

NORTHEAST REGIONAL CONSERVATION NEED GRANT QUARTERLY REPORT

Grant Number: 2008-05

Grant Title: Regional Indicators and Measures: Beyond conservation Land

Grant Receipt: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Contact Name: Mark Anderson

Report #: 4 (July 1, 2010 through September 30, 2010)

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter?

Yes: we completed the complex metrics (not based on land conservation) for wetlands, lakes and forests, and made progress on streams. The wetland chapter is ready to circulate.

Regional Conservation Need Addressed: Regional Indicators and Measures

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

This project overlaps to some extent with 2007-5 but is focused on the more complicated measures that require more time and effort to compile. In the past three months we finalized the metrics, generated results and drafted chapters for wetlands, lakes, forests and streams

Goal 1 Wetlands: The complex wetland data analysis included working with the Breeding Bird Survey database and our related bird habitat database to extract trends in wetland birds over the last 30 years. This work was successfully completed and resultant statistics, reporting thresholds, tables, charts, and maps of the data were generated for the chapter. Text has been written for the chapter and the draft wetland chapter will be released by mid-October. No major obstacles were encountered, although the data accuracy of the NLCD2001 Land Cover Change product was deemed not suitable to report on some of the more detailed trends we thought might be possible originally to report.

Goal 2 Lakes: We currently need to complete the dammed lake analysis (dam dataset will be complete Nov 1st), the reserved land overlays, determine which National Lake Assessment variables to report, and develop reporting thresholds for a few of the other measured variables. We also need to complete maps and text for the draft chapter. We expect the draft chapter to be released by mid-November.

Goal 3 Forests: The Landfire forest cover types were also extracted and joined to the NEAFWA Terrestrial Classification Macrogroup level to finalize the major forest types and map to be used for reporting. Forest bird trend analysis was also completed using the Breeding Bird survey dataset and our related bird habitat database.

Goal 4 Streams: Stream data analysis focused on updating the input stream GIS dataset and its buffer dataset to match the input stream dataset being used in the NEAFWA Northeast Regional Aquatic Connectivity Assessment.

Our work over the next three months October-December will focus on completing the analysis, mapping, and writing necessary for a release of draft chapters for wetlands, lakes, forests, and streams before the end of the year.

Difficulties Encountered: None

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter:

- Complete relevant metrics and finalize chapter on streams, grassland, species and unique habitats
- Circulate the wetland and forest chapters for review and comment.
- Harvest feedback and revise wetland chapter.

Costs:

Are you within the approved budget plan? Yes

Are you within approved budget categories? Yes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Signature: Mark Anderson

Date: October 13, 2010