



**NORTHLAND
POWER**

Crosby Solar Project

Draft Natural Heritage Records Review Report

December 22, 2010



Northland Power Inc.
on behalf of
Northland Power Solar
Crosby L.P.
Toronto, Ontario

DRAFT Natural Heritage
Records Review Report

Crosby Solar Project

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Project Report

December 15, 2010

**Northland Power Inc.
Crosby Solar Project**

DRAFT Natural Heritage Records Review Report

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1. Introduction

1.1 Project Description

Northland Power Solar Crosby L.P. (hereinafter referred to as “Northland”) is proposing to develop a 10-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic project titled the Crosby Solar Project (hereinafter referred to as the “Project”). The Project site will be located on approximately 52 hectares (ha) of land, located at 249 Little Rideau Lake Road in the Township of Rideau Lakes, within the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville (Figure 1.1).

1.2 REA Legislative Requirements

Ontario Regulation (O. Reg.) 359/09 – *Renewable Energy Approvals Under Part V.0.1 of the Act*, (herein referred to as the REA Regulation) made under the *Environmental Protection Act* identifies the Renewable Energy Approval (REA) requirements for renewable energy projects in Ontario. Per Section 4 of the REA Regulation, ground-mounted solar facilities with a name plate capacity greater than 10 kilowatts (kW) are classified as Class 3 solar facilities and require a REA.

Section 25 of the REA Regulation requires proponents of Class 3 solar projects to undertake a natural heritage records review to identify whether the Project is

1. in a provincial park or conservation reserve or within 120 m of a provincial park or conservation reserve
2. in a natural feature
3. within 50 m of an area of natural and scientific interest (earth science), or
4. within 120 m of a natural feature that is not an area of natural and scientific interest (earth science).

Natural Features are defined in Section 1.1 of the REA Regulation to be all or part of

- a) an area of natural and scientific interest (ANSI) (earth science)
- b) an ANSI (life science)
- c) a coastal wetland
- d) a northern wetland
- e) a southern wetland
- f) a valleyland
- g) a wildlife habitat, or
- h) a woodland.

In respect of woodlands and valleylands, Section 1 (1) of O. Reg. 359/09 requires that these features be located south and east of the Canadian Shield as shown in Figure 1 in the Provincial Policy Statement issued under Section 3 of the *Planning Act*. This figure shows that the proposed Project

site is located on the Canadian Shield, and therefore valleylands and woodlands as defined by O. Reg. 359/09 cannot be located on the Project site.

Subsection 3 of Section 25 of the REA Regulation requires the proponent to prepare a report “setting out a summary of the records searched and the results of the analysis” (O. Reg. 359/09). This Natural Heritage Records Review Report has been prepared to meet these requirements.

1.3 MNR Approval and Permitting Requirements

Beyond the REA legislative requirements identified in Section 1.2, additional information on site conditions must be identified in order to determine if Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) approvals and permits separate from the REA are required. Consideration of the following features is needed in order to make this determination:

- Presence of natural hazard lands – Hazardous lands are defined in Section 28 (25) of the Conservation Authorities Act as “land that could be unsafe for development because of naturally occurring processes associated with flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches or unstable soil or bedrock”. If Project components are to be located in these areas, approval must be obtained from the local Conservation Authority/MNR.
- Presence of petroleum resource operations – Approval is required if Project components are to be located within 75 m of a petroleum resource operation.
- Crown owned forest resources – If Project components are located in an area of Crown owned forest resources, then authorization must be obtained from MNR prior to clearing of timber on that land.

2. Background Information Review and Results

This Records Review Report is based on a review of published and non-published information on natural heritage features and species at risk identified on or in close proximity to the Project site. The background documents reviewed were obtained from the municipalities, local planning staff, local conservation authority, and provincial and federal government agencies.

Records were searched within a minimum distance of 1 km from the Project site. Results are discussed below in relation to the distances specified between the Project and natural features as defined in Section 25 of the REA Regulation (see Section 1.2).

The following sections document the records that were searched and analyzed and the results of the analysis, with the focus on identifying whether or not the Project was located within or adjacent to any of the natural features listed in Section 1.2. The sections are organized as identified in Column 1 of the Table in Section 25 of the REA Regulation.

There are no planning boards, municipal planning authorities, local roads boards or local services boards within the jurisdiction of the Project site. Also, the Project site is not located within the Niagara Escarpment Commission Plan Area. Therefore, records review for these governing bodies was not conducted.

