

Severn Sound

Environmental Association

WETLAND EVALUATION OF MIDLAND SWAMP MIDLAND



NOVEMBER 2006

WETLAND EVALUATION OF MIDLAND SWAMP MIDLAND, ONTARIO

November 2006

Prepared for
THE TOWN OF MIDLAND
THE TOWN OF PENETANGUISHENE
and
THE ONTARIO MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

by Michelle Hudolin, Wetlands and Habitat Biologist SEVERN SOUND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSOCIATION

FOREWORD

This document reports on the major findings of the Wetland Evaluation of Midland Swamp, conducted during 2005 by the Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA) for the Town of Midland, the Town of Penetanguishene, and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources.

The evaluation was conducted using the standards set out in the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System, Southern Manual, 3rd edition. The Midland Swamp wetland evaluation has been reviewed and accepted by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Midhurst District.

For additional copies of this report or information on the Severn Sound Environmental Association, please contact the SSEA office:

Severn Sound Environmental Association 67 Fourth Street

Midland Ontario L4R 3S9

Phone: (705) 527-5166 Fax: (705) 527-5167

Email: seacommunications@town.midland.on.ca

Web-site: www.severnsound.ca

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I owe many thanks to Bob Bowles and Margaret Killing for their valued contributions to this evaluation. Bob's extensive natural history knowledge is invaluable in the field, and his Simcoe County Checklists were used as the basis for the species lists in this report. Margaret's substantial contributions to the project included assistance with much of the field work and data collection, and maintaining and updating the plant list. I would also like to express my sincere appreciation to Severn Sound Environmental Association staff for the support and professional expertise they provided throughout the project. In particular, the assistance of Keith Sherman, Lex McPhail, Paula Madill and Michele Locke was fundamental to the preparation of the Midland Swamp Wetland Evaluation.

The project team would like to thank the staff at the Midhurst District Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources for their assistance with the evaluation. We received background information, support and expertise from Brad Allan (Biologist), Suzanne Robinson (Acting District Ecologist), Greg Cull (Fish & Wildlife Technical Specialist), and Paul Jurjans (GIS Officer).

Special thanks to Town of Midland staff Fred Flood, Bryan MacKell, Mark Pinkney and Pamela Wayne, and Town of Penetanguishene staff George Vadeboncoeur, Paul Hodgins and Kris Adamson, for municipal information and support. Thanks also to Jamie Hunter of Huronia Museum, for providing information on the cultural resources of the Midland Swamp area, and to David McLachlin and Kevin Rich at Ducks Unlimited, for contributing background information on the Midland Swamp area.

Landowner support was important to this project. We would like to thank the many private landowners in the Midland Swamp area that kindly allowed us to access their properties for the purpose of the wetland evaluation:

Raymond Beausoleil
Reid Belfry
Alan Buttineau
Mabel Hirst
Carole Ladouceur
Micheal Laurin
William & Joan Lediard
Marina Park Resort Inc.

George McInnes
Joseph Morrison
Genevieve Ogilvie
Laurie Paille
Paul & Trish Stack
Anne Strapko
Rick Wonnacott

All photographs in this report were taken by SSEA staff unless otherwise noted.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST	OF FIGURES		i
LIST	OF APPENDIO	CES	i
1.	INTRODUC	TION	1
	1.1	Background	1
	1.2	Purpose	1
	1.3	Study Team	
	1.4	Fieldwork and Data Collection	2
2.	WETLAND	EVALUATION	2
	2.1	Biological Component	
	2.2	Social Component	
	2.3	Hydrological Component	8
	2.4	Special Features Component	
		2.4.1 Regionally Significant Species	10
		2.4.2 Fish and Wildlife Habitat	11
		2.4.3 Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands	11
	2.5	Extra Information	11
	2.6	Evaluation Score	13
3	REFERENC	FS	1.4

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1: Location of Midland Swamp
Figure 2: Midland Swamp - Evaluated Wetland Boundaries
Figure 3: Wetland Unit 1, Emergent Marsh Community M4 5
Figure 4: Wetland Unit 1, Emergent Marsh Community M1 5
Figure 5: Wetland Unit 1, Emergent Marsh Community M1 5
Figure 6: Wetland Unit 1, Deciduous Swamp Community S4 5
Figure 7: Wetland Unit 3, Emergent Marsh Community M2
Figure 8: Dam in Midland Swamp with Beaver Activity
Figure 9: Culverts from Midland Swamp to Midland Bay
Figure 10: Midland Swamp Catchment Area
Figure 11: Snapping Turtle (Chelydra serpentina serpentina)
Figure 12: Minnow Sampling in Midland Swamp
Figure 13: Invasive, Non-native Glossy Buckthorn (<i>Rhamnus frangula</i>)
Figure 14: Thermal Classification of Midland Swamp Stream at Central Site
Figure 15: Thermal Classification of Midland Swamp Stream at Downstream Site 13
LIST OF APPENDICES
A 12 A
Appendix A
Plants of Midland Swamp
Appendix B
Fauna of Midland Swamp

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Midland Swamp is located inland of Midland Bay, within the Town of Midland (Figure 1). The Town of Midland owns approximately 74% of this wetland complex, and the remainder is under private ownership.

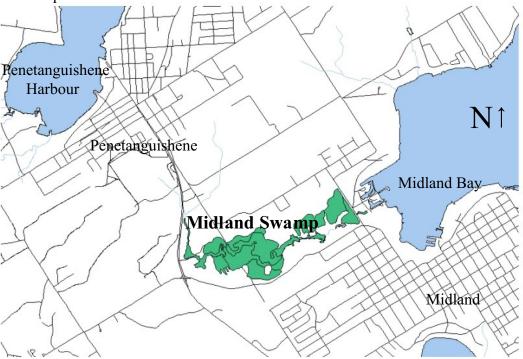


Figure 1: Location of Midland Swamp

A wetland evaluation was conducted in 1985 by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR), and Midland Swamp was evaluated as a Class 5 Wetland (now termed Locally Significant Wetland).

1.2 Purpose

The purpose of this project was to conduct field work, and prepare and submit a revised evaluation for Midland Swamp, upgraded to the 3rd edition standards of the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System.

1.3 Study Team

Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA) undertook the wetland evaluation, funded by the Town of Midland and the Town of Penetanguishene, with support from the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. The municipalities provided assessment data and background information, and OMNR provided direction and technical advice during the project.

