

Privacy Act Statement

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has the authority to collect data under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. Information collected through the Monarch Conservation Database web application will be used to inform the Species Status Assessment and, ultimately, the decision whether or not to list monarch butterflies by calculating the potential change in monarch habitat on the landscape due to implementation of conservation efforts and evaluating ongoing and future efforts per the Policy for Evaluating Conservation Efforts (PECE policy). Any information provided to the Monarch Conservation Database through the web application is on a voluntary basis. We do not require anyone provide any information if they do not wish to, however, if an individual or organization does choose to provide data, basic information is required to gain access to the web application, including first name, last name, and email address. In accordance with the Department of the Interior Privacy Policy, The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is committed to maintaining a web site that protects the individual's right to privacy. Likewise, we do not give, sell, or transfer any personal information to a third party except as might be required by law.

Information Collected and Stored Automatically

With the exception of the personally identifiable information (PII) required to establish an account to access the web application (i.e. first name, last name, email address), we collect no personal information about you other than statistical information that can be used to make the site more effective for our visitors. The information that is automatically collected and stored is:

- The name of the domain (from which you access the Internet);
- The IP address (a number that is automatically assigned to your computer when you are using the Internet) from which you access our site;
- The type of browser and operating system used to access our site;
- The date and time you access our site;
- The Internet address of the website from which you linked directly to our site;
- The country and state from which you access our site;
- The pages you visit on our site; and
- Search terms used to get to our website from an external search engine and terms used on our site search.

In certain circumstances, however, we may take additional steps to identify you based on this information and we may share this information, including your identity, with other government agencies.

Although questions, comments, and other communications that we receive generally are not retained as permanent records, please note that it is possible that any mail – electronic or paper – that we or any other Federal agency receive could be permanently retained by the agency, if the mail is part of a group of records determined to have permanent historical value.

Cookies

Like many websites, we use “persistent cookie” technology. Persistent cookies are small text files that this website places on your computer so that it can remember you when you show up again later—like cookie crumbs. None of these cookies store any of your

personal information. We use persistent cookies in two ways, both of which enhance your experience on this website while also protecting your privacy:

- To get aggregate metrics on site usage to understand how people are using the site and how we can make it better. We use web metrics services to track activity on the site. Government agencies only ever receive traffic statistics anonymously and in the aggregate.
- When you visit a website that has partnered with the Google Display Network, Google stores a number in your browser using a persistent cookie to remember your visits. This number uniquely identifies a web browser, not a specific person. Browsers may be associated with a demographic category, such as gender or age range, based on the sites that were visited. This demographic information is used to help us better understand our visitors' interests and needs to more effectively develop content to serve you.

Most Internet browsers automatically accept persistent cookies. Although persistent cookies help us create a better experience for you, most of this website will also work without them. If you don't want to accept cookies, you can change your browser's options to not accept them or to prompt you before accepting them. Here's how to disable cookies.

Personally Identifiable Information

When you voluntarily register for a user account to access the Monarch Conservation Database web application, PII (i.e. first name, last name and email address) is collected as outlined in Privacy Impact Assessment. More specifically, first name, last name, and email address is required to establish an account and access the web application. This PII may be used to contact a web application user in the event that clarification or guidance is needed for interpreting information voluntarily provided or if there are any issues related to the user's account. Other information not considered PII that is required to register includes organization (if applicable). Fish and Wildlife Service staff will either approve or deny requests for registration. Any user may assign other registered web application users as additional editors or Data Coordinators if desired. In order to do so, the user will be able to search for other users by typing in another user's last name. As a result your name and email address may be visible to other registered users if they attempt to add other users as an editor or Data Coordinator.

We will also collect spatially explicit data (e.g. shapefiles) if the web application user is willing and able to provide this information to derive the land use, acreage, and general location (i.e. county) of a conservation effort. This spatially explicit information will not be displayed on any public facing feature of the web application (i.e. the MCD Mapper) or shared with other web application users outside the user's organization or those who the user has identified as an editor or Data Coordinator. Any spatially explicit information collected will be aggregated to the county scale for the purposes of the MCD Mapper and any other public facing feature of the web application. Note that shapefiles and other similar spatially explicit data sets do not constitute PII.

- We do not sell any personal information to third parties.

- We may transfer personal information to a third party in the following cases:
 - To legal authorities if we suspect that you are attempting to change or otherwise damage this website, or you are using it in violation of Federal or local laws;
 - To Congress or a court in response to a subpoena.

External Links

We provide links from our web pages to external websites because they provide information that may interest our customers. This is provided as a convenience only. External links do not constitute an endorsement by the Fish and Wildlife Service of the opinions, products, or services presented on the external site, or of any sites linked to it. The Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the legality or accuracy of information on externally linked sites, or for any costs incurred while using externally linked sites.

Security

For site security purposes and to ensure that this service remains available to all users, we use special software programs for monitoring network traffic to identify unauthorized attempts to upload or change information, or otherwise cause damage to this government computer system. These programs collect no information that would directly identify individuals, but they do collect information that could help us identify someone attempting to tamper with this website.

If you use this system, you should understand that all activities may be monitored and recorded. Anyone using this system expressly consents to such monitoring. If such monitoring reveals possible evidence of criminal activity, monitoring records may be provided to law enforcement officials.

Except for authorized law enforcement investigations, we make no other attempts to identify individual users or their usage habits. We only use raw monitoring data logs for determining trends in usage patterns and in diagnosing system problems.

Freedom of Information Act Disclaimer

While we take protecting your personal privacy seriously and will, to the extent of our ability, protect any information voluntarily provided through the web application, we cannot protect any information (with the exception of PII) from being released into the public domain in the event that a Freedom of Information Act request is made for the information collected through the web application.