

ST153464
NEW ENGLAND TRANSPORTATION CONSORTIUM
QUARTERLY PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

A. PROJECT NUMBER AND TITLE:

NETC 14-2: Investigation of Northern Long-Eared Bat Roosting Sites on Bridges

B. PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATOR(s) & UNIVERSITY(s):

Scott A. Civjan (PI) – University of Massachusetts Amherst
Elizabeth Dumont (Co-PI) – University of Massachusetts Amherst
Alyssa Bennett (External Research Associate) – VT Fish and Wildlife department

C. WEB SITE ADDRESS (*If one exists*):

D. START DATE (*Per NETC Agreement*): **February 01, 2015**
Notice to Proceed received May 07, 2015

E. END DATE: April 02, 2017*

Project Technical Committee approved a no cost extension to accommodate the Notice to Proceed date.
*Requested extension to project end date to allow presentation at 2017 International Conference on Ecology and Transportation, Salt Lake City, UT, May 2017.

F. ANTICIPATED COMPLETION DATE: April 02, 2017*

G. PROJECT OBJECTIVES:

The main objective of the proposed research project is to develop a screening tool and to demonstrate its accuracy in determining the presence of NLEB roosting in New England bridges. Additional information will be collected and disseminated related to preferred structural types for bat roosting, New England bat population distributions and evaluation of existing public data already collected by State Fish and Wildlife Departments and Transportation Agencies throughout New England.

H. REPORT PERIOD: October 01, 2016 – December 31, 2016

I. ACCOMPLISHMENTS THIS PERIOD:

- Guano samples sent to 2 labs for species identification.
- Hand vetting results of MYSE calls received from Sarah Boyden of MaineDOT.
- Continued evaluation of data.
- Began compiling inspection and data collection forms into report format.
- Obtained quotes from consultants for data analysis.
- Sent acoustic data to two consultants for further acoustic analysis with automated programs and select hand vetting.
- Continued work on Draft Final Report.
- Modified presentation of research and revised for conferences as appropriate.
- Presented at the North American Society for Bat Research (NASBR) conference at San Antonio TX.
- Presented (remotely) at Maine Bat Working Group Annual Meeting.
- Submitted abstract to the Northeastern Bat Working Group (NEBWG) conference.

- Submitted abstract to International Conference on Ecology and Transportation (ICOET) conference.
- Conference call to discuss planning of Transportation Research Board Workshop 114: Bats at the Crossroads: Regulatory Compliance for Program and Project Delivery and Approaches to Conserving Imperiled Species.

J. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED (If any):

- N/A

K. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER ACTIVITIES:

- Presented at the North American Society for Bat Research (NASBR) conference at San Antonio TX.
- Presented (remotely) at Maine Bat Working Group Annual Meeting.
- Submitted abstract to the Northeastern Bat Working Group (NEBWG) conference.
- Submitted abstract to International Conference on Ecology and Transportation (ICOET) conference.
- Paper accepted for TRB 2017 Annual Meeting in Washington D.C. Workshop 114: Bats at the Crossroads: Regulatory Compliance for Program and Project Delivery and Approaches to Conserving Imperiled Species.
- Extension granted to project end date to allow presentation at 2017 International Conference on Ecology and Transportation, Salt Lake City, UT, May 2017.

L. STATUS BY TASK:

Task	% Complete
Task 1: Knowledge Summary including Literature Search	100%
Task 2: Regional Habitat Requirements	100%
Task 3: Create Standard Protocol and Survey Inspection Personnel	100%
Task 4: Protocol Survey of Bridges, Implementation and Field Observations	
4.1 Protocol Survey	100%
4.2 Implementation and Field Observations	100%
Task 5: Final Report	75%

M. PERCENT COMPLETION OF TOTAL PROJECT: 95%

N. ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR NEXT QUARTER:

- Receive results from guano ID
- Receive acoustic analysis from consultants.
- Complete data analysis
- Complete inspection and data collection forms for report
- Deliver Draft Final Report to technical committee for comment
- Present at the Transportation Research Board 2017 Annual Meeting
- Present at the Northeastern Bat Working Group Annual Meeting
- Coordinate with Technical Committee to schedule late winter/early spring meetings to disseminate results through workshop meetings

O. FINANCIAL STATUS:

As of: January 10, 2017

Total Project Budget: \$ 205,554.00

Total Expenditures: \$ 130,313.00 (estimated)

Note: This report should not require more than 2-3 pages & should be e-mailed to the NETC Coordinator so as to arrive no later than three (3) working days after the end of each calendar quarter.