

PROJECT NOTICE

WAASIGAN TRANSMISSION LINE - GRAY FOX SURVEYS



JUNE 10, 2022

This notice provides information on the planned start of the gray fox surveys. This survey was added to the planned field program based on feedback from the Indigenous communities requesting additional survey effort on mammals and from feedback from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

Additional notices will be provided prior to the start of other terrestrial field surveys.

SURVEY INFORMATION

The table below provides information on the gray fox surveys:

	GRAY FOX SURVEYS
WHY are we doing the surveys?	To determine presence and distribution of gray fox in the study area and characterize baseline conditions for the environmental assessment.
WHAT activities are involved?	Field crews will set up survey stations within the study area that will consist of a trail camera and scent lure to attract gray fox. Stations will be revisited every 3-4 weeks to check on the cameras and re-apply scent lure attractant.
WHEN will the surveys happen?	Stations will be set up in late June through September which will cover a portion of the denning and dispersal period following independence of gray fox young.
WHERE will the survey take place?	 To determine survey locations, gaps in the distribution of gray fox occurrence records were identified and stations were plotted, spaced every 5-10 km, in the study area along Alternative Routes 1, 1A, 1B-1, 1B-2, 1C, 2A, 2B, and 2C. Station locations were then manually screened to identify land where access permission is allowed and to avoid putting scent lure stations that have the potential to attract predators near residences, cabins, campgrounds, etc.

PROPOSED SURVEY LOCATIONS

The proposed survey locations can be viewed online using a Webviewer at the link below.

We welcome any feedback on the proposed survey locations. Maps of the survey locations are also available for download at the link below. Comments can be made in the field map book and sent back to us via email.



CLICK HERE TO VISIT THE WEBVIEWER FOR FIELD SURVEY LOCATIONS

CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE FIELD MAP BOOK

If there is any information regarding the locations or timing of the proposed surveys that you would like us to be aware of, please contact us using the contact details below. **Comments would be appreciated by June 22**, **2022** so that they can be considered prior to the start of field work.

INDIGENOUS PARTICIPATION

Golder is looking to hire additional Indigenous field crew members, and communities can also participate by sending community-hired field monitors. There is currently capacity for additional community members within all crews. Field work schedules will be shared regularly that include the types of surveys being conducted, number of crews, days and approximate hours, and geographic area. As schedules are subject to change, please confirm with the Project team prior to making arrangements for community monitors to join a crew.

To ensure community-hired field monitors are protected, **Hydro One requires proof of the following**:

- Property damage and public liability insurance coverage; and
- Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) registration.

If you have any questions or concerns pertaining to these requirements, please contact us so that we can work together to ensure there are no barriers to Indigenous community participation in these field surveys.

Indigenous field crew members hired directly by Golder will be covered under Golder's WSIB and liability insurance. This hiring process can take approximately 1 to 2 weeks.

Another option for participation are site visits where members of your community can join a crew in the field to discuss the work being completed. If there is any interest in this approach, please let us know and we can work together to plan a visit.

CONTACT INFORMATION

We encourage you to ask questions and provide comments on the proposed field work. If you are interested in participation opportunities or have comments on the proposed field work, please contact Golder's Environmental Assessment Specialist, Heather Kyer, at 613-314-8473 or heather.kyer@wsp.com.