

ANNUAL INTERIM PERFORMANCE REPORT FOR MARYLAND'S LANDOWNER INCENTIVE PROGRAM TIER 2 GRANT (I-3-D-1)

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GRANT TITLE: Maryland Landowner Incentive Program, Tier 2: Habitat Restoration and Enhancement for Species and Habitats at Risk

GRANT PERIOD: July 1, 2007-Jun 30, 2017

PERFORMANCE PERIOD: July 1, 2008- June 30, 2009

SUMMARY OF WORK CONDUCTED UP TO August 30, 2009

In the period from July 2008, the date of our first Performance Report for this grant, up to August 2009, Maryland's Landowner Incentive Program has continued to provide on-site technical assistance to landowners, review applications, design projects and sign Landowner Agreements for habitat restoration projects. To date, most of this work has been billed to our first grant I-2-HM-1 (2005 MD LIP Tier 2). As of August 1, 2009 almost all of the appropriated funds under our first Tier 2 grant have been encumbered and we are starting to bill and encumber projects to our second Tier 2 grant (I-3-D-1). Since that time we have signed one additional landowner agreement and encumbered funds for that project to this grant. Currently, we have 2 landowner agreement for Grant I-3-D-1 including one for the practice of Delayed Harvest Payments to benefit Delmarva Fox Squirrel (a practice not included in I-2-HM-1) and the second for invasive species removal. Most of the projects and technical assistance activities have been billed to our first Tier 2 grant, unless it was for the practice of Delayed Harvest Payments to benefit Delmarva Fox Squirrels. With that noted, we have not billed much of our work to this grant and do not have many additional numbers to report.

Table 1: Technical Assistance and Application Review by the Maryland Landowner Incentive Program under Grant I-3-D-1

Actions	June 2007 – May 2008	June 2008-August 2009
On-site Technical Assistance	11 landowners	3 landowners
Applications reviewed	11	8
Applications approved	1	1
Signed agreements	1	1
Projects on hold	1	0
Projects in review	1	2

Table 2 summarizes our project: the habitat type targeted, the practices used, the number of species to benefit, and the cost. The total amount LIP has expended or encumbered for these projects is \$73,883.88. We have documented \$15,890.50 in cash and in-kind matching funds required under the landowner agreements.

Table 1: Maryland LIP projects under grant I-3-D-1 as of June 2008

Project Name	Habitat type	Total # acres	# acres to be restored	# species at risk documented on property	# species at risk to benefit	Practice(s)	LIP expenditures (does not include match)
Eby, Bradley	Coastal Plain Mature Forest	50	50	1	1	Delayed Harvest Payments to benefit Delmarva Fox Squirrels	\$42,375.00
Holly Spring Nature Conservancy	Piedmont Mature Forest & Stream Systems	36	36	1	2	Invasive Species Removal and Reforestation	\$31,508.88
TOTALS:		86	57	2	3		\$73,883.88

SUMMARY OF OBJECTIVES AND PROGRESS SO FAR

Much of the progress in the accomplishments of our goals has been reported in our first tier 2 grant. Of the 2 projects that have been billed to our second tier 2 grant we have made some progress in accomplishing 2 of our objectives.

Project A. Restoration of Ridge and Valley, Piedmont, and Coastal Plain Stream Systems

Objective: To provide technical and financial assistance to landowners to restore water quality and riparian habitats of stream systems using the following practices:

PRACTICE	GOAL	PROJECTED COST	PROGRESS TO DATE	ACTUAL COST
Reforestation: Forested Buffer	150 acres	\$150,000	0	0
Grassland Buffers	75 acres	\$30,000	0	0
Invasive Species Control	50 acres	\$25,000	36acres	\$31,508.88
Livestock Exclusion & Fencing	100 acres	\$15,000	0	0
	TOTAL	\$220,000	36acres	\$31,508.88

Project H. Restoration of Coastal Plain Mature Forest

Objective: To provide technical and financial assistance to landowners in restoring mature forest habitat for Delmarva fox squirrel and other species at risk, and controlling invasive species in forests of the Coastal Plain of Maryland. LIP projects will include the following practices:

PRACTICE	GOAL	PROJECTED COST	PROGRESS TO DATE	ACTUAL COST
Reforestation of Contiguous Forest	50 acres	\$50,000	0	0
Invasive Species Control	15 acres	\$7,500	0	0
Delayed Harvest Payment in Delmarva Fox Squirrel habitat	50acres	\$56,500	50acres	\$42,375
Vegetation management:	15acres	\$7,500	0	0
	TOTAL:	\$121,500	50acres	\$42,375

We have been able to fulfill our goals for the practice of Delayed harvest payments at a lowered projected cost. The 25% match is being met because the landowner will be accepting a 25% reduction in the delayed harvest payments. The regular rate is \$113/acre/year and the landowner is accepting \$84.75/acre/year. The other practices under this Project are still being billed to our first grant I-2-HM-1.

SECTION 7 REVIEW SUMMARY

We have completed Section 7 reviews for both of our projects. The following are the determinations:

Project(s)	Species	Determination
Eby, Bradley	Delmarva Fox Squirrel	No effect
Holly Springs Nature Conservancy	No Federally Listed Species	No effect

APPENDIX 1: Species that stand to benefit from MD LIP projects

Common Name	Scientific Name	Type	Global rank	State rank	Project(s) where benefits
Delmarva Fox Squirrel	<i>Sciurus niger cinereus</i>	vertebrate	G5T3	S1	Eby, Bradley
Brook Trout	<i>Salvelinus Fontinalis</i>	vertebrate		State watch list	Holly Springs Nature Conservancy
Bog Turtle	<i>Clemmys muhlenbergii</i>	vertebrate	G3	S2	Holly Springs Nature Conservancy (records nearby)