

U.S. Forest Service

MIKE RIZO

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U.S. Forest Service
International Programs

2023 March Monarch Meeting

March 7, 2023

Presented by:
Michael Rizo, U.S. Forest Service
International Programs

Beth Lebow, U.S. Forest Service
International Programs

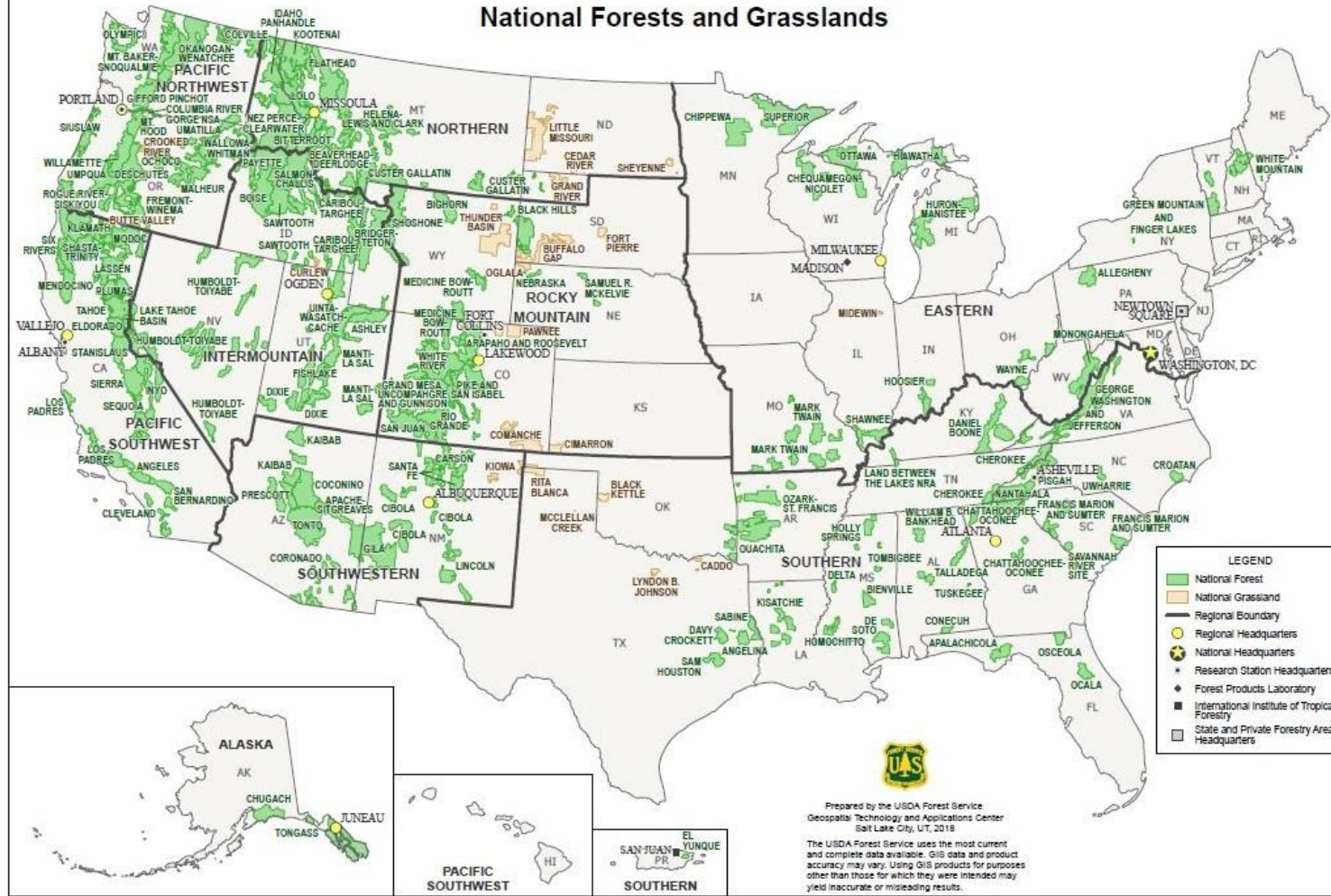
Jim Chu, U.S. Forest Service
International Programs





United States Department of Agriculture

National Forests and Grasslands



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U.S. Forest Service – National Forest System



U.S. Forest Service
International Programs

Who We Are

The Forest Service has worked internationally since 1902.

