Memo

To: Karla Tamayo, Innovative Planning Solutions

From: Steve Greidanus, Dillon Consulting Limited

cc: Whitney Moore, Dillon Consulting Limited

Date: July 25, 2022

Subject: 40 Wilson Avenue, SAR habitat assessment memo

Our File: 22-4573

1.0 Introduction

Dillon Consulting Limited ('Dillon') has been retained by RIC (Midland Land) Inc. (the 'proponent') for natural environment consulting services in support of the proposed development (the 'Project') located adjacent to 40 Wilson Avenue (the 'Subject Property') in the City of Belleville, Ontario. For the purposes of documenting the natural environment existing conditions, the Study Area was established as the Subject Property plus a surrounding 6 metre (m) setback, as shown as shown in **Attachment A**; Figure 1.

The purpose of this memo is to summarize the natural environment existing conditions and the potential for Species at Risk (SAR) to occur within the Subject Property. For the purposes of this memo, SAR are defined as species listed as Threatened or Endangered under the Ontario Endangered Species Act, 2007. The natural environment investigation consisted of a desktop natural environment background review as well as a site visit to the Study Area to confirm existing site conditions and potential SAR habitat.

2.0 Methodology

The background information reviewed included a combination of existing published data, information made available through various public agencies, and web-based mapping programs. The information collected as part of the background review process was used to inform the scoping of the confirmatory site visit as a mechanism to document the existing natural environment conditions, and support future potential permits and approvals for the Project. Terrestrial natural heritage field investigations were conducted on June 16, 2022, by a Dillon biologist to document existing natural heritage features, if present, and assess the Subject Property for potential SAR occurrences and/or SAR habitat.

3.0 Results

3.1 Background Information

A search of background information did not identify any provincial parks or conservation reserves/areas, or Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI), Life Science, or Earth Science within the Subject Property). No mapped woodlands, watercourses or wetlands were identified within the Subject Property (**Attachment B**). Species at Risk with the potential to occur within the Subject Property are identified below in **Table 1.**

3.2 Vegetation

Vegetation species were surveyed during field investigations to determine the presence / absence of any SAR species. In general the Subject Property exhibited a high degree of disturbance with a large amount of refuse noted, including large amounts of concrete from previous industrial buildings located within the property. As a result much of the ground vegetation noted included high amounts of invasive species, or species indicative of a disturbed environment. Common species found within the Subject Property include but are not limited to species such as Canada Thistle (*Cirsium arvense*), Awnless Brome (*Bromus inermis*), Crown vetch (*Vicia cracca*), Curly dock (*Rumex crispus*), Garlic Mustard (*Alliaria petiolate*), Dog-strangling Vine (*Cynanchum rossicum*), Ox-eye Daisy (*Leucanthemum vulgare*), Sow Thistle (*Sonchus arvensis ssp. arvensis*), Wild Carrot (*Daucus carota*) and Canada Goldenrod (*Solidago canadensis*). No SAR vegetation were identified within the Subject Property.

3.3 Incidentals

A general wildlife assessment was completed within the Subject Property through incidental observations while on site. Incidental observations of wildlife were noted, as well as other wildlife evidence such as dens, tracks, and scat. Species observed within the Subject Property included American Goldfinch (*Carduelis tristis*), Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferous)*, American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos)*, Blue Jay (**Cy*anocitta cristata***), Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*), Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*), American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*) and Eastern Gray Squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*). All species observed within the Subject Property are considered Common (S4) or Very Common (S5) in the province of Ontario. No SAR wildlife species were observed within the Subject Property.

3.4 Species at Risk Habitat Screening

A review of the information outlined in **Table 1** identified SAR with the potential to occur within and/or in proximity (i.e. within 1 km) to the Subject Property. However, given that the majority of the Subject Property is largely associated with a former industrial site and is heavily disturbed and contains limited

natural features, there is a limited potential for SAR and/or SAR habitat to occur within the Subject Property. The list of SAR identified during the background review is listed in **Table 1**.