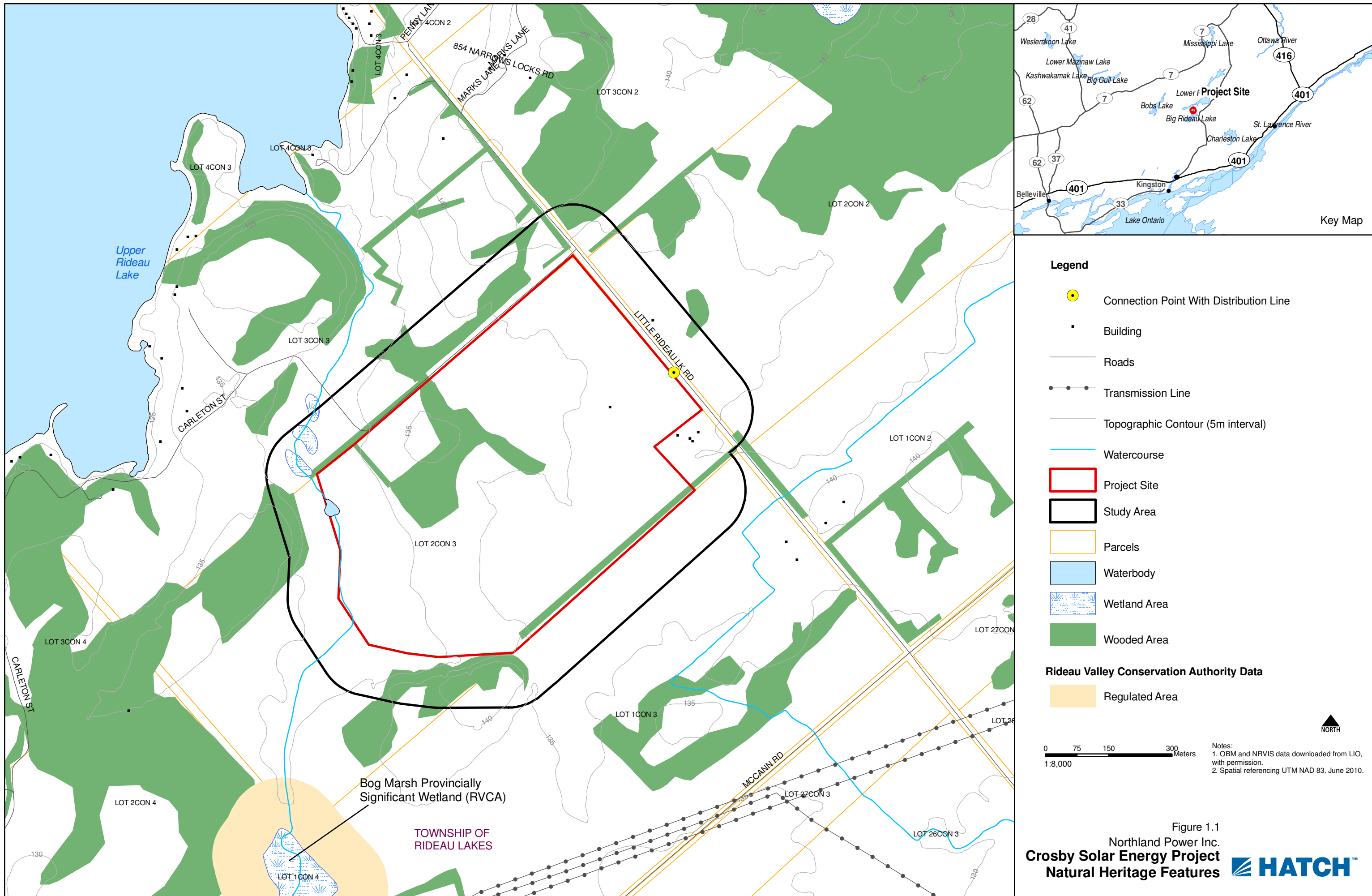


Figure 1.1
 Northland Power Inc.
Crosby Solar Energy Project
 Natural Heritage Features **HATCH™**

Back of figure

2.1 Ministry of Natural Resources Records

The following MNR on-line records were reviewed:

- Ontario Crown Land Use Atlas Mapping
(<http://crownlanduseatlas.mnr.gov.on.ca/clupa.html>)
- Ontario Base Maps and natural feature layers from Land Information Ontario (LIO)
(<http://www.geographynetwork.ca/website/obm/viewer.htm>)
- NHIC Biodiversity Explorer
(<http://www.biodiversityexplorer.mnr.gov.on.ca/nhicWEB/main.jsp>)
- NHIC Ontario Herpetofaunal Summary Atlas
(<http://nhic.mnr.gov.on.ca/MNR/nhic/herps/ohs.html>).

2.1.1 Results

Ontario Crown Land Use Atlas Mapping

A review of the Crown Land Use Policy Atlas interactive map, accessed on May 14, 2010, did not indicate any Crown land within 1 km of the Project area.

MNR LIO Mapping

Mapping data provided by LIO identified the following natural features within 1 km of the Project site:

- there are watercourses located on and within 1 km of the Project site
- two wooded areas are present on the Project site
- six wooded areas are present within 120 m of the Project site
- there are three small unevaluated wetlands located within 120 m northwest of the Project site
- Upper Rideau Lake is located to the Northeast and Newboro Lake is located to the south of the Project site
- there are no nesting sites identified on or within 1 km of the Project site
- there are no wintering areas identified on or within 1 km of the Project site
- there are no ANSIs or valleylands were identified within the vicinity of the Project site.
- no provincial parks or conservation reserves were identified on or within 120 m of the Project location.

Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) Database

The NHIC database was accessed on May 19, 2010 and a geographic search using the Biodiversity Explorer tool was completed for a 1km radius surrounding the Project site. The Biodiversity Explorer tool provides information on rare species and plant communities, wildlife concentration areas, natural areas and invasive species occurrences.

The results of the queries determined that there have been occurrences of two uncommon species [Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*), Early Hairstreak (*Erora laeta*)] within 1 km of the Project site. There were no records of rare plant communities or wildlife concentration areas within 1 km of the Project site.

In addition to searching the NHIC database, information regarding natural heritage features and species at risk was requested from the Kemptville MNR District office on June 12, 2010. Information was received on July 12, 2010. MNR (2010) identified that the wooded areas on and within 120 m of the Project site may contain Butternut (*Juglans cinerea*), an endangered species at risk under both the provincial Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the federal Species at Risk Act (SARA). MNR also indicated that Butternut may occur on adjacent properties. MNR confirmed records for both Early Hairstreak and Prairie Warbler, both provincially tracked species, on and adjacent to the Project site.

Ontario Herpetofaunal Summary Atlas

The Ontario Herpetofaunal Summary Atlas identified several species of reptiles and amphibians whose ranges may overlap with the Project site (Table 2.1). Of these species, several species at risk were identified whose ranges potentially overlapped with the Project site. These species are as follows, and discussed further in Section 3:

- Blanding's Turtle (*Emydoidea blandingi*)
- Northern Map Turtle (*Graptemys geographica*)
- Common Musk Turtle (*Sternotherus odoratus*)
- Western Chorus Frog (*Pseudacris triseriata*)
- Five-lined Skink (*Eumeces fasciatus*)
- Milksnake (*Lampropeltis triangulum*)
- Gray Ratsnake (*Elaphe obsoleta*)
- Eastern Ribbonsnake (*Thamnophis sauritus septentrionalis*).

2.2 Federal Government Records

Natural Resources Canada's Amphibians and Reptiles of Ontario Climate Domain Maps were reviewed.

The websites of the Canadian Wildlife Service (www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca) and Environment Canada (www.ec.gc.ca) were also reviewed.

2.2.1 Results

The Natural Resources Canada's Amphibians and Reptiles of Ontario Climate Domain Maps was reviewed and compared with the results of the Ontario Herpetofaunal Summary Atlas (discussed in Section 2.1). The maps also indicated that the ranges of the Spotted Turtle (*Clemmys guttata*) and Four-toed Salamander (*Hemidactylum scutatum*) also overlap the Project site.

No further information regarding the Project site was found on the Canadian Wildlife Service or Environment Canada websites.

