

# *Operation Pollination: Pollinator Resolution*



The undersigned recognize the critical importance of pollinator habitat both restored and maintained on public and private lands found within the Oil Region National Heritage Area. Through collaboration and outreach resulting from this Resolution a mosaic of pollinator habitat will be created, restored, or maintained to stabilize and/or increase populations of pollinator species throughout this project area.

WHEREAS, Pollinators include butterflies, bees, some birds, bats, and other insects that play a crucial role in flowering plant reproduction and given the breadth, severity and persistence of pollinator losses, it is critical to expand efforts to take new steps to reverse pollinator losses and help restore populations to healthy levels;

WHEREAS, Monarch butterfly populations declined to the lowest recorded level in 2013-14, and there is an imminent risk of failed migration; WHEREAS, Oil Region National Heritage Area is suited to serve as a coordinating entity for collaborative efforts between multiple organizations; WHEREAS, Three-fourths of the world's flowering plants and about 35 percent of the world's food crops depend on animal pollination to reproduce;

WHEREAS, For migratory pollinators, such as bats, hummingbirds, and the monarch butterfly, we recognize the importance of identification and protection of nectar corridors;

THEREFORE, we declare that it is our goal to collaboratively and strategically protect and enhance pollinator species and their habitat on public and private lands throughout the Oil Region National Heritage Area located in Northwest Pennsylvania by:

- **Increase and Improve Pollinator Habitat:** Develop a network of habitat on public and private lands to develop a nectar corridor for migratory and nonmigratory pollinator species
- **Public-Private Partnerships:** Develop strategic partnerships to improve or create habitat for pollinators as well as provide educational opportunities within the scope of the resolution
- **Education:** Encourage voluntary, collaborative and locally-led conservation that has proven to be effective in maintaining and enhancing working landscapes, this may include but is not limited to planting pollinator gardens, building bee blocks and avoiding or limiting pesticide use and mowing
- **Research:** Develop and/or promote citizen science opportunities for improving pollinator habitat on residential properties and at public centers

The undersigned (on back) have each committed to protect, preserve, create, or restore pollinator habitat on lands that we manage by signing the pledge.