Ecological Habitat Assessment for the Dort Highway Land Site in Grand Blanc, Michigan

The purpose of this technical memorandum is to summarize the assessment of potential ecological habitats at the Dort Highway Land Site (the "Site"). To complete this assessment, O'Brien & Gere has relied upon observations from numerous site visits, available aerial photos, a United States Geological Survey (USGS) topographic map, and a Grand Blanc Township zoning map.

Site Setting

The Site is located in Grand Blanc Township, Genesee County, Michigan (Figure 1). The Site is located in an industrial and commercial area of Grand Blanc and fronts on Dort Highway. The current address for the Site, 10800 S. Saginaw Street, is also associated with the adjacent General Motors LLC (GM) plant. The Site is comprised of 20.44 acres of vacant land that was formerly part of the adjacent active GM facility. It is currently unused and vacant with a fence surrounding the property, separating it from the adjacent GM facility.

The 20 acre Site is zoned industrial (Figure 2) and is a small portion of the otherwise 210 acre industrial GM complex (Figure 1). The surrounding land is also zoned industrial or commercial, except to the northwest of the property, which is residentially developed.

The surface of the Site has been highly altered by the stripping/removal of an average of approximately 4 feet of soils and fill materials during the demolition of the former Press Room located at the adjacent GM facility. The stripped material was used to fill in the former Press Room basement. The soil removal activities were completed in 2009 on the Site; however, the Site was not stabilized until 2012. In 2011 GM installed an approximate 1 to 4 foot high berm along the southern boundary of the Site to separate the GM and Site properties, and installed a new perimeter fence along the southern and eastern boundaries of the Site. Two soil erosion control drainage structures were installed in 2011 in the southwestern portion of the Site to allow discharge of Site storm water to the drainage ditch west of the Site along Dort Highway (Figure 3). In December 2011 through January 2012 additional remediation activities were completed to remove polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) constituent impacted buried wood floor blocks and some associated soil. The Site was stabilized by installation of the soil erosion control drainage structures, regrading, and seeding, which provided for establishment of a grass vegetative cover.

The current topography of the Site is generally characterized by a gentle northeast to southwest slope along the southern and north central portions of the Site, a gentle northwest slope along the eastern portion of the Site, and a gentle north to south slope along the very western portion of the

Site (Figure 3). Water temporarily ponds during/after precipitation events near the two discharge structures. No wetlands or other waters of the United States occur on the Site. This ditch west of the Site discharges to a drainage ditch that flows to the west below Dort Highway and eventually discharges to Gibson Drain located approximately 1,300 ft southwest of the Site (Figure 1). Gibson Drain is the closest surface water body to the Site. Figures 4 and 5 provide aerial photos of the Site and Site area, respectively. Storm water drainage from the Site to the west and into Gibson Drain represents the only potential ecological pathway of exposure.

However, Gibson Drain is not a natural water body, but a man made drainage ditch, classified as a canal by the USGS. Gibson Drain was installed to drain the former agricultural fields that once existed in the Site area. The closest natural water body to the Site is Thread Creek located approximately two thirds of a mile northeast of the Site (see Figures 1 and 5). However, as explained above, surface drainage from the Site drains to the west toward Gibson Drain, not towards Thread Creek. The drainage divide for surface drainage toward Thread Creek is just east of the Site on the GM facility. In addition, shallow (<20 feet below grade [fbg]), apparently perched and not interconnected groundwater also flows toward the west and southwest at the Site. Based on topography and on-Site groundwater potentiometric surface contours, any groundwater flowing off-site to the west or southwest could eventually discharge to Gibson Drain. However, deeper regional groundwater flow is reported to be at depths of 50 to 70 fbg in the Site area and flows towards the northwest (University of Michigan – Flint, 1994).

Gibson Drain transitions to piped flow beneath a development about a mile northwest of the Site and just south and about a quarter mile north of Hill Road, before transitioning back to an open ditch approximately a third of a mile further north of Hill Road and the Site.

