



October 2, 2023

Build Nova Scotia  
45 Wabana Court  
Sydney, NS, B1P 0B9

E-mail: [cory.macphee@novascotia.ca](mailto:cory.macphee@novascotia.ca)

Attention: Cory MacPhee  
*Project Manager*

**Re: Species at Risk Screening**  
West Side Country Harbour, Guysborough County, Nova Scotia PID 37544913  
Pinchin File: 327768.001

Pinchin Ltd. (Pinchin) was retained by Build Nova Scotia to complete a Species at Risk (SAR) Screening with background and field reviews for the Former Widow Point Mine Site located at the West Side Country Harbour, Guysborough County, Nova Scotia PID 37544913 (Site) in support of an application to the Department of Natural Resources and Renewables (DNR) for a Letter of Authority (LOA). The main purpose of the SAR Screening was to assess and determine if the Site has the potential for SAR and habitat in the vicinity of the Site.

## 1.0 BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVE

It's Pinchin's understanding that the Site consists of a vacant 3.6-hectare former mine site. The Site boundaries and the surrounding area as the Study Area are shown on Figure 1 Study Area in **Appendix 1**. SAR and their associated habitats are protected under the *Species at Risk Act 2002* in Canada and under the provincial *Endangered Species Act 1998*. In order to screen the Site for potential SAR under the federal and provincial legislation, Pinchin will complete a detailed SAR review through a Site reconnaissance, conduct necessary agency consultation, and prepare a Species at Risk Screening letter.

As there is potential habitat for SAR to occur in lands adjacent to the proposed remediation area, a Site reconnaissance was conducted to assess the present natural heritage features in the Study Area. These features include forests, meadows, and watercourses in the Study Area. At the request of Build Nova Scotia in response to the LOA application, Pinchin has conducted a background review of the Site using information available from sources listed in Section 2.0 below. Furthermore, a Site reconnaissance was conducted to review the natural heritage features present in the Study Area, with a focus on the potential SAR and their habitat. The findings of both the background review and Site reconnaissance are presented in Section 3.0 below.

## 2.0 STUDY METHODOLOGY

### 2.1 Desktop Background Review

A background review of historical and contemporary records of SAR was conducted for the Study Area. The Study Area for this SAR Screening as mentioned above is defined as the Site at the West Side Country Harbour, Guysborough County, Nova Scotia PID 37544913, plus an immediate 120 m radius surrounding the Site as identified in Figure 1 in **Appendix 1**.

SAR and SAR habitats are protected under the provincial legislation in Nova Scotia, namely *Endangered Species Act 1998*. Included in the background review were historical species occurrences available from the Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre (ACCDC), updated wildlife data records, SAR lists and other relevant information for the Site and surrounding area. SAR included all species that are provincially or federally identified or ranked as *Extinct*, *Endangered*, *Threatened*, and *Special Concern*. Additionally, information and documents available from site history and/or surveys previously completed were also reviewed for this Study Area.

SAR and their habitat with the potential to be present within the Study Area were identified through the following information sources:

- Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre (2023);
- Second Atlas of Breeding Birds of the Maritime Provinces (Birds Canada, 2023)
- Maritime Butterfly Atlas (ACCDC, 2023)
- Fisheries and Oceans Canada Aquatic SAR Map (Government of Canada 2022);
- NatureServe Biodiversity Report (NatureServe, 2023)
- Government of Canada Species at Risk Act (SARA 2018); and
- Provincial and federal assessments, recovery strategies, and management plans.

### 2.2 Site Reconnaissance

Pinchin conducted a Site reconnaissance to characterize the natural heritage features present on the Site and in the surrounding landscape. A summary of methodologies for the field work completed by Pinchin is provided below for reference.



### 2.2.1 *Vegetation Survey*

Vegetation communities within the Study Area were assessed and described using the Ecological Land Classification (ELC) system. Assessment of the vegetation communities within the Study Area were based on the criteria outlined in the Ecological Land Classification 2017 (Statistics Canada, 2017) with additional information derived from Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: northcentral and northeast Region (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 2012) to classify the habitats and features of each ecosite. Ecosites classified within the Study Area were then applied to ELC polygons mapped using aerial imagery. The vegetation communities for spring were assessed for their structure, species composition and habitat characteristics.

