

Project Report on:
Pando Clone Restoration: rescuing the world famous embattled aspen grove in central Utah

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Objectives: This proposed project falls in USDA priority area "renewable energy, natural resources, and environment." Our prime objective was to assess and present findings regarding the embattled "Pando" aspen grove at Fish Lake, Utah. We also wished to establish new monitoring plots in the recently fenced, larger, portion of Pando above Utah Highway 25, which bisects the grove. Finally, we planned to disseminate knowledge gained in this effort to diverse groups of students, professionals, and citizens within Utah and beyond.

Summary: The project work began in June and extended through December. Jody Gale and/or Paul Rogers visited the site on three occasions during this period. In addition to installing plot locations inside and outside the 2014 fenced portion of Pando, we presented technical materials, as well as participated in filming a documentary and leading high school students in independent research projects centered on this large aspen clone.

Products: The following is a list of outputs that were completed with use of funds from this grant during the granting period:

- Technical publication: Rogers, P.C.; Gale, J.A. 2016. Restoration of the iconic Pando aspen clone: emerging evidence of recovery. *Ecosphere* (In press).
- An oral presentation titled, "'World's Largest Organism' Threatened by Herbivory: Restoration Monitoring at the Pando Aspen Clone", co-authored by Rogers and Gale, was given at the North American Congress for Conservation Biology, Madison, Wisconsin (July 17-20, 2016). Approximately 50 people attended the presentation.
 - As a result of this presentation, *New Scientist* (reporter Emily Benson) conducted and interview and [published an article](#) on the study results July 28, 2016.
 - Additional media outlets picked up on this story and published original articles based on it: [Techly](#) (Australia, Sept. 17), [Washington Post](#) (USA, July 31), and [Mother Nature Network](#) (USA, July 30).
- The work under this funding comprised a portion of several of Rogers' invited presentations:
 - May 31, June 8 – University of Helsinki, Finland & Swedish Agricultural College (SLU), Umeå, Sweden.
 - July 12 - Aspen Days, Lander, Wyoming.
 - August 30 – Montana Aspen Workshop, Red Lodge, Montana
 - September 30 - Ogden High School, International Baccalaureate class, Ogden, Utah
 - October 27 – Multi-Region [Landscape Conservation Cooperative webinar](#), hosted by Great Basin LCC
- Blog post, Pando Populus website, titled "[Introducing the Pando Fund](#)". Posted June 2016.

- Installed 32 new sampling locations (plots) and began data collection as a collaborative learning experience with Ogden High School International Baccalaureate class.

Budget: Proposed budget and actual expenditures from June 1 – Dec. 31, 2016

	Proposed	Actual
Wages (Paul Rogers)	6,750	6910.00
Benefits (8.0%)	540	553
Travel	2,000	1644.40
Supplies	250	118.88
Services (mail, phone, copying, etc.)	250	500.00
USU Indirect costs (internal grant)	0	0.00
	9,790	9726.08