

Operation Pollination Resolution



The undersigned recognize the critical importance of pollinator habitat both restored and maintained on public and private lands, particularly found within the St. Croix Watershed and adjacent counties within Minnesota and Wisconsin. Through collaboration and outreach resulting from this Resolution, an interconnected mosaic of pollinator habitat with large core areas will be developed to stabilize and/or increase populations of pollinator species throughout this region.

WHEREAS, pollinators include butterflies, bees, some birds, bats, and other insects that play a crucial role in flowering plant reproduction and

WHEREAS, three-fourths of the world's flowering plants and 35% of the world's food crops depend on pollination to reproduce and

WHEREAS, the endangered Karner Blue Butterfly is no longer found in Eastern Minnesota and Canada, and the western edge of the national population is currently anchored within the St. Croix watershed and

WHEREAS, monarch butterfly populations declined to its lowest recorded level in 2013-2014 and there is an imminent risk of failed migration, and

WHEREAS, Operation Pollination's goal is to increase pollinator habitat within all of the National Heritage Areas in the United States and

WHEREAS, the North Woods and Waters of the St. Croix Heritage Area serves the entire 8,000 square miles of the St. Croix watershed and provides outreach through its St. Croix Master Watershed Stewards with the NPS, the USFS and the USFWS

WHEREAS, given the breadth, severity and persistence of pollinator losses it is critical to expand efforts to reverse pollinator losses and restore populations to healthy levels

THEREFORE, we (I) declare that we (I) will join forces with other organizations in the St. Croix Watershed to protect and enhance pollinator species and their habitat in the St. Croix watershed. To this end, we (I) have identified the actions we (I) will take and have signed the Pollinator Pledge.



Karner Blue Butterfly

Operation Pollination Goals

- **Increase and improve pollinator habitat** by identifying existing pockets of pollinator habitat and developing a nectar corridor for migratory and non-migratory pollinator species
- **Develop strategic partnerships** for improving or creating habitat for pollinators and providing educational opportunities
- **Encourage action** through voluntary, collaborative and locally led conservation actions such as planting pollinator gardens, building bee blocks and avoiding or limiting pesticide use
- **Provide education** to those interested in increasing their knowledge pollinators and improving pollinator habitat
- **Promote citizen science** opportunities to track key populations of pollinator species and share research and resources about restoring pollinator habitat