

## QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter: (circle one) 20\_\_ 1st 2018 2nd 2018 3rd 20\_\_ 4th

Grant Program, Number and Title: Strategic Implementation of Regional Conservation Priorities for Freshwater Turtles at Risk in the Northeast: RCN Opportunity, Initiative 3. Road Mortality Hotspot Identification, Targeted Road Mitigation Assessment, & Best Management Practices. RCN 17-01 GSA 00033

Contractor: Clarkson University

Project Leader: Tom Langen

Abstract: The purpose of this project is to reduce turtle road mortality through improved mortality “hotspot” identification and mitigation strategies, advancing the goals of the Regional Conservation Priorities for Freshwater Turtles at Risk in the Northeast (Initiative 3), which include: (a) Improving our overall approach to identifying turtle road mortality concentrations, (b) Designing effective mitigation strategies and (c) Assessing the mitigation. The project contract was finalized and signed four months ago – this is the first full-quarter. Accomplishments in this quarter included presentations and discussions with stake-holders and key informants, and initiation of the literature reviews. Next quarter objectives include a survey and follow-up calls with partner agencies on past and current agency and partners’ projects related to turtles and roads. The project is funded through 2022.

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter? Yes, progress at this initial planning and stake-holder consulting stage of the projects was as intended.

Progress Achieved: Accomplishments to date included (1) a phone meeting with the state agency partner team to discuss the objectives, outcomes, strategies and expectations for this project; (2) a working-group meeting with partners and others at NEPARC on the aims, methodologies, and outcomes / outputs of the project; (3) delivery of a hand-out, poster presentation, and panel ‘short-talk’ on the project at NETWC (Northeast Transportation and Wildlife Conference); and (4) initiation of a literature search and review of road-encounter modeling approaches for turtles, and road monitoring / surveying methodologies.

Difficulties Encountered in Meeting Goals and Objectives: I did have to cancel a panel talk on my work on turtles and roads as member of a panel on turtle conservation and management at the 2018 Annual Meeting of The Wildlife Society, due to an unforeseen university matter I was required to attend.

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter: I now will move to the data-collection and synthesis stage in the project. Next quarter activities include a survey and follow-up calls with partner agencies on past and current agency and partners’ projects related to turtles and roads. I will also continue and begin to synthesize the review of current hotspot identification methods for turtles, and current practices in monitoring turtle road encounters.

Expected End Date: 31 December 2022

Costs:


Total life to date expenses (include this quarter): \$1674.60

Total Approved Budgeted Funds: \$137,500.00

Are you within the approved budget plan and categories? Yes

**The foregoing information is accurate as of the date set forth below.**

**CLARKSON UNIVERSITY**

By: 

Name: Tom Langen

Title: Professor, Dept. of Biology, Clarkson University

Date: 13 October 2018