



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)
iNaturalist: <https://www.inaturalist.org/projects/washington-state-butterflies>

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



Yakima Area Arboretum, headquarters for this year's Study Weekend.

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Upcoming Programs

Study Weekend! June 20-22, Yakima Area Arboretum.
Preview on June 16 by Zoom.

Sept. 3: TBA

President's Message from Liz Kuehn

Hello, butterfly enthusiasts! It's time to get outside, and the Washington Butterfly Association (WBA) has some fantastic opportunities for you to do just that with like-minded individuals! The season is underway with our first field trip led by David James, exploring the dunes and shrub-steppe of Juniper Dunes. Many more trips are planned for this season, so be sure to check the website for current listings and potential flash field trips! <https://wabutterflyassoc.org/2025-wba-field-trips/>

Getting outside in Seattle often requires a raincoat and offers limited butterfly sightings. To change that, WBA is initiating a habitat restoration project at Magnuson Park's Butterfly Garden and Kingfisher Meadow in collaboration with the Magnuson Environmental Stewardship Alliance (MESA) and the Green Seattle Partnership. On April 22nd, in celebration of Earth Day's 55th anniversary, WBA members, along with family and friends, began tackling the invasion of Himalayan Blackberry. The shining sun and mild temperature were a welcome sign, and our first pile of blackberry brush was nearly as tall as Carolyn Heberlein. A bonus as we finished up for the day, a white butterfly drifted by and an Echo Azure was sighted, good omens for our efforts! With assistance from our WBA plant expert, Julie O'Donald, we will gradually introduce native plants that are favored by pollinators as we continue to remove invasive species. While we may not be able to change the Seattle weather, we can create an inviting habitat for butterflies and the people who love them while providing an educational experience for residents of Western Washington. A big thank you goes out to our first work party participants: Richard Youel, Carolyn Heberlein, Rich Dufort, Melanie Weiss, Julie O'Donald, Vicki King, Mike and Vicki Elledge, Kathy O'Leary, and Julie Reilly. We also extend special thanks to our MESA friends Lynn Ferguson, Mary Bicknell, and Thomas Kelly! I am incredibly grateful for all the help we received at our first work party and hope many more of you will join us for future events.

The 2025 Study Weekend is just around the corner, scheduled for June 20-22. To get a preview of the butterfly species we may encounter and the areas we'll explore, WBA will host David James for a Zoom broadcast on Monday, June 16th.

There is still time to encourage a young naturalist to apply for the 2025 Idie Ulsh Young Naturalist Scholarship! The deadline is May 15th, for more information visit <https://wabutterflyassoc.org/2025-idie-ulsh-young-naturalist-scholarship/>.

Our meeting venue both Friday and Saturday evenings will be at the Yakima Arboretum. Please note that you are responsible for making your lodging arrangements. There are many lodging options in Yakima which you can review at <http://www.visityakima.com/>. Online Registration is coming soon and will be announced via a Noticeline email and the website blog.

For more information check out the blog post at <https://wabutterflyassoc.org/wba-annual-butterfly-weekend-2025/>

Wishing you good butterfly encounters,
Liz Kuehn



Pictures from the Magnuson Park Butterfly Garden Earth Day work party.



Pictured Left to Right - Richard Youel, Liz Kuehn, Mike Elledge, Julie Reilly, Kathy O'Leary, Rich Dufort, Vicki Elledge, and Carolyn Heberlein.

Richard Youel and Vicki King get to the roots.



Melanie Weiss added a very long Blackberry runner to the brush pile.

Camas are beginning to bloom - photo by Carolyn Heberlein



Bleeding Hearts planted along the trail in March by Paulette Murphy, Carolyn Heberlein, Mary Bicknell and Liz Kuehn are thriving and blooming!

Lights! Camera! Action! – WBA Goes to the Movies!

By Dan Dunphy

The Grand Cinema in Tacoma occasionally screens programs that offer moviegoers shows and documentaries with an eye towards “science” learning, in addition to entertainment. To enhance the experience, someone is brought in to speak to the audience before the film starts; priming them for the subject they are about to view.