Conclusion

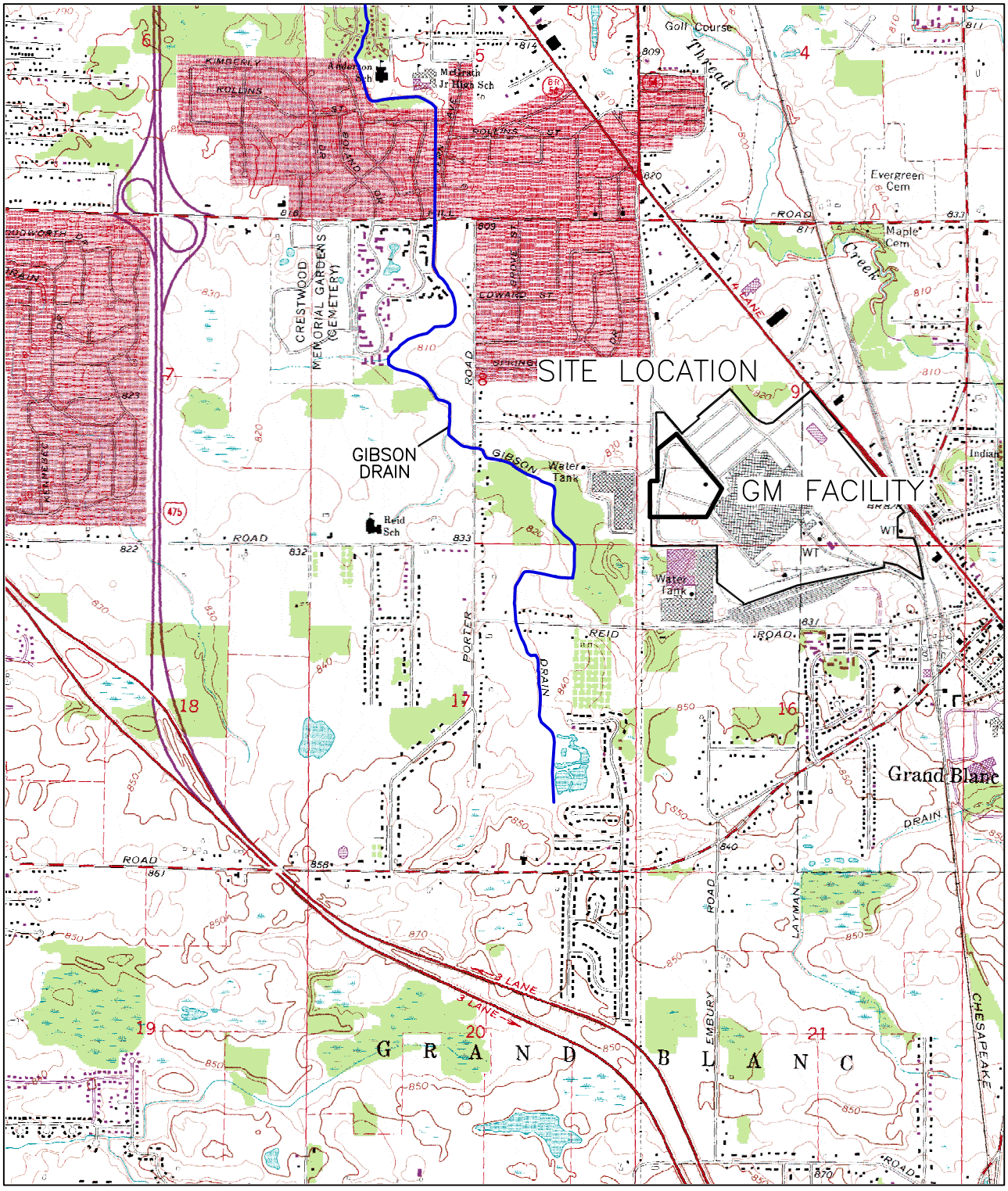
Based on the above information, the Site does not provide suitable, unique or specialized habitat for wildlife or plant species, and no wetlands or streams are present. Further, the Site and Site area do not contain habitat suitable for listed rare or endangered floral and/or fauna species.

Therefore, given the lack of suitable habitat, no further evaluation of risks to ecological receptors at the Site is warranted.

References

University of Michigan – Flint, 1994. Groundwater Resources Map Series, Grand Blanc Township, Genesee County, Michigan. Regional Groundwater Center. November.

FIGURE 1



MICHIGAN
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

RACER TRUST
DORT HIGHWAY LAND
GRAND BLANC, MICHIGAN

SITE LOCATION

0 1
APPROXIMATE SCALE
ONE MILE

TRUE NORTH

O'BRIEN & GERE
ENGINEERS INC.