### 2.2.2 *Incidental Wildlife Observation*

Wildlife was surveyed as part of general wildlife surveys during the Site visit. These surveys involved general coverage recording all species observations and signs, including tracks / trails, scat, burrows, dens, browse, and vocalizations. The wildlife surveys occurred during the coincident surveys for vegetation communities and vascular plants.

### 2.2.3 *Species at Risk*

The provincial *Endangered Species Act* 1998 provides protection from harm, harassment, or captures to species listed as endangered, threatened, or vulnerable on the SAR List. Additional protection is provided to the habitat of endangered or threatened species on the Nova Scotia SAR List. Species habitat includes anywhere the species depends on for reproduction, rearing, hibernation, migration, or feeding; or prescribed habitat.

The likelihood of occurrence for SAR was assessed qualitatively based on the ability of the habitat to meet one or more life requisites for each SAR identified during the desktop assessment. If habitat suitable for SAR was identified, additional survey effort was applied in that area. If incidental SAR were observed, they were recorded throughout the field assessment within and adjacent to the Site.

## **3.0 STUDY RESULTS**

A Site reconnaissance was conducted in the summer season on August 29, 2023. The weather and temperature during the time of Site reconnaissance was mostly cloudy with occasional sunny breaks and 16 degrees Celsius. The objective of this field visit was to identify any SAR present within the Study Area and to confirm the presence or absence of suitable habitat for SAR that have been documented within the vicinity of the Site.

### **3.1 Vegetation Communities**

The Site is bordered by West Side Road, mixed forest, and Country Harbour to the north, mixed forest and Fentons Brook to the west, and mixed forest to the south and east. The Site and associated Study Area is primarily composed of mixed forest and was the previous mine site of the Widow Point Mine.

The Site is within the Sheet Harbour Ecodistrict of the South - Central Nova Scotia Uplands Ecoregion. The Sheet Harbour Ecodistrict extends from Halifax in the south to Guysborough in the north. The upland regions of this ecodistrict support a variety of deciduous and coniferous species including Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*), Red Maple (*Acer rubrum*), Yellow Birch (*Betula alleghaniensis*), American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*), Red Spruce (*Picea rubens*), White Spruce (*Picea glauca*), Balsam Fir (*Abies balsamea*), and Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) (Environment Canada, 1999).

In total, four vegetation communities were identified on the Site as a result of the survey conducted. These communities present on the Site include a Fresh – Moist Hemlock – White Birch Mixed Forest, Fresh – Moist Forb Meadow, Intermittent Watercourse, and Access Road. A map of the vegetation communities on the Site is shown in Figure 2 in **Appendix A**. Selected Site photographs of each vegetation community are presented in **Appendix B**.

**Fresh – Moist Hemlock – White Birch Mixed Forest:** This vegetation community comprises the majority of the Site. It is dominated by Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*) and White Birch (*Betula papyrifera*) with lesser amounts of Mountain Maple (*Acer spicatum*), White Spruce (*Picea glauca*), American Beech (*Fagus grandifolia*) and Stripped Maple (*Acer pensylvanicum*). The ground layer within this community was composed of Sensitive Fern (*Onoclea sensibilis*), Starflower (*Lysimachia borealis*), Bunchberry (*Cornus canadensis*), Goldthread (*Coptis trifolia*) and mosses. The forest community on the Site also has a number of fallen logs and snags within which can provide good habitat for general wildlife.

**Fresh – Moist Forb Meadow:** This vegetation community is found in patches within the Fresh – Moist Hemlock – White Birch Mixed Forest on the Site. This community is dominated by Sensitive Fern, Common Bracken (*Pteridium aquilinum*), and Marginal Wood Fern (*Dryopteris marginalis*) with some young Yellow Birch (*Betula alleghaniensis*) and White Spruce regenerating at the edges. This early successional community appears to be an old access and/or laydown areas for the previous mining operations.

**Intermittent Watercourse:** This community is comprised of two intermittent watercourses located within the Fresh – Moist Hemlock – White Birch Mixed Forest on the Site. The northern watercourse observed to be 1 – 2 m wide and 0.5 m deep with a rocky substrate. The southern watercourse was observed to be 0.5 – 1 m wide and 0.2 m deep with a rocky substrate. Both watercourses were actively flowing at the time of site reconnaissance due to recent rain events.

