

SCOPED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY, 193 NAUTICAL BOULEVARD OAKVILLE

Final Report

May 11, 2022

Prepared for: Menkes Lakeshore Woods Inc.

Prepared by: Stantec Consulting Inc.

Project Number: 160623025

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Introduction May 11, 2022

1 Introduction

Stantec Consulting Ltd. (Stantec) was retained by Menkes Lakeshore Woods Inc. (the Proponent) to complete a scoped Environmental Impact Study for the Subject Property located at 193 Nautical Boulevard in Oakville, Ontario as shown on **Figure 1, Appendix A**. The EIS is required by the Town of Oakville to support the following application:

• Draft Plan of Subdivision, 193 Nautical Boulevard (Block 220 20M-840) – 24T – 22003/1733

The proposed development plan includes 37 detached single family residential lots, a street (Street A), and two walkway / servicing blocks (**Appendix B**). The Subject Property is maintained as a mowed field and is surrounded by residential development on the three sides, with Shell Park located to the southeast. Shell Park includes sports fields, parking and a wooded area known as Bronte Burloak Woods.

The Town of Oakville provided a letter dated March 11, 2022, in response to the Draft Plan of Subdivision application that indicated an EIS is required. The letter included a *Scoping and Terms of Reference Checklist* (ToR) for the EIS that was completed by Halton Region and Conservation Halton (CH) (**Appendix C**). This EIS was designed to address the requirements that were outlined in the ToR.

The Study Area for the EIS includes the Subject Property plus the immediately adjacent lands (120 m) as shown on **Figure 1**, **Appendix A**.

Natural Heritage Policy Context May 11, 2022

2 Natural Heritage Policy Context

The following sections discuss the provincial and municipal policy documents that were used to identify natural heritage features for the Study Area.

2.1 The Planning Act/ Provincial Policy Statement

The Provincial Policy Statement (PPS; MMAH 2020) was issued under Section 3 of the Planning Act, 1990 (PA) and came into effect in 1996, with the most recent revision coming into effect on May 1, 2020. The PA requires that decisions made by planning authorities are consistent with the policy statements, such as the PPS, which includes policies on development and land use patterns, resources and public health and safety. Section 2.1 of the PPS deals with natural heritage and requires that natural heritage systems are identified in certain ecoregions. This includes Ecoregion 7E, where the Subject Property is located.

According to Section 2.1.5 of the PPS, development and site alteration are not permitted in the following features, unless it has been demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or their ecological functions:

- a) Significant Woodlands
- b) Significant Valleylands
- c) Significant Wildlife Habitat
- d) Significant Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest
- e) Coastal wetlands that are not subject to policy 2.1.4(b)
- f) Development and site alteration are not permitted in the following features, except in accordance with provincial and federal requirements:
- a) Significant habitat of endangered or threatened species
- b) Fish habitat

Development and site alteration are not permitted on lands that are adjacent to the natural heritage features and areas identified above unless the ecological function of the adjacent lands has been evaluated and it has been demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or on their ecological functions.

2.2 Regional Official Plan

The Halton Region Official Plan (ROP; Regional Municipality of Halton 2021) identifies a Regional Natural Heritage System (RNHS) that includes Key Features, enhancement areas and centres for biodiversity, linkages, buffers, watercourses, and wetlands (including non-significant wetlands) (ROP Section 115.3). Key Features listed in the ROP are generally consistent with the natural heritage features listed in the PPS (see **Section 1** above):

a) Significant habitat of endangered and threatened species

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- b) Significant wetlands
- c) Significant coastal wetlands
- d) Significant woodlands
- e) Significant valleylands
- f) Significant wildlife habitat
- g) Significant areas of natural and scientific interest
- h) Fish Habitat

Key Features are mapped on Map 1G of the ROP; however, additional features may be identified during site specific studies such as an Environmental Impact Assessment (ROP Section 139.12).

According to ROP Section 118(3), an Environmental Impact Assessment is required "to demonstrate that the proposed development...will result in no negative impacts to...the Regional Natural Heritage System or unmapped Key Features...and their associated or ecological functions," and identify "opportunities for enhancement."

There are no Key Features mapped in the ROP on the Subject Property; however, Map 1G includes a Key Feature to the immediate southeast of the Subject Property. The Key Feature corresponds with the Bronte Burloak Woods (**Appendix D**).

2.3 Town of Oakville Official Plan

The Town of Oakville's (2021) Official Plan designates Natural Areas that are intended to be preserved long-term. Natural Areas include the following features plus buffers:

- a) significant habitat of endangered species and threatened species
- b) wetlands
- c) woodlands
- d) valleylands
- e) significant wildlife habitat
- f) Environmentally Sensitive Areas
- g) areas of natural and scientific interest
- h) fish habitat
- i) natural corridors

According to Section 16 of the Official Plan, development is generally not permitted in Natural Areas.

There are no Natural Areas mapped in the Official Plan on the Subject Property; however, Schedule B maps a Woodland and Environmentally Significant Area to the immediate southeast (**Appendix E**). The Woodland and Environmentally Significant Area correspond with the Bronte Burloak Woods.

According to Section 16.1.8, development is not permitted within a regionally significant woodland or required buffers, which should be a minimum of 10 m measured from the drip line of the woodland. The final width of the buffer shall be established through an approved EIS.

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2.4 Conservation Authorities Act

The Subject Property is located in the jurisdiction of the Halton Region Conservation Authority (Conservation Halton or CH), but outside of regulated areas shown on CH's online mapping tool¹. Ontario Regulation (O.Reg.) 162/06 of the *Conservation Authorities Act, 1990* is known as the *Regulation of Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses*. The regulation requires prior permission from CH for any development within a floodplain, valleyland, wetland, or other hazardous land. Permission is also required for any alteration to a river, creek, stream or watercourse or any interference with the hydrological function of a wetland. Generally, any development, interference or other alteration that may negatively impact the control of flooding, erosion, dynamic beaches, pollution, or the conservation of land are not permitted. CH's decision-making policies are contained within the *Policies and Guidelines for the Administration of Ontario Regulation 162/06 and Land Use Planning Policy Document* (Conservation Halton 2020).

As noted above, CH's online mapping tool¹ does not map a regulated area within the Study Area (**Appendix F**).

2.5 Endangered Species Act

The *Endangered Species Act, 2007* (ESA) protects species that are Threatened, Endangered, or Extirpated in Ontario by prohibiting anyone from killing, harming, harassing, or possessing protected species, and by prohibiting any damage or destruction to the habitat of the listed species. All protected species are provided with general habitat protection under the ESA, with the goal of protecting areas that species depend on to carry out their life processes (e.g., reproduction, rearing, hibernation, migration or feeding). Some species have detailed habitat regulations that define the extent and characteristics of protected habitats.

Activities that may impact a protected species or its habitat require the prior issuance of a permit from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP). O.Reg. 242/08 and 830/21 identify activities which are exempt from the permitting requirements of the ESA subject to rigorous controls outside the permit process including registration of the activity and preparation of mitigation. Some specific-specific exemptions may apply to development projects in some cases (e.g., exemptions for Bobolink, Eastern Meadowlark, butternut). Activities that are not exempt under O. Reg. 242/08 or 830/21 require a complete permit application process.

¹ Conservation Halton. Interactive mapping tool. Available online (accessed March 2022): https://conservationhaltoncamaps.opendata.arcgis.com/pages/web-maps



Desktop Review May 11, 2022

3 Desktop Review

3.1 Natural Heritage Features

The following information sources were consulted to identify the presence and determine the extent of natural features in the Study Area:

- Regional Municipality of Halton Official Plan (Regional Municipality of Halton 2021)
- Town of Oakville Official Plan (Town of Oakville 2021)
- Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) Biodiversity Explorer and database (NDMNRF 2022a)
- Land Information Ontario (LIO) database (NDMNRF 2022b)
- Conservation Halton Online Mapping Tool
- 2022 Orthoimagery (Figure 2, Appendix A) and readily available online air photos

Based on this review, there are no natural heritage features on the Subject Property; however, part of the Bronte Burloak Woods is in the Study Area to the immediate southeast of the Subject Property (**Figure 1**, **Appendix A**). The Bronte Burloak Woods is designated a Key Feature in the ROP and a Woodland and Environmentally Significant Area in the Town of Oakville Official Plan.

3.2 Significant Species

Significant species include species at risk (SAR) and species of conservation concern (SOCC). For this report, SAR are endangered and threatened species listed on the Species at Risk in Ontario (SARO) List. SOCC are provincially rare species (ranked S1-S3 by the NHIC) and federal or provincial species at risk that are not listed as endangered or threatened on SARO (e.g., species listed as special concern).

