Monarch Butterflies and You

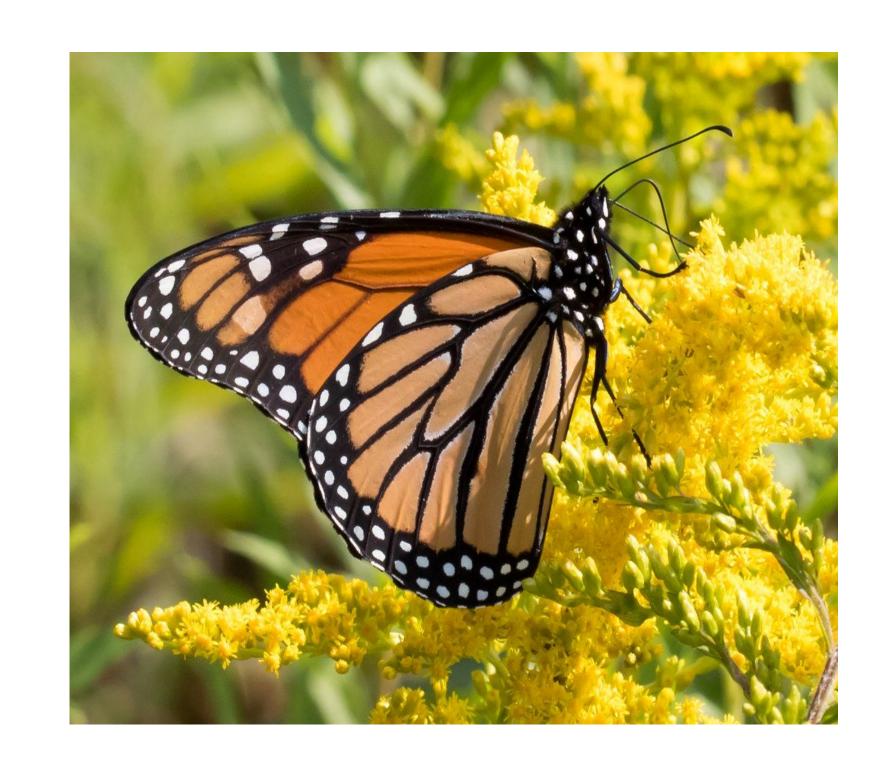
Makaylee Crone and Jon elmquist

Why are monarch butterflies important?

Monarch butterflies are pollinators! As monarchs forage for nectar, they can unintentionally move pollen within and between flowers. This movement of pollen helps flowering plants make seeds, which can eventually disperse and grow into more plants. Seeds and fruit produced as a result of successful pollination can also feed other organisms. Monarch butterflies and the pollination services they provide contribute to the sustainability of entire ecosystems!

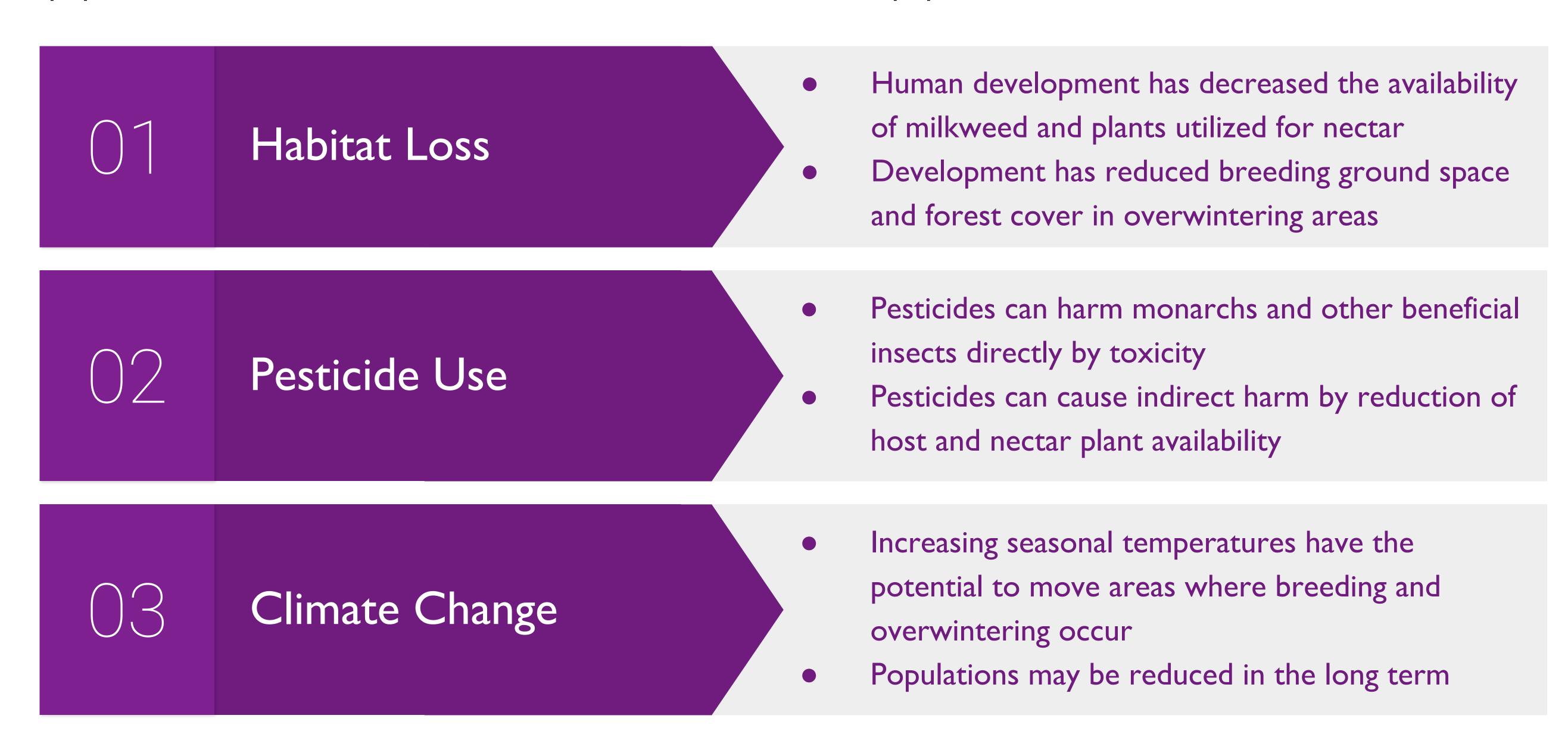






Why are monarchs in decline?

Western monarch populations have declined over 99% since the 1980s, and eastern populations are estimated to have declined more than 80%.



How can I help?

Help your local monarch population by limiting insecticide and herbicide use on your lawn.

Reduce or eliminate

Plant milkweed and nectar-resource plants

Milkweeds are essential to feed monarch caterpillars, and other nectar plants can serve as food and shelter resources for adults, especially during migratory flights.

Reduce your carbon footprint

Even with small changes, such as using less electricity, you can do your part in reducing carbon emissions and mitigating the effects of climate change.

Get involved in citizen science projects

Organizations such as Monarch Watch and The Xerces Society have projects that you and your family can contribute to. Visit our sources below to learn more!

