



Washington Butterfly
Association

*G'nun**

The newsletter of the Washington Butterfly Association

P.O. Box 31317 Seattle WA 98103

<http://wabutterflyassoc.org>

Facebook: Washington Butterfly Association. Instagram: #washingtonbutterflies (anyone can use this hashtag)

*G'nun is the official greeting of WBA. It is derived from the name of common Washington butterfly food plants, of the genus *Eriogonum*.

Butterflying in the Blue Mtns. (M. Weiss)



Special Study Weekend Issue: Dayton, WA Schedule of Events

Register online at <https://reg.planetreg.com/E531224743163165>

Monday July 11: Zoom presentation by David James on the butterflies of the Dayton area.

Friday July 15: Meet in Lewis and Clark Trail State Park, Group Camping Area #2, for socializing, refreshments and mothing. Bring your own chair.

Saturday July 16: Meet at the Best Western in Dayton for field trip to the mountains above Pomeroy.

Saturday July 16 evening: Pizza buffet at the Best Western. Bring your own chair if you wish to sit outside.

Sunday July 17: Meet at the Best Western in Dayton for field trip to Tucannon River.

Monday July 18: possible additional field trips, TBD.

A Bare Bones Excursion into the Blue Mountains

After two years of being held hostage by the COVID virus, the WBA Board has decided to go ahead with a study weekend for 2022. While the program is a little bare bones, the spirit and enthusiasm to gather and discuss butterflies and moths will not be bare bones at all.

In contrast to pre-pandemic years, there will be no lunches provided, no Young Naturalist scholarship attendees, and no Saturday evening speaker or silent auction. We will provide refreshments on Friday evening at the state park, and pizza buffet on Saturday night at the Best Western in Dayton. All other meals will be on your own. In recognition of the reduced circumstances, we are only charging \$50 for the entire weekend's activities, Saturday pizza included. Register online at

Prior to the Study Weekend, on Monday July 11, David James will present by Zoom on the butterflies we hope to see on our excursions. Watch the WBA Noticeline for the link. On Friday, July 15, we will hold our registration event at the Lewis & Clark Trail State Park which is 5.5 miles west of Dayton. We will meet in the Group 2 Camping area where Carl Barrentine will be setting up a moth sheet. Carl's enthusiasm is contagious as he goes about attracting the larger part of the Lepidoptera that we all love. Again, this is a catch and release activity and few - if any - moths will be harmed. It will be a great opportunity to get an introductory course in Mothing 101. There will be snacks and drinks available. There should be ample opportunity to meet and greet others in a socially distanced setting.

For those interested, we have a block of hotel rooms for you to reserve. Please make your reservations before July 1 to guarantee rooms are available. The rates are a little higher than what we may remember from years gone by, but COVID changed everything! Standard rooms are \$114 per night and we have reserved several double queen rooms at \$124 per night. The Best Western folks are small-town-friendly and will have a breakfast buffet available and there is an indoor pool available for guests.

If you prefer to camp, the Group 2 camping area at Lewis & Clark Trail State Park has been reserved for Friday night for Carl's Mothing project and is available for tent campers as well. Note that we only have it for Friday night, not Saturday. The National Forest is available for camping outside of town. If the mothing appeals to you, Carl will be showing his samples Saturday morning before releasing them unharmed.

We will gather the next morning (Saturday, July 16) at the east end of the Best Western Parking lot to drive over to Pomeroy and into the National Forest. Don't forget to bring lunch and water! David James, and Dave & Jo Nunnallee will guide us up to Diamond Peak and/or Mt. Misery. With several stops along the way through a forested area, we will emerge into an alpine meadow zone where we can disperse and discover what is flying up high!

For dinner Saturday night, we will set up a pizza buffet at the Best Western put on by Chief Springs Iron and Fire Works Pizza and Brew Pub of Dayton. There is plenty of space available for outside seating where we can disperse. Please bring your own chairs. There are a few other local restaurants in town but are unable to host the entire group in a COVID-safe manner. WBA will provide a variety of pizzas for attendees. We will also be voting on our officers for next year: President, Jim Reed; Vice President, Haley Armstrong; Treasurer, Regina Johnson; At-Large members Paulette Murphy, Melanie Weiss, David James, David Jennings, Cheryl Bellin, Carl Barrentine. We need nominations for Secretary and for another At-Large board member.

We will reconvene Sunday morning for another excellent David James field trip up the Tucannon River Drainage, east of Dayton. Don't forget to bring lunch and water! The Tucannon is a drier ridge area that should offer us a different butterfly fauna to observe. Dinner is on your own tonight.

