



**MONARCH  
JOINT VENTURE**

# Monarchs and Milkweeds White Mountain National Forest 2010 Accomplishments

This project was initiated in 2008 with the installation of the native plant garden at the Saco Ranger Station in Conway, NH. A conscious effort was made to install native plant materials that would be beneficial to local pollinators, especially the monarch butterfly. Native Plant Gardens now exist at three administrative sites on the White Mountain National Forest (WMAC): the Saco Ranger Station, the Androscoggin Ranger Station and the new White Mountain Administrative Complex (WMAC).

In 2010, additional milkweed stock and species were added to the Androscoggin and WMAC gardens. These plugs were planted in July 2010. Swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) and butterfly weed (*Asclepias tuberosa*) were added to the WMAC gardens and butterfly weed was added to the Androscoggin garden. The planting stock was provided by a local nursery and is of local New England genetic types.

The WMNF has, in cooperation with a local seed company, developed a seed mix for use at administrative sites and to rehabilitate log landings, roads, skid trails, etc. The White Mountain Wildlife Conservation Mix contains a significant component of common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*). By incorporating this species in this and other seed mixes utilized on the WMNF, we are providing habitat and nectar sources for the Monarch and other native butterfly species.



Figure 3: Milkweed in wildlife opening at adjacent to Androscoggin Ranger Station.



Figure 1. Butterflyweed (*Asclepias tuberosa*)



Figure 2: Swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) fruit

Year Project Initiated: 2008

Project completion: The project is on-going and variable with actions and funding be utilized to enhance habitat for monarchs as available. The funding listed below is related to the planting of milkweed species in native plant pollinator gardens

Report number: 1 of 1

Expenditures (through 10/2010): \$1,500.00

FY10funding \$500.00

Partners/Contractors/Coop:  
Clements Nursery  
New England Wetland Plants

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