

# Altmann Oliver Associates, LLC

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# AOA

Environmental  
Planning &  
Landscape  
Architecture



December 5, 2023

AOA-6452

Tricia Hudson  
triciahudson2@gmail.com

**SUBJECT: Protected Wildlife Reconnaissance for 28010 SE 258<sup>th</sup> Street  
Parcel 302207-9060, King County, WA  
Hudson Short Plat (SPLT23-0004)**

Dear Tricia:

On November 28, 2023 I conducted a wildlife habitat assessment on the subject property to determine if the site contains any *habitats, breeding sites, or presence of species listed in KCC 21A.24.382 B. through J, federal or state listed endangered, threatened, sensitive or candidate species, or King County species of local importance (listed in King County Comprehensive Plan E-435).*

The western portion of the site is currently developed with your existing shop. The remainder of the property is undeveloped and consists primarily of interspersed unevenly aged upland coniferous forest and scattered tree clumps with a sparse and maintained understory and a periodically mowed pasture groundcover. Canopy species are dominated by Douglas fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) but also include western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*) and western hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*).

One wetland (Wetland A) and one stream (Stream 1) are also located on the property. Stream 1 drains from southwest to northeast through the northwest portion of the site. Wetland A is associated with Stream 1 and contains Depressional (historically excavated pond), Slope (seepage), and Riverine Hydrogeomorphic (HGM) components. Vegetation within Wetland A and the riparian corridor of Stream 1 was mostly forested, with a smaller emergent plant community in the vicinity of the historically excavated pond.

Habitat features on the site are restricted to widely scattered moderate to larger sized logs and snags within the riparian corridor of the stream and along the slopes near the north property line. No snags or large logs were observed within the uplands outside of the buffers on the site.

Some potential pileated woodpecker foraging potential was observed. Pileated woodpeckers generally inhabit mature and old-growth forests, and second-growth forests with large snags and fallen trees. The range of the species encompasses all of the forested areas of the state. Although typically found in larger forested tracts, they are known to occur in suburban habitats as well. Their key breeding habitat need is the presence of large snags or decaying live trees for nesting, as this species generally excavates a new nest cavity each year. The breeding and nesting periods of the pileated woodpecker extends from late March to early July. Although foraging potential is present, no old pileated woodpecker nests were observed on the site during the field investigation and the lack of a significant concentration of large snags limits the nesting potential of this species.

### **Protected Wildlife Habitat and Species and Species of Local Importance**

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Priority Habitats and Species database (PHS) (**Attachment A**) indicates the site is located within a regular elk concentration area. The PHS database also indicates the site is within a Township wide mapping for certain *Myotis* (i.e., bat) species.

Although elk use of this site (as well as adjacent properties) was observed there are no specific regulatory implications pertaining to elk on the subject property. The little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*) is one of the most common bats in WA and is found throughout the forested habitats of the state. In addition, little brown bats often utilize buildings and other structures both for day and night roosting. According to the WA Department of Fish and Wildlife, the "*range of the little brown myotis extends across most of North America from the forested portions of Alaska and northern Canada southward to California, Colorado, and the southeastern United States. The species occurs throughout Washington.*

*This species is a habitat generalist that uses a broad range of ecosystems. In Washington and Oregon, it occurs most commonly in both conifer and hardwood forests, but also occupies open forests, forest margins, shrub steppe, clumps of trees in open habitats, sites with cliffs, and urban areas. Within these habitats, riparian areas and sites with open water are usually preferred. Elevations up to tree line are inhabited, with males being more common than females at higher elevations.*

Since this bat occurs most commonly within forested habitats adjacent riparian areas or open water, the primary use of habitat on the site would likely be within the protected critical area associated with the wetland and riparian corridor and buffer that were approved as part of CADS22-0213. No other habitats or species were observed during the field investigation. In addition, no active breeding sites for species listed in KCC 21A.24.382.B through J were identified during the site review.

King County Species of Local Importance (**Attachment B**) that potentially utilize the site on a regular basis include western screech owl, band-tailed pigeon, hairy woodpecker, purple finch, and great blue heron. All five of these species are considered fairly common and are listed as of *least concern* for regulatory jurisdiction by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). In addition, red-legged frogs could potentially utilize the protected wetland.

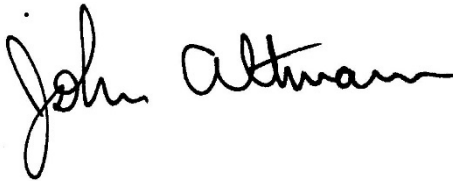
**Conclusion**

No specific protected species or habitats outside of the preserved critical areas and buffers were observed on the site during the reconnaissance and no specific regulatory implications were identified.

If you have any questions regarding the protected wildlife reconnaissance, please give me a call.

Sincerely,

ALTMANN OLIVER ASSOCIATES, LLC

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Altmann". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal flourish at the end.

John Altmann  
Ecologist

Attachments