
APPENDIX C
INVENTORY OF VEGETATION
CONDITIONS

**TABLE 1
EXISTING TERRESTRIAL CONDITIONS FOR WESTBOUND HIGHWAY 401
BELLE RIVER ROAD TO HIGHWAY 77, GWP 63-00-00**

| Station | Within ROW | Outside ROW |
|--|--|---|
| Sta. 12+900 to Sta. 13+365 | Trees removed | Corn field |
| Sta. 13+365 to Sta. 13+525 | 48 cm dbh silver maple (<i>Acer saccharinum</i>) | Crop fields to Sta. 13+930 |
| Sta. 13+525 | Maison Creek box culvert, recently cleaned. Narrow-leaved cattail (<i>Thypha angustifolia</i>), swamp dock weed (<i>Rumex verticillatus</i>), limited shrub/tree cover of red ash (<i>Fraxinus pennsylvanica</i>), mulberry (<i>Morus alba</i>). | |
| Sta. 13+525 to Sta. 13+930 | Sta. 13+760, 2 honey locust trees (<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>) with twin trunks - dbh 36+31 cm and 13+36 cm | |
| Sta. 13+930 to Sta. 13+995 | Rochester 3 rd Conc Road overpass. Limited plantings on side slopes, 1 red cedar bush | Rochester 3 rd Conc Road overpass. Limited plantings on side slopes |
| Sta. 13+995 | Small box culvert with water up to 0.10 m deep with active flow width of 1.5 m. Vegetation 90% cattail, 10% soft stem bulrush (<i>Scirpus validus</i>). Red-winged blackbirds nesting in ditch. | Red-winged blackbirds in ditch |
| Sta. 13+995 to Sta. 14+300 | ROW very wet with common reed grass (<i>Phragmites communis</i>). Twin stemmed silver maple with dbh of 31+36 cm at Sta. 14+295. Nesting red-winged blackbird observed. | Soybean crop fields, Sta. 13+995 to Sta. 14+650. |
| Sta. 14+360 | Silver maple, dbh of 41 cm. | |
| Sta. 14+300 to Sta. 15+000 | ROW ditch very wet with lake sedge (<i>Carex lacustris</i>) dominating plant community. | Single row of balsam poplar (<i>Populus balsamifera</i>), Sta. 14+650. Grain crop field, Sta. 14+650 to Sta. 15+340 |
| Sta. 15+340 to Sta. 15+365 | Terminus of concession road. Small box culvert, open ditch with no cover. Reed based spike grass is present but <5% cover. Raccoon tracks, ed-winged black birds nesting in ditch. | White elm trees around ditch. Approx. 8 trees up to 41 cm dbh. |
| Sta. 15+365 to Sta. 16+400 | No plantings | Grain crop fields, Sta. 15+365 to Sta. 16+420. 7 Norway maple, Sta. 16+270 to Sta. 16+400. Average dbh 25 cm. |
| Sta. 16+420 | Box culvert crossing. Vegetation - 70% cattail and 30% open water. Water surface covered with duckweed (<i>Lemna minor</i>). Some nesting red-winged black birds. | 6 Norway maple, dbh 18-31 cm along fence. Crop fields, Sta. 16+420 to 16+630. Farm infrastructure, Sta. 16+630 to French Line Road. |
| Sta. 16+330 to Sta. 16+724 (French Line Rd. interchange) | Large planting of Austrian pine with dbh 18-50 cm on south side of ramp. Several nests of common grackle observed. | |