Contractor Bob Bowles and SSEA Wetlands & Habitat Biologist Michelle Hudolin conducted field work for the project, with additional field support provided by Margaret Killing (volunteer), David Killing (SSEA seasonal staff), Nils Lichtenberg, Joachim Reinhardt and Martin Friebe (SSEA interns), and Amanda Barnstaple (volunteer). SSEA Coordinator Keith Sherman provided guidance, input and assistance throughout the project. Geographic Information System (GIS) support and mapping was provided by Lex McPhail, SSEA GIS/Applications Specialist, and SSEA Ecosystem Technologist Paula Madill assisted with water temperature data collection and provided the analysis of water temperature data for the thermal classification of the Midland Swamp stream.

1.4 Fieldwork and Data Collection

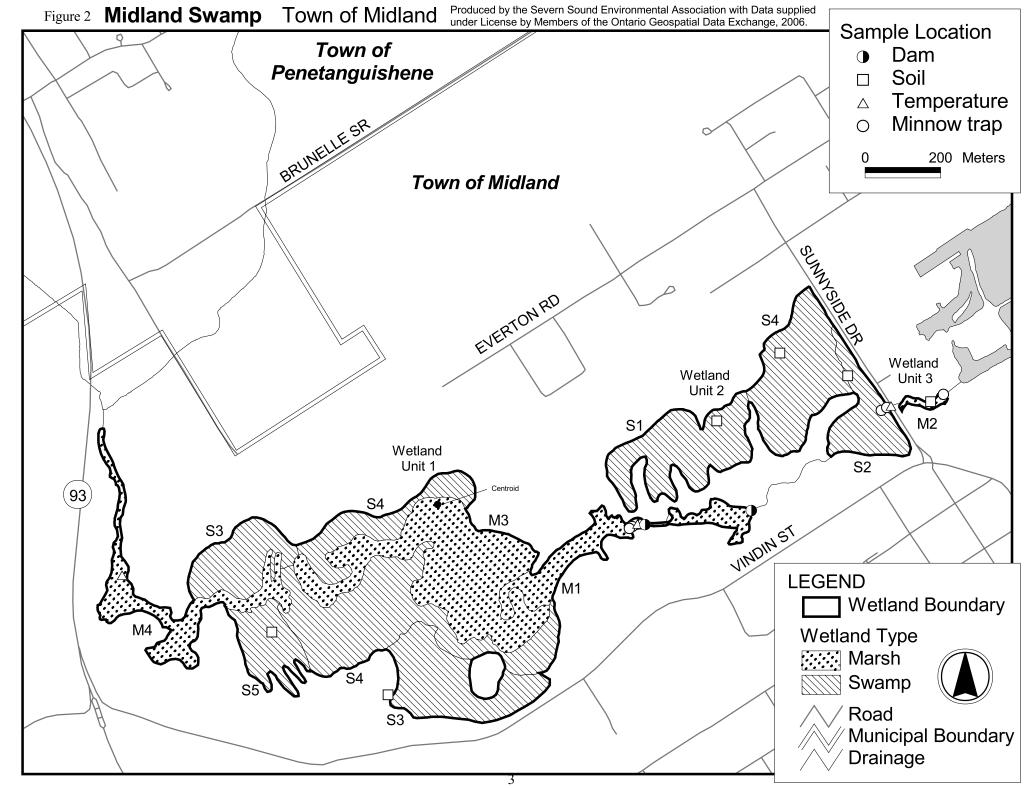
Midland Swamp was visited during the spring, summer and fall of 2005, to assess features in the wetland, map and describe vegetation communities, and collect information on species utilizing the wetland. Field work was conducted on May 9, May 24, June 16, July 8, July 22, August 22, September 27, and September 30, 2005. During field visits, the field crew noted plant species observed, and wildlife species observed or heard; minnows were trapped and identified on July 8 and September 27. Temperature loggers were installed in the stream in the wetland to monitor water temperature throughout the summer.

Access was not granted to all parcels of land within the study area, therefore some information was not directly obtainable from field observations. In these cases, existing information and aerial photograph interpretation was used to determine the wetland boundary and describe the wetland communities. If an opportunity arises in the future to access these lands, the vegetation communities and wetland evaluation record should be updated accordingly.

2. WETLAND EVALUATION

A map of the wetland communities in the complex was produced (Figure 2). The communities are divided into wetland types (M=marsh, S=swamp), and each community has been given an alphanumeric identifier according to the evaluation system protocol.

Two small areas identified as wetland habitat when field surveys were undertaken in 2005 were excluded from the final wetland boundary. One area is located to the northwest of Wetland Unit 1, on the west side of County Road 93; a second area is located to the south of Wetland Unit 3, east of Sunnyside Drive. Although these areas contained wetland vegetation at the time they were surveyed, the properties have approved development proposals associated with them, and therefore the OMNR advised SSEA that these wetland areas should be excluded from the final wetland boundary and evaluation scoring record.



Under the 3rd Edition Ontario Wetland Evaluation System Southern Manual, a wetland evaluation is scored in four main categories: Biological, Social, Hydrological, and Special Features components. The Biological section assesses ecological and biological values of the wetland. The Social component evaluates the uses that wetlands provide to people, like recreational opportunities and natural resources such as timber and furbearers. The Hydrological category evaluates factors such as flood attenuation and water quality improvement. The Special Features component allows attributes such as significant wildlife habitat and rare species to be evaluated. The Extra Information section of the evaluation provides an opportunity for reporting additional information that does not receive points toward the evaluation score, such as the presence of invasive species or other notable species such as Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) and Loon (*Gavia immer*).

Points are awarded for each category, based on the evaluation system protocol. The sum of the points from all categories results in the final score for the wetland or wetland complex, and represents the status of the wetland at the time of the study. Each of the four components can score a maximum of 250 points, and thus a wetland or wetland complex can score a maximum of 1000 points. Wetlands that receive a total score of 600 points (or greater) or score 200 points (or greater) in either the Biological or Special Features scoring components are categorized as Provincially Significant Wetlands. Wetlands that receive a total score of less than 600 points and score less than 200 points in each of the Biological and Special Features scoring components are categorized as Non-provincially Significant Wetlands, and are often designated Locally Significant Wetlands by municipalities. The significant findings of the field work for the Midland Swamp wetland evaluation are outlined below.

2.1 Biological Component

The Midland Swamp wetland complex contains two distinct wetland types: marsh and swamp. Overall, the wetland is dominated by swamp (67%), including deciduous swamp and tall shrub swamp habitat. The marsh component of the wetland (33%) is primarily emergent marsh habitat. Three individual wetland units make up the 61.4 hectare Midland Swamp complex (Figure 2).

Wetland Unit 1, the largest wetland unit, is located on the east side of County Road 93, north of Vindin Street. This 45.1 hectare area is composed of emergent marsh habitat along the stream corridor (Figure 3), in the central marsh area (Figure 4), and downstream of the dam (Figure 5). Deciduous swamp habitat is situated to the north and south of the central marsh area (Figure 6).



