

AFFIDAVIT OF MARK HEATON, ECOLOGIST

**I, Mark Heaton, of the Town of Belfountain, in the Province of Ontario,
MAKE OATH AND SAY:**

1. I am a retired Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (“MNRF”) Fish and Wildlife Biologist with over thirty (30) years of experience.
2. During my career, I conducted numerous fisheries surveys throughout the Greater Toronto Area including Mary Lake and its tributary in King Township.
3. Since retiring from the MNRF, I have worked as a consultant. A copy of my *Curriculum Vitae* is attached.
4. I was retained by Concerned Citizens of King Township (CCKT) and Save the Oak Ridges Moraine (STORM) to confirm the species of fish inhabiting Mary Lake, King Township.

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:

5. Historic field collection records and aquatic resource area datasets were obtained through the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and the Ontario GeoHub.
6. This record search included my field collection records from 1997.
7. Species found within the Mary Lake catchment include
 - Northern Pike
 - Brown Bullhead
 - Yellow Perch
 - Largemouth Bass
 - Rock Bass
 - Pumpkinseed
 - Blacknose Dace
 - Creek Chub
 - Iowa Darter
 - White Sucker

CURRICULUM VITAE

MARK GEOFFREY HEATON

I am a retired Fish and Wildlife Biologist after working 34 years for the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. My primary expertise relates to fish, wildlife and wetlands management within the Credit, Rouge, Don and Humber River watersheds. I have reviewed and evaluated development and resource planning proposals under the Endangered Species Act, Planning Act, the Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act, Public Lands Act, Aggregate Resources Act and the Environmental Assessment Act to identify potential conflicts with Provincial and Ministry fisheries, wildlife and wetlands programs and policies. I provided similar review and evaluations under the habitat provisions of the Federal Fisheries Act until September 1997.

Assessment of proposals were based on the implementation of legislation, policy, strategies, objectives and guidelines such as the federal Fisheries Act, the Provincial Fish Strategy, Provincial Policy Statement, Species Recovery Plans and relevant Watershed Fisheries Management Plans. I have provided recommendations to avoid or mitigate potential impacts that can result from subdivision development and road construction activities on fish and wildlife corridors and associated habitats. I have been involved with the development of natural heritage systems through municipal planning. I have reviewed applications to alter watercourses under the Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act and Endangered Species Act. In addition, I have managed several multi-year stream and wetland rehabilitation projects within the Greater Toronto Area. My experience as a Fish and Wildlife Biologist in MNRF's Aurora District and applied knowledge of impact assessment, site remediation and mitigation techniques has provided me with a thorough understanding of the environmental impacts associated with development projects, aggregate extraction and large scale highway construction projects.

Throughout my career with the Ministry of Natural Resources, I received extensive training and experience in wetlands evaluation and restoration, natural heritage systems planning, significant wildlife habitat and species-at-risk. I have received training and experience in the chemical immobilization of wildlife and problem black bear management. I have been involved with several studies related to White-tailed Deer including the identification and assessment of wintering habitat using provincial guidance documents and criteria, assessing incidence of motor vehicle collisions and population abundance.

MNRF CAREER HISTORY

Fish and Wildlife Biologist	October 1992 to June 2020
Fish and Wildlife Habitat Protection Officer/Biologist	October 1991 - October 1992
Hatchery Development Biologist	January 1991 to October 1991
Fish Culture Technician	June 1985 to January 1991

EDUCATION

1982 - 1989 Bachelor of Science
University of Western Ontario, London, Ontario

AWARDS

2000 P.R.I.D.E. Award
Ontario Peregrine Falcon Recovery Program
presented by OMNR

1999 Rouge Park Natural Heritage Award
presented by the Rouge Park

1999 Toronto Remedial Action Plan
Award of Excellence in Habitat
(Rouge River Marshes Rehabilitation Initiative)
presented by the Toronto RAP committee

1998 Roderick Haig Brown Award
for Outstanding Achievements in Fish Habitat Conservation
presented by Izaak Walton Fly Fishers Club

1997 Chair's Award for Outstanding Achievements in River Conservation
presented by Ontario Streams

2006 Rick Morgan Professional Award
presented by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters

2010 Friends of the Credit Conservation Award of Distinction
presented by Credit Valley Conservation

2017 Latornell Leadership Award
presented by Conservation Ontario