for nesting; prefer deep, permanent water- bodies for feeding and courtship.
Chaetura pelagica	Chimney Swift	THR	---	S4B, S4N	OBBA	FALSE	Commonly found in urban areas near buildings and man-made structures with vertical faces, of which are used as surfaces for nest-building. Nests and roosts are most common in chimneys with preference for larger chimneys with open tops. This species will also nest and roost in hollow trees and crevices of rock cliffs. Nesting and roosting sites are situated near areas of water with an abundance of insects for feeding.
Chordeiles minor	Common Nighthawk	SC	---	S4B	OBBA	FALSE	Open ground; clearings in dense forests; ploughed fields; gravel beaches or barren areas with rocky soils; open woodlands; flat gravel roofs.
Sturnella magna	Eastern Meadowlark	THR	---	S4B	OBBA, NHIC	FALSE	open, grassy meadows, farmland, pastures, hayfields or grasslands with elevated singing perches; cultivated land and weedy areas with trees; old orchards with adjacent, open grassy areas >10 ha in size.
Contopus virens	Eastern Wood-pewee	SC	---	S4B	OBBA, NHIC	FALSE	Open, deciduous, mixed or coniferous forest; predominated by oak with little understory; forest clearing, edges; farm woodlots, parks.
Coccothraustes vespertinus	Evening Grosbeak	SC	---	S4	CBC	FALSE	Coniferous or mixed forests; deciduous tree stands; parks, orchards.
Aquila chrysaetos	Golden Eagle	---	END	S2B	CBC	FALSE	Wild, arid plateaus, deeply cut by streams and canyons or sparsely treed slopes and rock crags.
Ammodramus savannarum	Grasshopper Sparrow	SC	---	S4B	OBBA	FALSE	Well-drained grassland or prairie with low cover of grasses, taller weeds on sandy soil; hayfields or weedy fallow fields; uplands with ground vegetation of various densities; perches for singing; requires tracts of grassland > 10 ha.
Larus marinus	Great Black-backed Gull	---	---	S2B	CBC	FALSE	Isolated predator fee sites like islands, piers, landfills, beaches and rocky shores along the Great Lakes particularly eastern Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River.
Clangula hyemalis	Long-tailed Duck	---	---	S3B	CBC	FALSE	Winter visitor in the open deep waters of the Great Lakes, particularly Lake Ontario.
Podiceps grisegena	Red-necked Grebe	---	---	S3B, S4N	CBC	FALSE	permanent freshwater lakes with a fringe of aquatic emergent vegetation; marshes, impoundments or sewage lagoons with > 4 ha of open water; protected marshy areas or bays in larger lakes; nest greatly affected by wave action of boats and other human disturbances.
Buteo lagopus	Rough-legged Hawk	---	---	S1B, S4N	CBC	FALSE	Open country like farmlands, marshes and grasslands.
Hylocichla mustelina	Wood Thrush	THR	---	S4B	OBBA, NHIC	FALSE	Carolinian and Great Lakes-St. Lawrence forest zones; undisturbed moist mature deciduous or mixed forest with deciduous sapling growth; near pond or swamp; hardwood forest edges; must have some trees higher than 12 m.

Scientific Name	Common Name	SARA Status[1]	SCA Status[2]	SRank[3]	Information Source[4]	Regulated Habitat	Habitat Requirements[2,5]
INSECTS							
Hemileuca sp. 1	Bogbean Buckmoth	END	END	S1	MNRF Reg. Habitat	TRUE	Open, calcium rich fens, located in southeastern Ontario.
Danaus plexippus	Monarch	END	---	S2N, S4B	OBA	FALSE	Monarch are commonly found in meadow habitats, abandoned farmland and roadsides where milkweed and wildflowers (such as goldenrods, asters and purple loosestrife) are abundant
Erynnis martialis	Mottled Duskywing	END	END	S2	OBA	FALSE	The mottled duskywing tends to live in dry habitats with sparse vegetation. These include open barrens, sandy patches among woodlands, and alvars. In Ontario, the mottled duskywing will only deposit their eggs on two closely-related plants: New Jersey Tea and Prairie Redroot.
