

2024 Montana Pollinator Research Summit

Tuesday, April 23rd

Late Registration (2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.)

Gerry W. Marks Exploration Center

Missoula Co. Dept. of Ecology

Wednesday, April 24th

Welcome and Keynote (8:00 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.)

Registration and refreshments

Welcome and Opening Statement

Bryce Christiaens

Keynote - Adding Invertebrates to the 2025 Montana State Wildlife Action Plan Revision

Kimberly Szcodronski

BREAK (15 Minutes)

Session 1 - Pollinator Inventory and Monitoring (10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.)

The Montana Natural Heritage Program - an overview

Bryce Maxell

A four-year survey of North Dakota's bees in all 53 counties to further our understanding of grassland bee communities in the Northern Great Plains

CK Pei

The Montana Moth Project (MMP): Past, Present, and Future

Mat Seidensticker

Monitoring butterflies of Glacier National Park using traditional and molecular techniques

Cayley Faurot-Daniels

Advances to research and monitor bumblebees and other pollinators

Tabitha Graves

Moderated Panel Discussion

moderator: Bryce Christiaens

LUNCH (12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.)

Session 2 - Pollinator Habitat Restoration and Conservation (1:00 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.)

Assessing pollinator friendliness of plants to restore habitat for bees

Justin Runyon

Pollen nutrition, bee-flower interactions, and implications for conservation

Anthony Vaudo

Reseeding grasslands in the northern Great Plains to benefit pollinators

Clay Bolt

Inspiring citizens and municipalities to support pollinator conservation: the Pollinator Matrix tool

Dean Pearson

Pollinators of invasive plants - a case study of Russian olive

Joshua W. Campbell

Moderated Panel Discussion

moderator: Tabitha Graves

BREAK (15 Minutes)

Session 3 - SWAP Workshop (3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.)

Facilitated Workshop: Informing the Montana SWAP to include insect pollinators and other invertebrates

facilitator: Bryce Christiaens

POSTER SESSION AND HAPPY HOUR (4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.)

Thursday, April 25th

Session 4 - The Montana Bumble Bee Atlas (8:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.)

Registration and refreshments

Opening Remarks and Introduction

Marirose Kuhlman

The Montana Bumble Bee Atlas

Rich Hatfield/Michelle Toshack

BREAK (15 Minutes)

Session 5 - Leveraging Public Engagement for Pollinator Conservation (10:30 p.m. - 12:15 p.m.)

Connecting People and Pollinators

Rachel Dunham

Macro photography 101: Techniques for better insect photography

Clay Bolt

From Bumble Bees to Berries: Engaging students in pollinator projects at SKC

Janene Lichtenberg

DNA barcoding and the future of insect identification

Brenna Shea

Engaging Montanans with Pollinator Conservation through Extension

Abiya Saeed

Moderated Panel Discussion

moderator: Rachel Dunham

LUNCH (12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.)

Session 6 - Case Study from Colorado (1:15 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.)

Virtual Panel - The Colorado Pollinator Network: Building a Collaborative Community for Pollinator Conservation

PANELISTS:
Amy Yarger, Butterfly Pavilion
Sonya Anderson, Denver Botanic Garden
Dr. Adrian Carper, University of Colorado
Museum of Natural History
Steve Armstead, Xerces Society

Facilitated Discussion: Developing a Montana Pollinator Network

Bryce Christiaens/Marirose Kuhlman

Concluding Remarks

Marirose Kuhlman
