

NORTHEAST REGIONAL CONSERVATION NEEDS GRANT QUARTERLY REPORT

Grant Number: 2008-03

Grant Title: Regional Focal Areas for Species of Greatest Conservation Need based on Site Adaptive Capacity, Network Resilience, and Connectivity.

Grant Receipt: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Contact Name: Mark Anderson

Report #- 5 (Oct 1, 2010 through Dec 31, 2010)

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter?

Some – not as much as planned

Regional Conservation Need Addressed: Climate Change: regional focal areas for species of conservation need.

Progress Achieved:

Goal 1) Finalize datasets: This quarter we completed and finalized all the underlying datasets for the analysis including: landform heterogeneity, elevation diversity, local connectedness and movement pinch points. Each dataset is now a seamless grid covering the whole region and will allow us to overlay the species information directly on any part of the region. We posted the data on a web site where others can download it and examine it.

Goal 2) Finalize species information: This quarter we contacted all 13 Heritage Programs and finalized our data agreements to obtain access for the full species database need for this project and for the measure project (2007-05)

Goal 3) Obtain initial review. We posted the data on a web site where others can download it and examine it. Additionally we begin testing the model on different known places and getting feedback from other scientists. The testing has confirmed many positive aspects of the model but also pointed out some weaknesses in extremely flat landscape s that we are trying to improve.

Difficulties Encountered: Delay on this project due to maternity leave by the primary staff. I applied for a received and extension and we will begin working on it again in January.

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter:

- Improve the model behavior in very flat landscapes
- Begin the overlays of species locations on the resilience grids.

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, Director of Conservation Science

Date: January 24, 2011