Figure 3: Wetland Unit 1, Emergent Marsh Community M4



Figure 4: Wetland Unit 1, Emergent Marsh Community M1

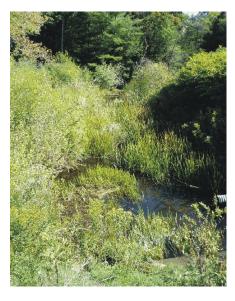


Figure 5: Wetland Unit 1, Emergent Marsh Community M1, Downstream of Dam



Figure 6: Wetland Unit 1, Deciduous Swamp Community S4

The 16.0 hectare Wetland Unit 2 is a deciduous swamp located west of Sunnyside Drive and slightly northeast of Wetland Unit 1. This portion of the wetland is fed by several groundwater seeps and a small creek. Wetland Unit 3 is a 0.3 hectare emergent marsh community along the banks of the creek (Figure 7), to the east of Sunnyside Drive, where Midland Swamp outlets into Midland Bay.



Figure 7: Wetland Unit 3, Emergent Marsh Community M2

The habitat and topography surrounding Midland Swamp is a diverse mixture of row crops, deciduous, coniferous and mixed forest, open lake, creek flood plains, and hilly terrain. In addition, Midland Swamp is hydrologically connected by surface water to Midland Bay, and is located within approximately 2.5 km of Penetang Marsh and Lalligan Lake Provincially Significant Wetlands. Habitat variety adjacent to wetlands and connectivity to other natural areas is valuable from a biological perspective, because high ecological diversity typically supports a large number of species of plants and animals.

2.2 Social Component

The field crew noted the presence of a number of potential resources in Midland Swamp that contribute to the scoring for the social component of the evaluation, including wood products and wildlife species. Approximately 38 hectares of the wetland is dominated by deciduous forest. The field crew directly observed or found evidence (e.g., scat, tracks, browse) of several economically valuable wildlife species, including Beaver (*Castor canadensis*), Muskrat (*Ondatra zibethica*), and Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*). In addition, Mark Pinkney from the Town of Midland reported Coyote (*Canis latrans*) in the area, and Mink (*Mustela vison*) and Bobcat (*Lynx rufus*) were mammal species reported in the 1985 evaluation. Minnows and Snapping Turtle (*Chelydra serpentina*) was reported in the 1985 evaluation, with suitable habitat still existing in the wetland for this species.

A large portion of Midland Swamp is owned by the Town of Midland. Since the area contributes to the municipal water supply, access to much of the area is restricted, and therefore there is relatively little recreational use of the wetland. No evidence of hunting in the wetland was observed by the field crew. However, there were paths trampled along the edges of the stream in the fall, as well as a minnow trap in the stream at the Sunnyside crossing, indicating the wetland is occasionally used for fishing.

Human disturbances to the wetland include concrete dams (Figure 8), a utility corridor, and culverts (Figure 9) where the wetland outlets to Midland Bay. In addition, there is localized water pollution as a result of untreated stormwater discharging into the wetland at several locations. Although there is a walking/biking trail in the uplands adjacent to the wetland, it is not located in the wetland itself, and does not contribute to the score for the wetland. There are no known visits to the wetland by educational groups.

Midland Swamp is located on the border of the settlement area of the Town of Midland, with 74% of the wetland area municipally owned, and the remaining 26% in private ownership.



Figure 8: Dam in Midland Swamp with Beaver Activity



Figure 9: Culverts from Midland Swamp to Midland Bay

In addition to the original 1985 wetland evaluation, a number of studies have been done on the Midland Swamp area, including fisheries studies (C. Portt & Associates, 2001). In conjunction with the wetland evaluation, SSEA prepared a report on the Midland Reservoir watershed (Severn Sound Environmental Association, in prep.).

Jamie Hunter from Huronia Museum provided information on the cultural resources of the area surrounding Midland Swamp. He identified the old Penetanguishene Road, which passes directly through Midland Swamp, as an important Historical Road. The Road dates from 1811 to 1821, was used by naval and military personnel, and was the first settlement road in Simcoe County. The original switchbacks of the road are still present in some areas. The presence of this cultural feature contributes additional points to the Social component of the evaluation.

2.3 Hydrological Component

Midland Swamp is the main detention area in its catchment (Figure 10). As such, it receives a relatively high score for flood attenuation in the catchment area. In addition, due to its location in the watershed, it receives a moderate score for short term water quality improvement and long term nutrient trapping capabilities.

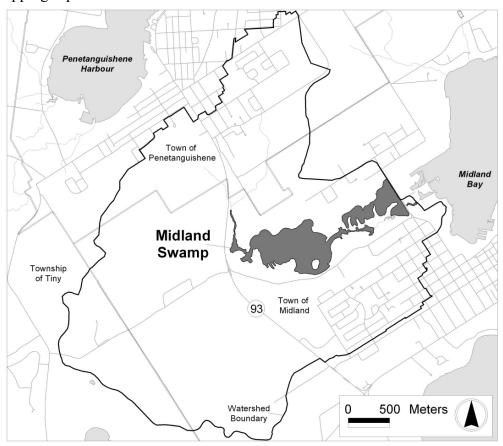


Figure 10: Midland Swamp Catchment Area

There are numerous springs and seeps in Midland Swamp, and the wetland is located within 1 km of a major aquifer, surrounded by hilly topography. These factors contribute to a relatively high score for groundwater discharge. There is also relatively high potential for groundwater recharge based on the wetland site type and soils surrounding the wetland. The wetland is mainly palustrine in site type, meaning there is intermittent surface water inflow and intermittent or permanent outflow from the wetland; the surrounding soils are predominantly sand. These factors translate into a relatively high score for groundwater recharge capability.

2.4 Special Features Component

During field visits to Midland Swamp, the field crew recorded 189 plant species (Appendix A) and 120 wildlife species, including birds, mammals, amphibians, butterflies and moths, dragonflies and damselflies, and fish (Appendix B) in the wetland and adjacent uplands.

The field crew documented 61 species of birds in the wetland during field visits, including breeding birds, summer residents and migrants. Waterfowl utilizing the wetland included Canada Goose (Branta canadensis), Wood Duck (Aix sponsa), and Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos). Other wetland avifauna noted included American Bittern (Botaurus lentiginosus), Great Blue Heron (Ardea herodias), Green Heron (Butorides virescens), Sora (Porzana carolina), Northern Rough-winged Swallow (Stelgidopteryx serripennis), Barn Swallow (Hirundo rustica), Sedge Wren (Cistothorus platensis), and Northern Waterthrush (Seiurus noveboracensis), among many others. Breeding evidence (nest and/or eggs) was noted for Mourning Dove (Zenaida macroura), and American Goldfinch (Carduelis tristis). Migrant birds observed using the wetland in spring/fall included: Solitary Sandpiper (Tringa solitaria), Golden-crowned Kinglet (Regulus satrapa), Ruby-crowned Kinglet (Regulus calendula), Yellow-rumped Warbler (Dendroica coronata), Western Palm Warbler (Dendroica palmarum palmarum), White-crowned Sparrow (Zonotrichia leucophrys) and Rusty Blackbird (Euphagus carolinus). Many additional bird species were observed outside the wetland boundaries, including Pileated Woodpecker (Dryocopus pileatus), Eastern Bluebird (Sialia sialis), Pine Warbler (Dendroica pinus), and Rose-breasted Grosbeak (Pheucticus ludovicianus).

