TOWNSHIP OF NORTH DUNDAS NORTH DUNDAS DRINKING WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM CAPACITY EXPANSION MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PHASE 2 REPORT

Appendix B

Study Reports



October 25, 2021 Project No. 19125451

Mr. Mark Buchanan, P.Eng., Associate, Senior Civil Engineer J. L. Richards & Associates Limited 864 Lady Ellen Place, Ottawa, ON K1Z 5M2

DESKTOP SPECIES AT RISK SCREENING IN SUPPORT OF THE MUNICIPAL CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE NORTH DUNDAS DRINKING WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM EXPANSION TOWNSHIP OF NORTH DUNDAS, ONTARIO

Mr. Buchanan,

Golder Associates Ltd. (Golder) was retained by J.L. Richards & Associates Limited (JLR) to complete a desktop Species at Risk (SAR) screening in support of the municipal environmental assessment (EA) being completed for the proposed Township of North Dundas drinking water supply system expansion project. As part of the EA, a watermain has been proposed between the towns of Morrisburg and Winchester. The proposed watermain extends approximately 24 km, generally following the right-of-way of County Road 31, Ontario (the Site; Figures 1A – 1I).

The purpose of this SAR screening is to describe the existing plant communities on the Site and in the Study Area (area within 120 m of the Site) and outline the SAR with moderate or high potential to be present based on those habitats, outline potential negative effects on SAR or their suitable habitat from the proposed project, discuss any related regulatory implications under applicable legislation, recommend high-level mitigation measures, and identify the need for further study or agency consultation, if necessary.

1.0 LEGISLATIVE CONTEXT

1.1 Species at Risk Act (SARA)

At a federal level, species at risk (SAR) designations for species occurring in Canada are initially determined by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). If approved by the federal Minister of the Environment and Climate Change, species are added to the federal List of Wildlife Species at Risk (Canada 2002). Species that are included on Schedule 1 as endangered or threatened are afforded protection of critical habitat on federal lands under the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA) (Canada 2002). On private or provincially-owned lands, only aquatic species listed as endangered, threatened or extirpated and migratory birds are protected under the SARA, unless ordered by the Governor in Council.

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1.2 Endangered Species Act (ESA)

SAR designations for species in Ontario are initially determined by the Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario (COSSARO), and if approved by the provincial Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, species are added to the provincial *Endangered Species Act* (ESA) which came into effect June 30, 2008 (Ontario 2007). The legislation prohibits the killing or harming of species identified as endangered or threatened in the various schedules to the Act. The ESA also provides habitat protection to all species listed as threatened or endangered. As of June 30, 2008, the Species at Risk Ontario (SARO) list is contained in O. Reg. 230/08.

Subsection 9(1) of the ESA prohibits the killing, harming or harassing of species identified as 'endangered' or 'threatened' in the various schedules to the Act. Subsection 10(1)(a) of the ESA states that "No person shall damage or destroy the habitat of a species that is listed on the Species at Risk in Ontario (SARO) list as an endangered or threatened species".

General habitat protection is provided, by the ESA, to all threatened and endangered species. Species-specific habitat protection is only afforded to those species for which a habitat regulation has been prepared and passed into law as a regulation of the ESA. The ESA has a permitting process to allow alterations to protected species or their habitats as well as a registration process for certain activities and species.

2.0 METHODS

Golder conducted a desktop review of published natural heritage data and information available for the Site and the Study Area. This information served to identify SAR known to be present or having the potential to be present. Information sources consulted included:

- Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (MNDMNRF) Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC) Make-a-Map geographic explorer for SAR and rare (S1-S3) species reported as occurring in the vicinity of the Site (MNDMNRF 2021a)
- Land Information Ontario (LIO) geospatial data (MNDMNRF 2021b)
- Species at Risk Public Registry (ECCC 2021)
- Species at Risk in Ontario (SARO) List O. Reg. 230/08 (MNDMNRF 2021c)
- DFO Aquatic Species at Risk Maps (DFO 2021)
- Breeding Bird Atlas of Ontario (OBBA) (Cadman et al. 2007)
- Atlas of the Mammals of Ontario (Dobbyn 1994)
- Vascular Plants at Risk in Ontario (Leslie 2018)
- Ontario Reptile and Amphibian Atlas (Ontario Nature 2021)
- Bat Conservation International (BCI) range maps (BCI 2021)
- Ontario Butterfly Atlas (Jones et al. 2021)
- eBird species maps (eBird 2021)
- Aerial imagery



J. L. Richards & Associates Limited

A SAR screening was completed for the Site and Study Area and focused on the review of records and range maps pertaining to species that are designated as threatened, endangered or special concern under the ESA, and species that are protected under Schedule 1 of the SARA. Provincially rare species (provincial ranking of S1-S3) with known records on the Site or in the Study Area were also considered.

The published SAR data assisted in determining the potential for habitats of SAR to be present. Data from the desktop habitat mapping exercise described below was used in combination with the background data to determine a revised probability of SAR and/or SAR habitats on the Site and in the Study Area. The probability rankings presented in this technical memorandum are conservative, as no in-field verification has been undertaken.

To assess the potential SAR habitats on the Site or in the Study Area, a desktop habitat mapping exercise was completed. A biologist trained in Ecological Land Classification (ELC) (Lee et al. 1998) reviewed publicly available aerial imagery of the Site and Study Area, and mapped plant communities to the Community Series level. Boundaries of wetlands were determined based on MNDMNRF mapping (MNDMNRF 2021b).

3.0 RESULTS

Existing Conditions 3.1

The Site consists of Highway 31 and the gravel shoulder, with no natural habitats present. The Study Area consists mainly of agricultural lands (row crops, hayfields, pastures, hedgerows), rural residences, small businesses and farms, road intersections, and localized areas of natural habitat (Figures 1A - 1I). Based on the desktop assessment, natural habitats in the Study Area appear to consist mainly of small woodlots of deciduous and mixed forests and swamps, thickets and thicket swamps, and limited areas of marsh. A few small ponds were also evident on aerial imagery. The largest blocks of habitat are primarily located in the southern third of the Study Area between the towns of Williamsburg and Morrisburg. In addition, there are numerous watercourse crossings including municipal drains and natural watercourses (e.g., South Nation River).

Species at Risk Screening 3.2

Based on the SAR screening (Attachment A), a number of SAR were identified as having potential to be present in the Study Area as discussed below.

3.2.1 **Endangered and Threatened Species**

There are seventeen endangered and threatened species that have moderate or high potential to be present in the Study Area. The habitat requirements of each of these species is presented in Attachment A, but have been generalized below:

- Rusty-patched bumble bee (Bombus affinis) open and semi-open habitats
- Bank swallow (Riparia riparia) banks and road cuts
- Barn swallow (Hirundo rustica) accessible buildings, bridges
- Bobolink (Dolichonyx oryzivorus) hayfields, pastures and meadows
- Chimney swift (Chaetura pelagica) accessible chimneys and stacks
- Eastern meadowlark (Stumella magna) open areas



- Eastern whip-poor-will (Caprimulgus vociferus) forested areas and clearings
- Least bittern (Ixobrychus exilis) large marshes
- Cutlip minnow (Exoglossum maxillingua) small and medium watercourses
- Eastern small-footed myotis (Myotis leibii) rock piles, talus
- Little brown myotis (Myotis lucifugus) treed areas and buildings
- Northern myotis (Myotis septentrionalis) treed areas
- Tri-coloured bat (Perimyotis subflavus) treed areas
- American ginseng (Panax quinquefolia) forested areas
- Butternut (Juglans cinerea) open and forested upland areas
- Eastern prairie fringed-orchid (Platanthera leucophaea) fens, bogs, wet meadows
- Black ash (Fraxinus nigra) although not currently considered a SAR, this species will be added as an endangered species to O. Reg. 230/08 in January 2022. This species is associated with swamps.

As the Site consists of an active roadway and gravel shoulders, only barn swallows are identified as potentially present on the Site (i.e., potentially nesting on bridges). Aquatic species listed above (e.g., fish and turtle species) may be present where the Site crosses watercourses.

Species identified in Attachment A as having a low probability of occurrence are not discussed further in this technical memorandum. Additional studies are required to determine the presence or absence of the species listed above and, if present, the extent of their habitats at the Site or in the Study Area. Any removal of the habitats of threatened or endangered species must be undertaken in accordance with the ESA and the associated regulations.

3.2.2 Special Concern and Provincially Rare Species

Six species listed as special concern under the ESA have potential to be present in the Study Area, including: monarch (*Danaus plexippus*), Canada warbler (*Cardellina canadensis*), eastern wood-pewee (*Contopus virens*), evening grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*), wood thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*), and snapping turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*). Monarch primarily inhabits open areas and forest edges, while the bird species are forest species. Snapping turtle inhabits a range of waterbodies, including wetlands, streams and rivers. Of these species, only snapping turtle is potentially present on the Site (i.e., potentially nesting in the gravel shoulder).

In addition, five provincially rare species are known to occur in the Study Area, including: western chorus frog (Pseudacris triseriata), lakecress (Rorippa aquatica), lizard's tail (Saururus cemuus), Smith's bulrush (Schoenoplectiella smithii) and greater redhorse (Moxostoma valenciennesi). Each of these species inhabits wetlands and shorelines.

The detailed habitat requirements of each of these species is presented in Attachment A. As no permitting under any SAR legislation is required to disturb habitats of species identified under the ESA as special concern, or for provincially rare species, mitigation should focus on protection of individuals during construction (see Section 4.0).



4.0 MITIGATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Golder understands the majority of the proposed works will occur within the right-of-way of Highway 31, therefore there is limited potential for the project to impact SAR or their associated habitats. Potential impacts will primarily be limited to potential harm to individuals who may enter work areas, and potential harm to individuals or habitats where intrusion into natural areas is required. Based on this, Golder recommends the following:

- The Site and Study Area both contain potential habitat for species listed as endangered and threatened under the ESA. To apply for a permit or register an activity under the ESA, the presence / location of these species would need to be confirmed, and the extent of their habitats to be impacted must be quantified through additional study. This must be undertaken at the detailed design stage once the necessary specifics regarding the project are known (e.g., area of disturbance). Permitting and/or registration needs under the ESA, along with mitigation and compensation requirements, would be determined at that time.
- Complete daily inspections of work areas for evidence of wildlife, particularly SAR, and develop a Wildlife Encounter Protocol to be implemented in the event that wildlife enter the work area.
- A Worker Awareness Package should be prepared at the time of construction and be circulated to all site staff to ensure they are aware of the SAR potentially present in the Study Area, and appropriate steps to take in the event that one is encountered.
- If working adjacent to wetlands during the active season for turtles (May October), install turtle exclusion fencing around work areas to prevent turtles from entering the work areas and/or attempting to nest in the right of way where work will occur. Fencing should occur prior to May 1, and in accordance with the "Species at Risk Branch Best Practices Technical Note Reptile and Amphibian Exclusion Fencing" (MNDMNRF 2013; Attachment B).
- Avoid clearing vegetation during the breeding bird window (April 1 August 15) to avoid contravention of the Migratory Birds Convention Act (Canada 1994). If clearing must take place during this time, have a qualified biologist perform a nesting survey at least 48 hours prior to clearing.
- Work in and near water must comply with the fish and fish habitat protection provisions of the Fisheries Act (Canada 1985) by incorporating measures to avoid causing death of fish or harmful alteration, disruption, or destruction (HADD) of fish habitat (DFO 2019). These mitigation measures would also assist in protecting other wildlife and plant species discussed in this memorandum as being wetland and shoreline affiliates.
- Where work is proposed below the high-water line of watercourses, or where the proposed work has potential to impact a watercourse, a project review by Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) will be required to determine appropriate timing windows, mitigations, and permitting needs, if any.
- If aquatic SAR protected under the SARA are determined to be present or likely present in watercourses that may be affected by the proposed project, consultation with DFO and/or Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) will be required to determine appropriate timing windows, mitigations, and permitting needs, if any. This consultation can take place as part of the project review described above.
- Implement construction best management practices, such as spill prevention, dust and noise reduction, and sediment and erosion control, to reduce impacts to wildlife and their habitats.



October 25, 2021

5.0 LIMITATIONS

This report was prepared for J.L. Richards & Associates Limited. The report, which specifically includes all tables, figures and appendices, is based on data and information collected by Golder, and reflects the conditions within the Study Area at the time of this assessment, and is based solely on data obtained by Golder from external sources as described in this report. Golder has exercised reasonable skill, care and diligence to assess the external data acquired during the preparation of this assessment, but makes no guarantees or warranties as to the accuracy, currency or completeness of this information. This report is based upon and limited by circumstances and conditions acknowledged herein, and upon information available at the time of authoring.

Any use which a third party makes of this report, or any reliance on, or decisions to be made based on it, are the responsibilities of such third parties. Golder accepts no responsibility for damages, if any, suffered by any third party as a result of decisions made or actions taken based on this report.

6.0 CLOSURE

We trust this report meets your current requirements. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Golder Associates Ltd.

Gwendolyn Weeks, H.B.Sc.Env.

Senior Ecologist

Heather Melcher, M.Sc.

Heather of Melcher

Senior Ecologist, Principal

GAW/HM/sg

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CC: Brian Henderson, Golder

Paul Smolkin, Golder

Attachments: Figures 1A - 1I - Species at Risk Assessment

Attachment A - Species at Risk Screening

Attachment B - Reptile and Amphibian Exclusion Fencing



7.0 REFERENCES

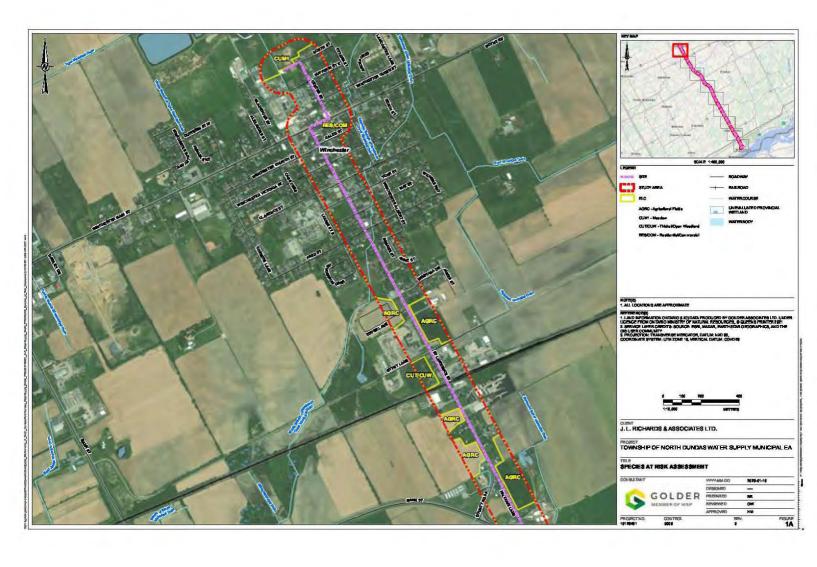
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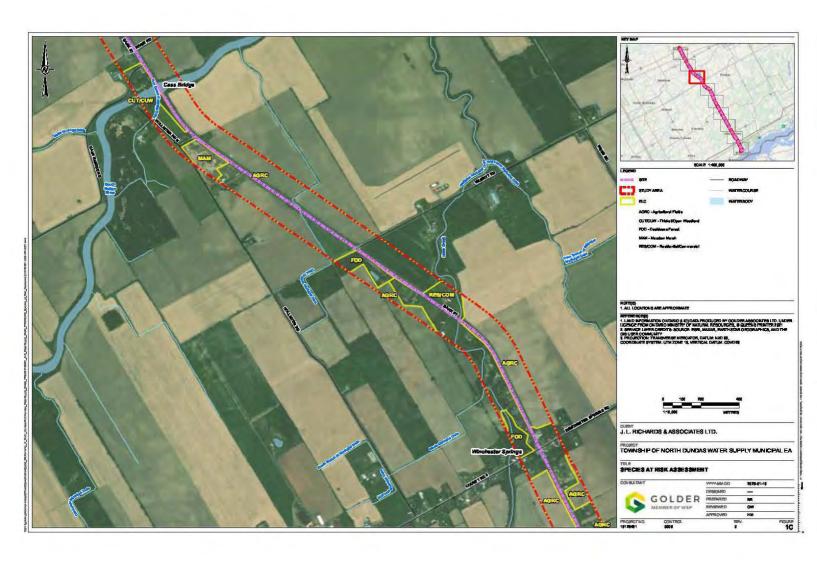


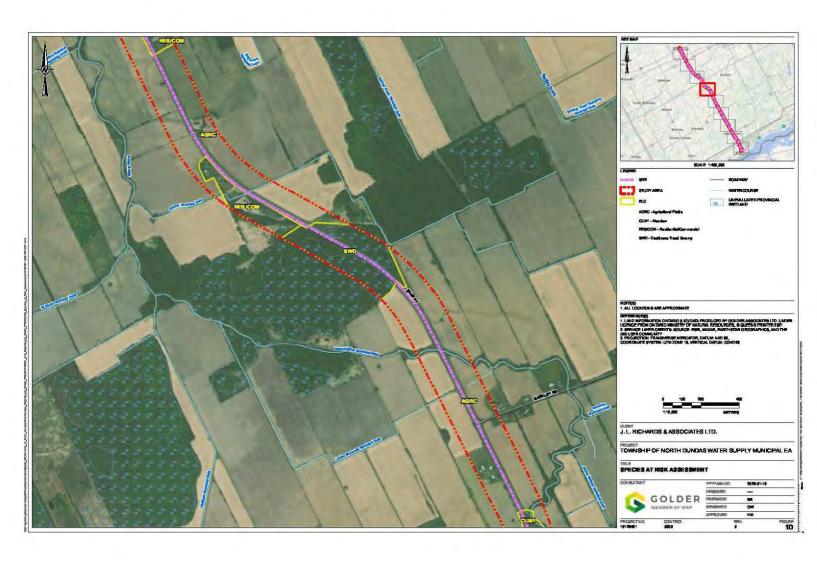
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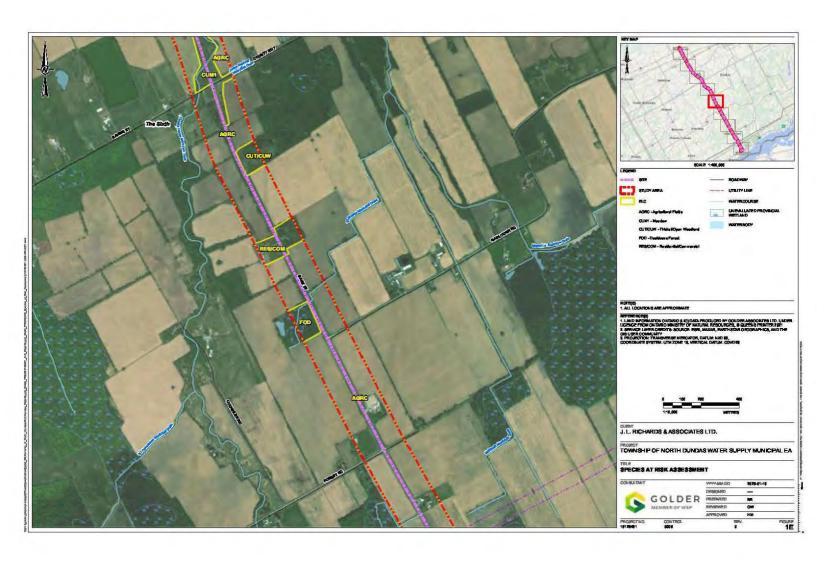


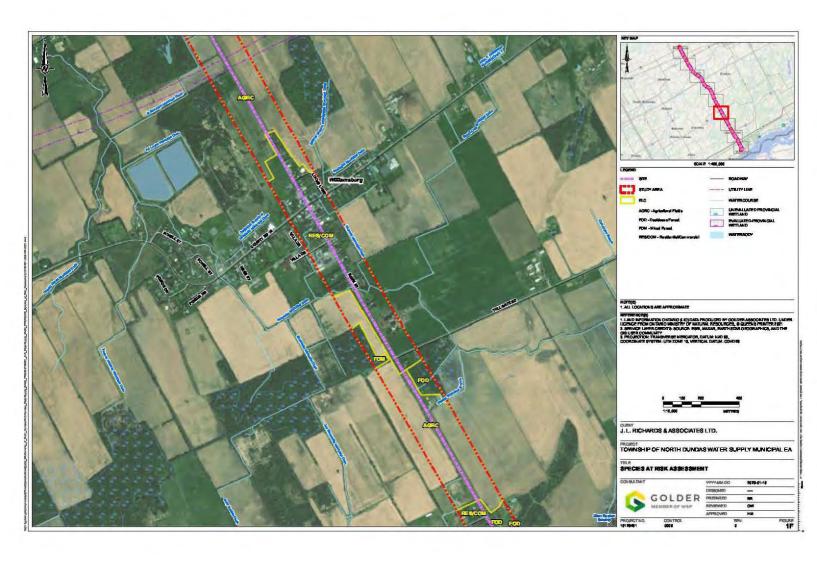


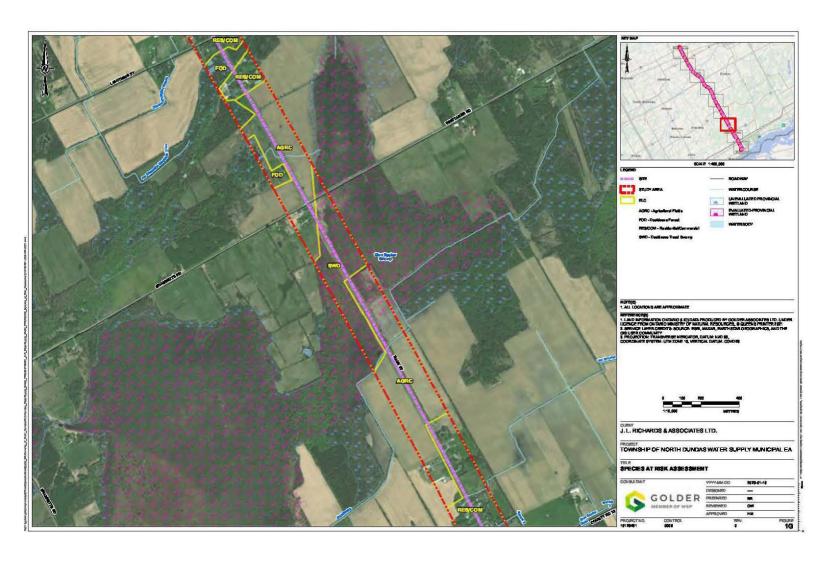


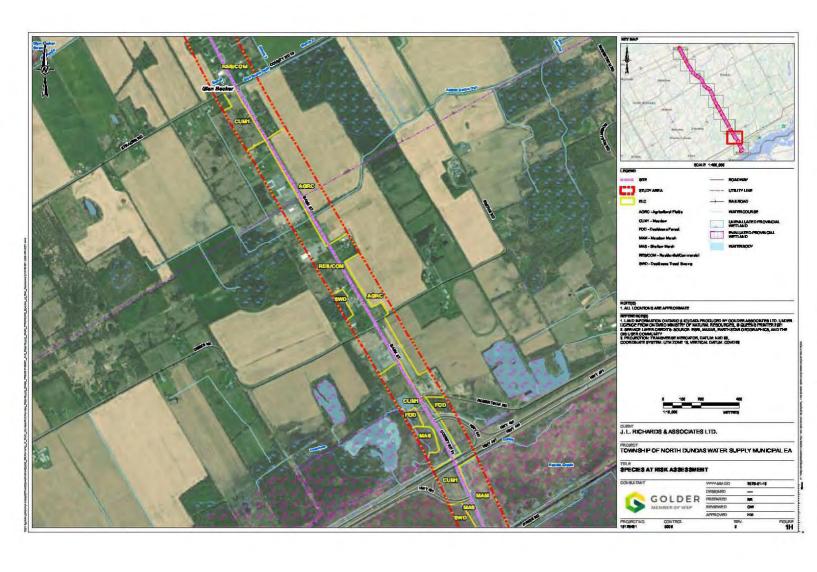


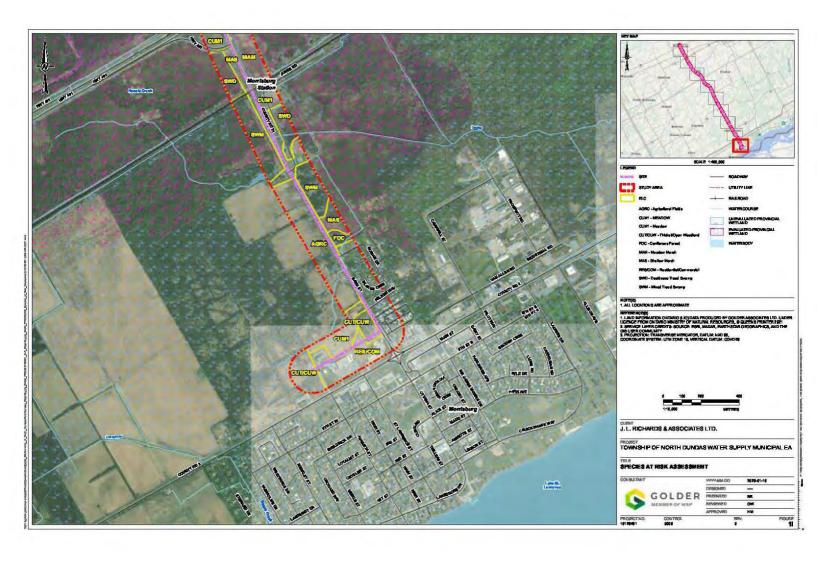












October 25, 2021

ATTACHMENT A

Species at Risk Screening



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Mirci	Essipsim secondow/self-	Stumelle megne	06	945	NHC; OBBA	gresslands with abundant litter cover, high gress proportion, and a forb component (HJI 2019). They prefer well distinced sites at slopes, and	hebitet may exist where meture	Gonard Cologory 1 — Neet and even within 10 as of the neet. Cologory 2 — Asso believes 10 — 100 m of the neet or contract of approximate delanded barritary Cologory 3 — Asso of communes their hebitat Indivens 100 — 500 m of the rest or couldes hebitat Indivens 100 — 500 m of the rest or couldes of approximate and defended contracts.	Hull SD, Sheller JA, Linamoro DI. 2019. The effects of management practices or greenland birds: Early in Mendominal (Structed margin). Jenescleon NIV. 10 Geological Strucy (Societies Of Structure). The Structure of Strucy (Societies Of Structure) (Societies Of Structure) (Societies Of Stru
Birgi	Eastern while-poor will	Androstomus vocifierus	GB	84B	ÇBBA	epiecies composition, and is found on rock and sand barrens, open	in the Study Area and outlable helphat may area where forests with appropriate staucture are	Greenory 1 — Meyst end green wild in 20 as of meyst Collegary 2 — Area between 20 472 m from med or control Collegary 3 — Area between 20 472 m from med or control Collegary 3 — Area of a Jacks Indials within 170,500 m or the mest, or centre of approximated delanded territory	COSEMIC (Committee on the Sinbur of Endergowed Wildfile in Care del; 2009 COSEMIC preparement and sinbur report on the Wiley pour-will cognitive government and sinbur report on the Wiley pour-will cognitive government and control (Some Other Committee of the Committee of 16). His pour will delige protein comment of Department 2018; His pour will delige protein comment on proposition-sinbur protein comment on proposition-sinbur protein protein committee of the committee of the registry what are marked and protein and submittee of the Some On Livery on Committee August Southering of the Social Committee of Committee of the Beneding Britis of Charles (2011-2005). Tour his ON Budden Comment, Embricament Common, Christian Selection Studies Comment, Embricament Common, Common Selection Studies Comment, Embricament Common, Christian Selection Studies Comment, Embricament Common, Common Selection Studies Comment, Selection Studies Studies Comment, Selection Studies Studies Comment, Selection Studies Studies Studies



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Bird	Epolari wazd-parray	Contopus sivens	Ç5	\$48	CERA	In thereto, session wood-grows inhelite in wide versity of excited spiral and reliable has been been proposed to contract, or inhead spiral and reliable has been been proposed to consider a con- pression. If a course most fire early is in the well-will it considerable of the course of the cour	Figh - Records of this species, in the Study Area and suffeting the position for developing and suffering the special suffering the suffering suffering the structure area present.		DOSCIARO (Committee on the Dinter of Endroground Visition on Committee) (22 COSENVO committee) (22 COSENVO committee) (23 COSENVO committee) (24 COSENVO committee) (24 COSENVO committee) (25 COSENVO committ
Bird	Evening greatests	Coccothroustos vesperánce	G&	\$4B	CBBA	In Ordanio, wearing groaticals baseds across northern Ordania, as for exual the southern Georgies Bay, in open markets confineduc or mixed foreign documented by in specifies, while aprove end/or transfilling supern (MECP 2016).	High - Records of this species in the Study Anne and suitable hebited may exist where conference or mixed breaks with appropriate agreement.		MECP (Ministry of Environment, Concernition and Parts), 2019 Evening Graphest, Lopsing CH November 2019; economic CC December 2019]. https://www.cntesic.on/pageleroring-graphest
Bird	Lease bibern	brollingsstate avoids	G\$	346	elSird	In Chronic, Least Sittern Results in mentalse, susually genoter than 5 hz, will managed reception, residently adde investe entitles and around the second second and around the second s	Fight - 2015 record of this graculture is appropriate to addition to addition the control of the	General (ea of June 30, 2013)	COSENIC (Committee on the State or Ecological Middle) in Cosmolo, 2000 COSENIC (Secondary and Middle) in Cosmolo, 2000 COSENIC Or Secondary of the Langt Réligion (Indirection smillis in Carrollo Citarro O. Cosmolo no the State of Cosmolo Citarro Co. Cosmolo no the State of Cosmolo Citarro Co. Cosmolo no the State of Cosmolo Citarro Co. Cosmolo Citarro Co. Cosmolo no the State of Cosmolo Citarro Co. Cosmolo Citarro Citarro Citarro Citarro Cosmolo Citarro Cita
time	Wood Proch	Hytroichte mustekin	ÇA	BAG	NHIC! ORBIT	In Orderio, wood thush breads in moist, deciduous heatheood or mixed stands that are other previously deliuthed, with a dense deciduous undergrands and with list frees for pinging parches. This species, which will free the pinging parches. This species, which was the previous of the previous delium with the previous parches, the species with the previous parches, the previous parches and previous parches are provided to the previous parches and previous parches are provided to the previous parches and previous parches parches are provided to the previous parches and previous parches are provided to the previous parches and previous parches are provided to the previous parches are provided to the previous parches are provided to the previous parches are previously and previous parches are provided to the previous parches are provided to the previous parches are provided to the previous parches are previously and previous parches are provided to the previous parches are previous par	in the Study Area and suiteble hebitet may exist where deciduous or mixed forcets with experiments shuckure are		COSEMIC (Committee on the Status of Enginegowsh Mildrife in Liberada). 2012. COSEMIC encomment and status report on the Whood Theath Hylocidi is mutation in Commiss. Or travel Oil. (Proceeded Oil December 2018). Byte / Mildrife. (proceeded Oil December 2018). Byte / Mildrife. population on reads, on Specials-risk. may be / Mildrife. Jest of the Mildrife. (Status of the Mildrife.) Byte / Mildrife. (Status of
Fish	Guttip minnow	Erogibasum mexillingue	G5	8182	NHG	In Orizado, putigo mismos le found in the St. Leurence River and its that, detect, cut if you aim not le a frequirence for the your in sensit in modernic parties objectes and objectes and interest with abover accepting explor. They protes does were welfor with such acceptance of a countier ton of yoursel, publish and sand over time mode by bottom. The first specioles is believed for found welfer fluid is not to could weeker species pluton/welf in 2019.	High - Records of this species in Surry Area and suffection fastiset may be present in small to smoother weekengures with gravel, cabble or send over rocky bollows.	General (se of June 30, 2018)	Med/dgh G. 2013. Resonary Strategy for the Cutilp Minnaw (Engicesum mezillings) in Criticia. Crisina Resonary Strategy Series. Petrolacus (CRC) Control Mining of Network Resources [occosed 2019]. https://files.orderic.ceferwisemmert-and-analogy/species-ai-hint/serq.ner_n_cdp_series_analogy.an pdf. 31 p.
Flath	Conclus Recharge	Mounteema valantien neet	GI	\$3	NHC	In Ornario, groater redinates are barel in the Upper St. Lawrence River. Others Rive and Tributables, Leite Champain, http://link.com/champain.com/c	Study Area and suitable hebiter may be present in medium to large watercourses with coarse		Burninge ME, Holm E, Nemsterk NE 2010. The ROM Fledd Culet to Presidente Flethes of Circleto. Toronto, ON: Reyed Criterio Museum 484 p. Estima N. 2010, Ontario Freedworter Fishes Life History Delabure. (1993-current acrossed 02 December 2019) http://www.ontarioflethes.co. Societ WG. 1993. Freedworter Fishes of Eastern Cennide. Toronto. ON: University of Toronto Press. 137 p.



