

## ATTACHMENT 1

### GRANT QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter: (circle one)      2022 1<sup>st</sup>      2022 2<sup>nd</sup>      2022 3<sup>rd</sup>      2022 4<sup>th</sup>

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 (Q1)?

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

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

Time spent this quarter focused on entering project data, labeling photos, project reporting, and working with staff and land managers to plan future survey and management activities at our four barrens sites. Updates on project administration regarding spending and match were provided through a quarterly report and email correspondence with project administrators.

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2022 progress on primary project tasks:

1. Early in the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter we completed consolidation, formatting and quality control of the vegetation transect data and provided the spreadsheet 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. We confirmed with volunteers that they can once again conduct the bee surveys at Presque Isle as they have the past two years, though WPC staff will have to conduct the first round of bee surveys in May. A few remaining bee samples and data sheets from the previous field season were prepared and shipped to the USGS lab.
3. Staff continued documenting and planning habitat management activities at barrens study sites in collaboration with partner agencies site. Habitat management activities from 2020 and 2021 are listed in the vegetation spreadsheet under 'treatment type' in the environmental data tab.

Difficulties Encountered:

No difficulties were encountered.

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter:

- We will complete a final round of vegetation transect surveys in summer/fall of 2022. We plan on resampling the established vegetation transects by July. We aim to submit our vegetation transect results in Excel format in August. The survey schedule is as follows:
  - Michaux State Forest week of June 27-July 1
  - Scotia Barrens week of July 11-15
  - Presque Isle in June (a good time to capture the lupine in bloom)
  - Sideling Hill week of June 6
- We will resume monthly sampling of the 39 established bee transects in May of 2022 and will continue through September of 2022. Bee samples will be shipped to the USGS lab for processing.

Expected End Date:

December 31, 2022

Costs:

Total life to date expenses (include this quarter): \$19,312.45

Total Approved Budgeted Funds: \$54,972.00

Are you within the approved budget plan and categories? Yes



Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: April 23, 2022