Five species of amphibian and three species of reptile were observed in the wetland during the field season, including Spring Peeper (*Pseudacris crucifer*), American Toad (*Bufo americanus*), Wood Frog (*Rana sylvatica*), Northern Leopard Frog (*Rana pipiens*), Green Frog (*Rana clamitans melanota*), Common Snapping Turtle (Figure 11), Midland Painted Turtle (*Chrysemys picta marginata*) and Eastern Garter Snake (*Thamnophis sirtalis sirtalis*).



photo: B. Bowles

Figure 11: Snapping Turtle (Chelydra serpentina serpentina)

Mammal observations included direct observations of species and/or observations of tracks, scat, and browse. The six mammal species noted during 2005 field work included Beaver, Muskrat, Raccoon, White-tailed Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), Snowshoe Hare (*Lepus americanus*), and Gray Squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*).

Minnows were trapped on July 8 and September 27, 2005 (Figure 12). Minnow traps were placed at five locations in Midland Swamp (Figure 2). Species trapped included Common Shiner (*Luxilus cornutus*), Blacknose Shiner (*Notropis heterolepis*), Northern Redbelly Dace (*Phoxinus eos*), Blacknose Dace (*Rhinichthys atratulus*), Creek Chub (*Semotilus atromaculatus*), and Brook Stickleback (*Culaea inconstans*). In addition, Mottled Sculpin (*Cottus bairdi*) and Brown Trout (*Salmo trutta*) were observed by SSEA staff sampling benthic invertebrates in the Midland Swamp stream on October 17, 2005.



Figure 12: Minnow Sampling in Midland Swamp

Fourteen species of dragonflies and damselflies, and twelve species of butterflies and moths were observed in Midland Swamp during field visits. Two species uncommon in Simcoe County were observed, including an uncommon dragonfly species, Band-winged Meadowhawk (*Sympetrum semicinctum*), and an uncommon butterfly species, Delaware Skipper (*Anatrytone logan*).

2.4.1 Regionally Significant Species

Two Regionally Significant species were observed in Midland Swamp in 2005. Two additional Regionally Significant species were observed just outside the boundaries of the wetland.

Gray's Sedge (*Carex grayi*) and Nodding Sedge (*Carex gynandra*) were observed within the wetland boundaries of Midland Swamp. These species are both considered rare in OMNR Central Region (Riley, 1989), making them Regionally Significant plants for the purposes of scoring for the evaluation. Black Walnut (*Juglans nigra*) and Jerusalem Artichoke (*Helianthus tuberosus*), although also rare in OMNR Central Region, were observed outside the wetland boundaries, and therefore do not receive points for Regional Significance in the evaluation. Black Walnut appears to have been originally planted along the Midland Waterfront.

2.4.2 Fish and Wildlife Habitat

Midland Swamp contains stands of coniferous trees mixed with deciduous trees and shrubs, and the wetland is used by wildlife such as White-tailed Deer in winter. This can be considered locally significant winter cover for wildlife species (Brad Allan, pers. comm.).

While waterfowl breeding and staging occur in Midland Swamp, they are not known to be of national, provincial or regional significance, and thus score low in the evaluation.

Fish habitat is present in Midland Swamp, as evidenced by the minnows trapped and larger fish observed during 2005 field visits, and results from previous fish studies (C. Portt & Associates, 2001). Spawning and nursery habitat, and migration and staging habitat are considered locally significant by the OMNR (Brad Allan, pers. comm.).

2.4.3 Great Lakes Coastal Wetlands

Midland Swamp is classified as a Great Lakes Coastal Wetland, and receives a score based on its size. Midland Swamp is considered a coastal wetland under the evaluation system because it is on a tributary to Georgian Bay, and approximately 55 hectares of the wetland lie downstream of a line located 2 km upstream of the 1:100 year flood line of Georgian Bay.

2.5 Extra Information

Non-native, invasive species are of concern in many wetlands, including Midland Swamp. Although Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) was observed in Midland Swamp in several locations, it had not formed a monoculture that excludes native species. The non-native, invasive Glossy Buckthorn (*Rhamnus frangula*) was observed throughout Midland Swamp (Figure 13), and may soon outcompete native species for habitat and reduce overall biological diversity of the wetland.



Figure 13: Invasive, Non-native Glossy Buckthorn (*Rhamnus frangula*)

The temperature of waters flowing through the wetland indicates that there is groundwater input into the wetland and the stream. Cold seeps and springs originate in the valley lands and at the bottom of slopes adjacent to the wetland and stream. Most of these discharges flow year round. Spot temperatures of the seeps were approximately 13°C, even on warm days.

Water temperature data was collected at three locations in Midland Swamp during the summer (Figure 2), through the use of temperature data loggers (Onset Stow Away Tidbit Temp Logger data loggers, Hobo ®). The upstream temperature logger was installed in the wetland on June 16, but was removed on July 8, 2005 due to low water levels at the sampling location. There were two continuous temperature monitoring sites: the central site and the downstream site. The temperature logger at the central site was installed in the wetland on June 15, and removed on September 27, while the downstream logger was installed on June 7 and removed on September 23, 2005.

The temperature loggers collected water temperature data every 30 minutes; this data was analysed according to the methods used by Fisheries and Oceans Canada and OMNR to determine the thermal classification of the streams as fish habitat (Fisheries and Oceans Canada & Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, n.d.). Under this methodology, water temperature measurements between 4:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. are considered representative of the maximum daily water temperature, and are graphed against the maximum daily air temperature for days when the air temperature is at or above 25°C. The sampling period used to determine the thermal classification at the central and downstream sites is July 1 to September 10. Thermal classification of the upstream location was not possible, due to low water levels interfering with temperature data collected during the sampling period.

Based on temperature, the central site, immediately downstream of the upper reservoir dam, borders on coolwater fish habitat (Figure 14), while the downstream site is considered to have coolwater fish habitat (Figure 15).

