

SUBJECT: Comeback Champs -- Karner Blue Butterfly Program

FOR: SEPTEMBER, 2012 BOARD MEETING

TO BE PRESENTED BY / TITLE: Cathy Stepp, DNR Secretary

SUMMARY:

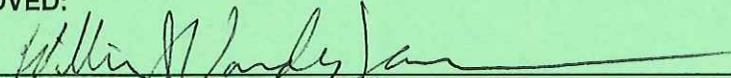
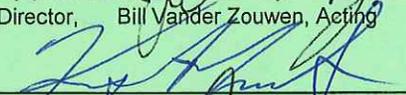
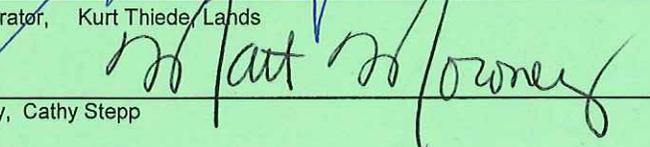
As part of the NRB recognition items, the DNR recognizes Robert Welch and Debra Martin (posthumous) for their contributions in outdoor education for middle and high school students at the Waupaca Biological Field Station, and for their long and ongoing support of the Karner blue butterfly recovery program in Wisconsin. Their outdoor laboratory was established for young student scientists in 1985, well before the listing of the Karner butterfly as an endangered species. When the Karner was listed in 1992 Robert and Debra worked with DNR biologists and university researchers to study Karner habitat and reproduction. They enlisted their young students to help with the research. Soon after the Karner recovery program was started in 2006 Robert and Debra dedicated their property to Karner recovery under a conservation easement with DNR. Debra Martin passed in 2010, but Robert continues their work with outdoor education and research, and as an active and significant contributor to the Karner recovery program in Wisconsin.

RECOMMENDATION: This item is information. No action needed.

LIST OF ATTACHED MATERIALS:

- | | | | | | |
|----|-------------------------------------|---|-----|--------------------------|----------|
| No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fiscal Estimate Required | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Environmental Assessment or Impact Statement Required | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |
| No | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Background Memo | Yes | <input type="checkbox"/> | Attached |

APPROVED:

 Bureau Director, Bill Vander Zouwen, Acting	<u>8/20/12</u> Date
 Administrator, Kurt Thiede, Lands	<u>8/21/12</u> Date
 Secretary, Cathy Stepp	<u>8/23/12</u> Date

cc: NRB Liaison
DNR Rules Coordinator

Bob Hess, ER/6

Lance Potter, ER/6