



Maintaining Milkweeds

White Mountain National Forest

2012 Accomplishments

For many years, staff on the White Mountain National Forest have created, maintained, and enhanced permanent wildlife opening habitat to serve a number of species' needs. Currently some 800 acres of this habitat is managed across the Forest, from small openings like our administrative site native plant gardens to large fields. Depending on the site, treatments include prescribe burning and/or mechanical mowing or brushing. In fiscal year 2012, the Forest treated a total of 125 acres to perpetuate this habitat.

The overall habitat objective in these openings is to provide a range of herbaceous and shrubby vegetation to support a diversity of wildlife species, including monarchs and other pollinators. Milkweed species are present at many of these openings in good numbers as a result of natural propagation and supplemental seeding with New England genetic stock. Without these maintained habitats, milkweeds would be much less common on the Forest.



Walker Brook wildlife opening



Swamp milkweed (*Asclepias incarnata*) in the White Mountain Administrative Complex native plant garden

Year Project Initiated

Project completion: ongoing – continued maintenance

Report number: 1

Expenditures (FY 12): \$38,000

FY12 Partners/Contractors/Coop:

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