**Access Road:** This community is composed of West Side Road and an access road that pass through the Fresh – Moist Hemlock – White Birch Forest on the Site. The roads are gravel with some early successional vegetation regenerating along the edges. The access road was used during the previous mining operations.

### 3.2 Incidental Wildlife

The following incidental wildlife were observed based on their sound, sight and/or scat during the subsequent surveys for vegetation:

- Black-capped Chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*)
- Common Loon (*Gavia immer*)
- Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*)
- Wood Frog (*Lithobates sylvaticus*)

All of these species are common to the area and no SAR or their signs were observed on the Site.

### 3.3 Species at Risk Screening

Upon a comprehensive SAR screening, a total of 20 SAR was identified as having potential occurrence in the Study Area, resulting from the background review of records and other available data sources for the Study Area surrounding the Site. The details on these 20 species screened, including the listing status, and sources used to identify their presence in the Study Area, and their habitat requirements are all summarized in the Species at Risk Screening Table in **Appendix 3**. Based on the background review and field assessment, 5 SAR were determined to have suitable habitat within the Study Area, with none of these species having confirmed observations in the Study Area. The Study Area consisted mostly of mixed forest with some naturalized meadows.

The forests on the Site provide potential suitable habitat for one SAR plant species, Blue Felt Lichen (*Pectenium plumbeum*). Blue Felt Lichen is found on the trunks of old broad-leaved trees growing in moist mixed or deciduous forests or close to streams and lake margins. Potential suitable habitat is found in the mixed forests on the Site; however, no Blue Felt Lichen was observed on the Site.

The forests on the Site also provide potential suitable habitat for four avian SAR species, these include Canada Warbler (*Cardellina canadensis*), Eastern Wood-pewee (*Contopus virens*), Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*), and Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*). Canada Warbler is an interior forest species found in large dense mixed and deciduous forest greater than 30 ha in size. Eastern Wood-pewee and Evening Grosbeak are found in open and semi-open mixed and coniferous forests. Rusty Blackbird inhabits openings of coniferous woodlands bordering bodies of water and streams. Suitable habitat for all of these species is found in the mixed forests on the Site; however, no individuals or their nests were observed during Site reconnaissance. In order to protect any avian SAR that may be inhabiting the forest communities on the Site, it is recommended that any vegetation and tree removal, if required for the remediation, is conducted outside of the breeding bird season.

#### 4.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Based on the results of the desktop review and Site reconnaissance, there are potentially suitable habitats present on the Site for Blue Felt Lichen, Canada Warbler, Eastern Wood-pewee, Evening Grosbeak, and Rusty Blackbird. However, there was no evidence of any of these species being present on the Site or within the Study Area. Although none of the discussed SAR were observed, some of them do have potential to occur on the Site and in the adjacent lands. In order to ensure that any potential impacts are mitigated to possible SAR within the Study Area, the following avoidance and mitigation measures are recommended for proposed remediation work.

##### ***Timing Window Constraints:***

- The extent of potential tree and vegetation removal within the Site is restricted to the construction footprint as necessary.
- To minimize or avoid impacts to breeding and nesting birds on the Site, the removal of vegetation should be outside of the core breeding period between April 8 and August 28.
- If vegetation removal needs to occur within these timing constraint windows, a qualified Biologist should be deployed to conduct wildlife surveys and ongoing monitoring prior to vegetation removal.

##### ***Wildlife and Species at Risk Encounters:***

For all incidental encounters with SAR that occur within the development area during construction activities, the proponent shall:

- Cease all activities within 30 metres of the species that may result in adverse impacts to the individual;
- Contact the qualified Biologist immediately to report the observation and ensure the qualified Biologist confirms the species has left the development area of its own accord before authorizing work to resume within 30 metres of the location of the incidental encounter; and
- Notify Nova Scotia's Department of Natural Resources and Renewables of the SAR encounter.