Table 1: SAR with the Potential to Occur Within the Study Area

Scientific Name	Common Name	SARA[1]	ESA[2]	SRank[3]
BIRDS				
Chaetura pelagica	Chimney Swift	THR	THR	S4B,S4N
Hirundo rustica	Barn Swallow	THR	THR	S4B
Dolichonyx oryzivorus	Bobolink	THR	THR	S4B
Sturnella magna	Eastern Meadowlark	THR	THR	S4B
BIRDS				
Erynnis martialis	Mottled Duskywing	---	END	S2
HERPTILES				
Heterodon platirhinos	Eastern Hog-nosed Snake	THR	THR	S3
Emydoidea blandingii	Blanding's Turtle	THR	THR	S3
MAMMALS				
Myotis leibii	Eastern Small-footed Myotis	---	END	S2S3
Myotis lucifugus	Little Brown Myotis	END	END	S4
Myotis septentrionalis	Northern Myotis	END	END	S3
Pipistrellus subflavus	Tri-colored Bat	END	END	S3?
VASCULAR PLANTS				
Asclepias quadrifolia	Four-leaved Milkweed	---	END	S1

[1]Federal Species at Risk Act (SARA) Registry Status (END = Endangered, THR = Threatened); [2]Ontario ESA SAR List Status (END = Endangered, THR = Threatened); [3]SRank is an indicator of commonness in the Province of Ontario. A scale between 1 and 5: S5 = widespread and secure; S4 = common and apparently secure; S3 = rare to uncommon and vulnerable; S2 = very rare and imperiled; S1 = extremely rare and critically imperiled; SH = possibly extirpated (historical); SNR = unranked; SNA = not applicable; SX = extirpated; SU or ? = uncertain due to insufficient information; B = breeding; N = non-breeding; M = migrant. --- denotes no information or not applicable.

Birds – Chimney Swift are most likely to be found in and around urban settlements where they nest and roost in chimneys and other manmade structures. Neither of these features are found within the Subject Property or Study Area and this species was not observed during field investigations. Barn Swallow are commonly associated with open barns, under bridges, and culverts. Potential nesting habitat may occur adjacent to the Study Area (i.e. on buildings, houses etc.), but this species, or evidence of nesting (i.e. old nests) was not observed within the Subject Property. Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark both require open grassland breeding habitat. Limited meadow habitat within the Study Area was very disturbed and littered with industrial debris and therefore not suitable for these species.

Lepidoptera – Mottled Duskywing require specific host plants to deposit their eggs: New Jersey Tea and Prairie Redroot. Neither of these species were identified on site, no suitable habitat for this species exists within the Subject Property.

Herptiles – Eastern Hognose Snake requires sandy upland fields, pastures, savannahs, sandy beaches; dry open oak-pine-maple forest with sandy soils, and prefer forest areas > 5ha in size. No suitable habitat was observed within the Subject Property. Blanding's Turtle are associated with shallow water and wetlands, which were not found within the Subject Property.

Mammals – Eastern Small-footed Myotis, Little Brown Myotis, Northern Myotis, and Tri-colored Bat roost in a variety of habitats including in or under rocks, in rock outcrops, in buildings, under bridges, in caves, mines, or hollow trees, or under loose bark. No suitable habitat trees or dead snags were observed within Subject Property, there is very limited potential for suitable habitat for these species.

Vascular Plants – The Subject Property was surveyed during the June site visit and Four-leaved Milkweed was not identified as being present.

4.0 Summary

Based on field investigations, no SAR or SAR habitat (or other natural heritage features) were observed within the Subject Property or Study Area. As a result there is low likelihood for impacts to SAR. Based on the results of the background data review and confirmatory site visit, additional targeted surveys are not anticipated in support of the proposed development.

Figures

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RIC (MIDLAND LAND) INC.

WILSON AVENUE, BELLEVILLE

PROJECT LOCATION

FIGURE 1

- Subject Property
- Study Area (6 m)
- Major Road
- Minor Road
- Watercourse
- Waterbody

SCALE 1:4,000

0 50 100 200 m

MAP DRAWING INFORMATION:
DATA PROVIDED BY MNRF

MAP CREATED BY: -ZJB / DDR
MAP CHECKED BY: -WM / SG
MAP PROJECTION: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 18N

