

## View results

Respondent

25 James Dalling

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## Project Questionnaire

Please provide proper and accurate information.

1. Is your project complete? \*

 Yes No

2. Name of project \*

Census of Trelease Woods – phase 2

3. Date project received financial award letter \*

December 17, 2019

4. Date of project completion \*

August 16, 2022

5. Date of final report submission \*

August 14, 2024

6. Please describe marketing and promotion efforts for the duration of the project. \*

We have established a website for the project that highlights the goals of the project, SSC involvement and the lists all student participants. The website includes a professionally made video of the project and also describes how students can become involved.

<https://publish.illinois.edu/treleasewoods/>

In addition we publicize the existence of the Trelease Woods project in the global forest data network ForestGeo. Trelease Woods is one of 75 forest dynamics plots around the world in this network, which is internationally recognized for its contributions to forest monitoring, carbon storage and controls of forest biodiversity

<https://forestgeo.si.edu/sites/north-america/trelease-woods>

During the funding period, Dalling, the Trelease Woods Forest Dynamics Plot PI gave a seminar on the project to ForestGeo online with >200 participants to highlight the project.

We also publicize the project to students in biology majors on campus (NRES and SIB). Students from SIB actively use data collected from the census project as class and independent research projects in IB203 and IB372

7. Please describe how your project faced challenges or obstacles during the duration of development. \*

The major challenge is getting students to Trelease Woods. Although it is only 15 minutes by car from campus there is no bus route and we need to fund both the vehicle and fuel purchases. SIB and NRES have assisted with this. The other challenge is the vehicles must be driven by students that have a campus job. This has made timetabling challenging. The other challenge has been to ensure that the data collected meets the standards of ForestGeo. We have largely solved this problem through the use of google sheets that allow us to check data in real time.

8. Please describe in detail how your project has integrated student involvement, community outreach, and campus sustainability. \*

This has been a highly successful project providing research experience for undergraduates in forest ecology, forest management and carbon monitoring. Over the first census we trained 76 undergrad students (see Trelease Woods website for names). For many this was a transformative experience - a first opportunity to do field-based ecological research. The result of this project is a first complete map of every tree in Trelease Woods. We are currently working on taking this map data and converting it into a map of soil and woody biomass carbon with graduate student Jennifer Alvarez (who was also supported by SSC as the graduate coordinator of the census). This will be a major contribution to the assessment of the campus carbon footprint and can help guide future investment in tree planting on campus.

9. If applicable, please explain how the project engaged individuals from underrepresented groups and/or promote diversity, equity, and inclusion. \*

We have not tracked the race/ethnicity of the students involved in our project. However, our student group includes many individuals from under-represented groups that are typically excluded from environmental sciences. It is worth noting that our project is exceptionally rare in that it provides very flexible opportunities for students to participate. The students choose when to come to Trelease (weekday afternoons or weekends) and can therefore participate around classes and work. This overcomes a major barrier for underrepresented groups that often come from low income backgrounds and that cannot afford to participate in off-campus activities with associated fees or time commitments.

## Project Documentation

10. Please upload the final financial documentation for your project

<https://studentengagement.illinois.edu/student-sustainability/ssc/docs/SSC-Supplemental-Budget-Timeline.xlsx>


\*

 SSC Trelease Phase 2 fund summary\_James Dalling.xlsx

11. Please upload additional project photography (not submitted in semesterly report) \*

 [Trelease announcementFA21\\_James Dalling.pptx](#)

 [students in Trelease\\_James Dalling.jpg](#)

 ['fixed' map of the plot — just for ForestGeo\\_James Dalling.pdf](#)

 [ACESAC+ASITRI map\\_James Dalling.pdf](#)

 [hackberry and buckeye map\\_James Dalling.pdf](#)

 [Trelease for ForestGeo May 17\\_James Dalling.pdf](#)