

APPALACHIAN LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVE GRANT 2013 PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter: (circle one) 2013 1st 2013 2nd 2013 3rd 2013 4th

Grant Program, Number and Title: 2012-04, Support for Understanding Land Use and Climate Change in the Appalachian LCC

Organization: NatureServe

Project Leader: Mary-Beth Young

Abstract: We met our expected delivery date of May 15 for submission of our draft Expert Panel recommendations report. We received extensive comment from Jean Brennan, who requested more concrete recommendations and more detailed critical analysis of existing methods.

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter? Not completely. Our Expert Panel draft report was submitted by the revised expected date; Jean Brennan made a request for more explicit recommendations, as well as more detailed critique of existing methods. We then had further communications with the Panel, including emails and conference call, to elicit this information. Draft report was revised extensively and has been circulated to the Expert Panel as of July 25. Anticipated date of completion: August 30, 2013. Selection of species and habitats has been delayed but is under way, and at this time, we do not anticipate a delay in the original date of completion (April 30, 2014).

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

Our goals are to:

1. Provide recommendations to the Appalachian LCC regarding climate change vulnerability methods most appropriately used in the AppLCC region.
2. Apply the recommended methods to conduct climate change vulnerability assessments on selected species and habitats in the AppLCC

We will accomplish this through the following objectives:

- A. Assemble Expert Panel
Planned: none
Actual: previously completed
- B. Finalize Expert Panel
Planned: none
Actual: previously completed
- C. Compile existing methods
Planned: Addition of more detailed critique of existing methods
Actual: Extensive revision of paper incorporates LCC comments, and has been submitted to Expert Panel for their review.
- D. Compile existing vulnerability assessments
- E. **Planned:** Finalize compilation

Actual: Compilation completed and submitted with draft report May 15, 2013.

F. Review existing methods and determine best approaches

Planned: First draft of the report completed, but will require additional input from the Panel and other reviewers prior to finalizing it. Expected completion May 15, 2013.

Actual: Draft report completed and submitted May 15, 2013. We received review comments from LCC director Jean Brennan with request for additional recommendations. We scheduled an additional call with the Expert Panel, held April 19, 2013 to further discuss more detailed recommendations. Second draft with extensive revision has been circulated to the Panel. Expected date of completion: August 30, 2013.

G. Select species and habitats to be assessed (Target completion date June 30, 2013)

Planned: Finalize list of species and habitats to be assessed.

Actual: Species and habitat selection delayed to accommodate revision to Expert Panel report. Began to draft the list of species and habitats for input by our review team. Anticipated date of preliminary selection: September 30, 2014.

H. Conduct vulnerability assessments of species and habitats (Target completion date March 31, 2014)

Planned: none this quarter

Actual:

I. Deliver Draft and Final Report (Target completion date April 30, 2014)

Planned: none this quarter

Actual:

Difficulties Encountered: Delay in species and habitat selection, which is now under way.

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter: Completion of species and habitat selection and start of first vulnerability assessments.

Expected End Date: 4/30/2014

Costs:

Total life to date expenses (include this quarter):

Total Approved Budgeted Funds: \$186,945.45

Are you within the approved budget plan and categories? Yes

Signature:

Date: