

***RECONNAISSANCE LEVEL***  
***FIELD ASSESSMENT***

**Aura Delray Beach**

*Delray Beach  
Palm Beach County, Florida*

Section 12, Township 46 South, Range 43 East

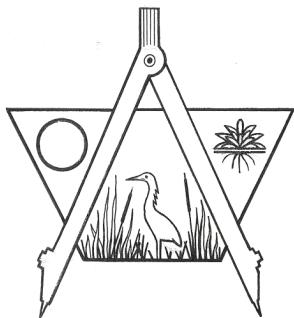
**PREPARED FOR:**

**Trinsic Residential Group**

**JULY 27, 2020**

**BY:**

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As Nature Intended

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

A *Reconnaissance Level Field Assessment* was conducted on this approximately 12.20-acre parcel located west of N. Congress Avenue, north of W. Atlantic Avenue, Section 12, Township 46 South, Range 43 East, City of Delray Beach, Palm Beach County, Florida (Figure 1) on July 23, 2020. The parcel was surveyed to be in substantial compliance with the City of Delray Beach Land Development Regulations Section 3.2.4 (B). The site was investigated for the presence or absence of threatened or endangered species, species of special concern as listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the Florida Department of Agriculture.

The site is comprised of eight parcels totaling 12.20 acres (Parcel numbers: 12-43-46-18-00-000-1190, 5090, 5100, 5101, 5110, 5111, 5120, 5122). The property is bordered by commercial development on the north side, commercial and industrial development and W. Atlantic Avenue on the south side, N. Congress Avenue on the east side, and the E-4 Canal on the west side. All but the northern 5.53 acre parcel has been developed and is currently being utilized for industrial purposes. The immediate area surrounding the property, with the exception of isolated wooded areas, has been developed for industrial, commercial, or residential purposes.

## 2.0 DOCUMENT REVIEW

Background information pertaining to current conditions on site were collected and reviewed for its usefulness. These information sources included:

City of Delray Beach Conservation Element of the Comprehensive Plan (1989)

City of Delray Beach Land Development Regulations (December 3, 2019)

Florida's Endangered Species, Threatened Species, and Species of Special Concern Official Lists (2017)

Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council Invasive Plant Lists (2019)

United States Fish & Wildlife Service Listed Species Summary (2020)

## 3.0 METHODS

Following a review of background information, Phillip Jimrusti and Associates performed a systematic field survey to identify the presence or absence of threatened or endangered species, species of special concern as listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the Florida Department of Agriculture.

The City of Delray Beach Land Development Regulations Section 3.2.4 (B) states that any significant flora or fauna communities which are identified pursuant to a biological survey and habitat analysis required by Conservation Element Policy B-2.1 are being appropriately treated as if they were environmentally sensitive areas as identified in Policy B-1.1 of the Conservation Element.

### 3.0 METHODS (continued)

City of Delray Beach Conservation Element of the Comprehensive Plan Policy B-2.1 states that the submission of a biological survey and a habitat analysis shall accompany land use requests for plan amendments, rezonings, and site plan approval. However, the requirement shall not apply to small parcels, developed parcels, or where it is apparent that there are no such resources.

## 4.0 OBSERVATIONS

### 4.1 VEGETATION

The site is comprised of eight parcels totaling 12.20 acres. Approximately 6.67 acres of the property have been developed and are currently being utilized for industrial purposes (Figure 2). The remaining 5.53 acres that remain undeveloped was assessed for significant flora or fauna communities, as required by the City of Delray Beach Land Development Regulations. This parcel was found to be densely vegetated predominately with exotic and nuisance/invasive vegetative species. The observed canopy vegetation consists of Brazilian pepper (*Schinus terebinthifolius*), Australian pine (*Casuarina equisetifolia*), melaleuca (*Melaleuca quinquefolia*), earleaf acacia (*Acacia auriculiformis*), bischofia (*Bischofia javanica*), carrotwood (*Cupaniopsis anacardioides*), and schefflera (*Schefflera actinophylla*). Understory and groundcover vegetation includes wild balsam apple (*Momordica charantia*), wedelia (*Wedelia trilobata*), bidens (*bidens alba*), air potato (*Dioscorea bulbifera*), primrose willow (*Ludwigia* spp.), and dog fennel (*Eupatorium capillifolium*). No significant flora or fauna communities were observed.

### 4.2 WILDLIFE

The site was investigated to note the presence or absence of threatened or endangered species as listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission. No wildlife was observed during the field assessment. No desirable habitat was observed. The habitat value of this parcel is considered very poor quality due to the extensive infestation of exotic vegetation and the quality is rapidly diminishing due to the deterioration caused by extensive development in the surrounding area.

## 4.0 OBSERVATIONS (continued)

Based on previous studies of animal populations within these communities, the following is a list of probable animal species that may inhabit the site:

<b>Table 1: Animal species that could occur on the subject property.</b>		Protected Status	
Common Name	Scientific Name	State	Federal
<b>Reptiles</b>			
Green anole	<i>Anolis carolinensis</i>	n/a	n/a
Brown anole	<i>Anolis sagrei</i>	n/a	n/a
Six-lined racerunner	<i>Cnemidophorus sexlineatus</i>	n/a	n/a
<b>Birds</b>			
Ground dove	<i>Columba passerina</i>	n/a	n/a
Mocking bird	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	n/a	n/a
Mourning doves	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	n/a	n/a
<b>Mammals</b>			
Nine banded armadillo	<i>Dasypus novemcinctus</i>	n/a	n/a
Gray squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	n/a	n/a
Opossum	<i>Didelphis virginiana</i>	n/a	n/a
Raccoon	<i>Procyon lotus</i>	n/a	n/a
<b>Amphibian</b>			
Oak toad	<i>Bufo quercicus</i>	n/a	n/a

E = Endangered

T = Threatened

SSC = Species of Special Concern

n/a = Not Listed

## 5.0 CONCLUSION

The findings and conclusions documented in this report have been prepared for specific application to this project, and have been developed in a manner consistent with that level of care and skill normally exercised by members of the environmental science profession currently practicing under similar conditions in the area, and in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in our agreement. The conclusions presented in this report are professional opinions based on interpretation of information currently available. This property was not evaluated for soils, hydrology, or the presence or absence of wetlands.

No rare, threatened, endangered or species of special concern as listed by the Florida Department of Agriculture, the Florida Game and Fresh Water Commission (FGFWC), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) were observed on the property. The on-site conditions appear to have been negatively affected by the extensive invasion of exotic and nuisance vegetation, creating a very poor habitat for potential wildlife. The habitat quality is further diminished by human disturbance and the development in the surrounding area. No significant flora or fauna communities were observed.