The following background documents and information sources were reviewed to identify records of SAR and SOCC for the Study Area:

- Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) database (MNRF 2022b)
- Species at Risk in Ontario (SARO) List Schedule 2 & 3
- Halton Natural Area Inventory (NHAI 2006)
- 2nd Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas (OBBA), (Cadman et al. 2007)
- Atlas of Mammals of Ontario, (Dobbyn, 1994)
- Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas (ORRA), (Ontario Nature 2021)
- eBird Canada database (eBird, 2021)
- iNaturalist database (iNaturalist, 2021)

Based on this review, there are ten (10) records of SAR and nine (9) records of SOCC in the vicinity of the Study Area (**Table 1**). NHIC records are from with in 1 km of the Study Area and atlas records are from within 10 km of the Study Area; therefore, records do not indicate presence of occurrence in the Study Area. Significant species in **Table 1** were evaluated to determine if they have suitable habitat in the Study Area in **Section 5**.

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Element Type	Common Name	Scientific Name	S- Rank	SARO Status	COSEWIC Status	Source
	Species at Risk					
breeding bird	Yellow- breasted Chat	Icteria virens	S1B	END	END	MNRF 2022b
breeding bird	Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	S5B	THR	THR	MNRF 2022b
breeding bird	Eastern Meadowlark	Sturnella magna	S4B	THR	THR	MNRF 2022b
breeding bird	Bank Swallow	Riparia	S4B	THR	THR	MNRF 2022b
breeding bird	Bobolink	Dolichonyx oryzivorus	S4B	THR	THR	MNRF 2022b
Breeding bird	Chimney Swift	Chaetura pelagica	S4B	THR	THR	Cadman et al. 2007
breeding bird	Least Bittern	Ixobrychus exilis	S4B	THR	THR	MNRF 2022b
mammal	Small-footed Myotis	Myotis leibii	S2S3	END	-	NHAI 2006
mammal	Little Brown Myotis	Myotis lucifugus	S4	END	END	NHAI 2007
mammal	Northern Myotis	Myotis septentrionalis	S3?	END	END	NHAI 2008
vascular plant	American Chestnut	Castanea dentata	S1S2	END	END	MNRF 2022b
		Species of Conser	vation (Concern		-
breeding bird	Common Nighthawk	Chordeiles minor	S4B	SC	THR	Cadman et al. 2007
breeding bird	Eastern Wood- pewee	Contopus virens	S4B	SC	SC	Cadman et al. 2007
breeding bird	Red-necked Grebe	Podiceps grisegena	S3B	NAR	NAR	MNRF 2022b
breeding bird	Grasshopper Sparrow	Ammodramus savannarum	S4B	SC	SC	Cadman et al. 2007
breeding bird	Wood Thrush	Hylocichla mustelina	S4B	SC	THR	Cadman et al. 2007
fish	Deepwater Sculpin	Myoxocephalus thompsonii pop. 2	S3?		SC	MNRF 2022b
turtle	Midland Painted Turtle	Chrysemys picta marginata	S4		SC	MNRF 2022b
turtle	Northern Map Turtle	Graptemys geographica	S3	SC	SC	MNRF 2022b
turtle	Snapping Turtle	Chelydra serpentina	S4	SC	SC	MNRF 2022b

Table 1: Background Records of Significant Species

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S-RANK: Provincial status ranking SARO: Species at Risk in Ontario COSEWIC: Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada S1: Critically imperiled in Ontario (often fewer than 5 populations) S2: Imperiled in Ontario, very few populations (often 20 or fewer) S3: Vulnerable in Ontario, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer) S4: Apparently Secure – Uncommon but not rare S5: Secure – Common, widespread, and abundant in the province S#B: Breeding status rank S#?: Rank uncertain

SC: Species Concern

THR: Threatened

END: Endangered

Field Investigations May 11, 2022

4 Field Investigations

Field investigations were conducted on two dates in Spring 2022 to document natural heritage features in the Study Area. The investigations included a vegetation survey, amphibian call count survey and documentation of incidental observations of wildlife and wildlife habitat. Dates of field investigations are provided in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Summary of Field Investigations

Date	Investigation Type	Personnel
March 24, 2022	Ecological Land Classification and woodland (drip line) delineation	S. Spisani
April 12, 2022	Amphibian call count survey	S. Spisani

4.1 Vegetation Survey

The vegetation survey followed the protocols outlined in the Ecological Land Classification (ELC) System for Southern Ontario (Lee et al. 1998) and the 2008 catalogue updates. All plant species that were identifiable at the time of the visit were recorded and the drip line of the Bronte Burloak Woods was delineated using an ArcGIS mobile application for iPhone.

Three (3) constructed and one (1) natural land cover type (the Bronte Burloak Woods) were documented in the Study Area. Only one (1) land cover type is present on the Subject Property, which is a manicured (mowed) field. Land cover types are mapped on **Figure 2**, **Appendix A** and summarized in **Table 3**. Photographs of the Subject Property and Bronte Burloak Woods are provided in in **Appendix G**.

 Table 3:
 Vegetation Communities Recorded for the Subject Property

Туре	Code	Description	Characteristics
Constructed	CGL_4	Recreation	Sports fields and parking.
Constructed	CV	Constructed	Manicured (mowed) field dominated by fescue (<i>Festuca sp.</i>) and other cool season grasses. A hedge row of young trees is planted along the southwest property line that is shared with Shell Park, including: common hackberry (<i>Celtis occidentalis</i>), sugar maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>), little-leaf linden (<i>Tilia cordata</i>), hybrid poplar (<i>Populus x.</i>) and Norway spruce (<i>Picea abies</i>). Manitoba maple (<i>Acer negundo</i>) and staghorn sumac (<i>Rhus typhina</i>) were also present as naturally introduced occurrences.
Constructed	CVR_3	Single Family Residential	Houses with manicured yards, and streets.

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Туре	Code	Description	Characteristics
Woodland	FODM5	Dry-Fresh Sugar Maple Deciduous Forest	Young to mid-age deciduous forest with sparce understory that included recent infill tree plantings. Shallow areas of pooling water were present. Vascular plants recorded: sugar maple, shagbark hickory (<i>Carya</i> <i>ovata</i>), American basswood (<i>Tilia americana</i>), American beech (<i>Fagus grandifolia</i>), white pine (<i>Pinus</i> <i>strobus</i>), northern red oak (<i>Quercus rubra</i>), and eastern hemlock (<i>Tsuga canadensis</i>).

Table 3: Vegetation Communities Recorded for the Subject Property

4.2 Amphibian Survey

The amphibian call count was conducted using protocols established by Bird Studies Canada (2009). Surveys were conducted in April 2022 to target woodland breeding amphibians. The survey was conducted under suitable weather conditions with low winds as documented in **Table 4**.

Table 4: Amphibian Call Count Survey Date, Time, and Weather Conditions

Date	Time	Temp. (°C)	Wind (Beaufort)	Cloud (%)	Precipitation
April 12, 2022	21:45 – 22:00	14	0	10	None

No amphibians were recorded during the call count survey. Although standing water was present in the Bronte Burloak Woods in the Stud during the vegetation survey (see Photo 4, Appendix G), it was no longer present during the amphibian survey, and suitable breeding habitat for amphibians is considered absent.

4.3 Incidental Wildlife

Five (5) birds and one (1) mammal were recorded as incidental observations during field investigations: American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*), Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*), Killdeer (*Charadrius vociferus*), Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*), Black-capped Chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*), and eastern gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*).

5 Habitat Assessment

Habitat in the Study Area was assessed to determine if candidate significant wildlife habitat (SWH) features described in the Significant Wildlife Habitat Technical Guide (MNR 2000) are present in the Study Area. The assessment was competed by applying the criteria from the Significant Wildlife Habitat Ecoregion 7E Criterion Schedule (the Ecoregion Criteria; MNRF 2015). The criteria apply primarily to natural features, which are limited to the Bronte Burloak Woods deciduous forest. To support this assessment, the area of the Bronte Burloak Woods was calculated by determining the area of contiguous woodlands outside the Study Area using the Natural Heritage Reference Manual (OMNR 2010) method for delineating woodland patches; specifically:

- A bisecting opening 20 m or less in width between crown edges is not considered to divide a woodland into separate woodlands.
- Woodland patches less than 40 m wide are excluded.

