

Letter to the Editor

By Laurie Davies Adams

Dear Editor:

As the world's largest organization dedicated to pollinator conservation, the Pollinator Partnership (P2) would officially like to recognize and thank the Society for Range Management for the groundbreaking issue, *Pollinators in Rangelands*. *Pollinators in Rangelands* came out just in time for Pollinator Week 2011, which the US Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and 37 governors officially declared to be the last week of June.

In February, P2 sent Victoria Wojcik, PhD, Associate Programs Manager, and Mary Rager, Plant Ecologist, to copresent with the Bureau of Land Management at the Annual Rangelands Conference in Billings, Montana. During the presentation Dr Wojcik touched on several key initiatives that P2 has spearheaded in collaboration with federal agencies including 32 Ecoregional Pollinator Planting Guides, Memoranda of Understanding signed with federal agencies influencing 1.52 billion acres of land for pollinator habitat, the Bureau of Land Management's incorporation of pollinators into Standard Operating Procedures for Pesticide Application, Bee Basics, the North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC), and the development of a database of pollinators for all threatened and endangered plant species on Department of Defense land, just to name a few.

P2 is currently putting the finishing touches on a training class for land managers on assessing pollinator health at the landscape level, a field guide to bumble bees for land management practitioners, and a continuing education course for certified professional pesticide applicators with revised



best management practices for securing pollinator populations. With support from existing collaborators and future partners, practical field tools will continue to be developed for aiding in the conservation and restoration of pollinator populations and ultimately securing the health of the ecosystems upon which we all depend. We feel that all SRM members can benefit from these tools and we welcome their partnership and insight.

P2 looks forward to continued collaboration with the organizations that are a part of SRM. *Pollinators in Rangelands* highlights the importance of pollinators and the need for additional awareness and research, making it clear that the plight of pollinators rings loud with rangeland managers.

Again, we invite all SRM members to attend the annual NAPPC conference in Washington, DC, October 25–27, 2011; to join a NAPPC task force; and to access the Ecoregional Planting Guides free for their use at www.pollinator.org.

We see additional partnerships as the best tool for securing the ecosystem services pollinators provide across our rangelands, and are eager to serve the rangeland community!

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