Table 2.1 Reptiles and Amphibians Potentially Occurring within the Project Area and their Conservation Status¹

Species		Conservation Rank ²			At Risk Status		
		Global GRANK	Canada NRANK ⁴	Ontario SRANK ³	COSEWIC	SARO	SARA
Common Name	Scientific Name						
Salamanders							
Mudpuppy	<i>Necturus maculosus</i>	G5	N4	S4	NAR	NAR	-
Red-spotted Newt	<i>Notophthalmus viridescens viridescens</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Blue-spotted Salamander Complex	<i>Ambystoma jeffersonianum-laterale</i> "complex"	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yellow-spotted Salamander	<i>Ambystoma maculatum</i>	G5	N5	S4	-	-	-
Eastern Red-backed Salamander	<i>Plethodon cinereus</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Eastern Newt	<i>Notophthalmus viridescens</i>	G5T5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Frogs and Toads							
American Toad	<i>Bufo americanus</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Spring Peeper	<i>Pseudacris crucifer</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Western Chorus Frog (Great Lakes/St. Lawrence population)	<i>Pseudacris triseriata</i>	G5TNR	-	S3	THR	NAR	THR (Schedule 1)
Gray Treefrog	<i>Hyla versicolor</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Wood Frog	<i>Rana sylvatica</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
American Bullfrog	<i>Rana castebiana</i>	G5	N5	S4	-	-	-
Green Frog	<i>Rana clamitans</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Pickerel Frog	<i>Rana palustris</i>	G5	N5	S4	NAR	NAR	-
Northern Leopard Frog	<i>Rana pipiens</i>	G5	N5	S5	NAR	NAR	-
Wood Frog	<i>Rana sylvatica</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Turtles							
Snapping Turtle	<i>Chelydra serpentina</i>	G5	N5	S3	SC	SC	-
Common Musk Turtle	<i>Sternotherus odoratus</i>	G5		S3	THR	THR	THR (Schedule 1)
Midland Painted Turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta marginata</i>	G5T5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Northern Map Turtle	<i>Graptemys geographica</i>	G5		S3	SC	SC	SC (Schedule 1)
Blanding's Turtle	<i>Emydoidea blandingi</i>	G4	N4	S3	THR	THR	THR (Schedule 1)
Lizard							
Five-Lined Skink	<i>Eumeces fasciatus</i>	G5	N4	S3	SC	-	SC (Schedule 1, Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Population)
Snakes							
Eastern Gartersnake	<i>Thamnophis sirtalis sirtalis</i>	G5T5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Eastern Ribbonsnake	<i>Thamnophis sauritus septentrionalis</i>	G5	-	S3	SC	SC	SC (Schedule 1, Great Lakes Population)
Northern Watersnake	<i>Nerodia sipedon sipedon</i>	G5T5	N5	S5	NAR	NAR	
Red-bellied Snake	<i>Storeria occipitomaculata</i>	G5T5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Dekay's Brownsnake	<i>Storeria dekayi</i>	G5	N5	S5	NAR	NAR	-
Smooth Green Snake	<i>Opheodrys vernalis</i>	G5	N5	S4	-	-	-
Northern Ringneck Snake	<i>Diadophis punctatus edwardsi</i>	G5 T5	T5	S4	-	-	-

Species		Conservation Rank ²			At Risk Status		
		Global GRANK	Canada NRANK ⁴	Ontario SRANK ³	COSEWIC	SARO	SARA
Common Name	Scientific Name						
Black Ratsnake	<i>Elaphe obsoleta obsoleta</i>	G5T5	N3	S3	-	-	-
Gray Ratsnake (Frontenac Population/Great Lakes/St. Lawrence Population)	<i>Elaphe obsoleta</i>	G5T3	-	S3	THR	THR	THR (Schedule 1)
Eastern Milksnake	<i>Lampropeltis triangulum</i>	G5	N5	S3	SC	SC	SC (Schedule 1)

¹ As determined from potential climatic domain maps in McKenney et al (2007) and range maps provided in Oldham and Weller (2000).

² Accessed from NHIC, 2010

³ SRANK = Provincial Status (NHIC, 2010); S = Sub-national Rank (Ontario), 2 = Imperilled, 3 = Vulnerable, 4 = Apparently Secure, 5 = Secure, E = Exotic, U = Unknown

⁴ NRANK = National Status (NatureServe (www.natureserve.org), in conjunction with Conservation Data Centres, such as NHIC); N = National Rank (Canada), 2 = Imperilled, 3 = Vulnerable, 4 = Apparently Secure, 5 = Secure, E = Exotic

2.3 Conservation Authority Records

The Project site is located within the jurisdiction of the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority (RVCA). Information from the RVCA was received on June 29, 2010 identifying any natural heritage features and hazard lands that have been recorded within the vicinity of the Project site. This information can be found in Appendix B.

2.3.1 Results

The information received from the RVCA did not identify any specific natural features or hazard lands that would pose a constraint to development (RVCA, 2010). RVCA (2010) identified the presence of the Bog Marsh PSW and associated 120 m buffer zone within the Regulated Area, but this feature does not come within 120 m of the Project site.

2.4 Municipal Records - Township of Rideau Lakes

The Project site is located within the Township of Rideau Lake, a lower tier municipality. A review of the official Township website (<http://www.twprideaulakes.on.ca/>) was conducted to find any further natural heritage information about the Project site.

2.4.1 Results

The Official Plan of the Township of Rideau Lakes (TRL) does not identify any natural heritage feature, such as provincial significant wetlands or Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest on or within 120 m of the Project site.

2.5 Municipal Records - United Counties of Leeds and Grenville

The Project site is located within the upper tier municipality of the United Counties of Leeds and Grenville. A review of the official website (<http://www.uclg.ca/en/index.asp>) was undertaken to determine if there is any additional natural heritage information available on the Project site.

2.5.1 Results

A community map on the website indicated that the Project site was not near any Provincial Parks. No further information regarding any natural features was found on the website.

2.6 Other Records

In addition to the information sources previously discussed, the following documents were reviewed:

- Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas (Bird Studies Canada et al., 2006)
- Atlas of the Mammals of Ontario (Dobbyn, 1994)
- Important Bird Areas of Canada website (<http://www.ibacanada.ca/mapviewer.jsp?lang=en>)
- Ontario Oil, Gas and Salt Resources – Petroleum Well Mapping (<http://maps.ogsrlibrary.com/>).

2.6.1 Results

2.6.1.1 Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas

The Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas on-line database was accessed on May 19, 2010 to determine which breeding bird species have been recorded within the vicinity of the Project site. The database is organized by Region and each Region is divided into 10-km² blocks which are given a map square number. The Project site is located within map square 18UQ94. The square coverage summary sheet was downloaded and the results are provided in Appendix A. Of the species that were recorded, 10 species at risk were identified whose ranges overlap that of the Project site. These species are as follows, and discussed in Section 3:

- Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)
- Black Tern (*Chlidonias niger*)
- Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*)
- Canada Warbler (*Wilsonia canadensis*)
- Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*)
- Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*)
- Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*)
- Golden-winged Warbler (*Vermivora chrysoptera*)
- Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*)
- Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus migrans*)
- Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*)
- Whip-poor-will (*Caprimulgus vociferus*).

2.6.1.2 Atlas of the Mammals of Ontario

The Atlas of the Mammals of Ontario (Dobbyn, 1994) identified several species of mammals whose ranges may overlap with the Project site. The list of these species is provided in Table 2.2. None of

these species are considered to be species at risk under the federal *Species At Risk Act (SARA)* or the Ontario *Endangered Species Act (ESA)*.

