

# NORTH ATLANTIC LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVE GRANT 2012 ABSTRACT

Quarter: (circle one)

2012 1<sup>st</sup>

2012 2<sup>nd</sup>

2012 3<sup>rd</sup>

2012 4<sup>th</sup>

Grant Number and Title: Grant 2011-06; **ASSESSING PRIORITY AMPHIBIAN AND REPTILE CONSERVATION AREAS (PARCAS) AND VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC LANDSCAPE**

Grant Receipt/Organization: Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, University of Maine (USGS MCFWRU), University of Georgia

Grant Project Leader: Priya Nanjappa

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 fully elaborated upon in the Progress Report. In short, our overarching goal is to identify PARCAs within the NALCC and evaluate their long-term vulnerability to climate change.

***Objective 1:*** *Work directly with state fish and wildlife agency personnel throughout the NA-LCC states to gather data toward PARCA criteria review and proposed conservation area identification.* To address this objective, all collaborators (**AFWA, UGA, and UMaine**) held a project meeting on January 30 to address (a) refining the list of focal species within the NALCC within the NALCC whose distributions will help determine PARCA placement, (b) how locality data for focal species would be collected, and the (c) process by which state fish and wildlife agencies would be engaged during NALCC PARCA identification. **AFWA and UGA** also initiated contact with all state fish and wildlife agency personnel in the NA-LCC to obtain data and or complete data-sharing agreements as part of facilitating data transfer for the project. To date, all publically available georeferenced data for focal species have been collected and are currently being compiled and quality checked. These will be combined with data received in the above requests to the states.

**UGA** met with colleagues who are identifying PARCAs in the South Atlantic LCC in an effort to increase the efficiency of the process in the NALCC.

**UMaine** advertised the vacancy for a Post-Doctoral candidate to begin to review PARCA criteria and identify proposed conservation areas, reviewed applications, conducted phone interviews, and will be interviewing 2 final candidates at the end of April. The goal is to have a postdoc candidate, who will begin proposed conservation area identification, in place by the end of the summer.

Objectives 1 and also 2 will be addressed in Q2-4 (2012) and Objectives 3-4 will be addressed during 2013, with these and Objectives 5-6 being finalized in 2014.

# NORTH ATLANTIC LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVE GRANT 2012 PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter: (circle one)

2012 1<sup>st</sup>

2012 2<sup>nd</sup>

2012 3<sup>rd</sup>

2012 4<sup>th</sup>

Grant Number and Title: Grant 2011-06; **ASSESSING PRIORITY AMPHIBIAN AND REPTILE CONSERVATION AREAS (PARCAS) AND VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC LANDSCAPE**

Grant Receipt/Organization: Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, University of Maine (USGS MCFWRU), University of Georgia

Grant Project Leader: Priya Nanjappa

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter? YES (as described in “Progress Achieved” section below)

NALCC Conservation Need Addressed: Progress was made toward addressing the final goal of establishing PARCAs within the North Atlantic LCC and evaluating their long-term vulnerability to climate change.

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

***Objective 1:*** *Work directly with state fish and wildlife agency personnel throughout the NA-LCC states to gather data toward PARCA criteria review and proposed conservation area identification.*

AFWA: Nanjappa contacted state fish and wildlife agency personnel in the NA-LCC to begin to initiate data sharing agreements/facilitate data transfer for the purposes of climatic suitability modeling and PARCA criteria review.

All states have initially responded, and follow-ups will resume in the next quarter.

UGA: Barrett attended a meeting between the South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative (SALCC) PARCA team and southeastern state fish and wildlife agency personnel (February 17; Fall Creek Falls State Park, TN). During this meeting the SALCC team shared several potential approaches to identifying PARCAs in the SALCC with state personnel, and state personnel responded with their own thoughts regarding PARCA identification in their specific areas of responsibility. The issues worked out in this meeting will greatly benefit the NALCC team’s ability to streamline and implement a similar process with northeastern state fish and wildlife personnel.

