

APPALACHIAN LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVE GRANT 2012 ABSTRACT

Quarter: (circle one) 2012 1st 2012 2nd **2012 3rd** 2012 4th

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

Grant Receipt/Organization: NatureServe

Grant Project Leader: Lesley Sneddon

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.

Our objectives are to 1) research existing climate change vulnerability assessment methods; 2) convene an expert panel to evaluate these methods and to provide a recommendation to the APPLCC as to those that are most appropriate for the LCC; 3) identify a set of species and habitats to be assessed in the LCC; and 4) conduct the vulnerability assessments. This quarter, we finalized the Expert Panel membership, with one additional potential member to be recommended by the LCC Science Coordinator. The charter was approved and submitted to each member. We held an initial conference call September 4 to introduce members and review the project objectives. A draft compilation of vulnerability assessment methods was distributed to the Panel. We finalized the date and venue for the in-person meeting (January 14-15 at the NatureServe Home Office in Arlington, VA.) We set in place a subcontract with the New York Natural Heritage Program to research and compile existing vulnerability assessments in the Appalachian region, and a draft was submitted to NatureServe in September. In the next quarter, we plan to finalize the compilation of existing vulnerability assessments, and a report comparing the degree of completeness and utility in comparison to the needs of the LCC. We plan to hold the expert panel workshop early in 2013, finalize the report with recommendations to the LCC by March 2013, submit draft list of species and habitats for assessment to LCC for approval by June 2013, and complete the assessments by April 2-14.

GRANTEE QUARTERLY REPORT

Grant Number: 2012-04

Grant Title: Support for Understanding Land Use and Climate Change in the Appalachian LCC

Grant Receipt: NatureServe

Grant Contact Name: David Pasco

Report #1 For the Period July 1 – September 30, 2012

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter? Yes

Progress Achieved: (For each goal/objective, list planned and actual accomplishments and findings)

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 (Target completion date June 30, 2012)

Planned: none

Actual: completed last quarter

- B. Finalize Expert Panel

Planned: Upon final approval of AppLCC science coordinator and AppLCC coordinator, finalize panel membership, finalize charter, convene initial conference call, and plan for in-person meeting.

Actual: Charter was approved in August and submitted to all panel members. We held a conference call with the LCC regarding final membership of the expert panel, and we received additional recommendations for members in unfilled positions. Our panel now consists of Kim Hall, Healy Hamilton, Bob Cooper, Hector Galbraith, and Kyle Barrett. An additional member is being recruited by the LCC Coordinator. We held our first conference call September 4, at which the members were introduced, and the goals of the project discussed. An initial compilation of vulnerability assessment methods was distributed. We subsequently finalized the date, time and venue of the in-person meeting: Monday-Tuesday, January 14-15, 2013 at the NatureServe Home Office in Arlington, VA. Our next conference call is scheduled for October 16.

- C. Compile existing methods (Target completion date September 30, 2012)

Planned: Add to draft compilation of methods, and produce narrative descriptions of each.

Actual: The compilation and narrative descriptions were completed and submitted to the LCC and to panel members October 4.

- D. Compile existing vulnerability assessments (Target completion date December 31, 2012)

Planned: Establish a subcontract with the New York Natural Heritage Program to research and compile known vulnerability assessments for habitats and species of the Appalachians.

Actual: Contract with NYNYP was finalized, and work begun. A first draft was received from the NYNYP in September, and additional research is planned for next quarter.

- E. Review existing methods and determine best approach (Target completion date March 31, 2013)
Planned: none this quarter
Actual:

- F. Select species and habitats to be assessed (Target completion date June 30, 2013)
Planned: none this quarter
Actual:

- G. Conduct vulnerability assessments of species and habitats (Target completion date March 31, 2014)
Planned: none this quarter
Actual:

- H. Deliver Draft and Final Report (Target completion date April 30, 2014)
Planned: none this quarter
Actual:

Costs:

Are you within the approved budget plan? Yes

Are you within approved budget categories? Yes

Signature:

Date: