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Phase III- Sustainable Forest: Conservation of the Bicknell's Thrush - Fall 2017 Conference [Project Proposal]

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PSU Integrated Cluster Project Proposal Form

Title: Phase III- Sustainable Forest: Conservation of the Bicknell's Thrush- planning Fall 2017

Conference (Phase I is in progress and is development of an educational brochure on Conservation of the Bicknell's Thrush at Cannon Mountain, no proposal has been submitted yet. Phase II is in progress and is development of a curricular activity focused on having participants solve dilemma cards related to conservation of the Bicknell's Thrush, no proposal has been submitted yet.)

Project Leadership: Overall Project Director/Manager and Phase I Project Manager: Mary Ann McGarry

Project Description: This is the third phase of a multiphase/multi-year project. An overview of all the phases planned for the "Sustainable Forest: Conservation of the Bicknell's Thrush" project is being submitted for non-funding. The overview proposal is currently being circulated to the management team for review and will be submitted end of January 2017. Language from the overview proposal will be repeated in proposals for various phases.

This phase III proposal is to hire an hourly PSU student in spring '17 semester to assist with planning a conference and other activities scheduled for summer and fall '17. A major work responsibility will be to organize a conference to be held in the fall semester on a Wednesday (the day of the week proposed in the new block scheduling for Cluster work). The intent is to hire a student who will be returning fall '17 to attend the conference see the fruition of his/her work. The student will work with the project management team and attend monthly meetings related to the project during the spring of '17.

Project Goals and Outcomes:

1. Project Goals – Briefly identify and describe the objectives of this project

The goals and objectives of this project are to lay the groundwork for hosting a conference at PSU in the fall of 2017 to advance the mission of the team of faculty, staff, and students interested in considering a system approach to conservation of a rare migratory songbird that bridges the Americas. The Bicknell's Thrush has one of the most highly restricted ranges of a migratory bird species. The birds inhabit the high peaks in the northeastern mountains of the US and Canada during the breeding season and then the vast majority of the birds migrate to what is left of the broadleaf forests on the island of Hispaniola where the Dominican Republic and Haiti are located. The goal of the project is to explore all the intersecting issues related to conservation, development, and deforestation in the two regions at either end of the birds' migratory path. This is a multidisciplinary, multicultural project involving three languages – English, French, and Spanish.

2. Student Learning Outcomes – Outline the expected student learning outcomes

The student hired to work on the project will be able to:

- A. Present a planning document/checklist of requirements involved in planning a professional academic conference- a transferable, valuable skill for his/her future employment.
- B. Document a network of faculty, professionals, and stakeholders on and off campus interested in the Conservation of the Bicknell's Thrush.
- C. Appreciate and describe how he/she is taking a leadership role in contributing to the education of the Plymouth Community on the plight of a migratory songbird.
- D. Discuss how conservation and development issues in New Hampshire relate to conservation and development issues in the Caribbean and why an international perspective is necessary.
- E. Explain how policy can be enacted that connects the two ends of the birds' migratory path.

Participants who attend the fall '17 conference will be able to:

- A. Describe the status of research and conservation on the bird.
- B. Identify stakeholders involved in conservation of the bird.
- C. Appreciate how the bird links communities in New Hampshire and Dominican Republic and Haiti.
- D. Share ideas on initiatives that can be taken to move conservation of the bird forward in multiple locations.

Rationale and Impact:

Project Rationale and Impact Statement:

The image below was developed in the fall of '17 by project participant/supporter/artist/and curator Cynthia Robinson to showcase all the multi-disciplinary components and phases of the Bicknell's Thrush project. Note from the top to the bottom of the circle the headings in bold: community partners, PSU partners, student engagement, and products. The project has already

humanitarianism are interested in how development of all kinds affects the birds. Refer to table below of involved faculty and their interests and affiliations.

McGarry and two PSU undergraduate students developed a brochure on Conservation of the Bicknell's Thrush for Cannon Mountain. The document is still being vetted by the Vermont Center For Ecostudies (research scientists who are the world's experts on the bird), NH Audubon (who is involved in monitoring), the U.S.F.S, and Canon Mountain Management.

PSU students are very interested and involved in the ski industry in New Hampshire, so the status of the bird has relevancy.