There is a possibility of an optional field trip on Monday for your way home. The Spokane area folks could be making a stop at Steptoe Butte on the way home as it is a magnet for butterflies of the Palouse. Those heading west may consider stopping in the Tri-Cities for a rest break and the possibilities of seeing Viceroy's in the wooded area near the confluence of the Yakima and Columbia Rivers. More details to come.

Hopefully this gives you an idea of what we have to offer at this point. We hope to see our old friends and colleagues in person for the first time in two years, and the butterflying should be awesome with some new species. Please take care of continued virus awareness and respect the health of others. Thanks to Dave & Jo Nunnallee and the David James Family for volunteering to preview and lead the field trips.



Butterflying on Mt. Misery. (D. James)



Checkerspots mudding, Tucannon area. (D. James)



Group Camping Area #2 at Lewis and Clark Trail State Park, where we will meet on Friday evening. Plenty of room to spread out!
(C. Barrentine)



Sulphur Lupine (*Lupinus sulphureus*) with a blue delphinium.
(M. Weiss)

Columbia Dotted Blue. (M. Weiss)



2022 Field Trip Schedule (Subject to Change [now more than ever!])

Date	Destination/Description	Difficulty	Trip Leader
June 25	Satus Pass and Simcoe Butte	1	David James
July 9	French Cabin Creek (Salmon La Sac area), limit 10	1	Melanie Weiss
July 15-18	WBA Study Weekend, Dayton	Varies	Varies
July 30-31	Slate Peak, North Cascades	3	Jim Reed
August 26	Crystal Mountain Ski Resort	3	Regina Johnson, Melanie Weiss

Statewide average, May 2022 was the 8th coldest and the 8th wettest on record. For the Walla Walla area, the closest climate report for where our Study Weekend will be, May 2022 was the coldest and the 5th wettest on record. For the March-May spring period, the statewide average produced the 19th coldest and 19th wettest spring on record dating back to 1895. Mountain snow continued well into May, so meltout will be late. Oh and roads have been damaged by winter storms. Butterfly flight seasons will be affected, along with our ability to get to them. Spring butterflies are 2-4 weeks late, and who knows what summer will bring!

Between the pandemic still going on, and the exceptionally cold wet spring in every part of the state, field trips may have to be cancelled or postponed at short notice. And, new this year, there may be limits on the numbers of attendees placed on some field trips. For these reasons it is vital that you register with the trip leader ahead of time.

Non-consumptive appreciation of butterflies is central to our purpose, basic to our approach, and the guiding principal behind general membership field trips. Collecting of adult butterflies is not allowed on these trips. Collecting of eggs and larvae for rearing is accepted on condition that individuals raised to adult stage are released at their original location.

HOW TO SIGN UP: Sign up by contacting the trip leader. (See Board and Committee list in this issue for contact information)

Check our website and Facebook page for last-minute additions (Flash Field Trips!).

DIFFICULTY RATINGS:

- 1 Easy, mostly by car, minor walking along roads.
- 2 Fairly limited walking, some slopes involved.
- 3 Moderate, 3-4 miles walking with some slopes.
- 4 Difficult, hiking required off road, may have short steep sections, total of 4 miles or so.
- 5 Strenuous, extended hiking on trails with steep terrain, 4-8 miles.

With Covid-19 coronavirus restrictions a reality for the foreseeable future it is imperative that you sign up ahead of time for any field trips you wish to participate in. WBA meetings and field trips will follow state and local closures and recommendations for social distancing and stay-at-home orders. Leaders may have to cancel, reschedule, or change field trips with little notice. Carpooling is not being arranged by WBA, although members may do so if they wish, by their own arrangements. Passengers are expected to share gasoline expenses. Typically this is \$10-20 each. Each rider should also pay a share of any park entry fees, ferry fares, etc.



Sawtooth Ridge. (D. James)

Board Members

President	Jim Reed	
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At-Large	Cheryl Bellin	
At-Large	Paulette Murphy	
At-Large	John Baumann	
At-Large	Carl Barrentine	
At-Large	Melanie Weiss	

Committees

Science Advisor	Jon Pelham		
Membership	Reg Reisenbichler		
Annual Conference	Mary Schu and Lora Langford		
Field Trips	Melanie Weiss and Jim Reed		
Programs	Paulette Murphy		
Publicity/Website	Carolyn Heberlein		
Newsletter	Regina Johnson		

The views expressed in articles in this newsletter are those of the authors, and not necessarily those of the WBA.