

2020 PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter: (circle one)

2020 1st

2020 2nd

2020 3rd

2020 4th

Grant Program, Number and Title: **GSA 00067 RCN Pollinator, Albany Pine Bush**

Organization: Albany Pine Bush Preserve Commission

Project Leader: Neil Gifford

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.

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter? Yes, objectives to complete pre-mowing bee and vegetation sampling and implement the mowing treatments were fully achieved

2nd Quarter 2019 Progress Achieved: (For each Goal/Objective, list Planned and Actual Accomplishments)

- Finalized vegetation protocol for 5 APB sites (>100 acres), including 3 treatment sites and 2 controls.
- Completed bee sampling at all sites, using colored bee bowls.
- Completed Karner blue butterfly surveys at three (Antelope, Bivy, Draperies) of the five sites per agreement.

3rd Quarter 2019 Progress Achieved: (For each Goal/Objective, list Planned and Actual Accomplishments)

- Completed vegetation sampling at all five sites
- Completed 5 bee sampling events at all five sites, final survey on 9/18/19
- Completed second brood Karner blue butterfly surveys at three sites (Alleycat, Bivy, Draperies)
- Secure contractor for mowing treatment sites (*see map below - sites 1, 3 & 4 are RCN project sites*)
 - Request for proposals released June, 27, 2019 on the NYS Contract Reporter
 - RFP closed July 26, 2019; 6 bids received and reviewed
 - Bid awarded July 30, 2019 to The Tree Doctor, Inc.

4th Quarter 2019 Progress Achieved: (For each Goal/Objective, list Planned and Actual Accomplishments)

- Finish pinning and labeling bee specimens
- Continue identification of bee specimens
- Complete data entry of vegetation data
- Mowed treatment sites - Began October 15 and be finished December 20, 2019

1st Quarter 2020 Progress Achieved: (For each Goal/Objective, list Planned and Actual Accomplishments)

- Continue identification of bee specimens

2nd Quarter 2020 Progress Achieved: (For each Goal/Objective, list Planned and Actual Accomplishments)

- Continue identification of bee specimens
- Completed bee bowl and sweep net sampling at all sites on May 22 and June 16.
- Conducted Karner blue butterfly surveys at three (Alleycat, Bivy, Draperies) of the five sites per agreement.

3rd Quarter 2020 Progress Achieved: (For each Goal/Objective, list Planned and Actual Accomplishments)

- Continue identification of bee specimens
- Continued bee bowl and sweep net sampling at all sites
- Conducted Karner blue butterfly surveys at three (Alleycat, Bivy, Draperies) of the five sites per agreement.
- Completed post-treatment (mow) 2020 vegetation sampling using modified RCN vegetation protocols at all sites

Difficulties Encountered:

NYSDEC CoVid-19 restrictions eliminated our ability to apply Rx fire to the three treatment sites (Bivy, AlleyCat, Diversity) as planned for 2020. Sites will receive Rx fire in May 2021, if these restrictions are removed.

Expected End Date: October 2022

Costs:

Total life to date expenses (include this quarter): \$35,000 Direct dollars, 37,268.38 Match dollars.

Total Approved Budgeted Funds: \$40,000 direct.

Are you within the approved budget plan and categories? Yes

Signature:



Date: 14, October, 2020