

# 2018 PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter: (circle one)

2018 1<sup>st</sup>

2018 2<sup>nd</sup>

2018 3<sup>rd</sup>

2018 4<sup>th</sup>

Grant Program, Number and Title: RCN, GSA 00043, Spotted Turtle Assessment in West Virginia

Organization: West Virginia University Research Corporation

Project Leader: Donald Brown

Abstract: Please provide a short (1-2 paragraphs) abstract that addresses EACH of the following: the objectives of your project, accomplishments to date, future plans and timelines with an estimate for when the project will be completed.

The objectives of the project include: 1) perform Trap-based Demographic Assessments (DA) at 2 wetlands in West Virginia with known Spotted Turtle populations, 2) perform Trap-based Rapid Assessments (TRA) at 2 wetlands in West Virginia with historical records of Spotted Turtle populations, and 3) assess the success of a Spotted Turtle translocation program in 1985 using intense trap-based population sampling. All unique individuals captured will be measured, marked using carapace notches and/or PIT tags, and a DNA sample will be collected. All sampling and capture data will be provided to the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, and DNA samples will be sent to Dr. Rodney Dyer, Virginia Commonwealth University.

The agreement was executed in December 2018 and the project is being initiated in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2019. During this quarter we plan to determine the current status (presence/absence) and accessibility of wetlands with historical Spotted Turtle records in West Virginia, create an approximate sampling schedule for all sites, and begin performing DA and TRA sampling if weather becomes suitable for Spotted Turtle activity in March. We anticipate completion of this project in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2019.

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter? N/A

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

N/A

Difficulties Encountered: N/A

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter:

- Determine the current status (presence/absence) and accessibility of wetlands with historical Spotted Turtle records in West Virginia
- Create an approximate sampling schedule for all sites
- Begin performing DA and TRA sampling if weather becomes suitable for Spotted Turtle activity in March

Expected End Date: 12/31/2019

Costs:

Total life to date expenses (include this quarter): 0

Total Approved Budgeted Funds: \$23,333

Are you within the approved budget plan and categories? Yes

Signature:  The signature is handwritten in black ink, appearing to read "D and B" with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Date: 01/03/2019