



THE **OUTSIDE** IS IN US ALL.

## Floating Flowers In The Sky

Assessment form for July/August 2020 "Floating Flowers In The Sky: The challenge and importance of counting butterflies." (CCRA.R.10)

1. Who is the author of the article?
  - Marirose Kuhlman
  - Kristi DuBois
  - Shane Sater
  - FWP
2. What role did Kristi DuBois play for FWP?
  - She was previously the department's regional Nongame Wildlife Program coordinator
  - A student from Carroll College
  - Game warden
  - Kristi DuBois is not mentioned in the article
3. According to the article, what has the main goal of the Five Valleys Butterfly Count?
  - To locate rare butterflies
  - To get people out in the wilderness to enjoy nature
  - To collect butterfly specimens for research
  - To identify all the butterflies they see
4. According to the article, about how many butterfly species live in Montana?
  - 12
  - 200
  - 2002
  - No one has any idea how many butterfly species live in Montana

5. According to the article, what do Rocky Mountain dotted blue butterflies eat?
- Pine nettles
  - Buckwheats
  - Junipers
  - Grasses
6. What is the fate for most butterfly caterpillars?
- They end up as food for something else
  - They are killed by pesticides
  - They are run over by cars
  - They get stepped on by animals
7. Who referred to butterflies as “thou winged blossom?”
- Shane Sater
  - Kristi DuBois
  - Jim Brown
  - British poet Rudyard Kipling
8. According to the article, what butterfly species has become one of the most common found during the Five Valleys count in recent years?
- Orange European skippers
  - Melissa blue
  - Milbert’s tortoiseshell
  - Thou winged blossom
9. According to Kristi DuBois, why would you likely find butterflies in abundance in a recently burned forest that didn’t burn too hot?
- Burnt trees provide excellent habitat for butterflies
  - Fires remove vegetation so butterflies can fly more easily
  - Shrubs, forbs, and grasses are all excellent butterfly food plants and their growth accelerates after a fire due to extra sunlight
  - The article does not mention butterflies in abundance in recent burn areas

10. Select all the likely areas a person could check to find butterflies?

- Mud puddles
- Parking lots
- Meadows
- Stream sides
- Golf courses
- Football fields
- Glaciers
- Cattle pastures

11. According to Kristi DuBois, why is butterfly habitat changing in the Missoula foothills? (select all that apply)

- A lack of fires is allowing for younger denser forested areas
- There are too many people using butterfly habitat for recreation
- Noxious weeds are displacing native grasses and wildflowers
- Increased elk numbers have displaced butterflies
- People are catching too many butterflies in nets

12. According to the article, what is the value of counting butterflies all over North America every year?

- Results can be compared across years for scientists to determine the effects of weather and habitat alterations for various species
- Results can be used to determine weather predictions
- Results can be used to help farmers determine what crops to plant
- Results can be used by fishermen to determine what patterns to use for fly fishing

# Get your boots on the ground and dig deeper!

Research

## The Amazing Monarch Butterfly

The annual migration cycle of the monarch butterfly has been described as the most spectacular in the insect world, an “endangered natural phenomenon.” This species and its migration are dependent upon conservation of habitats in all three North American countries: Canada, the United States, and Mexico.

- Research the following information on monarch butterflies:
  1. The life cycle
  2. Habitat requirements
  3. Migration
  4. Conservation projects in Canada, the United States, and Mexico
- Use your research to create an essay or poster presentation for your class.



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In cooperation with  
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks 2020