



Huron Manistee National Forest

2011 Accomplishments

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. 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 2011, all four Pollinator Gardens/Monarch Waystations supported monarch adults and larvae. Additional milkweed seed was added to all of the gardens in the fall of 2011 to keep improving milkweed abundance.

Additional milkweed plant plugs were planted in an endangered Karner Blue Butterfly restoration area with 2 of the 9 species planted being milkweed species. These plantings placed 200 nectar increase beds strategically throughout 60 acres of occupied KBB habitat. Each fenced bed was planted to a total of 28-32 plants composed of 3 – 5 different nectar species. Seasonal staff also weeded the 24 acres of 2010 seeded nectar beds in the same project area.

Four educational talks were presented to the public on pollinator habitat, that specifically targeted Monarchs and Monarch waystations developed in the home landscape. Guided tours were also given to several groups larger than 50 attendees at the Loda Lake Pollinator Garden/Monarch Waystation.

A Native Plants for Pollinators outdoor flipbook is under contract for development that will be placed at pollinator gardens to provide plant identification aid and information about which native plants are beneficial for pollinator gardens. Milkweed species are included in the book.



Figure 1. Monarchs at pollinator garden

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: 7

Expenditures (through 10/2010):2006+-\$67,290; LCRC: 2003 \$6,420-seed cost ;FY10 funding:\$13,100 FY11 funding:GLRI \$30,000; NFN3 \$11,000

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

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