This project was initiated in 2003 when the first Monarch Waystation Pollinator Garden was established in a former roadbed on 56th Street just west of Baldwin, MI. The roadbed was restored with native nectar plants and following years, both butterfly milkweed and common milkweed were added to the site using both seed and containerized plants to improve milkweed density.

Since the project initiation, 3 additional pollinator gardens were created on the Baldwin/White Cloud Ranger District with an emphasis on milkweed plants and monarch habitat. By 2010, all four Pollinator Gardens/Monarch Waystations supported monarch adults (e.g. Figure 1), and larvae were noted at two of the gardens (e.g. Figure 2).

In addition, milkweed seed is being planted at the endangered Karner blue butterfly restoration sites and in fireline restoration. Twenty-four acres will be seeded in October 2010 in the KBB restoration. Another 15 acres of savanna restoration will also be seeded in November 2010 in the Big Star savanna. Both include milkweed species.

Year  Project Initiated: 2003 w/ Lake Co. Road Commission (LCRC); FY2006+ USFS native plant funding

Project completion: On-going for maintenance, seed collection, supplemental planting for diversity.

Report number: 1 of 1


FY10 funding: $13,100

Partners/Contractors/Coop: Lake Co. Road Commission, Garden Clubs of Michigan

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