UMaine: Loftin advertised the vacancy for a Post-Doctoral candidate to begin to review PARCA criteria and identify proposed conservation areas. She received and reviewed 32 applications, conducted 8 phone interviews, and will be interviewing 2 final candidates at the end of April. The goal is to have a postdoc candidate, who will begin proposed conservation area identification, in place by the end of the summer.

***Objective 2:*** *Provide spatially-explicit maps of current and future climatic suitability for priority amphibians and reptiles in the NA-LCC region, and then use these data a) to rank species vulnerability to climate change based projected losses in the species’ ranges, and b) to identify areas within the NA-LCC where either there are high losses of vulnerable species or there is high potential for climatic refugia for priority species, and c) identify species for which this Objective cannot be completed due to gaps in current known distributional data and thus identifies priorities for species data acquisition.*

UGA: Barrett (with collaborators) has identified a first round of species within the NA-LCC for the climate suitability modeling. In addition, they have collected all publically available locality data for these species, and have requested state-held locality data for each of them. We are now in the process of combining state-received data with those data already acquired, and we are undergoing quality assessment/quality checking for all locality data.

**Objective 3:** *Summarize these results with respect to species occurring on lands under current state and federal management.*

This objective has not been addressed at this time.

**Objective 4:** *Conduct an analysis of candidate PARCAs to help identify those highest priority conservation areas supporting reptiles and amphibians in the Northeast that are not currently protected.*

This objective has not been addressed at this time.

**Objective 5:** *Incorporate climate vulnerability projections into final PARCA analysis, including a ranking of high priority current and future conservation areas.*

This objective has not been addressed at this time.

**Objective 6:** *Communicate results to key state, federal, and NGO partners via publications and a Northeast regional workshop.*

This objective has not been addressed at this time.

Summary of Progress: (Provide a paragraph describing progress, work to come, and timelines)

AFWA, UGA, and UMaine: The collaborators held a project meeting on January 30 to address (1) refining the list of focal species within the NALCC within the NALCC whose distributions will help determine PARCA placement, (2) how locality data for focal species would be collected, and the process by which state fish and wildlife agencies would be engaged during NALCC PARCA identification. To date, all publically available georeferenced data for focal species have been collected, and additional, state-held, data have been requested from any state within the NALCC. These data are currently being compiled and quality checked.

**Barrett** (UGA) attended a meeting between the South Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative (SALCC) PARCA team and southeastern state fish and wildlife agency personnel (February 17; Fall Creek Falls State Park, TN). During this meeting the SALCC team shared several potential approaches to identifying PARCAs in the SALCC with state personnel, and state personnel responded with their own thoughts regarding PARCA identification in their specific areas of responsibility. The issues worked out in this meeting will greatly benefit the NALCC team's ability to streamline and implement a similar process with northeastern state fish and wildlife personnel.

**Loftin** (UMaine) advertised the vacancy, received and reviewed 32 applications, conducted 8 phone interviews, and will be interviewing 2 final candidates at the end of April, with a goal to have a Post-Doctoral candidate in place by the end of the summer. At that time, Loftin and postdoc will establish a quarterly timeline for goals to achieve by December 31, with the focus of compiling the species locality records database and spatial data layers to describe relevant landscape conditions during September-December 2012.

**Nanjappa** (AFWA) contacted state fish and wildlife agency personnel in the NA-LCC in March and worked with Barrett (UGA) to initiate data sharing agreements/facilitate data transfer for the purposes of climatic suitability modeling and PARCA criteria review.

Over the remainder of 2012 and through 2014, all collaborators will address all objectives of listed in the section above, with Objectives 1 and 2 occurring primarily in 2012. Objectives 3 and 4 will occur primarily in 2013, and Objectives 5 and 6 will be completed in 2014. Most objectives listed above are interdependent, and we anticipate meetings, conference calls, and e-mails among the collaborators periodically throughout each year to maintain communication and collaboration.

Difficulties Encountered:

UGA/AFWA: After requesting georeferenced locality data from states within the NA LCC, Nanjappa/Barrett were asked by some states if they could instead get data through NatureServe, as NatureServe has an established process for coordinating multi-state data requests. We (collaborators) are currently evaluating the costs and timeline associated with a NatureServe data request, and are continuing to pursue data through the states directly.

