

NORTHEAST REGIONAL CONSERVATION NEED GRANT QUARTERLY REPORT

Grant Number: 2007-03

Grant Title: Identifying relationships between invasive species and Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the Northeast region.

Grant Receipt:

Grant Contact Name: Glen N. Stevens

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Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter? Yes

Regional Conservation Need Addressed: 2007 Priority RCN Topic 2, "Identify Invasive Species that Impact Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the Northeast."

Progress Achieved:

We have assembled state-level and regional lists of both invasive species and GCN species, and re-formatted those lists in a fashion that is importable into a database format. We have held preliminary meetings among the staff at CMI to determine the proper format for efficient database creation and population.

We currently have information on hand that is sufficient to meet Objective 2, "A report listing the invasive species common to each state." At present, this list contains only three species, *Rosa multiflora*, *Lythrum salicaria*, and *Polygonum cuspidatum*, or multiflora rose, purple loosestrife and Japanese knotweed, respectively.

We are awaiting confirmation of invasive lists from relevant sources in the states before we submit this list, as there are species such as Eurasian watermilfoil and that appear in all but one of the states, and *Phragmites australis* and water chestnut that are listed in all but two. We will use the reports we get from these states to verify the completeness and accuracy of the Invasive species listings list before we post this report on the project website.

Difficulties Encountered:

With the impending departure of the Executive Director of CMI, Jefferson Waldon, the time that the Executive Director could spend on the project was severely limited. As his time was the match for project activities, we were limited in terms of the amount of project-funded time that could be spent on the project. This significantly limited our progress during the reporting period.

CMI has recently hired Scott Klopfer as the Executive Director. He has begun to work on various tasks (including website creation, database format, and distribution of invasive lists to key parties in the Northeast region). We anticipate much more rapid progress in the coming quarters.

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter:

1. We will finalize the lists of GCN species and invasives, reflecting feedback from appropriate personnel in individual states within the region. This will allow us to finalize the report for Objective 2.
2. We will continue pairwise comparisons of individual GCN species and invasive species, as detailed in the proposal. This will populate the database (objective 5), that will be used to develop individual comparison reports that are the deliverables for this project (Objectives 1, 3 and 4).

Costs:

Are you within the approved budget plan? Yes

Are you within approved budget categories? Yes, expenses and matching funds have been used to support labor for the project.

Signature



Date January 6, 2008