

A vibrant photograph of several monarch butterflies with orange and black wings, perched on a dense cluster of small yellow flowers. The butterflies are in various positions, some facing the camera and others in profile. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting foliage.

The longest  
journey starts with  
a simple action



# Supporting Science for Monarch Butterfly and Pollinator Conservation

## Why this matters to you:

Pollinators are key to the continental food supply, and important to ecosystem health in North America. Yet there has been a dramatic decline in their populations. Through the CEC, an international network has been created to promote conservation actions for monarch butterflies and their habitat and stop population declines in Canada, Mexico and the United States. The conservation of monarch butterflies also ensures the sustainable livelihoods of communities that depend on them through ecotourism activities.

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**MONARCHS ARE A FLAGSHIP SPECIES REPRESENTATIVE OF POLLINATORS IN NORTH AMERICA. THE MONARCH BUTTERFLY POPULATION HAS DECREASED AS MUCH AS 50% OVER THE LAST 10 YEARS. TO ADDRESS THIS DECLINE, THE CEC IS WORKING WITH EXPERTS, CITIZEN SCIENTISTS, AND COMMUNITIES FROM ACROSS NORTH AMERICA TO HELP BETTER UNDERSTAND AND INFORM THE CONSERVATION NEEDS OF THE MONARCH BUTTERFLY ALONG ITS ENTIRE EASTERN MIGRATORY ROUTE FROM CANADA, THROUGH THE UNITED STATES TO MEXICO, AND BACK.**

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## Because of the CEC...

- Tangible conservation actions by the three countries are contributing to the recovery of the monarch population.
- Researchers, citizen scientists and communities in North America have become more engaged in monarch conservation and habitat restoration actions.
- Research, science and conservation for monarchs also help other pollinators, critical to ecosystems and food crops.

For more information: [www.cec.org/monarch](http://www.cec.org/monarch)

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