

NORTH ATLANTIC LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVE GRANT 2012 ABSTRACT

Quarter: (circle one)

2012 1st

2012 2nd

2012 3rd

2012 4th

Grant Number and Title: Sub-award Number 2011-13: MAPPING THE DISTRIBUTION, ABUNDANCE AND RISK ASSESSMENT OF MARINE BIRDS IN THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC: PHASE 1: SUBPROJECT – SEABIRD PREDICTIVE MONITORING INTEGRATION

Grant Recipient/Organization: CONSOLIDATED SAFETY SERVICES, INC.

Grant Project Leader: Brian Kinlan, Ph.D.

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 goal of this project is to develop an improved framework for marine bird risk assessment in the U.S. North Atlantic that integrates long-term spatial patterns in seabird aggregation with short-term variability in distribution, behavior, and ecology. This sub-award supports a small amount of Dr. Kinlan's time and his travel expenses to participate in workshops, coordinate with other sub-award PIs, and make his predictive modeling results for the New York Bight and Mid-Atlantic available for analyses by the larger group.

So far, initial discussions among sub-award PI's have begun via email and conference calls. These have primarily involved conversations between Kinlan and sub-award PI Beth Gardner at NC State. In the future, these communications will continue, face-to-face meetings and workshops will be scheduled, and Kinlan will provide modeling results to other sub-award PI's as requested. This project is expected to be completed by December 31, 2013.

NORTH ATLANTIC LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVE GRANT 2012 PROGRESS REPORT

Quarter: (circle one)

2012 1st

2012 2nd

2012 3rd

2012 4th

Grant Number and Title: Sub-award Number 2011-13: MAPPING THE DISTRIBUTION, ABUNDANCE AND RISK ASSESSMENT OF MARINE BIRDS IN THE NORTHWEST ATLANTIC: PHASE 1: SUBPROJECT – SEABIRD PREDICTIVE MONITORING INTEGRATION

Grant Recipient/Organization: CONSOLIDATED SAFETY SERVICES, INC.

Grant Project Leader: Brian Kinlan, Ph.D.

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter? YES

NALCC Conservation Need Addressed: This proposal addresses the following Northeast Regional Conservation Needs (NEAFWA): Priority Topic Area #1 Develop Regional Base Maps for Analyses of Northeast (NE) Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) Data and Priority Topic Area # 7 Identify and Assess Threats to NE SGCN.

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

This project has one deliverable: “Participation in project-related meetings, workshops, phone calls, and email communication”. This goal was met this quarter through Kinlan’s participation in informal email and phone conversations with other sub-award PI’s to begin planning and coordinating this project.

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

This sub-award supports a small amount of Dr. Kinlan’s time and his travel expenses to participate in workshops, coordinate with other sub-award PIs, and make his predictive modeling results for the New York Bight and Mid-Atlantic available for analyses by the larger group. So far, initial discussions among sub-award PI’s have begun via email and conference calls. These have primarily involved conversations between Kinlan and sub-award PI Beth Gardner at NC State.

Difficulties Encountered: None.

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter: Kinlan will continue discussions and interactions with other NALCC sub-award PI’s including Beth Gardner (NC State) and Richard Veit (CUNY-Staten Island).

Expected End Date: December 31, 2013

Costs:


Funds Expended to Previous to this Report: \$0

Amount of NALCC Funds Requested within this Report: \$624.00

Total Approved Budgeted NALCC Funds: \$10,000

Are you within the approved budget plan? YES

Are you within approved budget categories? YES

Signature: 

Date: July 3, 2012

NORTH ATLANTIC LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVE GRANT 2012 ABSTRACT

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

Grant Number and Title: 2011-14 Best Darn Bird Map

Grant Receipt/Organization: Biodiversity Research Institute

Grant Project Leader: Andrew Gilbert

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.

