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WI Karner Blue Butterfly Habitat Conservation Plan



Presentation Outline

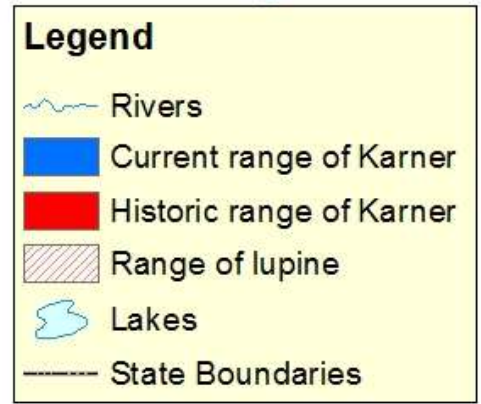
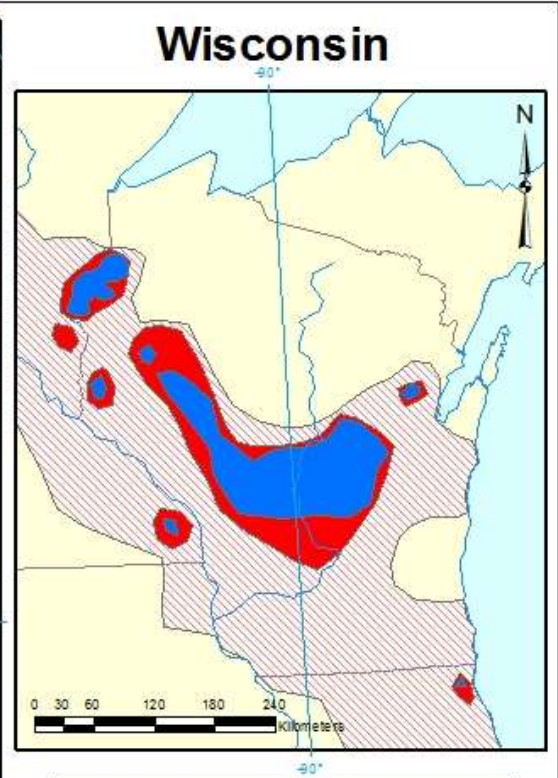
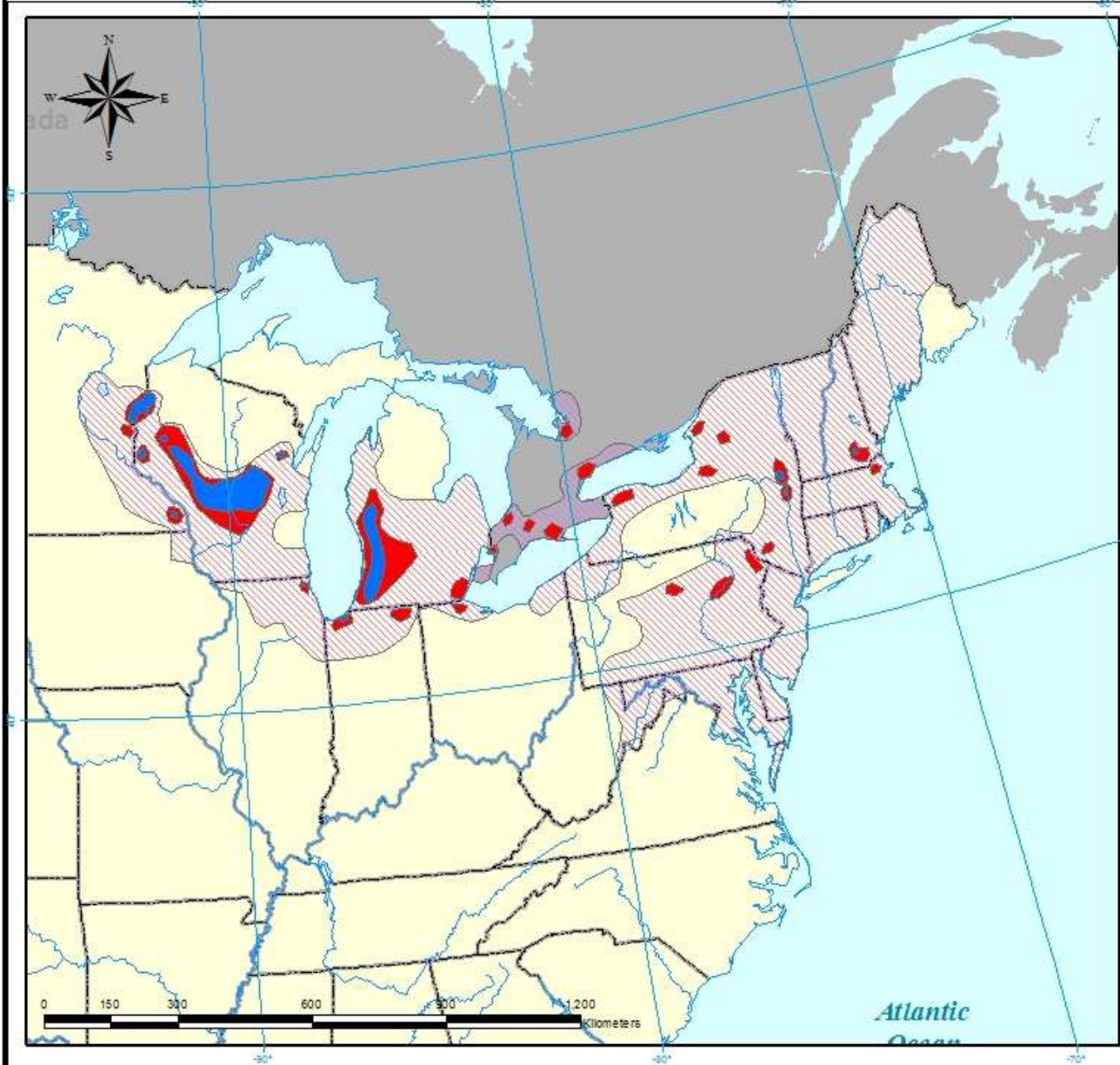
- What is the Karner blue and why its important
- Karner blue range and habitat
- What is the HCP
- Incidental Take Permit
- Surveys
- Process
- Mitigation
- Application for inclusion in the HCP