Gomphus quadricolor	Rapids Clubtail	END	THR	S1	OOA, MNRF Reg.Habitat	TRUE	In Canada, this species is known to occur on two river systems in Ontario: the Mississippi and the Humber River. Characteristics of these occurrence sites include; medium to large streams and rivers, typically with clear and cool waters, gravel and cobble riffles, and projecting boulders interspersed with mud pools. Channel widths range from 20 to 50 m, with July water temperatures ranging from 21.6 to 23.3°C, and mean annual discharge rates of 2.5 to 31.4 m3/s. Rapids Clubtail is documented as extirpated from two other locations in Ontario: the Thames and the Credit River; however, in 2005, potential sites were identified at the Ausable, Sydenham and Grand Rivers.
Pieris virginiensis	West Virginia White	---	---	S3	OBA	FALSE	Moist deciduous woodlands containing toothwort.
HERPTILES							
Emydoidea blandingii	Blanding's Turtle	THR	THR	S3	OHA, NHIC	FALSE	Shallow water marshes, bogs, ponds or swamps, or coves in larger lakes with soft, muddy bottoms and aquatic vegetation; basks on logs, stumps, or banks; surrounding natural habitat is important in summer as they frequently move from aquatic habitat to terrestrial habitats; hibernates in bogs; not readily observed.
Plestiodon fasciatus pop. *2*	Common Five-lined Skink (Southern Shield population)	SC	SC	S3	OHA	FALSE	Underneath rocks on open bedrock in forests.
Sternotherus odoratus	Eastern Musk Turtle	SC	SC	S3	OHA	FALSE	Aquatic, except when laying eggs; shallow slow moving water of lakes, streams, marshes and ponds; hibernate in underwater mud, in banks or in muskrat lodges; eggs are laid in debris or under stumps or fallen logs at waters edge; often share nest sites; sometimes congregate at hibernation sites; not readily observed.
Thamnophis sauritus	Eastern Ribbonsnake (Great Lakes population)	SC	SC	S4	OHA	FALSE	Sunny grassy areas with low dense vegetation near bodies of shallow permanent quiet water; wet meadows, grassy marshes or sphagnum bogs; borders of ponds, lakes or streams; hibernates in groups.
Anaxyrus fowleri	Fowler's Toad	END	END	S2	MNRF Reg. Habitat	TRUE	Sandy shorelines, dunes and beaches along the northern shore of Lake Erie, specifically in the Niagara, Norfolk and Elgin regions.
Pantherophis spiloides pop. *1*	Gray Ratsnake (Frontenac Axis population)	THR	THR	S3	OHA, MNRF Reg. Habitat	TRUE	Deciduous forests, rocky outcrops, wetlands and shorelines.
Graptemys geographica	Northern Map Turtle	SC	SC	S3	OHA	FALSE	This species is found in rivers and lakeshores, with a preference for slow moving currents, muddy bottoms, and abundant aquatic vegetation. Through spring and summer, it needs suitable basking sites on emergent rocks and fallen trees, with an unobstructed view from which it can drop immediately into the water if startled. Northern Map Turtle require high-quality water that supports the female's mollusc prey. In winter, individuals hibernate on the bottom of deep, slow-moving sections of river.
Chelydra serpentina	Snapping Turtle	SC	SC	S3	OHA, NHIC	FALSE	Permanent, semi-permanent fresh water; marshes, swamps or bogs; rivers and streams with soft, muddy banks or bottoms; often uses soft soil or clean dry sand on south-facing slopes for nest sites; may nest at some distance from water; often hibernate together in groups in mud under water; home range size ~28 ha.
Pseudacris triseriata pop. 1	Western Chorus Frog (Great Lakes / St. Lawrence - Canadian Shield Population)	THR	---	S3	OHA, NHIC	FALSE	Forest openings around woodland ponds, damp meadows, marshes, bottomland swamps, and temporary ponds in open country, and urban areas.

Scientific Name	Common Name	SARA Status[1]	SCA Status[2]	SRank[3]	Information Source[4]	Regulated Habitat	Habitat Requirements[2,5]
MAMMALS							
Lasiurus borealis	Eastern Red Bat	---	END	S4	MWH	FALSE	Roosts in leafy trees such as elm and maple but also may use conifers; forage habitat includes over streams, near lights and along field and forest edges; migrates south in winter; prefers to feed over wetlands or open fields; a solitary species.
