

NORTH ATLANTIC LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVE GRANT 2013 PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter: (circle one)

2013 1st

2013 2nd

2013 3rd

2013 4th

Grant Number and Title: NALCC 2011-09 Application of the Coastal and Marine Ecological Classification Standard (CMECS) to the Northeast

Grant Receipt/Organization: The Nature Conservancy

Grant Project Leader: Mark Anderson

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter? Yes

NALCC Conservation Need Addressed: Topic 1, Classification of Coastal and Marine Habitats

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

CMECS Marine and Coastal classification

Goal 1.) Finalize Mapping of CMECS units (Phase 2)

During this quarter the team worked on finalizing their crosswalked CMECS maps at each scale (Regional: NAMERA, Subregional: RI SAMP, Local: Boston Harbor compilation of many local scale data sources). Draft maps for each scale were circulated throughout the working group for comments so edits to final maps could be created. In some instances, after mapping, some of the initial source unit to CMECS crosswalks were updated. To date (as of October), all maps have been finalized and are now being circulated to the project group to start formulation of project conclusions.

Goal 2.) Final report (Phase 2)

During this quarter we met as a team in order to outline the final report and assign writing roles. Everyone one has agreed on the Table of Contents of the report (see below) and has started writing their assigned sections. The actual report was constructed and the introduction and background (1), project goals and objectives (1.1), regional geographic extent and data sources (2.3) and regional crosswalk results were written and tables, figures and maps were created for these sections (4.3.1-4.3.3). At the end of September we presented this project and the local scale mapped results at the NROC Benthic Habitat Committee workshop in Narragansett, Rhode Island and received positive feedback from this group. At this meeting we were invited to give a presentation on this project at the NROC Council Fall meeting (November 12th: Narragansett, Rhode Island).

Table of Contents for Final Report

Draft Final Report Table of Contents

1. Introduction and Background
 - 1.1 Project Goals and Objectives
2. Geographic Extent and Data Sources
 - 2.1 Local
 - 2.2 Subregional
 - 2.3 Regional
3. Crosswalking Methods
4. Crosswalk Schemes to CMECS
 - 4.1 Local
 - 4.2 Subregional
 - 4.3 Regional
 - 4.3.1 The National Estuarine Research Reserve System Classification Scheme (NERRSCS)
 - 4.3.2 The Northwest Atlantic Marine Ecoregional Assessment (NAMERA)
 - 4.3.3 CMECS Crosswalks and Maps
5. Challenges
 - 5.1 Crosswalking
 - 5.2 Mapping
6. Recommendations and Future Work
7. Conclusions
8. Citations
9. Appendices
 - Appendix 1: A Northwest Atlantic CMECS Unit Catalog
 - Appendix 2: Crosswalks at each scale

Difficulties Encountered: None this quarter

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter: Next quarter, we will complete the report, circulate it for review and submit it along with all maps.

Expected End Date: December 2013

Costs:

Total life to date NALCC-funded Expenses: \$51,344.03

Total Approved Budgeted NALCC Funds: 130,000.00

Are you within the approved budget plan and categories? Yes

Signature:



Date: October 28, 2013