Based on these criteria, the Bronte Burloak Woods deciduous forest that is contiguous with the Study Area is approximately 4.5 ha. The width of the forest ranges from approximately 100 m to 120 m, which is too small to support interior forest habitat described in the Ecoregion Criteria. Therefore, wildlife use would be limited to species that are tolerant of edge effects and urban environments.

The majority of the candidate SWH types described by the Ecoregion Criteria schedule require habitat conditions that are not available in the Study Area, such as open meadows, thickets, wetlands, interior forest habitats, or specialized features such as vernal pools. However, the Bronte Burloak Woods deciduous forest qualifies as candidate SWH for the following types:

- Seasonal Concentration Areas of Animals
 - Bat Maternity Colonies
 - Landbird Migratory Stopover Areas
- Habitat for Species of Conservation Concern
 - Eastern Wood-pewee and Wood Thrush (see Section 5.1)

Targeted species occupancy surveys would be required to determine if the candidate features qualify as confirmed SWH. A summary table of the SWH assessment is provided in **Table 5**.

Table 5:	Significant Wildlife Habitat Assessment
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Habitat Type (MNRF 2015)	Habitat Description	Candidate SWH in the Subject Property (Present/Absent)	Candidate SWH in Adjacent Lands? (Present/Absent)
	Seasonal Concentration A	reas	
Waterfowl stopover and staging areas	Fields with evidence of annual spring flooding from meltwater or runoff; aquatic habitats such as ponds, marshes, lakes, bays, and watercourses used during migration, including large marshy wetlands	Absent.	Absent.
Shorebird migratory stopover area	Muddy and unvegetated shorelines, beach areas, bars	Absent.	Absent.
Raptor wintering areas	Combination of fields and woodland (>20 ha)	Absent.	Absent.
Bat hibernacula	Abandoned mine shafts, underground foundations, caves, and crevices	Absent.	Absent.
Bat maternity colonies	Mixed and deciduous forests and swamps with large diameter dead or dying trees with cavities	Absent.	Absent.
Turtle wintering area	Permanent waterbodies and large wetlands with sufficient dissolved oxygen; man-made ponds are not considered SWH.	Absent.	Absent.
Reptile hibernacula	Rock piles or slopes, stone fences, crumbling foundations	Absent.	Absent.
Deer wintering congregation areas and deer yards	Deer yards are mapped by MNRF	Absent.	Absent.
Colonially – nesting bird breeding habitat (bank and cliff)	Eroding banks, sandy hills, steep slopes, rock faces or piles. Cliff faces. Does not include disturbed soil areas such as berms, embankments, oil or aggregate stockpiles.	Absent.	Absent.
Colonially – nesting bird breeding habitat (trees/shrubs)	Dead trees in large marshes and lakes, flooded timber, and shrubs, with nests of Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Green Heron, or Black- crowned Night-Heron	Absent.	Absent.
Colonially – nesting bird breeding habitat (ground)	Rock islands and peninsulas in a lake or large river	Absent.	Absent.
Migratory butterfly stopover area	Fields and forests that are a minimum of 10 ha and are located within 5km of Lake Erie or Lake Ontario	Absent.	Absent.

Table 5:	Significant Wildlife Habitat Assessment
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Habitat Type (MNRF 2015)	Habitat Description	Candidate SWH in the Subject Property (Present/Absent)	Candidate SWH in Adjacent Lands? (Present/Absent)
Landbird migratory stopover area	Woodlands of a minimum size located within 5km of Lake Erie or Lake Ontario. Woodlands should be > 5 ha, unless woodland are rare, then woodlands 2-5 ha may be considered.	Absent	Present: Bronte Burloak Woods deciduous forest is ~ 4.5 ha and ~600 m from Lake Erie and Lake Ontario.
Deer wintering congregation areas and deer yards	Deer yards are mapped by MNRF	Absent.	Absent.
	Rare Vegetation Commun	ities	
Sand barren, alvar, cliffs and talus slopes	Sand barren, Alvar, Cliff and Talus ELC Community Classes, and other areas of exposed bed rock and patchy soil development, near vertical exposed bedrock and slopes of rock rubble	Absent.	Absent.
Prairie and savannah	Open canopy habitats (tree cover < 60%) dominated by prairie species	Absent.	Absent.
Old growth forest	Relatively undisturbed, structurally complex; dominant trees > 100 years' old	Absent.	Absent.
Other rare vegetation communities	Vegetation communities ranked S1-S3 by the NHIC.	Absent.	Absent.
	Specialized Habitat for Wil	dlife	
Waterfowl nesting areas	Upland habitats adjacent to wetlands	Absent.	Absent.
Bald Eagle and Osprey nesting, foraging and perching habitat	Treed communities adjacent to rivers, lakes, ponds, and other wetlands with stick nests of Bald Eagle or Osprey	Absent.	Absent.
Woodland raptor nesting habitat	Stick nests in forested ELC communities >30 ha with 10 ha of interior habitat	Absent.	Absent.
Turtle nesting areas	Exposed soil, including sand and gravel in open sunny areas in proximity to wetlands	Absent.	Absent.
Seeps and springs	Any forested area with groundwater at surface within the headwaters of a stream or river system	Absent.	Absent.
Amphibian breeding habitat (woodland and wetland)	Treed uplands with vernal pools, and wetland ecosites	Absent.	Absent.

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Habitat Type (MNRF 2015)	Habitat Description	Candidate SWH in the Subject Property (Present/Absent)	Candidate SWH in Adjacent Lands? (Present/Absent)
Woodland area sensitive breeding bird habitat	Large mature forest stands, woodlots >30 ha with interior forest habitat (i.e. at least 200 m from edge)	Absent.	Absent.
	Habitat for Species of Conservati	on Concern	
Open country bird breeding habitat	Large grasslands and fields (>30ha) with two or more of the following species; Upland Sandpiper, Grasshopper Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Northern Harrier, Savannah Sparrow OR with nesting Short-eared Owls	Absent.	Absent.
Shrub/early successional bird breeding habitat	 Large shrub and thicket habitats (>10ha) with: At least one Brown Thrasher or Clay- colored Sparrow breeding, OR At least two of Field Sparrow, Black-billed Cuckoo, Eastern Towhee and Willow Flycatcher OR nesting Yellow-breasted Chat or Golden- winged Warbler. 	Absent.	Absent.
Marsh bird breeding habitat	Wetlands with shallow water with emergent aquatic vegetation with American Bittern, Virginia Rail, Sora, Common Moorhen, American Coot, Pied-billed Grebe, Marsh Wren, Sedge Wren, Common Loon, Sandhill Crane, Green Heron, Trumpeter Swan, Black Tern, Yellow Rail	Absent.	Absent.
Terrestrial Crayfish	Wet meadows and edges of shallow marshes with burrows or chimneys	Absent.	Absent.
Special Concern and provincially rare (S1-S3) wildlife	An assessment of habitat for special concern and provincially rare wildlife is included in Section 5.1 .	Absent.	Present: Bronte Burloak Woods deciduous forest is suitable for Eastern Wood-pewee and Wood Thrush
Amphibian movement corridors	Associated with confirmed amphibian breeding habitat	Absent.	Absent.

Table 5: Significant Wildlife Habitat Assessment

5.1 Significant Species

Significant species records identified during the background review (**Section 3.2**) were assessed to identify species that may occur in mid-aged deciduous woodlands in urban environments. Many species are considered absent because they require habitat conditions that are not available in the Study Area, including all fish and turtle species that require aquatic and wetland habitats, and some of the breeding birds that require open habitats for breeding such as meadows and thickets. Based on this assessment, there are four (4) SAR and two (2) SOCC that may occur in the Study Area (**Table 6**). These species may occur in the Bronte Burloak Woods deciduous forest that is located outside of the Subject Project.

 Table 6:
 Significant Species with Suitable Habitat in the Study Area

Element Type	Common Name	Scientific Name			
	Species at Risk				
mammal	Small-footed Myotis	Myotis leibii			
mammal	Little Brown Myotis	Myotis lucifugus			
mammal	Northern Myotis	Myotis septentrionalis			
vascular plant	American Chestnut	Castanea dentata			
Species of Conservation C	Species of Conservation Concern				
breeding bird	Eastern Wood-pewee	Contopus virens			
breeding bird	Wood Thrush	Hylocichla mustelina			



6 Impact Assessment

The proposed development plan includes 37 detached single family residential lots, a street (Street A), and two walkway / servicing blocks (**Appendix B** and **Figure 3**, **Appendix A**). The development plan was assessed to identify potential direct and indirect impacts, including impacts associated with construction, and long-term impacts associated with residential use. Direct impacts are quantifiable effects and include loss of features by area, while indirect effects are qualitative in nature and may include effects such as sedimentation and noise impacts to wildlife on adjacent lands.