Today, the Forest Service works collaboratively to promote sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation in more than 90 countries around the globe.

Our Migratory Species team works range-wide on conservation of significant U.S. migratory species.



**30,000 NATURAL RESOURCE
SPECIALISTS**



**90+
COUNTRIES**



**EXPERIENCE MANAGING 193
MILLION ACRES OF FORESTS
& GRASSLANDS**



U.S. Forest Service
International Programs

Supporting monarch
conservation for
25 years

Our Mission:

An all-lands approach to prevent monarchs & other migratory species from becoming listed under the U.S. Endangered Species Act and decrease the number of species currently listed.



Our Goals

- Protecting Habitat & Supporting Research
- Building Networks along Flyways
- Supporting Educators & Communities
- Working at the International Level



Protecting & Restoring Habitat

Midwin National Tallgrass Prairie Wilmington, IL

- Largest protected open space in northeastern Illinois
- Native production gardens produce seeds of native grasses & wildflowers
- Native seed also collected from local IDNR natural areas by permit
- Seed is harvested, cleaned, processed, & planted
- Select native seed obtained from specialized plant nurseries from local provenance zones
- Volunteers contribute time & labor throughout the year



Photo credit: USDA Forest Service Jennifer Durkin



Building Networks along Flyways

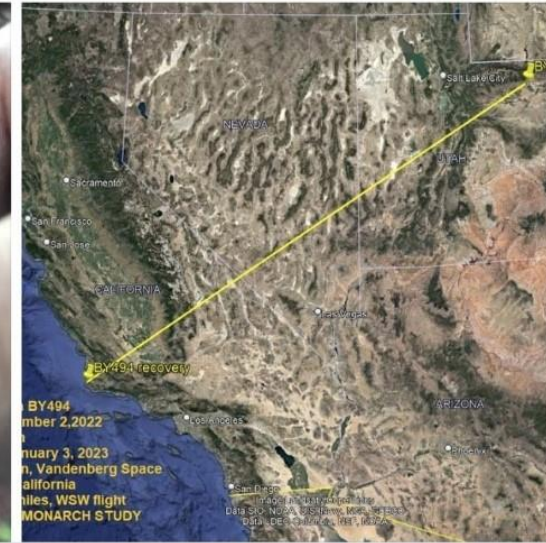
Conservation partners extend along the flyways throughout the United States, Mexico, & Canada



Building Networks along Flyways

Ashley National Forest – Northeast Utah
Uinta Basin Birds & Butterflies Initiative

- Multi-stakeholder partnership network unites federal & state agencies, universities, NGO's, private landowners, & volunteers
- Enhance habitat for monarchs & pollinators
- Community Science: Monitoring for monarchs & pollinators
- Outreach & Education



The Monarch Effect: Small Communities, Big Impacts



Supporting Educators & Communities along Flyways

- Engage urban, rural, & indigenous communities
- Support education & conservation workshops for teachers, naturalists, & community members
- Provide technical support & resources to community-based NGOs
- Support community science programs to connect people with nature where they live





Working at the International Level

Highlighted Project: Community-Level Oak Conservation in MBBR

Workshops provide instruction in:

- Selection of oak seed for germination
- Propagation techniques & monitoring of seedlings
- Initial focus on riparian zones at lower elevations
- 85 total participants from 43 institutions including government agencies, NGOs, universities, & ejidos

Photo credits: GCCO Maricela Rodriguez Acosta



DoD Cooperation on Monarch Butterfly Conservation

Initial Geographic Focus: Western Monarchs in California & Oregon

Advance a coordinated and comprehensive approach for DoD's participation and leadership in monarch conservation

1. Washington State University
2. Xerces Society
3. Monarch Joint Venture
4. California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD)
5. Deschutes Land Trust
6. Environment for the Americas



Contact Information

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