

Attachment B
QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter: (circle one)

2019 1st Oct 1-Dec 31 2019	2020 2nd Jan 1-Mar 31 2020	2020 3rd Apr 1-Jun 30 2020	2020 4th Jul 1-Sep 30 2020
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Grant Program, Number and Title:

Subaward Number: GSA 00041
RCN Spotted Turtle Assessment in MD/DE

Contractor: Salisbury University

Project Leader: Eric Leibgold

Abstract:

In this time period, our original goal was to complete demographic sampling at 3 sites with 2-3 site visits (4 nights each) per site. Our revised (COVID-19) expectations as of March 31 was that no sampling would occur. Despite the lack of volunteer assistance, with the help of a very limited number of personnel and permission of the university, we were thankfully able to complete the second two sampling periods at one (very turtle-active) site in MD. During our three sampling periods at this site, we captured 215 individuals and had 148 recapture events. More than half of the capture events (185) occurred in period 3, where our percentage of turtles that were recaptures was 74% (!) in the last couple of days.

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter? Yes We did not meet our original timeline, but completed more than we thought possible based on lockdowns.

Progress achieved:

- a) More tissue samples were collected at two of four anticipated previous locations sampled in 2018/2019. One of the four had no captures due to weather and the other site visit was postponed due to coronavirus.
- b) We sampled the first trapping event at 2 of our 3 new sites, setting up trap locations and catching spotted turtles at both locations

Difficulties encountered in meeting goals and objectives:

Despite DE state lockdown rules preventing us visiting two sites in DE and the (understandable) prohibition on student assistance, all due to COVID-19, we were able to complete the remaining two visits to our MD site. Due to the factors working against us, we considered this a big win, especially as this site is an important and high-density, high number spotted turtle population and is private property and permission to visit in 2021 would not be guaranteed.

Activities anticipated next quarter:

Like most 3rd quarters, we anticipate that no sampling will occur during the next quarter due to decreased turtle activity and hydrologic changes (many ditches and ponds dry up) in this time of year in this location. In this time period (July-September), we will complete our data management and submit the data, send in our turtle genetic samples from 2020 and, if restrictions and turtle activity cooperate, try to conduct some limited trapping to obtain some more genetic samples from our 2018 sites (which were collected prior to an increase in requested number of DNA samples).

Expected End Date:

The project date has been extended to the end of June 2021. Sampling will be completed by mid-June 2021, with data entered and final report completed by June 30 2021.

Total life to date expense (include this quarter)	16,548.68
Total approved budget funds:	27,447.00
Are you within the approved budget plan and categories?	Yes

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

SALISBURY UNIVERSITY

By:

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Vanessa Collins".

Name: Vanessa Collins

Title: Research Accounting & Compliance Specialist

Date: 7/28/20