DILLON CONSULTING

PROJECT: 22-4573.
STATUS: DRAFT
DATE: 2022-07-19

FILE LOCATION: K:\2022\224573\Product\Client\TIPP\F1_ProjectLocation.mxd

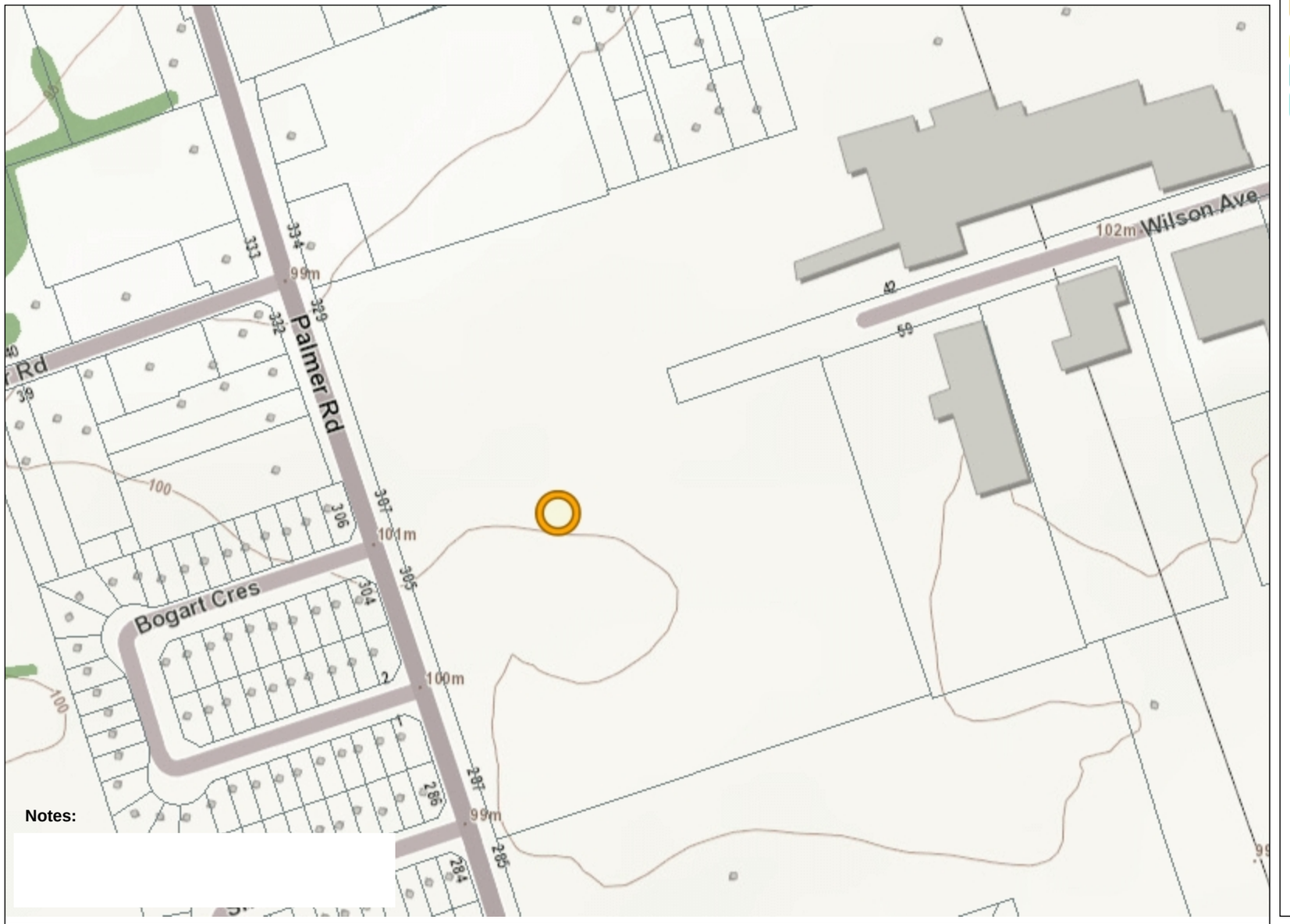
Ontario

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

Make-a-Map: Natural Heritage Areas

Wilson Avenue - Natural Heritage Areas

Map created:7/25/2022



Legend

- Assessment Parcel
- ANSI
- Earth Science Provincially Significant/sciences de la terre d'importance provinciale
- Earth Science Regionally Significant/sciences de la terre d'importance régionale
- Life Science Provincially Significant/sciences de la vie d'importance provinciale
- Life Science Regionally Significant/sciences de la vie d'importance régionale
- Evaluated Wetland
- Provincially Significant/considérée d'importance provinciale
- Non-Provincially Significant/non considérée d'importance provinciale
- Unevaluated Wetland
- Woodland
- Conservation Reserve
- Provincial Park
- Natural Heritage System

0.2 0 0.08 0.2 Kilometres

Absence of a feature in the map does not mean they do not exist in this area.

This map should not be relied on as a precise indicator of routes or locations, nor as a guide to navigation. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry(OMNRF) shall not be liable in any way for the use of, or reliance upon, this map or any information on this map.