Table 2.2 Mammals Potentially Occurring within the Project Area and their Conservation Status¹

Species		Conservation Rank ²			At Risk Status		
		Global GRANK	Canada NRANK ⁴	Ontario SRANK ³	COSEWIC	SARO	SARA
Common Name	Scientific Name						
Shrews and Moles							
Common Shrew	<i>Sorex cinereus</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Smoky Shrew	<i>Sorex fumeus</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Northern Short-tailed Shrew	<i>Blarina brevicauda</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Star-nosed Mole	<i>Condylura cristata</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Bats							
Eastern Small-footed Bat	<i>Myotis leibii</i>	G3	-	S2S3	-	-	-
Northern Long-eared Bat	<i>Myotis septentrionalis</i>	G4	N4	S3?	-	-	-
Little Brown Bat	<i>Myotis lucifuga</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Big Brown Bat	<i>Epstesicus fuscus</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Eastern Red Bat	<i>Lasiurus borealis</i>	G5	N4N5	S4	-	-	-
Rabbits and Hares							
Eastern Cottontail	<i>Sylvilagus floridanus</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Snowshoe Hare	<i>Lepus americanus</i>	G5		S5	-	-	-
European Hare	<i>Lepus europeanus</i>	G5	NE	SE	-	-	-
Rodents							
Eastern Chipmunk	<i>Tamias striatus</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Woodchuck	<i>Marmota monax</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Gray Squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Red Squirrel	<i>Tamiasciurus hudsonicus</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Northern Flying Squirrel	<i>Glaucomys sabrinus</i>	G5	-	S5	-	-	-
Southern Flying Squirrel	<i>Glaucomys volans</i>	G5	N3	S4			
Beaver	<i>Castor canadensis</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
White-footed Mouse	<i>Peromyscus leucopus</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Deer Mouse	<i>Peromyscus maniculatus</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Meadow Vole	<i>Microtus pennsylvanicus</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Muskrat	<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Norway Rat	<i>Rattus norvegicus</i>	G5	NE	SE	-	-	-
House Mouse	<i>Mus musculus</i>	G5	NE	SE	-	-	-
Meadow Jumping Mouse	<i>Zapus hudsonius</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Woodland Jumping Mouse	<i>Napaeozapus insignis</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Porcupine	<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>	G5	-	S5	-	-	-
Carnivores							
Coyote	<i>Canis latrans</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Black Bear	<i>Ursus americanus</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Raccoon	<i>Procyon lotor</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-

Species		Conservation Rank ²			At Risk Status		
		Global GRANK	Canada NRANK ⁴	Ontario SRANK ³	COSEWIC	SARO	SARA
Common Name	Scientific Name						
Marten	<i>Martes Americana</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Fisher	<i>Martes pennanti</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Ermine	<i>Mustela erminea</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Mink	<i>Mustela vison</i>	G5	N5	S4	-	-	-
Striped Skunk	<i>Mephitis mephitis</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
River Otter	<i>Lontra canadensis</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Canada Lynx	<i>Lynx canadensis</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-
Ungulates							
White-tailed Deer	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	G5	N5	S5	-	-	-

¹ As determined from range maps in Dobbyn (194)

² Accessed from NHIC (2010)

³ SRANK = Provincial Status (NHIC 2010); S = Sub-national Rank (Ontario), 2 = Imperilled, 3 = Vulnerable, 4 = Apparently Secure, 5 = Secure, E = Exotic, U = Unknown

⁴ NRANK = National Status (NatureServe (www.natureserve.org), in conjunction with Conservation Data Centres, such as NHIC); N = National Rank (Canada), 2 = Imperilled, 3 = Vulnerable, 4 = Apparently Secure, 5 = Secure, E = Exotic

2.6.1.3 Important Bird Areas of Canada

A review of the Project area indicates that the Project site is not within any Important Bird Areas for Canada.

2.6.1.4 Ontario Oil, Gas and Salt Resources – Petroleum Well Mapping

No references to the Project site were found in the Oil, Gas & Salt Resources Library.

3. Species at Risk

As identified above in Section 2, several species at risk may potentially occur on the Project site. These species and their likelihood of occurrence on the Project site are addressed below.

3.1.1 Birds

- **Loggerhead Shrike** – Listed as endangered under SARA and ESA. This species can be found in open ranges with the occasional shrub or tree for nesting habitat. Loggerhead Shrike were observed in potential breeding habitat within the 10 x 10-km survey square which overlaps the Project site during the first OBBA (1981 to 1985), though none were observed in the second (2001 to 2005) (Bird Studies Canada et al., 2006). Suitable habitat may be found on the Project site.
- **Red-headed Woodpecker** – Listed as threatened under SARA and special concern under ESA. This species can be found in field edges and farmyards with a few large trees (Government of Canada, 2009b). Habitat of this type is available on the Project site, and fledged young were observed within the 10 x 10-km survey square which overlaps the Project site during the first OBBA (1981 to 1985), though none were observed in the second (2001 to 2005) (Bird Studies Canada et al., 2006). It is possible that Red-headed Woodpeckers could occur in the woodlands on and within the vicinity of the Project site.

- **Least Bittern** – Listed as threatened under SARA and ESA. This species can be found in freshwater marshes and swamps where there is a mix of dense emergent vegetation and open water (Government of Canada, 2009c). Suitable habitat is not found on the Project site.
- **Forest breeding birds** – Several forest dwelling birds (Cerulean Warbler, listed as being of special concern under SARA and the ESA, Canada Warbler and Golden-winged Warbler, both listed as being of special concern under SARA and threatened under ESA) are known to occur in the 10 x 10-km Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas survey square which overlaps the Project site. These species may occur in the woodlot adjacent to the Project site.
- **Black Tern** – Listed as Special Concern on ESA. Black Terns nest in colonies on shallow marshes. No nesting colonies are present within the vicinity of the Project site, and suitable habitat is not found on the Project site. Therefore, Black Tern are not expected to occur on the Project site.
- **Bald Eagle** – Listed as Special Concern on ESA. Bald Eagles nest in tall mature trees, generally near waterbodies which provide suitable foraging habitat. Suitable habitat may be found on the Project site.
- **Whip-poor-will** – Listed as Threatened under ESA and COSEWIC. Whip-poor-wills nest in a mix of open and forested areas. This type of habitat is not available within the vicinity of the Project site and therefore Whip-poor-will are not expected to occur.
- **Chimney Swift** – Listed as Threatened under SARA and ESA. This species can be found in cave walls, hollow trees, and in man-made structures, such as chimneys. Suitable habitat is not found on the Project site and Chimney Swifts are not expected to occur.
- **Common Nighthawk** – Listed as Special Concern under ESA and Threatened on SARA. Common Nighthawk are commonly observed foraging on the wing for insects over clearings, fields, ponds, and other open areas. Preferred nesting sites are bare ground in open areas or gravel rooftops in urban environments (Poulin et al, 1996). Suitable habitat for Common Nighthawk is found within the Project site, and they have been observed during OBBA surveys within the 10 x 10-km survey square that overlaps the Project site. Common Nighthawk are not expected to occur.
- **Bobolink** – Listed as threatened under ESA. Bobolink are commonly observed on pasturelands and hayfields. Habitat of this type is available within the vicinity of the Project site, and therefore, Bobolink may occur.

