

ATTACHMENT 1

GRANT QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter: (circle one)

2022 1st

2022 2nd

2022 3rd

2022 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. Resurvey 40 established vegetation transects at four barrens sites in Pennsylvania according to the RCN vegetation survey protocols. Vegetation transects will be surveyed in mid to late summer of 2021 and again 2022, for a total of 80 vegetation transects. Vegetation and related site data will be compiled, quality controlled, and provided in the spreadsheet developed for this project.
2. Resurvey 13 established bee transects across four barrens sites in Pennsylvania according to the RCN bee survey protocols. Surveys will be conducted monthly from July through September in 2021 (13x3=39 transects), and from May through September in 2022 (13*5=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 (Q2 2022)?

Yes, planned goals and objectives appropriate to the project period were achieved.

2nd Quarter 2022 progress on primary project tasks:

1. We resurveyed the 13 bee transects in May and June for a total of 26 bee transects.
2. In June we resurveyed vegetation transects in Michaux State Forest (12), Presque Isle (9), and Sideling Hill (6).
 - Michaux State Forest: week of June 27
 - Presque Isle: week of June 6
 - Sideling Hill: Week of June 13

3. Staff continued tracking and assisting with habitat management at barrens study sites in collaboration with partner agencies site. Habitat management activities from 2020 to 2022 will be listed in the vegetation spreadsheet under 'treatment type' in the environmental data tab.

Difficulties Encountered:

One vegetation transect at Presque Isle State Park that was not resampled in 2021 was also not resampled in 2022 (named PI-DEADPOND2-T3). This transect is not located in the primary barrens habitat and has not received vegetation management. We recommend not including this transect in data analyses for this project, or in future repeated monitoring surveys.

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter:

- We will resurvey the 12 vegetation transect surveys at Scotia Barrens / State Gamelands 176 the week of July 11.
- We will submit our complete vegetation transect results in Excel format as soon as possible after completing the Scotia Barrens vegetation transects. We will send our results to Helen Poulos of Wesleyan University and Elizabeth Crisfield of the Strategic Stewardship Initiative.
- We will continue monthly sampling of the 13 established bee transects from July through September of 2022.
- Bee samples will be shipped to the USGS lab for processing.
- We will submit a final progress report, and assist RCN project coordinators with development of the final report as needed.

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: July 23, 2022