

June 14, 2021

Re: Grassland Breeding Bird Surveys Addendum to the Environmental Impact Study (EIS) Part of Lot 13, Concession 3, Geographic Township of Russell, United Counties of Prescott and Russell

BCH Environmental Consulting Inc. was retained by Tartan Land Consultants Inc. to complete a Environmental Impact Study of the property located within Part of Lot 13, Concession 3, Geographic Township of Russell, United Counties of Prescott and Russell. The Site is approximately 50 acres in size. It is understood that the Property Owner is evaluating the potential for the creation of 387 residential units.

During the initial stage of the environmental Impact study it was recommended that a grassland bird point count survey for Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark be conducted to assess the presence/absence of these species. The report summarizes the grassland bird survey, and is intended as an addendum to the EIS report.

Habitat of the lands in question are described in detail within the EIS report. The hay field and cultural meadow were the target for this survey.

Methodology

Grassland breeding bird surveys followed the Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas protocol (OBBA 2001) and included both point counts and incidental observations. Four survey stations were established within the subject lands and appropriate habitat (Appendix A)

See Table 1 for a summary of the point count surveys. All surveys were completed by the author of this report, Shaun St. Pierre.

TABLE 1: Summary of Field Surveys

| DATE | TIME | ACTIVITY | AIR TEMP. (°C) | WIND (Beaufort Scale) | CLOUD COVER |
|--------------|-------------|--------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|
| May 19, 2021 | 0700h-0830h | Grassland Breeding Bird Survey | 12 | Calm | Clear Skies |
| May 28, 2021 | 0800h-0930h | | 10 | Light Breeze | Clear Skies |
| June 9, 2021 | 0630h-0800h | | 22 | Gentle to Moderate Breeze | 20% Cloud Cover |

Results

The EIS has identified the most likely bird species (SAR) present could potentially be the bobolink and eastern meadowlark.

The results from the field visits found a total of 17 bird species. The observations were typically males calling, though some females and pairs were observed. Probable nesting species included: American robin, chipping sparrow, song sparrow, red-winged blackbird, killdeer, and American goldfinch. Other species observed include: veery, mallard, American crow, black-capped chickadee, white-throated sparrow, common grackle, Eastern phoebe, mourning dove, common yellowthroat, and wild turkey. A Cooper's hawk was observed foraging on-site. No SAR were identified (Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark).

Conclusion

To conclude, it is the professional opinion of the authors that Bobolink and Eastern Meadowlark are not utilising the subject lands.

Thank you for the opportunity to work with you and If you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to contact my office.



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REFERENCE

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COSEWIC. 2010a. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Bobolink *Dolichonyx oryzivorus* in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. vi + 42 pp. (www.sararegistry.gc.ca/status/status_e.cfm).

COSEWIC. 2011. COSEWIC assessment and status report on the Eastern Meadowlark *Sturnella magna* in Canada. Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada. Ottawa. x + 40 pp. (www.sararegistry.gc.ca/status/status_e.cfm).