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Figure 2 – Grand Blanc Township Zoning Map
Dort Highway Land, Grand Blanc, MI (12960)

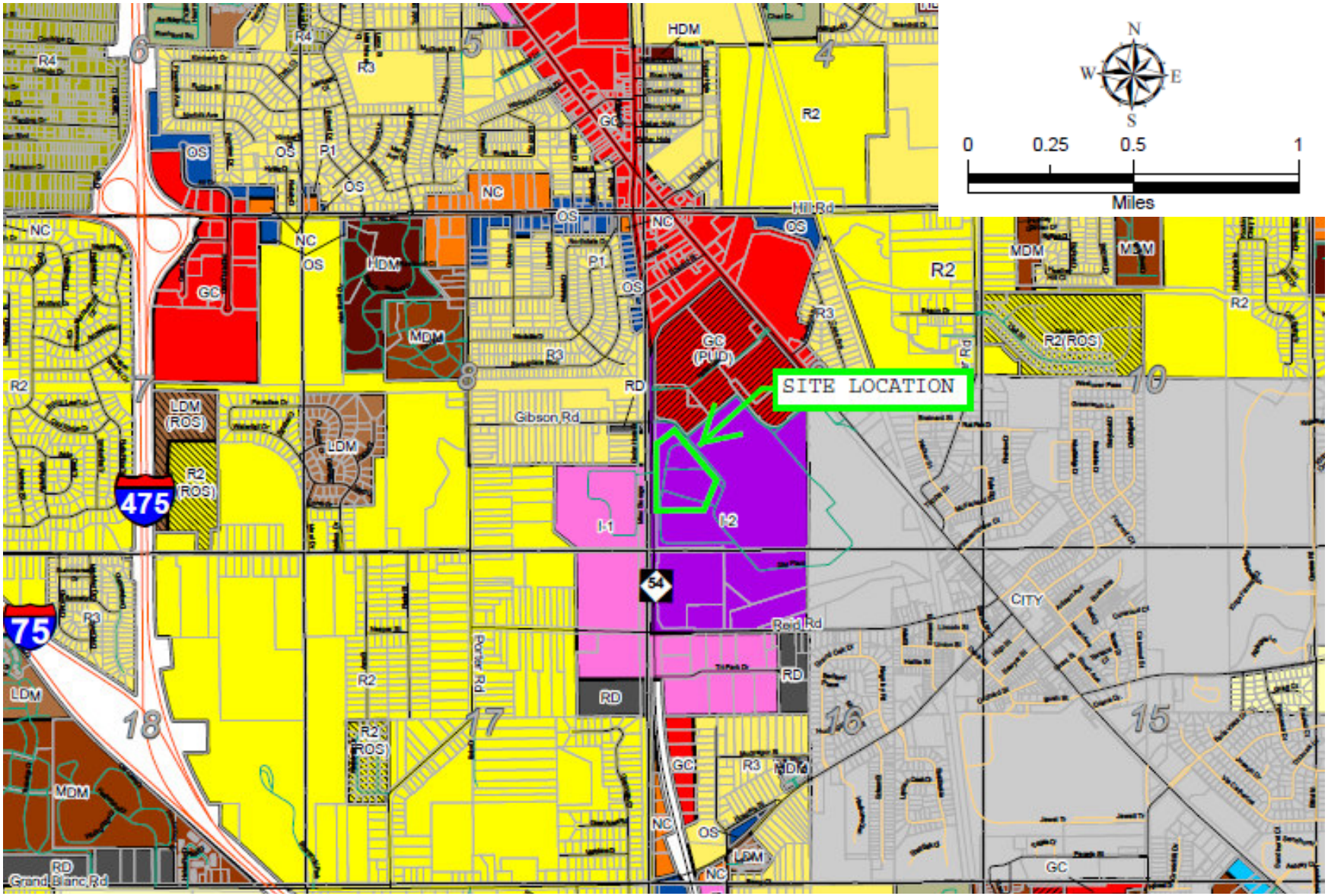
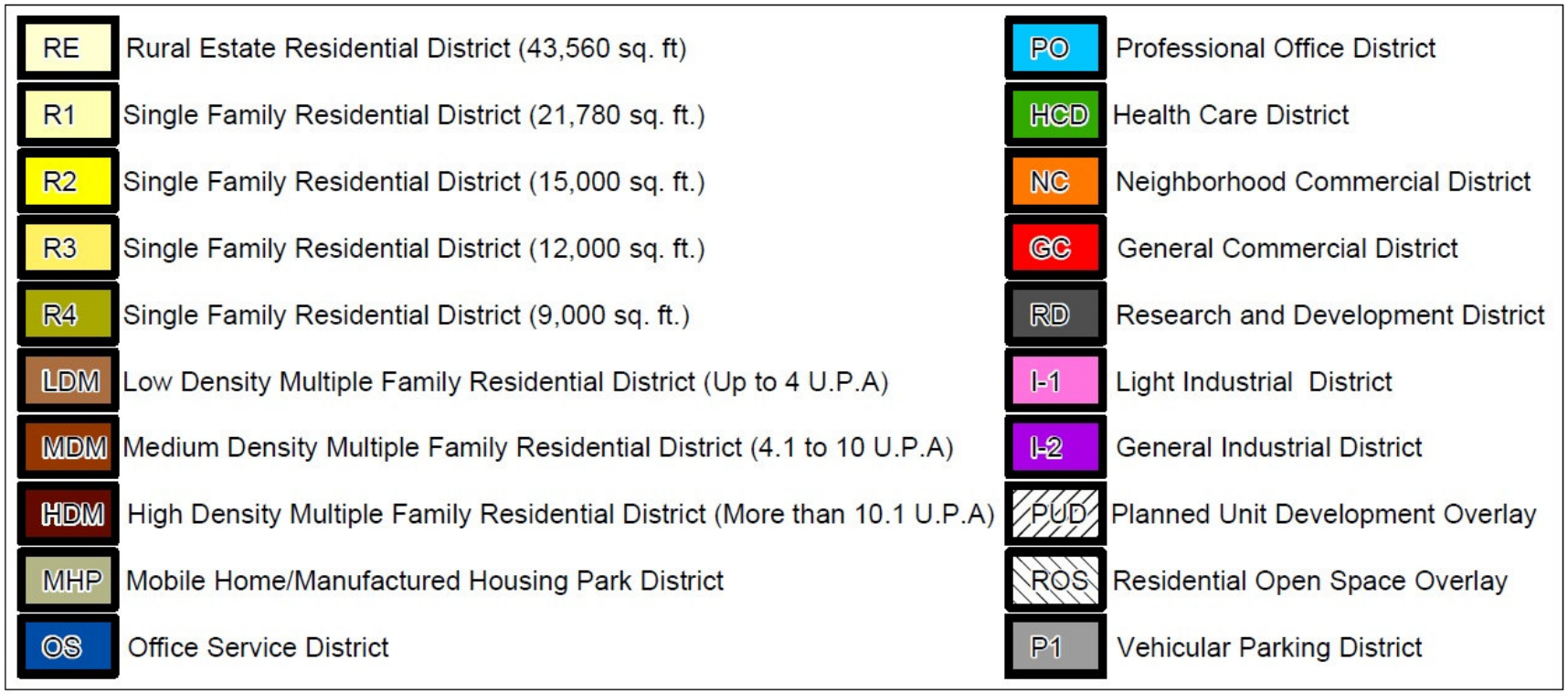