This past winter, the Cinema’s education director, Paul Richter, reached out to the Washington Butterfly Association to ask if we would like to present a short talk on butterflies prior to their showing of a 2024 documentary on moths titled *Nocturnes*. The WBA board liked the idea and immediately reached out to our own moth (and butterfly) expert, David Droppers, who agreed to deliver an informative introduction to the packed theater.

Nocturnes follows a lepidopterist and her assistants into the lush forests of the Eastern Himalayas seeking hawk moth species to catalog, count and measure for ecological and environmental clues potentially correlating to the planet’s changing climate. For me, the film illustrated how much patience and determination is required for exploring and studying insects in the wild (think streaks of formidable weather, steep hiking, hour upon hour waiting for your moths that just do not show up to your white sheets – oh, yes, and wild forest elephants!) Of course there were also times of rewards for those efforts: nights when 1000s of moths arrive in all their glorious forms, sizes and color patterns.

To supplement David’s outreach efforts WBA Board members Dan Dunphy, Liz Kuehn and Melanie Weiss set up a small table in the back of the theater with brochures and bookmarks and were available for anyone wanting to learn more about moths, butterflies and our organization. A few enthusiastic folks stepped up to engage us with the questions and stories about their interests in leps.

Special thanks to the Grand Cinema for inviting us to the show! And another BIG thank you to Paulette Murphy for her generous donation to WBA related to this event.



*A WBA Citizen
Science Project
on iNaturalist:
June 21 through July 20,
2025*

WBA is having a statewide, month-long butterfly count this summer, the first year for this WBA citizen science project. Let's see how many butterflies everyone observes around the state. You can document butterflies from your yard, while camping, hiking, at a park, or wherever you may find yourself throughout Washington. It is easy to participate. First, create an account on iNaturalist either using the phone app, downloaded from the Play Store, or through the web on a computer, at <https://www.inaturalist.org>. Then join our project on iNaturalist: "[Big Butterfly Month Washington State](#)". For those new to iNaturalist, we have provided a [link](#) to a short page on "How to Sign up for an iNaturalist Account". There is no charge.

Take a photo of a butterfly with your cell phone or camera and upload it to iNaturalist. Once it's uploaded, you'll need to check a box to include your observation in our project, which should show up as an option towards the bottom of the creating observation page. If not, make sure you joined our project. There are 3 different versions of the smart phone app, plus the web interface used by desktop or laptop computers. You may use any, or all! There's an Android version, and for iPhones there's a Classic and a New version. Directions will vary slightly between all the different versions. The web version only allows you to upload one photo to initiate the observation, and then you add any others, while the smart phone apps allow you to add multiple photos at once. You also get the option with the phone apps to select photos from your gallery, or taking a photo through the app. Once you have a photo uploaded, the app can suggest an identification, *if* you have cell reception. First off, iNat can be wrong, so don't take its suggestion as absolute truth. Second, if you don't have reception, you'll have to add the identification later. Third, if you don't have Location turned on, iNat won't know what to suggest. Many people like to use a real camera to photograph their butterflies, and then upload through the web interface on a desktop, where they have an internet connection and access to their field guides to verify identifications.

More thorough directions [here](#).

You'll need to make sure that you gave iNat permission to access your location—iNat observations need to have a GPS location and a date. The phone app makes it easy to upload your photo while in the field, but if there is a problem or you are using a real camera, images can be uploaded at home on a desktop computer. If you're uploading from a camera that does not record GPS location, you can add that manually in the web interface. An observation without a location or a date will not be added to our project, since it's limited by both location and date. You may post as many sightings as you wish (of different butterflies!) on as many days as you like within the date range above. The project will close after that date.

Acknowledgement will be given for any county records and Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) that participants observe. Post whatever you find and we will make the final determination of any records or sightings. You must be signed up for our project to receive recognition. Your accomplishments will be announced on our website and in the G'num.

Join us for our first year of this citizen science adventure!