**TABLE 1
EXISTING TERRESTRIAL CONDITIONS FOR WESTBOUND HIGHWAY 401
BELLE RIVER ROAD TO HIGHWAY 77, GWP 63-00-00**

| Station | Within ROW | Outside ROW |
|----------------------------|--|---|
| Sta. 16+740 | Box culvert on east side of French Line Road and E-N&S off ramp. Limited flow, 50% phragmites. Red ash, Norway maple, Austrian pine located on slope | Farm infrastructure from French Line Rd. to Sta. 16+830. Grain fields, Sta. 16+830 to Sta. 17+630. 14 Norway maple, red ash, lilac, red cedar shrubs from Sta. 16+845 to Sta. 17+200. |
| Sta. 16+740 to Sta. 18+070 | Wet ditch with lake sedges, common reed grass. | Wet farm ditch at Sta. 17+630. |
| Sta. 18+070 to Sta. 18+135 | Terminus of Rochester 6 th Concession Road. Box culvert in ditch, parallel to eastbound lanes. Culvert has two nesting barn swallows, many red-winged black birds. | Crop fields, Sta. 17+630 to Sta. 18+070. Wet ditch with cattails and common reed grass on west side of Concession Road 6. |
| Sta. 18+135 to Sta. 18+420 | Wet ditch with lake sedge and common reed grass. | Crop fields, Sta. 18+135 to 18+325. Broken hedgerow of white elm (<i>Ulmus Americana</i>), red cedar, red ash, hawthorn and dominated by staghorn sumach (<i>Rhus typhina</i>). |
| Sta. 18+420 | Ruscom River crossing is open with 50% tree cover, including white elm, red ash, sumach. River has active flow width on May 19/05 of 5 m. Drainage from ROW ditch flows into river. Nests included American robin (with eggs), common grackle. Raccoon, deer, wild turkey, opossum tracks | Ruscom River Woods occur between Sta. 18+325 and Sta. 18+420. Trees along riverbank include red ash, shagbark hickory, sandbar willow, Manitoba maple. |
| Sta. 18+420 to Sta. 19+500 | No plantings within ROW, ditch is very wet with either cattail, common reed grass or lake sedge. Many nesting red-winged blackbirds. | Sta. 18+420 to Sta. 19+200, broken hedgerow of white elm, white oak, red ash, red cedar, cockspur hawthorn, grey dogwood adjacent to crop fields. |
| Sta. 19+500 | No significant vegetation | Crop fields, Sta. 19+500 to Sta. 20+080. |
| Sta. 19+765 to Sta. 20+030 | Seven honey locust trees, ranging in dbh from 18 cm to 41 cm, some with double stems. | Cottonwood and cedar trees near fence line at Sta. 19+655. |
| Sta. 20+080 to Sta. 10+060 | No plantings on side slopes of Rochester Townline Road. Box culvert at Sta. 10+035, active flow width is 3.0 m, 0.60m deep. Drain recently cleared. Dry bench for wildlife passage at culvert wall. Raccoon tracks. | At toe of slope of east side of Rochester Townline overpass, ditch is lined with cattail, with narrow-leaved cattails along edge. Red-winged blackbird nesting in ditch. |
| Sta. 10+060 to Sta. 12+090 | Wet patches with common reed grass and nesting red-winged blackbird. | Sta. 10+060 to Sta. 12+090, grain fields. 40 Mhugo pine trees forming hedgerow, Trees up to 4.0 m tall. |
| Sta. 12+090 | Turnbull drain box culvert, 100% open with cattails, lake sedge and reed canary grass. Active flow – 4m wide, 0.3m deep. Raccoon tracks, no swallows in culvert. | |
| Sta. 12+090 to Sta. 12+850 | Wet patches of cattails/lake sedge. Many nesting red-winged blackbirds. | Sta. 12+365 to Sta. 12+850, single row of Norway maple (51 cm dbh) along ROW fenceline. Common grackles nesting in trees. |