Figure 2 (Cont.) – Grand Blanc Township Zoning Map - Legend
Dort Highway Land, Grand Blanc, MI (12960)



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PLOT DATE: 08/07/13 078 TJK

DORT HIGHWAY

STORM WATER DISCHARGE STRUCTURES

FORMER FLOOR BLOCK AREA

MW-1

MW-2

MW-3

MW-4

MW-5

MW-6

MW-7

MW-8

MW-9

MW2-1

MW2-2(DESTROYED)

FORMER ASPHALT ROADWAY

FORMER ROADWAY

CROCK SUMP

FIGURE 3

TRUE NORTH

1"=120' 60 0 60

LEGEND

- TOPOGRAPHIC CONTOURS
- RUNOFF DRAINAGE FLOW DIRECTION
- MONITORING WELL LOCATION
- APPROXIMATE RACER TRUST PROPERTY LINE
- FORMER TANK TEST TRACK AND DIE STORAGE ACCESS ROADS
- APPROXIMATE FENCE LOCATION
- STORM WATER DISCHARGE STRUCTURE

SITE TOPOGRAPHY

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DORT HIGHWAY LAND
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Figure 4 - Site Aerial Photograph
Dort Highway Land, Grand Blanc, MI (12960)

Figure 5 - Site Aerial Photograph
Dort Highway Land, Grand Blanc, MI (12960)