



# Beneficial Projects for Monarchs on the Mark Twain National Forest 2012 Accomplishments

In 2012, The Mark Twain National Forest completed several projects that directly or indirectly benefited breeding and feeding habitat for Monarch Butterflies including viable populations of milkweed species. Prescribed fire was used to maintain natural communities such as glades, savannas and open woodlands that are vital in providing habitat for a variety of pollinator species. Healthy and viable monarch population have been documented in all of the following projects areas and/or valuable nectar sources.

The MTNF completed over 41,000 acres for prescribed fire. Approximately 26,000 acres glades and open woodland habitats with high diversity of flora beneficial to all pollinators, especially to Monarchs.

Over 5,798 acres of restoration thinning and burning occurred in the Missouri Pine-Oak Woodland Restoration Project Area which is one of twenty projects nation wide that is implementing the Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration.



Figure 1. Portions of the Western Star Natural Area project area under management.



Figure 2. *Solidago ulmifolia* with *Helianthus grosseserratus* at the Lincoln University Native Plants nursery on campus .

Other restoration efforts included:

- Completion of 4,315-acre Kaintuck prescribed burn which includes the Western Star Natural Area .
- Removal of woody encroachment from Kaintuck Fen.
- Removing Eastern red Cedar from glades habitats using stewardship contracts.
- 3,425 acres of glade habitat maintained and improved with prescribed fire on the ACW unit.
- Seed collection of native plant material on McClurg Glade for propagation and restoration pollinator plant species on glade restoration sites.
- Over 3,200 acres of prescribed fire in the Carman Springs restoration management area.
- Construction of a native/pollinator garden at the MTNF Supervisors Office.

Year Project Initiated: 2012

Project completion: 2012

Report number: 1 of 1

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