UMaine: Although Loftin received many responses to the Post-Doctoral candidate advertisement, the skills sought were not well-represented in the applicant pool. Three potentially suitable applicants accepted other offers before we were able to complete the interview process.

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter:

1. (UGA) Refine species locality database in preparation for modeling
2. (AFWA) Continue follow-ups with state fish and wildlife agency personnel and facilitating data transfer.
3. (UGA) Organize and integrate species locality data as it is received from state partners
4. (UMaine) Finalize postdoc selection/hiring.
5. (UGA) Continue to review and summarize literature on connectivity, conservation area identification, and target species habitat requirements.
6. (UGA) Begin executing species-based models that evaluate current and future climatic suitability.

Expected End Date: December 31, 2014

Costs:

Funds Expended to Previous to this Report: **\$19,608.16** (UGA)

Amount of NALCC Funds Requested within this Report: All funds requested as part of the financial reports from individual grant collaborators; we are requesting no additional NALCC funds within this progress report.

Total Approved Budgeted NALCC Funds: **\$315,902**

Are you within the approved budget plan? **YES**

Are you within approved budget categories? **YES**

Signature:



Date: 1 May 2012

# NORTH ATLANTIC LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVE GRANT 2012 FINANCIAL REPORTING FORM

Quarter: (circle one)

2012 1<sup>st</sup>

2012 2<sup>nd</sup>

2012 3<sup>rd</sup>

2012 4<sup>th</sup>

**Grant Number and Title:** Grant 2011-06; **ASSESSING PRIORITY AMPHIBIAN AND REPTILE CONSERVATION AREAS (PARCAS) AND VULNERABILITY TO CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE NORTH ATLANTIC LANDSCAPE**

**Grant Receipt/Organization:** AFWA

**Grant Project Leader:** Priya Nanjappa

**A. List Total Eligible Cost Summary For This Quarter Only:**

<b>NALCC GRANT</b>			
<b>Time Period (circle one)</b>	Jan 1 to Mar 31	Apr 1 to Jun 30	Jul 1 to Sept 30
	Oct 1 to Dec 31		
	<b>NALCC FUNDS</b>	<b>NON-FEDERAL MATCH</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b><u>Personal Service Cost</u></b>			
Salaries and/or Wages	0	0	0
Fringe Benefits	0	0	0
Indirect Cost Rate _____%	0	0	0
<b><u>Non-personal Service Cost</u></b>			
Travel	0	0	0
Equipment	0	0	0
Supplies & Materials	0	0	0
Contractual Services	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

**B. List Cumulative Total Eligible Costs Claimed From The Beginning of Agreement Up To And Including Those Listed Above:**

Total Life-to-Date Expenses	\$0
Less Previous Payments Processed	\$0
<b>Total Amount Due Grantee Now:</b>	<b>\$0</b>



# **CERTIFICATION OF GRANTEE AND 3RD PARTY MATCH**

I hereby certify that daily time and activity records for each individual detailing the specific hours devoted solely to this project which are distinguishable from work done on other projects during the same time frame, maintained in accordance with all applicable federal, state and general municipal accounting practices and procedures are available in our files for inspection.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several fluid, overlapping strokes that are difficult to decipher as specific letters.

Authorized Representative



ASSOCIATION of  
FISH & WILDLIFE  
AGENCIES

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**Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies**  
444 North Capitol Street, NW, Suite 725  
Washington, DC 20001  
Phone: 202-624-7890

**Federal ID: 41-6029770**

## INVOICE

**Invoice Date:**  
May 2, 2012

**Invoice Number:**  
031-12

**Bill To:**  
Wildlife Management Institute  
4426 VT Route 215 N  
Cabot, VT 05647

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**Description:**

Request for reimbursement of expenditures on research project agreement reference number 2011-07 concerning: "Assessing Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Areas and Vulnerability to Climate Change in the North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative"

For Services from January 1, 2012 through March 31, 2012

**Total Due: \$0.00**

	<u>WMI</u>	<u>AFWA Match</u>
Salary and Benefits	-	-
Travel	-	-
Supplies and Materials	-	-
Contractual Services	-	-
Direct Expenses	-	-
Indirect Expenses	-	-
Total	-	-

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Please make check payable to the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and remit one copy of this invoice with your payment to the address above. Please include our invoice number on your check.



