



Fourche Pollinator Garden 2010 Accomplishments

Planning for the Fourche Pollinator Garden began in 2008, after visiting a workshop on the Hiawatha NF. The actual construction of the garden began in FY 2010. The purpose of the garden is to provide adequate habitat for breeding Monarch butterflies and to educate the public about the vital importance of different pollinators (in particular insects, birds, and bats). Management actions include prescribed burning, mid-story reduction, removal of invasive species, planting of native wildflowers, trees and shrubs and native seeding. An old log landing provides the center of the garden opening. A woodland vernal pond was created to provide breeding habitat for dragonflies and amphibians and to provide educational opportunities. As the pond dries in the summer, it creates mudding areas for the butterflies and water for other pollinators. A bat box was installed near the pond and bluebird and wren boxes were installed in the opening along the walkway. A concrete handicapped accessible trail was created that winds approximately 780 feet, and has various animal footprints stamped across it for education. The total project area is about five acres, although 111 acres of the surrounding forest was prescribed burned. The Fourche Pollinator Garden provides host plants and nectar sources to various lepidopterans and other wildlife species.

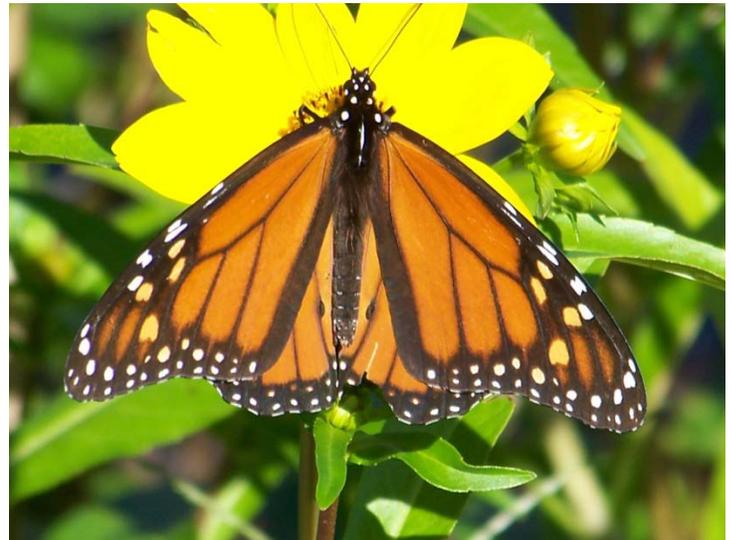


Figure 1. Male monarch butterfly , Ouachita National Forest



Figure 2. Section of newly constructed trail, Ouachita National Forest



Figure 3. Vernal Pond, Ouachita National Forest

Year Project Initiated: Planning began in FY 2009.
Project implementation began in FY 2010

Project completion: Ongoing

Report number: 1 of 1

Expenditures (through 10/2010): \$39,700 of which \$30,622 was funded by Wings Across America.

FY10 funding
(Partners/Contractors/Coop):

Contact Person & phone number: Mary Lynn Mentz
479-495-2844



Ouachita National Forest

100 Reserve St.

P.O. Box 1270

Hot Springs, AR 79102