

## Kensington Bridge EA

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ECAC has concerns about how aquatic impacts will be avoided and mitigated. Many aquatic SAR inhabit this study area. It is unclear to ECAC the degree to which in-water work will be conducted, if any. If no in-water work is being proposed, it is still unclear what sediment control/mitigation measures will be put in place to prevent/monitor disturbance to aquatic habitat below the bridge (runoff from construction, falling debris, etc.).

Kensington Bridge is a highly popular nesting area for Barn Swallows. ECAC has concerns regarding construction timing and displacement of Barn Swallow nests.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Regardless of whether in-water work is to be conducted (but especially if so), ECAC recommends that additional mussel sampling and fish/fish habitat assessments be included in the work plan both upstream and downstream of study area.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Review timing window requirements based on the habitat assessment completed.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Any bridge construction to be conducted outside Barn Swallow breeding times to minimize impacts to nesting Barn Swallows. Any minor design modifications to improve the habitat in the area.

**RECOMMENDATION:** After construction, ECAC suggests the implementation of improved barn swallow nesting structures under the bridge (i.e. nest cups).