Site-specific and standard recommendations are identified below to mitigate potential impacts to natural features and enhance the natural heritage system where appropriate. Site-specific measures are recommended to address the specific natural heritage features and functions identified for the Subject Property and adjacent lands, while standard measures address strategies that are typically required for construction such as erosion and sediment control.

6.1 Direct Impacts

The development plan overlays constructed land cover types shown on **Figure 2**, **Appendix A**, and there will be no direct impacts to natural features, including the Bronte Burloak Woods deciduous forest. As noted in Section 2.3, the Town of Oakville Official Plan requires a minimum 10 m buffer from the drip line of regionally significant woodlands. For the purpose of this evaluation, the Bronte Burloak Woods deciduous forest is considered a regionally significant woodland because it is designated a Key Feature in the ROP, and may support the following significant habitat functions:

- Suitable Habitat for SAR (endangered and threatened species Myotis bats and American Chestnut
- Candidate SWH for SOCC Eastern Wood-Pewee and Wood Thrush
- Candidate SWH for Seasonal Concentration Areas of Animals Bat Maternity Colonies and Landbird Migratory Stopover Areas

If these significant species and habitat functions are present, they are adapted to the existing residential setting, and the proposed development plan would not be expected to create additional negative effects. As shown on the concept plan (**Appendix B and Figure 3, Appendix A**), only the rear yards of 2 lots (14 and 15) are adjacent to the Bronte Burloak Woods deciduous forest, and they are separated from the woodland by a sidewalk access from Innville Crescent to Shell Park (**Appendix B and Figure 3, Appendix A**). Based on a review of readily available air photos, the existing sidewalk has been in place since 2009. In this case, extending a 10 m buffer beyond the sidewalk access would not preserve or enhance the woodland or protect individual trees; therefore, a reduced buffer (i.e., less than 10 m) is justified to align the development lots with the outer limit of the sideway access. The development lot / outer limit of the sideway access is setback from the drip line of the Bronte Burloak Woods by approximately 2 m at the closest point (rear of Lot 14), and approximately 10 m at the furthest point (rear of Lot 15).

The proposed development may require removal of the young hedge row vegetation along the southwest property line that is shared with Shell Park. This hedge row is primarily planted trees and is not expected to support significant species or habitat functions; however, mitigation recommendations are provided below to protect bird nest and maternity roosting bats that may be present.

6.1.1 MITIGATION RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1.1.1 Bird's Nests

To avoid damaging or disturbing bird nests and contravening the MBCA, the timing of vegetation clearing should occur outside of the primary nesting period (i.e., the period when the percent of total nesting species is greater than 10% based on Environment Canada's Nesting Calendars and the period for which due diligence mitigation measures are generally recommended). The primary nesting period identified for the Study Area is generally April 1 – August 15. However, birds may also nest outside this period and nests should be avoided until no longer active.

6.1.1.2 Bat Maternity Roosts

Trees in the hedge row were assessed for suitability of maternity roost bats, but the trees are not expected to provide significant habitat for endangered species and the feature does not quality as SWH. To reduce the likelihood of harm to bats, it is recommended that trees > 10 cm diameter at breast height (DBH) be removed outside the bat maternity roost season, which is generally April 1 to September 30. If tree clearing is required within this window, maternity exit surveys may be conducted prior to the tree removals to determine if bats are using the trees. Maternity exit surveys are conducted during the evening and includes visual and acoustic surveys using accepted protocols. If potentially suitable bat roost trees will be removed, the MECP should be contacted to determine authorization requirements under the ESA.

6.2 Indirect Impacts

Inadvertent encroachment of heavy equipment, siltation and/or spills of deleterious substances, noise, and dust migration into natural features were identified as potential indirect impacts from construction. These impacts may alter species composition by compacting and smothering vegetation and introducing substances that could be harmful to vegetation and wildlife, such as fuel used by construction vehicles. Additional disturbance may be required to facilitate spill clean-up activities. Where they occur, these impacts are expected to be localized to the construction area and adjacent areas.

6.2.1 MITIGATION RECOMMENDATIONS

6.2.1.1 Standard Measures for Construction

The potential indirect effects identified above are common to various types of construction and can be controlled using standard mitigation measures for erosion and sediment control. The following mitigation measures will be implemented during construction:

- Silt fencing will be used along all construction areas adjacent to natural features and low areas where drainage may exit the work areas onto adjacent properties. No equipment will be permitted to enter natural features beyond the fencing.
- Natural features or vegetation areas such as mowed fields in Shell Park that are inadvertently
 disturbed during construction will be stabilized and re-vegetated, through the placement of seed and
 mulching or seed and an erosion control blanket, promptly upon completion of construction activities.
 Re-vegetation within natural areas should use native species that are suited to the site conditions,
 and plant material should be sourced locally if possible.
- Equipment will be re-fueled >30 m away from natural features and low areas where drainage may exit onto adjacent properties.
- Additional silt fence will be available on site, prior to grading operations, to provide a contingency supply in the event of an emergency.
- All sediment and erosion controls will be monitored regularly and properly maintained, as required. Controls will be removed only after the construction area has been stabilized.
- Maintain proper muffling of machinery and equipment to mitigate noise during construction.

6.2.1.2 Environmental Monitoring

Construction monitoring should be undertaken to track implementation of the planned mitigation measures, including compliance with the final grading, and erosion and sediment control plans. This includes proper functioning of control throughout all phases of development, and proper containment of work in designated work areas. Remedial action should be undertaken as soon as possible wherever discrepancies are identified.

6.3 Long-Term Impacts

Potential long-term impacts to natural features such as the Bronte Burloak Woods associated with increased resident development and human activity include:

- Light trespass into natural areas and associated disturbance to wildlife
- Introduction of non-native invasive plant species
- Dumping garbage, garden waste, trampling of ground cover, and damage to trees

Mitigation recommendations are provided below to offset these potential long-term impacts. Because the Bronte Burloak Woods is located in a residential setting, the proposed development plan would not be expected to create measurable negative effects to vegetation or wildlife.

6.3.1 MITIGATION RECOMMENDATIONS

6.3.1.1 Light Trespass

The following design measures are recommended to address potential long-term impacts to wildlife associated with light trespass:

- Exterior lights will be pointed away from the Bronte Burloak Woods, including lights in rear yards and within the sidewalk access from Innville Crescent to Shell Park
- Reduced wattage will be used in exterior lights
- Exterior lights will be mounted at low heights

6.3.1.2 Stewardship

Access to the Bronte Burloak Woods is available from Shell Park and an existing trail on the east side of the feature. Restricting access to the feature is not considered feasible; however, landowners should be provided educational material outlining the natural heritage features in their neighborhood and good stewardship practices to promote long-term protection of the features. Materials may include brochures that are distributed to new home buyers, and/or signs installed at visible locations of features.



Summary and Conclusion May 11, 2022

7 Summary and Conclusion

The scoped EIS was prepared to document natural features that require consideration through the development application process and may pose constraints to development, including features that are protected by the ROP and Town of Oakville Official Plan. The results of the background review and site investigations documented one (1) natural heritage feature in the Study Area, southeast of the Subject Property, the Bronte Burloak Woods. No natural heritage features were documented on the Subject Property. The Bronte Burloak Woods deciduous forest is considered a regionally significant woodland because it is designated a Key Feature in the ROP, and may support the following significant habitat functions:

- Suitable Habitat for SAR (endangered and threatened species Myotis bats and American Chestnut
- Candidate SWH for SOCC Eastern Wood-Pewee and Wood Thrush
- Candidate SWH for Seasonal Concentration Areas of Animals Bat Maternity Colonies and Landbird Migratory Stopover Areas

Targeted species occupancy surveys would be required to determine if the SAR, SOCC, confirmed SWH are present; however, they would not be expected to change the assessment or conclusions in this report.

There will be no direct impacts to the Bronte Burloak Woods as a result of the proposed development. Further, the Bronte Burloak Woods is located within an existing residential setting, and the proposed development plan would not be expected to create additional negative effects to the habitat functions.

The proposed development is separated from the Bronte Burloak Woods by a sidewalk access from Innville Crescent to Shell Park. In this case, extending a 10 m buffer beyond the sidewalk access would not preserve or enhance the woodland or protect individual trees; therefore, a reduced buffer (i.e., less than 10 m) is justified to align the development lots with the limit of the sideway access.