Barrens, savannas, prairies and the Karner blue butterfly

- Federally Endangered
- Open-forest complex on sand soils
- Dominated by oak and pine
- Disturbance dependent (fire, woodland bison)
- Reduced mainly due to forest succession, fire suppression, marsh drainage

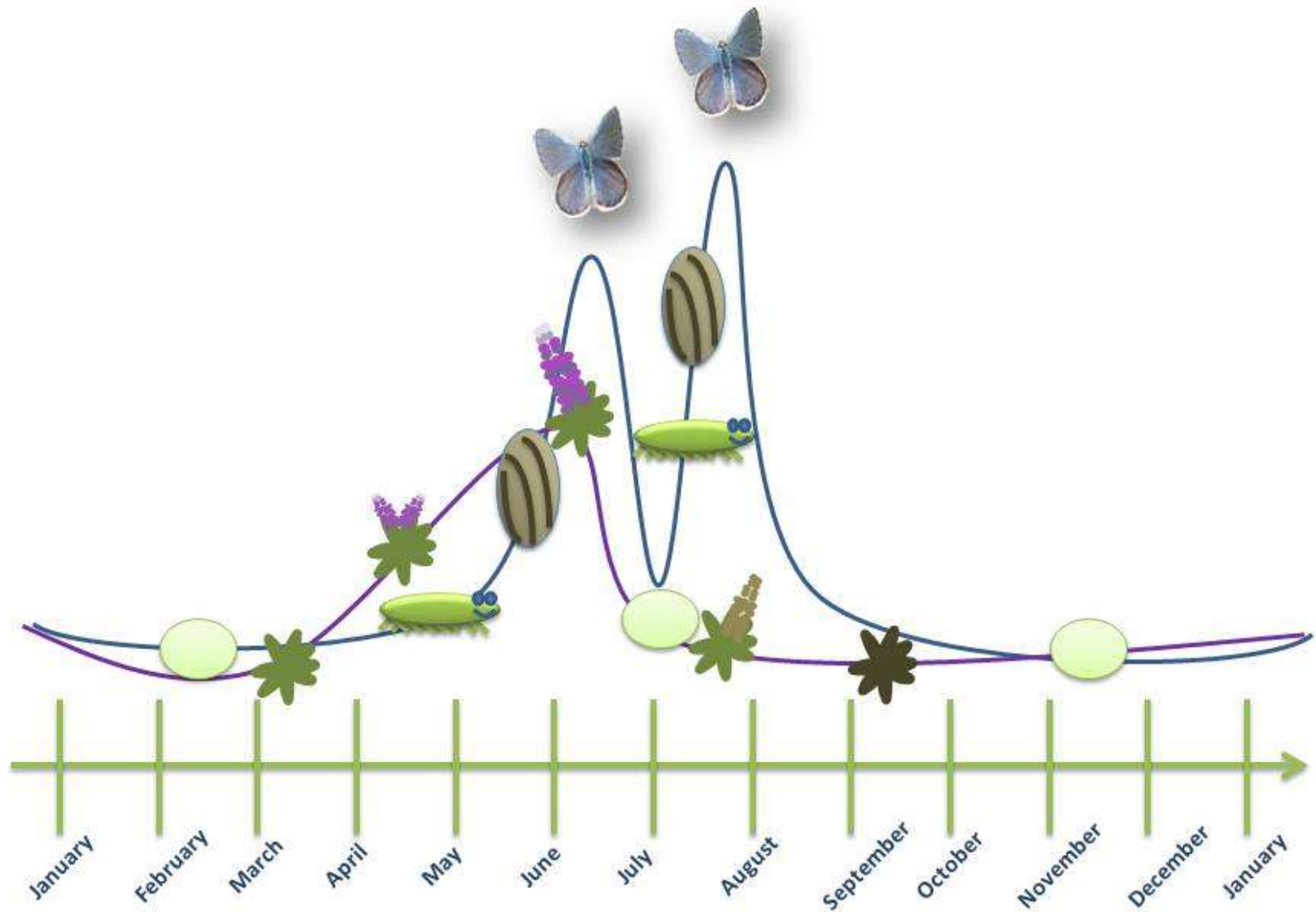




Albers Projection
 Central Meridian: -86
 1st Std Parallel: 20
 2nd Std Parallel: 60
 Latitude of Origin: 40

Range of Karner Blue Butterfly and Wild Blue Lupine

Karner blue and wild blue lupine lifecycle



Why these habitats are important

- Used to dominate the landscape from Minnesota to New York
- Consequently:
 - Species in these areas have been reduced to <1% of their natural populations
- Water and filtration resources
 - Groundwater recharging
 - Marsh filtration
- **Karner blue is NOT just a little blue butterfly, it's a vehicle for habitat/water resources recovery**



Potential Counties in WI

- Adams
- Burnett
- Chippewa
- Clark
- Eau Claire
- Green Lake
- Jackson
- Juneau
- Marquette
- Menominee
- Monroe
- Oconto
- Polk
- Portage
- Shawano
- Washburn
- Waupaca
- Waushara
- Wood

Karner blue High Potential Range (HPR) maps found at <http://dnr.wi.gov/forestry/karner/>.

Wisconsin's Karner blue Habitat Conservation Plan

- A plan that accompanies an **incidental take permit**
- This permit allows land managers to conduct activities that may 'take' (harass, harm or kill) a federally endangered or threatened species



Habitat Conservation Plan (continued)

- Outlines a conservation program for:
 - Avoiding “take”
 - Minimizing “take”
 - Mitigating “take”
 - Monitoring “take”



Incidental take permit

- Several types of 'take'
 - Intentional
 - Non-permitted collection, hunting, intentional destruction of habitat – **NEVER ALLOWED**
 - Temporary
 - Permitted – damaged habitat restored within five years
 - Permanent