-	Compet Rans	Sales plants	Clothed Rantor Flavor	Processolal Family Family	Support of	Contribute Company	Alped Present at Construction	Management and	Total Control
Figh	Lates ekurgean - Cirect Lokus / Upper St.Loverence population	Acijamas kilva acano	GSGATHR	\$2	NHC	In Orthota, lates abuggeon, a large professionis frushwater Sah, in Fouret in All Pe Gamit Lates and it all dishlarages of the Gamit Lates and at All dishlarages of the Gamit Lates and at All dishlarages of the Gamit Lates and at Charles and professional control of the Charles of the Charles of the Charles and price depths between E-10 m and made argained substantiae. Similar desprices are related from the Charles of the C	Low- the records for the species identified during the species identified during the dealthy execution appear to be esociated with Late Onterto, and any weterocustes within the Shuty Area.	George .	Golder (Dicker Associates LT), 2011. Recovery Simbay for List Balagers (Apharon Kinsman). Northwester for this, Const. Lukes (Lyper St. Lawrence Rore and Southern Husbert Bay- James Rey population in Dickers Onteres Recovery Strategy Gartes, Palestanciugh ON Christo Ministry of Herturd Recourses; (Document OD Openative 2019). https://doi.org/10.1007/j.j.com/2012.09.00000000000000000000000000000000
Mesonsi	Spelarn anali-Socied myolia	Adjective feathir	G4	\$250	BCI	In Orthods, contigues seed in Solida myclo his and his house, to more in trees, but free the way fill be brown body. It is modeling heldly. The specialise shows the property of the product of the grant product of the product of contract or described without solidays. Entire conformation or other products assistant where buriedly is low, and temperatures are code and combines solution orthogonal to the product of the produc	Magnetis - No records of this species in the Study Area file however, the Study Area file within the sarge of this species and suitable habital may paiet where rock piles or prospectify buildings are present.	Conserved	Humphiny C. 2017. Recovery Electron for the Section Small holds of Jacoff Whyte Isolat In Ordon. Chimic Recovery Sirving Series Peterborush CM Ordon Maries for the Recovery Sirving (Series Peterborush CM). In this section of the Recovery (Secondary 2015). In the Commission of the Recovery Into Wiles on tests conferring many making intelligence and 78 p.
Managa	Little brown rayulis	Mychie husiliyue	C 0	93	BCI	In Ontado, this species in may be extensive and covers much of the province. If will roose in both return and mannesses abundance flooring contents require an uniform of large dead tree, in specific stages of decay and that project above the compay in relatively open overs. May four increase of decay and that project above the compay in relatively open overs. May four increase open in the latter of the other of the content	Majestle - No records of this species in the Study Area. However, the Study Area See within the range of this species and cultable habitate suite where I wall habitate and economics buildings are present.	General	ECCC (Environment and Climate Change Conede), 2016. Recovery Strelay for the Life Brown Mysile (Mysile Luciligua), the Northen Mysile (Mysile glob) as ejectionatelly, and the Tin-Cooped Bat (Perimyolis subfirma) in Carreats, Speciae at Risk Act Recovery Strelay Series. Other Ook. Environment of and Climate Change Carreats (Eccuseded 22 December 2016), high shreliffer pooles controls on Special-schile Series (Special-Series), and Climate Change Carreats (Eccused 22 December 2016), high shreliffer pooles controls on Special-schile Series (Special-Series) (Special-Series), and Special-Series (Special-Series).
Manna	Monthern myolis	Myche septentionalle	GIG2	83	BCI	In Ontario, this species' targe is autorative and covers such of the province. It will usually roots in hellows, carefuse, and under loose ball. Of marker there. Recognize the substituted in the mark plant is provided to the province of mither hinting or load seen. Cover or referridated mittees may be to seen to see the conditional mittees may be used in shellowed as the hinting or load seen. Cover or referridated mittees may be used in shellowed using the conditional mittees are required (ECCC 2018).	species in the Study Area	Gorard	ECCC (Environment and Dimens Chemps Genedal). 2018. Recovery Strategy for the LIBS Brown Myside (Myside Lodd, e.g., Recovery Strategy for the LIBS Brown Myside (Myside specifications), cettle of thirt-bootened. Bits (Positropiles au Billions) in Claracte. Specide at Risk Act. Recovery Strategy Sealaw, Claracte ON: Endocrament and Climinels Champs Careside (secondary 20 becomiser 2019), https://widels.periode.com/doc/appedice-site-straighty-fivites_learning-files ImaniR- TrostCheuxedSouriesTheseBatts-v01-2018/Nov-Eng.pdf is + 172 p.
Mesunal	Tri-colored bet	Pedmytte sitiliesis	G2G\$	837	BCI	flamping most or equined nests. They are occarionally found in fluidings affrough fines are no records of this in Cereda. They typically feed over equatic cross with an affinity to large-badied water.	Modewale - No records of this species in the Study Area, towards; the Study Area, towards; the Study Area lies within the range of this species and suitable tradition testing where two distribute to the same present.	Gerard	BCCC (Environment and Climate Change Canada). 2018. Recovery Strategy for the Life Brown Myside (Myside Lodingus). Recovery Strategy for the Life Brown Myside (Myside Lodingus). We Northern Myside (Myside spelaterionies), and the "in-to-closed Bat" (Parimydia sp. Affect). In Canada. Speciae at Risk Act. Recovery Strategy Series. Climate ON: Environment and Climate Change Canada. (accessed 42 December 2015). In high "Indifference Speciae. Constant Conjection. Amend English (Michael Land Replicae.) Trials Change Canada. (accessed 42 December 2015). In his Change and its + 172 p. 17th Change Change Canada.
Repüle	Sneppling furth	Cholydra serponina	G5	84	NHIC; ORAA	In Orderio, anapping butto seem a wide range of we tested des, but share prohibing on the area with a hallow, short morting restar and the share prohibing of the share of the share of the share of the order share of the share of the share of the share of the share of the transfer story authorized or reasonable of COSEW/C 2008).	High - Records of this operator in the Study Area and suitable habited coles where wetwocurses and welfands are present.		COSEMIC (Committee on the Status of Endergoed Wildfile in Carrello), 2008. COSEMIC exposition in dische report on the Carrello (2008). COSEMIC exposition in dische report on the Committee in the Carle of Endergoen Wildfile in Corrello (Document OZ Document 2016), https://wildfile. (Document OZ Document OZ
Vascular Plant	American gineeng	Person equinquericlius	G\$G4	\$2	Range	In Ortanio, American girreong is found in excite, underturbed and residency maken decidious woods often desirated by augur septic. It is commently two of methodated south fielding stopes. American growners (two of methodated south fielding stopes. American origin stat have a neutral pH (ECCC 2018).	Medicable - Ne records of this species in the Study Area. Fowever, the Study Area for within the samp or this epocies and suitable hebital may salet where meture decidance. forests are present.	Genand Celegory 1—Asses occupied by American ginseng and time of Genat or tweet aware ELD constructly cleaned within 100 m of coupled one Cetagory 2—Asses of forest or traced evening ELC community despose between 100-100 m of occupied area, and configurate with entragery 1	ECCC (Brokenment and Disselve Change Canada), 2016. Recovery Overlay for the Annadous Change (Brance: Beauty Order) of Sometic Copering of the Act (Copering Other lay) graphy of Disp (Sometic). Copering of the Act (Copering Other lay) (Brockness) of the Act (Copering Other lay) (Brockness) of the Act (Copering Other 2018). (Brockness) of the



-	Comment Record	Simple party	Clinical Ranths Flavol	Freehoold Finding Rands	Tuescia.	Chronial Francisco Conservations	Undifferent of Continuous	SEATIMATE Production Providence	To Systematic Control of the Control
Vascular Plant	Electrosh	Fraziona nigra	GS.	84	Parriga	northern awarecy wood entils (MNRF 2018). This speakes hydrotily gross on modey or peels solle and is considered a forullative well-and episcoles (Reunisch et al. 2011).	Modewale - No records of this epoclies in the Study Area, however, the Study Area line, within the renge of this species and suitable habitat may sale! where decladure or mixed awarings are present.		IJNIAF (Ministry of Richard Resources and Forenty), 2319. Elect Ash. Inscribed 18 Colober 2010; soccosind OH December 2010; https://www.netio.org/up/chlock/ Rezorlook AA, Vises EG, Warlons BS, 2011. Frankrus rigins, Ann- Antona Mi, Liefmenby of Ministry in Jovensor 16 December 2010 https://www.netions.com/opensors.print-1793.
Vescular Picett	Buttemut	Utiglana chevea	GM	827	NHIC; Range	in Ontario, bulgarrus is found oberg streem bents, on scooled velley depas, and in decident and inflated forests. It is commonly associated with theyer, may be considered with theyer, may be considered with the construction of	habitat may exist wherever	General (es of June 30, 2013)	Fermy J., 1985. Traces in Denode. Merithrem, DN: Ficherry J. Whiteletic Limited and O'Bosse, ONE Consolant Forest Service, Nebural Resources Console. 502 p. Vom EG; Recursols AA. 2012. Field Membal of Michigan Rore, Ann Arbours MI: Linhversity of Michigan Press. 000 p.
Vesculer Plent	Eastern práisic fringad- andhial	Platanthern laussychece	G2GS	82	Renge	roadsides or loke margins (Eastern Profile Pringed-orditio Recovery Terms 2010). This species is found only in southern Ortenio, and only	Modewite - No records of this opedies in the Study Area, however; the Study Area Res within the range of this species and suitable habitet may asist whose farm, began or wet mesodowe are present.	Regulated in the gaographic wayes of the City of Different Courfees of Enough, Speec, Clary I, Lambjon Lamerik, Lawrock and Additiops, and Sinces; Markipathy of Chaffees Varying Grown Manufacting of York, and Used Chardes Varying Courfees on Granulae, and United Disorders of Lawrise and Granulae, and United Disorders of Speech Charles and Granulae, and United Disorders of Speech Charles and Granulae, and Intel Disorders of Speech Charles and Granulae, and Intel Disorders of Speech Charles and	Earliern Preisite Friegod-cruthil Recovery Teams. 2010. Recovery criticity in the Lation Preside Friegod-cruthid (Preterritions Lossophera) in Prisite Critique Accounts Sharing Santos. Petatelloracyth Chic Crutinal Mahatiy of Nebural Resources; [accounted 2010]. But Commod 20 December 2010]. https://www.cominist.org/page/cretiber-preside-friegod-cruticions/cominist-prisite-friegod-cruticions/coministe-friegod-crutici
Vesculer Plant	Lokacape	Попура всивітся	G47	437	NHC.	end Britiser 2008).	High - Records of this species in the Study Area and suitefuls helicited may solid in lates and rivers.		Oldhem MJ, Bahrkar S R. 2009. Rore Vescular Plants of Oriento. 4th old Peterborough, Oh: Neturel Heritage Information Centre, Onterio Ministry of Netural Resources. 188 p.
Vesculer Plant	Liberul's tell	Seциалы селица	G 5	93	NHC	zone and shallow waters of streams and rivers (Oldham and Brinter 2009).	High - Records of this species in the Study Area and suited in helitide may exist where low we would not end and adjacent shellow streams or rivers are present.		Clarkem MJ, Birinker SR. 2008. Reno Vesculer Plants of Omesic. 4th ad. Patastarough, Oh; Natural Horitage Information Contre. Onlario Ministry of Natural Resources. 14th p.
Vagoular Plant	Smith's bulevelo	Schoenoplectiella exittii	ÇE7	\$2\$3	NHC		High - Records of this species in the Study Arest and curistia hebited may exist where samply or muddy sharelines with large water fluctuations are present.		FNA (Flore of North America), 2007. Bohoonopischus gmittis. Flore of North America, Vol. 27, Brysphyla: Massas, past 1. Now York NY: Oxford University Press; [accessed 21 December 2016] http://www.etores.org/fore/scort.espc/?long.jd=18@ron_jd=2423 57949.



Finding and Species Air (EBA), 2007. Second (O. Reg. 24209 lest amended 39 June 2021 on O. Reg. 25200), Species at Shak in Ordanio List (O. Reg. 25000) lest amended 4 Aug 2016 as O. Reg. 44416, s. 1.); Scheduld 1 (List period - EXP), Scheduld 2 (Endergesed - END), Scheduld 3 (Endergesed - END), Scheduld 4 (Speciel Concern) - Scheduld 4 (Respected - END), Scheduld 4 (Speciel Concern) - Scheduld 5 (Respected - END), Scheduld

October 25, 2021

ATTACHMENT B

Reptile and Amphibian Exclusion Fencing

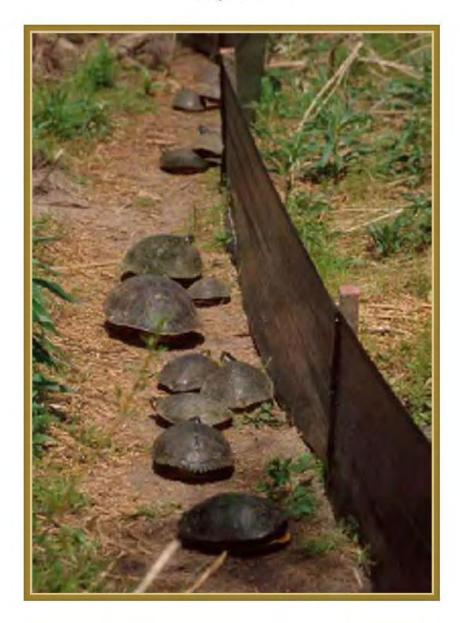


SPECIES AT RISK BRANCH BEST PRACTICES TECHNICAL NOTE

REPTILE AND AMPHIBIAN EXCLUSION FENCING

Version 1.1

July 2013





July 2013

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Species at Risk Branch

Recommended Citation:

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Cover illustration: Photograph by Matthew J. Aresco, Conservation Director, Nokuse Plantation

Before an activity can be initiated, permissions, approvals or authorizations may be required from MNR (e.g. Endangered Species Act authorization, Wildlife Scientific Collector's Authorization) or other agencies, levels of government (e.g. a conservation authority, municipality, federal or provincial government), or landowners. It is your responsibility to ensure that all necessary permissions, approvals and authorizations are acquired prior to proceeding with your activity.

This document presents information as of the point in time of publication and is meant to be updated through time as improved information becomes available.

Cette publication hautement spécialisée, Reptile and Amphibian Exclusion Fencing Best Practices n'est disponible qu'en anglais en vertu du Règlement 671/92 qui en exempte l'application de la Loi sur les services en français. Pour obtenir de l'aide en français, veuillez communiquer avec le ministère des Richesses naturelles au Pamela Wesley,705-755-5217.

Document History

Revision Number	Revision Date	Summary of Changes	Originated	Reviewed	Authorized
1.1	June, 2013	Pre-publishing edits	June, 2013	June, 2013	June, 2013



REPTILE AND AMPHIBIAN EXCLUSION FENCING - BEST PRACTICES -

The purpose of this guidance document is to provide an overview of proven design and installation techniques for reptile and amphibian exclusion fencing. Though this document points to site and species-specific design requirements, it is important to recognize that every situation is different. This guidance is not meant to replace site-specific advice obtained from local MNR staff or experienced exclusion fencing contractors. Moreover, exclusion fences are only effective when well planned, properly constructed, and maintained.

Exclusion fencing seeks to eliminate access to specific areas where activities that could harm animals are occurring (e.g. active aggregate operations, construction sites, and roads). The selection and installation of exclusion fencing can present some challenges, particularly if multiple species are being excluded. For example, some reptiles and amphibians are able to dig under fencing while others can climb over. Some may also take advantage of burrows dug by other animals. To maintain effectiveness, the bottom of the fence should be buried or secured firmly to the minimum ground and height recommendations (Table 1) are considered.

Exclusion fence design should consider the target species as well as those that might be unintentionally impacted. Fencing material should not pose a risk of entanglement or permit individuals to pass underneath or between openings. Landscape features such as topography and substrate need to be considered as they may constrain fencing design.

Including plans for fencing in advance of a project can increase efficiency and fence

effectiveness. For example, long-term road projects that will include a permanent sound barrier could design the sound barrier such that it also meets the specifications of the required exclusion fence.

EFFECTIVE FENCE CHARACTERISTICS

The fence burial and height recommendations listed in Table 1 below compiled from scientific have been established management literature. practices, and practitioner best advice. These are general recommendations and at times other specifications may be more appropriate. For instance, in areas where the substrate does not permit fence burial. weighing down the fence with heavy items (e.g. sand bags) or backfilling may be Where needed, speak with acceptable. your local MNR staff or experienced exclusion fencing contractor to develop sitespecific plans.

If multiple species are being excluded from the same area, and the species-specific fencing specifications differ, the uppermost minimum height and greatest depth recommendation should be used (Table 1). If you are excluding both Blanding's Turtle and Gray Ratsnake, for example, the exclusion fence should be a minimum of 2 m tall (see Gray Ratsnake section below for additional details).

Exclusion fences should be installed prior to emergence from hibernation. A survey of the enclosed/secluded area should be conducted immediately following fence installation to ensure that no individuals have been trapped on the wrong side of the fence.



Table 1. Recommended burial depth and height requirements of exclusion fencing for reptiles and amphibians. Recommended height is the height of the fence after it has been installed including the buried

components and any installed overhangs or extended lips.

SPECIES	RECOMMENDED DEPTH OF FENCE BURIED (cm) *	RECOMMENDED HEIGHT OF FENCE (cm)
Turtles – general	10 – 20	60
Eastern Musk Turtle, Wood Turtle	10 – 20	50
Massasauga, Eastern Hog-nosed Snake, Butler's Gartersnake, Queensnake	10 – 20	60
Gray Ratsnake & Eastern Foxsnake	10 – 20	200
Fowler's Toad	10 – 20	50
Snakes - general	10 – 20	100
Common Five-lined Skink	10 – 20	unknown
Salamanders	10 – 20	30

^{*} does not include the 10 cm horizontal lip that should extend outward an additional 10 – 20 cm (see Figure 2)
** the height of fencing has been provided as an approximate. Fencing materials may in fact not be available
in proportions that would allow for these precise measurements. It is most effective, if the height and burial
depth recommendations are met.

DURATION OF ACTIVITIES & DEGREE OF ANTICIPATED DISTURBANCE

The type of disturbance, the proximity to disturbance, and the planned fence longevity are factors that influence which type of exclusion fence is most effective. For short-term activities (i.e. 1 to 6 months) such as minor road repairs, a light-duty geotextile fence is appropriate. Longer term or permanent fencing projects, however, require more durable materials such as — heavy-duty geotextile, wood, concrete, woven-wire, sheet metal, vinyl panels, or galvanized mesh.

GEOTEXTILE FENCES

Geotextile fences (e.g. silt fences) come in many types and qualities. They can be very effective for the temporary exclusion of reptiles and amphibians. For the purposes of this document, temporary use ranges from a few months up to 2-3 years. Winter

weather is generally damaging to geotextile materials and the cost of maintenance over the long-term should be considered during the planning phase. Depending upon the quality, geotextile can be resistant to UV degradation and the bio-chemical soil environment.

Light-duty Geotextile Fencing:

Light-duty geotextile fencing is made of nylon material and is typically purchased with wooden stakes pre-attached at 2 m to 3 m intervals (Plate 1). It can also come without pre-attached stakes. Light-duty geotextiles are largely intended for projects with shorter durations of only a few months in duration and up to one season.

Geotextile fencing with nylon mesh lining should be avoided due to the risk of entanglement by snakes.



To use light-duty geotextile fencing:

- Fencing fabric is effective if attached to wooden, heavy plastic or metal stakes using heavy-duty wire staples or tie-wire (Figure 2).
- Secure the fence on posts that are placed at 2 m to 3 m apart. If using the greater recommended distance between posts, additional maintenance may be required to maintain effectiveness.
- Securely drive the stakes into the ground to a recommended depth of 30 cm. The fencing fabric should be buried to the recommended specifications in Table 1 and backfilled with soil.
- For snakes, supporting posts should be staked on the activity side (e.g. on the side facing the aggregate stock pile or the road - Figure 2).
- Light-duty geotextile fences are not effective where rocks or other hard surfaces prevent proper anchoring of fence posts and burial of the fence fabric.
- Light-duty geotextile fences are not effective where a large amount of concentrated run-off is likely or to cross streams, ditches or waterways without specific modifications.
- Contact your local MNR staff or experienced exclusion fencing contractor for advice and recommendations.
- See general best practices section below for additional details.

Generally, light-duty geotextile fences are not effective if they exceed 1 metre in height unless purposely manufactured for greater height (e.g. stakes placed at closer intervals or cross braces). If greater height is required consider using heavy duty geotextile, hardware cloth or other fencing materials.



Plate 1. Light-duty geotextile fencing with preattached wooden stakes used to exclude turtles from a road as seen on a regular maintenance check (photo credit: Brad Steinberg).

Heavy-duty Geotextile Fencing:

Heavy-duty geotextile fencing is typically constructed of a thick felt-like fabric. It may also be called 'double row' or 'trenched' fencing. For support, this fencing uses a woven wire fence (e.g. chain link) or some other structure (Plate 2). It is recommended that a minimum density of 270R or equivalent woven geotextile fabric is used.

Heavy-duty geotextile material can be effective for up to 2 or 3 years with proper maintenance. This type of fencing can be damaged by small mammals chewing through or torn by heavy debris (e.g. tree branches). Therefore, it may be best suited to turtles, which are less likely to take advantage of holes or tears in the fabric. If



used to exclude snakes or other animals, more maintenance may be required.

Heavy-duty geotextile fencing:

- The wire fence should be installed on the activity side to prevent animals from leveraging and climbing into the exclusion area while allowing the animal to escape if they find themselves on the wrong side (Figure 2).
- Geotextile fences across streams, ditches or waterways should have case-specific modifications.
- Contact your local MNR staff or experienced exclusion fencing contractor for advice.
- See light-duty geotextile section above and general best practices below for additional details.



Plate 2. Example of a heavy-duty geotextile fencing used to exclude snake species (photo credit: Jeremy Rouse).

HARDWARE CLOTH FENCES

Hardware cloth (also known as galvanized mesh or Birdscreen) is durable, cost effective and useful for excluding reptiles The fence should be and amphibians. made of heavy galvanized hardware cloth with a 1/4 inch mesh. For fences intended to exclude small snakes, a 1/2 inch mesh may be more effective. In contrast, fencing intended to exclude turtle species can have a larger mesh size (e.g. 1/2 inch). Larger mesh may have a longer lifespan as it is constructed from thicker material a compared to smaller mesh sizes.

To use hardware cloth fencing:

- Secure the fence on posts placed a recommended 2.5 m apart with the stakes on the activity side (Figure 2).
- Pull the mesh taught and staple or secure with screws and a metal stripping to prevent the mesh from being ripped when pressure is applied.
- Installing a top rail or folding the mesh over a taut smooth wire reduces tearing (Plates 3 and 4).
- An outward facing lip installed on the species side ensures that snakes and amphibians are unable to climb or jump over the fence (Figure 2; Plate 4)
- Tears can be mended with 18-gauge galvanized wire.
- See general best practices section below for additional details.





Plate 3. Example of a galvanized mesh fencing used for the long-term exclusion of snakes and turtles from the adjacent highway (photo credit:

Megan Bonenfant).



Plate 4. Long-term to permanent exclusion fencing using galvanized mesh with over-hanging lip to prevent animals from climbing or jumping over (photo credit: Megan Bonenfant).

WOOD LATH SNOW FENCING

In certain circumstances, wood lath snow fencing can be effective at excluding turtles. This fencing is typically constructed from soft wood slats that have been woven together with 13-gauge wire and is then attached to steel fence posts which have been driven into the ground.

Wood lath fencing is cost effective and can easily be laid down during the winter to prevent damage. The durability of the material, however, is not meant for very long-term use (e.g. more than 3 years), unless regular maintenance occurs.

To use wood lath snow fencing:

- The fencing should be attached to heavy plastic or metal stakes using heavy-duty wire staples or tie-wire.
- The stakes are recommended to be placed at 2 to 3 m intervals and securely driven into the ground 30 cm or more.
- Wood lath snow fencing across streams, ditches or waterways should have case-specific modifications.
- Wood lath snow fencing lends itself well to being combined with other types of material to ensure complete exclusion.
- See general best practices section below for additional details.



Plate 5. Example of a wood lath snow fencing used to exclude turtles (photo credit: Karine Beriault).

EXCLUSION FENCING FOR GRAY RATSNAKE AND EASTERN FOXSNAKE

Gray Ratsnake and Eastern Foxsnake are the largest snakes in Ontario - reaching nearly 2 m in length. They are also excellent climbers. For this reason, fencing intended to exclude either of these species has additional recommended design specifications.



- The fence should be at least 2 m high.
- The material on the species side (Figure 2) should be smooth to prevent the snakes from climbing into the excluded area.
- Stakes should be on the activity side of the fence (Figure 2).
- Due to the increase in fence height, it is valuable to decrease the distance between posts or install diagonal braces.
- See general best practices section below for additional details.

CONCRETE, SHEET METAL & VINYL WALLS

Concrete, metal or vinyl walls can stand alone or be combined with woven wire or chain link fences. They are durable, require minimal maintenance and are effective in excluding target species from high risk areas and guiding them to crossing structures or other desired locations (Plates 6 and 7). This fence type is comprised of a continuous vertical face of concrete, metal or vinyl sheeting with no gaps. Concrete walls can be installed as either pre-cast sections or pour directly in place.



Plate 6. Stand-alone continuous concrete wall used to exclude salamander species installed as pre-cast forms (photo credit: Steven Roorda).



Plate 7. Pre-formed vinyl sheeting fence intended to exclude salamanders for a construction site (photo credit: Herpetosure Ltd.)

The wall height depends upon the target species, but they are usually between 45 and 60 cm tall and buried 25 cm. Concrete, metal or vinyl exclusion fencing is most appropriate for salamanders, skinks, small snakes, and small turtles. For large turtle species, a chain link fence can be installed directly on top of the concrete wall for complete exclusion.

HABITAT CONNECTIVITY

Habitat connectivity is the connectedness between patches of suitable habitat or the degree to which the landscape facilitates Exclusion fencing animal movement. installed along roads or other large projects can effectively reduce or eliminate habitat connectivity for animals. In these scenarios, exclusion fencing should be considered with eco-passages in order to maintain connectivity. Fencing in isolation should be viewed as a temporary method to reduce mortality until species movement can be restored. Where eco-passages are not feasible they should be identified for consideration with any future road work or development to improve connectivity.

During the installation of fencing with an eco-passage, it is important that the fencing sits flush with the passage to ensure that



there are no gaps where animals can squeeze through.



Plate 7. A wood turtle travelling through a dry eco-passage. Ecopassages such as this help to ensure the long-term connectivity of seasonal habitat for this and other reptile and amphibian species (photo credit: Amy Mui).

GENERAL BEST PRACTICES:

- To deter digging, bury the fence 10 cm down with an additional 10 cm horizontal lip (Figure 2).
- Backfill and compact soil along the entire length on both sides of the fence (Figure 2).
- Once the fence is installed, a survey should be done to ensure that no individuals have been trapped inside (speak with MNR for survey advice).
- Exclusion fencing intended to exclude snakes should have the stakes installed on the activity side (opposite the normal requirement for sediment control fencing) to prevent snakes from using the stakes to maneuver over the fencing.
- For snakes and toads, the fence should have an overhanging lip on the species side (Figure 2).
- Fences should be inspected after spring thaw and at regular intervals throughout the active season, especially following heavy rain events. This is particularly important

- for geotextile fences. Any damage that affects the integrity of the fence (e.g. tears, loose edges, collapses, etc.) should be fixed promptly.
- Tall or woody vegetation on the species side of the fence should be managed if there is a risk that it may enable the animals to climb over. This is most important during spring and fall. Proceed cautiously to not harm animals protected plant species during vegetation removal.
- When installing an eco-passage, fencing or exclusion walls should be used as a guiding system to direct animals to passage openings.
- Natural screens such as trees or shrubs can help to reduce road access and can be combined with fencing to provide protection of individuals from predation.
- Install fences with a turn-around at the ends furthest from the wetland habitat and at any access areas to assist in redirecting animals away from any fence openings (Figure 1).
- Curving the ends of the fencing inward (i.e. away from the road or construction site) may help to reduce access to these locations. The ends may also be tied off to natural features on the landscape such as trees or rock cuts.

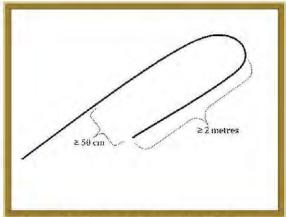


Figure 1. Diagram of the ends of the fence designed to curve inward in order to direct animals away from the area of exclusion.



WATER MOVEMENT & DRAINAGE

- In areas where surface water run-off may erode a soil-based backfill, consider using rocks or sand bags.
 Ensure these materials cannot be used by animals to climb over the fence.
- Where possible, minimize the number of water crossings: when necessary, it should occur where flow is minimal.
- Fence posts in waterways or areas prone to seasonal flooding should be driven rather than dug — unless following established best practices.
- Fencing should be placed above the high water mark anticipated for high water events such as spring freshet or periods of heavy or continuous rainfall.

TOPOGRAPHY:

- Fence posts should be closer together in undulating topography.
- Fences installed on slopes have a different effective height depending upon whether the animal will be approaching from the up or down slope. The fence height can be adjusted accordingly.

Improvements or questions regarding exclusion fencing can be brought to the local MNR Species at Risk Biologist or other MNR staff.

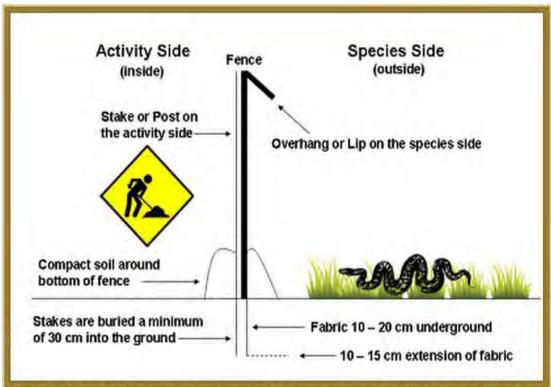


Figure 1. A side view of a basic exclusion fence including an overhang or flexible lip to deter animals from climbing or jumping over the fence. Placement of the stake on the Activity Side or on the inside of excluded area is also illustrated. This is particularly important for snake species which may use the stakes to maneuver over the fence.



Species at Risk Branch -Best Practices Technical Note

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For additional information:

Visit the species at risk website at ontario.ca/speciesatrisk
Contact your MNR district office
Contact the Natural Resources
Information Centre
1-800-667-1940
TTY 1-866-686-6072
mnr.nric.mnr@ontario.ca
ontario.ca/mnr





ORIGINAL REPORT

Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment

North Dundas Drinking Water Supply System Expansion, Various Lots and Concession, Geographic Townships of Winchester and Williamsburgh, United Counties of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry

Licensee: Aaron Mior, M.M.A. (P1077)

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September 29, 2022

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Executive Summary

The Executive Summary highlights key points from the report only; for complete information and findings, as well as the limitations, the reader should examine the complete report.

Golder Associates Ltd. (Golder) was retained by J.L. Richards & Associates Limited (JLR) to complete a Stage 1 archaeological assessment in support of the Municipal Class EA for the North Dundas Drinking Water Supply System Expansion within the Geographic Townships of Winchester and Williamsburgh, United Counties of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry. The study area includes a 24 km corridor following Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry County Road 31 between Morrisburg and Winchester and a proposed 5-acre well site located west of Lafleur Road (Maps 1 and 2).

The objectives of the Stage 1 archaeological assessment are defined in the Ontario Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism, and Culture Industries' (MHSTCI) Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (2011), and include background contextual research to evaluate archaeological potential and to provide appropriate recommendations and site specific strategies if additional assessment is required.

Evidence for human occupation of eastern Ontario dates to at least 11,000 years before present (BP) following the retreat of the Champlain Sea. During the succeeding Archaic Period (10,000 BP to 2,800 BP), the environment of eastern Ontario approached modern conditions with the Ottawa River and its many tributaries including the South Nation River serving as a major transportation route that facilitated trade in copper mined from surface deposits near Lake Superior. The Woodland Period (2,800 BP to 450 BP) saw the introduction of pottery and agriculture, which led to the development of semi-permanent and permanent villages in southern Ontario. Within eastern Ontario, Woodland Period subsistence strategies were still primarily based on hunting and gathering and their migratory routes followed seasonal patterns to known hunting locations. European contact with local Indigenous Communities began around 1610 following the expedition of French explorer Étienne Brûlé who passed through the Ottawa Valley. Within Winchester and Williamsburg Townships, European settlement did not begin until the early 19th century. County Road 31, which the majority of the study area follows, was formerly Highway 31 and was established in 1927. The proposed location of the well was agricultural field up until it became a sand pit in the later half of the 20th century.

A visual inspection of the study area was conducted on October 22, 2021. The proposed well site located west of Lafleur Road has been almost entirely disturbed by the use of the property as a sand pit. A small strip of land between Lafleur Road and the pre-existing sand pit appears to have not been disturbed and has retained archaeological potential. Large portions of the proposed watermain corridor have been disturbed by the existing roadways, drainage ditches, or development. Nonetheless, portions of the right-of-ways that do not appear to have been subject to significant ground disturbance may retain archaeological potential.

Most significantly, the study area passes through the Beckstead Site (BfFt-1), a registered archaeological site and an Indigenous village dating to the Woodland Period (2,800 to 450 BP). Excavations at the Beckstead Site uncovered portions of four long houses and several human burials, although the site has only been subject to partial excavation and therefore the boundaries of this site have not been archaeologically confirmed. The site retains Cultural Heritage Value or Interest and there is a high potential for additional Indigenous archaeological resources within its vicinity. The Beckstead Site (BfFt-1) is a significant archaeological site that is undoubtably of special interest to local First Nation communities. Any impact to the site has the potential of disturbing human remains.



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This Stage 1 archaeological assessment has resulted in the following recommendations:

The Beckstead Site (BfFt-1) should be avoided and protected to prevent impact from potential landscape disturbances associated with the project. Should avoidance and protection not be possible, the Beckstead Site should be subject to Stage 3 site-specific assessment and Stage 4 mitigation of development impacts. The Stage 3 site specific assessment should involve the hand excavation of 1 m x 1 m test units at 5 m intervals in order to define the limits of the site and to develop an appropriate Stage 4 mitigation strategy. Based on the available information, intact portions of the Beckstead Site likely exist underneath County Road 31 and should any ground disturbance occur under the road in the vicinity of the site (See Maps SD1 and SD2 of the supplementary documentation), modern layers located above intact natural soils should be mechanically excavated under the supervision of a licensed archaeologist so that the intact natural soils can be subject to Stage 3 hand excavation prior to any development impacts.

- Registered archaeological Site (BfFt-10) is considered to possess Cultural Heritage Value to Interest. Should any impacts occur within 70 m of the site, archaeological monitoring may be required.
- 3) Due to the presence of the Beckstead Site (BfFt-1) within the study area, a Woodland Period Indigenous village, and registered site BfFt-10, representing an Indigenous occupation location pre-dating European contact, local Indigenous communities should be engaged in the project and consulted prior to any decisions regarding impact to the site. The Beckstead Site is a significant archaeological site known to contain human burials and has high cultural value or interest.
- 4) Given the location of a historic cemetery adjacent to County Road 31, and that the exact boundaries of the potential burials are currently unconfirmed (i.e., the potential for unmarked burials), further Stage 3 investigation will be necessary to confirm whether the cemetery extends into the study area. This will entail the use of a smooth-bucket backhoe or Gradall to strip topsoil following the length of the cemetery limits, within a width of 10 m, along the boundary that falls within the cemetery limits. Once the subsoil is exposed, if it has been determined that no burial shafts fall within the limits of construction, the topsoil will be returned and all excavated areas filled in. Should burial deposits be encountered, the MHSTCI and the BAO must be contacted immediately.
- 5) Portions of the study area identified as having archaeological potential as shown on Map 10 should undergo Stage 2 test pit survey at 5 m intervals prior to any development impacts.
- 6) Portions of the study area identified as sloped, disturbed, or permanently wet have low or no archaeological potential and require no additional archaeological assessment.
- Should the study area expand beyond the area shown on Map 10, additional archaeological assessment may be required.

This report is submitted to the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c. 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that the licensed consultant archaeologist has met the terms and conditions of their archaeological license, and that the archaeological field work and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario.



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Abbreviations

ASDB Archaeological Site Database maintained by MHSTCI

BAO Bereavement Authority of Ontario

BP Before Present, taken to mean before 1950 and used as an alternative to BC/AD

CHVI Cultural Heritage Value or Interest

Golder Golder Associates Ltd.

m Metre(s)

km Kilometre(s)

MHSTCI Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries

PIF Project Information Form



Table of Contents

EXE	CUTIV	/E SUMMARY		
PRO	JECT	PERSONNEL		
1.0	PROJECT CONTEXT			
	1.1	Development Context	1	
	1.2	Objectives	1	
2.0	HIST	2		
	2.1	2		
	2.2	Post-Contact Regional History	6	
	2.2.1	Winchester Township	8	
	2.2.2	Williamsburgh Township	8	
	2.3	Study Area History	9	
3.0	ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT			
	3.1	Study Area Environment	10	
	3.2	Previously Completed Archaeological Assessments	10	
	3.3	Known Archaeological Sites	10	
	3.4	Assessing Archaeological Potential	13	
	3.5	Features Indicating Archaeological Potential has been Removed	14	
	3.6	Potential for Archaeological Resources	14	
4.0	SITE	INSPECTION	16	
5.0	ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS			
6.0	RECOMMENDATIONS			
7.0	ADVI	20		
8.0	IMPO	ORTANT INFORMATION AND LIMITATIONS OF THIS REPORT	21	
9.0	REFERENCES			
10.0	IMAG	GES	27	
11.0	MAP	S	45	



IMAGES

: View northwest of the proposed well study area located west of Lafleur Road	27
t: View northwest showing the well study area has been excavated down into subsoil during its use as a sand pit	27
: View east from within the proposed well study area showing the depth of the sand pit excavation. Lafluer Road is located along the high ground in the background	28
: Flooded pit within the well study area showing excavation below the water table, view northeast	28
: Undisturbed portion of the proposed well study area located between the sand pit and Lafleur Road, view northwest	29
: Water tower located at the north end of the study area, view southwest	29
: View northwest along Centre Street within Winchester. The right-of-way consists of sidewalk	30
: View northeast along Winchester's Main Street showing disturbed right-of-way	30
: View southeast of the intersection of St. Lawrence Street and Church Street	31
0: View southeast showing paved right-of-way of St. Lawrence Street within Winchester	31
1: View southeast showing ditched right-of-way along the east side of St. Lawrence Street within Winchester.	32
2: Railway crossing within Winchester, view south	
3: Ditched right-of-way of County Road 31, view northwest.	33
4: Bridge over the South Nation River, view east. The banks of the river in the vicinity of the bridge are slopped	33
5: View southeast of the east side of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Road 31 in the vicinity of Cass Bridge showing the road has been built up above the surrounding landscape	34
6: Ditched right of way located north of Winchester Springs, view northeast	34
7: Right-of-way of County Road 31 through Winchester Springs, view southeast	35
8: Ditched right-of way, view northwest	35
9: Bridge over McMartin Drain, view northwest	36
0: View southeast along west side of County Road 31	36
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7: West side of County Road 31 located north of Tollgate Road showing road has been built up	
	View past from within the proposed well study area showing the depth of the sand pit excavation. Lafluer Road is located along the high ground in the background



Image 29: Drainage ditch located alongside County Road 31, view southeast	41
Image 30: Relatively unmodified portion of the County Road 31 right-of-way located near the McHaffie Flea Market, view southeast	
Image 31: View southeast of the eastern side of the Highway 401 underpass	42
Image 32: View southeast of the western side of the Highway 401 underpass	42
Image 33: View northwest showing the east side of the rail line underpass located north of Morrisburg	43
Image 34: View northwest of segment of County Road 31 that passes through Morrisburg, view northwest	43
Image 35: Disturbed area located at the southern end of the watermain corridor, view west	44
Image 36: View northeast of portion of study area located behind the Morrisburg Canadian Tire.	44
MAPS	
Map 1: Key Plan	46
Map 2:Site Plan	47
Map 3: 1879 Plan of Winchester Township	48
Map 4: 1879 Plan of Williamsburg Township	49
Map 5: 1908 Topographic Map of Winchester Township	50
Map 6: 1908 Topographic Map of Morrisburg	51
Map 7: 1954 Aerial Photographs	52
Map 8: Surficial Geology	53
Map 9: Previous archaeological assessments within 50 m	54
Map 10: Stage 1 Recommendations and Photo Locations	55



1.0 PROJECT CONTEXT

1.1 Development Context

Golder Associates Ltd. (Golder) was retained by J.L. Richards & Associates Limited (JLR) to complete a Stage 1 archaeological assessment in support of the Municipal Class EA for the North Dundas Drinking Water Supply System Expansion, located in the Geographic Townships of Winchester and Williamsburgh, United Counties of Stormont, Dundas, and Glengarry. The study area consists of an approximately 24 km corridor following Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry County Road 31 between Morrisburg and Winchester, Ontario, and a proposed 5-acre well site located west of Lafleur Road (Maps 1 and 2).