3.1.2 *Reptiles and Amphibians*

- **Five-lined Skink** – Listed as being of Special Concern under SARA and ESA. The habitat of the Five-lined Skink varies from region to region and includes rocky outcrops, dunes, fields, and deciduous forests. Since the Five-lined Skink is prone to dehydration, its habitat must include a permanent water body. Suitable habitat is not found on the Project site.
- **Milksnake** – Listed as being of Special Concern under SARA and ESA. This species lives in open woodlands, fields and farm buildings (McKenney et al, 2007). Habitat of this type is available on and adjacent to the Project site.

- **Gray Ratsnake** - Listed as threatened under SARA and ESA. The Gray Ratsnake favours open vegetative cover, such as open woods, and fields. Habitat of this type is available on the Project site and Ratsnake may occur on the Project site.
- **Eastern Ribbonsnake** – Listed as being of Special Concern under SARA and ESA. The Eastern Ribbonsnake is commonly found in wet area, including weedy shorelines. Habitat of this type is available in the watercourses adjacent to the Project site.
- Several species of turtle, including **Northern Map** (listed as being of Special Concern under SARA and ESA), and **Blanding’s** and **Common Musk** (listed as threatened under SARA and ESA), may potentially occur within the waterbodies adjacent to the Project site.
- **Western Chorus Frog** – Listed as Threatened under SARA, the western chorus frog is commonly found in humid prairie, moist woods or meadows, with reproduction occurring in vernal pools within woodlands. Such habitat may be found on or adjacent to the Project location.

3.1.3 Vegetation

- **Butternut** – Listed as endangered under SARA and ESA. The Butternut is commonly observed on rich, moist, and well-drained soils, often along streams. It may also be found on well-drained gravel sites, especially those made up of limestone (Government of Canada 2009h). Butternuts may occur on the Project site.

4. Summary of Results

Table 4.1 summarizes the results of the records review according to the features identified in Section 1.2. A map depicting the identified natural features on and in proximity to the site is provided in Figure 1.1.

Table 4.1 Summary of Records Review Determinations

Determination to be Made	Yes/No	Description
Is the Project in or within 120 m of a provincial park or conservation reserve?	No	The nearest such features are located more than 120 m away from the Project location.
Is the Project in a natural feature?	No	There are no natural features identified that on the Project site
Is the Project within 50 m of an ANSI (earth science)?	No	The nearest earth science ANSI is located several kilometres from the Project site.
Is the Project within 120 m of a natural feature that is not an ANSI (earth science)?	Yes	There are unevaluated wetlands located within 120 m of the Project site.

As per Section 26 of the REA Regulation, a site investigation will be required to confirm the features identified during this records review. The site investigation will i) identify if any corrections to the information presented herein are required, ii) determine whether any additional natural features exist on or adjacent to the Project site, iii) confirm the boundaries of the natural features within 120 m of the Project, and iv) determine the distance from the Project to the natural feature boundary. In addition, the potential for species at risk identified in Section 3 will be considered during the site investigation.

5. References

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Appendix A

Ontario Breeding Bird Data



Square Summary (18UQ94)

#species (1st atlas)				#species (2nd atlas)				#hours		#pc done	
poss	prob	conf	total	poss	prob	conf	total	1st	2nd	road	offrd
13	43	62	118	30	26	65	121	74	72	64	4

Region summary (#21: Kingston)

#squares	#sq with data		#species		#pc done	target #pc
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd		
75	75	75	194	193	2753	1875

Target number of point counts in this square: 21 road side, 4 off road (1 in open wetlands, 1 in treed wetlands, 1 in deciduous forest, 1 in mixed forest). Please try to ensure that each off-road station is located such that the entire 100m radius circle is within the prescribed habitat.

SPECIES	Code		%		SPECIES	Code		%		SPECIES	Code		%	
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd		1st	2nd	1st	2nd		1st	2nd	1st	2nd
Canada Goose		FY	52	97	Pied-billed Grebe		S	61	78	Spotted Sandpiper	P	H	90	78
Mute Swan ‡			0	8	Double-crest Cormorant §			14	21	Upland Sandpiper	P		73	58
Trumpeter Swan †		FY	0	9	American Bittern	T	T	92	88	Common Snipe	NE	NE	98	98
Tundra Swan †			0	0	Least Bittern †		S	46	37	American Woodcock	D	T	97	81
Wood Duck	FY	AE	92	94	Great Blue Heron §	H	H	97	89	Wilson's Phalarope †			6	4
Gadwall			24	21	Green Heron §	H	FY	97	86	Ring-billed Gull §			17	18
American Wigeon			16	14	Black-crown N.-Heron † §			13	4	Herring Gull §	H	H	26	32
American Black Duck	P		81	29	Turkey Vulture	P	T	84	94	Great Black-backed Gull †			2	5
Mallard	FY	FY	100	98	Osprey	NY	NY	52	77	Caspian Tern †			10	5
Blue-winged Teal	P	P	98	66	Bald Eagle †		NY	5	12	Black Tern † §	H		54	45
Northern Shoveler			18	16	Northern Harrier		H	89	76	Common Tern §			18	17
Northern Pintail			24	17	Sharp-shinned Hawk	H		52	58	Forster's Tern † §			0	2
Green-winged Teal			0	37	Cooper's Hawk		P	29	49	Mourning Dove	FY	FY	100	98
Canvasback †			0	0	Northern Goshawk			18	18	Budgerigar ‡			0	0
Redhead †			8	1	Red-should Hawk †	T	NY	42	54	Yellow-billed Cuckoo		S	62	49
Ring-necked Duck			22	30	Broad-winged Hawk	H	P	50	49	Black/Yell-billed Cuckoo		S	0	41
Lesser Scaup ‡			2	1	Red-tailed Hawk	NY	AE	100	93	Black-billed Cuckoo	T	H	98	89
Common Goldeneye ‡			0	1	American Kestrel	AE	CF	98	84	Barn Owl †			1	0
Hooded Merganser		AE	40	62	Merlin	H		2	34	Eastern Screech-Owl	T	S	74	76
Common Merganser	H		18	33	Peregrine Falcon †			1	0	Great Horned Owl	T	D	96	76
Red-breast Merganser			12	8	King Rail †			1	2	Barred Owl	T	T	40	65
Ruddy Duck †			1	5	Virginia Rail	P	S	86	89	Long-eared Owl			41	16
Gray Partridge			20	1	Sora	T	FY	81	76	Short-eared Owl †			22	8
Ring-necked Pheasant		FY	34	28	Common Moorhen	T	S	80	56	North Saw-whet Owl			61	10
Ruffed Grouse	FY	FY	92	88	American Coot			26	12	Common Nighthawk	D	NE	86	54
Sharp-tailed Grouse †			0	1	Coot/Moorhen		S	0	8	Chuck-will's-widow †			1	0
Wild Turkey		FY	4	80	Sandhill Crane ‡			0	4	Whip-poor-will	NY	T	89	69
Northern Bobwhite †			1	0	Killdeer	DD	FY	98	97	Chimney Swift	AE		76	50
Common Loon	FY	FY	84	85	Rock Dove	FY	H	96	93	Ruby-thr Hummingbird	AE	H	92	96

