

APPENDIX S1. Detailed descriptions of the study sites, provided by Audrey Paquette and Mélanie Routh under the supervision of Jocelyne Jacob, National Capital Commission, Gatineau Park. Photos: F. R. Diaz.

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SITE 1. Luskville Falls, located along the Eardley escarpment. The site is located along an old agricultural field along a forest at the base of the Eardley escarpment.

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The field is composed of an about 1 m high herbaceous plant community. Some patches of shrubs and smaller trees are located directly in the field, composed mainly of *Myrica gale*. Various semi-mature *Fraxinus nigra*, *Pinus strobus*, and *Acer saccharum* are also found in the field. The herbaceous plant community consists of *Asclepias* spp., *Carex* spp., *Poa* spp., *Ranunculus acris*, *Trifolium pretense*, *Trifolium repens*, *Viccia cracca*, *Onoclea sensibilis*, *Dryopteris phegopteris*, *Galium* spp., *Anemone canadensis*, *Potentilla recta*, *Rhus typhina*, and *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*.

The forest is dominated by *Acer saccharum* (40%), *Ulmus americana* (40%), and *Fraxinus* spp. (20%).

SITE 2. Pilon Road, located along the Eardley escarpment. The site is located along an old agricultural field along a forest at the base of the Eardley escarpment.

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The field is composed of an about 50 cm high herbaceous plant community. Some patches of shrubs and smaller trees are located directly in the field, composed mainly of *Myrica gale* and *Fraxinus nigra*.

The forest surrounding the field is dominated by *Acer saccharum* (30%), *Quercus rubra* (25%), *Quercus macrocarpa* (25%), *Acer rubrum* (10%), and *Fraxinus* spp. (10%).

The herbaceous plant community consists of *Asclepias* spp., *Carex* spp., *Poa* spp., *Ranunculus acris*, *Trifolium pretense*, *Trifolium repens*, *Viccia cracca*, *Onoclea sensibilis*, *Dryopteris phegopteris*, *Galium* spp., *Anemone canadensis*, *Cirsium arvense*, *Lotus corniculatus*, and *Mentha arvensis*.

*Rubus odoratus*, *Rubus allegheniensis*, *Maianthemum racemosum*, *Aster macrophyllus*, *Osmunda claytoniana*, *Onoclea sensibilis*, and *Dryopteris phegopteris* are also found along the forest edges.

SITE 3. This site is located near the Dennison Dam and is the site closest to an urban area; the site is bordered by a cycling pathway.



The field consists of about 70% herbaceous plants with a height of approximately 1 m. Very few smaller trees are found in this field. About 15% of this field consists of small herbaceous plants such as *Vicia cracca*, *Lotus corniculatus*, *Parthenocissus quinquefolia*, *Asclepias* spp., *Anemone canadensis*, *Potentilla recta*, *Trifolium pratense*, *Trifolium repens*, *Hypericum perforatum*, *Ranunculus acris*, *Gallium mollugo*, and *Leucanthemum vulgare*.

The other 15% of the field consists of various shrub trees and semi-mature tree species such as *Pinus strobus*, *Fraxinus americana*, *Ulmus americana*, *Rhamnus cathartica*, and *Rhamnus frangula*.

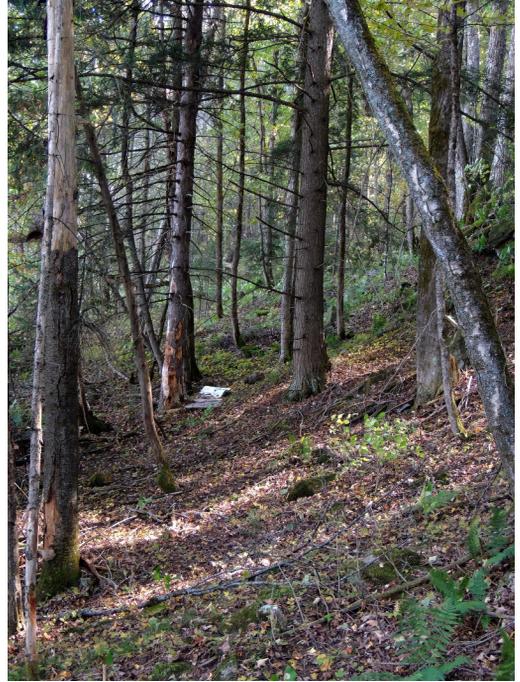
The forest community along the field is composed mainly of *Acer saccharum* (5%), *Ulmus americana* (30%), *Pinus strobus* (10%), *Populus grandidentata* (5%), *Quercus rubra* (30%), and *Fraxinus americana* (20%).

SITE 4. This site is located in the Meech Creek Valley, where agriculture was once dominant.

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The field consists of about 10% invasive species (*Vicia cracca*, *Lotus corniculatus*, and *Cirsium vulgare*), 10% *Asclepias* spp., and 85% herbaceous plants with a height of approximately 1.5 to 2 m. Very few semi-mature trees are found in this field.



The forest community along the field is composed mainly of *Acer saccharum* (40%), *Ulmus americana* (40%), *Pinus strobus* (10%), and *Picea glauca* (10%).