

Grant Number: 2009-02

Grant Title: Geospatial Condition Analysis of Northeast Habitats, Based on the Northeast SGCN Habitat Maps

Grant Receipt: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Contact Name: Mark Anderson

Date: 10/28/11

We will evaluate and summarize the current condition of terrestrial and aquatic habitats across a region of the thirteen states of the Northeast. Using newly available region-wide habitat maps of streams (Olivero and Anderson 2008) and terrestrial ecosystems (Ferree et al. in prep) we will overlay compatible datasets relative to factors that elucidate the condition and quality of each habitat. The selection of metrics will follow Tomajer et al (2008) and their calculation and application will be guided by a thirteen-state steering committee. The committee will also review results and help design the format for the final report. The metrics will be calculated relative to each habitat type, for example, dams, impervious surfaces and toxic release points for stream systems, or road density, patch size, canopy closure and projected housing density for terrestrial forests.

Work has not yet begun on this RCN project. Getting it under way is contingent on finalizing the Northeastern Terrestrial Habitat Map (RCN project 2007-01), and after review of that map it has been determined that the portion of it in eastern Virginia (in the Piedmont and Mid-Atlantic Coast Ecoregions) will be revisited. We hope to accomplish this in the next quarter, though LCC and TNC staff haven't yet built a timetable for this work. This said, some progress could be made in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter on identifying/assembling/building datasets that would be used to evaluate the condition of habitats if managers decide to block off the time to work on it.

# **NORTHEAST REGIONAL CONSERVATION NEEDS GRANT QUARTERLY REPORT**

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Report #- 1 (July 1, 2011 through September 30, 2011)

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter?

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Regional Conservation Need Addressed: Evaluation and summarization of the current condition of terrestrial and aquatic habitats across the thirteen states of the Northeast.

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

Difficulties Encountered: NA

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter:

Goal 1: As suggested above, work could begin on assembling/building datasets useful for evaluating ecological condition of habitats in the Northeast, time permitting.

Costs:

Are you within the approved budget plan? NA

Are you within approved budget categories? NA

Signature:

Date: 10/28/11