With the above recommendations taken into account and diligently implemented on the Site, it is anticipated that there will be no adverse negative impacts to any potential SAR within the surrounding area as a result of the proposed remediation. With the recommendations implemented on the Site prior to and during the potential construction, Build Nova Scotia is in compliance with relevant federal and provincial legislation and policies.



## 5.0 TERMS AND LIMITATIONS

The enclosed Species at Risk Screening letter has been prepared to assess the potential SAR and habitat in the vicinity on the Study Area. The information contained herein as a result of the SAR regarding the application for a LOA is solely provided to the Client as a reference only.

Conclusions derived are specific to the immediate area of study and cannot be extrapolated extensively away from the study location. Field surveys have been analyzed for the specific features within a limited time frame that are expected to be present at the Site, and the absence of information relating to a specific feature does not indicate that it is not present.

No environmental assessment can wholly eliminate uncertainty regarding the potential for recognized environmental conditions on a property. Performance of this Species at Risk Screening to the standards established by Pinchin is intended to reduce, but not eliminate, uncertainty regarding the potential for recognized environmental conditions on the Site and recognizes reasonable limits on time and cost.

This work was performed subject to the Terms and Limitations presented or referenced within the duly authorized proposal for this project. Information provided by Pinchin is intended for Client use only. Pinchin will not provide results or information to any party unless disclosure by Pinchin is required by law.

Any use by a third party of reports or documents authored by Pinchin or any reliance by a third party on or decisions made by a third party based on the findings described in said documents, is the sole responsibility of such third parties. Pinchin accepts no responsibility for damages suffered by any third party as a result of decisions made or actions conducted. No other warranties are implied or expressed.

## 6.0 REFERENCES

1. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre. 2023. Maritime Butterfly Atlas. Accessed Aug 2023 from <http://accdc.com/mba/en/result-tables.html>
2. Birds Canada. 2023. Second Atlas of Breeding Birds of the Maritime Provinces. Accessed Aug 2023 <https://www.mba-aom.ca/>
3. Environment and Climate Change Canada. 2023. General Nesting Periods of Migratory Birds. Accessed Sept 2023 from [https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/avoiding-harm-migratory-birds/general-nesting-periods/nesting-periods.html#\\_zoneC\\_calendar](https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/avoiding-harm-migratory-birds/general-nesting-periods/nesting-periods.html#_zoneC_calendar)
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5. Government of Canada. 2023. Species at Risk Act: COSEWIC Assessments and Status Reports. Accessed August 2023. <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry/cosewic-assessments-status-reports.html>.

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7. Government of Canada, 2023. Fisheries and Oceans Canada: Aquatic Species at Risk Mapping tool. Ottawa: Government of Canada Accessed in August 2023.  
<https://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/species-especies/sara-lep/map-carte/index-eng.html>
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9. NatureServe. 2023. NatureServe Explorer Pro Biodiveristy Report. Accessed August 2023 from <https://explorer.natureserve.org/pro/Map/>
10. Robicheau C. 2023. Data Report: Guysborough NS. Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre, 2023. Prepared Aug 21, 2023.
11. Statistics Canada, 2017. Ecological Land Classification, 2017. Accessed August 2023 from <https://www.statcan.gc.ca/en/subjects/standard/environment/elc/2017-1>
12. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. 2012. Regional Supplement to the Corps of Engineers Wetland Delineation Manual: Northcentral and Northeast Region (Version 2.0) Retrieved in August 2023 from  
<https://www.mvp.usace.army.mil/Portals/57/docs/regulatory/Website%20Organization/Northcentral%20and%20Northeast%20Regional%20Supplement.pdf>



## 7.0 CLOSURE

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the contents of this technical letter, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

**Pinchin Ltd.**

Prepared by:

Reviewed by:

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Encl.: Appendix A – Site Figures  
Appendix B – Selected Site Photographs  
Appendix C – Species at Risk Screening Table

327768.001 Species at Risk Screening Widow Point Mine Oct 2 2023.docx

Template: Master Environmental Impact Statement Proposal, ENS, October 29, 2018

**APPENDIX A**  
**Site Figures**



Service Layer Credits: MNR, NHIC, 2021. World Imagery: Maxar

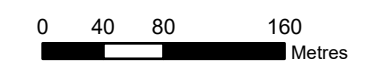


**PROJECT NAME:** Species at Risk Survey  
**CLIENT NAME:** Build Nova Scotia  
**PROJECT LOCATION:** Widow Point Mine Site, Guysborough County, Nova Scotia  
**FIGURE NAME:** Study Area

