

# Multistate Conservation Grants

CFDA Number: 15.628

## Suggested Format for Quarterly & Annual Reports

**Grant Number:** M-14-C

**Grant Title:** The Eastern Brook Trout Initiative

**Grant Recipient (Grantee) Name and Address:**

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

460 Turner St, Suite 306

Blacksburg, VA 24061

**Grantee Contact Name:** Linda Goad (for contracts/fiscal reporting)

**Email Address:** lgoad@vt.edu

**Phone Number:** (540) 231-5606

**Fax Number:** (540) 231-4822

**Grantee Contact Name:** Lila Borge Wills (for accomplishment reporting)

**Email Address:** lborge@vt.edu

**Phone Number:** (540) 231-8996

**Fax Number:** (540) 231-7019

**Report Number:** Final Annual Report

**National Conservation Need Addressed:** NCN 4

Actions in Support of a National Fish Habitat Initiative

## Costs

Are you within the approved quarterly budget plan?  Yes; or  No

Are you within the approved budget categories?  Yes; or  No

## Progress Achieved

How does this quarterly report on accomplishments compare to the overall Proposed Project Work Plan?  Ahead of schedule;  On schedule;  Behind schedule?

In your prior quarterly report, did you report that your goals/objectives were achieved?  Yes; or  No (*Not applicable for first quarter reports*)

**Goal/Objective 1:** Component 1: Provide a comprehensive, federated data management system that permits all agencies with management responsibilities for native brook trout to contribute and access data supporting a range-wide native brook trout assessment. This objective is coordinated by the EBTJV Data Working Group.

### Progress Achieved:

- a. A brook trout population classification system was developed for comparison of data using 6th level Hydrologic Unit (HU) watersheds. Data collection and classification of over 8,000 watersheds has been completed.

- b. A minimum data standard was developed with the states during the original data collection. This is an ongoing effort as a system to update the database is developed.
- c. Data analysis of EBT threats and data gaps has been completed.
- d. The federated data access system was developed and the final data set is available on the website.
- e. Developed an online Beta Version of Internet Map Server (arcIMS) for EBTJV. The infrastructure and maintenance is handled by the Southern Appalachian Information Node of the USGS.
- f. Additional data layers of identified variables impacting trout distribution have been added to the data system.
- g. Additional analysis was developed regarding watershed identified as most suitable for restoration, enhancement and protection. The maps will be updated in August, 2007.
- h. Web site development and maintenance is complete and will continue to be hosted by CMI.

**Goal/Objective 2:** Component 2: Assess the Status and Trends of native Eastern brook trout populations and develop a multi-agency conservation management strategy. This objective is being coordinated by the EBTJV Conservation Strategy and Habitat Working Groups.

Progress Achieved:

- a. The primary data analysis is completed and was conducted by the Data Work Group (Component 1). Large-scale analyses were completed, including maps and trends. State-based maps were developed.
- b. A “Threats Assessment” was completed by the Conservation Strategy Work Group and was circulated to the Steering Committee, states, and other EBTJV partners. A “triage” methodology to help prioritize habitat restoration opportunities was developed.
- c. An inventory of current state funding levels and funding sources targeted at brook trout restoration and conservation has been compiled.
- d. An inventory of current state agency, federal agency, and NGO actions to address brook trout habitat issues was compiled.
- e. Members of the conservation strategy/habitat workgroup along with the communications/outreach workgroup met in December in Roanoke VA. Regional brook trout conservation strategies were developed during this meeting.
- f. A range-wide conservation strategy was created and approved by the Steering Committee and partners.
- g. Individual state conservation strategies were completed by 12 partner states and were posted on the EBTJV website. These were integrated into the range-wide Conservation Strategy.
- h. The Conservation Strategy was developed to model the National Fish Habitat Partnerships strategy for future EBTJV plans. Work on this continues after the grant period is completed.

**Goal/Objective 3:** Component 3: Develop, implement, and manage a comprehensive outreach plan to engage, inform, and inspire the public and decision makers within Eastern brook trout range. This objective is being coordinated by the Promotion and Education Working Group.

Progress Achieved:

- a. Explored existing outreach, education & advocacy tools throughout the Brook Trout range. A final draft was submitted.
- b. Designed and disseminated about 100 copies of a one-page fact sheet on the EBTJV (targeted at fisheries chiefs and professionals).
- c. Full color report completed. 10,000 of the 20,000 copies of the report were printed, and 9,000 had been disseminated from the outreach effort.
- d. 1,500 copies instead of 3,000 copies of 14 state pamphlets were produced and most copies were disseminated.
- e. Two PowerPoint presentations were completed.
- f. The media campaign was conducted and at least 60 newspaper articles and 150 broadcast media spots were aired. 5,200 press releases were sent out. The actual number of media hits is not documented. As a part of the preparation for the media campaign Trout Unlimited volunteers and state agency personnel participated in one of two media web-based training sessions.
- g. A poster and updated fact sheet was completed by workgroup members for partners to take to events and meetings to spread the word about the EBTJV.
- h. CMI has developed and maintain an official EBTJV website at [www.easternbrooktrout.org](http://www.easternbrooktrout.org) (or [www.easternbrooktrout.net](http://www.easternbrooktrout.net))
- i. Developed the media and outreach campaign strategy.
- j. Press releases were distributed to approximately 6500 media venues. The press releases included electronic versions of the press release, talking points, and the EBTJV developed report “Eastern Brook Trout: Roadmap to Restoration”.
- k. Coordinated, edited, provided review and approval services for the 16 page, full color document, “Eastern Brook Trout: Roadmap to Restoration”.
- l. Distributed the document to over 100 hundred recipients in quantities commensurate with need.
- m. Authored, designed, contracted and printed 2500 full color fact sheets regarding the EBTJV’s Eastern Brook Trout: Roadmap to Restoration.
- n. Developed poster for Congressional Casting Call and represented EBTJV at Congressional Casting Call.
- o. Attended all steering committee conference calls representing committee.
- p. Provided pdf content for website on report, fact sheet, and other outreach materials.

## Difficulties Encountered *(If applicable)*

### **Report Timeline:**

**Goal/Objective 1:** Component 1: Provide a comprehensive, federated data management system that permits all agencies with management responsibilities for native brook trout to contribute and access data supporting a range-wide native brook trout assessment.

Why goal/objective not met: Goals were met.

**Goal/Objective 2:** Component 2: Assess the Status and Trends of native Eastern brook trout populations and develop a multi-agency conservation management strategy.

Why goal/objective not met: Goals were met.

**Goal/Objective 3:** Component 3: Develop, implement, and manage a comprehensive outreach plan to engage, inform, and inspire the public and decision makers within Eastern brook trout range.

Why goal/objective not met: Goals were met.

## Annual Reporting

*(Complete only for Annual Reports (“interim” and final) and/or you can insert into “progress achieved” section under each goal/objective; please note that this section will go on iFAIMES, <http://faims.fws.gov/>, for public viewing)*

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_