**Executive Summary**

*In order to better understand and communicate the natural heritage of the State of Tennessee, this project’s focus is to create a tool for community members, educators, and policy-makers that translates the information contained in TDEC’s rare species dataset into digestible and easy information, as well as provides geospatial analysis of different kinds of species biodiversity by county and watershed area.*

**Motivation**

*I am interested in the natural heritage of the State of Tennessee. I have always heard that the state, particularly the Appalachian region, boasts very high rates of biodiversity. I want to understand the scope of this.*

**Data Question**

*How do county and watershed geographies in Tennessee compare in terms of biodiversity? This will be addressed in terms of both plant and animal life. What is the scope of this diversity?*

**Minimum Viable Product (MVP)**

*The MVP will be a Tableau Story that categorizes and explains the different subcategories of species, examines how the State determines rare species, and compares different geographies in two different breakdowns regarding their biodiversity.*

*The audience could be the state population in an individual or educational capacity, where this is a tool to understand the ecological landscape. The audience could also be TDEC or other policy-related professionals, the data provider, as this could be a useful educational tool for a state agency.*

**Schedule (through 4/30/2021)**

1. Get the Data (4/14)
2. Clean & Explore the Data (4/21)
3. Create Presentation of your Analysis (23)

* Should be a presentation, but could include a Jupyter Notebook or dashboard in Excel, Tableau, or PowerBI

1. Internal demos (4/26/2021)
2. Demo Day!! (4/30/2021)

**Data Sources**

*The Tennessee Rare Species Dataset:* [*here*](http://tdec.tn.gov:8080/pls/enf_reports/f?p=9014:4::::::)

**Known Issues and Challenges**

*Explain any anticipated challenges with your project, and your plan for managing them. Be sure to include:*

* *There are over 8,000 species records in this dataset that include varies hierarchies of categorization. Understanding the most informative way to break this down will take a lot of data exploration. The way to manage this will simply be to block out enough time.*
* *I want to create a Tableau Story that acts as a seamless educational and analytical tool. Again, time.*