Myotis leibii	Eastern Small-footed Myotis	---	END	S2S3	MWH	FALSE	Roosts in caves, mine shafts, crevices or buildings that are in or near woodland; hibernates in cold dry caves or mines; maternity colonies in caves or buildings; hunts in forests.
Urocyon cinereoargenteus	Gray Fox	THR	THR	S1	MWH	FALSE	Hardwood forests with a mix of fields and woods; swamps; wooded, brushy or rocky habitats; woodland farmland edge; old fields with thickets; dens in hollow log or tree; individual has numerous winter dens throughout its range which is > 40 ha.
Lasiurus cinereus	Hoary Bat	---	END	S4	MWH	FALSE	Roosts in trees with dense leaf foliage, forest edges or hedgerows; also, in city parks; do not use caves; feeds over water or open areas; migrates south in winter; a solitary species, only forming groups while hunting.
Myotis lucifugus	Little Brown Myotis	END	END	S4	MWH	FALSE	Uses caves, quarries, tunnels, hollow trees or buildings for roosting; winters in humid caves; maternity sites in dark warm areas such as attics and barns; feeds primarily in wetlands, forest edges.
Myotis septentrionalis	Northern Myotis	END	END	S3	MWH	FALSE	Hibernates during winter in mines or caves; during summer males roost alone and females form maternity colonies of up to 60 adults; roosts in houses, manmade structures but prefers hollow trees or under loose bark; hunts within forests, below canopy.
Lasionycteris noctivagans	Silver-haired Bat	---	END	S4	MWH	FALSE	Prefers temperate, hardwoods with ponds or streams nearby; roosts in tree foliage or hollow snags, buildings or caves; somewhat solitary except for small maternity colonies usually found in hollow trees; found in forested areas near watercourses; migrates south in winter.
Pipistrellus subflavus	Tri-colored Bat	END	END	S3?	MWH	FALSE	Can be found in a variety of forested habitats. They form day roosts and maternity colonies in older forest and occasionally in barns or other structures and overwinter in caves. They forage over water and along streams in the forest.
BOTANICAL							
Fraxinus nigra	Black Ash	---	END	S4	Dillon	FALSE	Occurs in swamps, floodplains, and fens.
Juglans cinerea	Butternut	END	END	S2?	Dillon	FALSE	Usually grows alone or in small groups in deciduous forests. It prefers moist, well-drained soil and is often found along streams. It is also found on well-drained gravel sites and rarely on dry rocky soil. This species does not do well in the shade and often grows in sunny openings and near forest edges.
Platanthera leucophaea	Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid	END	END	S2	MNRF Reg. Habitat	TRUE	Occurs in wetlands, fens, swamps, and tallgrass prairies with full sun.
Potamogeton x odgenii	Ogden's Pondweed	END	END	SH	MNRF Reg. Habitat	TRUE	Found in clear, slow-moving streams, beaver ponds and lakes. It often grows with other species of narrow-leaved pondweeds.
Physconia subpallida	Pale-bellied Frost Lichen	END	END	S3	MNRF Reg. Habitat	TRUE	Grows on the bark of hardwood trees such as White ash, Black walnut, and American elm. It can also be found growing on fence posts and boulders. Pale-bellied frost lichen also grows on Hop Hornbeam trunks at a height of 0.5 to 2 metres in wooded areas.

1 – Status identified by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada under the federal SARA, 2002; 2 – Protected Species in Ontario List under the provincial SCA, 2025; 3 – Ontario SRank; S5 = secure; S4= apparently secure; S3 = vulnerable; S2 = imperiled; S1 = critically imperiled; SX = Extirpated; SH = Possibly Extirpated; SNA = non-native or exotic species to Ontario; 4 – NHIC = MNRF Natural Heritage Information Centre, MNRF Reg. Habitat = MNRF Regulated Habitat (O. Reg. 242/08), OBBA = Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas, MWH = Digital Distribution Maps of the Mammals of the Western Hemisphere, version 3.0, OHA = Ontario Herpetofaunal Atlas, OBA = Ontario Butterfly Atlas, CBC = Christmas Bird Count, Dillon = internal Dillon species information; 5 – MNRF Significant Wildlife Technical Guide - Appendix G (2000).