

2019 PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter: (circle one) 2019 1st 2019 2nd **2019 3rd** 2019 4th

Grant Program, Number and Title: GSA 00046/Amendment #2 Wood Turtle

Organization: The Mid-Atlantic Center for Herpetology and Conservation

Project Leader: Lori Erb and Brandon Ruhe

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 Wood Turtle (WT) project is to advance conservation efforts for the Wood Turtle by identifying, prioritizing, and facilitating the implementation of high priority actions within Focal Core Areas in the Northeast, track the progress of these actions by all partners, revise and distribute Best Management Practices, conduct technical assistance trainings, seek additional funding, and perform surveys in data deficient geographic locations. Accomplishments during this quarter includes fully executing a contract with WMI, one conference call with project leads, planning for an upcoming symposium including a special session on turtle confiscation issues, involvement in the Collaborative to Combat the Illegal Trade in Turtle (CCITT), and review of a regional PIT Tag protocol.

During the next quarter, we plan to hold monthly conference calls with the Wood Turtle Steering Committee, request data use agreements with state leads to initiate updates and expanding the Site Action Tracking Database, and in collaboration with the Wood Turtle Steering Committee develop a project plan and rough timeline.

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter? Yes

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

- Reviewed and fully executed the contract between MACHAC and WMI.
- Conducted one conference call with the Turtle RNC Wood Turtle subproject leads.
- Planning for an upcoming Spotted, Wood, and Blanding's turtle symposium.
- Organizing a special session at the symposium on turtle trade.
- Participating in Collaborative to Combat and the Illegal Trade in Turtles (CCITT) monthly call, drafting of meeting notes, and drafting a list of working group products.
- Reviewed a recently developed PIT tag protocol.
- Worked with interested volunteers, gathered privately-held data.

Difficulties Encountered: None.

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter:

- We will hold monthly conference calls with the Wood Turtle Steering Committee.
- We will request data use agreements with state leads to initiate updates and expanding the Site Action Tracking Database.

- We will work with the Wood Turtle Steering Committee develop a project plan and rough timeline.

Expected End Date: The end date of the next quarter is December 30, 2019

Costs:

Total life to date expenses (include this quarter): \$499.16

Total Approved Budgeted Funds: \$50,000.00

Are you within the approved budget plan and categories? Yes

Signature:

Date: 11/7/2019