**PROJECT NO.** 327768.001  
**DATE:** Sept. 2023  
**SCALE:** 1:5,000  
**FIGURE NO.** 1

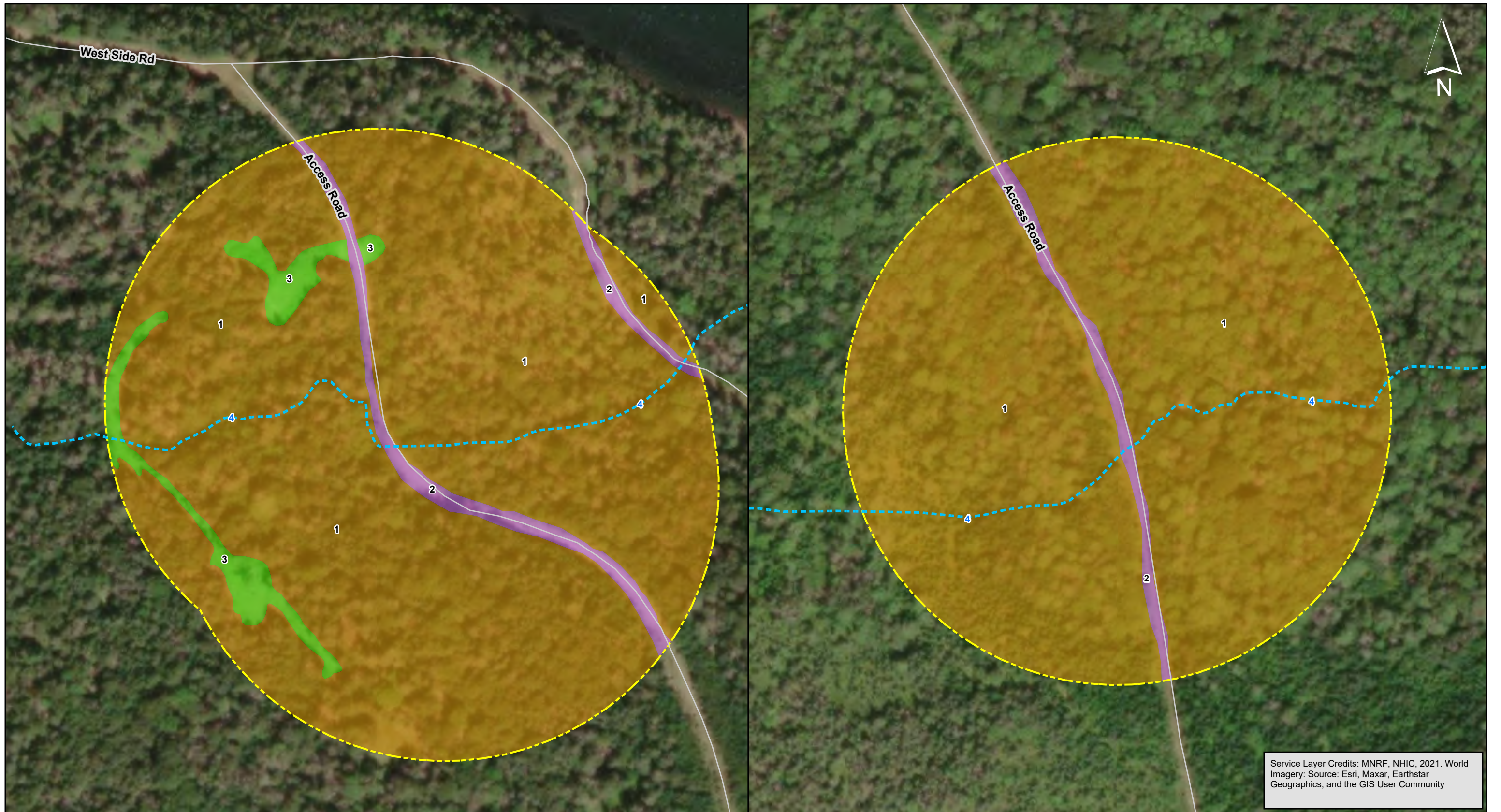
**LEGEND**  
 ● EDR Drillholes  
 ○ 120 m Radius  
 — Roadway  
 — Watercourse  
 ■ Waterbody

