



Tagging Monarchs Wayne National Forest 2010 Accomplishments

In Mid-September to mid-October biologists visited old fields and wildlife openings (Figure 1) in search of migrating Monarch butterflies. Once caught, a small disc “tag” with a 3-letter and 3-number code is adhered to the monarchs hind wing. (Figure 2). Information on the sex of the butterfly and the location of the capture is recorded. After the butterfly is processed it is then set free to continue on its flight south to the mountains of Mexico. The purpose of this project is to record the location of capture to the point of recovery thereby providing information on the migratory route, the influence of encountered weather patterns and survival rates.

Tagging monarch butterflies began on the Wayne National Forest in 2008. Information collected on the butterflies is sent to the Monarch Watch program at the University of Kansas .

Since the beginning of the tagging program in 2008 approximately 69 butterflies have been tagged (52 in FY10). To date no tags have been recovered.



Figure 2. A tagged male monarch



Figure 1. Brady Run Grassland

Year Project Initiated: 2008

Project completion: Ongoing

Report number: 1 of 3

Expenditures (through 10/2010): NFWF \$600.00

FY10 funding: Wayne National Forest - NFWF
Volunteer

Contact Person & phone number:
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Enhancing Habitats-Native Plantings Wayne National Forest 2010 Accomplishments

From 2006-2008 native plants were “rescued” from the construction route of the Nelsonville Bypass-U.S. Highway 33. This four-lane highway is currently being constructed through the National Forest. Rescued plants were used to start the native pollinator gardens located at the Forest Headquarters Building (Figure 1).

Seeds from these plants are being collected and grown to plant in areas around the Forest to enhance native plant growth where needed (Figure 2).

Milkweed seeds are being collected from our native plantings and are scheduled to be drill seeded in a fescue conversion of about 5-acres.



Figure 2. Native plant seedlings growing in the shade house



Figure 1. Native plant bed started with plants from a highway rescue effort.

Year Project Initiated: 2006

Project completion: Ongoing

Report number: 2 of 3

Expenditures (through 10/2010): NFN3 - \$8800

FY10funding: Wayne National Forest – NFN3
Volunteers

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Kids and Monarchs Wayne National Forest 2010 Accomplishments

The year 2010 brought many elementary and high school aged children onto the Forest. Ohio University and their "Kids on Campus" summer program completed service related activities on the Wayne NF. One of those activities was to plant native seeds collected from our native gardens and transplant seedlings into larger trays. They learned about how important it was to plant native seeds and in particular milkweed to enhance habitat for butterfly and pollinator species. Approximately 100 kids participated in this program.

The Little Cities of the Black Diamond (LCBD) non-profit organization was awarded an Ohio Environmental Education grant. The Wayne partnered with the LCBD and hosted the entire 5th grade of Millcreek Elementary School in Perry Co., Ohio to a field day learning about pollinators and monarch butterflies as part of the grant requirements. The kids, numbering about 65, planted native plant seeds and learned about the plight of the monarch, from their life cycle to the hazards they face on their migration route south in the fall. Efforts were made to capture migrating monarchs in order to tag them (Figure 2). Classroom instruction focusing on pollinators was also provided to the 5th graders using current Ohio Academic Standards.



Figure 2. Millcreek Elementary 5th graders on the hunt for monarchs in a field of goldenrods.



Figure 1. Kids on Campus participants filling trays in preparation of planting native seeds.

Year Project Initiated: 2010

Project completion: 2010

Report number: 3 of 3

Expenditures (through 10/2010):

NFWF \$1500

Ohio Environmental Education Grant

- \$50,000 (amount put toward the pollinator part of the grant unknown)

FY10 funding: Wayne National Forest - NFWF
Ohio University
Little Cities of the Black Diamond –
Ohio Environmental Education Grant

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