Seven Dominican Republic educators attended the National Writing Project New Hampshire Teacher's Institute in the summer of 2016 with Dr. McGarry who was a participant. They Dominican Republic contingent new nothing about the bird prior and all are anxious to educate others in their country about the species.

The project management team met on December 19th to flesh out a year and a half's worth of ongoing project activities. The specific plans for the fall '17 conference are to invite specialists and partners to speak about the status of the bird and conservation initiatives in New Hampshire and surrounding states and provinces, within the USFS, New Hampshire Audubon, and on the island of Hispaniola. These light Ted Talks as they are being described will be recorded and archived for newcomers to review before starting on subsequent phases of the project. PSU students in courses and involved with various phases of the overall project for independent studies and/or research will attend the conference.

Teams of students will meet to reflect on the messages of the presenters and will be asked to create a graphic or visual. Then new groups of students, comprised of student from the previous working groups will form and they will reflect on the graphics generated and either produce a new graphic or embellish existing graphics to reflect their discussion and perspective. The graphics then will in part document the process of educating folks about the presence of the birds. The graphics generated can be thought of as something similar to what The Beehive Collective from Machaias Maine who visited PSU two years ago produces. Graphics from the workshop component of the conference will be displayed at a special exhibit in spring '18.

Another task the student worker will help complete is approval through the curriculum committee before registration for fall '2017 classes of a 1 cross-disciplinary cluster course. Students can then elect to enroll in the course to earn credits for their work on the project.

The student worker will also organize a fieldtrip to Cannon Mountain in June to observe the habitat of the Bicknell's Thrush.

The project will be integrated with existing PSU courses. Faculty with courses that include a focus or content that in some way relates to issues of conservation and development will be asked to invite their students to the conference. The project management team has agreed to meet once a month from January through April to organize the conference and subsequent

exhibit. One meeting will focus on figuring out how to advertise and invite students in courses where they can complete tasks/assignments related to the project.

Project Team

PSU Project Participants (including faculty and staff, names are listed alphabetically, names in purple are core team participants)

Name and email	Position/Title/Discipline Affiliation	Project role: including courses involved
Dr. Benoni L. Amsden	Director of Center for Business and Community Partnerships, Social Science faculty member	Provide support and guidance in connecting with partners
Dr. Bonnie L. Bechard	College of Business Administration faculty member, Sponsor of Enactus student organization	Courses to be determined
Dr. Marcia Schmidt Blaine	Director of the Museum of the White Mountains, Social Science faculty member, Project	Member of Forest to Forest Project Management Team, Provide support and guidance in using the Museum for exhibits, outreach, workshops, and an open lab for related projects.
Dr. Gerard E. Buteau	Education faculty member	Curriculum Design courses,
Dr. Katharine N. Harrington	TE & SD cluster guide and French faculty member	Support for multi-lingual, cultural components involving Haiti and French speaking Canadian provinces
Dr. Adam W. Keul	TE & SD cluster guide and Tourism faculty member	To be determined
Dr. Mary Ann McGarry	TE & SD Interim cluster guide, Environmental Science and Policy faculty member, Supervisor of related science education initiatives	Project Director and member of Forest to Forest Management Team,

Dr. Samuel T. Miller	meteorology	To be determined
Dr. Meg J. Petersen	English education faculty member	Liaison for contacts in Dominican Republic
Dr. Leonard R. Reitsma	Biology faculty member, graduate student advisor for student completing a thesis on the Bicknell's Thrush	Member of Forest to Forest Project Management Team
Dr. Cynthia Robinson	, Art and Art Education faculty member	Member of Forest to Forest Project Management Team, curator of MWM exhibits
Dr. Shannon H. Rogers	Environmental Science and Policy faculty member, research scientist with the Center for the Environment	To be determined
Dr. Maria A. Sanders	Philosophy faculty member	Member of Forest to Forest Project Management Team
Mr. Steven W. Whitman	Environmental Planning contract faculty member, co-advisor to the Ecohouse	Member of Forest to Forest Management Team, liaison with contacts working in Haiti, including Aviram

Non-PSU Project Participants (stakeholders; partners; academic institution; etc.)

