

98ATTACHMENT 1

GRANT QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter: (circle one)

2021 1st

2021 2nd

2021 3rd

2021 4th

Grant Program, Number and Title: NEAFWA RCN GSA 00149, project 'Habitat for Pollinators: Improving Management of Regionally Significant Xeric Grasslands, Barrens, and Woodlands in the Northeast'.

Project Leader: **Betsy Leppo**

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.

1. Survey vegetation transects at four barrens sites in Pennsylvania according to the RCN vegetation survey protocols. We will resample 40 established vegetation transects in 2021. Vegetation and related site data will be compiled, quality controlled, and provided in the spreadsheet developed for this project.
2. Survey bee transects at four barrens sites in Pennsylvania according to the RCN bee survey protocols. Surveys will be conducted monthly from July through September in 2021 (39 transects), and from May through September in 2022 (65 transects), for a total of 104 bee transects. Bees and data sheets will be shipped to the USGS bee lab for processing.
3. Staff will continue to assist land managers in planning and implementing habitat management activities that will benefit pollinators at the study sites. Activities may include invasive plant control, prescribed fire, mowing, and timber removal. A summary of habitat management activities will be included in the vegetation spreadsheet.

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter (Q3 and Q4)?

Yes, the planned goals and objectives were achieved last quarter.

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

1. We completed 39 vegetation transects at four barrens sites in Pennsylvania in summer and fall of 2021. Vegetation was collected in the field using a Survey123 ArcGIS application. The data was exported to Excel, quality controlled, and formatted according to the RCN vegetation data format. The data was provided to Helen Poulos of Wesleyan University and Elizabeth Crisfield of the Strategic Stewardship Initiative. The spreadsheet is titled '2021 Vegetation transect LPI data PA combined ver 4Jan2022.xlsx'.
2. Bees were collected monthly from July through September in 2021 from the 39 established transects. Bee samples and data sheets were shipped to the USGS lab.

3. Management activities completed by partner agencies around each vegetation transect site since the vegetation surveys of 2020 are listed in the vegetation spreadsheet under 'treatment type' in the environmental data tab.

Difficulties Encountered:

One vegetation transect was not resampled at Presque Isle State Park due to staff time constraints. The transect that was dropped had not had any management in the prior year, and was not located in the primary barrens habitat. Staff will attempt to resurvey this transect in 2022.

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter:

1. We will complete a final round of vegetation transect surveys in summer/fall of 2022 and will aim to resample all 40 established vegetation transects.
2. We will resume monthly sampling of the 39 established bee transects in May of 2022 and will continue through September of 2022.

Expected End Date:

December 31, 2022

Costs:

Total life to date expenses (include this quarter): \$16,607.07

Total Approved Budgeted Funds: \$54,972.00

Are you within the approved budget plan and categories? Yes



Signature: _____

Date: January 28, 2022