



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

300 Westgate Center Drive
Hadley, MA 01035-9589



April 5, 2018

Judith Swift
Director, North Atlantic Coast CESU
124 Coastal Institute
URI Bay Campus
Narragansett, RI 02882

Dear Judith Swift:

As the Assistant Regional Biologist for the National Fish and Wildlife Refuges in the Northeast Region of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), I strongly support the application of Bryn Mawr College to join the North Atlantic Coast CESU. I have worked intermittently with Dr. Thomas Mozdzer of Bryn Mawr College since 2012, and we are eager to continue working with Dr. Mozdzer in the future.

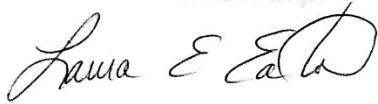
Dr. Mozdzer has expertise in coastal resilience, ecosystem restoration, global change biology, and invasion biology. At the nexus of these fields is the common reed, *Phragmites australis*, an invasive plant that is a serious challenge facing federal lands managed by the USFWS. Refuges currently expend considerable time and money managing *Phragmites*, but we have yet to find a sustainable solution. Climate change and sea level rise add complexity to the decision making, particularly at our coastal refuges that are threatened by rising seas. Dr. Mozdzer's research, supported by Maryland Sea Grant and the National Science Foundation, has provided information that will inform future management decisions. Dr. Mozdzer has published numerous papers that we have found useful in our management program.

Over the past several years, Dr. Mozdzer has participated in several meetings, both at workshops in person, and over the phone, during the development of our structured decision making (SDM) tool for *Phragmites* management. Dr. Mozdzer was one of the academics volunteering his time working with federal land managers in the development of this tool. We found Dr. Mozdzer's contributions were insightful in the parameterization of this management tool, and we appreciated his contributions of both time and expertise.

TAKE PRIDE[®]
IN AMERICA 

Given our previous successful collaborations, the USFSW encourages your approval of Bryn Mawr College's application to join the North Atlantic Coast CESU and we look forward to our continued collaboration with Dr. Mozdzer and Bryn Mawr College.

Sincerely,



Laura E. Eaton
Assistant Regional Biologist
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

John Swift
Director, North Atlantic Coast CESU
24 Coastal Institute
RI Bay Campus
Narragansett, RI 02882

John Swift

As the Assistant Regional Biologist for the National Fish and Wildlife Refugees in the Northeast region of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), I strongly support the application of Bryn Mawr College to join the North Atlantic Coast CESU. I have worked extensively with Dr. Thomas Mozdzer of Bryn Mawr College since 2012, and we are eager to continue working with Dr. Mozdzer in the future.

Dr. Mozdzer has expertise in coastal resilience, ecosystem restoration, global change biology, and invasion biology. At the nexus of these fields is the common need for resilient coastal ecosystems. A major challenge facing federal lands managed by the USFWS, Refugees is a severe plant that is a serious challenge facing federal lands managed by the USFWS. Refugees are currently expending considerable time and money managing this species, but we have yet to find a sustainable solution. Change change and sea level rise add complexity to the decision making. Additionally, our coastal refuges are threatened by rising seas. Dr. Mozdzer's research, supported by Maryland Sea Grant and the National Science Foundation, has provided information that will inform future management decisions. Dr. Mozdzer has published numerous papers that we have found useful in our management program.

Over the past several years, Dr. Mozdzer has participated in several meetings, both at workshops and over the phone, during the development of our structured decision making (SDM) tool for Refugees management. Dr. Mozdzer was one of the academics volunteering his time working with federal land managers in the development of the tool. We found Dr. Mozdzer's contributions were insightful in the development of this management tool, and we appreciated his contributions of both time and expertise.