Recommendations were provided to protect natural heritage features and species during and post construction:

- Timing restrictions to avoid sensitive periods for breeding birds and maternity roosting bats
- Standard measures for construction
- Measures to reduce long-term affects of increased residential use and human activity, such as the promotion of good stewardship practices
- Environmental monitoring

Based on the above assessment, the proposed plan conforms with the ROP and Town of Oakville Official Plan.

If potentially suitable bat roost trees will be removed, the MECP should be contacted to determine authorization requirements under the ESA.

References May 11, 2022

8 References

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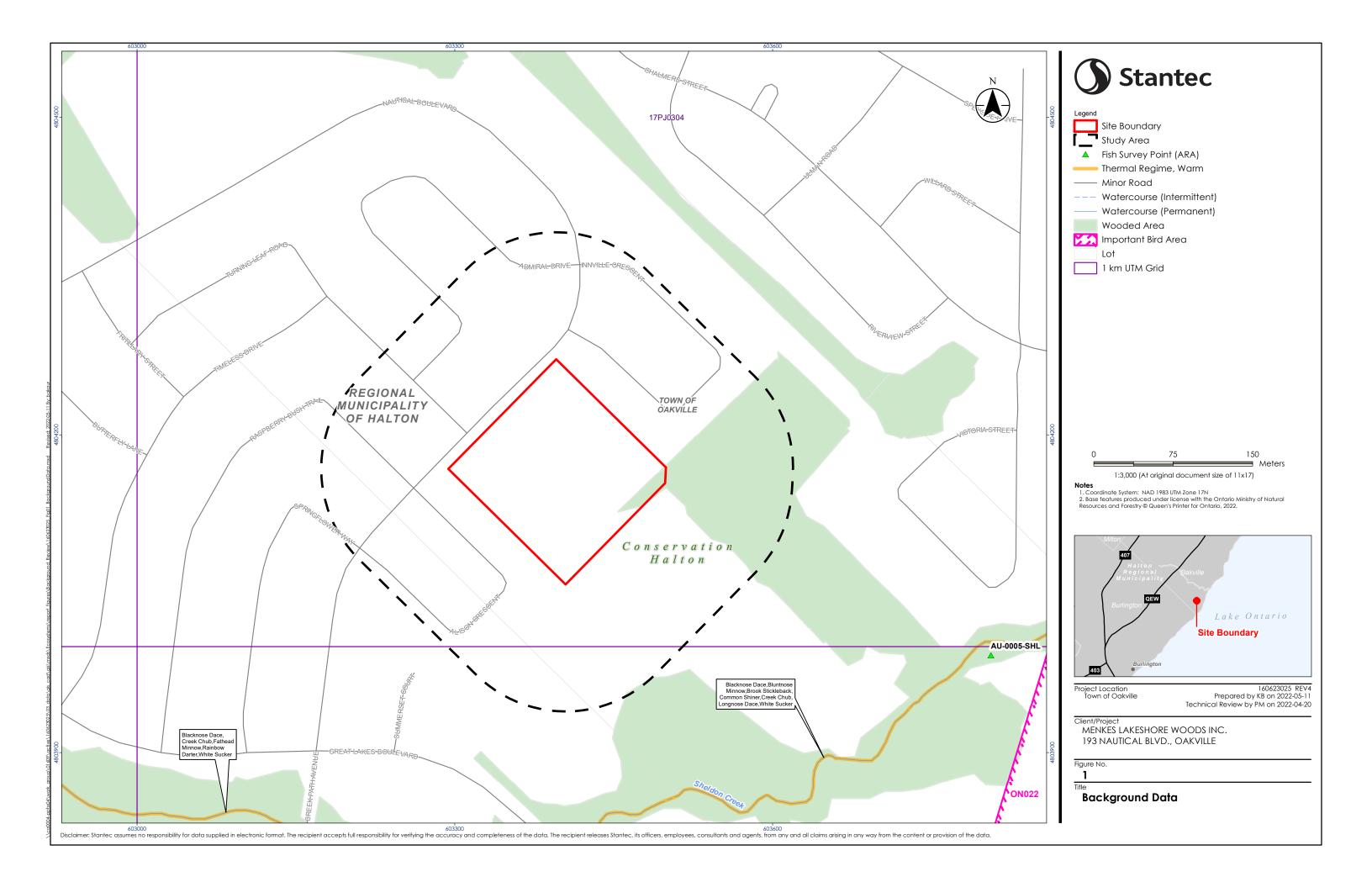
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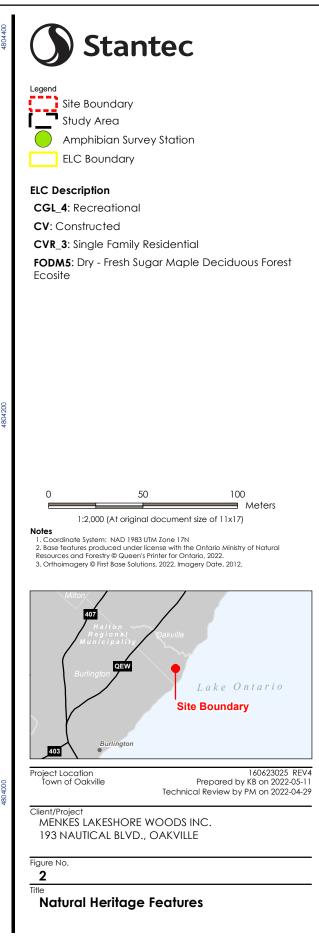
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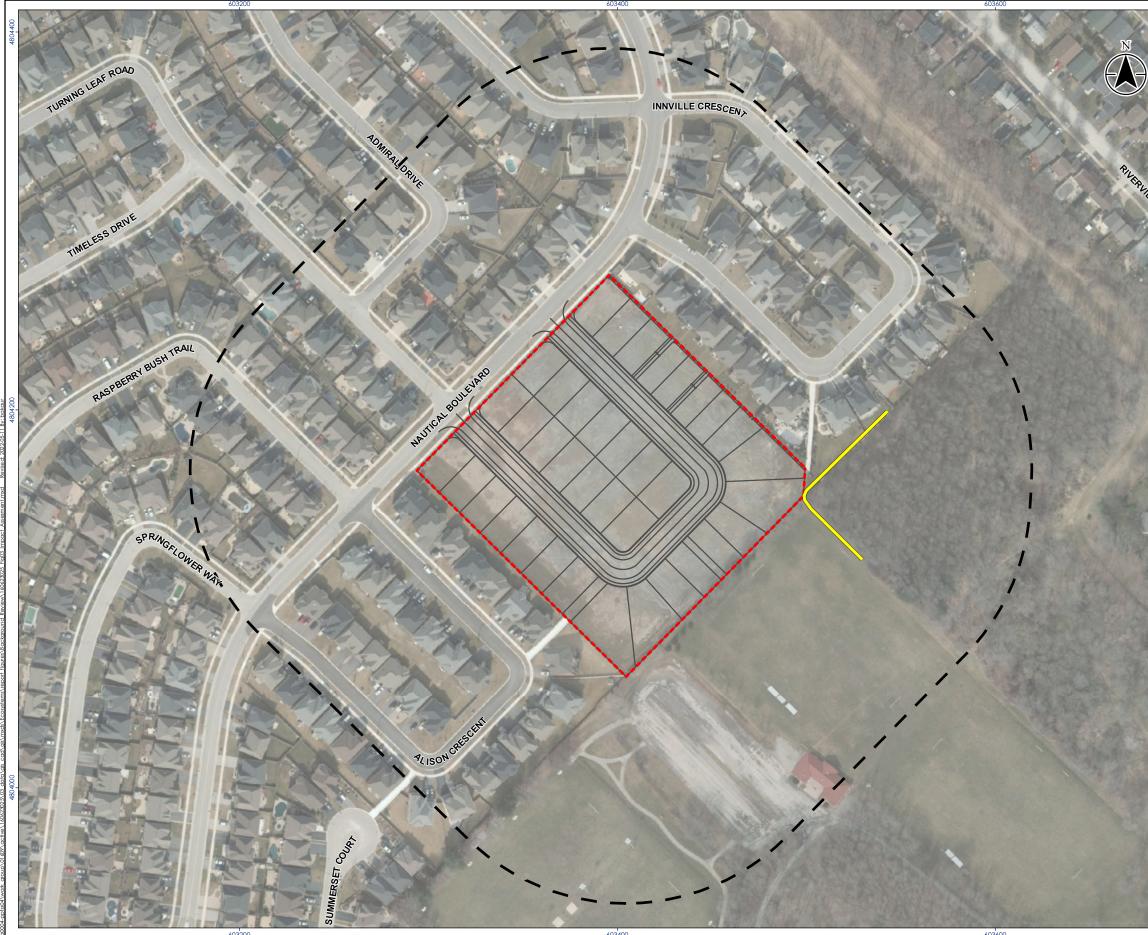
Town of Oakville. 2021. Livable Oakville: Town of Oakville Official Plan 2009. Last Updated: August 31, 2021.

