

FINAL REPORT for Amendment #2

Grant Program, Number and Title: GSA 00046/**Amendment #2 Wood Turtle**

Organization: The Mid-Atlantic Center for Herpetology and Conservation

Project Leader: Lori Erb and Brandon Ruhe

Grant Term: 1 September 2019 through 31 December 2021

The objectives of the Wood Turtle (WT) project were to advance conservation efforts for the Wood Turtle by identifying, prioritizing, and facilitating the implementation of high priority actions within Focal Core Areas in the Northeast, tracking the progress of these actions by all partners, revising and distributing Best Management Practices, conducting technical assistance trainings, seeking additional funding, and performing surveys in data deficient geographic locations.

Accomplishments include 27 monthly conference calls with the NE Wood Turtle RCN Steering Committee, made revisions to an outreach pamphlet and 4x6 card and printed 200 copies of each, provided support to volunteer surveyors in Pennsylvania, contacted numerous landowners in New York for permission to conduct a survey on their property, conducted population assessment surveys in Maryland and inventory survey in New York and Pennsylvania to better understand the species distribution in those states, participated in the Collaborative to Combat the Illegal Trade in Turtle (CCITT) and PARC Turtle Networking Team activities, entered and organized survey data, and drafted reports including: quarterly interim reports, survey season reports for each state and select landowners, permit reporting, and this final grant report.

Were planned goals/objectives achieved? Yes

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

- Organized three monthly meetings
- Conducted one more meeting with Mike Jones (11/17)
- Drafted meeting notes
- Participated in multiple CCITT meetings
- Participated in several illegal turtle trade workshop planning meetings
- Participated in turtle symposium planning meetings (10/15/, 11/19)
- Provided support and guidance to volunteer surveyors in PA
- Planned and prepared for surveys in Maryland
- Planned and prepared for surveys in New York
- Contacted landowners in New York to request property access for surveys
- Organized genetic samples
- Participated in a meeting to discuss data sensitivity issues
- Prepared and send invoices for the book order
- Followed up on the progress of a book printing order
- Reviewed and recommended edits on previously drafted outreach materials
- Obtained estimates and placed an order to print copies of an outreach pamphlet and card
- Conducted surveys in Maryland

- Conducted surveys in New York
- Conducted surveys in Pennsylvania
- Compiled, organized, entered, and performed quality control on the 2021 Maryland survey data
- Compiled, organized, and entered the 2021 New York survey data
- Edited and applied for new permits in Maryland and New York
- Drafted survey reports for specific landowners and statewide for both Maryland and New York
- Drafted an interim quarterly report
- Drafted a final project report

Difficulties Encountered: None.

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter:

- This is the final reporting quarter for the contract.

Expected End Date: The end date of the next quarter is: none.

Costs:

Total life to date expenses (include this quarter): \$50,000.00

Total Approved Budgeted Funds: \$50,000.00

Are you within the approved budget plan and categories? Yes

Signature: *Brandon M. Rule*

Date: 3/31/2022