Permission to enter the proposed well site west of Lafleur Road was provided by the client. The portion of the study area for the watermain corridor follows public right-of-ways and required no special permission to access.

1.2 Objectives

The objectives of this Stage 1 archaeological assessment follow the MHSTCI Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (2011, p. 13):

- To provide information about the study area's geography, history, previous archaeological fieldwork and current land conditions;
- To evaluate in detail the study area's archaeological potential, which will support recommendations for additional archaeological survey for all or parts of the property; and,
- To recommend appropriate strategies for Stage 2 survey, if applicable.



2.0 HISTORICAL CONTEXT

The following historical narrative is intended to provide a general overview of the interpreted land use during the "Pre-Contact Period" and "Early Contact Period" within the vicinity of the current study area. This historical overview is based on archaeological and historical interpretations inferred over the past 100 years, and generally reflect inferences and interpretations made by non-Indigenous representatives. The text below is not intended to provide a comprehensive historical overview of the occupation and landscape prior to, and following the arrival of Europeans to the modern-day area of eastern Ontario, but rather provide a general overview context that can be referenced when determining the potential for archaeological resources within the current project study area.

The text and comments below, including the cited references, may reflect archaeological literature within general publications, but are not suggested to represent the opinions of those Indigenous communities whose history it is purported to reflect.

2.1 Regional Indigenous History

Eastern Ontario was covered by the Laurentide ice sheet until approximately 11,000 years before present (BP). Following the period of deglaciation, eastern Ontario was inundated by the Champlain Sea which is interpreted to have extended from the Rideau Lakes in the south, along the Ottawa Valley and St. Lawrence areas and terminating in the vicinity of Petawawa in the west. The exact western boundary is unconfirmed as current elevation levels reflect the isostatic adjustment of the land following the melting of the glaciers which has obscured definitive traces of the Champlain Sea shoreline at the time of its existence. The eastern portion of the sea extended into the Atlantic Ocean.

During much of the Paleo Period (11,000 to 10,000 BP), eastern Ontario would have remained inundated by the Champlain Sea, although as the Champlain Sea receded towards the end of this period it is possible that people migrated along the changing waterfront landscape eventually moving into the area (Watson 1999a).

The ridges and old shorelines of the Champlain Sea and early Ottawa River channels generally represent areas most likely to contain evidence of Paleo Period occupation in this region, however identifying the location and dates of these ancient shorelines has proved challenging. The boundaries of the Champlain Sea are not marked by a continuous identifiable shoreline, especially along the western shore where rocky conditions were not favorable to the formation of beaches (Chapman and Putnam 1973). Attempts to use deposits of marine mollusk shells as a source for radiocarbon dates to delineate the transgression of the shorelines have proved unreliable as shells absorb carbon at different rates according to their depth below the surface and geological location (Robinson 2012). Additionally, earlier interpretations showing discrete stages of regression (see Chapman 1937) have proven not to be supported by the geological record. Unlike the catastrophic flood events during the Younger Dryas climatic event that led to the rapid formation of the Champlain Sea, its regression was a slow process occurring as sea waters drained during isostatic rebound (Robinson 2012). The interpretation of the presence of shorelines is further complicated by the fact that isostatic rebound may have raised the general study area above its current elevation before it receded to its current level (Fulton and Richard 1987). Flooding resulting from the overflow of glacial Lake Agassiz also eroded and manipulated topographic landforms within the evolving landscape (Fulton et al. 1987). As a consequence, only the margins of the Champlain Sea at its maximum extent, a time when most of eastern Ontario would have been fully submerged, have been reliably mapped due to the rapid inundation creating pronounced shoreline features (Loring 1980). Although recent studies using various dating techniques that do not rely upon deposits of mollusk shells have provided some favourable results (Tremblay 2008), considerable work remains in developing the chronology of the Champlain Sea's regression.



The earliest possible settlement in the Ottawa Valley and surrounding area would have occurred during the recession of the Champlain Sea when the vegetation and wildlife began to develop within the area, which enabled the sustainability of humans (Watson 1999a). The ridges and old shorelines of the Champlain Sea and early river channels reflect areas most likely to contain evidence of Paleo Period occupation in the region. Archaeological and geological investigations in the Ottawa Valley have suggested these early sites may be identified within the 550 foot (167.6 m) or higher contour topography, although additional research may be required to confidently assess this correlation (Kennedy 1976).

Evidence of human occupation during this period has been documented by a variety of archaeological discoveries including fluted points (laurel leaf shaped points with a channel flake scar extending from the base of the point) recorded in the Rideau Lakes area (Watson 1982; 1999b). Although very few Paleo Period sites have been documented in eastern Ontario, discoveries in the Ottawa area, including sites interpreted to have produced Paleo Period material near Greenbank Road (Swayze 2003), Albion Road and Rideau Road (Swayze 2004), suggests evidence of early occupation although the lack of diagnostic material represented at these sites and the inferred climatic environment suggests these sites may rather be reflective of Archaic Period occupation following the recession of the Champlain Sea. No Paleo Period sites have been registered within Winchester or Williamsburgh Townships (MHSTCI 2021).

During the succeeding Archaic Period (ca. 10,000 to 2,800 BP), the environment of eastern Ontario approached modern conditions (Ellis et al. 1990). Occupation within the Ottawa Valley and the surrounding area developed as the environment became habitable, with an Early Archaic Dovetail projectile point recovered in Ottawa South sometime around 1918-1920 (Pilon and Fox 2015) potentially representing the earliest diagnostic evidence of humans in the area.

Archaic Period inhabitants generally continued to employ a hunter-gatherer subsistence strategy focused on localized faunal and floral resources including deer, fish, berries and nuts. The McIntyre Site, located on the north shore of Rice Lake and south of Peterborough, contained the remains of a large variety of floral and faunal species and reflects the diversity of subsistence resources available during this period (Ellis et al. 1990). Plant remains recovered from the McIntyre site included butternut, acom, hickory, plum, cherry, blueberry and hawthorn, and provides evidence of the diversity in subsistence. Faunal remains included deer, canine, beaver, muskrat, bear, and a large variety of fish including bass, bullheads, and suckers. The inhabitants of the site may also have been gathering wild rice (McAndrews 1984). In the Ottawa Valley, a stone fish weir likely dating to the Archaic Period found upstream from Morrison Island and Allumette Island demonstrates the increasingly sophisticated technology that was being employed during the period and the developing reliance on fish and aquatic species within the temporal subsistence strategy (Allen 2010).

The St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers, as well as their tributary waterways, were important routes for the movement of natural copper, either through direct trade between individual groups, or through trips to Lake Superior to exploit the surface deposits located there. Copper artifacts similar to those documented on Allumette Island in the Ottawa River have been discovered in Wisconsin, Michigan, New York State and Manitoba (Kennedy 1970). This commodity, as well as other tradable goods, was presumably transported by canoes and other vessels along the navigable waterways including the Ottawa and St. Lawrence Rivers.

The earliest evidence of human burials within eastern Ontario are interpreted to date to the Archaic Period (Pilon and Young 2009). Excavations at Allumette and Morrison Islands have found burial sites containing the remains of dozens of individuals within deposits that appear to have been used continuously for millennia (Kennedy 1966). The inclusion of grave offerings such as natural copper pieces in burials found at the site of Coteau-du-Lac provides evidence for Archaic Period ritual practice (Pilon and Young 2009). Other sites with Archaic Period components within the Ottawa Valley region have been noted on Aylmer Island, Chaudière Falls, Wilber Lake, Learny Lake, the



Rideau Lakes (Watson 1982), Jessups Falls, and in Pendleton (Daechsel 1980). The Chesterville 2 site (BgFt-6) situated over 10 km east of the study area represents the only registered Archaic Period archaeological site in Winchester Township, and no known Archaic Period archaeological sites have been registered within Williamsburgh Township (MHSTCI 2021).

The Woodland Period (ca. 2,800 to 450 BP) is primarily distinguished from the Archaic Period by the introduction of ceramics (Wright 1972a). Early Woodland Period inhabitants continued to live as hunters, gatherers and fishers in much the same way as earlier populations had done. They also shared an elaborate burial ceremonialism influenced by the inclusion of exotic artifacts within grave deposits (Spence et al. 1990). No known archaeological sites specific to the Early Woodland Period have been registered within Winchester and Williamsburgh Townships.

By the Middle Woodland Period (2,400 to 1,150 BP) regional cultural expressions or traditions have been distinguished by archaeologists. These traditions have been identified based on patterns of ceramic decorations and use of lithic materials, and are the primary basis to differentiate the Middle Woodland Period from the Early Woodland Period. A greater number of known sites from this period have been investigated allowing archaeologists to develop a better picture of the seasonal round followed in order to exploit a variety of resources within a home territory. Through the late fall and winter, small groups would occupy an inland "family" hunting area. In the spring, these dispersed families would congregate at specific lakeshore sites to fish and hunt in the surrounding forest and socialize. This gathering would last through to the late summer when large quantities of food would be stored for the approaching winter.

Along the St. Lawrence River in the vicinity of the study area, occupation during the Middle Woodland Period was documented at the St. David's Cemetery site (BgFr-7), the Little Ault Park site (BgFr-4), the Snapper site (BgFq-6) and the Thistle site (BgFq-9), indicating the use of this waterway during the Middle Woodland Period.

The Ottawa River, located north of the study area, represents another major waterway utilized for transportation and subsistence strategies during the Middle Woodland Period. Middle Woodland Period sites have been identified at Marshall's and Sawdust Bays (Daechsel 1980; Daechsel 1981), Rockcliffe Park (Pilon 2008; Pilon and Boswell 2015), as well as at Learny Lake (Laliberte 1995), along the Rideau River (Golder 2017; Patterson 2016) and within the City of Ottawa west of Bank Street (Golder 2014). Sawdust Bay 2 (BiGb-6), located approximately 750 m west of where the Mississippi River drains into the Ottawa River, represents a camp site radiocarbon dated to 1560 BP (± 290 BP) and interpreted to reflect the Point Peninsula Tradition. The corresponding artifact assemblage shows that subsistence was focused on hunting fauna living in the adjacent lakes and swamps. The Learny Lake and Rockcliffe Park Sites, all located in the area around the mouth of the Gatineau River and the east shore of the Ottawa River, show evidence of seasonal warm weather settlement spanning a period from 4000 BP up to at least the Middle Woodland Period (Pilon and Boswell 2015). Along the South Nation River, one Middle Woodland Period site, Kittle Creek 1 (BgFt-3), has been registered west of Chesterville (MHSTCI 2021).

Another significant development during the Woodland Period was the introduction of agriculture and appearance of domesticated plants ca. 1,450 BP. Initially, only a minor addition to the diet, the cultivation of corn, beans, squash, sunflowers and tobacco gained economic importance during the Late Woodland Period (1,150 BP – 450 BP). Unlike in southern Ontario, where the shift in subsistence resulted in the development of semi-permanent and permanent villages, evidence suggests that much of eastern Ontario remained primarily occupied by mobile hunter-gatherers. In part, this was because the terrain was less than suitable for early agriculture. It was also a reflection of the increased pressure on hunting territories and conflict over trade routes at the end of the Woodland Period. The few village sites that have been documented in eastern Ontario are most commonly located near the St. Lawrence River, including the Beckstead Site (BfFt-1) (Pendergast 1984) which is located within the present study area.



Smaller Late Woodland Period (1,150 BP – 450 BP) sites have also been recorded throughout the general study area and Ottawa Valley. Two small Late Woodland sites were identified on a property near the Village of Cumberland (Ferris 2002). A significant Woodland Period occupation has also been identified at the Leamy Lake site and several burials dating to the Archaic Period have also been documented on the north side of the Ottawa River, just east of the Chaudière Falls. Many of these burials were observed during the mid-19th century, with upwards of twenty individuals documented along the northern shore of the Ottawa River between the Chaudière Falls and the Gatineau River. Many of these interments were associated with red ochre deposits, although there does not appear to be a consistent deposition positional pattern to those recorded (Pilon and Boswell 2015). Within Winchester and Williamsburgh Townships, Late Woodland sites include the Beckstead Site (BfFt-1) (Pendergast 1984), the Steward Site (BfFt-2) situated within the town of Morrisburg just west of the study area (Jamieson 1982), and the Chesterville 2 Site (BgFt-6) (MHSTCI 2021).

By the end of the Late Woodland Period, distinct regional populations occupied specific areas of Ontario separated by vast stretches of largely unoccupied land, including the Huron along the north shore of Lake Ontario, the Algonquins along the Ottawa River and the St. Lawrence Iroquois along the St. Lawrence River. Facing persistent hostilities with Iroquoian populations based in what is now New York State, the Huron moved from the north shore of Lake Ontario to the Lake Simcoe and Georgian Bay region and the St. Lawrence Iroquois relocated sometime in the late 16th century with refugees possibly dispersing among the Algonquin populations in the Ottawa Valley region (Pendergast 1999).

The Algonquins, who occupied the lands north of the Huron, had historical hunting territories in the Ottawa Valley that may have extended as far east as the St. Maurice River in Quebec. They also claimed the lowlands south of the St. Lawrence River after the disappearance of the St. Lawrence Iroquois in the late 16th century (Trigger and Day 1994). At the time of initial contact, the French documented several Algonquin groups residing in the vicinity of the general study area (Heidenreich and Wright 1987). These included the Kichesipirini of Morrison Island, the Matouweskarini along the Madawaska River to the west, the Onontchataronon in the Gananoque River basin to the southwest, and the Weskarini, the largest of the three, situated in the Petite Nation River basin to the northeast.

Though it is often difficult to link archaeological sites to specific historical Indigenous groups, the Highland Lake site (BiGh-1), located west of Ottawa, may be an Algonquin site associated with the Matouweskarini (von Gernet 1992). Ottawa Valley Algonquin sites typically consist of shallow deposits characteristic of seasonal occupation by small family groups within family or band territorial limits and are typically located on the headwaters of major tributaries (Pendergast 1999). Exceptions include a number of summer camps identified at Morrison Island and Leamy Lake where larger groups came together (Pilon and Boswell 2015).

The Algonquins' location along the same river networks used for transportation by early French traders positioned them to monopolize the early fur trade with the two communities becoming close allies following Champlain's expedition in 1603. Competition for furs increased existing tensions between the Algonquin communities and their neighbours including the Haudenosaunee Nations, such as the Mohawk, residing to the south in what is now Ontario and New York State. The 17th century saw a period of conflict known as the Beaver Wars between the Algonquin and the Haudenosaunee that resulted in the significant disruption of life. Mohawk raids against Algonquin villages in the Upper Ottawa and St. Lawrence Valleys resulted in the abandonment or destruction of many Algonquin settlements in these areas (Trigger and Day 1994). Some Algonquin's found refuge in French settlements such as Trois-Riviéres, Quebec City, Sillery, and Montreal while others may have retreated to interior locations along the Ottawa River's tributaries (Holmes 1993). At the end of the 17th century, the Haudenosaunee were driven out of much of southern Ontario by the Mississaugas though they continued to occupy parts of eastern Ontario on a seasonal basis.



The French brokered a peace treaty in 1701 at Montreal where the Algonquin, the French, and the Haudenosaunee agreed to peacefully share the lands around the Great Lakes (INAC 2011). In exchange for peace, the Algonquin gave the Haudenosaunee secure access to furs which the Haudenosaunee used to secure their alliance with the British. Between 1712-1716, Algonquins were noted as living along the Gatineau River with the Haudenosaunee occupation located south of the St. Lawrence River (Holmes 1993). By 1740, Algonquin communities were present in the vicinity of Trois-Rivières, Riviere Lievre and Mohawk community members were residing near Lake of Two Mountains (Holmes 1993).

Following the Seven Years' War during the mid-18th century, the defeat of the French, Algonquin, and their allies by the British and the Haudenosaunee resulted in the further loss of Algonquin hunting territories in southern Quebec and eastern Ontario as the British seized France's colonies. The extension of Quebec's boundaries in 1774 through the Quebec Act and the use of the Ottawa River as the boundary of Upper and Lower Canada following the 1791 Constitution Act separated the Algonquins between two government administrations (AOP n.d.).

Britain's colonial policy differed from the French in that the Crown was much more interested in securing land surrenders from the Indigenous populations for settlement by Europeans. The Royal Proclamation of 1763 issued by King George III enabled the Crown to monopolize the purchase of Indigenous lands west of Quebec. Although the proclamation recognized Indigenous rights to their land and hunting grounds, it also provided a way through which these rights could be taken away (Surtees 1994). Land cession agreements between Indigenous groups and the Crown increased following the War of 1812 as a new wave of settlers arrived in Upper Canada primarily from Britain. The Crown implemented annuity systems in the purchase of lands from Indigenous peoples where the interest payments of settlers on the land would cover the cost of the annuity rather than pay a one-time lump sum. By the 1850s, Indigenous groups had become cautious of these agreements and began to demand the retention of reserved land and preservation of hunting and fishing rights (Surtees 1994).

Between 1783 and 1784, Captain William Redford Crawford negotiated on behalf of the Crown with the Mississauga chiefs living in the Bay of Quinte region. In the so-called "Crawford Purchase," Crawford negotiated for the lands located east of the Bay of Quinte to the Trent River. This agreement was intended to provide land to the United Empire Loyalists and Indigenous allies following the American Revolution (Ontario 2020). The lands covered by the Crawford Purchase now includes the communities of Kingston and Brockville. The Crown again negotiated with the Mississauga of the Bay of Quinte and Kingston areas during the Rideau Purchase (1819/1822) which included a portion of Algonquin territory in the Ottawa Valley (Surtees 1994). The Algonquin and Nipissing, who were left out of the talks, protested the purchase, but were largely ignored (Holmes 1993).

The Indian Act of 1876 framed the relationship between the Canadian government and Canada's Indigenous peoples as a paternalistic one where the government served as their guardian until their cultures were able to integrate into Canadian society (INAC 2011). The Department of Indian Affairs was granted the authority to make policy decisions such as determine who was classified as Indigenous, manage their lands, resources and money, and promote "civilization". The consequence was the further erosion of Indigenous rights to autonomy and self-governance. The implementation of residential schools and adoption of Algonquin children by non-Indigenous families in the mid-20th century reflected further discrimination and the disregard of rights (AOP ND).

2.2 Post-Contact Regional History

Samuel de Champlain was the first European to document his explorations of the Ottawa Valley, initially in 1613 and again in 1615. He was preceded by two of his emissaries, Etienne Brule around 1610 and Nicholas de Vigneau in 1611. In the wake of Champlain's voyages, the St. Lawrence and Ottawa Rivers became principal routes for explorers, missionaries and fur traders travelling to the interior, and throughout the 17th and 18th centuries these waterways remained important links in the French fur trade.



Similar to other counties fronting the St. Lawrence River, substantial settlement in the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry began in the late 18th century with the arrival of United Empire Loyalists following the American Revolutionary War. The Surveyor General for Canada, Major Samuel Holland started to lay out the new lands in 1784. Initially, the new townships were simply assigned numbers due to the fast pace in which they were being surveyed (Leavitt 1879).

Following their arrival, the Loyalists drew their lots with each soldier receiving a grant of 100 acres fronting on the St. Lawrence and an additional 200 acres further inland within the same township. Officers were entitled to larger grants, based on their rank, with children of Loyalists also being granted free land. As a result, the entire riverfront within the newly surveyed Townships of Charlottenburgh, Cornwall, Osnabruck, Williamsburgh and Matilda (originally identified simply by numbers) were settled almost simultaneously (Lockwood 1996). Generally, Scots were placed in the eastern townships and the western townships were comprised mostly German immigrants.

Shortly after the distributions of property lots, the early settlers expressed desire for local governance. This area was considered part of the Montreal District until 1788 when Lord Dorchester announced the formation of new districts west of Montreal and the Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry became affiliated with the most eastern district of Lunenburg (Harkness 1946). By the end of the eighteenth century, all of the townships along the waterfront in the District of Lunenburg had been surveyed and partially settled. By 1826, the original districts had been broken up into to smaller districts, as settlement increased and the desire for further localized government grew. The United Counties became part of the Eastern District, and by the mid-1800s the districts were phased out as counties and townships took on more governing responsibilities.

During the War of 1812 with the neighbouring United States, many attempts were made to take Montreal. Just west of Montreal, the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry were not unaffected by this war. In November of 1813, the American military, led by General Wilkinson, arrived on Canadian soil between Prescott and Cornwall at Crysler's Farm near present-day Morrisburg. Even though the British were outnumbered in the battle they soundly defeated the American invaders, and the Canadian Parliament commemorated the battle with a plaque at Crysler's Farm in 1895 (Harkness 1946). The victory at the Battle of Crysler's Farm led to the American's abandoning their attempt to take Montreal (Bowering 1992).

The townships further from the St. Lawrence River were not settled nearly as quickly as those along the water. It wasn't until the 1880's, with the addition of several railways in the northern section of the county, that development in these areas began in earnest. Small centers such as Alexandria, Chesterville, and Avonmore grew considerably and new villages such as Maxville were established (Harkness 1946).

The St. Lawrence River had always been an important transportation route even prior to European settlement within the county, although there were several rapids between Cornwall and Prescott making navigation difficult. Several canals were constructed in an effort to improve navigation through the area, with the Cornwall Canal opening in 1842 and the Williamsburg Canals (Farran Point, Rapide Plat, Galop and Iroquois) completed in 1847. As early as 1895, a joint commission between the United States and Canada was initiated to discuss further developments to ensure the river could be utilized as a viable shipping route (Marin and Marin 1982).

Most citizens along the riverfront protested the flooding of their lands, while large companies lobbied for the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway. Although the project was delayed due to two world wars and American inaction, in 1951 the St. Lawrence Seaway Act was approved in Canada and in 1954, the American Seaway Act was passed with approval granted for New York to join Ontario Hydro on the project (Marin and Marin 1982).



There were great expectations for the St. Lawrence Seaway as many believed it would bring significant economic growth to the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry. Ground was officially broken in August 1954 and the Seaway was officially opened five years later following construction of three large dams and several cofferdams. In the United Counties, Ontario Hydro bought 37,000 acres, with 6,500 people losing their homes and eight villages being affected including Iroquois, Aultsville, Farran's Point, Dickinson's Landing, Wales, Moilinette, Mille Roches, and Morrisburg. Railways and roads, including Highway 2, were moved while some structures were relocated, and two new towns (Ingleside and Long Sault) were created for the displaced people from the historic villages (Marin and Marin1982). Two cemeteries were raised, and 14 cemeteries originally positioned along the waterfront were amalgamated and moved to the St. Lawrence Valley Union Cemetery (Marin and Marin1982).

The creation of the St. Lawrence Seaway was considered by many to be the most significant engineering project of the decade in North America and possibly one of the most important in the world at the time (Marin and Marin 1982). Unfortunately, the Seaway did not bring the substantial economic growth to the area that was predicted, and the region's population has not drastically changed since the 1950's.

Upper Canada Village was created to showcase the history of the United Counties and more than half of the buildings showcased at the site originated from the United Counties (Marin and Marin 1982). Many parks and beaches were created along the river with signs and plaques commemorating historic sites and villages which had a positive effect on tourism in the area. In addition to these efforts to preserve the history of the United Counties, an archaeological investigation was carried out over three summers on Sheek Island to gather information and artifacts prior to the flooding of the area. An aboriginal settlement, including a burial site, was identified as being from the Point Peninsula Period (Marin and Marin 1982).

2.2.1 Winchester Township

The first European immigrants to Winchester Township settled along the Nation River in 1819 (Mika and Mika 1983). Many of the lots in the Township were awarded to the children of United Empire Loyalists, but most chose to sell their lands which were eventually settled by other immigrants. Early settlement and development were made difficult by the lack of roads. In the 1830s, the villages of Winchester and Chesterville developed following the construction of flour and sawmills (Mika and Mika 1983). The construction of the Canadian Pacific Railway Line in 1887 led to increased prosperity, particularly in Chesterville, which saw its population grow from around 500 in 1884 to over 750 in 1890 (Harkness 1946).

During the 20th century, agriculture maintained a significant role in the economic prosperity of the area. The establishment of Highway 31 in 1927 (Bevers ND) provided a convenient route to Ottawa and for many regional commuters. Highway 31 is no longer a provincial highway, as it was decommissioned in 1998. The road is still colloquially referred to as Highway 31 although its proper name is Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry County Road 31.

2.2.2 Williamsburgh Township

The former Williamsburgh Township was first settled in 1784 by United Empire Loyalists. It was formally organized in 1787 and named in honour of Prince William, Duke of Clarence and St. Andrews (future King William IV) (1765-1837), eldest son of King George III (1738-1820). The former Williamsburgh Township was laid out as a single front township with two 100 acre parcels per lot in each concession. Loyalists who settled in the former Williamsburgh Township were predominantly from the First Battalion of the King's Royal Regiment of New York. Lots with frontages along the St. Lawrence River were settled first and as the concessions and road networks developed, properties deeper in the former Williamsburg Township were settled.



Morrisburg, originally known as West Williamsburg, was named after the Honourable James Morris, Postmaster-General for Canada (1851–1853) (Scott 2010). During the War of 1812, the Battle of Crysler's Farm took place near Morrisburg. Eight thousand American troops were defeated by 1,200 Canadian militia, British regulars, and First Nations (Graves 1999). Most of the actual battle site was flooded during the construction of the St. Lawrence Seaway project.

The Township of South Dundas was created through the amalgamation of the former Township of Matilda and the former Township of Williamsburgh, and the villages of Iroquois and Morrisburg in 1998. The Township of South Dundas is a lower-tier municipality under the United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry.

2.3 Study Area History

Historical plans, topographic maps, and aerial photographs provide evidence of the historical use of the study area. Plans of Winchester and Williamsburgh Townships dating to 1879 (Maps 3 and 4) show the study area largely follows the route of historical roads between Morrisburg and Winchester. The majority of properties along the corridor are already occupied by 1879 and several historical structures are shown within the vicinity of the study area, many of which are likely farmsteads. Lafleur Road does not appear to follow any 19th century roads.

Further development of Winchester and Williamsburgh Townships are shown in topographic maps from 1908 (Maps 5 and 6). Lafleur Road is visible east of the proposed well site.

Aerial photographs from 1954 (Map 7) show the well site was agricultural field until the later half of the 20th century. Much of the study area for the watermain corridor largely resembles present conditions.



3.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONTEXT

3.1 Study Area Environment

The portion of the study area located north of the Town of Williamsburg is located within the Winchester Clay Plains physiographic region, a low-lying area within the South Nation River drainage basin. The original vegetation of the plains consisted primarily of red maple, elm, white and black ash which are all species characteristic of swamp-forest environments (Chapman and Putnam 1984). The original forests of the region were largely removed, and the swamps drained to convert the land to agriculture.

The portion of the study area located between Williamsburg and Morrisburg is located within the Glengarry Till Plains physiographic region. Area soils generally consist of hard clay silt that contains fine coarse sand, as well as gravel and boulders (glacial till) over limestone bedrock. This is typical of the Glengarry Till Plain (Chapman and Putnam 1984). The till contains a high proportion of limestone mixed with materials derived from the Precambrian rocks to the north and from the sandstone of the Nepean formation at the base of Rigaud Mountain in Quebec (Chapman and Putnam 1984). The wave actions of the prehistoric Champlain Sea deposited numerous bars of sand and gravel throughout the area (Chapman and Putnam 1984). Although there are lots of stones in the soil, it is fairly good for agricultural production.

The surficial geology of the study area is shown on Map 8. The well site consists of coarse–textured glaciomarine deposits. This includes beach ridges. Much of the primary study area corridor consists of till and fine textured glaciomarine deposits, with the wetter portions of the study area containing organic deposits.

3.2 Previously Completed Archaeological Assessments

The MHSTCI's Archaeological Report Database was searched on October 28, 2021, for previous archaeological assessments completed within 50 m of the study area (Map 9 and see supplementary documentation). James Pendergast conducted two archaeological excavations at the Beckstead Site in 1962 and 1971. These excavations are described in detail in Section 3.3. Golder (2018) conducted a Stage 1 archaeological assessment for the Highway 31 underpass located north of Morrisburg. The portions of the study area that passes through the Highway 31 underpass study area were identified as disturbed and not recommended for further archaeological assessment. Stantec (P381-0017-2014) conducted a Stage 2 archaeological assessment for the TransCanada Pipeline Ltd. Energy East project that intersected County Road 31 north of the Highway 401 underpass.

Other archaeological assessments conducted within the vicinity of the study area have been limited. CARF (1997, 2000) conducted Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessments for a new 7 km long sewage system running from an existing sewage lagoon located northeast of the Village of Winchester to the South Nation River. Stantec (2020) conducted a Stage 1 and 2 archaeological assessment for several access roads and temporary workspaces TransCanada Line 300 Girth Welds. Three locations within Stantec's study area were located approximately 1.8 km east of the present study area. Stantec conducted another Stage 1-2 Archaeological assessment for Line 300 on Part of Lot 28, Concession 6 of Williamsburgh Township (P362-0270-2019).

Near the southern end of the study area, a number of archaeological assessments have been conducted on the Steward Site, a Late Woodland Period fishing station (Wright 1972b; Jamieson 1982).

3.3 Known Archaeological Sites

The primary source of information regarding known archaeological sites in the MHSTCI archaeological sites database (ASDB). The database was consulted on September 22, 2021, with the assistance of Robert von Bitter MHSTCI archaeological data coordinator. A total of 44 archaeological sites were identified within 10 km of the study area. Only two registered archaeological sites are known to be present within 300 m of the study area (Table 1).



Table 1: Archaeological Sites Within 10 km of the Study Area

Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Current Development Review Status
Distance les	s than 300 m				
BfFt-1	Beckstead	Late Woodland	Aboriginal	Village	Further CHVI
BfFt-10		Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Unknown	Further CHVI
Distance mo	ore than 300 m				
BfFt-2	Steward	Late Woodland	Aboriginal	Village	Further CHVI
BgFw-1	Burkill	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Unknown	No Further CHVI
BgFw-2	Pierces Corners	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Cemetery, church / chapel, school	Further CHVI
BgFv-9	S.S. 14 Mountain	Post-Contact	Not Listed	School	No Further CHVI
BgFv-8	Kemptville Creek Pathway Site	Post-Contact	Not Listed	Other Warehouse, Unknown, wharf	Further CHVI
BgFv-7	Patterson Farm Site	Post-Contact	Not Listed	Not Listed	Unknown
BgFv-6	Clarke Farm Site	Post-Contact	Not Listed	Not Listed	Unknown
BgFv-5	Buckles Site	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Homestead	Unknown
BgFv-4	North Grenville Public Library	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Residential, store	No Further CHVI
BgFv-3	Kars	Archaic, Early	Aboriginal	Beach, camp / campsite	No Further CHVI
BgFv-2	Salamander Ranch	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Unknown	Unknown
BgFv-19		Not Listed	Not Listed	Not Listed	Unknown
BgFv-18		Not Listed	Not Listed	Not Listed	Unknown
BgFv-17	Fenton Brickyard	Post-Contact	Not Listed	Manufacturing	Further CHVI
BgFv-16	Kemptville Post Office	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Post office	No Further CHVI
BgFv-15	Cassidy	Post-Contact	Not Listed	Farmstead, midden	No Further CHVI
BgFv-14	Sipes Cabin Site	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Cabin	Further CHVI
BgFv-13	Rideau Lakes Lime Kiln	Other	OtherEuro- Canadian	Other Lime Kiln	No Further CHVI
BgFv-12	Caughey Shanty 2 Site	Post-Contact	Not Listed	Farmstead	Further CHVI
BgFv-11	Caughey Shanty 1 Site	Post-Contact	Not Listed	Homestead	No Further CHVI
BgFv-10	Allen Creek Site	Woodland, Middle	Not Listed	Scatter	No Further CHVI
BgFv-1	Lewis/Bennett	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Homestead	Unknown
BgFt-9	Brennan Farm	Post-Contact	Not Listed	Farmstead, homestead	Further CHVI
BgFt-8	St. Pierre Quarry	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Homestead	No Further CHVI



Borden Number	Site Name	Time Period	Affinity	Site Type	Current Development Review Status
BgFt-7	Droppo	Post-Contact, Pre-Contact	Aboriginal, Euro- Canadian	Not Listed	Unknown
BgFt-6	Chesterville 2	Archaic, Late, Woodland, Late	Aboriginal	Unknown	Unknown
BgFt-5	Forward 1	Not Listed	Not Listed	Not Listed	Unknown
BgFt-4	Chesterville 1	Not Listed	Not Listed	Not Listed	Unknown
BgFt-3	Kittle Creek 1	Woodland, Middle	Not Listed	Unknown	Unknown
BgFt-2	Shane	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	House	Unknown
BgFt-1	Winchester Springs Cemetary	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Burial	Unknown
BgFs-3		Post-Contact	Not Listed	Scatter	Further CHVI
BgFr-8	Adams	Archaic, Middle	Aboriginal	Othercamp/campsite	Unknown
BgFr-7	St. David's Cemetery	Woodland, Late	Aboriginal, OtherSt.Lawrence	Othercamp/campsite	Unknown
BgFr-3	Osnabruck Meter Station Site	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Homestead	Unknown
BgFr-12		Post-Contact	Not Listed	Homestead	Further CHVI
BgFr-11		Post-Contact	Not Listed	Homestead	Further CHVI
BgFr-10		Post-Contact	Not Listed	Farmstead, homestead	Further CHVI
BfFv-18		Other	OtherHistoric Euro Canadian	OtherHistoric Euro Canadian	No Further CHVI
BfFv-17		Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Homestead, midden	Further CHVI
BfFv-15	Straby	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Homestead	Unknown
BfFv-12	Beach Road Site	Post-Contact	Euro-Canadian	Homestead	Unknown
BfFu-2	Wilson-Webster	Pre-Contact	Aboriginal	Findspot	Unknown
BfFr-2	Santa Cruz	Woodland, Late	Aboriginal, OtherSt.Lawrence	Othercamp/campsite	Unknown
BfFr-1	Henry	Woodland, Late	Aboriginal, OtherSt.Lawrence	Unknown	Unknown

The Beckstead Site (BfFt-1) represents a Late Woodland Period village site located south of Williamsburg along Highway 31. The earliest known description of the site comes from 1861 (Croil 1861) and describes the site as consisting of an earthen enclosure measuring approximately 18 inches high and covering an area of approximately 3 to 4 acres. Ploughing within the earthen enclosure during the early 19th century unearthed at least six human skulls, sherds of pottery, and dried maize.

Over the next century, the site was subject to erosion and looting resulting in the site location no longer being recognizable from the surface. It was not until 1962 when the first systematic archaeological excavations took place under the direction of James Pendergast who had taken an interest in the site. The 1962 excavation resulted in the identification of three midden areas. Pendergast (1984) undertook a second larger excavation in



1977 with the support of National Museum of Man, the Archaeological Survey of Canada, and members of the Ontario Archaeological Society to mitigate a 145 m long and 4.5 m wide portion of the site located along the east side of Highway 31 that was to be impacted by the widening of the highway. The 1977 excavations identified the remains of four long houses, eighteen burials, and several additional disarticulated remains belonging to 5 adults whose remains Pendergast suggested may represent ceremonially cannibalized prisoners of war. The presence of steatite beads, one marine shell bead, and a European blue glass trade bead indicated the inhabitants of the village participated in the trade of long distance goods, possibly being transported along the St. Lawrence River. The earthen embarkment suggests the village was likely protected by a defensive feature, such as a palisade.

Pendergast (1984) interpreted the Beckstead Site as an inland farming village inhabited by the St. Lawrence Iroquois. As his excavations uncovered relatively limited quantities of artifacts and an absence of large ash deposits, Pendergast (1984) suggests that the Beckstead Site may have been occupied for a short period of time or, alternatively, occupied by a small population. As the excavation was limited to the area to be disturbed by the widening of Highway 31, Pendergast did not excavate any of the long houses in their entirety. Using the locations of the earthen enclosure walls, he estimated the size of the site as approximately 3 acres (see supplementary documentation). Based on his estimates, the village is interpreted to extend west of Highway 31 and east of the extent of his excavations during the 1970s.