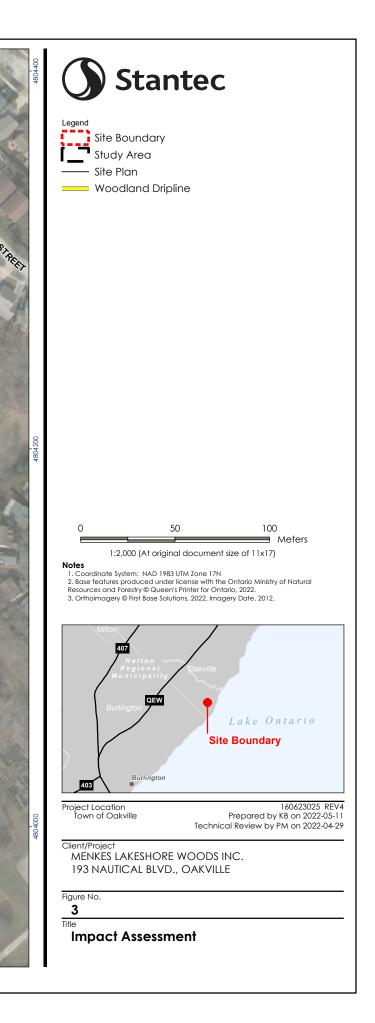
APPENDIX A: Figures



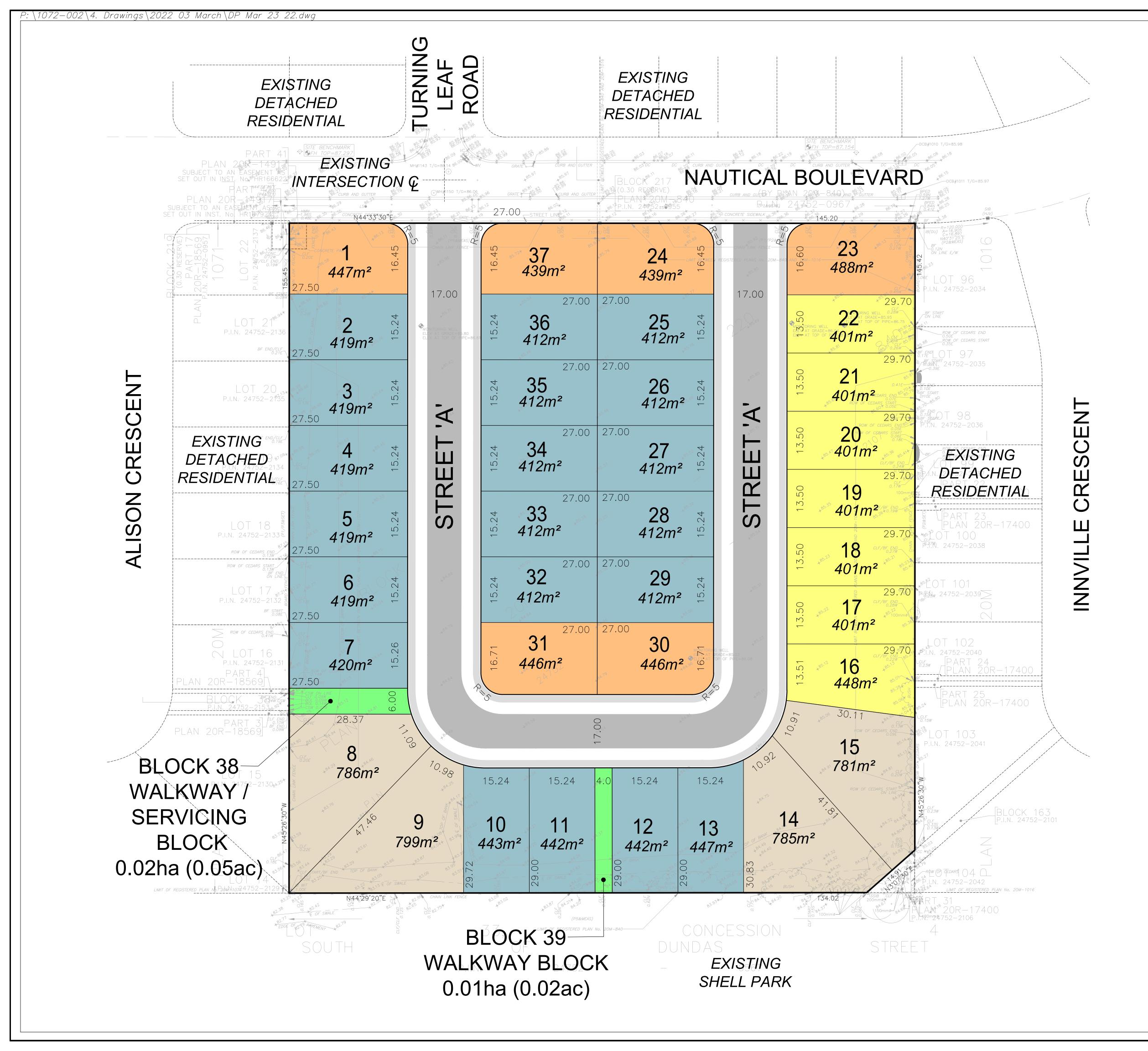








APPENDIX B: Draft Plan of Subdivision



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SCALE 1:400 *(24 x 36)* MARCH 23, 2022



APPENDIX C: Notice of Incomplete Application



March 11, 2022

Menkes Development Ltd. C/O Nicole Guadagnoli 4711 Yonge Street, Suite 1400 Toronto, ON. M2N 7E4

Dear Ms. Guadagnoli

Re: <u>Notice of Incomplete Application</u> <u>Draft Plan of Subdivision, 193 Nautical Boulevard (Block 220 20M-840) - 24T-</u> <u>22003/1733</u>

The purpose of this letter is to advise that the above noted application was received and deemed incomplete. This letter is being provided to fulfil the Town's obligations pursuant to Section 51 (19.1) of the *Planning Act*, which requires the approval authority to respond to the applicant within 30 days, after fees are paid, regarding completeness of the application.

On this basis, the following reports, which are required pursuant to the pre-consultation agreement dated December 1, 2021, were not submitted:

- 1. Urban Design Brief; and,
- 2. Environmental Impact Study / Report.

Should the above reports be submitted, the application will be deemed complete. Mr. Capper has consulted with urban design staff and has the necessary information to complete the required Urban Design Brief. Furthermore, Halton Region and Conservation Halton have prepared the enclosed scoped terms of reference to assist with preparation of a scoped Environmental Impact Study / Report.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact Paul Barrette (<u>paul.barrette@oakville.ca</u>).

Regards, Gabe Charles, MCIP, RPP Director of Planning Services

cc: David Capper, Glen Schnarr & Associates Inc.

Town of Oakville | 1225 Trafalgar Road, Oakville, Ontario L6H 0H3 | 905-845-6601 | www.oakville.ca



Appendix D-2

Scoping and Terms of Reference Checklist

The **Scoping Checklist** provides a brief summary of components to be considered in the preparation of an EIA Terms of Reference. Scoping is to be completed in consideration of the following:

- Scope and scale of the proposed development or site alteration;
- Scope and scale of potential impacts resulting from the proposed development or site alteration;
- Sensitivity or complexity of the features on or adjacent to the proposed project to land use change and specific impacts associated with the proposed project;
- Surrounding land use context (e.g., existing development);

Depending on the items above, not all elements listed below will necessarily be required. Large projects, those with a higher risk of potential impact, and those with complex natural heritage features and functions will generally require a more comprehensive set of assessments, analyses, etc. Smaller scale projects with lower potential impacts and where natural heritage features and functions are less complex are suitable for a scoped EIA and a greater number of items may be 'scoped out' (i.e., not required). In all cases, some items listed below may not be required depending on the specific site conditions and project.

