

APPENDIX E- CORRESPONDENCE TO
MANITOBA CONSERVATION DATA CENTER

RE: Proposed Irrigation Reservoir Sites - Shannon Creek Area North of Morden

Bruce

Thank you for your information request. I completed a search of the Manitoba Conservation Data Centre's rare species database and found no occurrences at this time for your area of interest.

The information provided in this letter is based on existing data known to the Manitoba Conservation Data Centre at the time of the request. These data are dependent on the research and observations of CDC staff and others who have shared their data, and reflect our current state of knowledge. **An absence of data in any particular geographic area does not necessarily mean that species or ecological communities of concern are not present;** in many areas, comprehensive surveys have never been completed. Therefore, this information should be regarded neither as a final statement on the occurrence of any species of concern, nor as a substitute for on-site surveys for species as part of environmental assessments.

Because the Manitoba CDC's Biotics database is continually updated and because information requests are evaluated by type of action, any given response is only appropriate for its respective request. Please contact the Manitoba CDC for an update on this natural heritage information if more than six months pass before it is utilized.

Third party requests for products wholly or partially derived from Biotics must be approved by the Manitoba CDC before information is released. Once approved, the primary user will identify the Manitoba CDC as data contributors on any map or publication using Biotics data, as follows as: Data developed by the Manitoba Conservation Data Centre; Wildlife Branch, Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship.

This letter is for information purposes only - it does not constitute consent or approval of the proposed project or activity, nor does it negate the need for any permits or approvals required by the Province of Manitoba.

We would be interested in receiving a copy of the results of any field surveys that you may undertake, to update our database with the most current knowledge of the area.

If you have any questions or require further information please contact me directly at (204) 945-7747.

Chris Friesen

Biodiversity Information Manager

Manitoba Conservation Data Centre

204-945-7747

chris.friesen@gov.mb.ca; <http://www.gov.mb.ca/conservation/cdc/>

From: Bruce Shewfelt [mailto:shewfelt@mymts.net]
Sent: April-14-14 1:20 PM
To: Friesen, Chris (CWS)
Cc: Wayne Derksen; Harwin Bouwman; Webb, Bruce (CWS); Sonia Becenko; Whetter, David
Subject: Proposed Irrigation Reservoir Sites - Shannon Creek Area North of Morden

To: Chris Friesen, Biodiversity Information Manager

PBS Water Engineering Ltd. (Bruce Shewfelt) is working on a project for Hespler Enterprises Ltd. (Wayne Derksen) and Kroeker Farms Ltd. (Harwin Bouwman). The project will involve construction of up to three irrigation ponds for the purpose of storing spring water, for later application to their potato fields.

The reservoirs trigger an Environment Act Proposal and licensing requirement. PBS Water Engineering Ltd. is undertaking the EAP with assistance from Stantec. One of the requirements is to do a search of the Manitoba Conservation data base regarding the occurrence of rare species in the area of the proposal. For this we are requesting your assistance.

The proposal encompasses three potential sites, which are currently the subject of engineering studies to determine their feasibility and utility for the proposed irrigation project. The sites are known as Site A, Site B and Site C. The project is known as the Hespler - Kroeker Irrigation Project - Shannon Creek.

The land location of the reservoirs is proposed as follows:

Site A - NW 34-3-5 W.

Site B - S 32-3-5 W.

Site C - SW 3-4-5W.

The footprints associated with the reservoirs will depend on the availability of clay materials to line the reservoir to prevent seepage and ensure safety of the embankment. Generally, each site may hold up to 300 acre feet of water and it is likely that only two would be built in the near future (3-5 years). However all three sites will be identified in the EAP and planning documents, to allow for flexibility going forward in the design process.

Site A and Site C are located wholly on existing cultivated land some distance (e.g. 200 + meters) from the nearest creek(s) and will have footprints of up to 350 m x 350 m in rectangular shape.

Site B is located in an oversized valley bottom that traverses S 32-3-5W and the valley bottom land is currently used for both pasture and cultivation by producers whom own the land (e.g. there is no natural vegetation). The creek itself at that location has a very small watershed and is very limited in its' cross section. We will review DFO drawings to see what the creek is

classified for as fish habitat; but it is generally dry, with intermittent spring flows; it has little to no riparian zone and steep clay banks, and limited channel capacity; and hence of limited habitat value.

We would be interested in your guidance on the potential presence of Endangered Species and the habitat that they frequent in the vicinity of this project.

If you have questions, please direct them to myself, Bruce Shewfelt. If you need further detail on the project sites, we can strive to provide that as well.

Regards

Bruce Shewfelt, Msc., P.Eng.

PBS Water Engineering Ltd.

Morden, Manitoba

204 362 5666

cc: B. Webb

cc: W.Derksen; H. Bouwman

Sent from Windows Mail