HSBC Quarterly Reporting Template (13 Oct 2009)

(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.***

**1st Quarter 2010:**

* Norm Bourg, SCBI (CRC) plot Co-PI, attended the CTFS – SIGEO North American Temperate Forests Database Workshop at Bradley University, 15-18 Feb.  He successfully uploaded the first version of the complete initial census of the SCBI 25 hectare Large Forest Dynamics Plot to the CTFS server at Harvard.  A total of 40,384 woody stems > 1cm diameter at breast height (dbh) belonging to 67 species of trees and shrubs are currently in the database, including their individual location coordinates, dbh measurements and identification tag numbers.
* Norm Bourg participated in the HSBC Climate Partnership Research Mid-term Review Conference, 1-5 Mar., at STRI, Panama and gave a talk entitled “The CTFS-SIGEO Large Forest Dynamics Plot at the SCBI, Front Royal, VA:  Initial Census and Future Prospects”
* Patrick Jansen, CTFS-TEAM Coordinator visited the SCBI plot on 14 March.

**2nd Quarter 2010:**

* Smithsonian Undersecretary for Science Dr. Eva Pell and National Zoo Director Mr. Dennis Kelly visited the SCBI plot on 4 April.
* Smithsonian Environmental Research Center (SERC) Deputy Director Dr. Dennis Whigham & a group of Danish students visited the SCBI plot on 4 May.
* Norm Bourg visited the Changbaishan and Gutianshan forest plots in China, met with plot PIs to discuss research/data collection activities, and gave talks on the SCBI plot, deer herbivory and NEON to Chinese colleagues at the Center for Nature and Society (PKU), Institute of Botany – Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), Institute of Applied Ecology – CAS, and the Chinese Academy of Forestry from 19 May – 5 June (photos attached).
* Norm Bourg hosted a Virginia Native Plant Society field trip to the SCBI plot on 26 June.

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

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

**2nd Quarter 2010:**

* Washington Post reporter Dave Fahrenthold visited the SCBI plot with Drs. Bill McShea, Norm Bourg, and Jonathan Thompson for part of a 4 April story on forest regrowth in the eastern U.S. and the impacts of human-influenced stressors on these forests (see links below).

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/04/04/AR2010040402625.html?nav=hcmodule>

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/video/2010/04/05/VI2010040501334.html?hpid=topnews>

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/video/2010/04/05/VI2010040501426.html?sid=ST2010040403252>

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

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

**1st and 2nd Quarter 2010:**

* We continued biweekly litterfall collection, drying and processing from our 200 litterfall traps installed on the plot.
* We recorded baseline dendrometer band measurements for the 250 trees banded on the plot.

**2nd Quarter 2010:**

* A Hymenopteran pollinator survey was conducted on the SCBI plot from 8 April – 6 May in collaboration with Sam Droege of the USGS.
* A soil carbon and nutrient survey of the entire SCBI plot in collaboration with Dr. Ben Turner (STRI) began on 3 May and will continue through the summer (photos attached).
* A survey of mycorrhizal fungi variation began in April. 350 nitrocellulose growth membrane capsules were buried across the plot and will be collected in the 3rd Quarter for evaluation.

(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.***

(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 3rd Quarter 2010, we will begin a tree coring dendroecology study on the plot, as well as establish and census 300 seedling plots following established seedling plots protocols.
* A small mammal survey will be conducted on the plot during the 3rdQ.
* Final ID checks and corrections to the first version of the plot database will also be done during the 3rdQ.
* A Fundamental Instrument Unit (FIU) team from NEON, Inc. will visit SCBI in the 3rdQ 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 near the eastern edge of the SCBI SIGEO plot.

(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.***

* SCBI plot technician Ms. Sumana Serchan left in April to work as a field technician on an agouti seed dispersal project on BCI and SCBI Visiting Scientist Dr. Xiaoli Shen was hired as her replacement in May.