[next page >>](#)

Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas - Summary Sheet for Square 18UQ94 (page 2 of 3)

SPECIES	Code		%		SPECIES	Code		%		SPECIES	Code		%	
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd		1st	2nd	1st	2nd		1st	2nd	1st	2nd
Belted Kingfisher	P	P	97	97	Purple Martin	FY	NY	84	73	Cedar Waxwing	D	H	98	98
Red-headed Woodpecker †			54	8	Tree Swallow	FY	AE	100	98	Blue-winged Warbler			9	18
Red-bell Woodpecker ‡			0	20	North Rgh-wing Swallow	AE	FY	92	78	Golden-winged Warbler	T	P	46	60
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	AE	FY	68	72	Bank Swallow §	AE	AE	88	68	Blue/Gold-wing Warbler			0	29
Downy Woodpecker	FY	FY	96	98	Cliff Swallow §	AE		62	60	Lawrence's Warbler †			1	1
Hairy Woodpecker	FY	P	97	98	Barn Swallow	FY	AE	100	98	Brewster's Warbler †			1	9
Three-toed Woodpecker ‡			1	0	Black-capped Chickadee	NY	AE	98	98	Tennessee Warbler			4	2
Black-backed Woodpecker ‡			1	0	Tufted Titmouse †			0	2	<u>Nashville Warbler</u>	NE		77	82
Northern Flicker	AE	AE	100	98	Red-breast Nuthatch	A	S	58	74	Northern Parula ‡			1	8
Pileated Woodpecker	CF	AE	86	93	White-breast Nuthatch	T	CF	97	97	Yellow Warbler	NY	FY	100	98
Olive-sided Flycatcher ‡			2	4	<u>Brown Creeper</u>	P		61	58	Chestn-sided Warbler	CF	T	80	96
Eastern Wood-Pewee	FY	T	98	98	Carolina Wren ‡			2	10	Magnolia Warbler	T	S	24	60
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher			8	4	House Wren	AE	FY	98	97	Black-thr Blue Warbler			20	44
Alder Flycatcher	T	S	74	88	<u>Winter Wren</u>			42	57	Yellow-rumped Warbler	S	S	53	85
Willow Flycatcher	T	A	73	80	Sedge Wren			34	24	Black-thr Green Warbler		S	48	76
Least Flycatcher	T	AE	97	97	Marsh Wren		NU	74	81	<u>Blackburnian Warbler</u>	T		46	54
Eastern Phoebe	NE	AE	98	98	Golden-crown Kinglet			5	14	Pine Warbler	T	NY	58	80
Gr Crested Flycatcher	AE	AE	98	98	Ruby-crown Kinglet ‡			1	0	Prairie Warbler †			12	10
Eastern Kingbird	NE	NE	100	98	Blue-gr Gnatcatcher			22	21	Cerulean Warbler †	T	S	25	26
Loggerhead Shrike †	H		34	18	Eastern Bluebird	FY	CF	62	85	Black-white Warbler	T	S	86	89
Yellow-throated Vireo	FY	T	64	61	Veery	T	T	93	94	American Redstart	NE	CF	96	98
Blue-headed Vireo		H	5	28	Swainson's Thrush			5	4	Ovenbird	T	CF	90	94
Warbling Vireo	NY	A	98	98	Hermit Thrush	T	S	36	53	North Waterthrush	AE	H	82	88
<u>Philadelphia Vireo</u>	T		9	9	Wood Thrush	T	T	97	98	Louis Waterthrush †			6	6
Red-eyed Vireo	CF	CF	98	98	American Robin	NY	CF	100	98	Mourning Warbler		H	25	25
Blue Jay	V	FY	97	98	Gray Catbird	CF	CF	98	98	Common Yellowthroat	NE	FY	98	98
American Crow	FY	FS	98	98	Northern Mockingbird			22	29	Hooded Warbler †			0	0
Common Raven		FY	22	77	Brown Thrasher	CF	T	100	94	Wilson's Warbler ‡			1	0
Horned Lark	P	H	85	65	European Starling	FY	CF	100	98	<u>Canada Warbler</u>	S		36	21

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Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas - Summary Sheet for Square 18UQ94 (page 3 of 3)

SPECIES	Code		%	
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd
Yellow-breast Chat †			4	0
Scarlet Tanager	CF	T	90	92
Eastern Towhee	AE	FY	97	90
Chipping Sparrow	FY	FY	100	98
Clay-colored Sparrow	S		9	33
Field Sparrow	FY	FY	96	94
Vesper Sparrow	T	P	93	74
Savannah Sparrow	FY	CF	98	97
<u>Grasshopper Sparrow</u>			50	58
Henslow's Sparrow †			17	1
Song Sparrow	NY	FY	100	98
Lincoln's Sparrow			5	4
Swamp Sparrow	AE	FY	97	97
White-throat Sparrow	T	S	92	85
Dark-eyed Junco		FY	12	16
Northern Cardinal	S	T	61	88
Rose-breast Grosbeak	CF	T	98	98
Indigo Bunting	CF	FY	97	94
Bobolink	FY	FY	98	96
Red-wing Blackbird	NY	AE	100	98
Eastern Meadowlark	FY	FY	97	94
Common Grackle	CF	FS	100	98
Brown-head Cowbird	FY	P	100	97
Orchard Oriole ‡			1	12
Baltimore Oriole	CF	AE	100	98
Pine Grosbeak ‡			0	0
Purple Finch	P	H	68	84
House Finch		T	22	72
<u>Red Crossbill</u>	P		18	4

