

May 3, 2024

Our File: HEAFEY989.2

Raad Akrawi
Wildpine Trails Inc.
190 Lisgar St.
Ottawa, ON
K2P 0C4

Dear Mr. Akrawi:

Reference: 37 Wildpine Wetland Replanting – Monitoring Program

1.0 INTRODUCTION

As part of the proposed redevelopment of 37 Wildpine Court (herein, the “Site”) as a new residential community, the supporting EIS (Kilgour & Associates Ltd., 2024, herein the “EIS”) identified a requirement to augment natural tree cover within existing swamp feature on the north side of the Site. This memo provides a monitoring plan that will be used to track the success of the replanting efforts following site redevelopment and contingency plans if replanting efforts are less successful than anticipated.

2.0 PLANTING PLAN BACKGROUND

The southern half of the Site is primarily a flat table land with an existing house, lawn, and cul de sac area. Towards the north half side of the site, there is a decline in elevation towards the floodplain of Poole Creek and the Stittsville Wetland Complex. Within the Site itself, the wetland cover associated with the Stittsville Wetland Complex consists primarily of deciduous swamp. Tree/canopy structure within the swamp, however, has been significantly altered/reduced in recent years by the combined effects of EAB, which decimated mature Green Ash within the swamp, and severe blowdown during the 2021 derecho event, which decimated mature trees of the remaining species.

Per the findings of the EIS, minor increases in overland hydration to the Stittsville Wetland Complex swamp on the Site are anticipated under the proposed residential development on the south half of the Site. In the consideration of hydrological impacts, the typical concern within an EIS is for possible changes (i.e. losses) of tree structure within a wetland feature with mature trees potentially succumbing to water levels to which they are unaccustomed. Given the recent significant loss of trees within the area, however, recommendations for the maintenance of existing hydrological conditions to support the now previously-existing tree community would be moot. It was the recommendation of this EIS instead that the replacement of lost trees is of greater importance to the overall health of the wetland. Replanting efforts within the swamp, however, must consider species appropriate for the (potentially) slightly wetter conditions.

To improve the overall canopy cover within the swamp north of the proposed development zone, the EIS called for the planting of 42 trees within the swamp area on the north side of the Site. Details

of the replanting effort are to be established within the landscape plan to be developed for the Site, which is to be based on the following considerations/requirements:

- Species selected for planting must be appropriate for the moist soil conditions. Individuals to be planted should consist primarily of Red Maple and/or Silver Maple, but at least 12 trees should be other species including a mix of Tamarack, Balsam Fir and Bur Oak.
- Planted individuals are to be located in areas of relatively open canopy but not within CRZ of Black Ash or Butternuts.
- Buckthorn observed growing near proposed tree planting locations within the swamp must be removed prior to planting new trees.

3.0 POST-CONSTRUCTION MONITORING PROGRAM

Replanting within the swamp will be completed as part of the final landscape work for the completion of the residential area. Trees are generally planted in the spring or fall. Monitoring of the success of the replanting effort is to be based on site inspections to be completed, by a qualified professional, mid-summer in the Years 1, 3 and 5 post-planting. Trees will be inspected for presence in accordance with the landscape plan and for general health.

Following each of Year 1, 3 and 5 inspections missing or dead trees must be replanted in accordance with the following thresholds:

- Loss of up to 6 individuals of the 42 total (~15% of the total) due to factors such as including beavers or windfall can be anticipated as typical. No action is required. Please note that the count of individuals lost is cumulative. If, for example, three trees were lost in Year 1 (with no action necessitated), and four more were lost in Year 3, the Year 3 total would be seven, which would necessitate action in that year as described below.
- For losses of 7 to 20 individuals, each lost tree must be replaced in the fall of that year, generally with an individual of the same species. The qualified professional conducting the site review, however, may recommend alternate species or planting locations as required based on the specific observed details of the original planting location.
- Losses of 21 or more trees (i.e. $\geq 50\%$) may indicate that the hydrological soil conditions within the swamp are significantly different from those projected based on the site plan, and that the species recommendations from the EIS may no longer be appropriate. In this instance, the project proponent will review the Site conditions with City of Ottawa Forestry Staff prior to implementing replanting efforts. Species recommendations across the site may be amended accordingly.
- Please note, however, that the project proponent will not be responsible for either replanting or subsequent inspections following significant tree loss due to an “Act of God” (e.g. such as a tornado or derecho event).



4.0 REPORTING

The project proponent will submit a monitoring report to the City of Ottawa by December 31st of Year 1, 3 and 5 post-planting. The report will include summary table reviewing for each tree planted:

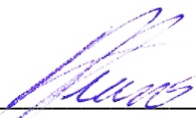
- The species and tree number (with a corresponding map based on the landscape plan identifying the planting location),
- The general health and continued presence,
- Replacements completed that year, including a rationale for any changes in location or species, if required.

5.0 CLOSURE

Please call me any time if you have questions regarding this monitoring plan.

Respectfully submitted,

KILGOUR & ASSOCIATES LTD.



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6.0 LITERATURE SITED

Kilgour & Associates Ltd., 2024. Environmental Impact Statement - 37 Wildpine Court, Stittsville, Ottawa (Updated Report). Report date: April 4 15, 2024

