HSBC Quarterly Reporting Template (13 Oct 2009)

**SCBI SIGEO plot – 3rd Quarter 2010:**

(1) **Highlights and Lowlights** *(Photos would be great.)*

***A sentence or two describing the most significant successes during the reporting period. They should not be technical, but rather clear headline-like statements about the significance and implications of the successes. Report only issues that threaten to derail the project.***

* Established the seedling plot study on the SCBI SIGEO plot, completing the surveying of 330 1m2 plots and the tagging, identification and measuring of over 4,000 woody seedlings.
* The soil carbon and nutrient survey of the entire SCBI plot, in collaboration with Dr. Ben Turner (STRI), was completed and analysis of samples is now underway in his laboratory.
* Built upon the preliminary analysis of differences in growth rates of canopy tree species in the long-term deer exclusion portion of the SIGEO plot vs. the long-term deer access portion of the plot by beginning a dendrochronological study of long-term growth rates led by Dr. Jonathan Thompson. Approximately 1,000 cores from the major canopy species have been collected and are now being measured. The oldest trees scored thus far are a black gum (*Nyssa sylvatica*) at approximately 330 years old and a white oak (*Quercus alba*) at least 277 years old. A brief status report on the dendrochronology study and seedling plot survey is attached.
* Led field trip to SCBI for the Virginia Native Plant Society June 26, 2010.
* A Fundamental Instrument Unit (FIU) team from NEON, Inc. visited SCBI to evaluate siting of the eddy covariance and micrometeorological flux tower as part of preparations for the NEON Domain 2 core site at SCBI. The tower will be located approximately 300m from the eastern edge of the SCBI SIGEO plot.

(2) **Media Coverage** (photos)

***Note big events and high-profile stories.***

(3) **Key Communicable Achievements** (photos)

***What achievements should now be communicated by STRI or HSBC?***

* We continued biweekly litterfall collection, drying and processing from our 200 litterfall traps installed on the plot.
* Identification of Hymenopteran pollinators collected during the SCBI plot survey continued in collaboration with Sam Droege of the USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center.
* Collection of 350 nitrocellulose growth membrane capsules used to survey mycorrhizal fungi variation on the SCBI plot was completed and scoring of membranes is underway.
* Completed data correction and ID checks of stems on the SIGEO plot.
* A small mammal survey was initiated on the plot.
* Completed collection of woody plant leaf samples for the DNA barcoding effort of the SCBI SIGEO plot in collaboration with Drs. John Kress and Dave Erickson at the SI-NMNH Dept. of Botany.
* The following collaborations were initiated with colleagues involving the SCBI SIGEO plot data:

- “Comparison of dioecy patterns at the global scale”, with Simon Queenborough, NCEAS post-doc.

- “Determinants of Relative Species Abundance: A Cross-Continental Comparison of Tropical Tree Communities”, with Liza Comita, NCEAS post-doc.

- “Spatial patterns of tree regeneration in Eastern forests”, with Dan Johnson (Ph.D. candidate) and Dr. Keith Clay, U. of Indiana.

-“Phylogenetic and functional beta diversity in tree communities across latitude”, with Nathan Swenson, Michigan State and John Kress and Dave Erickson, SI-NMNH.

* The SCBI SIGEO plot is participating in the recently funded NSF International Research Coordination Networks proposal entitled “Dimensions IRCN: Diversity and Forest Change: Characterizing functional, phylogenetic and genetic contributions to diversity gradients and dynamics in tree communities", Drs. Stuart Davies, Rick Condit, Nathan Swenson, Helene Muller-Landau, John Kress and Joseph Wright, PIs ($631,640).

(4) **Case Studies**

***This is* THE *slide HSBC cares most about. A photo with someone’s positive comments about some aspect of your project or HCP in general makes a big impact.***

* Photos sent via email

(5) **Looking Ahead**

***Highlight any interesting opportunities anticipated during the period ahead. Highlight significant challenges or risks—something that truly jeopardizes some aspect of your project—ahead and how you plan to address them.***

* During the 4th Quarter 2010, we will continue reading of tree cores and entry of seedling plot data.
* We will enter database corrections and produce an updated, final version of the initial survey plot database.
* We will initiate analyses of the plot’s initial survey dataset and continue collaborations with colleagues involving the SCBI SIGEO plot data.

(6) **Relationships with HSBC**

***Note any communication you have had with HSBC and describe its frequency, the individual’s responsiveness, and collaborative readiness.***

(7) **Collaboration**

***Detail any joint working arrangements with HSBC, Earthwatch, WWF, or The Climate Group.***

(8) **Leverage**

***List any support (financial or in-kind) STRI has received from other sources as a consequence of HSBC’s funding.***

(9) **Organization Report**

***Describe changes in key personnel and their impacts, planned partnerships, publication of organizational reports, how HCP has helped CTFS-STRI develop, and news not recorded under previous headings.***