TABLE 2
EXISTING VEGETATION CONDITIONS FOR EASTBOUND HIGHWAY 401
BELLE RIVER ROAD TO HIGHWAY 77, GWP 63-00-00

| Station | Within ROW | Outside ROW |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| Sta. 12+900 to Sta. 13+365 | Single 3-stem silver maple with diameters of 20, 25 and 25 cm at Sta. 13+300 | Scattered white elm and apple trees along ROW fenceline, between Sta. 12+900 to Sta. 13+525 |
| Sta. 13+365 | Natural gas pipeline crossing. | Sta. 13+645 to Sta. 13+930, single row of red ash along fenceline. Trees up to 15 cm dbh spaced 2m apart. Crop fields outside ROW |
| Sta. 13+525 | Maison Creek box culvert crossing. Narrow-leaved cattail and swamp dock, drain recently cleaned. Raccoon tracks, no swallows in culvert. | |
| Sta. 13+930 to Sta. 13+995 | Rochester Third Conc. Road overpass. No plantings on side slopes. | |
| Sta. 13+995 | Box culvert crossing at Sta. 13+995. Active flow width of 1.5 m and depth of 0.10 m. Cattail, soft-stem bulrush. Some nesting red-winged blackbird in ditch. | Sta. 14+000 to Sta. 14+640, single row of red ash along the fenceline (dbh up to 15 cm) with scattered cedar, mulberry, chokecherry (<i>Prunus virginiana</i>) shrubs |
| Sta. 14+400 to Sta. 15+430 | Ditch very wet to flooded with lake sedge. Crayfish found in ditch. | Row of dead white elms at shallow farm drainage ditch, Sta. 14+650 |
| Sta. 15+340 | Box culvert, open ditch, spike grass with <5% cover. Raccoon track observed, red-winged blackbird nesting in ditch. | Crop fields from Sta. 14+655 to Sta. 15+340. Dead end concession road, Sta. 15+340 to Sta. 15+365. |
| Sta. 15+365 to Sta. 16+255 | Red cedar along ROW fence line. Red-winged blackbirds nesting in ditch. | |
| Sta. 16+570 to Sta. 16+715 | Austrian pine (25 to 41 cm dbh) on north side of W-N+S off ramp and eastbound lanes. | Crop fields, Sta. 15+365 to French Line Road (Sta. 15+700) |
| Sta. 16+740 | Box culvert crossing with half common reed and half open water covered with duck weed. Red ash, Austrian pine, Norway maple on slope. | Hobby farm with wild or exotic animals (llama, Arctic fox, lynx) |
| Sta. 16+760 to Sta. 16+965 | Austrian pine and white elm on north side of N+S-E on-ramp and eastbound lanes. Trees 30-43 cm dbh. | Single row of Norway maple along fence, Sta. 16+740 to Sta. 17+065. |
| Sta. 16+925 to Sta. 18+070 | Ditch very wet to flooded, common reed grass | Grain fields, Sta. 16+925 to Sta. 18+070. |
| Sta. 18+070 to Sta. 18+135 | Terminus of Rochester 6 th Concession Road. Large box culvert parallel to Hwy 401 within ditch. 2.0 m channel filled with common reedgrass. Nesting red-winged blackbird. | Sta. 18+135 to Sta. 18+445, scattered white and red cedar shrubs (1 to 1.5m tall) along ROW fence. Sta. 18+365 to Sta. 18+445, hedgerow of white elm |
| Sta. 18+445 | Ruscom River bridge. ROW is open with 50% tree cover which includes white elm, red ash, staghorn sumach. Bank vegetation is mostly red top. Active flow channel is approx. 5 m. Good wide bench on east side for wildlife crossing. | Ruscom River Woods, Sta. 18+445 to Sta. 18+800, dominated with red ash, silver maple, Freeman's maple, shagbark hickory, white oak, basswood, white elm. Rolling topography favours upland species including wild geranium, yellow trout lily and narrow-leaved spring beauty. |
| Sta. 18+445 to Sta. 19+480 | Wet ditch within ROW. No trees. | Swampy areas near river contain poison ivy, moneywort. Trees in woodlot have average dbh of 37 cm. Largest tree (white oak), 61 cm. Woodlot has many ephemeral pools. Sta. 18+800 to Sta. 19+480 hay crop field. |

**TABLE 2
EXISTING VEGETATION CONDITIONS FOR EASTBOUND HIGHWAY 401
BELLE RIVER ROAD TO HIGHWAY 77, GWP 63-00-00**

| Station | Within ROW | Outside ROW |
|-------------------------------|---|---|
| Sta. 20+030 Sta. 10+050 | Overpass of Rochester Townline Road. | |
| Sta. 10+050 | Culvert on east side of slope. 100% open and receives drainage from crop fields. Vegetation includes red-based spike rush and pond weed. No swallow nests, but muskrat activity and raccoon tracks. | Sta. 19+640 to Sta. 19+970, large planting of red ash, dbh of approx. 25 cm. |
| Sta. 10+050 to Sta. 10+920 | Wet ditch containing mostly cattail. | Sta. 10+050 to Sta. 10+920 crop field (plowed). |
| Sta. 10+920 to Sta. 12+090 | Wet ditch within ROW containing mostly cattail. | Sta. 10+920. Wet farm drainage ditch with some flow. Vegetation includes common reed grass, lake sedge. Nesting red winged blackbirds. |
| Sta. 12+060 | Turnbull Drain box culvert, 100% open and recently cleaned. Active channel is 3.0m wide and 0.5m deep. Crayfish, muskrat observed. | Sta. 11+730 to Sta. 12+000. Turnbull Drain Woodlot, dominated by red ash with shagbark hickory, white elm, basswood, apple. Shrub layer includes prickly ash, red raspberry, black currant. Birds woodlot include Northern oriole, veery, red-winged blackbird, barn swallow, rose-breasted grose beak, chestnut side warbler, American gold finch. |