Who Prepares the Checklist: The checklist is to be completed by the Lead Planning Agency (or by their delegate or assign) with input from other agencies with jurisdiction within the subject property or features that triggered the EIA requirement.

Who Uses the Checklist: The scoping checklist is to be used by the EIA practitioner who will be preparing the EIA to inform the preparation of a Terms of Reference for submission, review and approval.

When is the Checklist Completed? The scoping checklist may be completed through Step 2 of the EIA Process (Scoping the EIA).

Part 1 - Project	Information
1-A General Info	rmation
Project Name:	Menkes Homes Inc. (193 Nautical Blvd)
Proponent:	c/o David Capper, GSAI Planning Consultants
Primary Contact:	
Contact	E:
Information:	P:
Project Location:	(Street Address or Lot and Concession) Block 22, Registered Plan 20M-840, Nautical Bl
Consultant:	GSAI Planning Consultants
Consultant Lead:	David Capper
	E: Davidc@gsai.ca
Information:	P: 905-568-8888 x268

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1-B | Project Type Agricultural building or structure within building Re-build - same footprint cluster Re-build - larger or altered footprint Agricultural building or structure outside building Addition to existing dwelling / structure cluster Accessory re-development or modification Lot Severance for single detached dwelling (e.g., swimming pool, driveway) New single detached dwelling on an existing lot Septic system or other servicing New accessory structure (garage, shed, etc.) Other development or site alteration. New accessory development (e.g., swimming pool, Specify: Draft Plan of Subdivision (37 Lot driveway) Part 2 - Scoping of Inventories and Delineations This section provides general guidance on what types of field inventories and feature delineations are anticipated to be required for the EIA. The proponent (or consultant) is to provide detailed description(s) of the proposed approach (survey type, specific methods, seasons, etc.), rationale and locations for surveys as part of a Draft Terms of Reference. Species at Risk Screening Assessment¹⁹ Targeted surveys are anticipated to be required. To be confirmed through Screening Assessment and/ or in consultation with MECP, as appropriate All of the above

Significant Wildlife Habitat Screening Assessment²⁰ Field program to address assessment of Significant Wildlife Habitat, as appropriate All of the above Terrestrial Ecological Land Classification (ELC) Botanical Inventory Significant woodland assessment²¹ Avifauna (Birds) In-Field Habitat Assessment Incidental / General Observations²² Detailed or Targeted Survey(s) Herpetofauna (Amphibians and Reptiles)

²² This survey approach should be limited to only those projects with low risk of impact to this species group and where the potential presence of Species at Risk or Significant Wildlife Habitat is very low.

¹⁹ The Terms of Reference (TOR) is to include a preliminary Species at Risk (SAR) screening assessment to identify if any SAR have potential to occur within or adjacent to the study area within a distance appropriate to determine impacts to the species or influence of species presence on the proposed *development* or *site alteration*. This may include species listed Provincially (ESA 2007) or federally (SARA 2004), as applicable to the species type and project.
²⁰ A Screening Assessment for *Significant Wildlife Habitat* (SWH) includes a desktop and secondary-source level assessment

²⁰ A Screening Assessment for Significant Wildlife Habitat (SWH) includes a desktop and secondary-source level assessment of habitats present against criteria for SWH in the applicable Ecoregion Criteria Schedule for the Project. This assessment approach is suitable for identifying most candidate habitat areas (e.g., by vegetation community); for most SWH types this approach is not enough to confirm presence or absence. Where candidate areas may be impacted, additional field surveys to confirm will be required.

²¹ A significant woodland assessment may require targeted field surveys to inform the assessment of significance (e.g., prism sweeps, forest patch age).

In-Field Habitat Assessment Incidental / General Observations²¹ Detailed or Targeted Survey(s) Mammals In-Field Habitat Assessment Incidental / General Observations Detailed or Targeted Survey(s) Terrestrial Crustaceans (e.g., chimney crawfish) In-Field Habitat Assessment Incidental / General Observations Detailed or Targeted Survey(s) Insects In-Field Habitat Assessment Incidental / General Observations Detailed or Targeted Survey(s) All of the above Aquatic In-Field Habitat Assessment / General Assessment Detailed / Targeted Survey(s) ■ All of the above Delineation of Features²³ XWoodland (If determined to be a significant woodland) Wetland □ □ Valleyland (Top of Bank / Slope) Other: □ □All of the above Notes:

Once the significant woodland assessment on adjacent lands is completed, a site visit with the approval agencies may be required to establish the dripline.

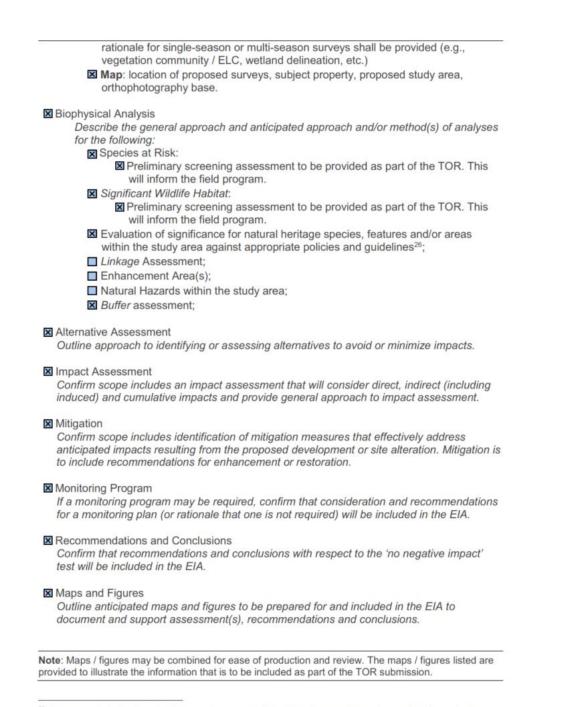
Provide SWH and SAR screening assessments in the TOR to determine the appropriate scope of surveys.

Part 3 – Other Studies²⁴

²³ Where Species at Risk are found to occur, delineation of habitat will also be required, but cannot be known at the scoping stage. Delineation of habitat is to be done in consultation with, or be approved by the MECP, as appropriate.
²⁴ These studies are generally prepared as stand-alone reports. Relevant information on the interaction of these processes and functions with natural heritage features and functions is to be addressed in the EIS. It is strongly encouraged that the programs for these studies be integrated with the EIA Terms of Reference to ensure information appropriate to informing the EIA is collected.

Geotechnical
Secondary Source
Study Required
Hydrogeological
Secondary Source
Study Required
Geomorphological
Secondary Source
Study Required
Surface Water (e.g. hydrologic review, fluvial geomorphology)
Secondary Source
Study Required
□ □ Natural Hazard(s) ²⁵
Secondary Source
United Study Required Wetland Water Balance
□ □ Other (specify):
□ □ All of the above □ □ Secondary Source
Study Required
Part 4 – Terms of Reference Requirements
Introduction
Description of Subject Property
Description of proposed development or site alteration
Description of known site history pertinent to the EIA (e.g., former land use(s),
grading, filling)
Description of landscape context
Map: location of subject property, orthophotography base.
Planning Context
Legislative, regulatory and policies applicable to the property and the proposed
development or site alteration.
Current land use designation and zoning
Proposed land use designation and zoning to support proposed development
Background Review
List relevant natural heritage information secondary sources (e.g., species atlases,
databases);
List relevant existing studies, plans, etc. (if / as available).
Map: location of subject property, mapped feature(s), orthophotography base.
Biophysical Inventory
Define and provide rationale for study area.
Detailed study approach and methods for all identified inventories and delineations
identified in Part 2. Where there is rationale to exclude a specific feature or area
from assessment, provide rationale for consideration. Appropriate justification /

 $^{^{\}rm 25}$ This includes slopes, valleylands, steep and oversteep slopes, etc.



²⁶ This may include local municipal, regional, provincial, federal legislation, policies, plans and guidance documents, as appropriate and applicable to the study area, project type, species and features.

