

EXHIBIT C(B-5) Vegetation and Wildlife

Location and type of significant existing vegetation and wildlife habitat

Vegetation on the project site is varied and primarily successional plant communities in response to past land uses. There are several major plant community types on the site as described below.

- Evergreen trees such as Eastern white pine, Red pine, Northern white cedar, and Eastern hemlock;
- Deciduous trees such as red oak, sugar maple, red maple, trembling aspen, balsam poplar, white birch, and American basswood;
- Shrub species or shrub-size tree species such as red-osier dogwood, gray dogwood, sandbar willow, black willow, balsam poplar, and trembling aspen;
- Openings dominated by a variety of species of perennial grasses, goldenrods, Queen Anne's lace, and other herbaceous plants.

Wildlife habitat on the subject property, while present, is not exemplary or unique due to past developments and disturbances. An example of an exemplary vegetation community approximately 53 acres in size on the west side of M-22 on property owned at the time by the owner of the present Timber Shores project was placed in a perpetual Conservation Easement as a component of the former proposed housing project at Timber Shores. The land within the Conservation Easement protects much of the headwaters of Ennis Creek and contains some old-growth timber and is mostly wetland. Likewise, the Conservation Easement along the Ennis Creek corridor on the property owned by NM Investment Company LLC east of M-22 was granted to Leelanau Township to protect Ennis Creek from disturbance.

Past land uses, including the development of the former Timber Shores Resort in the 1960s; demolition and removal of infrastructure from the former Timber Shores Resort (including a number of large buildings, paved areas, underground utilities, tennis courts, etc.); logging of portions of the property (both clear cutting and selective logging); clearing to restore roads and former development sites as part of the 2006 proposed housing development; and other perturbations on the landscape over time have resulted in the mixture of vegetation types and wildlife habitats that are present today.

The Timber Shores property is primarily inhabited by white-tailed deer, raccoons, skunks, opossums, small rodents, red squirrels, black and grey squirrels, chipmunks, mink (along streams and the lakeshore), and birds such as raptors (hawks and owls inland, bald eagles along the lakeshore), ruffed grouse, black-capped chickadees, blue jays, American robins, cardinals, and other species of songbirds, some of which only migrate through the area in the spring and fall migrations, such as many species of warblers and related species. Shorebirds such as sandpipers, killdeer, dunlins, and Herring gulls, Ring-billed gulls, and Common terns will utilize the near-shore and beach habitats along Grand Traverse Bay.