SPECIES	Code		%	
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd
White-winged Crossbill			5	2
Pine Siskin	P		54	14
American Goldfinch	N	NB	100	98
Evening Grosbeak			17	10
House Sparrow	AE	FS	98	92

This list includes all species found during the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas (1st atlas: 1981-1985, 2nd atlas: 2001-2005) in the region #21 (Kingston). Underlined species are those that you should try to add to this square. They have not yet been reported during the 2nd atlas, but were found during the 1st atlas in this square or have been reported in more than 50% of the squares in this region during the 2nd atlas so far. In the species table, "BE 2nd" and "BE 1st" are the codes for the highest breeding evidence for that species in square 18UQ94 during the 2nd and 1st atlas respectively. The % columns give the percentage of squares in that region where that species was reported during the 2nd and 1st atlas (this gives an idea of the expected chance of finding that species in region #21). Rare/Colonial Species Report Forms should be completed for species marked: § (Colonial), ‡ (regionally rare), or † (provincially rare). Current as of 6/07/2010. An up-to-date version of this sheet is available from <http://www.birdsontario.org/atlas/summaryform.jsp?squareID=18UQ94>

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Appendix B

Rideau Valley Conservation Authority Data

Date: June 29, 2010
Our File: 10-RLA-GEN
Reference: Brus

Hatch Ltd.
500 - 4342 Queen St
Niagara Falls, ON
L2E 7J7
Attn: Caleb Coughlin

Subject: **Property Inquiry for the renewable energy project located at Part of Lot 2, Concession 3, in the Township of North Crosby, Rideau Lakes Township, Little Rideau Lake Rd.**

Dear Mr. Coughlin,

A search of our database indicates that there are currently no outstanding violations or orders on the property that we are aware of in so far as the Rideau Valley Conservation Authority's regulations are concerned. We are unaware of any directives, orders or breaches of regulations with respect to the current use of the property.

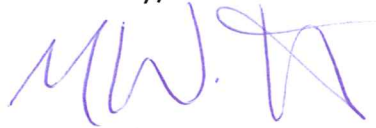
The Bog Marsh Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW), is located on the neighboring property to the south (please refer to attached map). A small portion of the 120 metre adjacent lands of the PSW are located on the property and are subject to Ontario Regulation 174/06 "*Development, Interference with Wetlands, Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation*" made pursuant to the *Conservation Authorities Act, 1990* as amended. Any development within the dotted line will require RVCA approval.

Please note that all watercourses traversing the site are subject to the *Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation* as well. The regulation requires that the owner obtain written approval from the Conservation Authority prior to straightening, changing, diverting or interfering in any way with the channel of the watercourse (this includes watercourse crossings). The Conservation Authority typically requires a 30 metre development setback from the normal highwater mark of any watercourse to protect water quality, prevent erosion, encourage nutrient uptake and to mitigate impacts on fish habitat.

There are no features such as an ANSI (Area of Natural and Scientific Interest) located on the property. Should a *Planning Act* application be submitted to the municipality respecting any future development proposals, the Conservation Authority would likely be circulated the proposal for comments relating to the control of flooding, pollution and erosion. You may wish to contact the Ministry of Natural Resources – Kemptville (613-258-8204) for additional information concerning significant woodlots, wildlife habitat, and endangered species as we currently do not have mapping identifying these features.

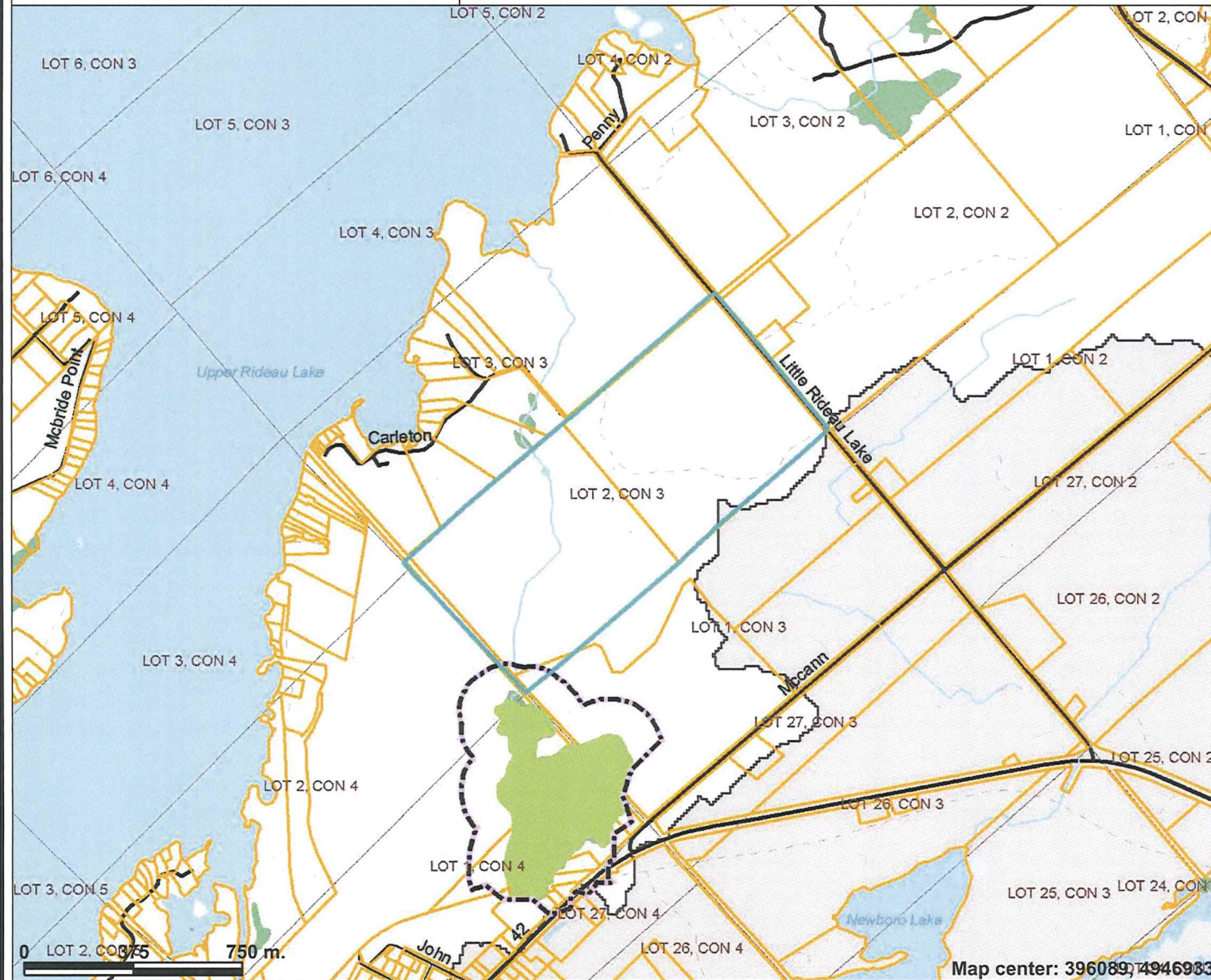
The foregoing information is given for your convenience only and relates to the current use of the land. Municipal land use requirements may vary. It should be clearly understood that you must satisfy yourself as to whether the premises and the existing or proposed use thereof is or would be in conformity with all applicable regulations of the appropriate Conservation Authority. Should you have any questions please contact me at (613) 692-3571 x 1132.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'M.W.' followed by a stylized flourish.

