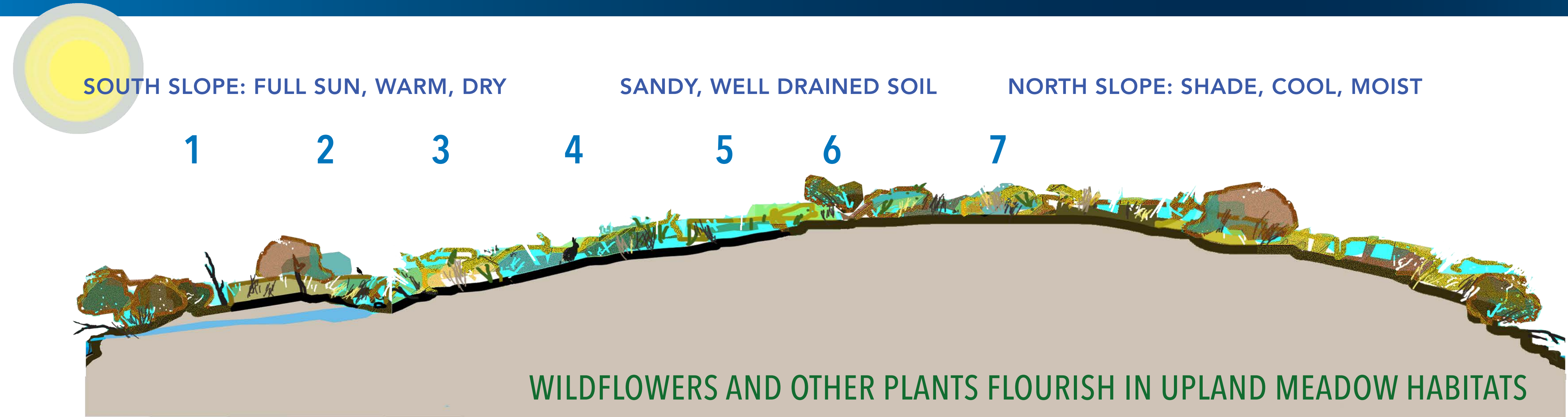


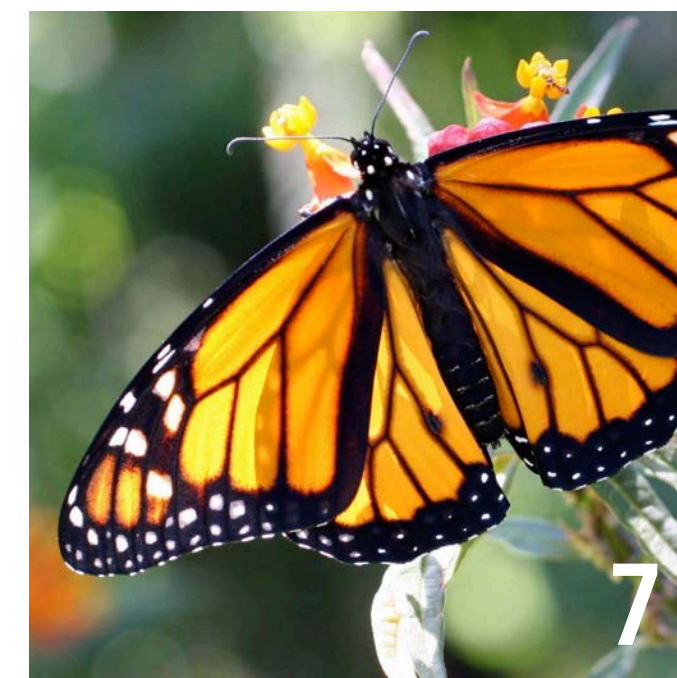
Bringing Back What's Lost

UPLAND MEADOW

Upland meadow habitat is an imperiled ecosystem along the Quinnipiac River and across the northeast.



© Jane Tims



Common witch hazel retains its dark green leaves well into winter. Its fruit attracts birds, providing wildlife shelter and food late in the year.

Eastern meadowlarks breed in nests on the ground covered with woven grasses, and forage along the ground and in low-lying vegetation.

Switchgrass is a hardy and dense native grass, holding soil against erosion and providing year-round wildlife shelter.

Eastern cottontail rabbits are found in meadows and shrubby fields that provide cover, feeding upon the many native species growing there.

Bumblebees are among more than 100 species of bees in Connecticut, important as pollinators in sustaining the plants on which they rely.

Bayberry is a salt-tolerant shrub that flourishes along sandy shores. It retains leaves and fruit well into winter, providing food and shelter to late-season birds.

Monarch butterflies depend on Milkweed as host plant for its larval and caterpillar phases and, as butterflies, for nutrients before their long winter migration south.

