

Monthly Pollen

May



Native Pollinator



Photo Credit: Animals Time

Karner Blue Butterfly, *Lycaenidae melissa smuelis.*

Description: One inch wingspan, Identifiable by bands of orange spots on underside edge of wings, top of male wings are deep sky blue, female are darker blue and brown with orange spots on edges of both hind wings

Habitat: Usually occupy open barrens, savannas, and prairies that contain wild lupine, which the larvae feeds on exclusively.

Flight Period: Late May through early June

Status: Endangered species due to habitat loss

Native Plant



Photo Credit: DNR Biologist Chelsea Weininger

Wild Lupine, *Lupinus perennis*

Description: Pea-like blue and purple flowers, palm-shaped leaves surround plant, 1-2' height

Bloom Time: May - July

Sun Exposure: Full, partial

Native Habitat: Dry, sandy soils in oak savannas, sand prairies, and pine barrens

Value: Host plant of Karner Blue Butterfly, exclusive food source of larvae

Get Involved!



Photo Credit: Randall Lee Schieber Photography

Get Involved!

Volunteer Opportunity:

Wisconsin's got the planet's largest population of the federally endangered Karner blue butterfly, and DNR needs your help surveying them on state properties where habitat has been restored!

Training: Please click the following link to learn more!

<https://wiatri.net/inventory/kbb/#about>