



Meeting Agenda

Session 1

Wednesday, March 4, 2026

1:00 pm - 1:10 pm CT

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Brief introduction, meeting objectives, key updates, and announcements

1:10 pm - 1:55 pm CT

Group Session

State of Monarch Conservation

Wendy Caldwell, *Executive Director, Monarch Joint Venture*

Leveraging Participatory Science

Karen Oberhauser, *Retired Director, University of Wisconsin-Madison Arboretum*

1:55 pm - 2:00 pm CT

Break

2:00 pm - 2:50 pm CT

Breakout Sessions (select one)

Plains to the Pacific: Regional Native Seed Collecting Challenges and Opportunities

James Hart, Andy Grinstead, Kaleigh Obrock, *Pollinator Partnership*

This interactive breakout session features Pollinator Partnership staff in an "ask me anything" discussion on native seed collecting, using their Project Wingspan initiative as a case study. The rest of the session will be an open Q&A focusing on differences between seed collecting in the eastern and western US, effective ways to engage volunteers, and strategies for amplifying milkweed in different regions.

Telling Your Story Through Social Media

Elizabeth Egan and Jacob Swanson, *Monarch Joint Venture*

The MJV Communications team will share insights on using social media to support nonprofit conservation organizations, with a focus on platforms such as Facebook and Instagram. The session will explore ways to navigate platform changes and stay on top of emerging trends, and will also include time for participants to ask questions, share challenges, and brainstorm practical approaches that can be adapted to their organization's goals and capacity.

The Key Foundations to Designing Seed Mixtures That Produce Greater Pollinator Health and Habitat Outcomes

Pete Berthelsen, *Bee & Butterfly Habitat Fund*

Beyond the components of what individual species or seeding rates to use in a seed mixture design, this discussion will look the key factors that need to be considered and applied before a seed mixture is designed and planted. Delivering project objectives that increase the pollinator value starts with understanding each projects unique objectives and site conditions.

2:50 pm - 3:00 pm CT

Wrap Up



Virtual Partner Meeting Series

Meeting Agenda

Session 2

Wednesday, March 18, 2026

1:00 pm - 1:10 pm CT

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Brief introduction, meeting objectives, key updates, and announcements

1:10 pm - 1:55 pm CT

Group Session

Network Reciprocity Ring: A Collaborative Exchange to Solve Shared Challenges
Monarch Joint Venture Team

1:55 pm - 2:00 pm CT

Break

2:00 pm - 2:50 pm CT

Breakout Sessions (select one)

Expanding Native Seed Partnerships: Stories of Success

Alison Little, *University of Illinois Chicago*

How can regional native plant partnership initiatives be strengthened to support the expansion of suppliers, improve restoration success, and facilitate better public engagement? This interactive session will build on efforts to identify and address cross-sector needs related to native seed supply by exploring how strategies used by successful regional and state-level initiatives can be extended to other geographic areas. Presentations will showcase case studies and attendees will then collaboratively evaluate how these elements of success can strengthen their own practices and partnership initiatives.

Monarch and Pollinator Habitat Management Takeaways from Recent Research

Science Team, *Monarch Joint Venture*

Turn the latest monarch science into practice conservation action. Hear directly from researchers studying reproduction, habitat context, and conservation planning, then join a facilitated discussion on what their findings mean for on-the-ground management and program strategy. Select ONE section to attend: (1) Maximizing the performance of Conservation Reserve Program enrollments to benefit monarchs, or (2) Impacts of heat, shade, and phenological shifts on monarch reproduction.

Roadblocks & Detours: Finding Open Lanes for Municipalities to Take Conservation Action

Katie Hawk and John Blue, *Oklahoma Monarch Society*
Ric Kotarsky, *Tulsa Zoo*

Join this session to share challenging municipal experiences and learn from each other how to create open lanes for conservation with local governments. Participants are encouraged to bring municipal challenges for the group to discuss and provide potential solutions. Long-time Oklahoma pollinator partners will share their experiences implementing pollinator conservation strategies on city-owned land. This session aims to help you address roadblocks and find detours, no matter the size of the city.

2:50 pm - 3:00 pm CT

Wrap Up



Virtual Partner Meeting Series

Meeting Agenda

Session 3

Wednesday, April 1, 2026

1:00 pm - 1:10 pm CT

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Brief introduction, meeting objectives, key updates, and announcements

1:10 pm - 1:55 pm CT

Group Session

Innovative Pollinator Conservation: Leveraging Investments and Opportunities

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Center for Pollinator Conservation

1:55 pm - 2:00 pm CT

Break

2:00 pm - 2:50 pm CT

Breakout Sessions (select one)

Growing Support for Native Gardening: A Messaging Toolkit for Shared Spaces

Katie-Lyn Puffer and Jenna Totz,
Monarch Joint Venture

MJV's Native Gardening Messaging Working Group is creating a user-friendly toolkit designed to help people build community buy-in for native gardening. In this session, the group leads will talk about how they are combining research, partner expertise, and successful case studies, to develop adaptable materials (signs, letters, and presentations) that empower individuals and organizations to advocate for native habitat across a wide range of community settings. Participants will also be invited to share their own resources and challenges.

The 365-Day Prairie: The Year-Round Residents in the Inter-Milkweed Matrix

Lilly Germeroth, *Missouri Prairie Foundation*

Prairie is the blueprint of the monarch's original breeding grounds, and the space between milkweed stems supports year-round biodiversity. Using an interactive mapping activity, participants will reflect on the plant species composition and density of milkweed in pollinator plantings versus remnant ecosystems. Discussion will include how to establish and steward plantings that best support the monarch butterfly in complement to the broader native insect community.

Western Rangelands Pollinator Conservation

Jessa Kay Cruz, *Xerces Society*
Matt Allshouse, *Audubon California*
Erin Arnsteen, *Monarch Joint Venture*

This breakout session highlights the work of Western Rangelands Pollinator Working Group, with the Xerces Society discussing the California Habitat Kit Program and NRCS partnerships, Audubon California highlighting the Conservation Ranching Program, and Monarch Joint Venture providing an overview of the Monarchs and More Western Habitat Program. The session explores how these partners collaborate on pollinator best management practices and concludes with a participant discussion for feedback and identifying needs for advancing conservation on Western working lands.

2:50 pm - 3:00 pm CT

Wrap Up