Project Narrative:

The Best Darn Bird Map (BDBM) is a project of the Atlantic Coast Joint Venture (ACJV), a private-public partnership focused on bird habitat conservation in the Atlantic Flyway of the United States from Maine to Puerto Rico. There is great need today for data on marine bird distribution and abundance information for marine spatial planning, including offshore wind development. The Best Darn Bird Map project will pull together existing information on marine bird distribution and abundance, including modeled distributions, vessel and aerial survey information, and data from individually marked birds, and create mapping products useful for planning uses of the marine environment, including sighting alternative energy projects. The Best Darn Bird Map will also include an assessment of relative risk or exposure to birds given bird densities within a particular spatial area.

Objectives:

1. Consult with project PI and USGS to produce model data appropriate for BDBM.

BRI will assist with technical work, where necessary, to produce model data appropriate for the BDBM. BRI will work with USGS database managers to make sure that the latest data is integrated into the Northwest Atlantic Seabird Compendium (database). BRI will advise the project's Principle Investigator, Beth Gardiner at NC State and Mark Wimer at U. S. Geological Service (USGS) to help generate appropriate data for modeling bird distributions. Modeling is data-intensive, and even with hundreds of thousands of records in the database, there is a paucity of distributional data. Given the limitations, the data will need to be aggregated at a spatial scale that is coarse enough to model distribution adequately. BRI will consult with USGS to help them process the data into an aggregate format as specified by BDBM modelers.

2. Deliver seabird model input for BDBM

BRI will consult NC State to ensure that data can be directly consumed by the statistical package in use and to make sure that the model output is sufficient to generate useful products. Data will be generated by querying the Northwest Atlantic Seabird Compendium and submitted to NC State for modeling.

Accomplishments:

The BDBM project is just getting under way. To date, we have begun to work with new data to process it and deliver it to USGS staff to make sure that new data is being uploaded and available for mapping. It is critical that the latest data is available for this project.

Future Plans and Timelines:

The plan is to continue to process and upload new data through the summer and fall 2012 and work out a process this fall to aggregate data for modeling over the winter 2012/2013. This will require close coordination with modelers. The majority of our assistance should be completed by winter, with project reporting continuing through spring 2013 and projected completion data of summer 2013.

NORTH ATLANTIC LANDSCAPE CONSERVATION COOPERATIVE GRANT 2012 PROGRESS REPORT

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

Grant Number and Title: 2011-14 Best Darn Bird Map

Grant Receipt/Organization: Biodiversity Research Institute

Grant Project Leader: Andrew Gilbert

Were planned goals/objectives achieved last quarter? No. The project has just begun, little work has been accomplished thus far.

NALCC Conservation Need Addressed: The Best Darn Bird Map project will pull together existing information on marine bird distribution and abundance, including modeled distributions, vessel and aerial survey information, and data from individually marked birds, and create mapping products useful for planning uses of the marine environment, including sighting alternative energy projects.

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

1. Consult with project PI and USGS to produce model data appropriate for BDBM.

Actual - We reached out to project PI to discuss the project, but have not yet heard back. We have been working with USGS to get new seabird data added to the Atlantic Seabird Compendium Database. One dataset was processed and submitted for updating.

2. Deliver seabird model input for BDBM

Actual – NOT STARTED

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

We reached out to project PI to discuss the project, but have not yet heard back. We have been working with USGS to get new seabird data added to the Atlantic Seabird Compendium Database. One dataset was processed and submitted for updating. Having the most current data possible in the database will result in the best maps possible. We have more datasets to work with USGS on and will reach out again to modelers to start determining the way that they need data to be processed for their work.

The plan is to continue to process and upload new data through the summer and fall 2012 and work out a process this fall to aggregate data for modeling over the winter 2012/2013. This will require close coordination with modelers. The majority of our assistance should be completed by winter, with project reporting continuing through spring 2013 and projected completion data of summer 2013.

Difficulties Encountered:

The project is just getting started, no difficulties as of this time.

Activities Anticipated Next Quarter:

Continue to process and upload new data.

Expected End Date: Summer 2013

Costs:

Funds Expended to Previous to this Report: \$0

Amount of NALCC Funds Requested within this Report: \$769

Total Approved Budgeted NALCC Funds: \$9967

Are you within the approved budget plan? Yes

Are you within approved budget categories? Yes

Signature: 

Andrew Gilbert, Data Management Director, BRI

Date: 7/20/2012