

# 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 2 Project 2 Job 1, GSA 00078, Bee Identification and Specimen Data Management

Organization: Clare Maffei

Project Leader: John Heilferty

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?

Not to date.

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

See italicized progress following each goal below.

- a. Contractor will provide all primary bee identification services in support of the RCN project, under the supervision of Sam Droege and using USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center facilities. It is estimated that the contract will require the identification of between 3,000 and as many as 4,500 bee specimens during the course of this contract.
  - i. *Has identified 2,567 specimens. Anticipated 1,000-1,500 more specimens to identify. Not all specimens have completed processing to be ready to be identified.*
- b. Contractor will ensure that each specimen provided for identification is processed in manner facilitating the specimen's identification to be merged into a database to be primarily managed by contract staff of the USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center (Polistes Foundation staff).
  - i. *Contractor has maintained this goal to the best of her ability, though not all identifications have been confirmed and scanned to database by USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center staff.*
- c. Contractor shall assist as necessary in the overall management of the RCN project bee database, invoicing no more than 20 hours for such tasks at a rate specified below,
  - i. *Not relevant to progress at this point. Will take action on this goal as the identifications are completed in order to expedite database processing.*
- d. Contractor will provide a brief summary report describing the general findings and noteworthy observations of the sampling season.
  - i. *Not relevant to progress at this point. Incomplete data cannot be analyzed.*

Difficulties Encountered:

Delays in receipt of bees from project sites resulted in slower pre-identification processing by USGS contractors. Often when bees were received, were in large batches which also slowed general pre-processing. Original directions to keep each sampling event separated in the collection slowed down identification process

immensely. When that requirement was released, identification speed increased dramatically.

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter:

- a. Complete specimen identifications. Anticipate approximate 1,000-1,500 more specimens.
- b. Continue providing the high-quality service.
- c. Contribute to the expedited adding of specimens to database.
  - a. *Adding a data-cleaning component to this contract, pending funding.*
- d. Draft report following database updates.

Expected End Date:

End of next quarter, pending renewal

Costs:

Total life to date expenses (include this quarter):

\$5,007

Total Approved Budgeted Funds:

\$8,775 (bees) + \$390 (database) = \$9,165

Are you within the approved budget plan and categories?

Yes

Signature:

Clare Maffei

Date:

1/17/20