If you need additional help on getting started on iNaturalist, feel free to contact one of our Board Members below:

Karen Holtrop: sec@wabutterflyassoc.org

Regina Johnson: tres@wabutterflyassoc.org

Melanie Weiss: tl_MelanieW@wabutterflyassoc.org

Butterflies of the Columbia Coast

Text by Robert Michael Pyle , Art by Lissa Brewer

Reprinted with permission from *Our Coast Magazine (The Astorian)*

Let it be said from the outset that we privileged ones who dwell near the mouth of the Columbia River, on either side and for some distance inland, do not occupy butterfly nirvana. If you have been under the impression that the rainforests of the world are populated by scads of beautiful butterflies, then revise your view slightly: this is true of tropical rainforests — but not temperate rainforests.

Butterflies tend to do very well, in both abundance and diversity, under conditions that are hot and wet (the tropics), hot and dry (the desert) and cold and dry (the Arctic). Cool and wet, not so much. And those are the conditions that prevail here, in our beloved temperate rainforest. The persistent rain and heavy forest cover tend to discourage these sun-loving insects, whose immature stages are likely to rot in the wintertime. Our diversity is better expressed in ferns, mosses, mushrooms, conifers and other organisms that thrive under cool, shaded, moist conditions, or else migrate. So the butterflies here are subtle, compared to elsewhere.

That said, a modest array of species from across the spectrum of butterfly families has adapted well to the plants and climate of the lower Columbia, and they do very well here. Happily, many of these are both beautiful and fascinating, and may be found with moderate searching and attention to the landscape. So we are not at a loss for butterflies here, even if there are far fewer than we might find in the Cascades, Olympics, or Willamette Valley and points south to the Siskiyou and beyond.

Here I will acquaint you with a number of butterflies that you might well encounter here along Our Coast and its adjacent inland areas, and give some tips as to how you might go about spotting them. Since butterflies have different life histories and particular emergence times, it might be best to do this by running through the butterfly year along the Columbia Coast.

As winter turns toward spring, with hazel catkins bursting and pussy willows not far behind, the very first butterflies of the year are posed to emerge — not from their chrysalis, but from a hollow tree, shed or other shelter. Eight Northwest butterflies overwinter as adults, and may be seen on the wing even in January or February, or certainly in March, when the sun is allowed to shine enough to warm the air and bring out these hibernators. Around here, the most likely ones to see are mourning cloaks, California tortoiseshells, satyr anglewings and green commas. Watch for these sizable, often rusty-colored butterflies taking their hungry sustenance at sapsucker holes or pussy willows. They may look tatty after their long winter in-dwelling, but their bright offspring will appear again in the fall.

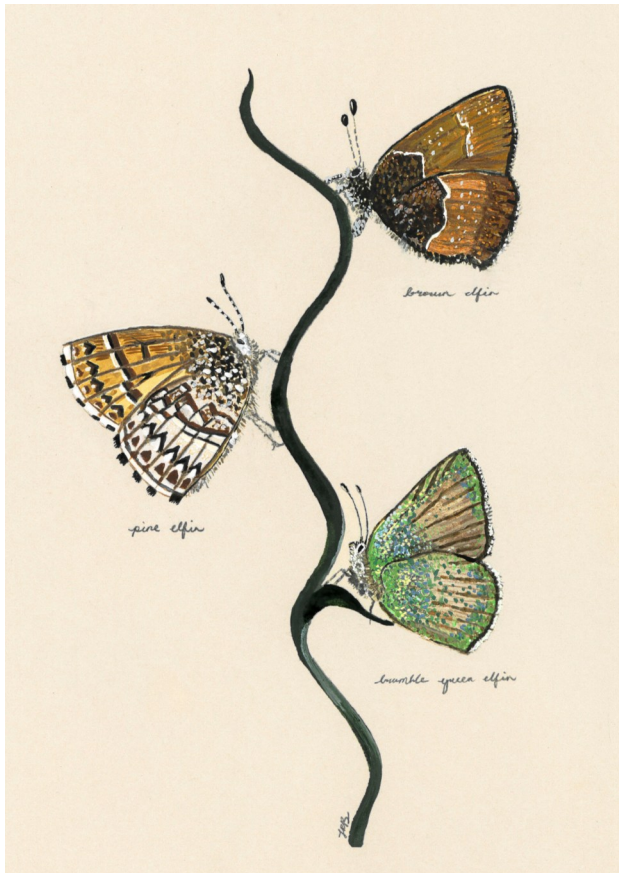
Usually, the first fresh emerger to pop out of its pupa is the echo azure, related to the eastern spring azure, which Robert Frost described as “sky-flakes/down in flurry on flurry.” Members of the gossamer-winged family, the blues, cop-