**NOTES**  
 1. All features and measurements are approximate and subject to field verification. This map is for planning purposes only  
 2. Use dimensions as shown, do not scale drawing  
 3. This map is not to be used for legal purposes



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 CSRS UTM Zone 20N  
 Projection: Transverse Mercator  
 Datum: North American 1983 CSRS

DRAWN BY: MH    REVIEWED BY: RY    REVISION: 1



Service Layer Credits: MNRF, NHIC, 2021. World Imagery: Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community



**PROJECT NAME:** Species at Risk Survey  
**CLIENT NAME:** Build Nova Scotia  
**PROJECT LOCATION:** Widow Point Mine Site, Guysborough County, Nova Scotia  
**FIGURE NAME:** Ecological Land Classification

**PROJECT NO.** 327768.001  
**DATE:** Sept. 2023  
**SCALE:** 1:1,600  
**FIGURE NO.** 2

**LEGEND**  
 Study Area (120 m)  
 Roadway  
**Ecological Land Classification**  
 1. Fresh – Moist Hemlock – White Birch Mixed Forest  
 2. Access Road  
 3. Fresh – Moist Forb Meadow  
 4. Intermittent Watercourse

**NOTES**  
 1. All features and measurements are approximate and subject to field verification. This map is for planning purposes only  
 2. Use dimensions as shown, do not scale drawing  
 3. This map is not to be used for legal purposes

0 15 30 60 Metres  
 Coordinate System: NAD 1983 CSRS UTM Zone 20N  
 Projection: Transverse Mercator  
 Datum: North American 1983 CSRS  
 DRAWN BY: MH REVIEWED BY: RY REVISION: 1

**APPENDIX B**  
**Selected Site Photographs**

**Selected Site Photographs**  
(All photographs captured on August 29, 2023)



Photo 1 – View of the Fresh - Moist Hemlock – White Birch Mixed Forest on the Site.



Photo 2 – View of the Fresh – Moist Forb Meadow on the Site.



Photo 3 – View of the Fresh - Moist Hemlock – White Birch Mixed Forest and Access Road on the Site.



Photo 4 – View of the intermittent watercourse in the northern portion of the Site.