 - Permitted – damaged habitat is non-restorable, more than five years
 - Mitigation required



Karner blue surveys

- Prior to any management
 - Survey is good for **five** years
- Certification of surveyors
 - Certified through DNR training, at least once every **five** years
- Lupine surveys
 - Level 1 – presence/absence
 - *Is habitat even suitable?*
 - Conducted April/May through July 31st
 - If lupine is present – Karners may also be present
- Karner surveys
 - Level 2 – presence/absence (3 checks)
 - *Only if lupine is present*
 - Conducted June – early August



Permitting Process

- Full HCP Partners
 - Perform all aspects of monitoring
- Limited (local)
 - Required to perform lupine habitat inventory
 - KBB presence/absence (optional)
 - Use official survey forms
 - Submit to DNR
- Voluntary
 - Agents of Partners
 - Consultants anticipating projects
 - General public



Mitigation

- Must:
 - Replace destroyed habitat
 - At **least** 3:1 ratio
 - Increases likelihood of habitat success
 - OR: Contribution to mitigation fund
 - Based on pre-determined mitigation cost-schedule
 - \$\$ goes towards habitat restoration on state recovery properties
- Requires:
 - Consultation with HCP coordinator and USFWS
 - Development of SHCA (Species and Habitat Conservation Plan)



Application for inclusion In the HCP

- Requires:
 - Consultation with HCP coordinator and USFWS
 - Development of SHCA
- Benefits:
 - Included under DNR Incidental Take Permit for Karner blue
 - Have a voice in developing guidelines, protocols, and regulations for HCP monitored field operations
 - Represented by the Implementation Oversight Committee (IOC)
 - Representative from each member category (i.e. corridors, forestry, surface mining)



Questions?

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- Robert Hess, Karner Blue Recovery Program
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