BfFt-10 represents an Indigenous archaeological site located in an agricultural field to the east of County Road 31 and within 300 m of the study area. Limited information on BfFt-10 is available from the ASDB and the site report is presently awaiting review, and was not available on Past Portal for the current Stage 1 assessment report. Based on the information provided to the MHSTCI, the site has been deemed to have further CHVI and recommended for a Stage 3 site-specific assessment.

The Steward Site (BfFt-2), a Late Woodland Period fishing station consisting of two houses, one of which contained burials of two fetuses and an infant, and a stratified midden is located within the Town of Morrisburg near the shore of the St. Lawrence River (Jamieson 1982). The Steward Site is located approximately 1 km west from the southern end of the study area.

3.4 Assessing Archaeological Potential

Archaeological potential is established by determining the likelihood that archaeological resources may be present within a specific study area. In accordance with the MHSTCI's 2011 Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists the following are features or characteristics that indicate archaeological potential:

- Previously identified archaeological sites;
- Water sources:
 - Primary water sources (lakes, rivers, streams, creeks);
 - Secondary water sources (intermittent streams and creeks; springs; marshes; swamps);
 - Features indicating past water sources (e.g. glacial lake shorelines indicated by the presence of raised gravel, sand, or beach ridges; relic river or stream channels indicated by clear dip or swale in the topography; shorelines of drained lakes or marshes; and cobble beaches);
 - Accessible or inaccessible shoreline (e.g., high bluffs, swamps or marsh fields by the edge of a lake; sandbars stretching into marsh);
- Elevated topography (eskers, drumlins, large knolls, plateaux);



Pockets of well drained sandy soil, especially near areas of heavy soil or rocky ground; Distinctive land formations that might have been special or spiritual places, such as waterfalls, rock outcrops, caverns, mounds, and promontories and their bases (there may be physical indicators of their use, such as burials, structures, offerings, rock paintings or carvings);

- Resource areas including:
 - Food or medicinal plants;
 - Scarce raw minerals (e.g. quartz, copper, ochre or outcrops of chert);
 - Early Euro-Canadian industry (fur trade, mining, logging);
- Areas of Euro-Canadian settlement; and,
- Early historical transportation routes.

In recommending a Stage 2 property survey based on determining archaeological potential for a study area, the MHSTCI stipulates the following:

- No areas within 300 m of a previously identified archaeological site; water sources; areas of early Euro-Canadian Settlement; or locations identified through local knowledge or informants can be recommended for exemption from further assessment;
- No areas within 100 m of early transportation routes can be recommended for exemption from further assessment; and,
- No areas within the property containing an elevated topography; pockets of well-drained sandy soil; distinctive land formations; or resource areas can be recommended for exemption from further assessment.

3.5 Features Indicating Archaeological Potential has been Removed

Archaeological potential can be determined not to be present when the area has been subject to extensive and deep land alterations that severely damaged the integrity to known or potential archaeological resources, including:

- Quarrying;
- Major landscaping involving grading below topsoil;
- Building footprints; and,
- Sewage and infrastructure development.

The placement of fill material over a known or potential archaeological site is not considered to be a land disturbance activity and does not negate the potential for archaeological resources unless there are known extensive and deep land alteration activities within the immediate location.

3.6 Potential for Archaeological Resources

Portions of the study area are considered to retain archaeological potential for historical Euro-Canadian resources due to the proximity to several areas of early Euro-Canadian settlement including the Towns of Morrisburg, Williamsburg, Winchester, and Winchester Springs as well as many historical farmsteads depicted on the 1879 plans (Map 3 and 4). County Road 31 follows the route of historical roads within Winchester and Williamsburg Townships. As per Standard 1d of Section 1.4.1 of the MHSTCI's Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists, all areas within 100 m of early historical transportation routes have archaeological potential.



The potential to recover evidence of significant Indigenous occupation within the study area has also been identified within 300 m of any historical water sources including the South Nation River. Additionally, the study area is located within 300 m of two registered Indigenous archaeological sites including a Woodland Period Village. The proposed well site is located along an esker and has archaeological potential in any areas where previous land disturbance activities did not extend below the natural subsoil.

An overview of the archaeological potential within the study area is provided on Map 10.



4.0 SITE INSPECTION

A visual inspection of the study area was conducted by Randy Hahn, PhD (P1107) of Golder on October 22, 2021, under PIF P1077-0066-2021. The weather was mostly cloudy with a high of 9 degrees Celsius. At no time were the weather or lighting conditions detrimental to the assessment of archaeological potential.

The proposed well site located along Lafleur Road is the site of a former sand pit and as such, much of the area has been disturbed down through subsoil resulting in no archaeological potential. The area has been subject to excavation to remove topsoil and thus lays lower than the surrounding topography (Image 1, p. 27). Evidence of extensive land disturbance in this location is visible on Map 2A and much of the boundary of the sand pit consists of exposed soils providing evidence of the former extraction activities (Images 2 and 3, pp. 27-28). The southern end of the proposed well location contains a water filled pit (visible on Map 2A) demonstrating that the area was excavated below the water table (Image 4, p. 28). A small strip of land between the sand pit and Lafleur Road does not appear to have been previously disturbed (Image 5, p. 29) and may retain archaeological potential.

The watermain corridor begins at the water tower located within the Town of Winchester (Map 2B) (Image 6, p. 29). The water tower is accessible by a gravel road at the corner of Centre and North Streets. Beyond the gravel road, not much of this portion of the corridor shows visible disturbance although there are likely buried utilities associated with the watermain.

Much of the portion of the study area passing through Winchester has been developed. The right-of-ways of Centre Street, Main Street, and St. Lawrence Street are almost entirely paved or ditched indicating low potential for archaeological resources (Images 7 to 12, pp. 30-32). Where the study area follows Falcone Lane before heading south to County Road 31, the study area passes through areas that appear relatively undisturbed and may retain archaeological potential.

The remaining portion of the study area follows County Road 31 down to Morrisburg. Much of the right-of-ways south to the South Nation River show some evidence of ditching though not to the extent to fully remove the archaeological potential (Image 13, p. 33). County Road 31 passes over the South Nation River in the vicinity of Cass Bridge (Map 2J). The bridge has been raised above the surrounding landscape creating slopes on either side (Images 14 and 15, pp. 33-34).

Ground disturbance along the right-of-way of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Road 31 between the South Nation River and Winchester Springs varies with some areas containing deep drainage ditches (Image 16, p. 34) while others appearing to be relatively undisturbed. Within Winchester Springs, the right-of-ways are almost entirely paved (Image 17, p. 35).

Disturbance due to the creation of drainage ditches is common between Winchester Springs and Williamsburg (Images 18 to 24, pp. 35-38). Where the right-of-way have not been impacted by ditching, the road typically has been artificially raised above the surrounding topography to facilitate drainage. Portions of the right-of-way located next to the artificially raised road may retain archaeological potential.

Within Williamsburg, the right-of-ways generally consist of sidewalk (Image 25, p. 39). A cemetery is located immediately to the west of the study area on the northern end of the town (Image 26, p. 39). The portion of County Road 31 located north of Tollgate Road appears to be artificially raised above the adjacent fields (Image 27, p.40). As there is no evidence the fill for the road came from the adjacent properties, these areas may still retain archaeological potential. The east side of the road is level with the surrounding landscape (Image 28, p. 40).



Between Williamsburg and Morrisburg, some portions of the right-of-way are significantly ditched (Image 29, p. 41) while others appear to remain relatively undisturbed (Image 30, p. 41). The landscape around the on-ramp for Highway 401 and Village Road has been significantly altered to create overpasses over the highway and a rail line (Images 31 to 33, pp. 42-43).

Within Morrisburg, the right-of-way is generally partially ditched (Image 34, p. 43). Just north of Hill Trailer Park Road, the study area travels west to the area of the Morrisburg water tower. Although the western end of the study area is located in an area that appears to have been recently disturbed by construction (Image 35, p. 44), much of this segment appears relatively undisturbed though there may be underground utilities associated with existing water infrastructure (Image 36, p. 44).



5.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

While portions of the study area have been impacted by roads, the creation of drainage ditches, and development of the Towns of Winchester, Winchester Springs, Morrisburg, and Williamsburg, portions of the study area appear to consist of relatively intact natural soils that retain the potential for archaeological resources. The Beckstead Site, representing a Woodland Period Village, is also located within the study area and retained Cultural Heritage Value or Interest. As the site only underwent limited excavation/mitigation for the previous widening of Highway 31 in 1977, the exact boundaries associated with the Beckstead Site have not been confirmed and will require additional archaeological assessment to define the previous excavation limits and area that have not been subjected to archaeological assessments that meet the MHSTCI Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists (2011). A map made during the previous excavation indicates County Road 31 passes through the middle of the village so there is a high probability for archaeological resources and human remains on both sides of the road (see supplementary documentation). Additionally, as County Road 31 was built over the site, intact archaeological resources likely remain under the road.

Village sites are uncommon in eastern Ontario and given the archaeological significance of the Beckstead Site as an example of a St. Lawrence Iroquois settlement, the potential to impact human remains, and its importance to local Indigenous communities, all efforts should be made to avoid impacting the site, including project reroute if possible. Local Indigenous communities should also be consulted prior to any decisions regarding potential impacts to the Beckstead Site or surrounding area so that they are provided with the opportunity to provide comments regarding the potential project impacts to the Indigenous site.

Mitigating the Beckstead Site will require significant archaeological excavation. As County Road 31 appears to have been built over the site, natural soil layers likely exist under the present roadway. Should ground disturbance occur in areas not previously mitigated through Pendergast's (1984) excavations, portions of the road and accompanying fill layers would need to be mechanically removed under the supervision of a licensed archaeologist so that the natural soil layers underneath could be assessed through hand excavation (e.g., shovel and trowel).

The site of the proposed well located west of Lafleur Road has been almost entirely disturbed by the pre-existing sand pit. As the surficial geology indicates the site is located along an esker, the potentially undisturbed soils located between Lafleur Road and the sand pit have potential for Indigenous archaeological resources and are recommended for Stage 2 test pit survey at 5 m intervals.



6.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

This Stage 1 archaeological assessment resulted in the following recommendations:

The Beckstead Site (BfFt-1) should be avoided and protected to prevent impact from potential landscape disturbances associated with the project. Should avoidance and protection not be possible, the Beckstead Site should be subject to Stage 3 site-specific assessment and Stage 4 mitigation of development impacts. The Stage 3 site specific assessment should involve the hand excavation of 1 m x 1 m test units at 5 m intervals in order to define the limits of the site and to develop an appropriate Stage 4 mitigation strategy. Based on the available information, intact portions of the Beckstead Site likely exist underneath County Road 31 and should any ground disturbance occur under the road in the vicinity of the site (See Maps SD1 and SD2 of the supplementary documentation), modern layers located above intact natural soils should be mechanically excavated under the supervision of a licensed archaeologist so that the intact natural soils can be subject to Stage 3 hand excavation prior to any development impacts.

- Registered archaeological Site (BfFt-10) is considered to possess Cultural Heritage Value to Interest. Should any impacts occur within 70 m of the site, archaeological monitoring may be required.
- 3) Due to the presence of the Beckstead Site (BfFt-1) within the study area, a Woodland Period Indigenous village, and registered site BfFt-10, representing an Indigenous occupation location pre-dating European contact, local Indigenous communities should be engaged in the project and consulted prior to any decisions regarding impact to the site. The Beckstead Site is a significant archaeological site known to contain human burials and has high cultural value or interest.
- 4) Given the location of a historic cemetery adjacent to County Road 31, and that the exact boundaries of the potential burials are currently unconfirmed (i.e., the potential for unmarked burials), further Stage 3 investigation will be necessary to confirm whether the cemetery extends into the study area. This will entail the use of a smooth-bucket backhoe or Gradall to strip topsoil following the length of the cemetery limits, within a width of 10 m, along the boundary that falls within the cemetery limits. Once the subsoil is exposed, if it has been determined that no burial shafts fall within the limits of construction, the topsoil will be returned and all excavated areas filled in. Should burial deposits be encountered, the MHSTCI and the BAO must be contacted immediately.
- 5) Portions of the study area identified as having archaeological potential as shown on Map 10 should undergo Stage 2 test pit survey at 5 m intervals prior to any development impacts.
- 6) Portions of the study area identified as sloped, disturbed, or permanently wet have low or no archaeological potential and require no additional archaeological assessment.
- Should the study area expand beyond the area shown on Map 10, additional archaeological assessment may be required.



7.0 ADVICE ON COMPLIANCE WITH LEGISLATION

This report is submitted to the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, as a condition of licensing in accordance with Part VI of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, R.S.O. 1990, c 0.18. The report is reviewed to ensure that it complies with the standards and guidelines that are issued by the Minister, and that the archaeological fieldwork and report recommendations ensure the conservation, protection and preservation of the cultural heritage of Ontario. When all matters relating to archaeological sites within the project area of a development proposal have been addressed to the satisfaction of the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries, a letter will be issued by the ministry stating that there are no further concerns with regard to alterations to archaeological sites by the proposed development.

It is an offence under Sections 48 and 69 of the *Ontario Heritage Act* for any party other than a licensed archaeologist to make any alteration to a known archaeological site or to remove any artifact or other physical evidence of past human use or activity from the site, until such time as a licensed archaeologist has completed archaeological fieldwork on the site, submitted a report to the Minister stating that the site has no further cultural heritage value or interest, and the report has been filed in the Ontario Public Register of Archaeology Reports referred to in Section 65.1 of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

Should previously undocumented archaeological resources be discovered, they may be a new archaeological site and therefore subject to Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*. The proponent or person discovering the archaeological resources must cease alteration of the site immediately and engage a licensed consultant archaeologist to carry out archaeological fieldwork, in compliance with Section 48 (1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act*.

The Funeral, Burial and Cremation Services Act, 2002, S.O. 2002, c.33, requires that any person discovering or having knowledge of a burial site shall immediately notify the police or coroner. It is recommended that the Registrar of Cemeteries at the Ontario Ministry of Consumer Services is also immediately notified.

Archaeological sites recommended for further archaeological fieldwork or protection remain subject to Section 48(1) of the *Ontario Heritage Act* and may not be altered, or have artifacts removed from them, except by a person holding an archaeological licence.



8.0 IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND LIMITATIONS OF THIS REPORT

Golder Associates Ltd. (Golder) has prepared this report in a manner consistent with that level of care and skill ordinarily exercised by members of the archaeological profession currently practicing under similar conditions in the jurisdiction in which the services are provided, subject to the time limits and physical constraints applicable to this report. No other warranty, expressed or implied is made.

This report has been prepared for the specific site, design objective, developments and purpose described to Golder by the J.L. Richards & Associates Limited (the Client). The factual data, interpretations and recommendations pertain to a specific project as described in this report and are not applicable to any other project or site location.

The information, recommendations and opinions expressed in this report are for the sole benefit of the Client. No other party may use or rely on this report or any portion thereof without Golder's express written consent. If the report was prepared to be included for a specific permit application process, then upon the reasonable request of the client, Golder may authorize in writing the use of this report by the regulatory agency as an Approved User for the specific and identified purpose of the applicable permit review process. Any other use of this report by others is prohibited and is without responsibility to Golder. The report, all plans, data, drawings and other documents as well as all electronic media prepared by Golder are considered its professional work product and shall remain the copyright property of Golder, who authorizes only the Client and Approved Users to make copies of the report, but only in such quantities as are reasonably necessary for the use of the report by those parties. The Client and Approved Users may not give, lend, sell, or otherwise make available the report or any portion thereof to any other party without the express written permission of Golder. The Client acknowledges the electronic media is susceptible to unauthorized modification, deterioration and incompatibility and therefore the Client cannot rely upon the electronic media versions of Golder's report or other work products.

Unless otherwise stated, the suggestions, recommendations and opinions given in this report are intended only for the guidance of the Client in the design of the specific project.

Special risks occur whenever archaeological investigations are applied to identify subsurface conditions and even a comprehensive investigation, sampling and testing program may fail to detect all or certain archaeological resources. The sampling strategies incorporated in this study comply with those identified in the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries' *Standards and Guidelines for Consultant Archaeologists* (2011).



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10.0 IMAGES



Image 1: View northwest of the proposed well study area located west of Lafleur Road.



Image 2: View northwest showing the well study area has been excavated down into subsoil during its use as a sand pit.



Image 3: View east from within the proposed well study area showing the depth of the sand pit excavation. Lafleur Road is located along the high ground in the background.



Image 4: Flooded pit within the well study area showing excavation below the water table, view northeast.



Image 5: Undisturbed portion of the proposed well study area located between the sand pit and Lafleur Road, view northwest.



Image 6: Water tower located at the north end of the study area, view southwest.



Image 7: View northwest along Centre Street within Winchester. The right-of-way consists of sidewalk.



Image 8: View northeast along Winchester's Main Street showing disturbed right-of-way.



Image 9: View southeast of the intersection of St. Lawrence Street and Church Street.



Image 10: View southeast showing paved right-of-way of St. Lawrence Street within Winchester.



Image 11: View southeast showing ditched right-of-way along the east side of St. Lawrence Street within Winchester.



Image 12: Railway crossing within Winchester, view south.



Image 13: Ditched right-of-way of County Road 31, view northwest.



Image 14: Bridge over the South Nation River, view east. The banks of the river in the vicinity of the bridge are sloped.



Image 15: View southeast of the east side of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry Road 31 in the vicinity of Cass Bridge showing the road has been built up above the surrounding landscape.



Image 16: Ditched right of way located north of Winchester Springs, view northeast.



Image 17: Right-of-way of County Road 31 through Winchester Springs, view southeast.



Image 18: Ditched right-of way, view northwest.



Image 19: Bridge over McMartin Drain, view northwest.



Image 20: View southeast along west side of County Road 31.



Image 21: Raised portion of County Road 31 with bridge over McMartin Drain, view southeast.



Image 22: Right-of-way of County Road 31, view southeast.



Image 23: Stretch of County Road 31 with relatively unmodified right-of-way, view southeast.



Image 24: View southeast of right-of-way at the intersection of County Road 31 and Forest Road.



Image 25: Present conditions of right-of-way through Williamsburg.



Image 26: Cemetery in Williamsburg located on the west side of County Road 31, view southwest.



Image 27: West side of County Road 31 located north of Tollgate Road showing road has been built up from the natural landscape, view northwest.



Image 28: View southeast along County Road 31.



Image 29: Drainage ditch located alongside County Road 31, view southeast.



Image 30: Relatively unmodified portion of the County Road 31 right-of-way located near the McHaffie Flea Market, view southeast.



Image 31: View southeast of the eastern side of the Highway 401 underpass.



Image 32: View southeast of the western side of the Highway 401 underpass.



Image 33: View northwest showing the east side of the rail line underpass located north of Morrisburg.



Image 34: View northwest of segment of County Road 31 that passes through Morrisburg, view northwest.



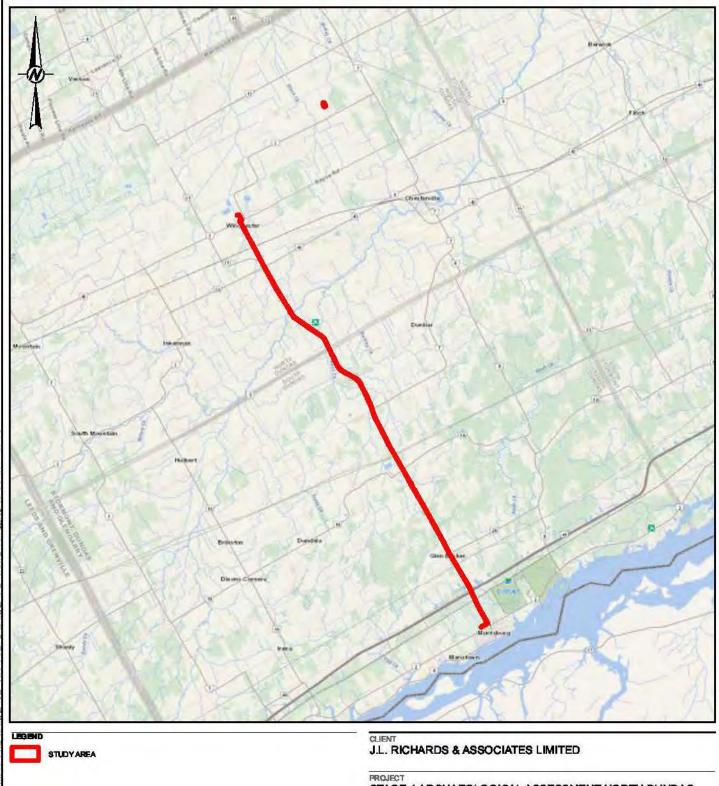
Image 35: Disturbed area located at the southern end of the watermain corridor, view west.



Image 36: View northeast of portion of study area located behind the Morrisburg Canadian Tire.

11.0 MAPS





STAGE 1 ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT NORTH DUNDAS DRINKING WATER SUPPLY SYSTEM EXPANSION, VARIOUS LOTS AND CONCESSIONS, GEOGRAPHIC TOWNSHIPS OF WINCHESTER AND WILLIAMSBURGH, UNITED COUNTIES OF STORMONT, DUNDAS, AND GLENGARRY

KEY PLAN

CONSULTANT

8,000 1200,000 METRES

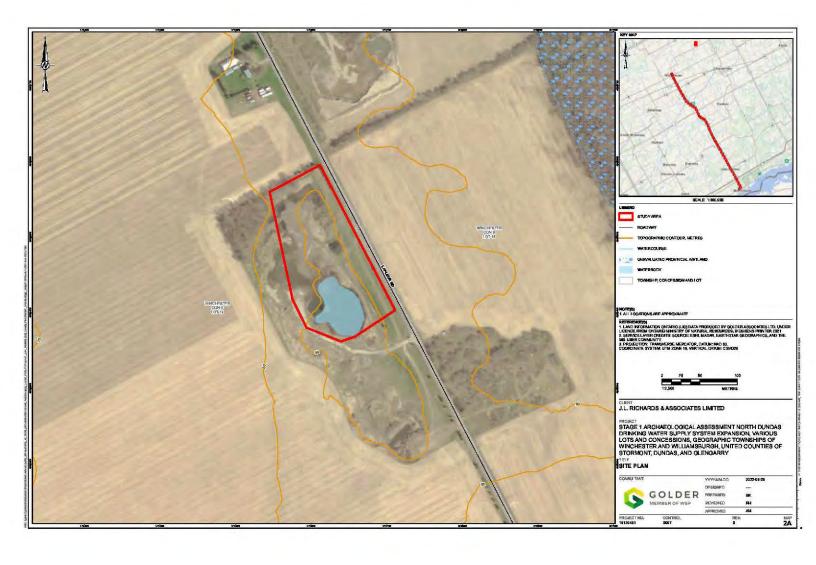
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	MEMBER OF WSP

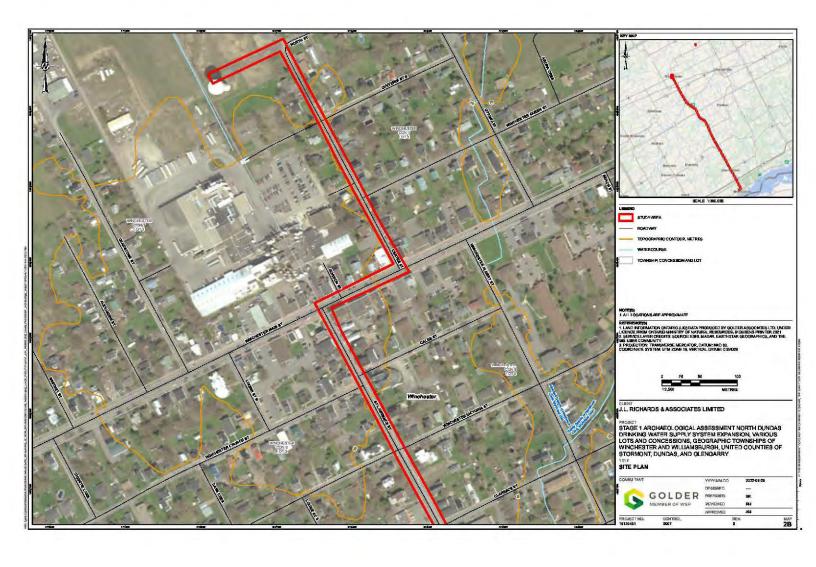
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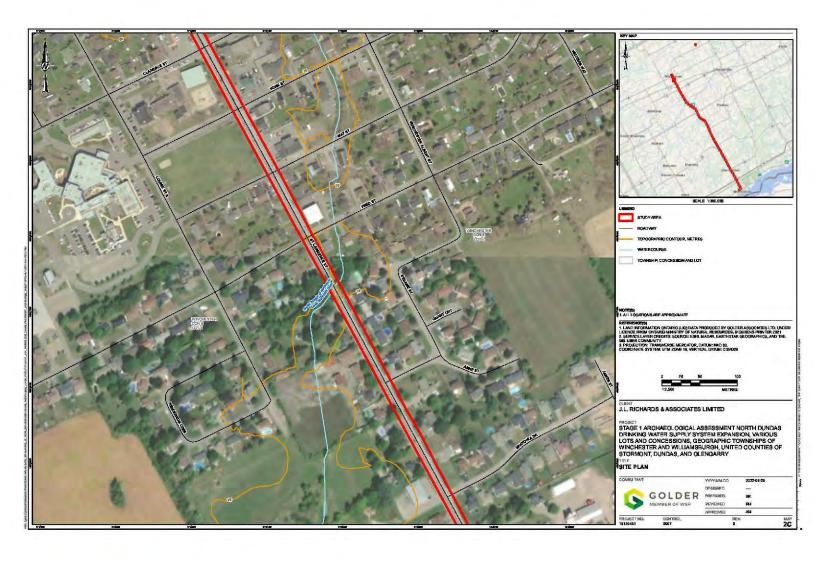
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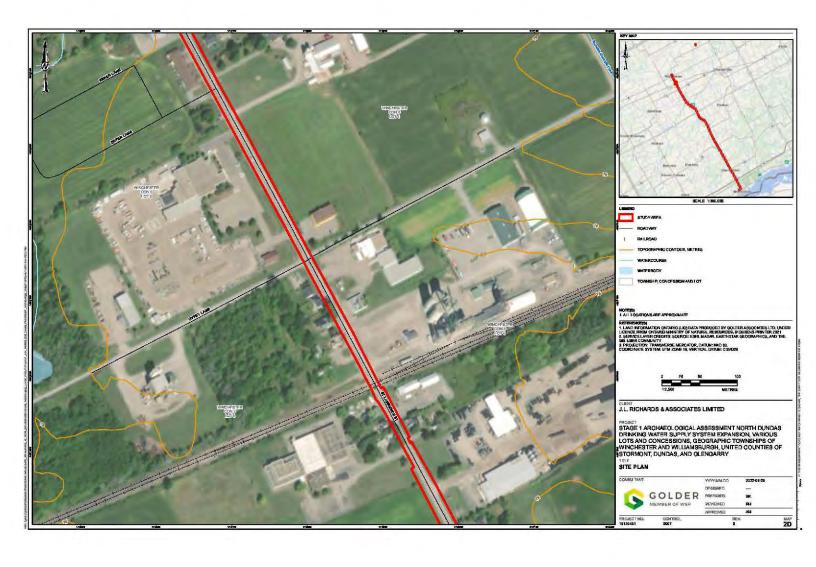
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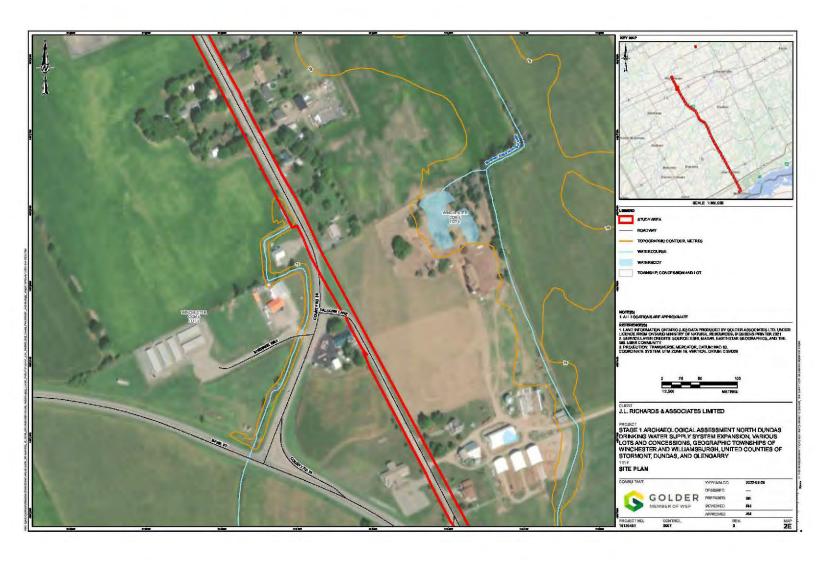
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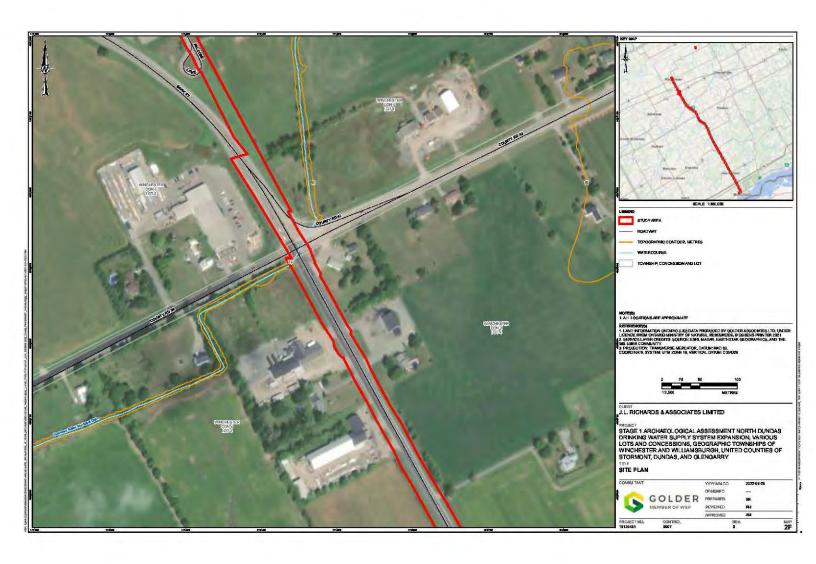


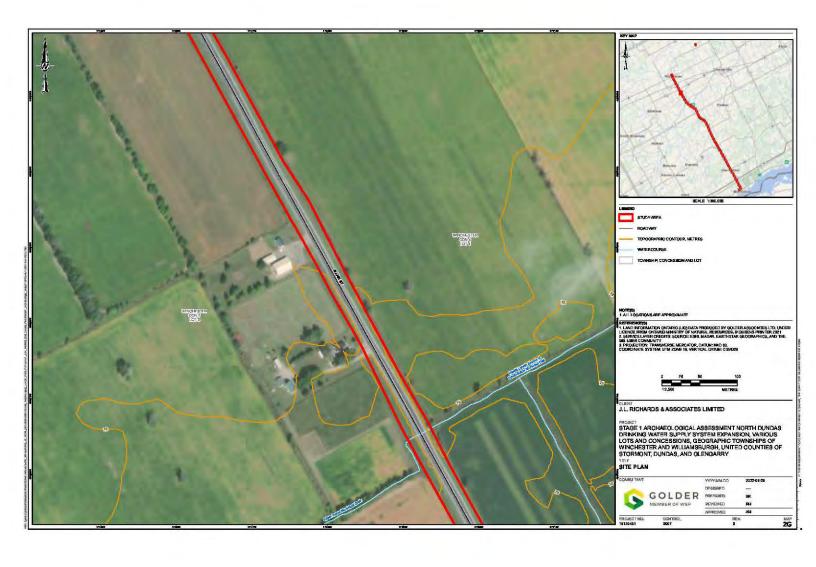


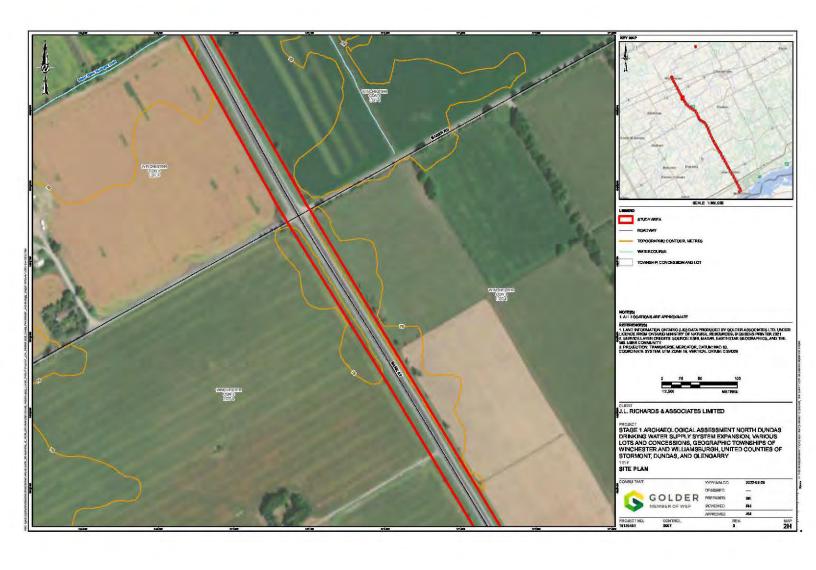


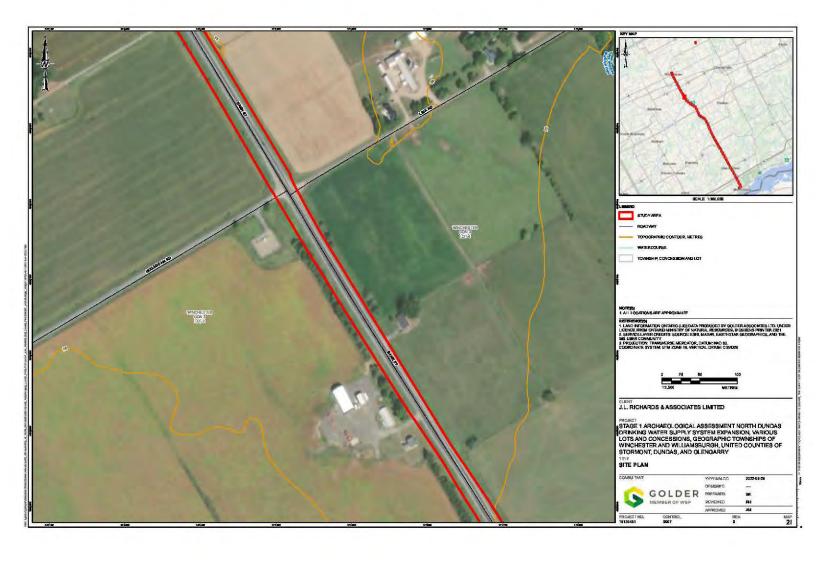


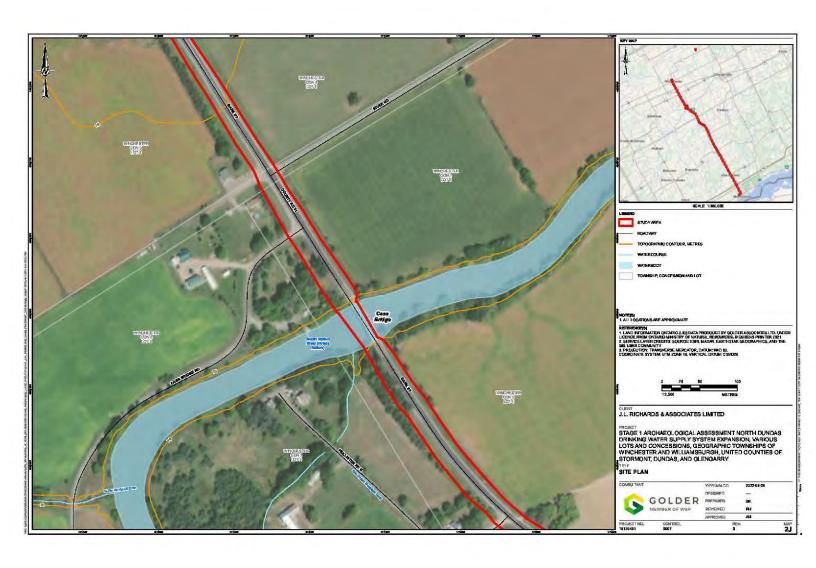


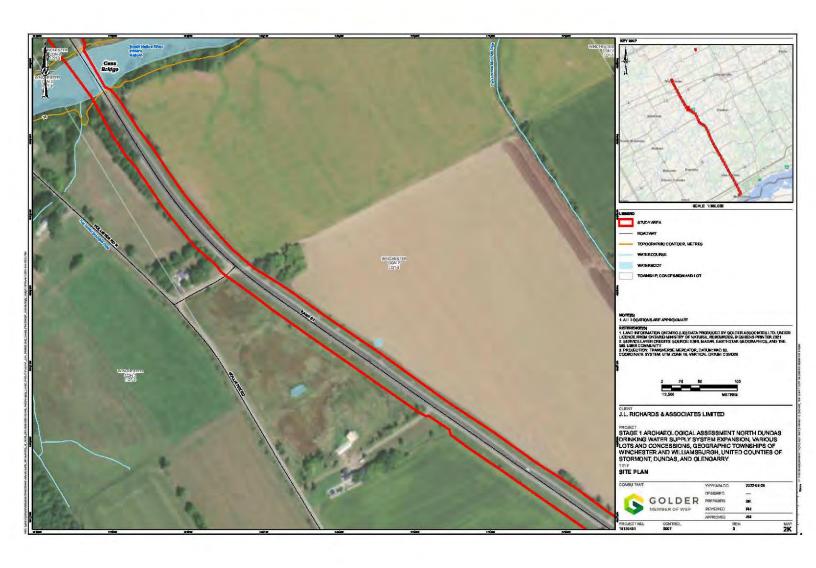


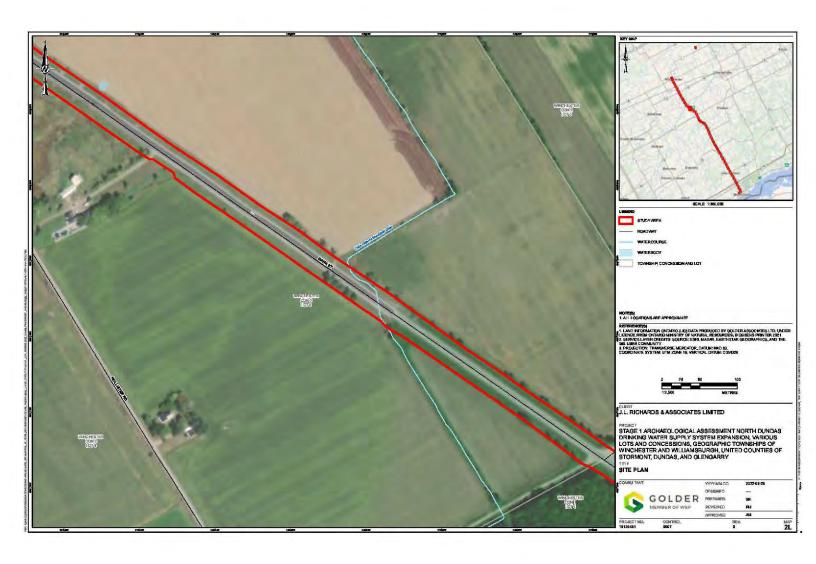


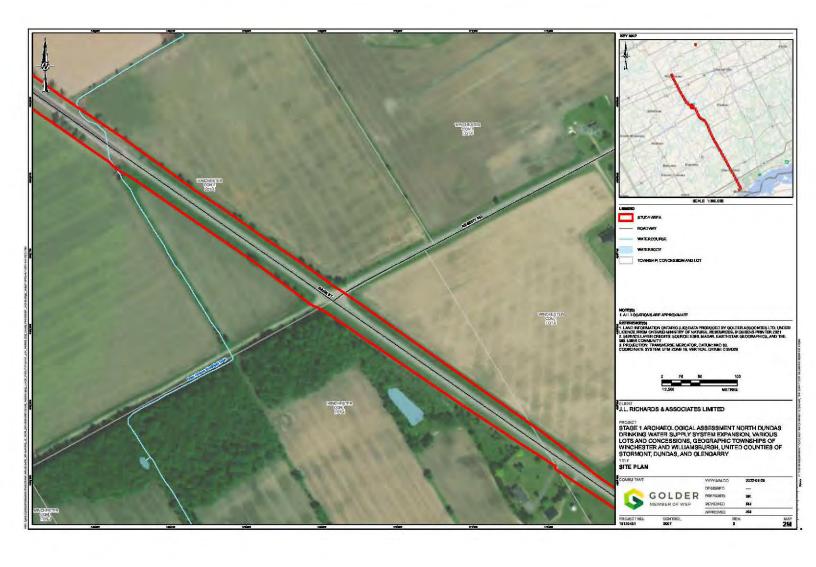


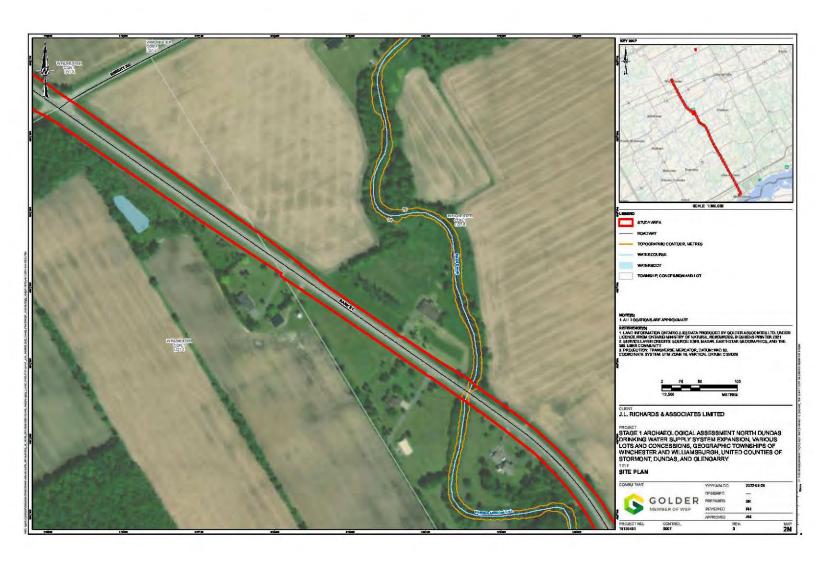


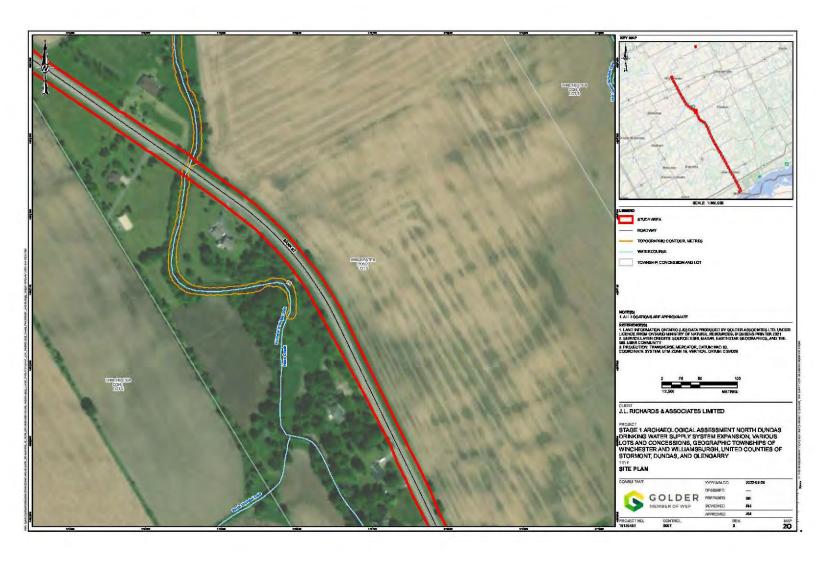


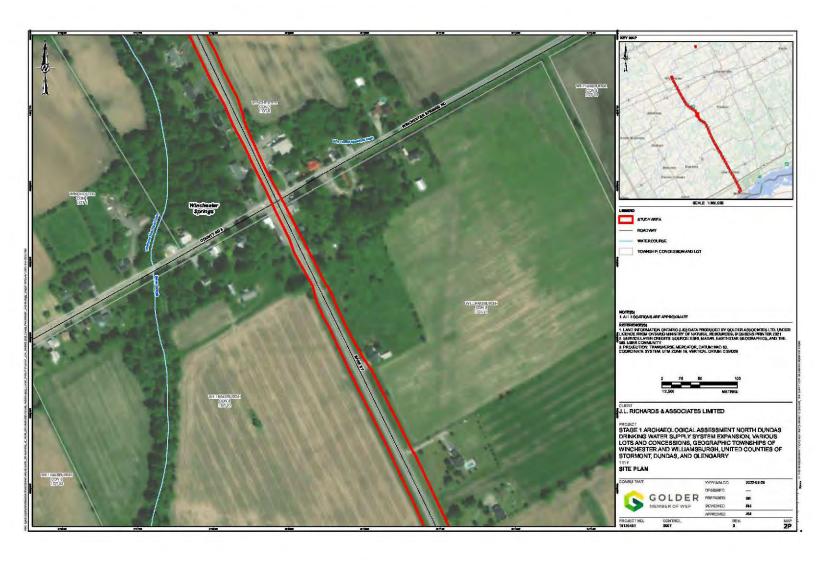




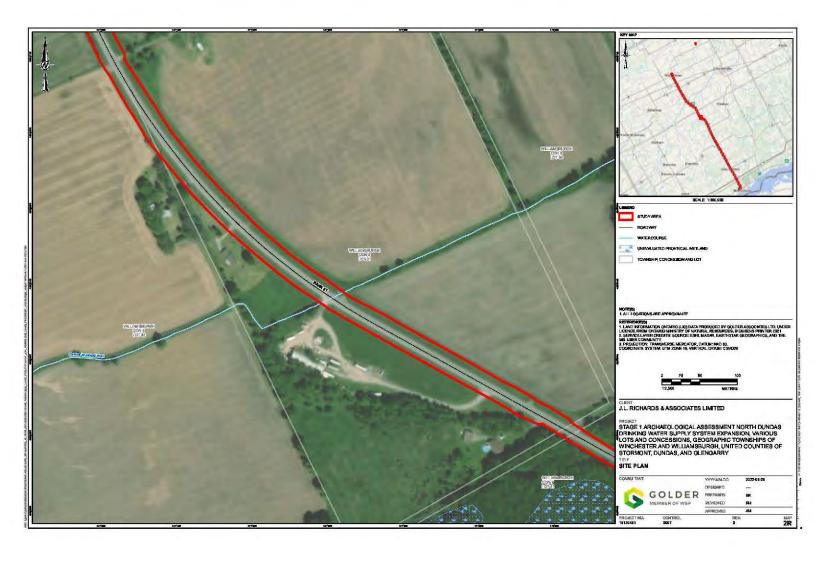


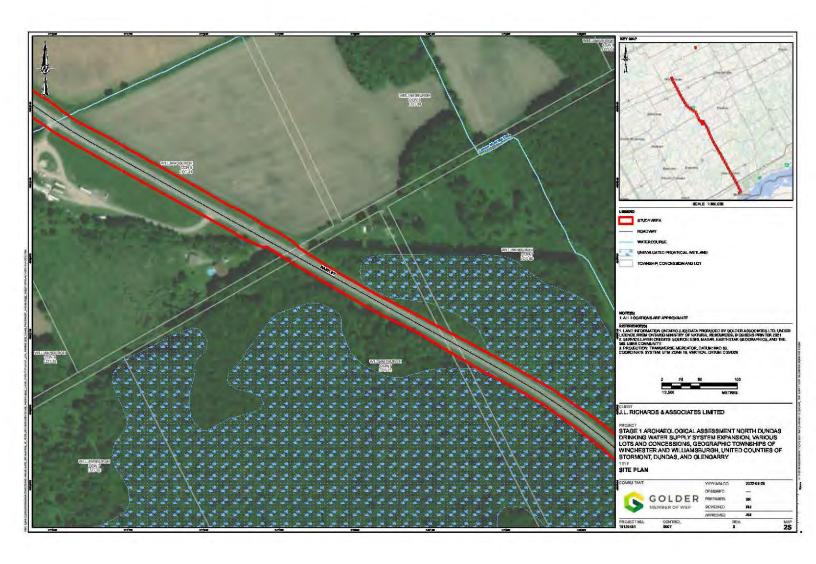


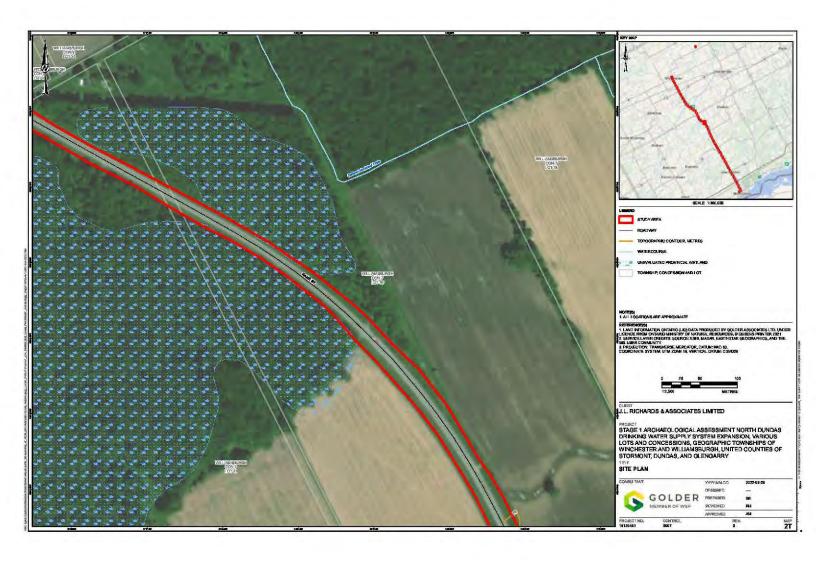


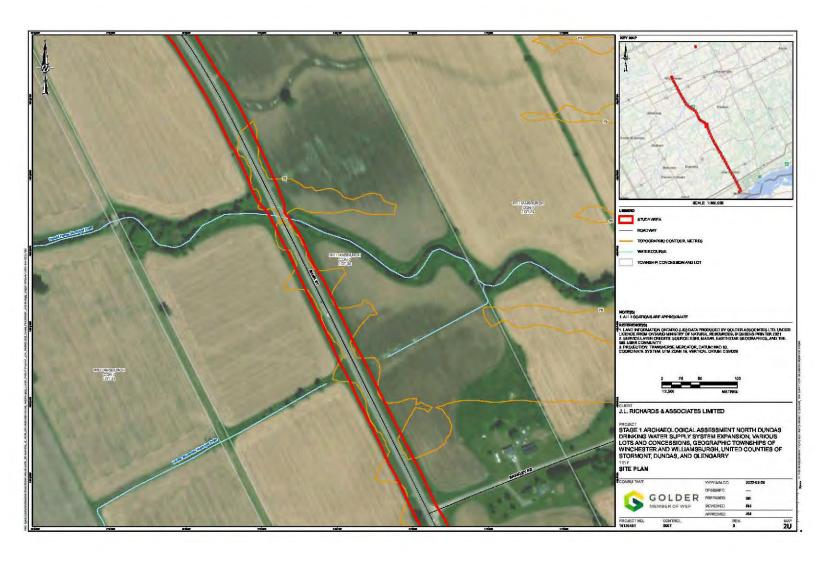


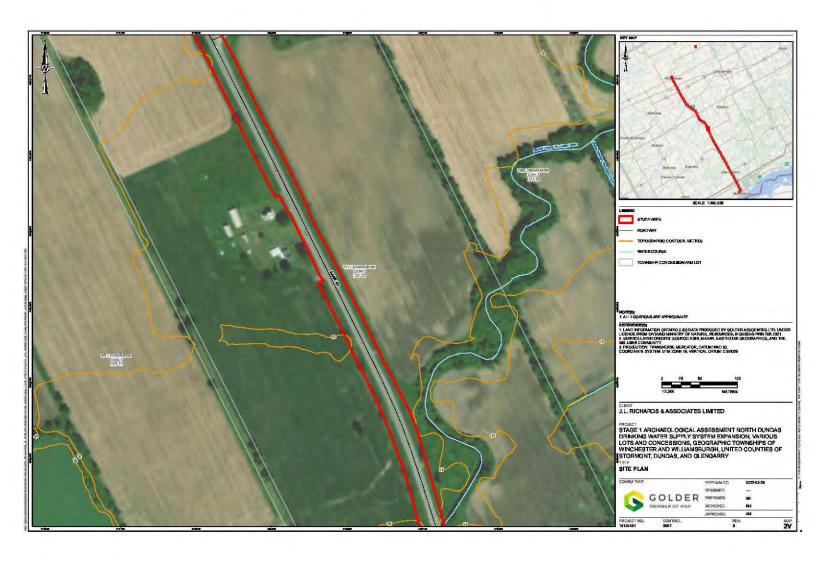


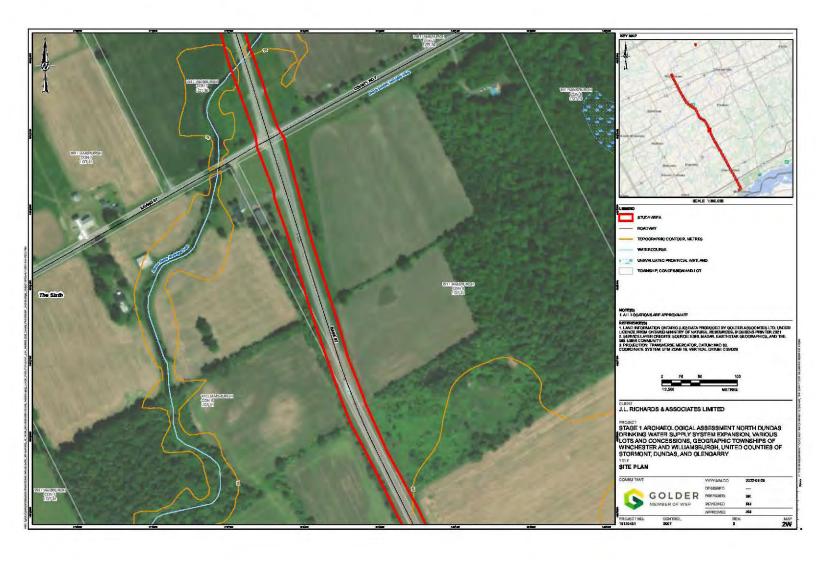


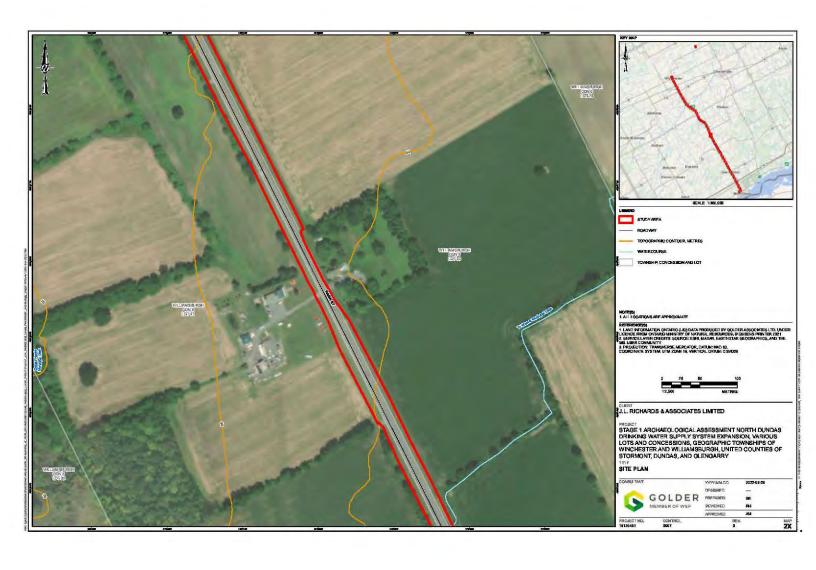


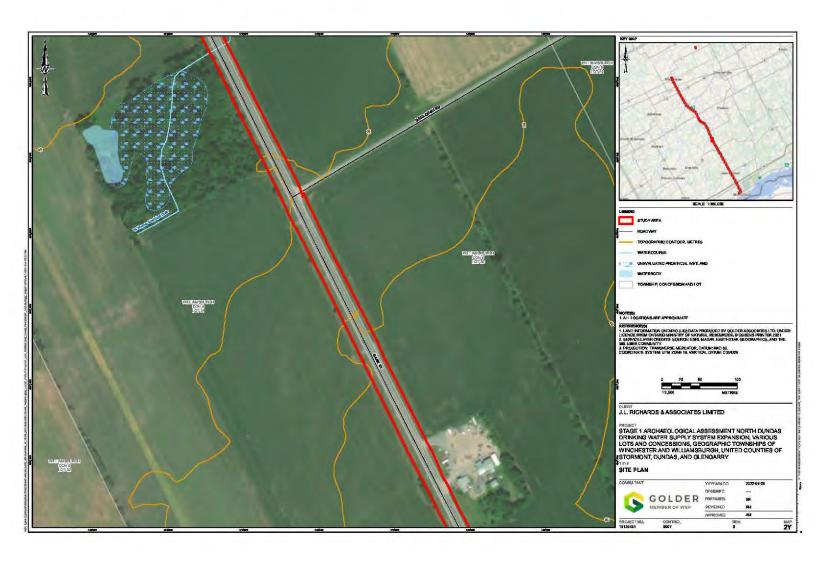


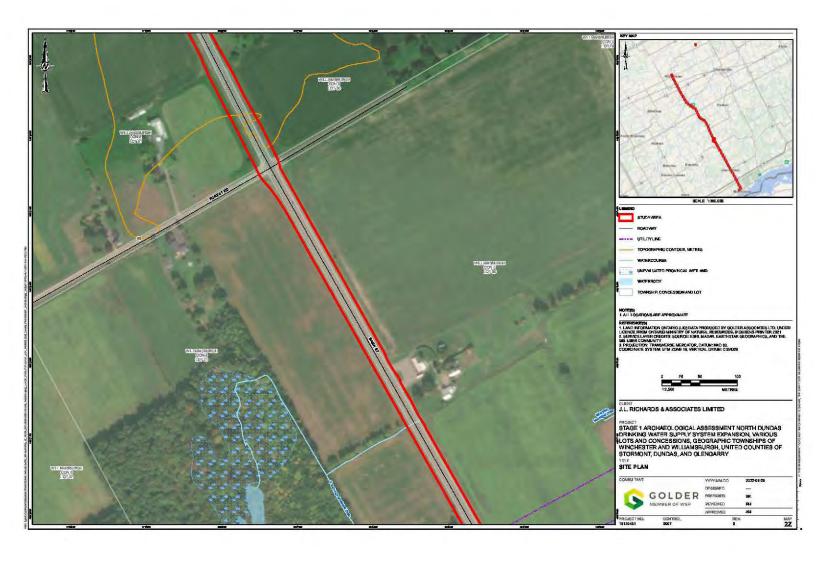


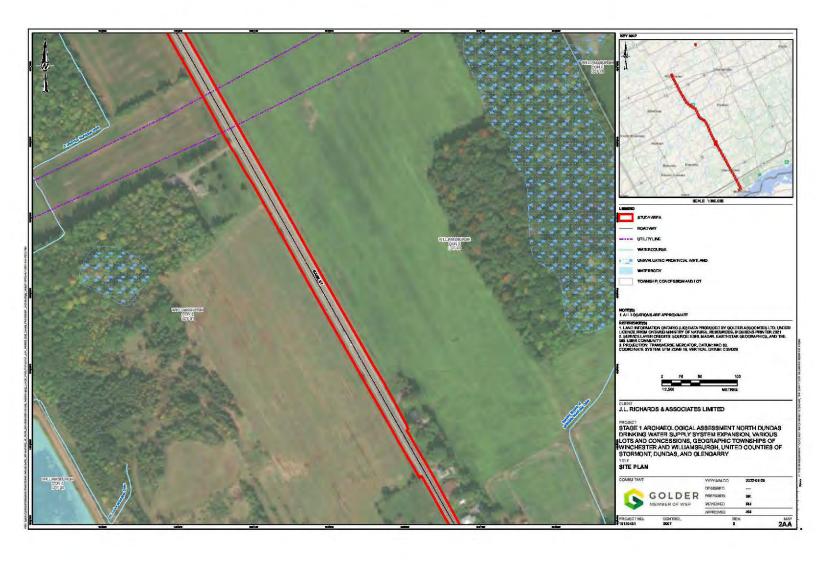


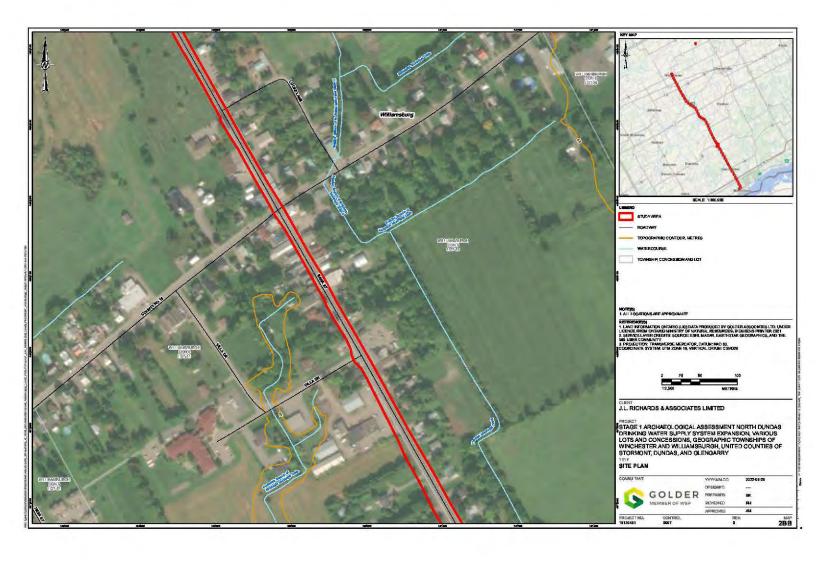


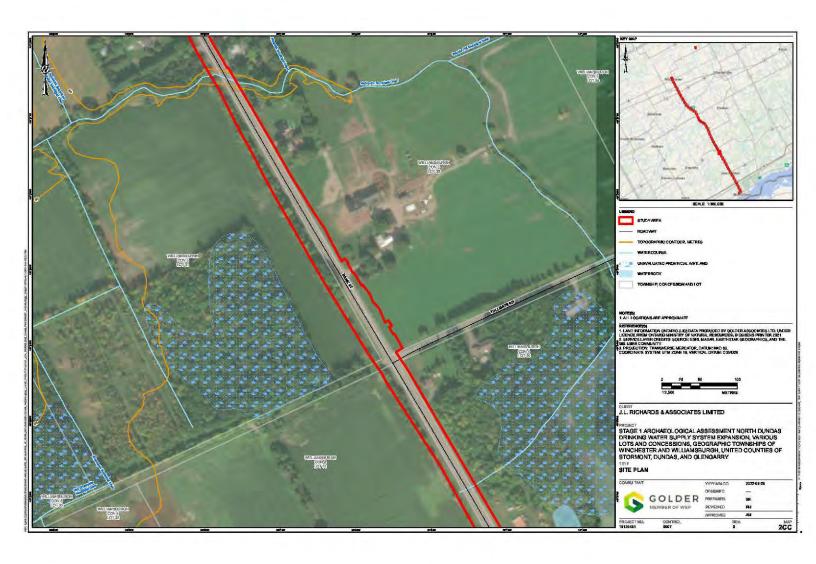


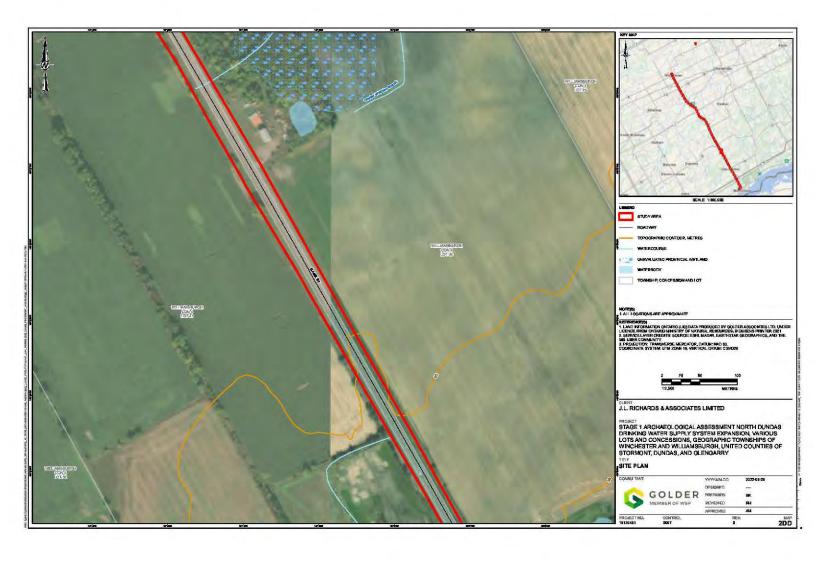


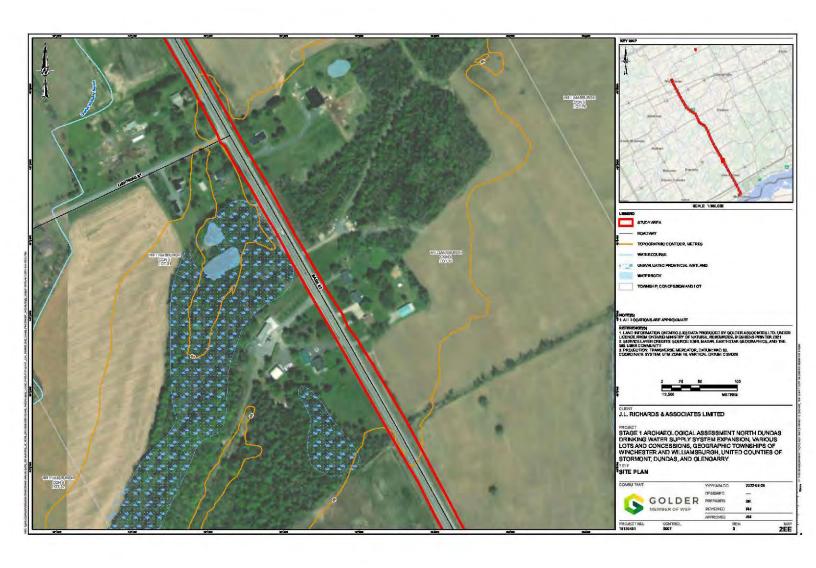


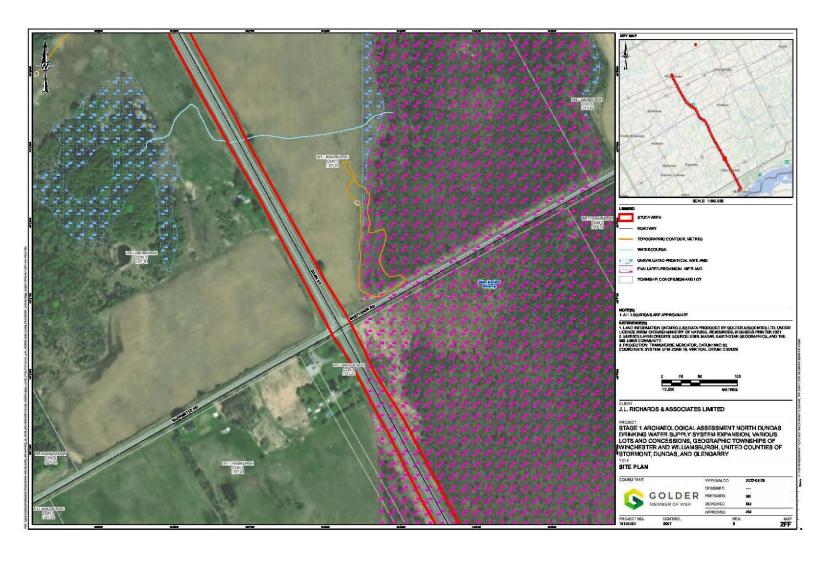




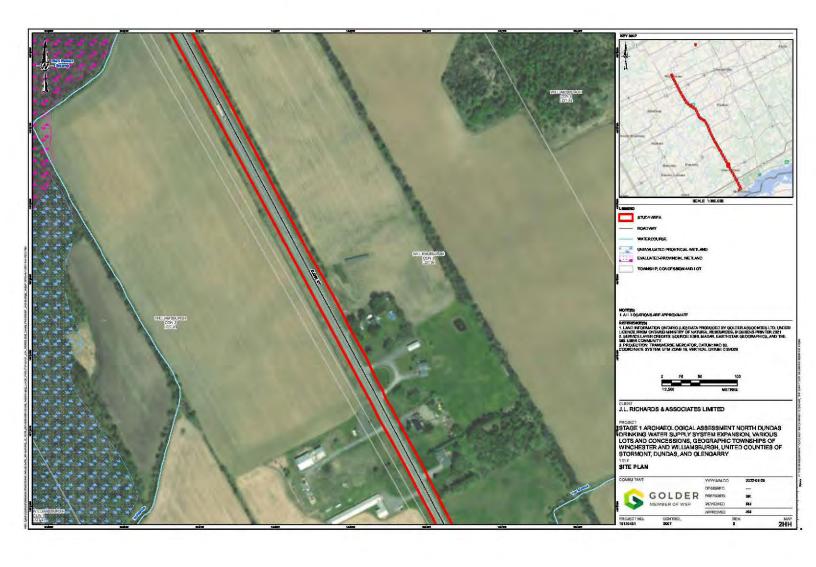


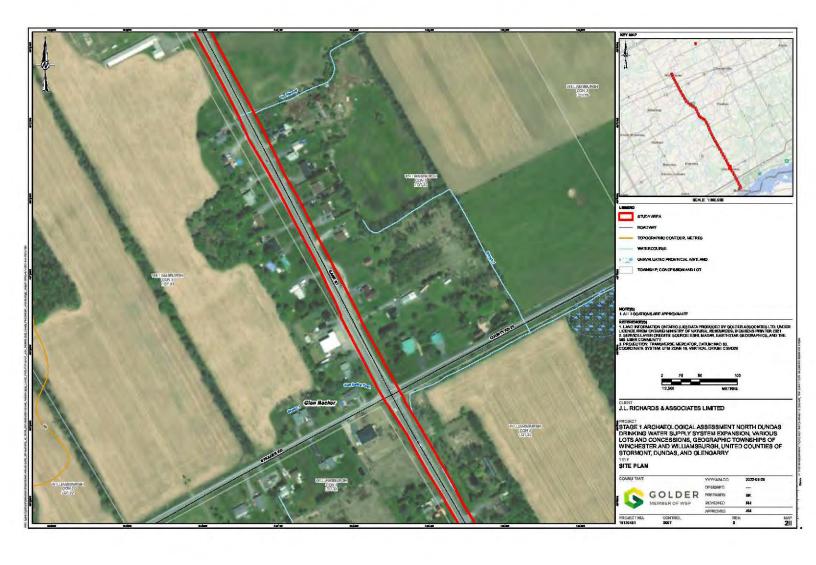


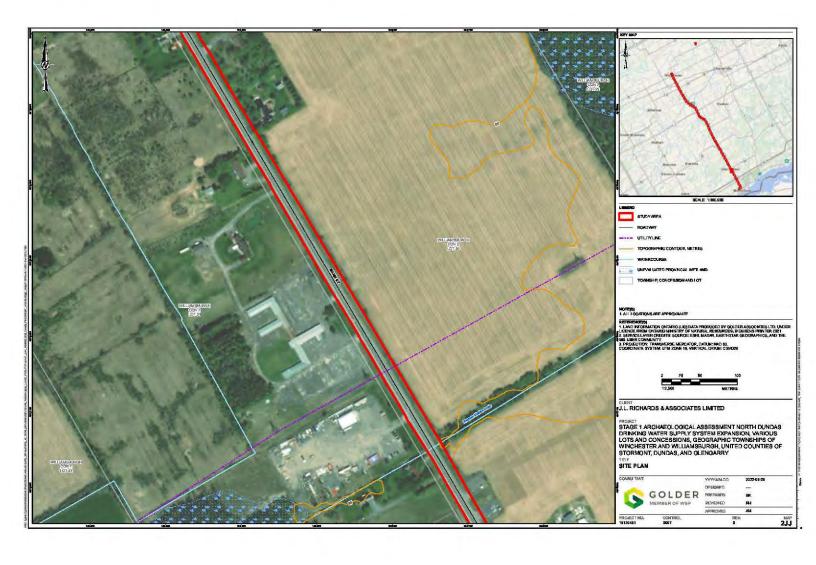


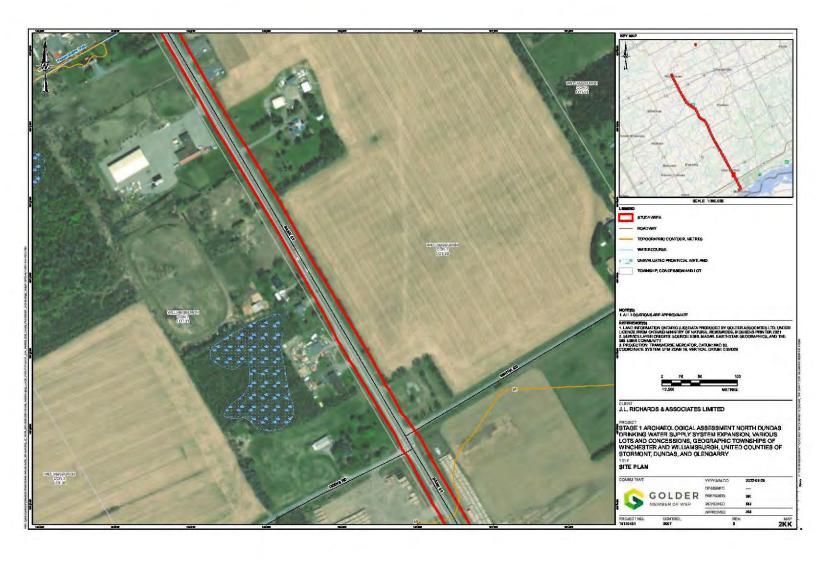


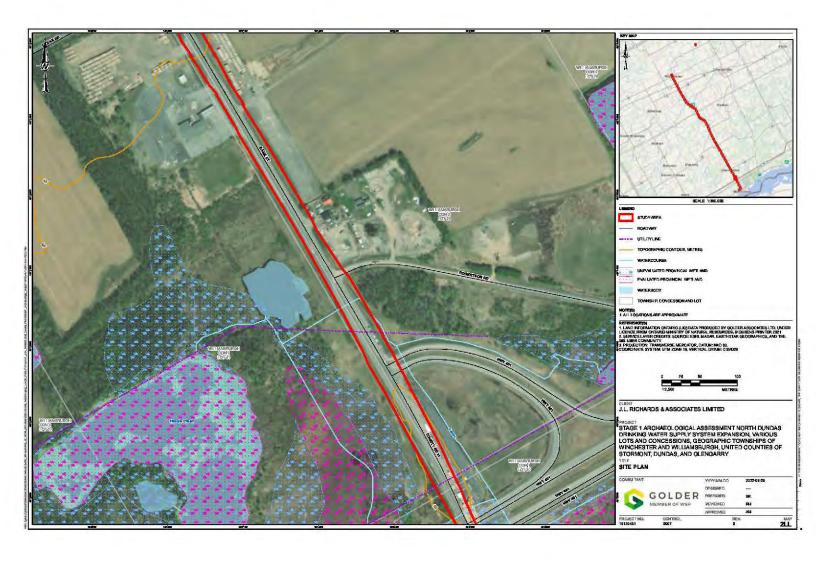


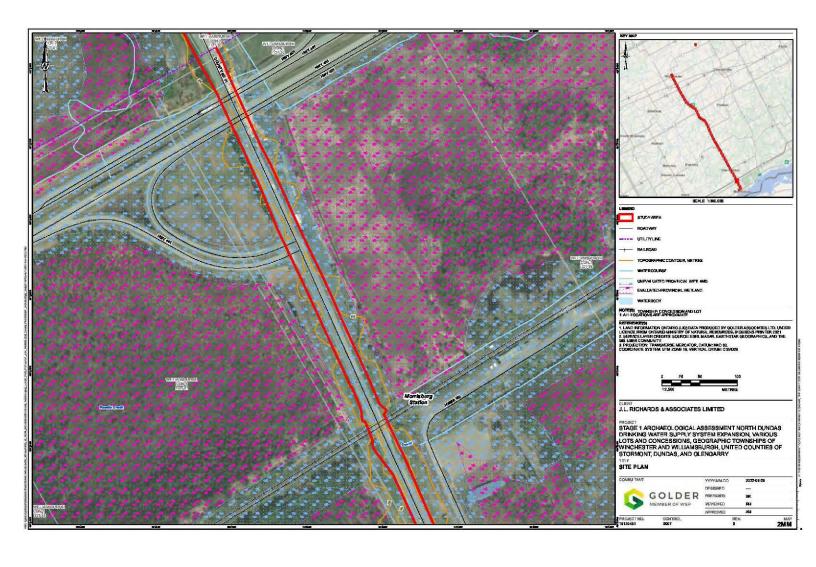


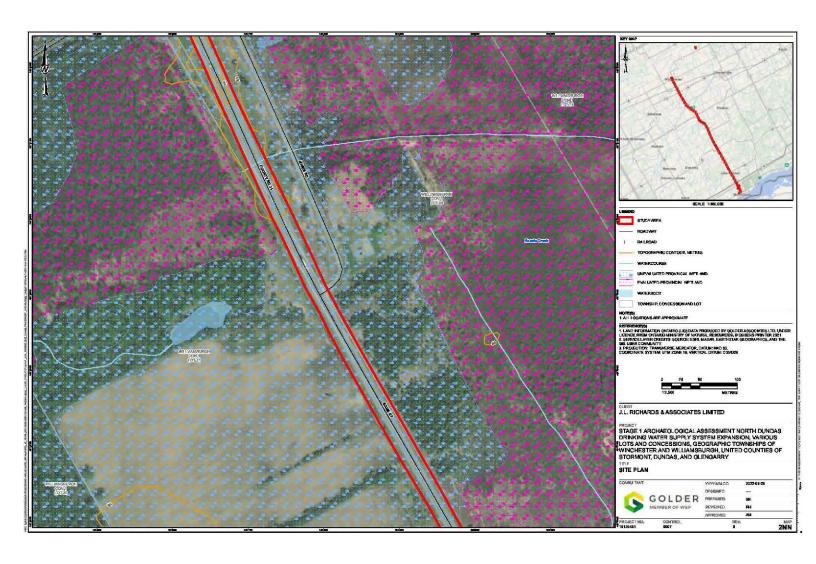


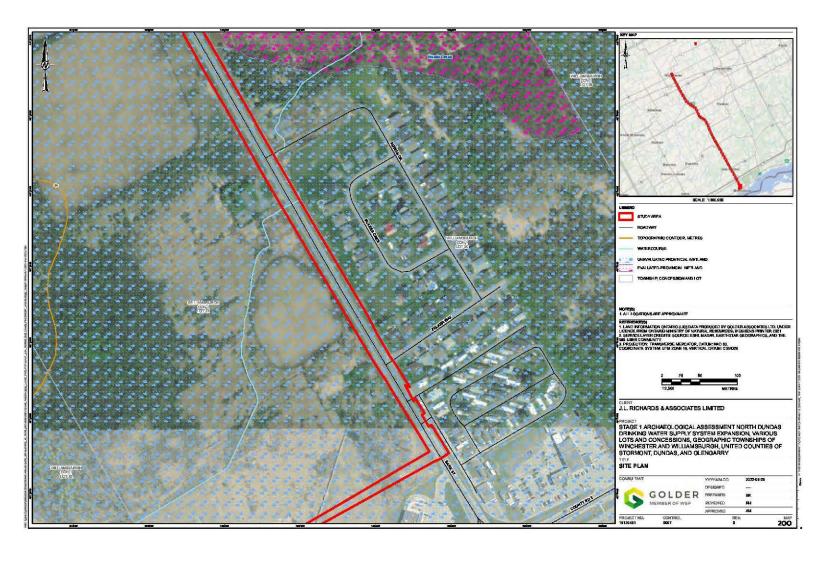


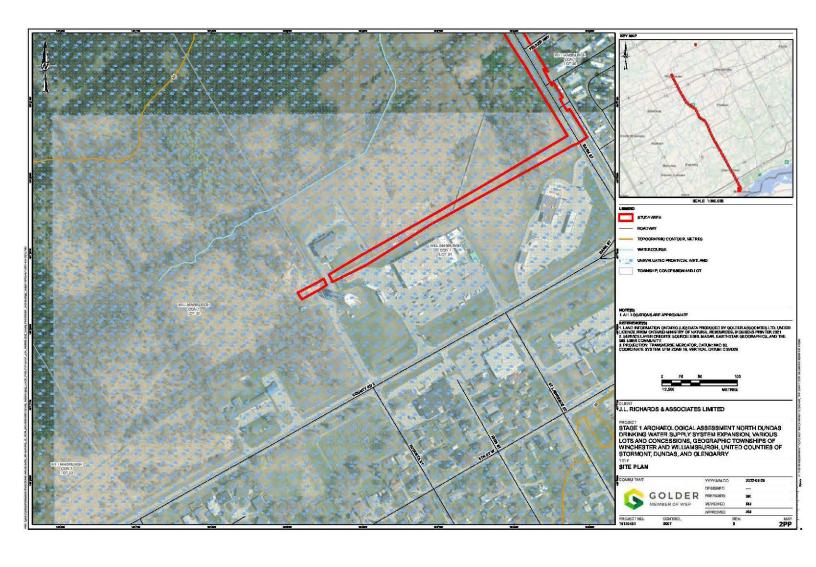


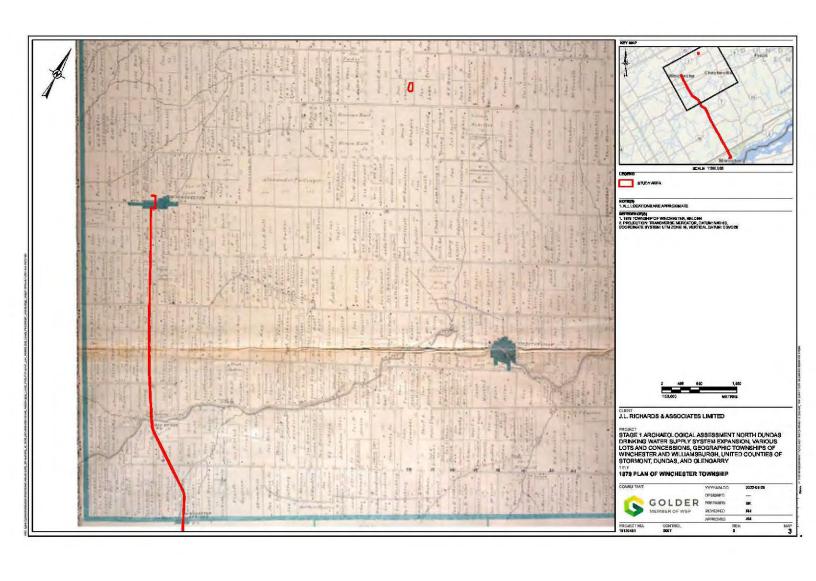


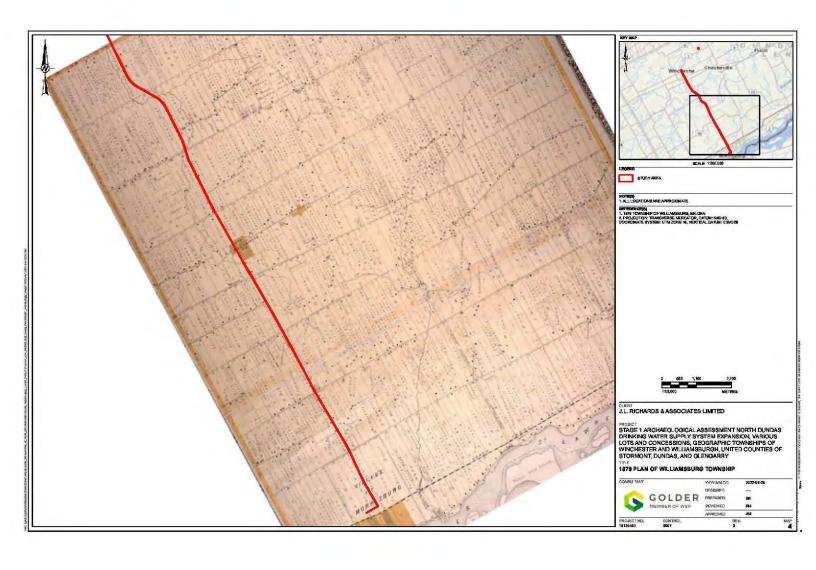


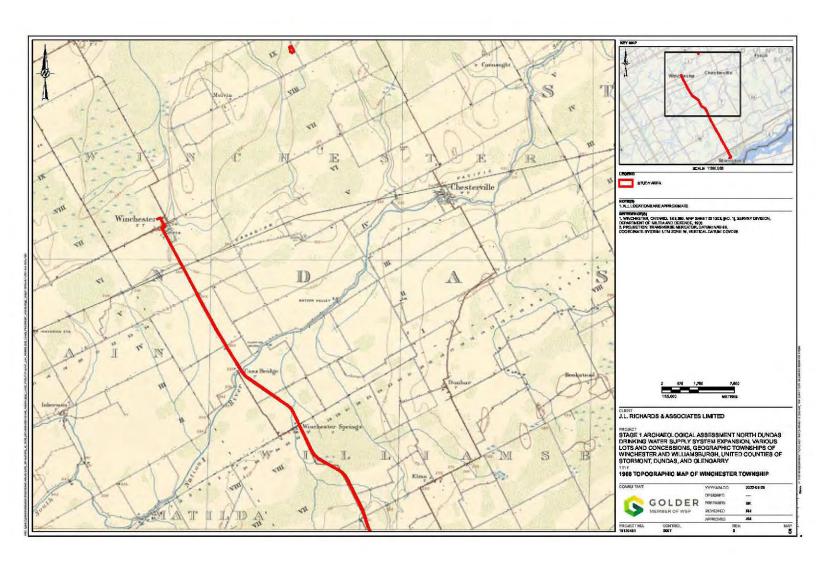


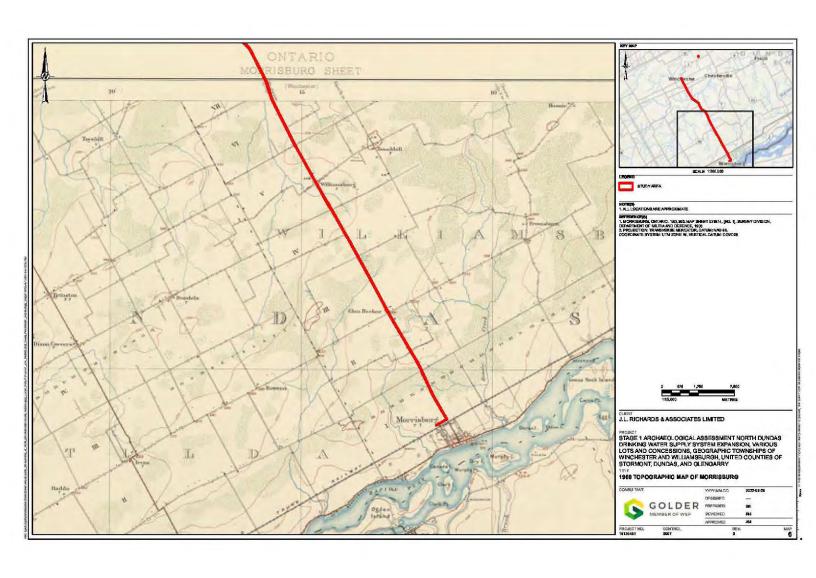


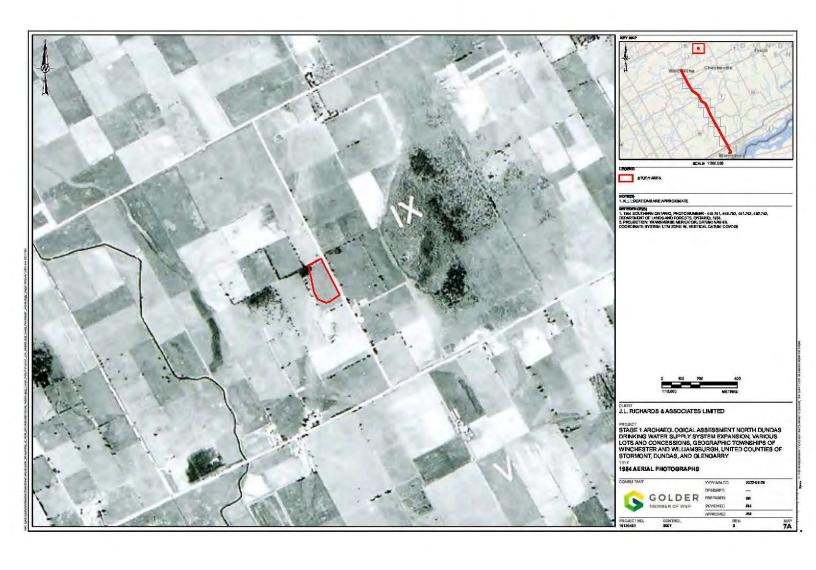


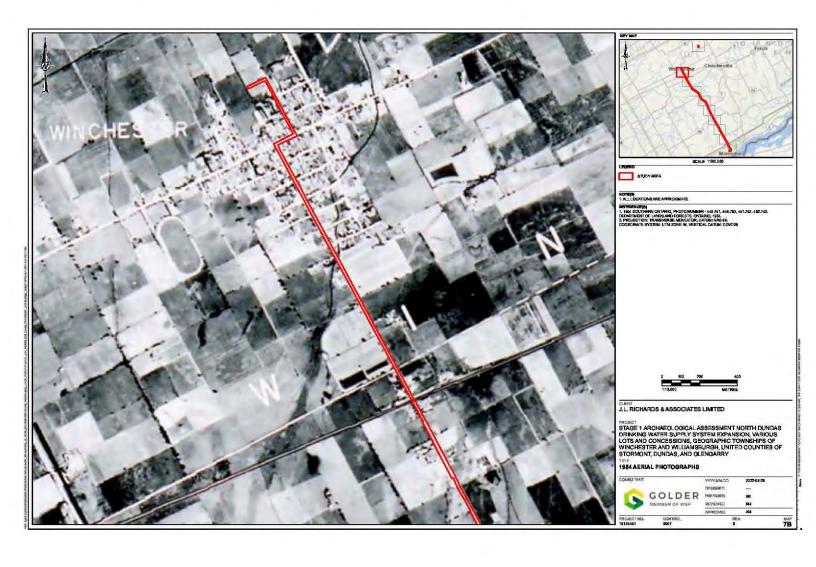


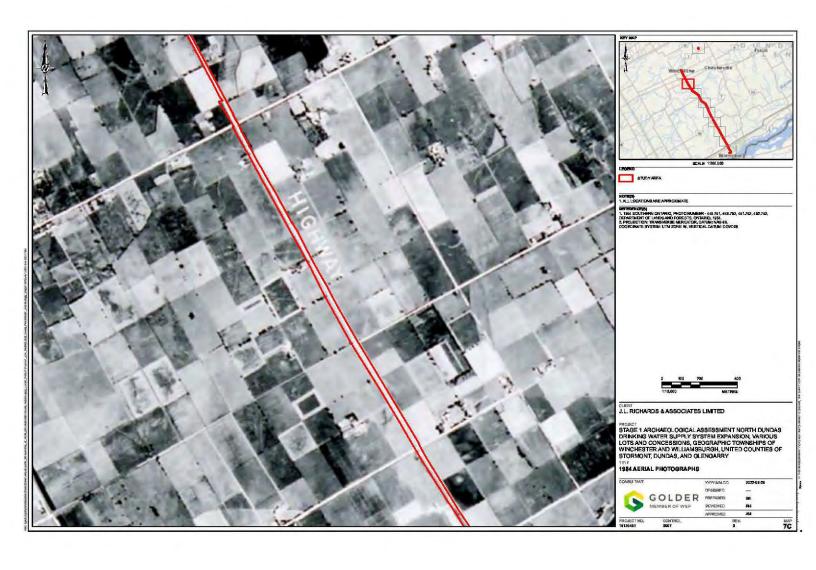


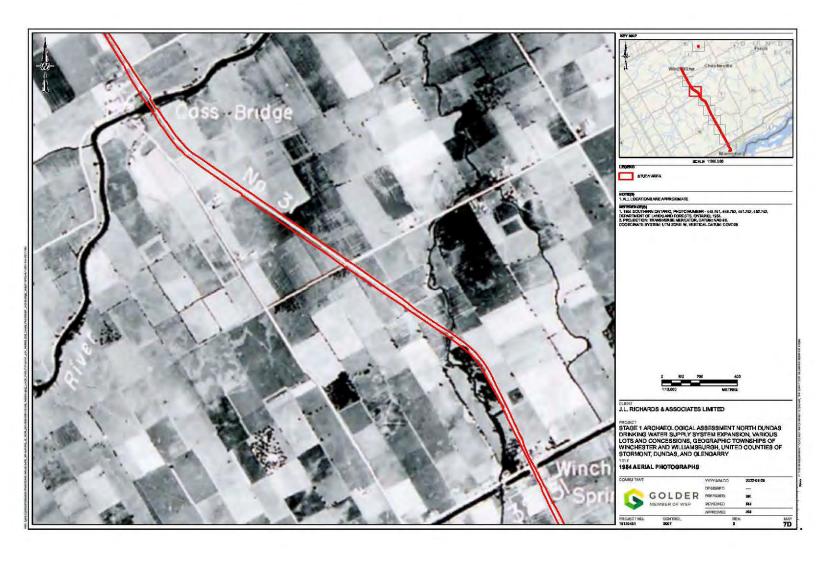


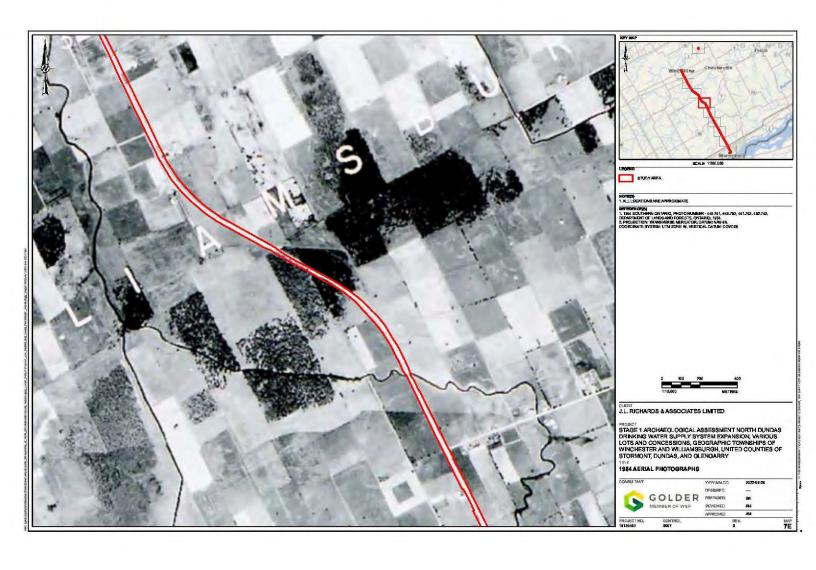


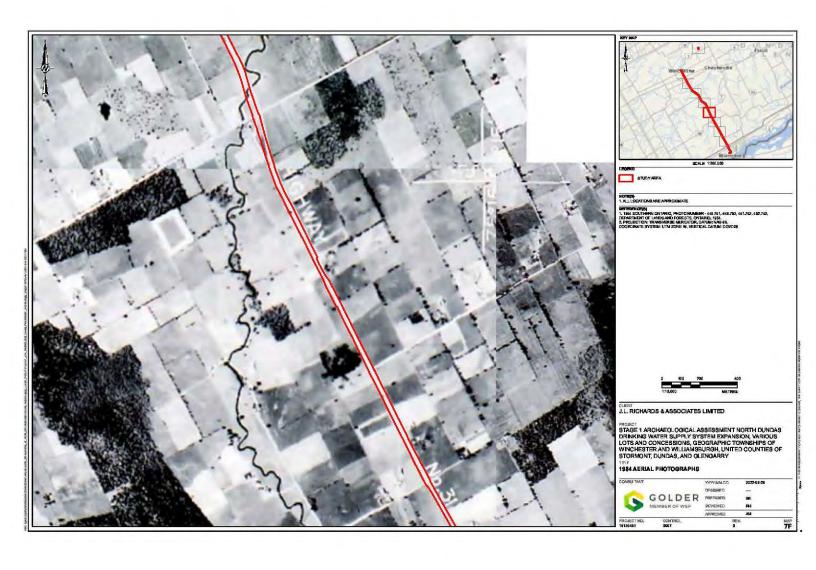


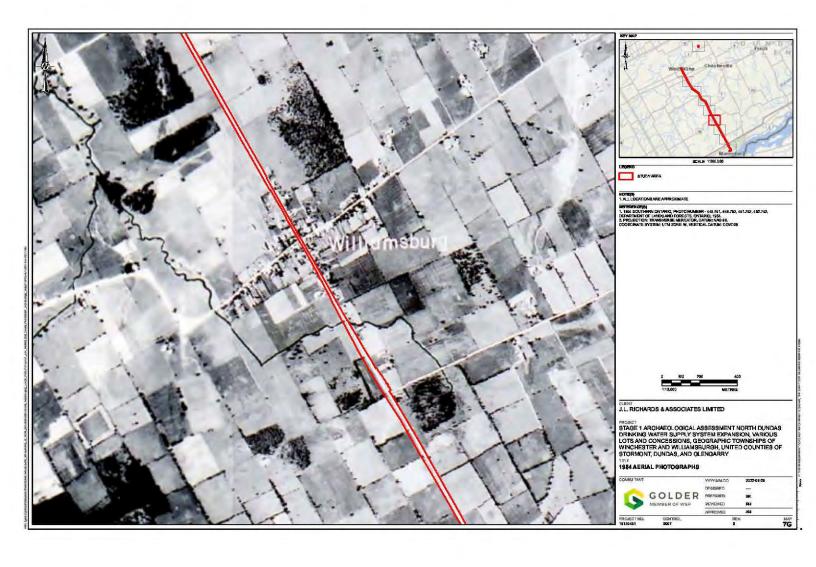


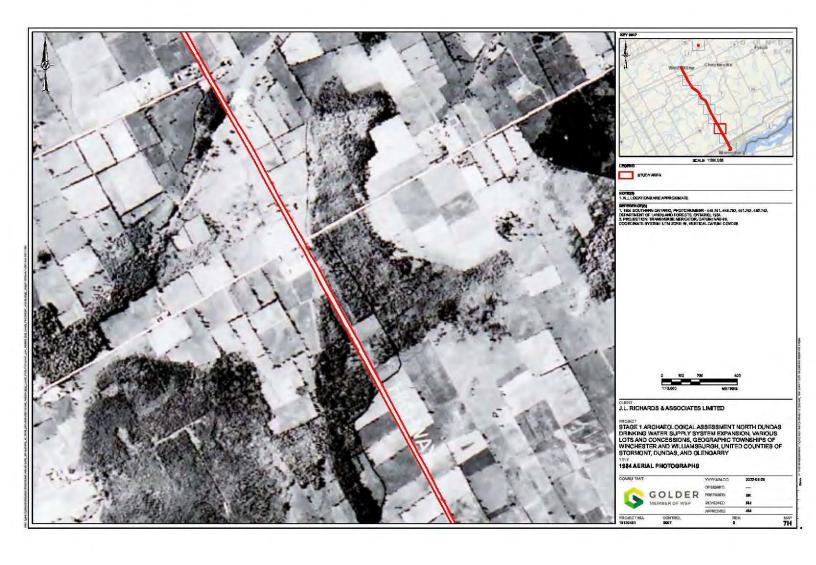


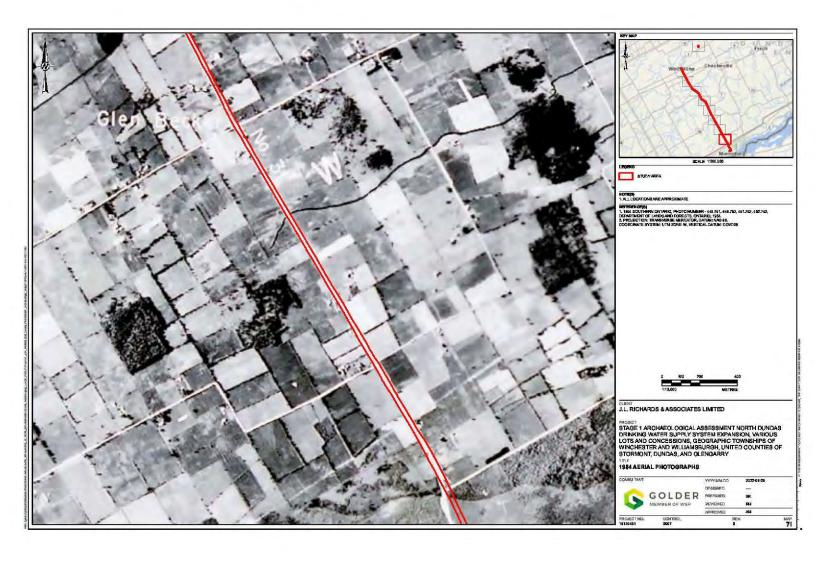




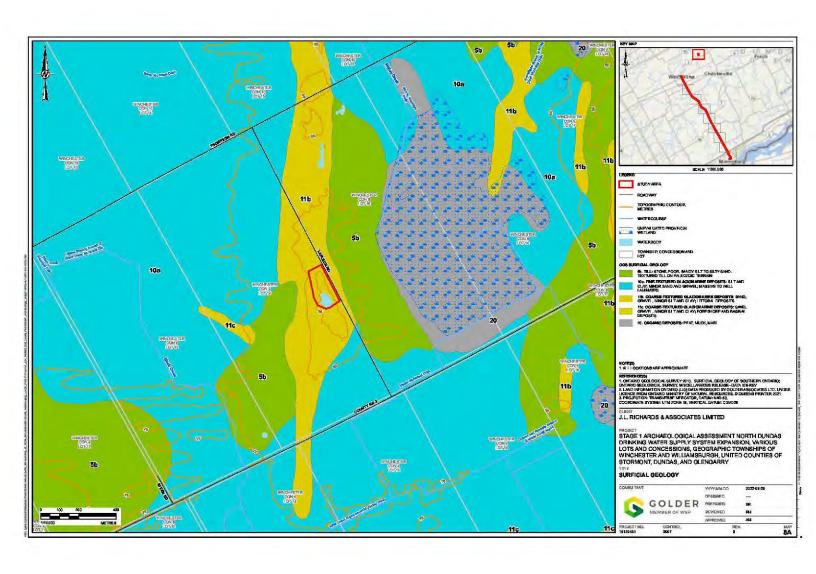


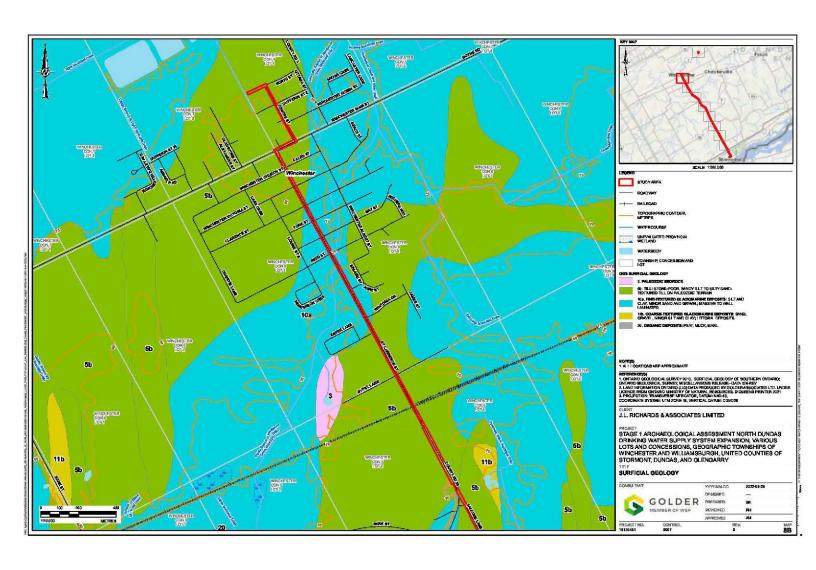


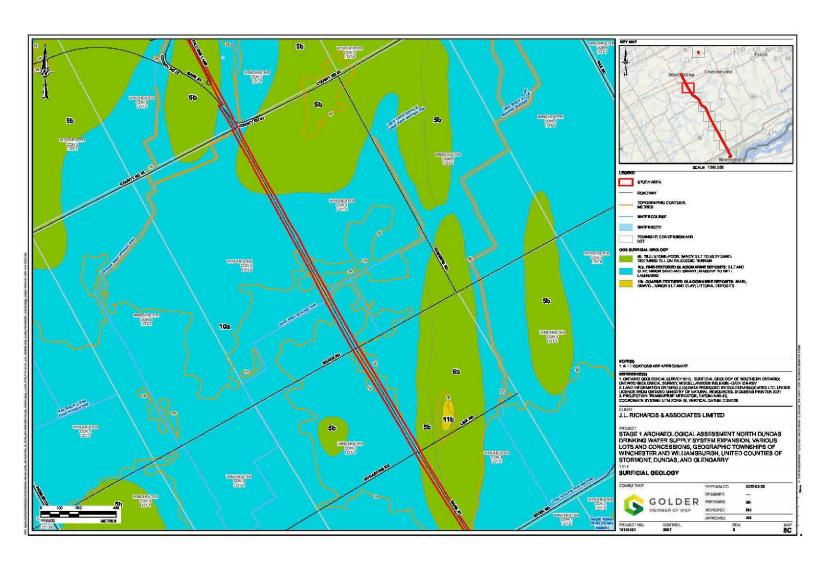


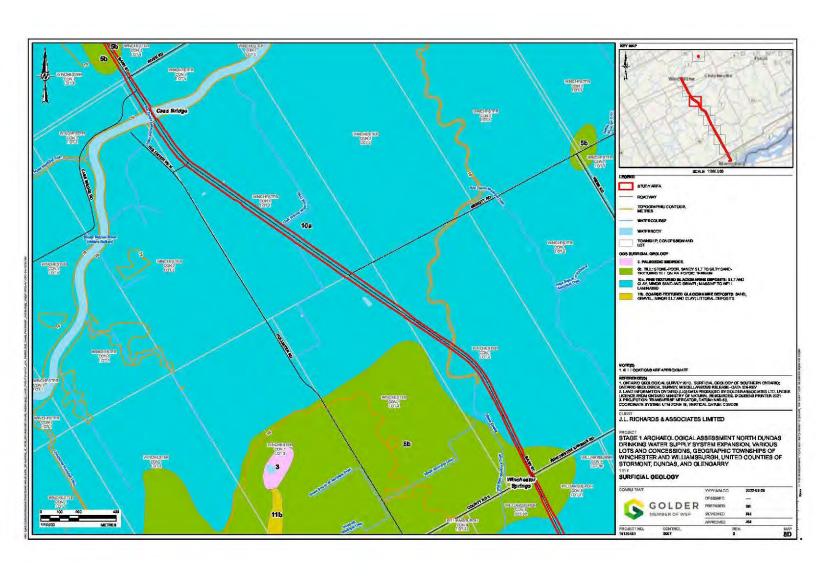


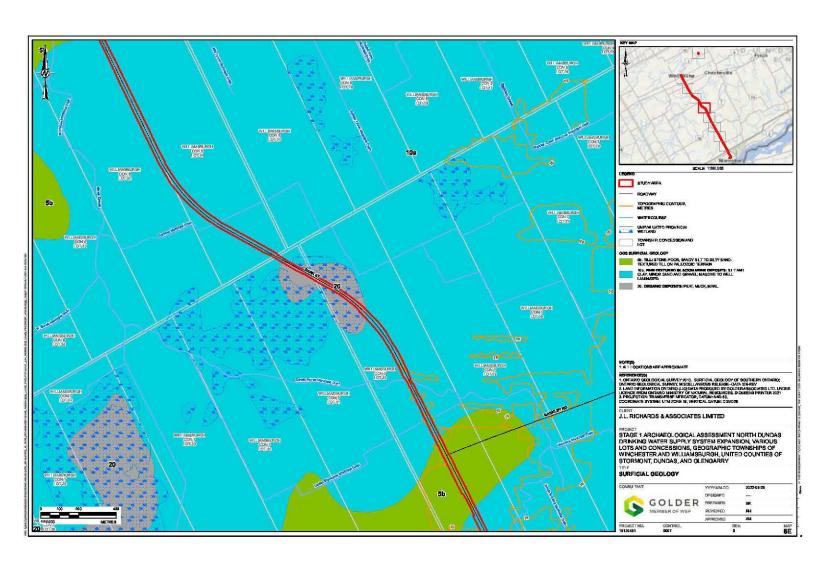


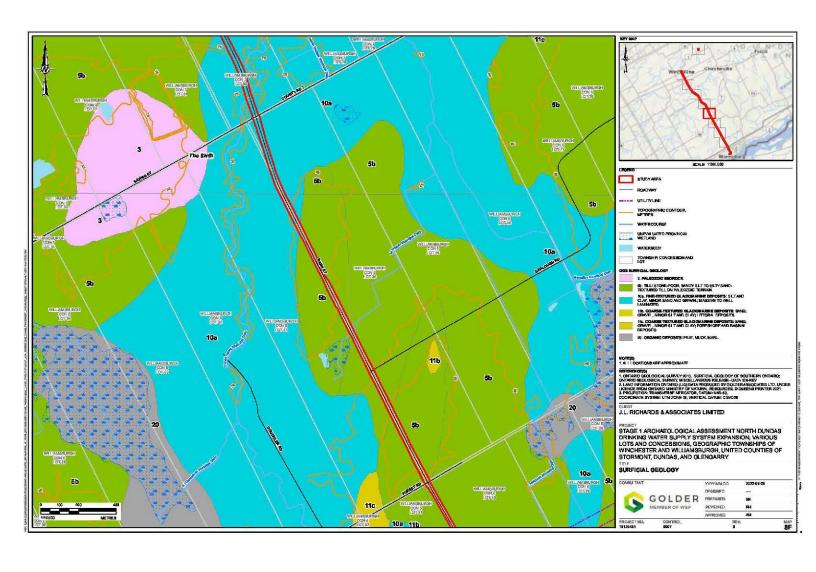


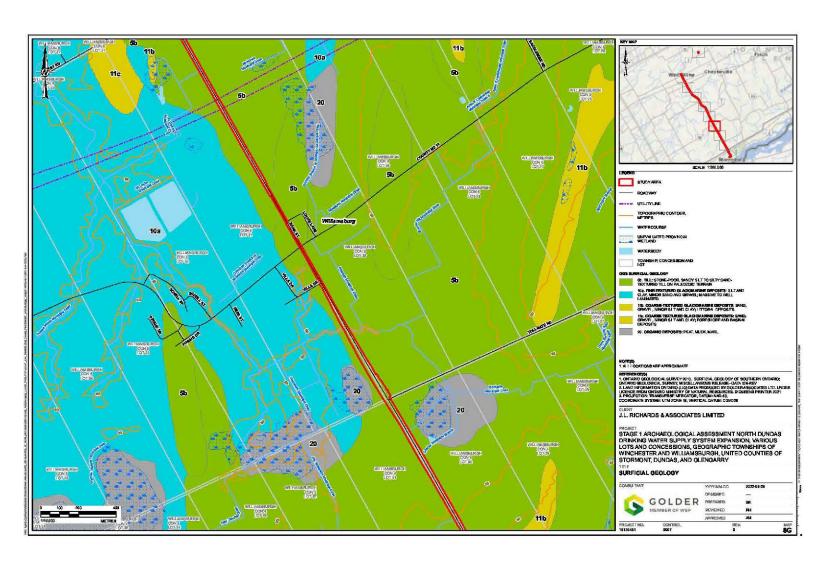