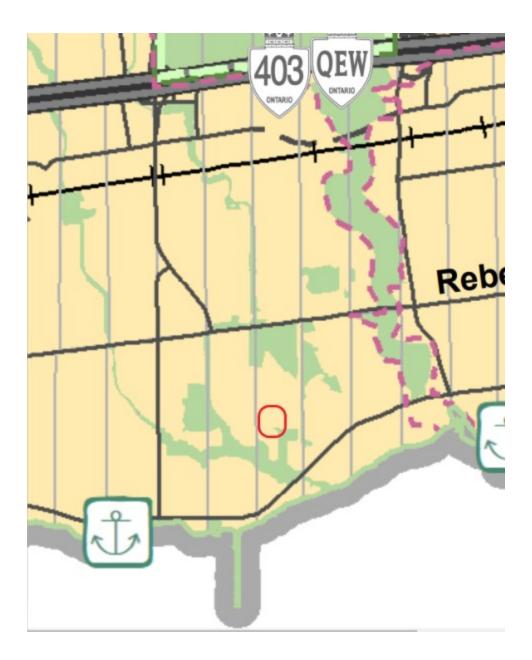
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CHECKLIST COMPLETION RECORD

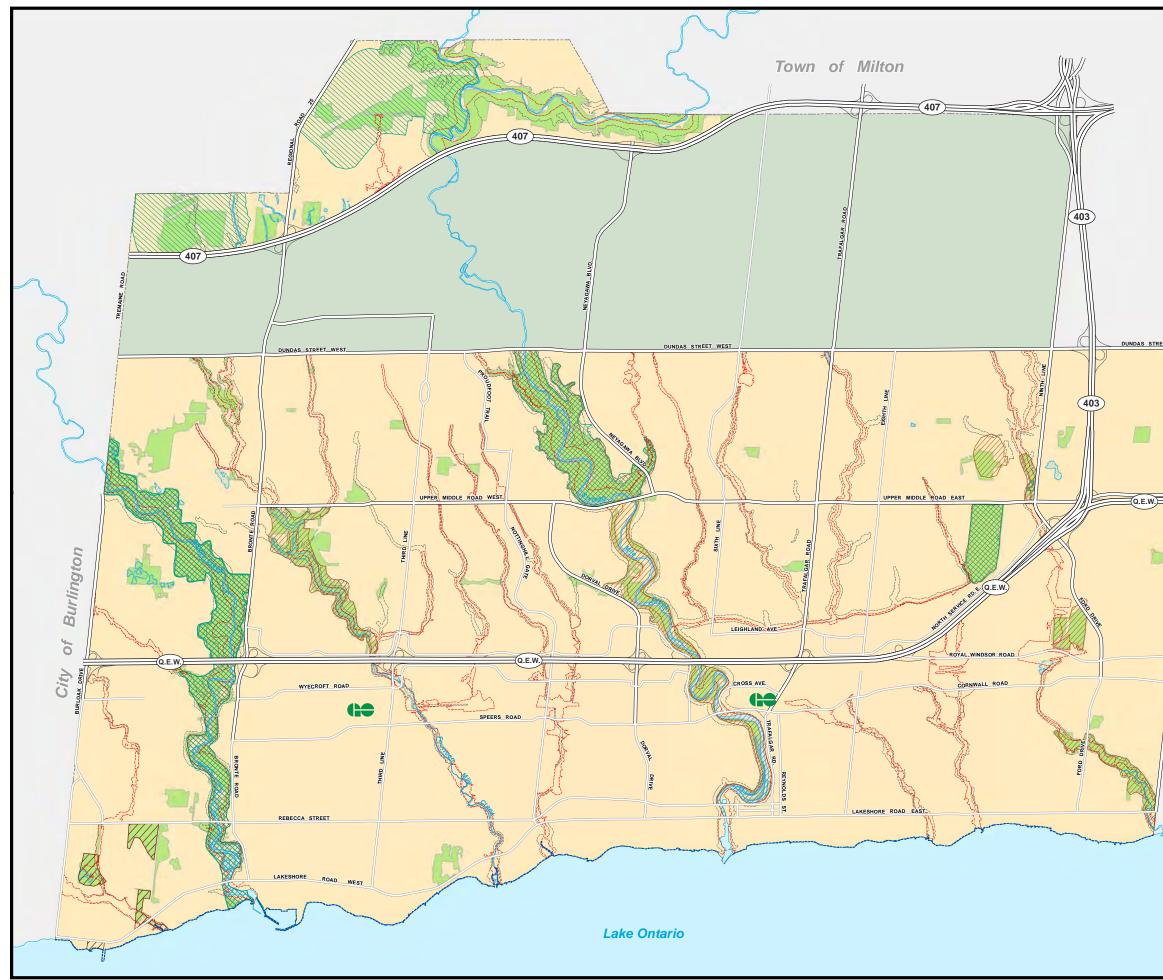
A record of the individuals who complete the checklist is provided below.

COMPLETED BY:			
Name:	Elisa Bernier	Name:	
Position	Planning Eco. Specialist	Position	
Agency: Conservation Halton		Agency:	
Contact Information: ebernier@hrca.on.ca		Contact Information:	
Date:	March 7, 2022	Date:	_

APPENDIX D: Halton ROP



APPENDIX E: OAKVILLE SCHEDULE B





SCHEDULE B NATURAL FEATURES & HAZARD LANDS



FLOODPLAIN

VALLEYLANDS

SHORELINE FLOOD LIMIT



SIGNIFICANT WILDLIFE HABITAT AREA OF NATURAL AND SCIENTIFIC INTEREST





WETLANDS



WOODLANDS

ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS

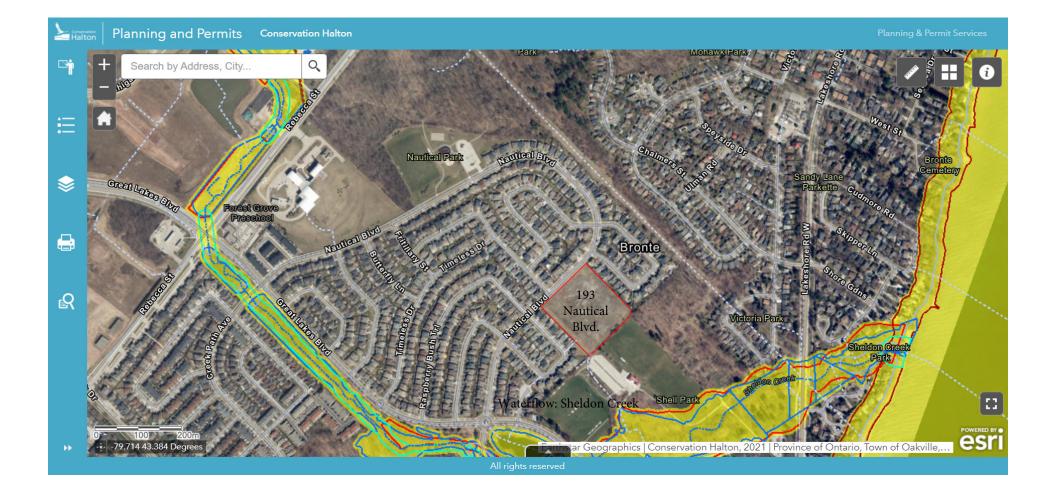
LANDS NOT SUBJECT TO THE POLICIES OF THIS PLAN

NOTE: Natural features and hazard lands are shown conceptually and for reference purposes only.

1:50,000 August 31, 2021

S\DEPARTME\PLANNING\GIS DATA DEVELOPMENT\OFFICIAL PLAN\OP2008\ LIVABLE OAKVILLE MXD...SCHEDULE B.mxd

APPENDIX F: Conservation Halton Map



APPENDIX G: Photo Log

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Photo 1. Manicured (mowed) field on the Subject Project. Facing south from Nautical Boulevard. Taken March 24, 2022.



Photo 2. Young hedgerow planted along the southwest property line that is shared with Shell Park. Facing southeast (the Subject Property is on the right side of the hedgerow and Shell Park is on the left). Taken March 24, 2022.





Photo 3. Bronte Burloak Woods with recently planted understory. Facing southwest. Taken March 24, 2022.



Photo 4. Bronte Burloak Woods with pooling water and recently planted understory. Facing south toward Shell Park. Taken March 24, 2022.





Photo 5. Bronte Burloak Woods edge interface with the east corner of the Subject Property. Facing northeast (the Subject Property is on the left side of the fence and Shell Park is on the right). Taken March 24, 2022.

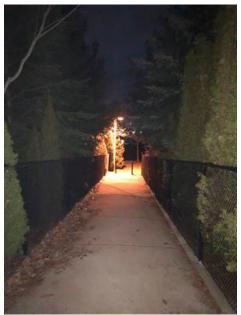


Photo 6. Lit sidewalk access from Innville Cresent to Shell Park, between the Subject Property and Bronte Burloak Woods. Facing southwest towards Shell Park. Taken April 12, 2022