



July 11, 2017

Our File: CONT662

Mike Green  
223 Colonnade Rd #100,  
Nepean, ON  
K2E 7K3

Dear Mr. Green,

**Reference: Ecological site assessment for species at risk at 1435 Sanford Flemming**

As per your request, we performed an ecological site assessment of your property at 1435 Sanford Flemming in Ottawa, Ontario to determine the existence of potential ecological constraints to the future redevelopment of the site, specifically in regards to species at risk (SAR) (Figure 1). Our review is based on the evaluation of both existing records, including the Ministry's of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) database and air photo imagery of the site, and three site surveys to determine the flora and fauna (birds) present on and near the site. The site visits were conducted on June 14<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017 by Kilgour & Associates Ltd. (KAL) ecologist Rob Hallett. A list of species observed on or near the project area is provided in Appendix 1.

A review of the NHIC database for SAR observations within 2 km of the property found records for three species listed under the *Endangered Species Act* (ESA) (Ontario, 2007): Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*), Skillet Clubtail (*Gomphus ventricosus*) and Pale-bellied Frost Lichen (*Physconia subpallida*). Bobolink require open grassland areas for habitat. The property at 1435 Sanford Fleming Ave. is a commercial site located within an industrial park. Areas not covered by the site warehouse are almost entirely paved. The only site area not hardened is a narrow strip of lawn along the street entrance with several trees. The site provides very limited habitat opportunity of any wildlife and cannot support Bobolink. Records for the other two species date from 1924 and 1900 respectively. Neither species is currently known to occur anywhere near the urban portions of Ottawa; both of those records are considered severely out of date.

The NHIC database includes existing records of SAR observations, but does not necessarily identify all species potentially present. The City had indicated that they believed there was small chance the site could provide habitat for Barn Swallows or Chimney Swifts. Both species are known to occur around many parts of the city and can occur in urban habitats. The likelihood though of either of these species occurring on site was considered very small at a best. Barn Swallows tend to nest within 200 m of their feeding habitat. The nearest area providing suitable feeding opportunity is the Rideau River, 600 m to the east. Chimney Swifts nest in open chimneys (hence their name) or, rarely, in open cavities in large old tree snags. Neither of these habitat elements exist on the site. While still identifying all bird species occurring in the area, the bird surveys did focus on these species. Surveys were started 30 minutes before sunrise to seek any Chimney Swifts emerging from building cavities (the existing site building does not have any chimneys per se). All external surfaces and nooks were also thoroughly searched for active or


remnant Barn Swallow nests. During the initial bird survey, Mr. Hallett also identified all site trees to confirm the absence of Butternuts.

Through the three site surveys, we confirmed the absence of any SAR birds and/or any Butternuts on or near the property. The only birds present in the area were common, highly urban-tolerant species. It is the conclusion of this report that no SAR, or any other important, sensitive or protected natural heritage features are located on or near the proposed project area.

Please feel free to contact me any time should you have further questions or wish to discuss this matter in greater detail.

Respectfully submitted,

**KILGOUR & ASSOCIATES LTD.**



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Anthony Francis, PhD

Mike Green

Ecological site assessment for species at risk at 1435 Sanford Flemming

February 11, 2015

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#### Appendix 1: Bird species observed on or near the site

- American Robin
- Common Yellowthroat
- European Starling
- House Sparrow
- Mallard (fly-over)
- Mourning Dove
- Northern Cardinal
- Ring Billed Gull
- Rock Dove
- Song Sparrow