



Monarch Butterfly Projects - Superior National Forest

2014 Accomplishments

Northeast Minnesota is marginal habitat for monarch butterflies, and in 2014 very few monarchs were observed on the Superior National Forest. At some of the larger common milkweed populations that were monitored, there was very little evidence of any herbivory on milkweed leaves and very few monarch caterpillars observed..

In 2014 the Superior National Forest burned 10 acres of wildlife openings to maintain the openings and benefit early successional species. These prescribed burns indirectly benefited any nectar-gathering pollinators including monarchs by helping to maintain the openings and maintain nectar-producing wildflowers like flowering dogbane, black-eyed susan, and evening primrose.



Figure 2. Wildlife opening prescribed burn



Figure 1. Common milkweed (*Asclepias syriaca*) fruit

Year Project Initiated: 2011

Project completion: Ongoing

Report number: 1 of 1

FY13 Expenditures(through 9/30/2014): \$3,000

FY13 funding: WFHF09

Partners/Contractors/Coop: None

Contact Person & phone number:
Jack Greenlee, 218-229-8817



Superior National Forest
8901 Grand Ave. Place
Duluth, MN 55808