Please remit payment to:  
Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies  
Attn: Accounting Department  
444 North Capitol Street, NW  
Suite 725  
Washington, DC 20001

***For AFWA use: Credit to 1250 / 2084***

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Please make check payable to the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies and remit one copy of this invoice with your payment to the address above. Please include our invoice number on your check.

# NORTH ATLANTIC LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVE GRANT 2012 ABSTRACT

Quarter: (circle one)      2012 1<sup>st</sup>      2012 2<sup>nd</sup>      2012 3<sup>rd</sup>      2012 4<sup>th</sup>

Grant Number and Title: 2011-08 *Assessing Priority Amphibian & Reptile Conservation Areas (PARCAs) and Vulnerability to Climate Change in the North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative*

Grant Receipt/Organization: U.S. Geological Survey, Maine Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at the University of Maine

Grant Project Leader: Cynthia S. Loftin

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 our project are to 1) gather locational data for priority amphibian and reptile species from state fish and wildlife agency and other conservation organization databases and personnel throughout the NALCC to use to identify areas that are of high conservation value for those species; 2) identify where there are gaps in the protected lands network where Priority areas are not captured; and, 3) combine the information gathered in meeting these objectives with the climate vulnerability projections for the target species developed by UGA, to identify areas that should be considered as targets for future conservation. We will address sustainability and resiliency of these landscapes for conservation of these target species where relevant. We have not begun work on these objectives (we currently are in the process of identifying and hiring a candidate to assist with this research), however, we will begin to address the first objective during September-December 2012, and work toward the remaining objectives will follow during 2013-2014.

# NORTH ATLANTIC LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVE GRANT 2012 PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter: (circle one)      2012 1<sup>st</sup>      2012 2<sup>nd</sup>      2012 3<sup>rd</sup>      2012 4<sup>th</sup>

Grant Number and Title: 2011-08 *Assessing Priority Amphibian & Reptile Conservation Areas (PARCAs) and Vulnerability to Climate Change in the North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative*

Grant Receipt/Organization: U.S. Geological Survey, Maine Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit at the University of Maine

Grant Project Leader: Cynthia S. Loftin

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter? This is the first quarter of the project. The goal was to advertise and interview for a Post-Doctoral appointment.

NALCC Conservation Need Addressed: We are in the hiring process to select a Post-Doctoral candidate who will assist with the project.

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

We advertised the vacancy, received and reviewed 32 applications, conducted 8 phone interviews, and will be interviewing 2 final candidates at the end of April. Our goal is to have a Post-Doctoral candidate in place by the end of the summer.

Summary of Progress: (Provide a paragraph describing progress, work to come, and timelines)

We advertised the vacancy, received and reviewed 32 applications, conducted 8 phone interviews, and will be interviewing 2 final candidates at the end of April. Our goal is to have a Post-Doctoral candidate in place by the end of the summer. At that time we will establish a quarterly timeline for goals to achieve by December 31, with the focus of compiling the species locality records database and spatial data layers to describe relevant landscape conditions during September-December 2012.

Difficulties Encountered: Although we had many responses to the Post-Doctoral candidate advertisement, the skills we are seeking were not well-represented in the applicant pool. Three potentially suitable applicants accepted other offers before we were able to complete the interview process.

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter: We plan to make a selection of a candidate to be on the job by September 2012.

