One River Environmental Assessment Agency Advisory Committee Report
Attachment 1- Additional Documentation

One River Environmental Assessment: First Nations Engagement Plan

Recognizing that First Nations and Metis feedback is essential to the One River EA process, The City of London (City) is proactively engaging and seeking input from First Nations communities near the study area on the One River EA. Multiple First Nations communities have already expressed interest in the EA, including a written notice in the form of a letter from the Chippewas of the Thames First Nations (COTTFN) requesting to be involved in the discussion.

Other First Nations communities within the project area of the One River EA include Oneida Nation of the Thames Settlement (Oneida), Munsee-Delaware Nation, Aamjiwnaang First Nation, Delaware Nation (Moravian of the Thames), Bkejwanon Territory (Walpole Island), Caldwell First Nation, and Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nations.

A variety of strategies and engagement tools are to be used to ensure widespread and accessible participation in the First Nations engagement process. The approaches listed in Table 1 are planned to be used to engage First Nations communities to promote collaboration, receive input, and actively address concerns regarding the One River EA. All correspondence to First Nations communities will be directly from the City.

Table 1. Strategies for First Nations Engagement

Task	Details	Schedule
Notice of Commencement	A formal notice to announce the commencement of the EA process to be sent to all nearby First Nations communities.	July 2017
Initial Contact	Chief's Office of each First Nations to be contacted and provided with project background, details and City project contact information.	July/August 2017
First Nations Committee Meetings	The creation of a First Nations Committee to provide feedback and comment on the EA as project updates are provided.	September 2017
Meetings	Co-ordinate meetings with representatives from each individual First Nations Community to get feedback and address concerns.	August/September 2017
First Nations Public Meetings	Hold public engagement forums at individual First Nations Communities, at both local (less than an hour) and non-local (1-2 hours) communities.	October 2017

A detailed communication log will be kept throughout the First Nations Engagement Process. This log will detail:

- What efforts were made to notify and contact First Nations communities.
- What information was provided to them by which they can determine whether there is an interest in the project.
- What the responses to that information was.

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

615 John Street North Aylmer, ON N5H 2S8 Tel: 519-773-9241 Fax: 519-773-9014

Ministère des Richesses naturelles et des Forêts

615, rue John Nord Aylmer ON N5H 2S8 Tél: 519-773-9241 Téléc: 519-773-9014



August 26, 2016

Attn. Scott Mathers, Manager (via email only)
City of London, Stormwater Mangaement
300 Dufferin Avenue
PO BOX 5035
London, ON, N6A 4L9

Dear Mr. Mathers,

RE: One River Master Plan EA

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) has been asked to provide a list of species for consideration on the development of a Terms of Reference for the One River Environmental Assessment (EA) Master Plan in London, Ontario.

Species at Risk (SAR)

The Species at Risk in Ontario (SARO) List is Ontario Regulation 230/08 issued under the *Endangered Species Act, 2007* (ESA 2007). The ESA 2007 came into force on June 30, 2008, and provides both species protection (section 9) and habitat protection (section 10) to species listed as endangered or threatened on the SARO List. The current SARO List can be found on e-laws (http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/navigation?file=home&lang=en).

Based on the map provided on July 8, 2016 outlining a potential study area for the EA, an initial species at risk (SAR) screening has been completed for the One River Master Plan. This list may be amended throughout the EA process. There are known occurrences of SAR in the proposed project location including:

Springbank Dam AOI

- Silver Shiner (THR) general habitat protection
- Eastern Spiny Softshell (END) general habitat protection
- Queensnake (END) regulated habitat protection
- Eastern Hog-nosed Snake (THR) general habitat protection
- Salamander (Mudpuppy) Mussel (END) general habitat protection
- Northern Map Turtle (SC)
- Snapping Turtle (SC)
- Green Dragon (SC)

Forks of the Thames (Back to the River project area)

- Eastern Spiny Softshell (END) general habitat protection
- Silver Shiner (THR) general habitat protection
- Black Redhorse (THR) general habitat protection
- Wavy-rayed Lampmussel (THR) regulated habitat protection
- Black Redhorse (SC)
- Northern Map Turtle (SC)
- Snapping Turtle (SC)

*Please be advised that the South branch of the Thames river contains sensitive species as identified by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). It is recommended that DFO is contacted to ensure compliance with relevant legislation.

Please note that this is an initial screening for SAR and the absence of an element occurrence does not indicate the absence of species. The province has not been surveyed comprehensively for the presence or absence of SAR, and MNRF data relies on observers to report sightings of SAR. Field assessments by a qualified professional may be necessary if there is a high likelihood for SAR species and/or habitat to occur within the project footprint. MNRF recommends that further study of SAR be completed as part of the EA process.

It is important to note that changes may occur in both species and habitat protection which could affect whether proposed projects may have adverse effects on SAR. The Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario (COSSARO) meets regularly to evaluate new species for listing and/or re-evaluate species already on the SARO List. As a result, species designations may change, which could in turn change the level of protection they receive under the ESA 2007. Also, habitat protection provisions for a species may change if a species-specific habitat regulation comes into effect.

If an activity or project will result in adverse effects to endangered or threatened species and/or their habitat, additional action would need to be taken in order to remain in compliance with the ESA 2007. Additional action could be applying for an authorization under section 17(2)c of the ESA 2007, or completing an online registry for an ESA 2007 regulation, if the project is eligible.

We look forward to working with you as the City moves through this process.

Sincerely,

Andrea Fleischhauer District Planner Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry Aylmer District 519-773-4750

Cc Heather Riddell (MNRF)

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Attachment 2- Maps









