

2019 PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter: (circle one)

2019 1st

2019 2nd

2019 3rd

2019 4th

Grant Program, Number and Title: RCN; GSA 00060 Habitat for Pollinators: Improving Management of Regionally Significant Xeric Grasslands, Barrens and Woodlands in the Northeast

Organization: Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR), Pocomoke State Forest (PSF)

Project Leader: Jen Selfridge/Mike Schofield

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.

The objectives of this project are to increase pollinator habitat at the Furnace and Foster Tracts of Pocomoke State Forest through increasing the acreage of early successional habitat, increasing the coverage of pollen and nectar plants, and removing less desirable species including planted loblolly pine, maple and sweet gum. Fourth Quarter habitat management activities included mowing approximately two acres on the Foster Tract (map attached) in preparation for planting a wildflower seed mix. The fall burns that were planned were not executed due to unfavorable weather conditions although fire breaks were created in the Control Unit. We expect to complete this portion of the project by the end date of 28 February 2020.

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter? Fall burns were not executed due to unfavorable weather conditions.

Progress Achieved: (For each Goal/Objective, list Planned and Actual Accomplishments) Habitat management activities included mowing approximately two acres on the Foster Tract in preparation for planting a wildflower seed mix. The seed was ordered and will be planted in spring 2020. Fire breaks were created in a section of the Control Unit of the Furnace Tract (we planned to burn about half the Unit); the fall burn may occur during the winter 2020 if conditions permit; otherwise it will be postponed until the fall 2020. Some additional trees (pines and cherries) were thinned in the Furnace Control Unit and the stumps were treated with herbicide.

Difficulties Encountered: None.

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter: The only planned task to be completed before the current contract expires (28 February) is to burn half of the Control Unit on the Furnace Tract, but this may be postponed until the fall 2020 if weather conditions are unfavorable.

Expected End Date: 28 February 2020

Costs: \$3238.65 (4th Quarter)

Total life to date expenses (include this quarter): \$7833.02

Total Approved Budgeted Funds: \$20,110.00

Are you within the approved budget plan and categories? Yes

Signature: 

Date: 21 January 2020