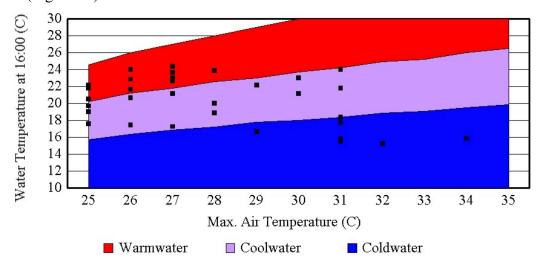


Figure 14: Thermal Classification of Midland Swamp Stream at Central Site

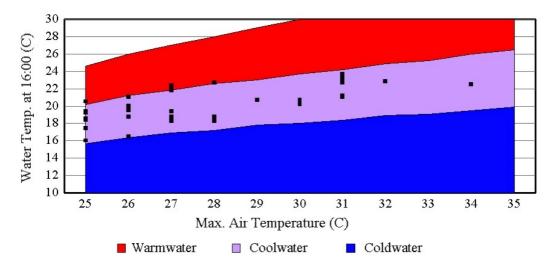


Figure 15: Thermal Classification of Midland Swamp Stream at Downstream Site

2.6 Evaluation Score

The total score for Midland Swamp is 647, making it a Provincially Significant Wetland. Midland Swamp scores 106 in the Biological component, 144 in the Social component, 190 in the Hydrological component, and 207 in the Special Features component, due to the presence of significant species and habitat. The Data and Scoring Record is on file with the OMNR Midhurst District.

3. REFERENCES

Allan, Brad. (OMNR Biologist) Personal Communication. February 2006.

Bowles, R. L. 1993. Checklist of the Amphibians and Reptiles of Simcoe County, August 1993. 2 pp.

Bowles, R. L. 1993. Wye Marsh Herbarium Checklist of Plants for Simcoe County and Wye Marsh, November 3, 1993. 32 pp.

Bowles, R. L. 1996. Checklist of the Mammals of Simcoe County, May 1996. 2 pp.

Bowles, R. L. 1998. Butterflies of Simcoe County, June 13, 1998. 2 pp.

Bowles, R. L. 1998. Fishes of Simcoe County, April 1998. 4 pp.

Bowles, R. L. 1999. Odonata of Simcoe County, May 1999. 3 pp.

Bowles, R. L. 2001. Birds of Simcoe County, April 2001. 7 pp.

C. Portt & Associates. 2001. Classification of Agricultural Drains in the Severn Sound Watershed.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada & Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. No Date. A Simple Method to Determine the Thermal Stability of Southern Ontario Trout Streams. Habitat Management Fact Sheet. 4 pp.

Natural Heritage Information Centre web-site: www.mnr.gov.on.ca/MNR/nhic/ (January 2006).

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. 1985. Midland Swamp Wetland Data Record. 17 pp.

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. 1985. Midland Swamp Wetland Evaluation Record. 5 pp.

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. 1994. Ontario Wetland Evaluation System, Southern Manual, 3rd edition. 178 pp.

Pinkney, Mark. (Town of Midland) Personal Communication. February 2006.

Riley, J.L. 1989. Distribution and status of the vascular plants of Central Region. OMNR Open File Ecological Report SR 8902. 110 pp.

Severn Sound Environmental Association. In prep. Midland Reservoir Report.

Appendix A Plants of Midland Swamp

Observed during 2005 Wetland Evaluation field work

Family Name	Genus	Species	Common Name	Additional Notes
PINACEAE	Abies	balsamea	Balsam Fir	
ACERACEAE	Acer	negundo	Manitoba Maple	observed outside wetland boundaries
ACERACEAE	Acer	rubrum	Red Maple	
ACERACEAE	Acer	saccharum ssp. saccharum	Sugar Maple	observed outside wetland boundaries
RANUNCULACEAE	Actaea	rubra	Red Baneberry	observed outside wetland boundaries
ROSACEAE	Agrimonia	gryposepala	Agrimony	
ALISMATACEAE	Alisma	plantago-aquatica	Common Water-plantain	
BETULACEAE	Alnus	incana ssp rugosa	Speckled Alder	
RANUNCULACEAE	Anemone	acutiloba	Sharp-lobed Hepatica	observed outside wetland boundaries
ARALIACEAE	Aralia	nudicaulis	Wild Sarsaparilla	observed outside wetland boundaries
ASTERACEAE	Arctium	minus	Common Burdock	introduced species
ARACEAE	Arisaema	triphyllum	Small Jack-in-the-Pulpit	observed outside wetland boundaries
ASCLEPIADACEAE	Asclepias	incarnata ssp. incarnata	Swamp Milkweed	
ASTERACEAE	Aster	lateriflorus	Calico Aster	
ASTERACEAE	Aster	macrophyllus	Large-leaved Aster	observed outside wetland boundaries
ASTERACEAE	Aster	novae-angliae	New England Aster	
ASTERACEAE	Aster	puniceus	Purple-stemmed Aster	
ASTERACEAE	Aster	umbellatus	Flat-topped White Aster	
ASTERACEAE	Aster	urophyllus	Arrow-leaved Aster	

Family Name	Genus	Species	Common Name	Additional Notes
POLYPODIACEAE	Athyrium	filix-femina ssp angustum	Lady Fern	
BERBERIDACEAE	Berberis	thunbergii	Japanese Barberry	introduced species; observed outside wetland
BETULACEAE	Betula	alleghaniensis	Yellow Birch	
BETULACEAE	Betula	papyrifera	White Birch	
ASTERACEAE	Bidens	cernua	Nodding Beggarticks	
URTICACEAE	Boehmeria	cylindrica	False Nettle	observed outside wetland boundaries
POACEAE	Brachyeletrum	erectum	Long Awned Woodgrass	observed outside wetland boundaries
POACEAE	Calamagrostis	canadensis	Canada Blue-Joint	
RANUNCULACEAE	Caltha	palustris	Marsh Marigold	
CAMPANULACEAE	Campanula	aparinoides	Bedstraw Bellflower	
BRASSICACEAE	Cardamine	diphylla	Two-leaved Toothwort	observed outside wetland boundaries
CYPERACEAE	Carex	bebbii	Bebb's Sedge	
CYPERACEAE	Carex	comosa	Bristly Sedge	
CYPERACEAE	Carex	flava	Yellow Sedge	
CYPERACEAE	Carex	gracillima	Graceful Sedge	observed outside wetland boundaries
CYPERACEAE	Carex	grayi	Sedge	Regionally Significant Species
CYPERACEAE	Carex	gynandra	Nodding Sedge	Regionally Significant Species
CYPERACEAE	Carex	hystericina	Porcupine Sedge	
CYPERACEAE	Carex	lacustris	Lake Bank Sedge	
CYPERACEAE	Carex	lurida	Sallow Sedge	observed outside wetland boundaries
CYPERACEAE	Carex	oligosperma	Few-seeded Sedge	
CYPERACEAE	Carex	pedunculata	Peduncled Sedge	observed outside wetland boundaries

