

# 2019 PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter: (circle one)      2019 1<sup>st</sup>      2019 2<sup>nd</sup>      2019 3<sup>rd</sup>      2019 4<sup>th</sup>

Grant Program, Number and Title: RCN; GSA 00070; Communication & Project Support for Xeric Habitats for Pollinators

Organization: Strategic Stewardship Initiative

Project Leader: Elizabeth Crisfield

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.

In the Summer, 2019, I continued to coordinate with sites and the bee identification team. I assisted new sites in exploring their opportunity to participate (RI and PA in particular). I assisted in preparing updates for monthly NEFWDTTC calls and discussed this project at their annual meeting in September. I attended the NE Habitat Technical Committee annual meeting and spoke briefly about this project there. They have an interest in collaborating on the best management practices report and compilation. I also ordered and had shipped the drawers to house the bee specimens at the University of Connecticut museum (generating a reimbursable cost on the invoice, \$530.54).

Related to best management practices, I am exploring useful formats for the communication of best management practices given the context of available information – several relevant sources of information are already easily accessible.

Related to data management objectives, I itemized planned treatments occurring at different units within the sites, and continued to coordinate the analysis team including Lauren DiCarlo, Helen Poulos, and Andrew Barton. I also investigated alternative database management systems and have purchased an ArcGIS license to improve communication of site information and explored the suitability of ArcGIS as the primary data management system (generating a reimbursable cost on the invoice, \$742.00).

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter?

In general, yes, but we did not establish a data sharing agreement and that remains a priority.

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

1. Coordination: Communications with sites have been ongoing. We anticipate hosting an all-project call this fall. Presentation of project progress was made to the NEFWDTTC at their September Annual Meeting.
2. Best Management Practices: Available information is being organized on a draft website. We will discuss the value of this approach to communication and decide whether to publish a project website in soon.

3. Data Management: Data management and analysis have been a focus and though concrete data plans have not been drafted, progress is being made.

Difficulties Encountered:

None

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter:

In the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter I will:

- assist John Heilferty in managing the budgeting process for 2020
- continue database development in anticipation of project data beginning to come in
- continue to coordinate with the bee identification team as 2019 specimens are identified
- continue coordination of site managers and provide feedback on the accumulation of project data
- continue the organization of available best management practice information

Expected End Date: December 2019 (this contract); expected to continue in 2020

Costs:

Total life to date expenses (include this quarter): \$13,090.20 (invoiced by contractor)

Total Approved Budgeted Funds: \$37,800 total (\$13,230 match, \$24,570 invoiced)

Are you within the approved budget plan and categories? Yes

Match Note – On this invoice I am matching the reimbursable costs along with my hourly work so as not to generate unmatched expenses.

Signature: 

Date: October 2, 2019