

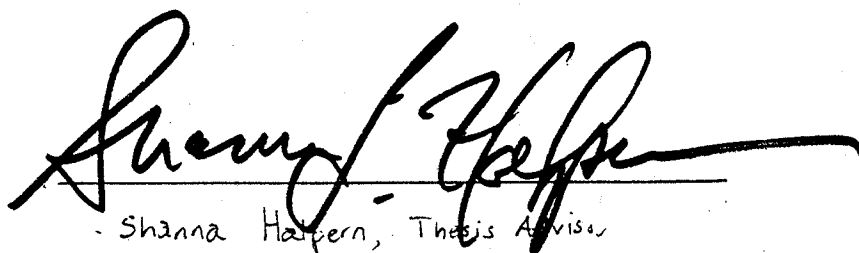
**The Ecological and Political Realities
of Karner Blue Butterfly Preservation
in Concord, New Hampshire**

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ABSTRACT

This paper addresses the ecological and political possibilities for preserving the Karner Blue butterfly (KB) in Concord, New Hampshire. The paper begins with an introduction to the life cycle and habitat requirements of the KB. With this information, a discussion of the pine barren ecosystem and the status of the KB shows how the fate of the KB is linked to that of its pine barren habitat, making preservation of a substantial portion of the remaining pine barren essential for the butterfly's long-term survival. With this in mind, the necessary management practices necessary for KB preservation and habitat restoration are outlined and discussed in the context of specific sites in Concord. The second part of the paper addresses political considerations, such as the political realities involved and how they could be addressed with various mechanisms for preservation. The paper concludes with consideration of how these mechanisms could be best combined to form a comprehensive preserve plan aimed at permanent KB/pine barren protection, and recommendations are made concerning the establishment of a KB/pine barren preserve.

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Shanna Halpern, Thesis Advisor