**Project Manager Qualifications and Organization Description**

*Project Manager*: Dr. Jessica Petersen, Invertebrate Ecologist

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Minnesota Biological Survey

*Qualifications*:

Jessica Petersen has been employed by the DNR for almost 3 years, and with the Minnesota Biological Survey for the past nine months. During this time she has managed teams of scientists, delivered scientific content to practitioners by hosting webinars, podcasts, and written content. She has training and experience conducting scientific research in such topics as bee and butterfly community ecology, plant-insect interaction, pollination, and prairie ecology that have resulted in 14 co-authored scientific publications, 12 invited presentations, and 14 extension and outreach publications. Dr. Petersen has taught 6 undergraduate biology courses including topics such as Geographic Information Systems (GIS), entomology, and critical thinking.

Experience:

* B.S. – University of Iowa, 2002
* M.S., Ecology and Evolutionary Biology – Iowa State University, Iowa 2003-2005
* Ph.D, Entomology, Minor – Statistics – Iowa State University, Iowa 2005-2010
* Post-doctoral Research – Cornell University, New York 2010-2014
* Adjunct Professor – Roanoke College, Virginia 2014-2016

*Project Manager Responsibilities:*

Jessica Petersen will lead the project coordination including selecting site locations, communicating with collaborative entomology faculty, and data collection on insect diversity. The project manager will be responsible for developing and implementing a work plan including achievable outcomes and tracking and reporting on project progress.

*Organization Description*: Minnesota DNR

The proposed project directly supports the following goals outlined by the MNDNR:

* 10-year Strategic Conservation Agenda, Goal 1, Minnesota’s waters, natural lands, and diverse fish and wildlife habitats are conserved and enhanced.
* Goal 1 of Minnesota’s Wildlife Action Plan: Ensure the long-term health and viability of Minnesota’s wildlife, with a focus on species that are rare, declining, or vulnerable to decline.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR)’s mission is to work with citizens to conserve and manage the state’s natural resources, to provide outdoor recreation opportunities, and to provide for commercial uses of natural resources in a way that creates a sustainable quality of life.