



Muncaster  
Environmental  
Planning Inc.

October 1, 2018

Mr. Greg Winters, MCIP, RPP  
Senior Project Manager  
NOVATECH  
Suite 200, 240 Michael Cowpland Drive  
Kanata, Ontario  
K2M 1P6

Dear Greg:

**RE: 866 Eagleson Road, Kanata**  
**Species at Risk Assessment**

On July 18<sup>th</sup>, I reviewed the above 13.8 hectare site and adjacent lands between Eagleson Road and Terry Fox Drive south of Romina Street in the southwest portion of Kanata. The review took place from 10:55 to 14:10 under good conditions for observations with sunny skies, a light to moderate breeze, and air temperatures ranging from 21° to 25°C. The site was systematically walked to ensure the entire site was observed.

***Existing Conditions***

Aerial photography shows the site and adjacent lands in agricultural use until the late 2000s, with woody vegetation limited to scattered deciduous trees along an old laneway in the southwest and a west to east agricultural ditch to the south of the site. These trees are now mature Manitoba maples up to 80cm diameter at breast height (dbh) (Photo 3). Many of the Manitoba maples were in poor condition with major limb damage, reduced leaf-out, and trunk rot.

Poplar stems have regenerated on the former agricultural fields (Photos 1 and 2). Trembling aspens up to 15cm dbh were dominant, with balsam poplar, eastern cottonwood and silver poplar also present along with a few Manitoba maple and crack willow stems. The regenerating stems appear to be in generally good condition, with fungus noted on some of the poplars. In addition to the extensive poplar regeneration and some Manitoba maple and ash saplings, glossy buckthorn, Bebb's willow, slender willow, red-osier dogwood, and red raspberry shrubs were present in the understory. Bebb's willow was very common in the south portion of the site. The ground flora in the regenerating upland poplar deciduous forest was dominated by Canada goldenrod in many areas, with common brome grass, June meadow grass, timothy, Canada thistle, bull thistle, field sow-thistle, stinging nettle, reed canary grass, orchard grass, wild carrot, white avens, sensitive fern, joe-pye-weed, European bur-reed, virgin's bower, early goldenrod, narrow-leaved goldenrod, white-sweet clover, daisy fleabane, Philadelphia fleabane, common milkweed, black-eyed susan, bird's-foot trefoil, common dandelion, ox-eye daisy, field horsetail,

common mugwort, wild grape, common burdock, and wild parsnip also representative of the ground flora.

The west portion of the site was generally much more open, with regenerating poplar stems common in many areas (Photo 4). Canada goldenrod was dominant in the open cultural meadow habitat, with wild parsnip, field sow-thistle, Canada thistle, and common brome grass well represented. Wild grape, spreading dogbane, thicket creeper, tall goldenrod, narrow-leaved goldenrod, pearly everlasting, field mustard, wormseed mustard, scouring rush, purple loosestrife, orchard grass, reed canary grass, field horsetail, daisy fleabane, wild carrot, cow vetch, lamb's quarter, evening primrose, and common dandelion were also present, along with Bebb's willow shrubs. Where there was a greater representation of Bebb's willow and glossy buckthorn, the habitat would be considered a cultural thicket (Photo 5).

Wildlife observations included American crow, norther flicker, great-crested flycatcher, black-capped chickadee, red-winged blackbird, red-eyed vireo, yellow warbler, American goldfinch, song sparrow and American robin.



*Photo 1 – North and central portions of the site were dominated by young poplar stems.  
This example is in the northeast portion of the site*





*Photo 2 – A smaller representation of young poplar stems near the south edge of the site, just north of Terry Fox Drive, with a cultural meadow dominated by goldenrod in the forefront. View looking southeast*



*Photo 3 – Intermittent deciduous hedgerow of Manitoba maple in the southwest portion of the site. View looking northeast*





*Photo 4 – Cultural meadow in the west portion of the site. View looking north*



*Photo 5 – Cultural thicket in the south-central portion of the site. View looking east*

### ***Species at Risk Assessment***

No Species at Risk were observed on or adjacent to the site. The Ministry of the Natural Resources and Forestry's Make a Map: Natural Heritage Areas website was reviewed ([www.giscoeapp.lrc.gov.on.ca/web/MNR/NHLUPS/NaturalHeritage/Viewer/Viewer.html](http://www.giscoeapp.lrc.gov.on.ca/web/MNR/NHLUPS/NaturalHeritage/Viewer/Viewer.html)). This site allows for a search of Threatened and Endangered species covered by the 2008 *Endangered Species Act*, as well as other species of interest. A search was conducted on the 1 km squares including the site and adjacent areas (18VR31 – 22 and - 23). No Species at Risk or other species of special interest were noted for these squares.

Four Species at Risk, barn swallow, bank swallow, eastern meadowlark, and bobolink, are identified for the overall 10 km square (18VR31) including the site in the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas. Eastern meadowlark and bobolink utilize larger grassland areas such as hayfields. The cultural meadows in the west portion of the site contain too much woody vegetation and are too small to be used by these grassland Species at Risk. Bank swallows nest in open sand walls, often in association with sand pits, habitat also not present. No structures were present on or adjacent to the site that may be utilized by chimney swift or barn swallow.

Other potential Species at Risk noted by the Kemptville District office of the Ministry of the Natural Resources and Forestry for sites in this portion of Kanata included least bittern, Blanding's turtle, butternut, and three bat species: little brown bat, eastern small-footed myotis, and northern long-eared bat. No larger cavity trees for potential bat utilization were observed on or adjacent to the site. No butternut trees were noted on or within 50 metres of the site. Blanding's turtle was recorded for the overall 10 km square 18VR31 in the Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas but no wetland habitat was present on or adjacent to the site that may be used by least bittern or Blanding's turtle. The potential Species at Risk historically reported for the overall City of Ottawa and their habitat requirements were also reviewed, including butternut, American ginseng, eastern prairie fringed-orchid, wood turtle, spiny softshell, Blanding's turtle, Henslow's sparrow, loggerhead shrike, eastern meadowlark, barn swallow, bobolink, eastern whip-poor-will, bald eagle, golden eagle, least bittern, little brown bat, eastern small-footed myotis, northern long-eared bat, olive hickorynut, eastern cougar, lake sturgeon, cerulean warbler, and American eel. Except for butternut, no specific habitat characteristics related to these potential Species at Risk were observed on the site.

In summary, no Species at Risk were observed or anticipate to utilize the site other than butternut, which was not observed. No significant natural heritage features were on or adjacent to the site.

Please call if you have any questions on this Species at Risk assessment.

Yours Sincerely,  
**MUNCASTER ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING INC.**



Bernie Muncaster, M.Sc.  
Principal

866 Eagleson