Family Name	Genus	Species	Common Name	Additional Notes
CYPERACEAE	Carex	pseudo-cyperus	Cypress-like Sedge	
CYPERACEAE	Carex	scoparia	Pointed Broom Sedge	observed outside wetland boundaries
CYPERACEAE	Carex	spicata	Sedge	introduced species; observed outside wetland
CYPERACEAE	Carex	stipata	Awl-fruited Sedge	
CYPERACEAE	Carex	stricta	Tussock Sedge	
CYPERACEAE	Carex	vulpinoidea	Fox Tail Sedge	
BERBERIDACEAE	Caulophyllum	thalictroides	Blue Cohosh	observed outside wetland boundaries
ASTERACEAE	Centaurea	jacea	Brown Knapweed	introduced species
PAPAVERACEAE	Chelidonium	majus	Celandine	introduced species; observed outside wetland
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Chelone	glabra	Turtlehead	
APIACEAE	Cicuta	bulbifera	Bulb-bearing Water-hemlock	
ASTERACEAE	Cirsium	vulgare	Bull Thistle	introduced species
RANUNCULACEAE	Clematis	virginiana	Virgin's-bower	
LILIACEAE	Clintonia	borealis	Yellow Clintonia	observed outside wetland boundaries
OROBANCHACEAE	Conopholis	americana	Squawroot	observed outside wetland boundaries
CORNACEAE	Cornus	alternifolia	Alternate-leaved Dogwood	
CORNACEAE	Cornus	amomum ssp. obliqua	Silky Dogwood	
CORNACEAE	Cornus	stolonifera	Red-osier Dogwood	
ORCHIDACEAE	Cypripedium	reginae	Showy Lady's Slipper	
APIACEAE	Daucus	carota	Wild Carrot/Queen Anne's Lace	introduced species
LYTHRACEAE	Decodon	verticillatus	Swamp Loosestrife	
CAPRIFOLIACEAE	Diervilla	lonicera	Bush Honeysuckle	

Family Name	Genus	Species	Common Name	Additional Notes
POACEAE	Echinochloa	crusgalli	Barnyard Grass	introduced species
CYPERACEAE	Eleocharis	smallii	Small's Spike Rush	
ONAGRACEAE	Epilobium	ciliatum ssp. glandulosum	Sticky Willow-herb	observed outside wetland boundaries
ORCHIDACEAE	Epipactis	helleborine	Helleborine	introduced species
EQUISETACEAE	Equisetum	arvense	Field Horsetail	
EQUISETACEAE	Equisetum	fluviatile	Water or Swamp Horsetail	
EQUISETACEAE	Equisetum	sylvaticum	Wood Horsetail	
ASTERACEAE	Erigeron	philadelphicus	Philadelphia Fleabane	
LILIACEAE	Erythronium	americanum	Trout Lily/Yellow Adder's Tongue	
ASTERACEAE	Eupatorium	maculatum	Spotted Joe-pye-weed	
ASTERACEAE	Eupatorium	perfoliatum	Boneset	
ASTERACEAE	Euthamia	graminifolia	Grass-leaved Goldenrod	
FAGACEAE	Fagus	grandifolia	American Beech	
OLEACEAE	Fraxinus	americana	White Ash	
OLEACEAE	Fraxinus	nigra	Black Ash	
OLEACEAE	Fraxinus	pennsylvanica	Red Ash	observed outside wetland boundaries
RUBIACEAE	Galium	triflorum	Fragrant Bedstraw	
ERICACEAE	Gaylussacia	baccata	Black Huckleberry	
ROSACEAE	Geum	aleppicum	Yellow Avens	
ROSACEAE	Geum	rivale	Water Avens	
POACEAE	Glyceria	striata	Fowl Meadow or Manna Grass	
ASTERACEAE	Helianthus	tuberosus	Jerusalem Artichoke	observed outside wetland boundaries

Family Name	Genus	Species	Common Name	Additional Notes
AQUIFOLIACEAE	Ilex	verticillata	Winterberry	
BALSAMINACEAE	Impatiens	capensis	Spotted Touch-me-not	
IRIDACEAE	Iris	versicolor	Large Blue-flag	
JUGLANDACEAE	Juglans	nigra	Black Walnut	introduced species; observed outside wetland
JUNCACEAE	Juncus	effusus ssp. solutus	Soft or Bog Rush	
PINACEAE	Larix	laricina	Tamarack/American Larch	
FABACEAE	Lathyrus	palustris	Marsh Vetchling	
POACEAE	Leersia	oryzoides	Rice Cut Grass	
CAMPANULACEAE	Lobelia	kalmii	Kalm's Lobelia	
CAPRIFOLIACEAE	Lonicera	canadensis	Fly Honeysuckle	
CAPRIFOLIACEAE	Lonicera	tatarica	Tartarian Honeysuckle	introduced species; observed outside wetland
FABACEAE	Lotus	corniculatus	Bird's-foot Trefoil	introduced species
LAMIACEAE	Lycopus	americanus	Cut-leaved Water-horehound	
PRIMULACEAE	Lysimachia	terrestris	Swamp Candles	observed outside wetland boundaries
LYTHRACEAE	Lythrum	salicaria	Purple Loosestrife	introduced species
LILIACEAE	Maianthemum	canadense	Canada Mayflower	
LILIACEAE	Maianthemum	stellatum	Starry False Solomon's-Seal	
LAMIACEAE	Mentha	arvensis ssp borealis	Wild Mint	
RUBIACEAE	Mitchella	repens	Partridge-berry	
MYRICACEAE	Myrica	gale	Sweet Gale	
BRASSICACEAE	Nasturtium	microphyllum	Water-cress	introduced species
NYMPHACEAE	Nuphar	variegatum	Bullhead pond-lily	