Partner organization contact:	Description of Role:
New Hampshire Audubon	Monitors for Bicknell's Thrush at Cannon
Cannon Mountain	Pays into a mitigation fund for altering terrain above 2500 feet, New Hampshire Audubon monitors for the bird's presence in June.
Marcia Santore	Plymouth artist who consulted with students, spring '16 to develop educational brochure for Cannon Mountain.
Sadhana Forest in Haiti	Involved in a reforestation program in Haiti

Vermont Center for Ecostudies	World's experts on the Bicknell's Thrush
Leighlan Prout Forest Wildlife Biologist With the White Mountain National Forest	<i>Biological Evaluation of the White Mountain National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan Revision on Federal Endangered, Threatened, and Proposed Species and Regional Forester Sensitive Species</i> , p. 214 in https://www.fs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/stelprdb5199898.pdf

Potential partners:

Organization name:	Role:
Appalachian Mountain Club	AMC with assistance from The Nature Conservancy protected land around Baker Mountain in Maine that includes the preferred habitat of the Bicknell's thrush.
Center for Biological Diversity	
International Bicknell's Thrush Conservation Group	
Mount Washington Auto Road	
Mount Washington Observatory	
Ski resorts in New Hampshire, New England, and Canada	
Society for Protection of New Hampshire Forests	
University of New Hampshire	
New Hampshire Ski Museum	
Squam Lakes Science Center	

Potential Funding Sources:

Organization:	Mission:
Tillotson Foundation	

Student Participant Profile including projected involvement (For this phase of the project, the darkest yellow highlighted section in the table below describes how a student will benefit.)

Class/ Student Organization/ Individuals	Role in Project	Academic Level (Undergraduate or Graduate)	Academic Discipline	Total Student Population
Sam Lane	Co-designer of Cannon Mtn brochure	undergraduate	ESP major, '16	1 of 2, spring '16
Dominique Tarr	Co- designer of Cannon Mtn brochure	undergraduate	Environmental Biology major	1 of 2, spring '16
Jared D. Seaver	French capstone project modifying curricular activity and translating it into French	undergraduate	ESP and French double major, '17	3, fall '16
Hourly student worker	Assist team and plan conference for fall '17, seek faculty who are willing to invite students to participate in fall conference.	Undergraduate or graduate student	Any discipline	4, spring '17

IRB (Institutional Review Board) Compliance

IRB Compliance: <http://www.plymouth.edu/office/institutional-review-board/>

This project DOES NOT require IRB compliance

Project Management: Timeline and Milestones

This project is phase three and is in the bold red in the table below.

Project Start Date: 1/30/2017

Project Complete Date: 5/19/2017

Project Phase	Description	Target Start and Completion Date	Funding will be requested
1. Produce a Cannon Mountain Brochure on Conservation of the Bicknell's Thrush		February 2016	None yet
2. Create Curricular activity on Conservation of Bicknell's Thrush		Sept. 2016	None yet
3. Track progress, plan upcoming initiatives, and communicate with respective parties	Seek ESP hourly student worker for spring '17 semester and advertise for ESP graduate student to start as early as May 2017	2/1/2017	x
4. Propose New 1 credit course	Propose 1 credit cross cluster course: Special Topics, first Special Topic will be "Forest to Forest: Bicknell's Thrush investigation"	Submit to Curriculum Committee spring 2017	
5. Fieldtrip for faculty, staff, and students to observe Bicknell's Thrush habitat at Cannon Mountain	Invite: project participants and Buteau's curricular design course members	June 2016	x
6. Conference	Bring expert guest presenters to campus and involve groups of students from different disciplines in creation of graphics for spring '18 exhibit at Museum of the White Mountains	To be scheduled for fall 2017	x
7. Cross cluster certificate	Propose cross cluster certificate on Forest to Forest Sustainability	Fall '17	

8. International faculty trip to island of Hispaniola		January '18	x
9. Exhibit at the Museum of the White Mountains	Will invite speakers, student presenters, and host teacher workshops to disseminate Bicknell's Thrush migratory bird curricular materials.	Spring '18	x

McGarry will meet with the student worker on a regularly weekly basis to monitor progress on planning the fall '17 conference. The hourly student worker will attend monthly meetings with the Project Management Team. The hourly worker will create a binder documenting progress on the conference.

Student Education/ Training Requirements: A Moodle site for the Forest to Forest: Bicknell's Thrush Cluster project was created in fall '16 to store in an organized fashion all the developed materials. The purpose of holding a conference with Ted light talks in the fall of '17 is to educate the PSU community about all the issues involved. The goal is to record the talks and have them available to provide background information for new PSU and external partners.