Megan Watters
Resource Specialist

Rideau Valley Conservation Authority



Legend

- Regulation Limit
- 100yr Floodline
- Provincially Significant Wetland + 120m
- 100yr Floodline + 15m
- Top of Slope + 15m
- Stable Slope Allowance (where toe of slope is less than 15m)
- Stable Slope Allowance (where toe of slope is greater than 1:

Evaluated Wetlands

WTLNDSIGCD

- Provincially Significant
- Other

- Parcel - Assesment
- Municipal Boundary

- Lot
- Intermittent Stream
- Permanent Stream

- Freeway
- Expressway / Highway
- Collector

- Local / Street
- Private/Rural
- Ramp
- Rapid Transit

- Service
- Seasonal Lake or River
- Permanent Lake or River

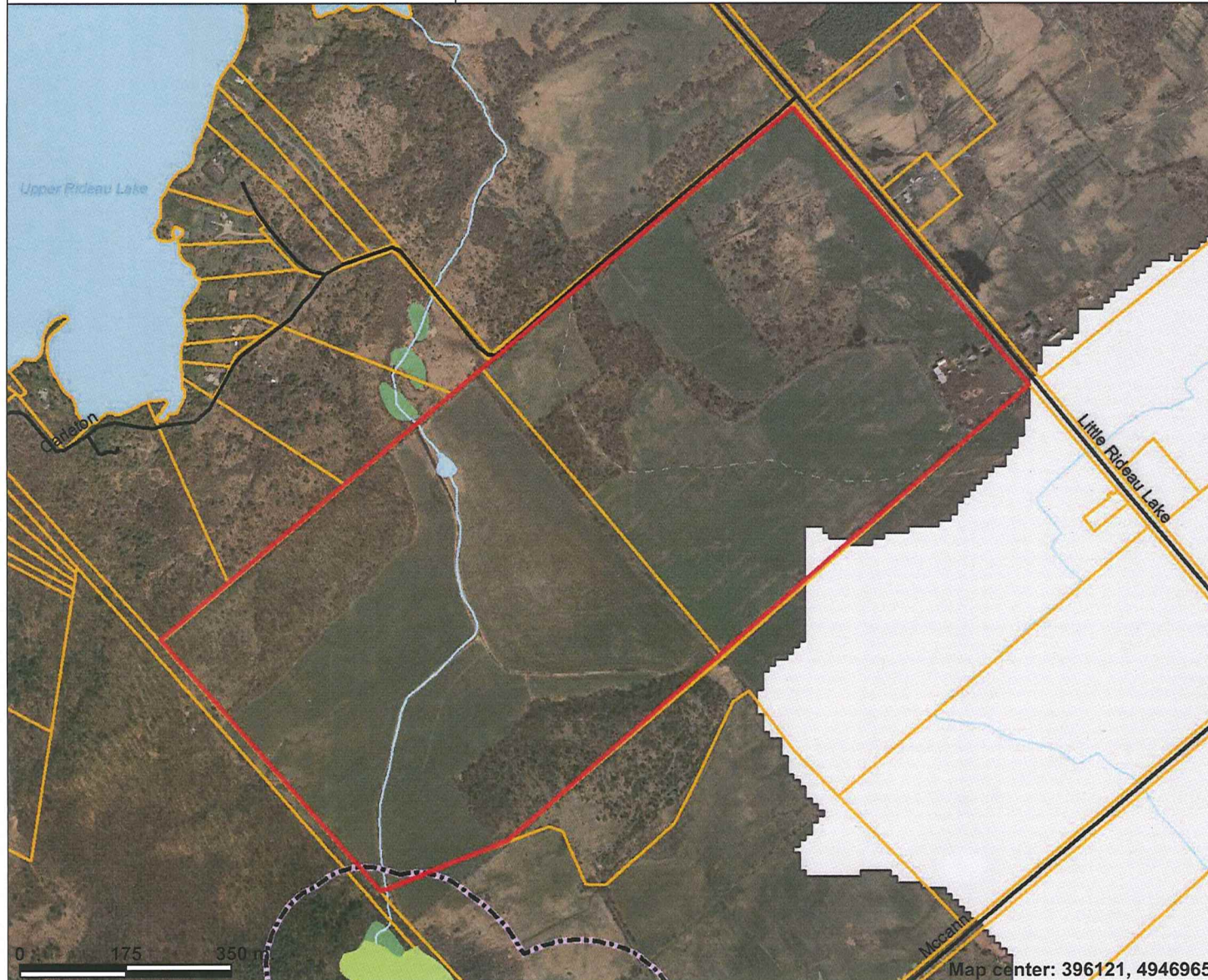
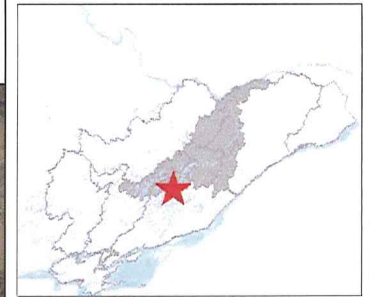
Scale: 1:20,789

geocortex
INTERNET MAPPING

RVC
Other CA

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Rideau Valley Conservation Authority



Legend

- A
- B
- C
- E
- F
- Tile
- Unknown
- Abandoned
- Regulation Limit
- 100yr Floodline
- Provincially Significant Wetland + 120m
- 100yr Floodline + 15m
- Top of Slope + 15m
- Stable Slope Allowance (where toe of slope is less than 15m)
- Stable Slope Allowance (where toe of slope is greater than 15m)

Evaluated Wetlands

WTLNDSIGCD

- Provincially Significant
- Other

- Freeway
- Expressway / Highway
- Collector
- Local / Street

- Private/Rural Ramp

Scale: 1:9,999

- Rapid Transit
- Service
- geocortex
- Parcels
- INTERNET MAPPING

- Municipal Boundary
- Intermittent Stream
- Permanent Stream
- Seasonal Lake or River

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