Expected End Date:

December 31, 2014

Costs:

Funds Expended to Previous to this Report:

Amount of NALCC Funds Requested within this Report:

Total Approved Budgeted NALCC Funds: \$193,008

Are you within the approved budget plan? yes

Are you within approved budget categories? yes

Signature: 

Date: April 11, 2012

# Office of Research and Sponsored Programs

University of Maine  
 5717 Corbett Hall Room 400  
 Orono, Maine 04469-5717



Invoice/Statement No: **23270**  
 Project-Account No: **5405368-43730**  
 Grant/Contract: **2011-08**  
 Billing Date: **4/5/2012**  
 Fed. Employer ID No: **01-6000769**  
 Department-Fund: **5525980-20**

**Project Sponsor:**

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE, INCORPORATED  
 ATTN: SCOT WILLIAMSON  
 VICE PRESIDENT  
 4426 VT ROUTE 215N  
 CABOT, VT 05647

**PERIOD: 1/1/2012 TO 3/31/2012**

REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENDITURES ON RESEARCH PROJECT AGREEMENT  
 REFERENCE NO: 2011-08 CONCERNING, "ASSESSING PRIORITY AMPHIBIAN REPTILE  
 CONSERVATION AREAS (PARCAS)." (PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR: CYNTHIA S. LOFTIN)

	Amount			
	SPONSOR		UMAINE	
	Current	Cumulative	Current	Cumulative
TOTAL DIRECT COSTS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
TOTAL PROJECT COSTS	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

Cumulative Claim	Payments to Date	Total Outstanding	Prior Invoices Unpaid	AMOUNT DUE THIS BILLING PERIOD
\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00

*Robert Lavigne*

ROBERT LAVIGNE, ACCOUNTANT  
 TELEPHONE: (207) 581-1482

Please show account or invoice number on remittance and make payable to University of Maine.  
 Mail to Office of Research & Sponsored Programs 5717 Corbett Hall Room 400, Orono, ME 04469-5717

# NORTH ATLANTIC LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVE GRANT 2012 FINANCIAL REPORTING FORM

Quarter: (circle one)

2012 1<sup>st</sup>

2012 2<sup>nd</sup>

2012 3<sup>rd</sup>

2012 4<sup>th</sup>

Grant Number and Title: Assessing priority amphibian and reptile conservation areas (PARCAS) and vulnerability to climate change in the North Atlantic Landscape Conservation Cooperative

Grant Receipt/Organization: University of Georgia Research Foundation, Inc

Grant Project Leader: Russell Barrett

Account # 20-21-RR272-382 Invoice # U0012405RF

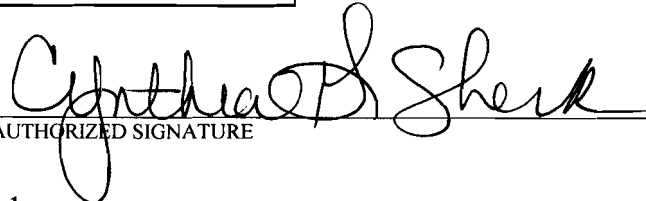
**A. List Total Eligible Cost Summary For This Quarter Only:**

NALCC GRANT			
<b>Time Period (circle one)</b>	Jan 1 to Mar 31	Apr 1 to Jun 30	Jul 1 to Sept 30
	Oct 1 to Dec 31		
	<b>NALCC FUNDS</b>	<b>NON-FEDERAL MATCH</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
<b>Personal Service Cost</b>			
Salaries and/or Wages	11,512.49		11,512.49
Fringe Benefits	4,827.65		4,827.65
Indirect Cost Rate <u>20</u> %	3,268.02	2,483.70	5,751.72
<b>Non-personal Service Cost</b>			
Travel			
Equipment			
Supplies & Materials			
Contractual Services			
<b>Total</b>			

**B. List Cumulative Total Eligible Costs Claimed From The Beginning of Agreement Up To And Including Those Listed Above:**

Total Life-to-Date Expenses	\$ 19,608.16
Less Previous Payments Processed	\$ 0.00
<b>Total Amount Due Grantee Now:</b>	<b>\$ 19,608.16</b>

I certify that all expenditures reported (or payments requested) are for appropriate purposes and in accordance with the provisions of the application and the award documents

  
 AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

