

# 2021 PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter: (circle one)      2021 1<sup>st</sup>      2021 2<sup>nd</sup>      2021 3<sup>rd</sup>      2021 4<sup>th</sup>

Grant Program, Number and Title: RCN; GSA 00060 Habitat for Pollinators: Improving Management of Regionally Significant Xeric Grasslands, Barrens and Woodlands in the Northeast

Organization: Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Green Ridge State Forest (GRSF)

Project Leader: Jen Selfridge/Jesse Morgan

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 this project are to increase pollinator habitat at the Slider Special Wildlife Habitat Area (Town Creek Site) in Green Ridge State Forest through reducing invasive species and cold season grasses and increasing the coverage of pollen and nectar plants. In 2021 we will conduct bee and vegetation surveys and would like to continue managing the 2-acre pollinator meadow (Unit 8B). We also plan to manage the surrounding units if time and staff permit but will not follow the original timeline. However, a sudden change in management within the State Forest will require that we reassess our goals next quarter.

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter? We were able to complete a spring bee survey during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter. We are still waiting on the renewal contract with WMI. As mentioned above, there was a sudden change in management of GRSF and therefore no spring management activities were conducted during the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter.

Progress Achieved: (For each Goal/Objective, list Planned and Actual Accomplishments) Bee surveys and quarterly reports were completed as planned. Although mowing the pollinator meadow (Unit 8B) had been planned for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, a sudden change in GRSF management precluded this activity.

Difficulties Encountered: Jesse Morgan has replaced Mark Beals as the acting manager of GRSF. I will meet with Jesse next quarter to discuss ongoing management of the pollinator meadow and/or surrounding units. Contract renewals with WMI are still delayed.

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter: We plan to conduct summer bee surveys and vegetation surveys. Since plants are now in bloom in the pollinator meadow (Unit 8B) we will likely need to wait until the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter to mow or to implement any invasive species treatments in the meadow. It is uncertain whether the surrounding units will be mowed. We will meet with acting Forest Manager Jesse Morgan to discuss the continuation of the project.


Expected End Date: 28 February 2022

Costs: \$1070.36

Total life to date expenses (include this quarter): \$8940.14

Total Approved Budgeted Funds: \$43,560.00

Are you within the approved budget plan and categories? Yes

Signature: 

Date: 30 July 2021