

# NORTHEAST REGIONAL CONSERVATION NEEDS GRANT

## 2012 PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter: (circle one)      2012 1<sup>st</sup>      2012 2<sup>nd</sup>      (2012 3<sup>rd</sup>)      2012 4<sup>th</sup>

Grant Number and Title: RCN 2011-05 Terrestrial Habitat Map Guidance

Grant Receipt/Organization: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Project Leader: Mark Anderson

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter? This is the first quarter of funding

Regional Conservation Need Addressed:

Progress Achieved: (For each Goal/Objective, list Planned and Actual Accomplishments)

This quarter we focused on organizing the information needed to create the habitat guides, particularly the relationships between each ecological system and the wildlife, rare species, and natural communities that are associated with them. For these tasks we used natural heritage data and published information.

Summary of Progress: (Provide a paragraph describing progress, work to come, and timelines)

**Data Overlays:** To create the information needed for the habitat guides, we completed overlays of three independent datasets on the Terrestrial Habitat Map to quantify:

- Amount of secured lands for each habitat types
- The number and type of state natural community points occurring within each habitat type
- The number and type of rare species locations occurring within each habitat type.
- The distribution of each habitat type

**Crosswalk of names and species:** Using the overlay data we crosswalked the names of state natural community types with the regional ecological system type. From this we developed a preliminary list of all state names for each ecological system. Additionally, using published information such as DeGraff and Yamakaki 2000, we developed a table of relationships between each ecological system (macro-group level) and the birds, mammals and herps of the Region.

**Data and Photo preparation:** In GIS we created shape datasets for each habitat type to facilitate the display of each type in maps and illustrations. We send a request to the Natural Heritage programs for photos of each habitat type and permission to use.

**Develop the methods report.** We developed an outline for the report and filled out the content for about two-thirds of it. We hope to have a draft of the methods report by the end of next quarter.

Difficulties Encountered: None so far

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter:

- Create a mock-up of the habitat guide pages, linking it to State SWAPS if possible
- Continue to create and calculate information on each habitat type
- Complete a first draft of the methods report.

Expected End Date: June 30 2012

Costs:

Funds Expended Previous to this Report: \$0

Amount of RCN Funds Requested within this Report: \$1,192.96

Total Approved Budgeted RCN Funds: \$27,763

Are you within the approved budget plan? Yes

Are you within approved budget categories? Yes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Anderson", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Signature:

Date: October 31, 2012