

# 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 Fall, 2019, I continued to coordinate with sites and the bee identification team. I assisted new sites in exploring their opportunity to participate (much work with PA, RI, DE, WV, and some with CT and VA). I assisted in preparing updates for monthly NEFWDTTC calls. With input from John Heilferty and others, I published the northeastbarrens.org website to address the ongoing need to explain the projects' goals, show project results, and build a platform to discuss current Best Management Practices and explore experimental practices we are investigating.

Through the 2020 budget requests, we collected updated information about site activities in 2018 and 2019, along with plans for 2020. This information will be used by the analysis team to figure out what the analysis opportunities are. We are also able to coordinate with the box turtle monitoring effort (RCN 2 Project 1 Job 2 GSA 00046). I am working with Lori Erb to identify sites where post-fire monitoring could help them understand how fire impacts box turtles.

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: Significant effort toward getting updated site information, budget requests, communication with sites about 2019 progress and meeting contracted objectives. We also maintained communication with the analysis team (primarily Helen Poulos) and the bee identification team (Sam, Clare, and Sydney). We made improvements to the bee protocol for sites that also have frosted elfin.
2. Best Management Practices: We published a project website to organize information and make it available to sites and others interested in the project.
3. Data Management: With the focus on coordination, I did not work very much on data management this fall.

Difficulties Encountered:

None

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter:

In the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2020 I will:

- Work with the bee identification team to incorporate 2018 bee results from Joan Milam in the Discover Life Database
- Work with Helen Poulos on the data management system
- Improve the precision of site tracking in a geodatabase
- Expand information provided on the website: [northeastbarrens.org](http://northeastbarrens.org)
- Continue site coordination, particularly to assist new sites in PA, RI, CT, DE, WV, and VA

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

Costs:

Total life to date expenses (include this quarter): \$23,224.84 (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: January 2, 2020