

NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION

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Agreement # F18AC00818

Interim Performance Report August 29, 2018 through September 30, 2019

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

NFWF Project ID: 0405.17.056443

Project Title: Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Coordination and Operations

Submitted by Stephen Perry on 10/21/19

Grant Period 8/29/2018 - 3/31/2020

Project Status and Accomplishments

The Eastern Brook Trout Joint Venture Coordination and Operations Project (Easygrants ID 56443) consists of 5 tasks: 1) Assist with refining the EBTJV's strategic objectives and key conservation priorities using the results of the partnership's recently completed assessment of wild Brook Trout at the catchment scale; and, work towards achieving the EBTJV's strategic range-wide habitat goals and objectives; 2) Liaise and collaborate with the National Fish Habitat Partnership, neighboring Fish Habitat Partnerships and other conservation entities to ensure that strategic conservation actions among this community are synchronized; 3) Solicit and rank fish habitat conservation projects that address priority wild Brook Trout conservation needs and coordinate and compile information on wild Brook Trout conservation activities and improvements in wild Brook Trout habitat condition for use in measuring progress towards conserving wild Brook Trout; 4) Promote the accomplishments being achieved in conserving wild Brook Trout to targeted audiences; and, 5) Conduct routine business function for the EBTJV and assist in convening at least one meeting per year to further the goals of the partnership. Based on the accomplishments listed below, all of the project tasks are on schedule for completion by March 31, 2020.

Task 1 – The EBTJV Steering Committee established a work group that is reviewing the partnership's revised <u>Eastern Brook Trout Roadmap to Conservation</u> and developing targeted messages focused on raising awareness among targeted conservation organizations and businesses in an effort to gain their support for achieving the partnership's refined strategic range-wide habitat goals and objectives.

Task 2 – The EBTJV's collaborative working relationship with the Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Fish Habitat Partnership (ACFHP) and Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership (SARP) continued as we collectively advance our Whitewater to Bluewater Initiative. Efforts are

currently keyed towards prioritizing specific Brook Trout habitat connectivity needs within the Rivanna River watershed (HUC 8) in Virginia, as well as developing strategies to address these priority needs.

Task 3 – The EBTJV emailed ~300 conservation partners soliciting proposals for Brook Trout conservation projects that the partnership will review and prioritize for funding by the US Fish and Wildlife Service's fiscal year 2020 National Fish Habitat Action Plan budget appropriation. The deadline established for submitting project proposals is October 4, 2019.

Task 4 – Twenty-three (23) news articles about Brook Trout conservation efforts were posted on the EBTJV Facebook Page (https://www.facebook.com/EBTJV) that generated 16,210 views.

Task 5 – The EBTJV Steering Committee met twice; one was an in-person meeting held in Frostburg, MD on June 12, 2019 and one via teleconference that was held on September 17, 2019. These meetings entailed discussing and taking action on a variety of business matters. The EBTJV Coordinator also participated in the East Coast Trout Management and Culture Workshop VI (June 10-12, 2019) and a symposium on Brook Trout management, East vs. West, held September 29,2019 at the American Fisheries Society's 2019 Annual Meeting in Reno, NV.

Budget Table (August 18, 2018 – September 30, 2019)

Labor Costs by Task

	Budgeted Cost	Amount Spent to Date	Remaining Balance
Task 1	\$ 3,340.80	\$ 870.00	\$ 2,470.80
Task 2	\$13,363.20	\$ 5,489.00	\$ 7,874.20
Task 3	\$13,363.20	\$ 5,939.00	\$ 7,424.20
Task 4	\$13,363.20	\$ 4,940.00	\$ 8,423.20
Task 5	\$23,387.60	\$16,170.00	\$ 7,217.60
Totals	\$66,818.00	\$33,408.00	\$33,410.00

Travel Costs

Budgeted Cost	Amount Spent to Date	Remaining Balance
\$10,000.00	\$2,551.92	\$7,448.08

Other Costs

Budgeted Cost	Amount Spent to Date	Remaining Balance
\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00