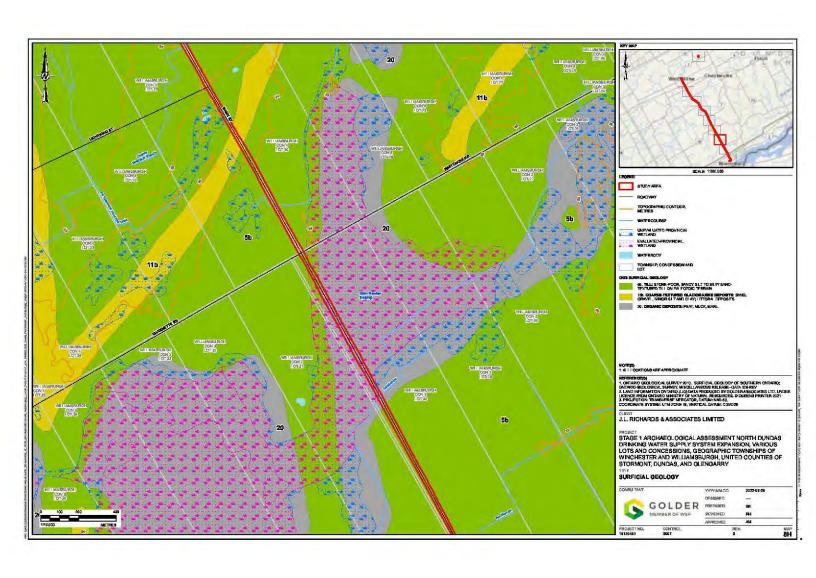


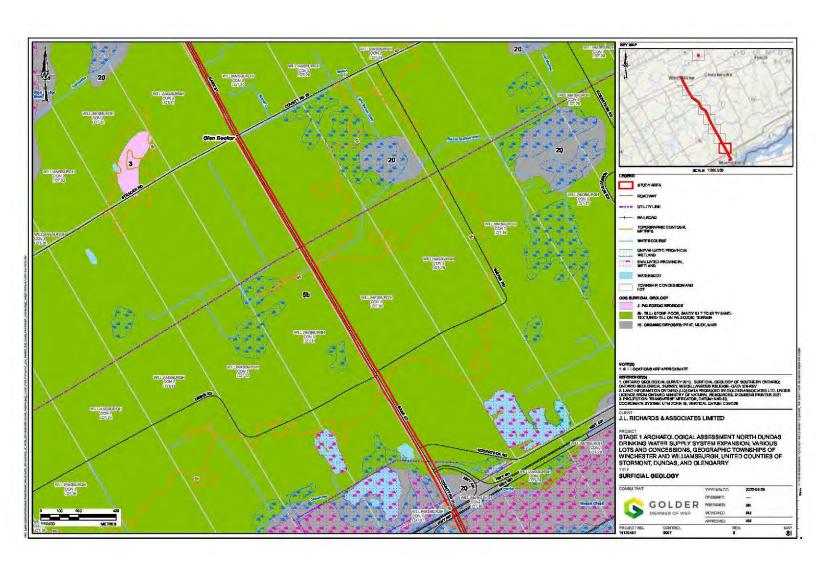


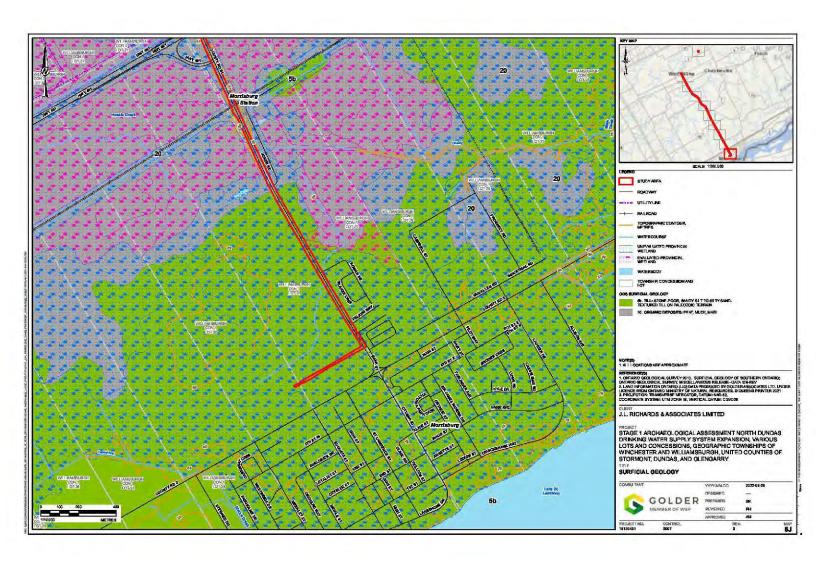


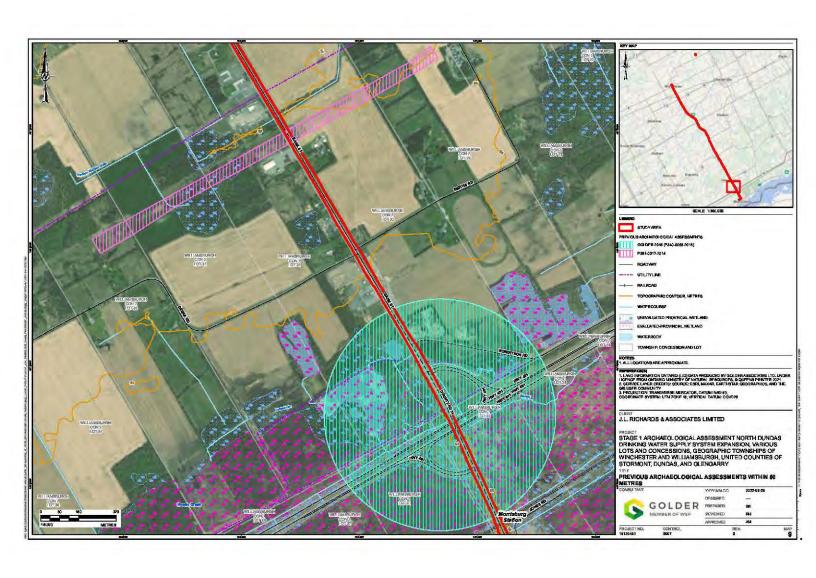


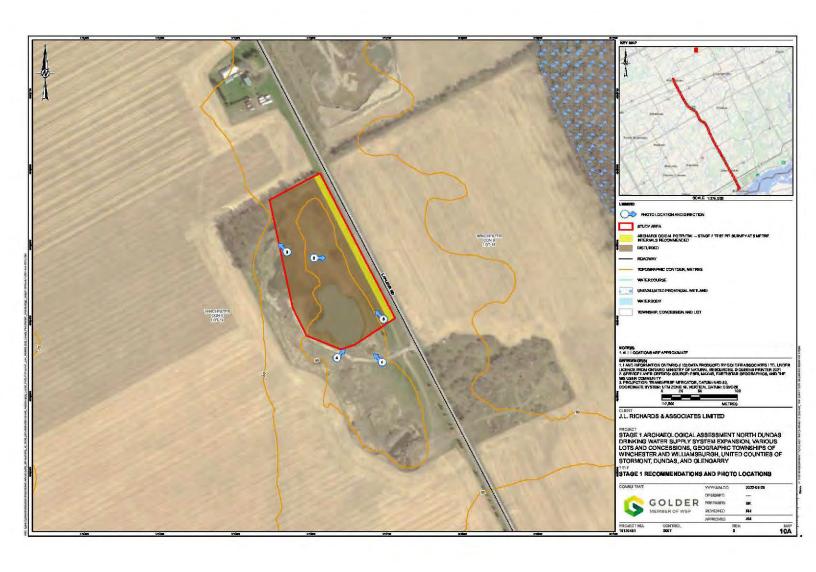


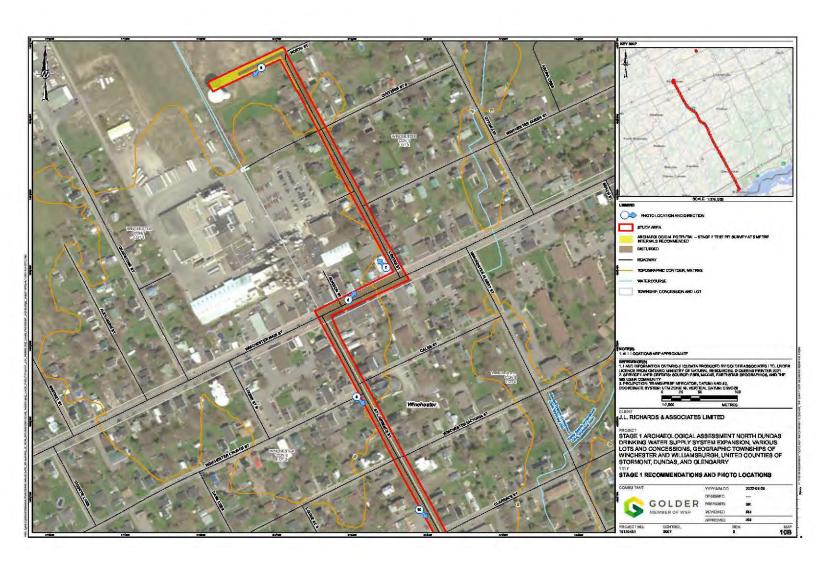


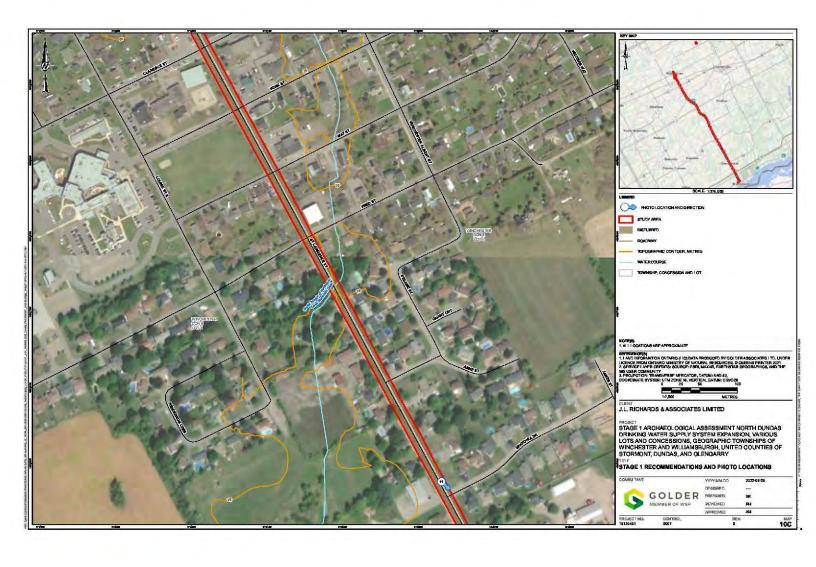


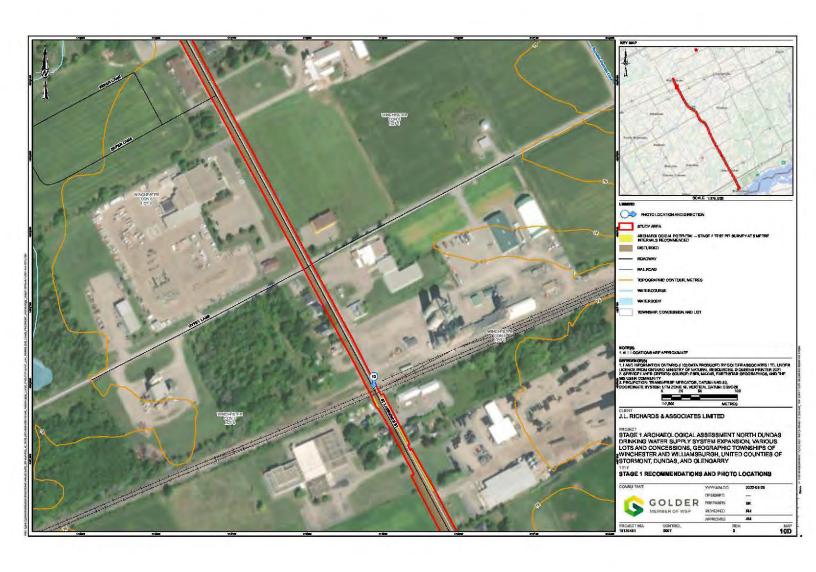


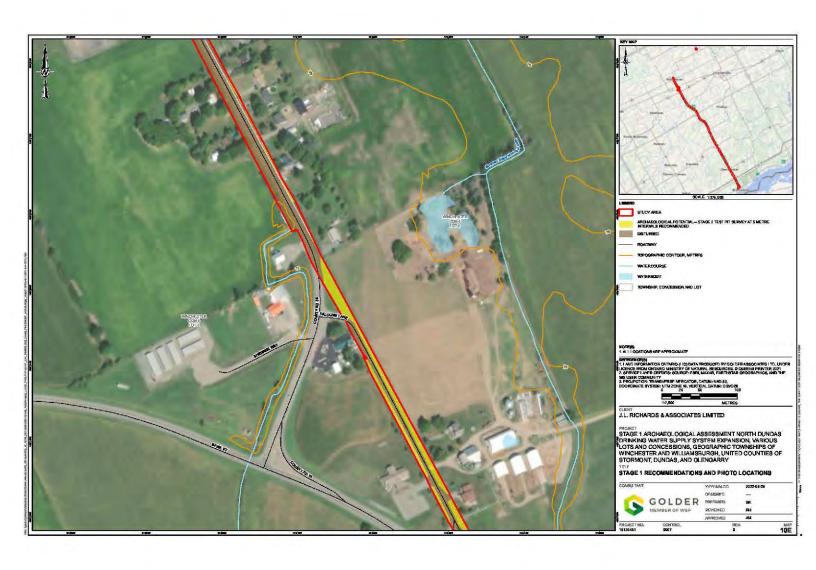


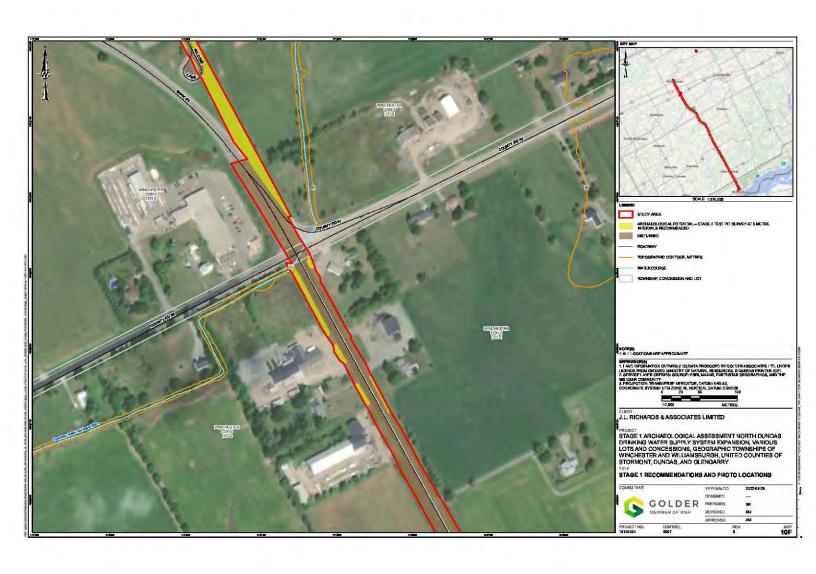


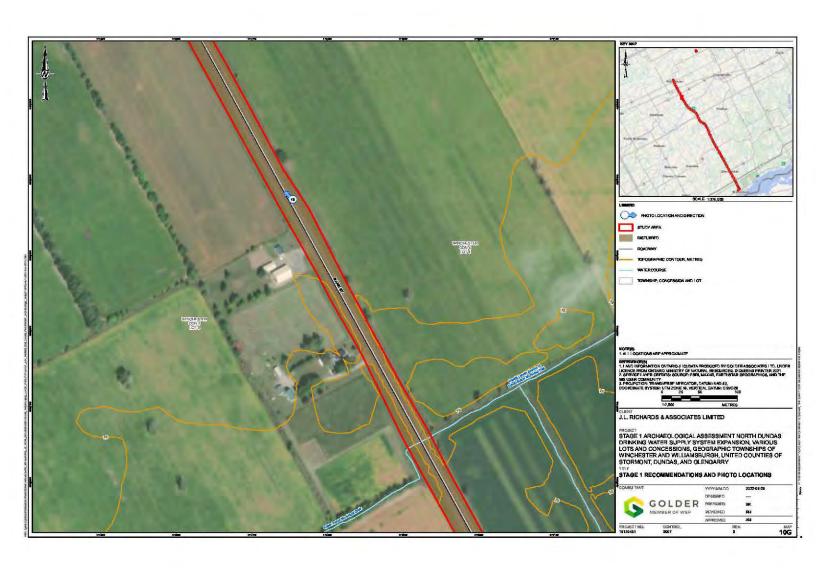


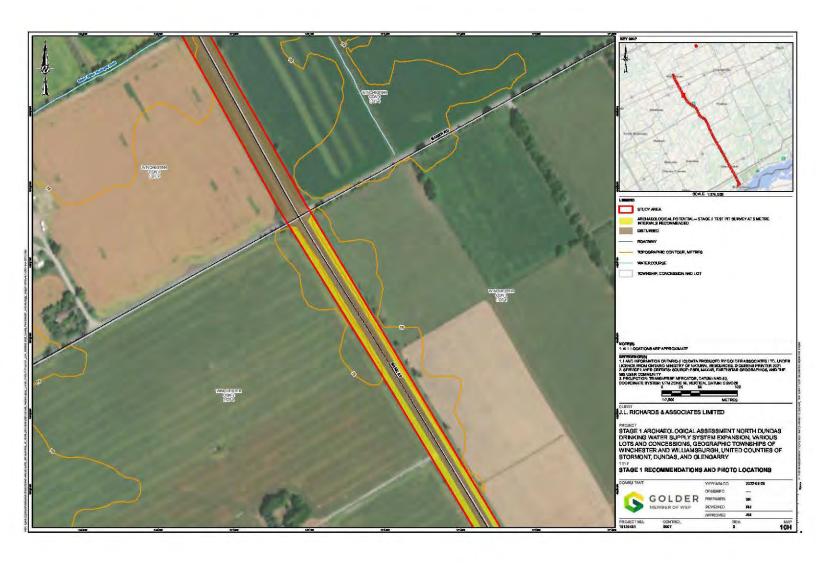


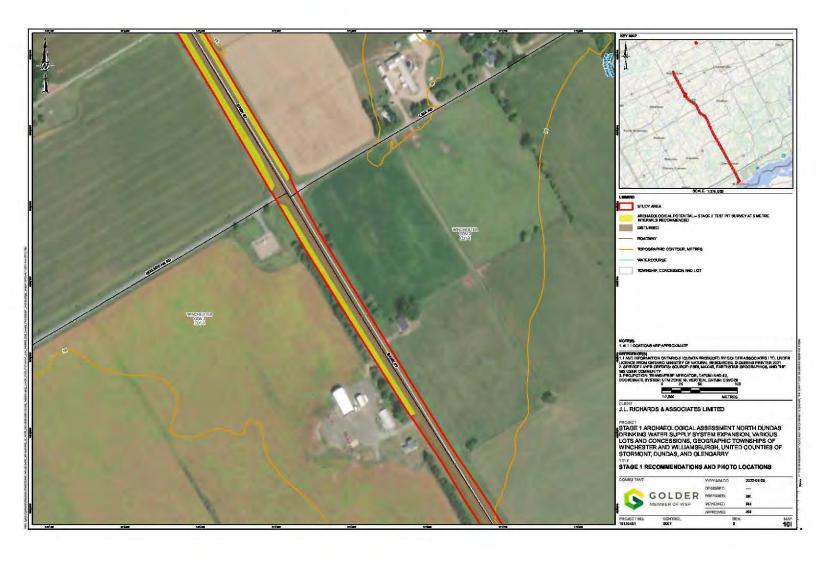


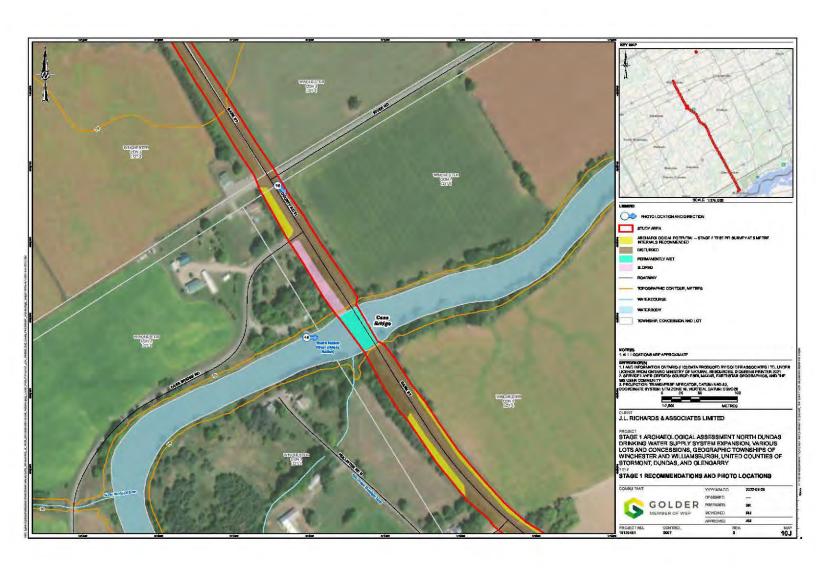


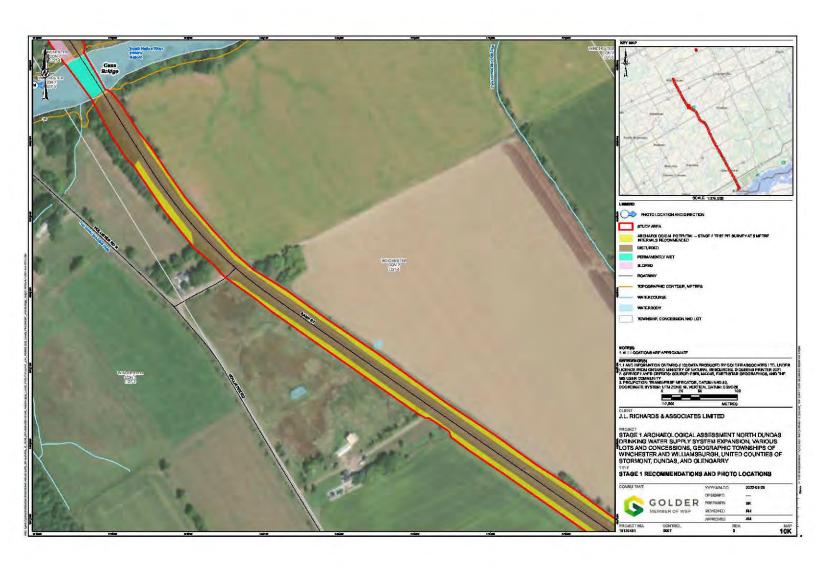


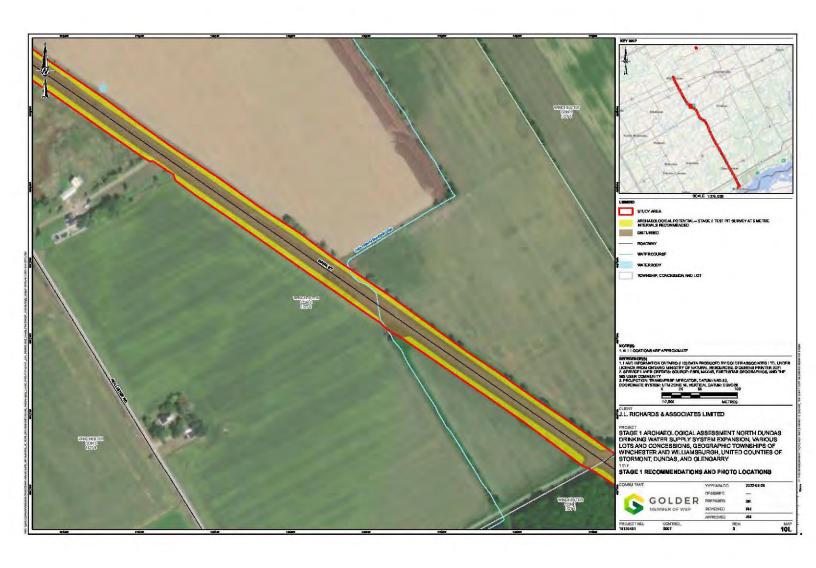


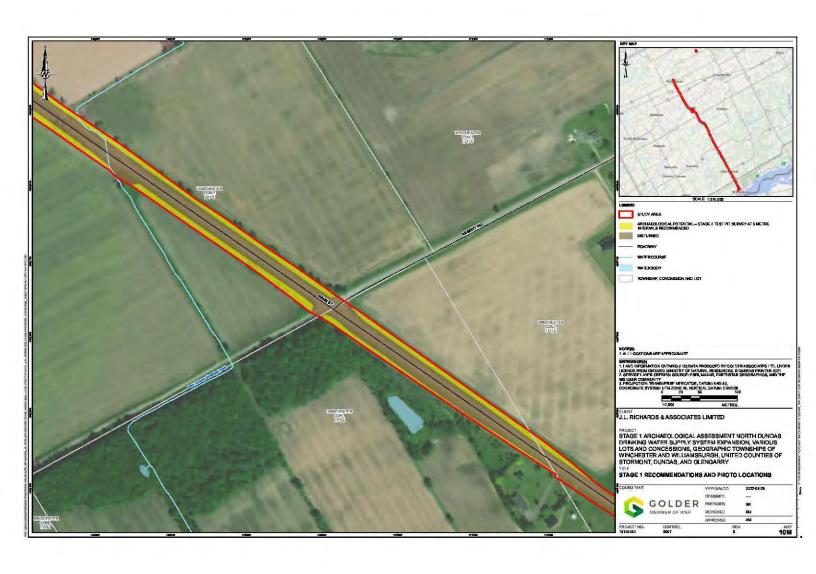


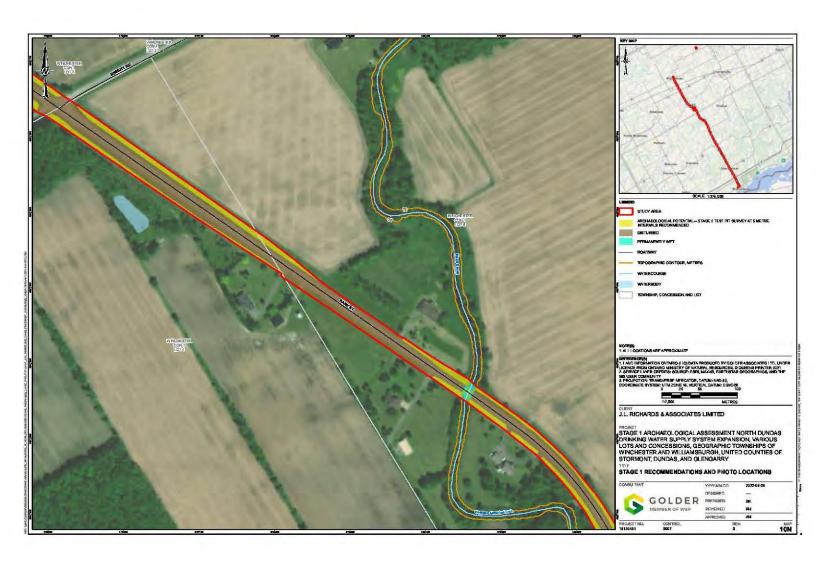


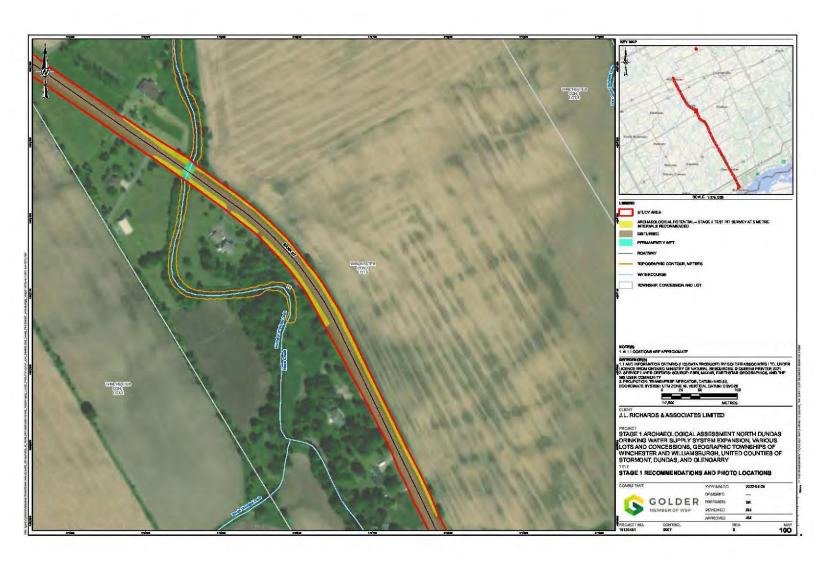


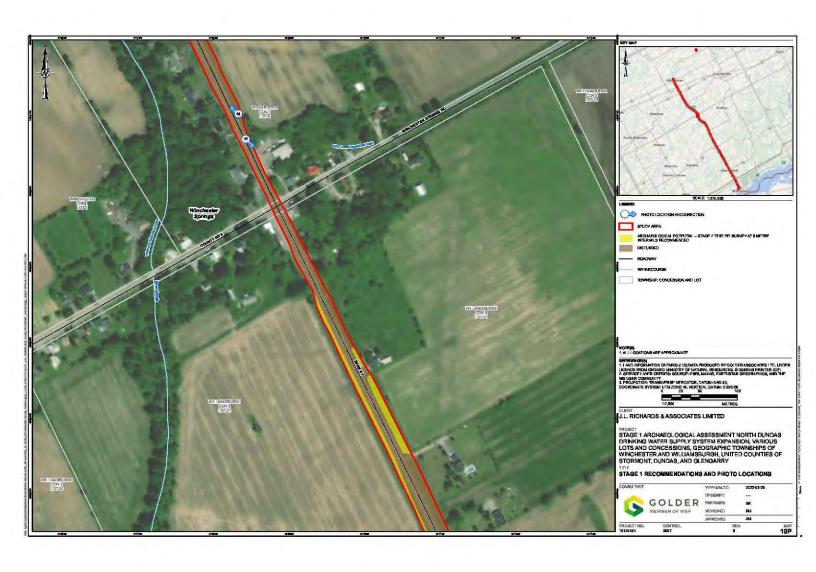


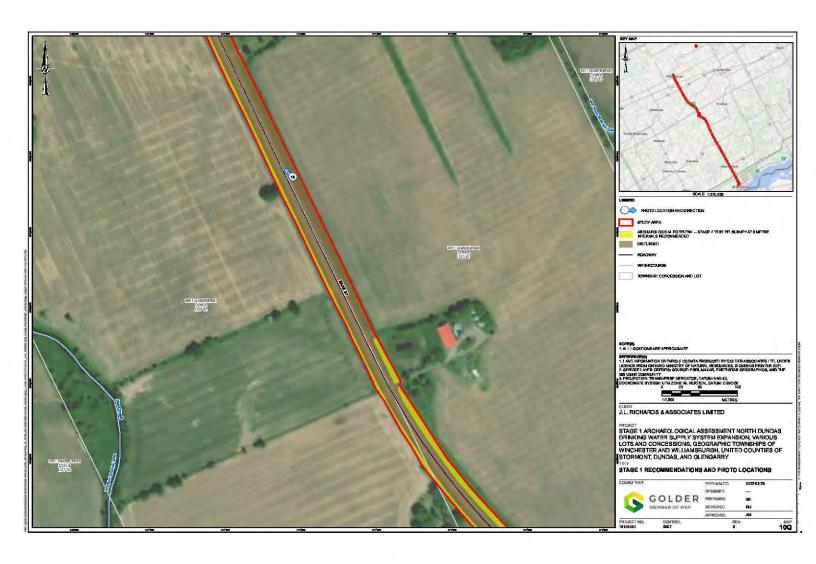


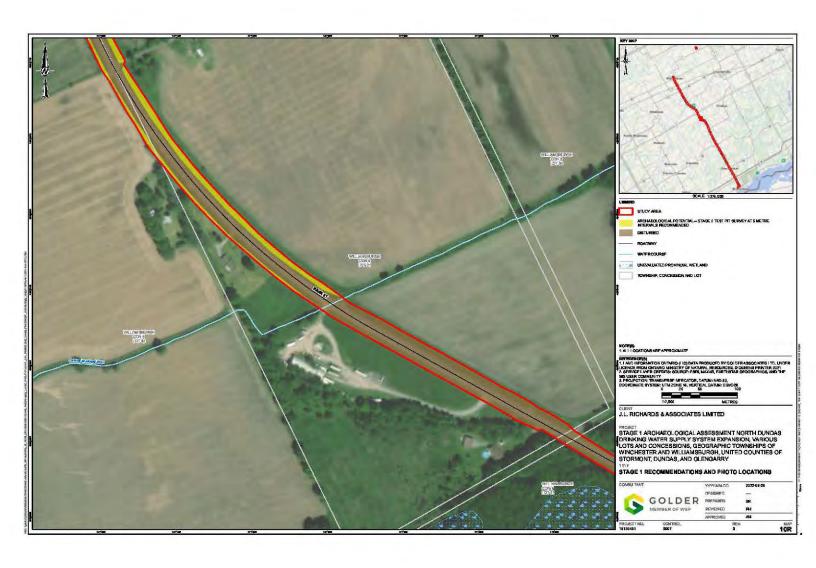


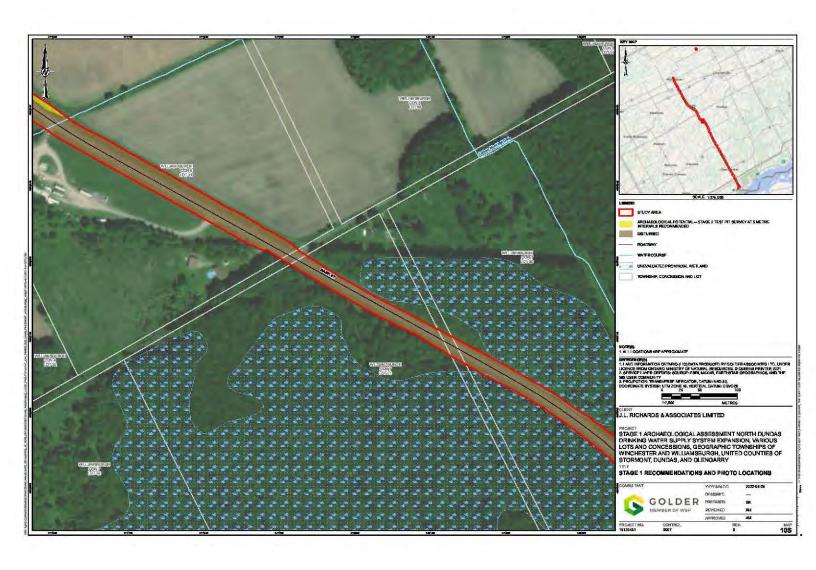


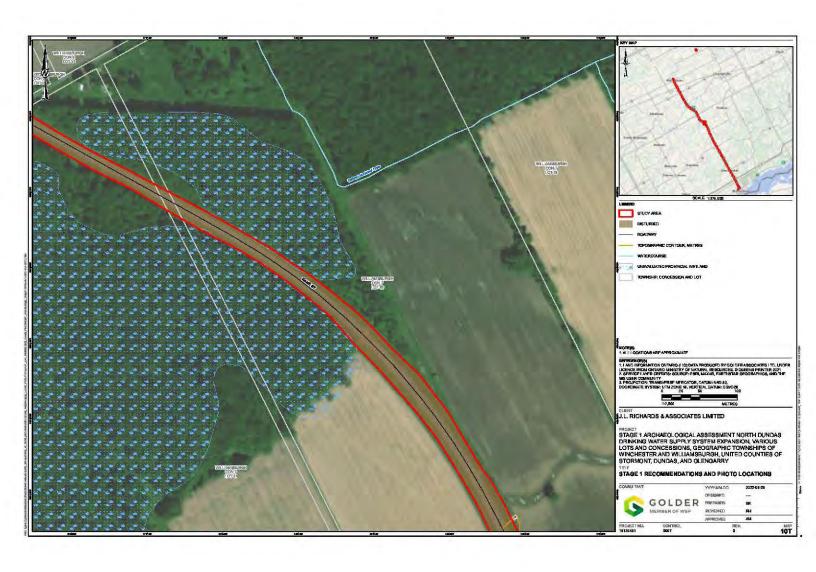


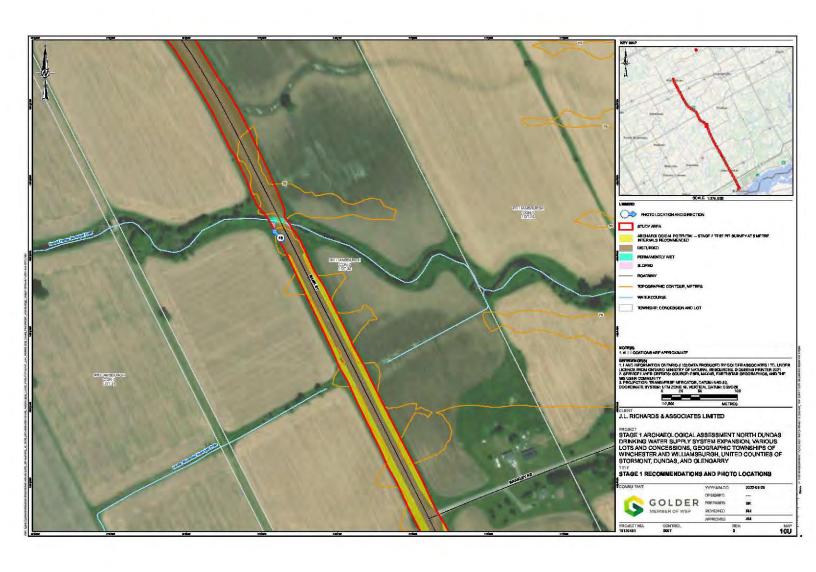


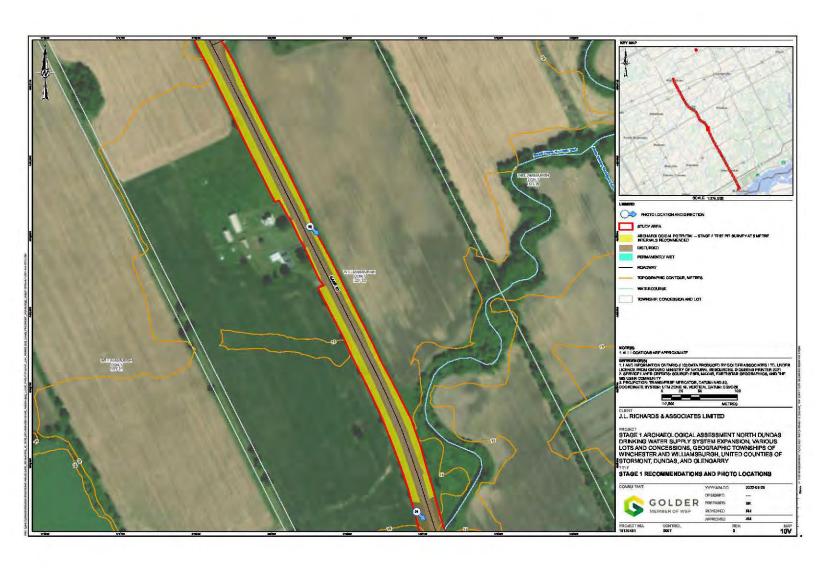


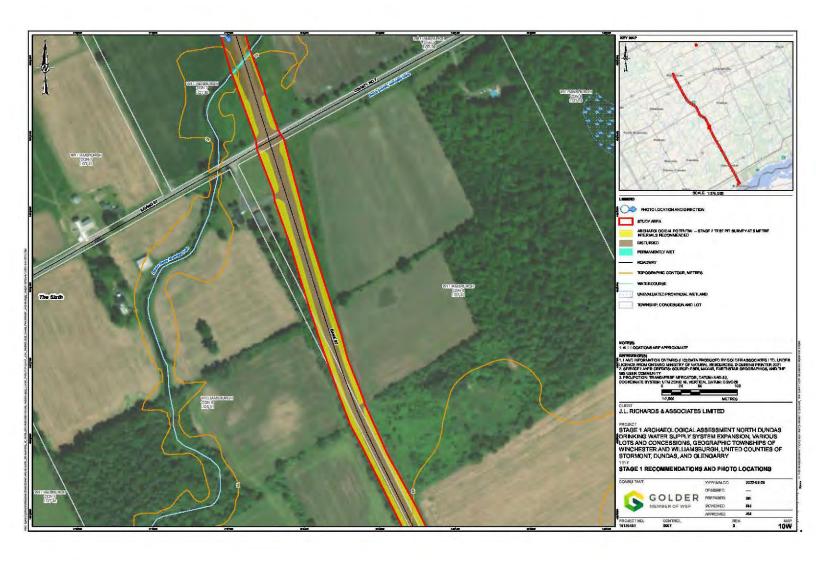