Family Name	Genus	Species	Common Name	Additional Notes
POLYPODIACEAE	Onoclea	sensibilis	Sensitive Fern	
POACEAE	Oryzopsis	asperifolia	White Grass	observed outside wetland boundaries
OSMUNDACEAE	Osmunda	cinnamomea	Cinnamon Fern	
OSMUNDACEAE	Osmunda	claytoniana	Interrupted Fern	
OSMUNDACEAE	Osmunda	regalis	Royal Fern	
BETULACEAE	Ostrya	virginiana	Ironwood / Hop Hornbeam	
SAXIFRAGACEAE	Parnassia	glauca	Carolina Grass-of-Parnassus	
VITACEAE	Parthenocissus	inserta	Virginia Creeper	
APIACEAE	Pastinaca	sativa	Wild Parsnip	introduced species; observed outside wetland
POACEAE	Phalaris	arundinacea	Reed Canary Grass	
POACEAE	Phragmites	australis	Reed Grass	introduced species
PINACEAE	Picea	glauca	White Spruce	
PINACEAE	Picea	mariana	Black Spruce	
PINACEAE	Pinus	strobus	Eastern White Pine	
PLANTAGINACEAE	Plantago	lanceolata	Narrow-leaved Plantain	introduced species
PLANTAGINACEAE	Plantago	major	Common Plantain	introduced species
LILIACEAE	Polygonatum	pubescens	Hairy Solomon's-Seal	observed outside wetland boundaries
POLYGONACEAE	Polygonum	cuspidatum	Japanese Knotweed	introduced species
POLYGONACEAE	Polygonum	lapathifolium	Pale Smartweed	
POLYPODIACEAE	Polystichum	acrostichoides	Christmas Fern	
SALICACEAE	Populus	balsamifera	Balsam Poplar	observed outside wetland boundaries
SALICACEAE	Populus	tremuloides	Trembling Aspen	

Family Name	Genus	Species	Common Name	Additional Notes
POTAMOGETONACEAE	Potamogeton	crispus	Curly Muck Pondweed	introduced species
POTAMOGETONACEAE	Potamogeton	epihydrus	Nuttall's Pondweed	
ROSACEAE	Potentilla	anserina	Silverweed	
ASTERACEAE	Prenanthes	alba	White Lettuce	observed outside wetland boundaries
ROSACEAE	Prunus	serotina	Wild Black Cherry	observed outside wetland boundaries
ROSACEAE	Prunus	virginiana	Choke Cherry	
POLYPODIACEAE	Pteridium	aquilinum	Eastern Bracken-fern	observed outside wetland boundaries
FAGACEAE	Quercus	rubra	Red Oak	
RANUNCULACEAE	Ranunculus	abortivus	Kidney-leaf Buttercup	
RANUNCULACEAE	Ranunculus	longirostris	White Water Buttercup	
RANUNCULACEAE	Ranunculus	pensylvanicus	Bristly Buttercup	
RANUNCULACEAE	Ranunculus	reptans	Creeping Spearwort	
RHAMNACEAE	Rhamnus	alnifolia	Alder-leaved Buckthorn	observed outside wetland boundaries
RHAMNACEAE	Rhamnus	frangula	Glossy Buckthorn	introduced species
ANACARDIACEAE	Rhus	rydbergii	Rydberg's Poison-ivy	
ANACARDIACEAE	Rhus	typhina	Staghorn Sumac	observed outside wetland boundaries
GROSSULARIACEAE	Ribes	glandulosum	Skunk Current	
ROSACEAE	Rosa	palustris	Swamp Rose	
ROSACEAE	Rubus	idaeus ssp. melanolasius	Wild Red Raspberry	observed outside wetland boundaries
ROSACEAE	Rubus	pubescens	Dwarf Red Blackberry	
POLYGONACEAE	Rumex	crispus	Curly-leaf Dock	introduced species
POLYGONACEAE	Rumex	obtusifolius	Broad-leaved Dock	introduced species

Family Name	Genus	Species	Common Name	Additional Notes
POLYGONACEAE	Rumex	orbiculatus	Great Water Dock	
CAPRIFOLIACEAE	Sambucus	canadensis	Common Elderberry	
CAPRIFOLIACEAE	Sambucus	racemosa ssp. pubens	Red-berried Elderberry	
CYPERACEAE	Scirpus	atrovirens	Dark Green Bulrush	
CYPERACEAE	Scirpus	cyperinus	Wool-grass	
CYPERACEAE	Scirpus	validus	Softstem Bulrush	
SOLANACEAE	Solanum	dulcamara	Climbing Nightshade	introduced species
ASTERACEAE	Solidago	canadensis	Canada Goldenrod	
ASTERACEAE	Solidago	rugosa ssp. rugosa	Rough Goldenrod	
ROSACEAE	Sorbus	aucuparia	European Mountain-ash	introduced species
SPARGANIACEAE	Sparganium	americanum	American Bur-reed	
SPARGANIACEAE	Sparganium	emersum ssp. emersum	Green-fruited Bur-reed	
ROSACEAE	Spiraea	alba	Narrow-leaved Meadowsweet	
ASTERACEAE	Tanacetum	vulgare	Common Tansy	introduced species; observed outside wetland
ASTERACEAE	Taraxacum	officinale	Common Dandelion	introduced species
TAXACEAE	Taxus	canadensis	Canadian Yew	
RANUNCULACEAE	Thalictrum	pubescens	Tall Meadow-rue	
POLYPODIACEAE	Thelypteris	palustris var.pubescens	Marsh Fern	
CUPRESSACEAE	Thuja	occidentalis	N. White Cedar	
TILIACEAE	Tilia	americana	American Basswood	observed outside wetland boundaries
COMMELINACEAE	Tradescantia	ohiensis	Ohio Spiderwort	introduced species; observed outside wetland
PRIMULACEAE	Trientalis	borealis	Star-flower	

Family Name	Genus	Species	Common Name	Additional Notes
LILIACEAE	Trillium	erectum	Purple Trillium/Wake-robin	observed outside wetland boundaries
LILIACEAE	Trillium	grandiflorum	White Trillium	observed outside wetland boundaries
PINACEAE	Tsuga	canadensis	Eastern Hemlock	
ASTERACEAE	Tussilago	farfara	Coltsfoot	introduced species
ТҮРНАСЕАЕ	Typha	angustifolia	Narrow-leaved Cattail	
ТҮРНАСЕАЕ	Typha	latifolia	Broad-leaved or Common Cattail	
ТҮРНАСЕАЕ	Typha	x glauca	Hybrid Cattail	
ULMACEAE	Ulmus	americana	American Elm	
LENTIBULARIACEA	Utricularia	vulgaris	Greater Bladderwort	
SCROPHULARIACEAE	Verbascum	thapsus	Common Mullein	introduced species
VERBENACEAE	Verbena	hastata	Blue Vervain	
CAPRIFOLIACEAE	Viburnum	lantanoides	Hobblebush	
CAPRIFOLIACEAE	Viburnum	lentago	Nannyberry	
CAPRIFOLIACEAE	Viburnum	trilobum	Highbush-cranberry	
FABACEAE	Vicia	cracca	Cow Vetch	introduced species
VITACEAE	Vitis	riparia	Riverbank Grape	observed outside wetland boundaries

Regionally Significant designations are reported in: Riley, J.L. 1989. Distribution and status of the vascular plants of Central Region. OMNR Open File Ecological Report SR 8902. 110 pp.

