

CSC Project Synopsis -- 2010

Project Title: Ecological Communities Database Protocol and Nomenclature

Goal: Develop a classification system for ecological communities as part of a multi-partner funding effort to support canopy classification and habitat/landcover/wetlands map products for multiple conservation needs including, but not limited to, the state forest assessment and state wildlife action plan.

Brief Description: The purpose of the project is to assist in the effort to define an ecological classification system to fit within the regional priorities and serve natural resource conservation and stewardship priorities of RI. This would be an important part of a larger project to acquire aerial photography (6" 4-band orthophotos) with flights in the spring and fall of 2010 and LIDAR dataset statewide. When completed the digital ecological communities GIS database will serve the entire conservation community and all cities and towns in the state.

Deliverables: The deliverable for this project is:

1. Classification system that will define ecological communities that can be mapped and will support regional, state and local landscape assessments and associated decision making. The classification system will describe the technical process and nomenclature that will be used in developing a GIS format ecological communities database.

Timetable and Benchmarks:

August 2010 Draft classification system and protocol

October 2010 Close review period for draft system

November 2010 Submit final protocol and nomenclature to CSC

Budget:

Amount	Purpose
\$12,700	Facilitation and development of the classification system

Payments will be made to the fiscal agent for the project, The Rhode Island Natural History Survey. Contact Information is:

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Project oversight will be done by Cathy Sparks, Peter August, and David Gregg