**APPENDIX C**  
**Species at Risk Screening Table**

Table 1. Species at Risk Screening for the Study Area

Type	Common Name	Scientific Name	Provincial ESA Status	COSEWIC Status	Last Obs Date	Background Information Source					Notes on Preferred Habitat <sup>1-5</sup>	Potential Suitable Habitat on Site	Confirmed observation on Site
						Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre (ACCDC, 2023)	Nature Serve Explorer Pro (Nature Serve, 2023)	Second Atlas of Breeding Birds of Maritime Provinces (2015)	Maritime Butterfly Atlas (2015)	Aquatic Species at Risk Map (DFO, 2022)			
PLANTS	Blue Felt Lichen	<i>Pectenia plumbea</i>	VUL	SC		X					The Blue Felt Lichen is usually found on the trunks of old broad-leaved trees growing in moist habitats or close to stream and lake margins. It prefers cool, humid woodlands that may be mixed coniferous/hardwood or dominated by deciduous trees. The Blue Felt Lichen seems to prefer mature deciduous trees, particularly maple, ash and yellow birch.	Yes, suitable habitat is found in the mixed forest on the Site. However, no Blue Felt Lichen was observed.	No
	Frosted Glass-whiskers (Atlantic population)	<i>Sclerophora peronella</i>	--	SC		X					Frosted Glass-whiskers grows on old deciduous trees, usually on the exposed heartwood of living trunks and more rarely on bark, in humid and rather shaded situations. This arboreal lichen is often associated with old-growth forests in coastal regions, but it is also found in open forests, in clearings, and on the margins of old deciduous forests	No, suitable habitat is not found on the Site.	No
BIRDS	Bank Swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	END	THR	2006-2010	X	X	X			sand, clay or gravel river banks or steep riverbank cliffs; lakeshore bluffs of easily crumbled sand or gravel; gravel pits, road-cuts, grassland or cultivated fields that are close to water; nesting sites are limiting factor for species presence	No, suitable habitat is not found on the Site.	No
	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	END	SC	2006-2010		X	X			Nest along human-made structures such as open barns, under bridges and in culverts. Attracted to open structures to build their nests, including ledges. They prefer rough-cut wood structures as the mud nests adheres better.	No, suitable habitat is not found on the Site.	No
	Canada Warbler	<i>Cardellina canadensis</i>	END	SC	2006-2010	X	X	X			an interior forest species; dense, mixed coniferous, deciduous forests with closed canopy, wet bottomlands of cedar or alder; shrubby undergrowth in cool moist mature woodlands; riparian habitat; usually requires at least 30 ha	Yes, suitable habitat is found in the mixed forest on the Site. However, no individuals or nests were observed	No
	Chimney Swift	<i>Chytura pelagica</i>	END	THR	2006-2010			X			commonly found in urban areas near buildings; nests in hollow trees, crevices of rock cliffs, chimneys; highly gregarious; feeds over open water	No, suitable habitat is not found on the Site.	No
	Common Nighthawk	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>	THR	SC	2006-2010		X	X			open ground; clearings in dense forests; ploughed fields; gravel beaches or barren areas with rocky soils; open woodlands; flat gravel roofs	No, suitable habitat is not found on the Site.	No
	Eastern Wood-pewee	<i>Cantopus virens</i>	VUL	SC	2006-2010		X	X			open, deciduous, mixed or coniferous forest; predominated by oak with little understorey; forest clearings, edges; farm woodlots, parks	Yes, suitable habitat is found in the mixed forest on the Site. However, no individuals or nests were observed	No
	Evening Grosbeak	<i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i>	VUL	SC	2006-2010	X		X			coniferous or mixed forests; deciduous tree stands; parks, orchards	Yes, suitable habitat is found in the mixed forest on the Site. However, no individuals or nests were observed	No
	Olive-sided Flycatcher	<i>Cantopus cooperi</i>	THR	SC	2006-2010	X	X	X			semi-open, conifer forest, prefers spruce; near pond, lake or river; treed wetlands for nesting; burns with dead trees for perching	No, suitable habitat is not found on the Site.	No
	Piping Plover	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	END	END	2006-2010			X			dry, sandy outer beaches; upper stretches near dunes, usually large open, grassless areas, but sometimes with sparse scattering of beach grass	No, suitable habitat is not found on the Site.	No
	Rusty Blackbird	<i>Euphagus carolinus</i>	END	SC	2006-2010			X			openings in coniferous woodlands bordering bodies of water; tree-bordered marshes, beaver ponds, muskegs, bogs, fens or wooded swamps; stream borders with alder, willow; wooded islands on lakes	Yes, suitable habitat is found in the mixed forest on the Site. However, no individuals or nests were observed	No
Short-eared Owl*	<i>Asia flammeus</i>	VUL	THR	2006-2010			X			grasslands, open areas or meadows that are grassy or bushy; marshes, bogs or tundra; requires 75-100 ha of contiguous open habitat	No, suitable habitat is not found on the Site.	No	

ESA Endangered Species Act  
 COSEWIC Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada

**Definitions**

Endangered (END) Species facing imminent extirpation or extinction  
 Threatened (THR) Species likely to become endangered if nothing is done to reverse the factors leading to their extirpation or extinction  
 Special Concern (SC) Species that may become threatened or endangered because of a combination of biological characteristics and identified threats  
 Vulnerable (VUL) Species that has characteristics which make it particularly sensitive to human activities or natural events (Equivalent to COSEWIC Special Concern designation)  
 Extirpated (EXR) Species which no longer exist in the wild in Ontario, but exist elsewhere in the world

**References**

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- 4 Government of Canada. 2022. Species at Risk Public Registry: A to Z Species Index. Ottawa: Government of Canada. Accessed Aug 2023. [http://sarregistry.gc.ca/sar/index/default\\_e.cfm](http://sarregistry.gc.ca/sar/index/default_e.cfm).
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