Severn Sound Environmental Association

Appendix B Fauna of Midland Swamp

Recorded During 2005 Wetland Evaluation Field Work

Common Name	Scientific Name	Additional Notes
Birds		
Double-crested Cormorant	Phalacrocorax auritus	
American Bittern	Botaurus lentiginosus	
Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	
Green Heron	Butorides virescens	
Turkey Vulture	Cathartes aura	
Canada Goose	Branta canadensis	
Wood Duck	Aix sponsa	
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	
Broad-winged Hawk	Buteo platypterus	
Sora	Porzana carolina	
Killdeer	Charadrius vociferus	
Solitary Sandpiper	Tringa solitaria	migrant
Spotted Sandpiper	Actitis macularia	observed outside wetland; breeding evidence (4 eggs)
Ring-billed Gull	Larus delawarensis	
Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura	breeding evidence - nest
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Archilochus colubris	
Belted Kingfisher	Ceryle alcyon	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Sphyrapicus varius	observed outside wetland boundaries
Downy Woodpecker	Picoides pubescens	
Hairy Woodpecker	Picoides villosus	observed outside wetland boundaries
Northern Flicker	Colaptes auratus	
Pileated Woodpecker	Dryocopus pileatus	observed outside wetland boundaries
Alder Flycatcher	Empidonax alnorum	
Eastern Phoebe	Sayornis phoebe	
Great Crested Flycatcher	Myiarchus crinitus	
Eastern Kingbird	Tyrannus tyrannus	
Warbling Vireo	Vireo gilvus	observed outside wetland boundaries
Red-eyed Vireo	Vireo olivaceus	
Blue Jay	Cyanocitta cristata	
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	
Tree Swallow	Tachycineta bicolor	
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	Stelgidopteryx serripennis	
Barn Swallow	Hirundo rustica	
Black-capped Chickadee	Poecile atricapillus	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	Sitta canadensis	
White-breasted Nuthatch	Sitta carolinensis	
Brown Creeper	Certhia americana	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Additional Notes
House Wren	Troglodytes aedon	
Winter Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes	
Sedge Wren	Cistothorus platensis	
Marsh Wren	Cistothorus palustris	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	Regulus satrapa	migrant
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Regulus calendula	migrant
Eastern Bluebird	Sialia sialis	observed outside wetland boundaries
Wood Thrush	Hylocichla mustelina	observed outside wetland boundaries
American Robin	Turdus migratorius	
Gray Catbird	Dumetella carolinensis	
European Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	
Cedar Waxwing	Bombycilla cedrorum	
Nashville Warbler	Vermivora ruficapilla	
Yellow Warbler	Dendroica petechia	
Black-throated Blue Warbler	Dendroica caerulescens	observed outside wetland boundaries
Yellow-rumped Warbler	Dendroica coronata	migrant
Black-throated Green Warbler	Dendroica virens	observed outside wetland boundaries
Pine Warbler	Dendroica pinus	observed outside wetland; breeding - fledged young
Western Palm Warbler	Dendroica palmarum palmarum	migrant
Black-and-White Warbler	Mniotilta varia	
American Redstart	Setophaga ruticilla	
Ovenbird	Seiurus aurocapillus	
Northern Waterthrush	Seiurus noveboracensis	
Common Yellowthroat	Geothlypis trichas	
Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia	
Swamp Sparrow	Melospiza georgiana	
White-throated Sparrow	Zonotrichia albicollis	
White-crowned Sparrow	Zonotrichia leucophrys	migrant
Northern Cardinal	Cardinalis cardinalis	
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Pheucticus ludovicianus	observed outside wetland boundaries
Red-winged Blackbird	Agelaius phoeniceus	
Rusty Blackbird	Euphagus carolinus	migrant
Common Grackle	Quiscalus quiscula	
Baltimore Oriole	Icterus galbula	
American Goldfinch	Carduelis tristis	breeding evidence - nest
Amphibians		
American Toad	Bufo americanus	
Spring Peeper	Pseudacris crucifer	
Wood Frog	Rana sylvatica	
Northern Leopard Frog	Rana pipiens	
Green Frog	Rana clamitans melanota	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Additional Notes
Reptiles		
Common Snapping Turtle	Chelydra serpentina serpentina	photo
Midland Painted Turtle	Chrysemys picta marginata	
Eastern Garter Snake	Thamnophis sirtalis sirtalis	
Mammals		
Snowshoe Hare	Lepus americanus	
Gray Squirrel	Sciurus carolinensis	
Beaver	Castor canadensis	dam, browse
Muskrat	Ondatra zibethicus	
Raccoon	Procyon lotor	tracks
White-tailed Deer	Odocoileus virginianus	observed; tracks
Dragonflies and Damselfli	es	
Ebony Jewelwing	Calopteryx maculata	
Marsh Bluet	Enallagma ebrium	
Eastern Forktail	Ischnura verticalis	
Sedge Sprite	Nehalinnia irene	
Common Green Darner	Anax junius	
Common Baskettail	Epitheca cynosura	
Dot-tailed Whiteface	Leucorrhinia intacta	
Red-waisted Whiteface	Leucorrhinia proxima	
Widow Skimmer	Libellula luctuosa	
Common Whitetail	Libellula lydia	
Twelve-spotted Skimmer	Libellula pulchella	
Four-spotted Skimmer	Libellula quadrimaculata	
White-faced Meadowhawk	Sympetrum obtrusum	
Band-winged Meadowhawk	Sympetrum semicinctum	uncommon species in Simcoe County
Butterflies and Moths		
Canadian Tiger Swallowtail	Papilio canadensis	
Mustard White	Pieris napi	
Cabbage White	Pieris rapae	
Clouded Sulphur	Colias philodice	
Northern Crescent	Phyciodes selenis	
Red Admiral	Vanessa atalanta	
Eyed Brown	Satyrodes eurydice	
Monarch	Danaus plexippus	
European Skipper	Thymelicus lineola	
Peck's Skipper	Polites peckius	
Delaware Skipper	Anatrytone logan	uncommon species in Simcoe County
Large Maple Spanworm	Prochoerodes transversata	

Common Name	Scientific Name	Additional Notes			
Fish					
Common Shiner	Luxilus cornutus	identified in minnow trap			
Blacknose Shiner	Notropis heterolepis	identified in minnow trap			
Northern Redbelly Dace	Phoxinus eos	identified in minnow trap			
Blacknose Dace	Rhinichthys atratulus	identified in minnow trap			
Creek Chub	Semotilus atromaculatus	identified in minnow trap			
Brown Trout	Salmo trutta	observed in wetland			
Brook Stickleback	Culaea inconstans	identified in minnow trap			
Mottled Sculpin	Cottus bairdi	observed in wetland			

Uncommon designations are reported in: Bowles, R. L. 1998. Butterflies of Simcoe County Bowles, R. L. 1999. Odonata of Simcoe County.