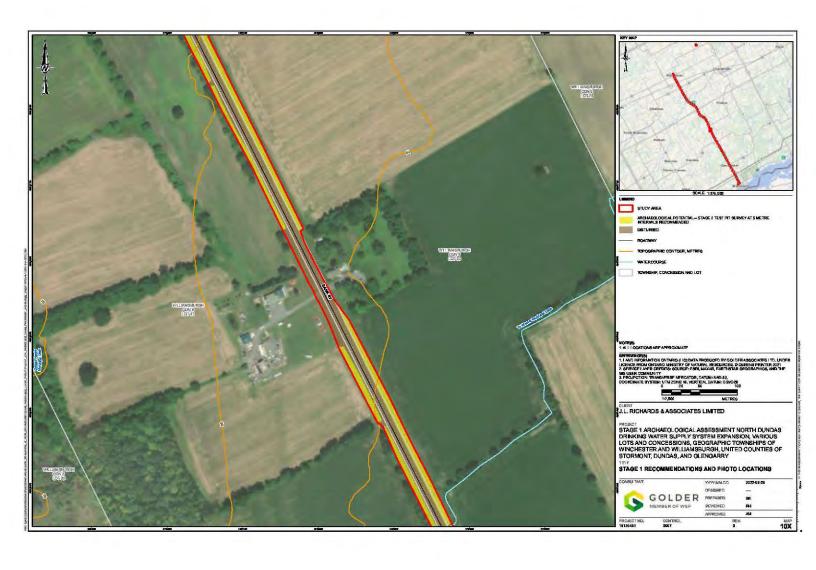


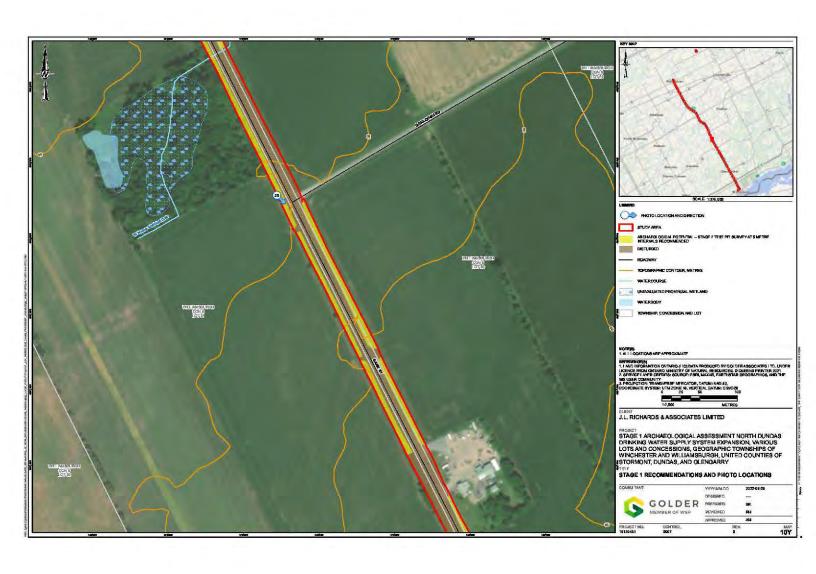


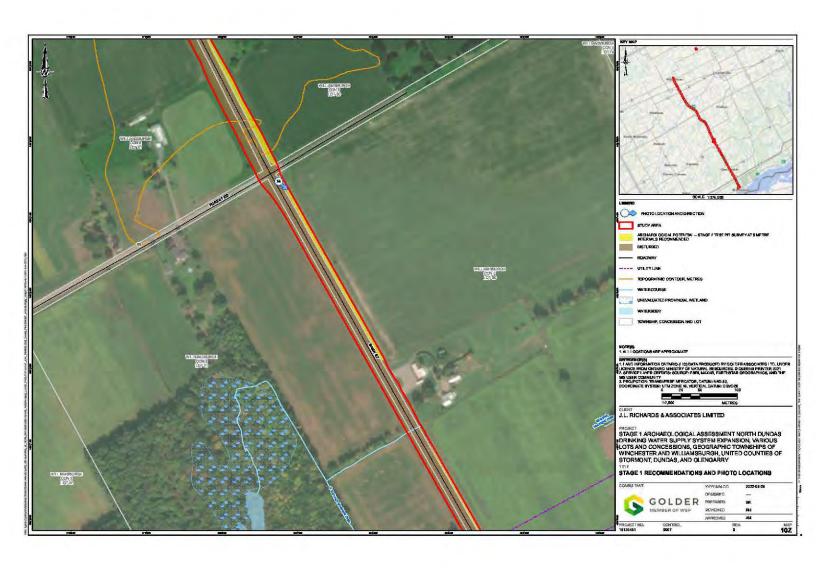


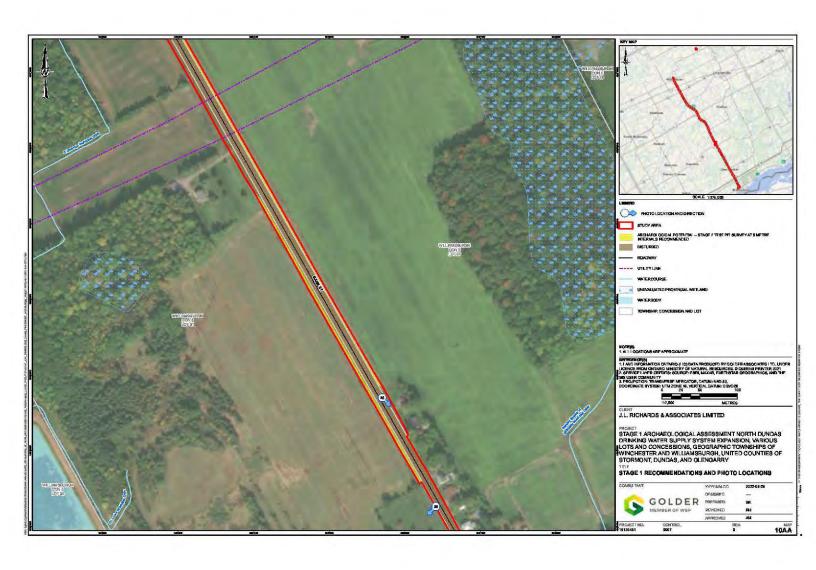


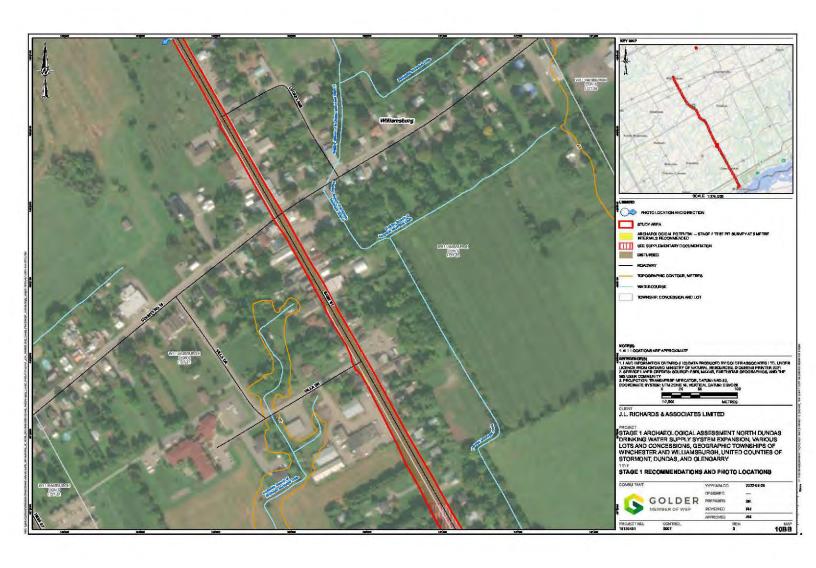


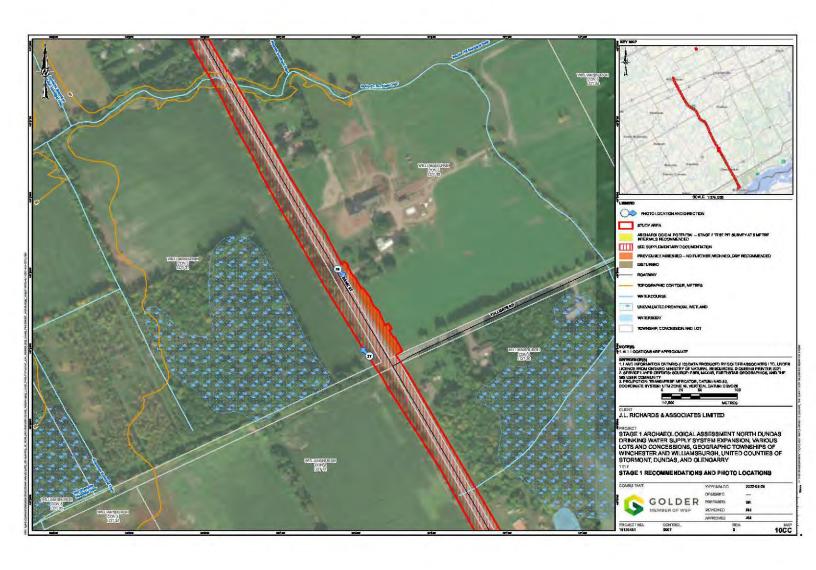


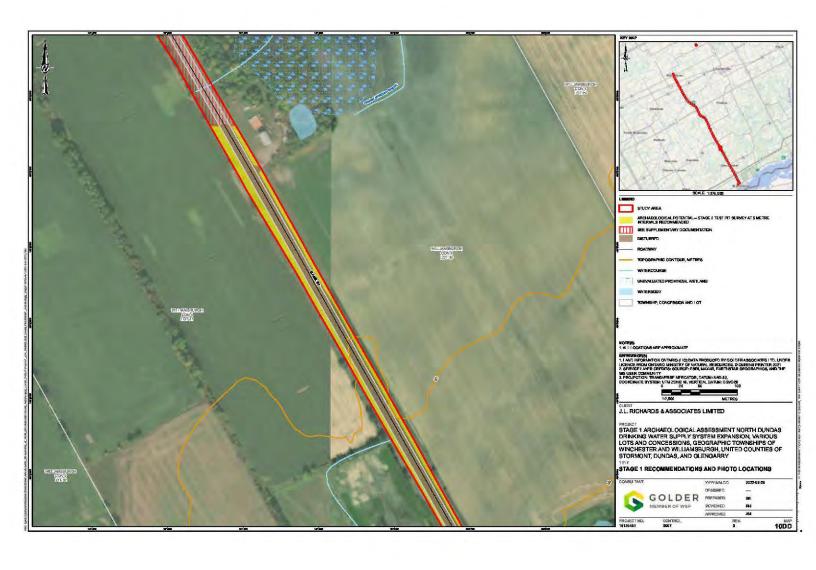


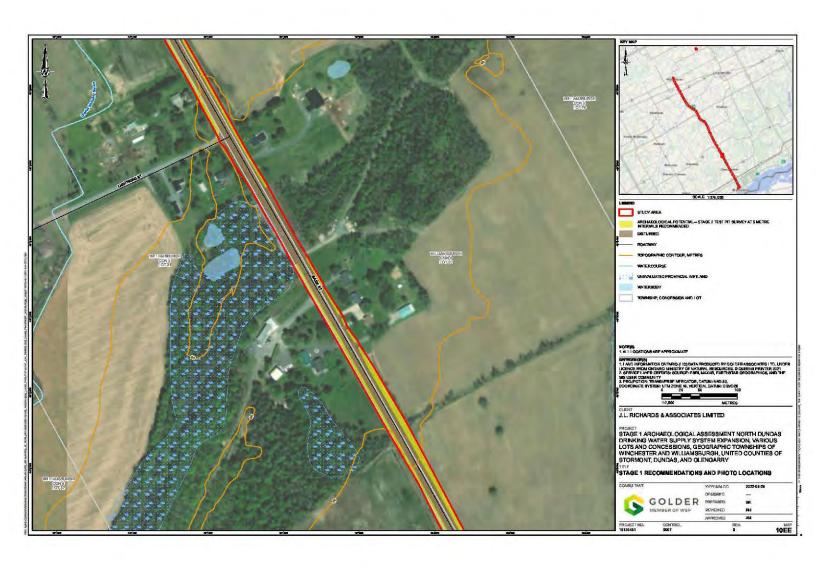


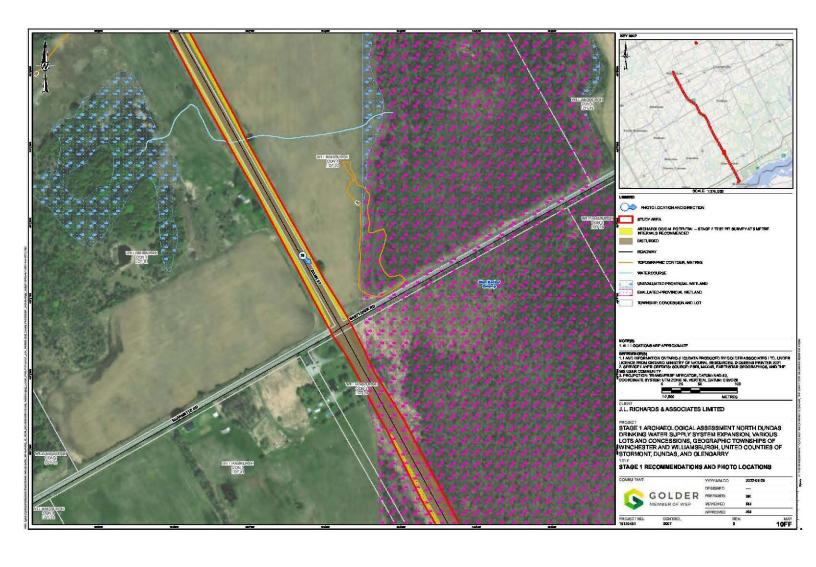


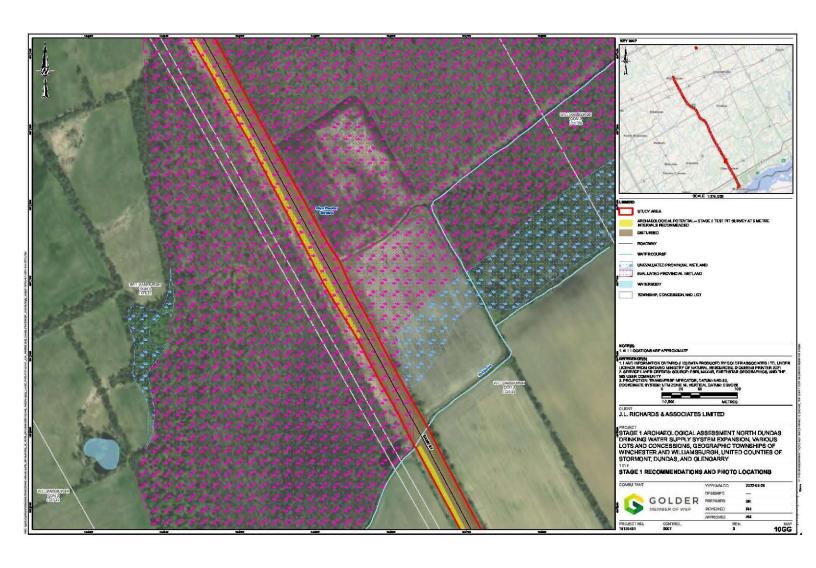


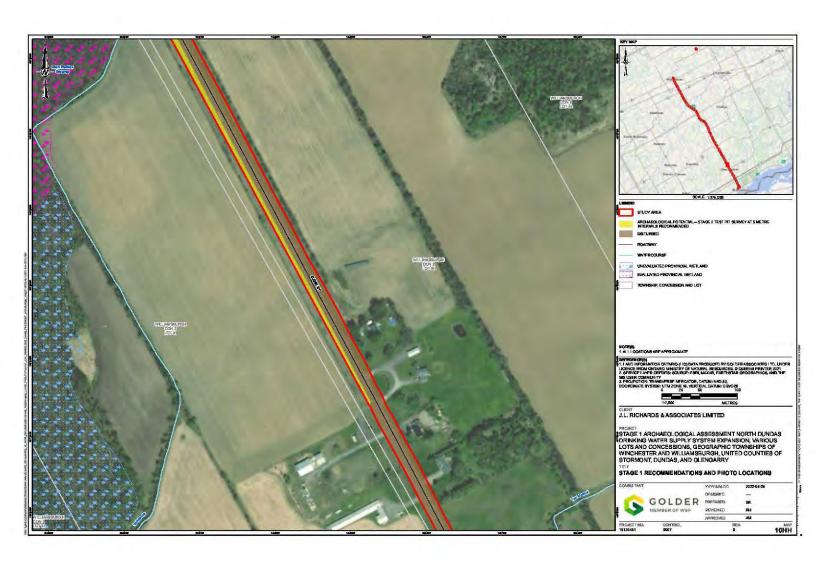


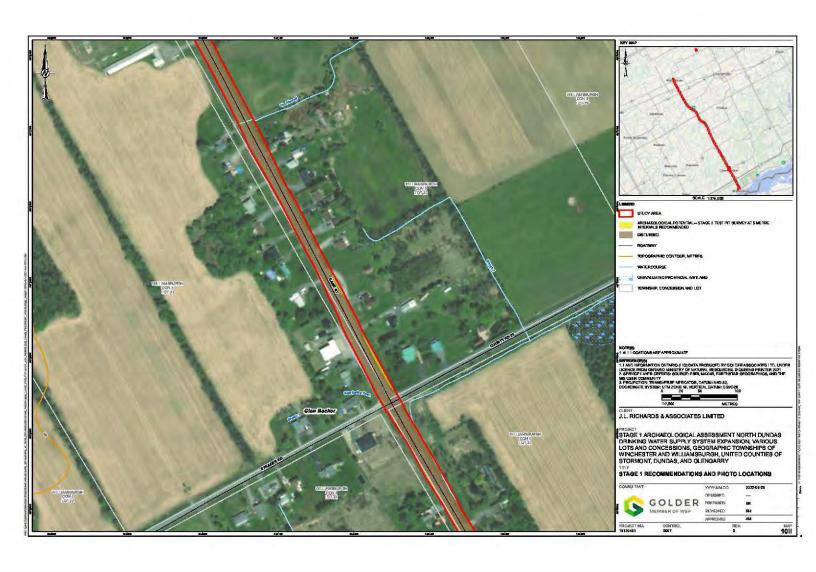


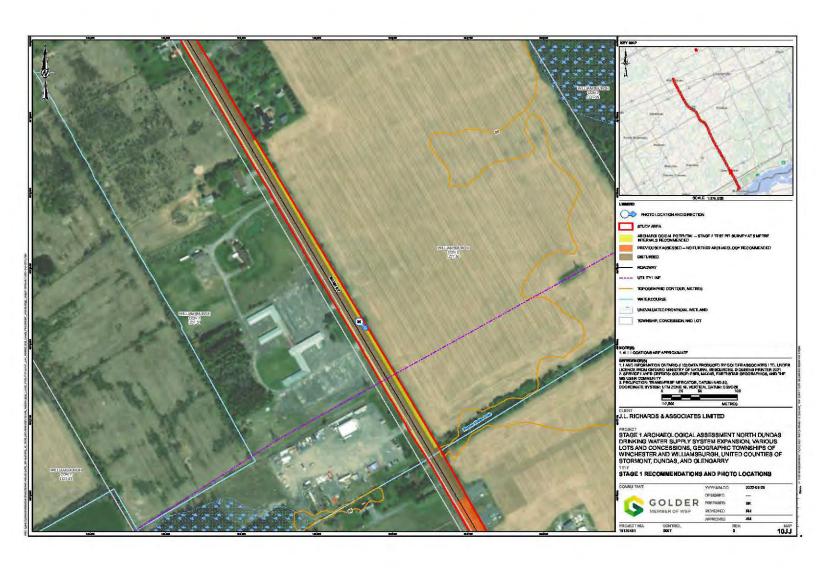


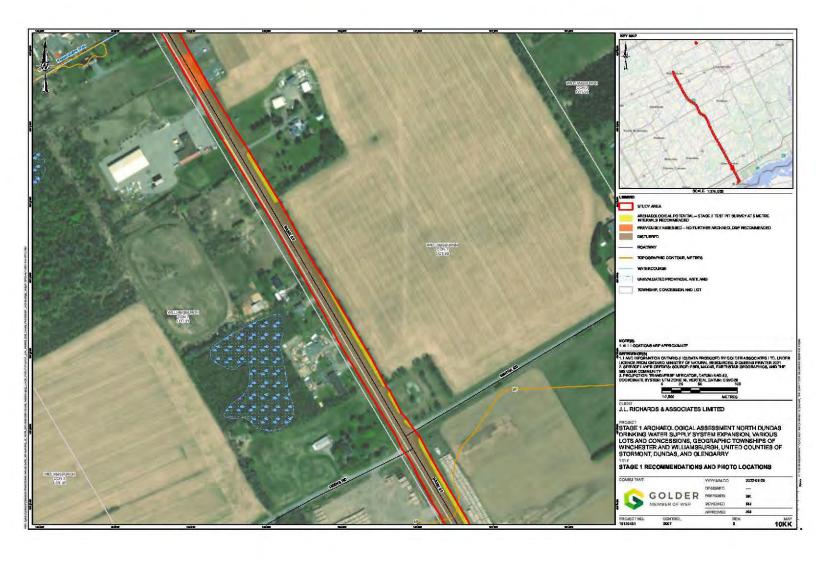


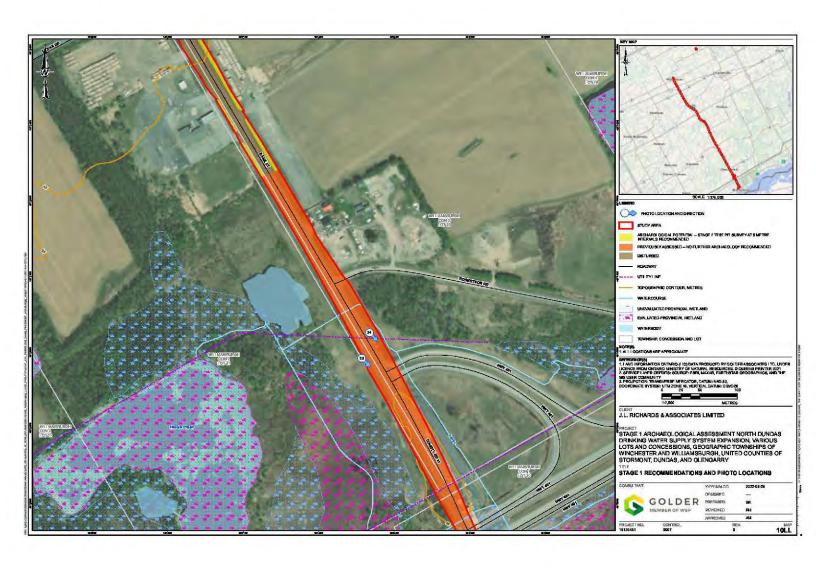


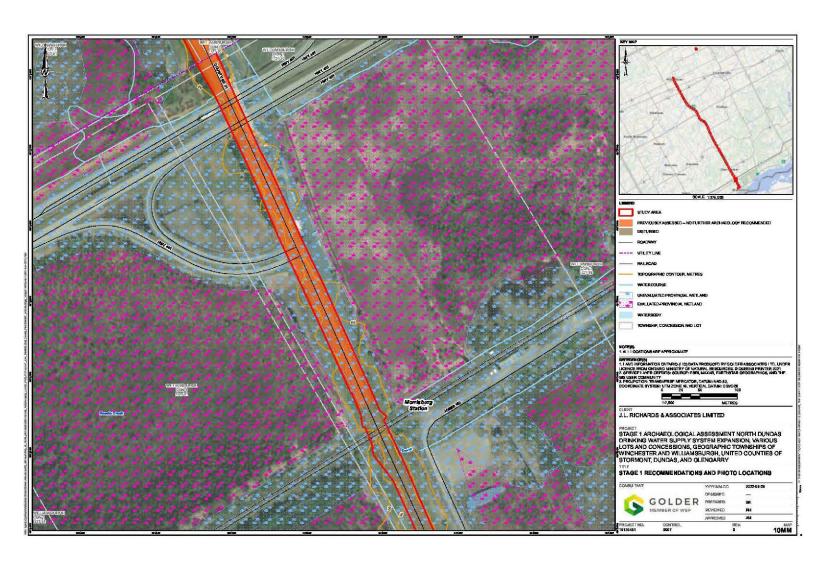


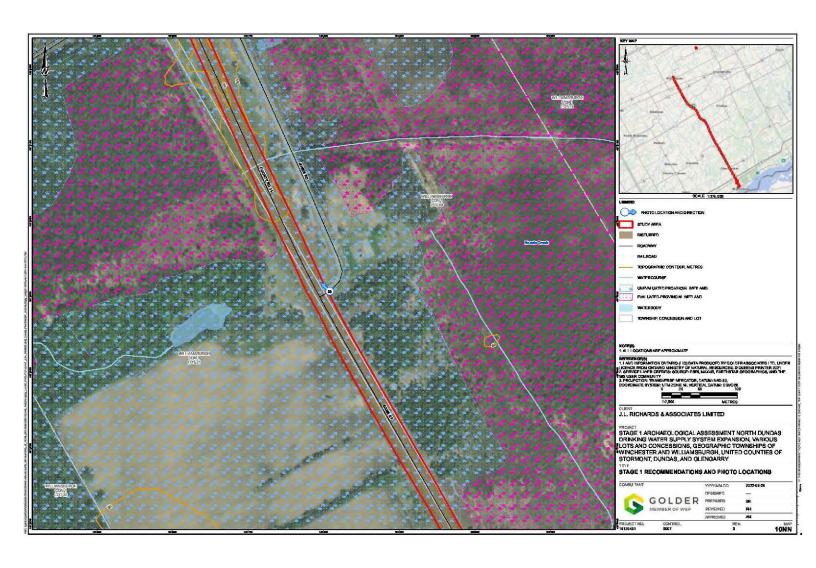


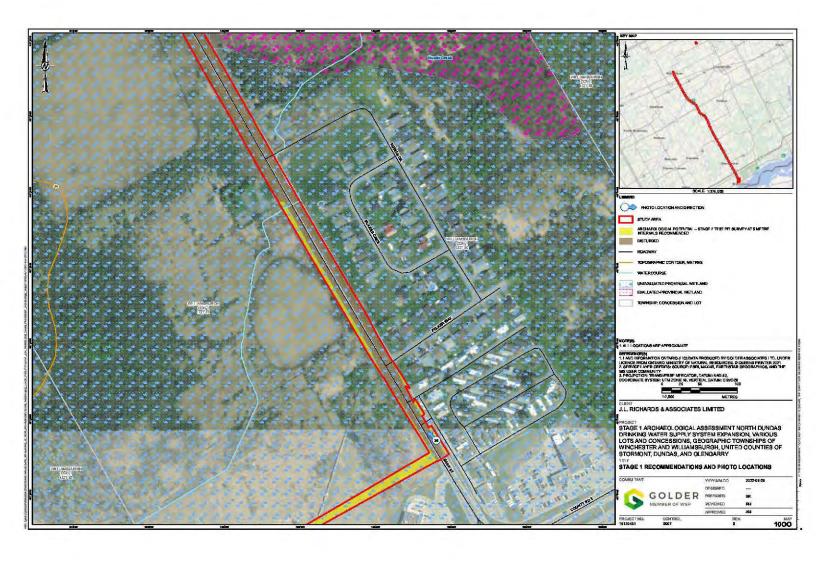


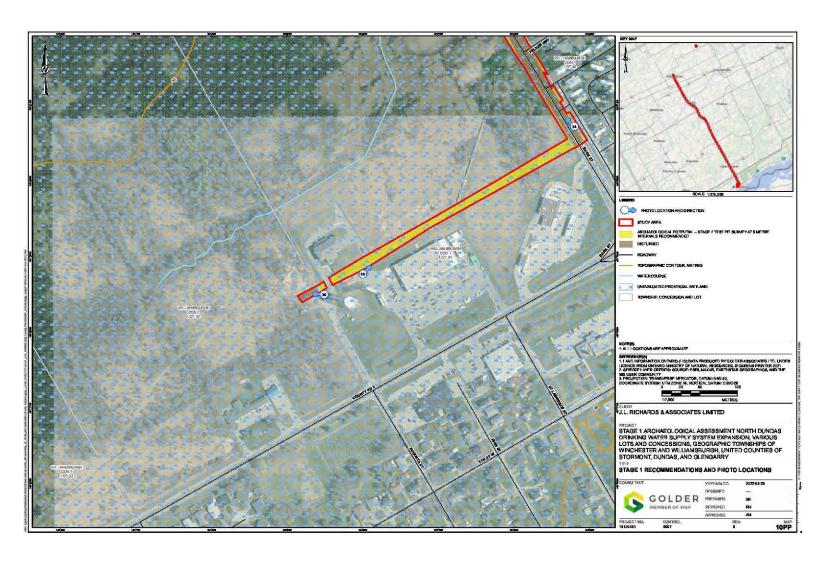












September 29, 2022 19125451

Signature Page

We trust that this report meets your current needs. If you have any questions, or if we may be of further assistance, please contact the undersigned.

Golder Associates Ltd.

Randy Hahn, Ph.D. Staff Archaeologist

Aaron Mior, M.MA. Senior Archaeologist

RH/AM/ca

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