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pers and hairstreaks, azures are a lovely lilac-blue on the upper side, silvery white below. Their caterpillars feed on flower buds of many kinds of shrubs, especially osier dogwood, ocean spray and ninebark around here. The adults visit early flowers such as sweet coltsfoot, and the males collect on sandy riverbanks and muddy logging roads to sip salts from the soil. So when you spy bright blue fliers on early spring days, your eyes are not playing tricks on you. These increasingly rare warm and sunny spring days may also reveal relatives of the azures called elfins. The tiny, chestnut-and-mauve brown elfin haunts kinnikinnick and salal in seaside woods, while the (actually pine-feeding) pine elfin patrols shore pines among beach dunes at Leadbetter Point and Fort Stevens, and the bramble green elfin seeks out rosy lotus flowers higher in the Oregon Coast Range. All of these are thumbnail-sized, as is our earliest skipper — the buzzy gray two-banded checkered skipper, which lays its eggs on flowers of big-flowered geum and trailing blackberry in woodland glades and roadsides.



In April, the forest and rural roads begin to be spattered by lots of margined whites floating along like bits of tissue paper. These nearly pure-white butterflies with darker veins beneath favor the flowers of ladies' smocks (*Dentaria* or *Cardamine*) on which to lay their eggs, like most of the whites requiring hosts in the mustard family. They are native to our temperate rainforest and very well adapted to it, doing well in clearings among both old-growth and managed forests, if not sprayed. But when you leave the wilder places for the towns and gardens, the species of white shifts from margined to European cabbage white. This familiar butterfly, introduced into Quebec in 1861, covered the whole continent extremely successfully, feeding as larvae on cabbages, broccoli and other crucifers. It is by far the commonest species in Astoria, flying from spring through fall in successive generations. I love it, as it is often the only butterfly to be seen on a sunny day in town or farmland.

The late spring brings some real warmth, and with it the tide of swallowtails. The first to mention is another white butterfly, but bigger and floppier than the actual whites. This is the *Clodius parnassian*. Though classed as a swallowtail by morphology and

DNA, it looks nothing like the others. It is a biggish, rounded butterfly of waxen white with sharp inky-black and cherry-red spots. Its caterpillars feed on wild bleeding heart, so you can spot it floating along many a woodside road or path all summer long.

Usually by May Day or so, the more obvious true swallowtails will be out too. We are graced with three species here. The pale tiger swallowtail is first out, often in time to nectar on your lilac bushes. It is quite whitish too, banded in thick, black tiger-stripes. A week or two later come the western tigers, lemon-yellow with narrower black tiger-stripes. Both of these feed on broad-leaved trees like willows, cherries, red alder and cascara, and can be truly abundant when conditions are right, even in the city. (Many people call them monarchs, which do not occur here because of the absence of milkweed.) Our final species of the family, the anise swallowtail, has two distinct broods, in spring and late summer to fall. It sports yellow bands across black wings and it lays its eggs on seaside angelica, cow parsnip, dill, parsley and other members of the carrot family. Look for them on lilacs in the spring and butterfly bushes in August, and along headlands, breeding almost down to tidewater at Leadbetter Point.

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As spring goes on, watch for western meadow fritillaries in the forest clearings. Like all fritillaries, they feed on violets. When they fly, their brilliant orange, black-dotted wings, and their violet-and-rust undersides when at rest, leave little question of their identity. Another softer orange small one — actually Dreamsicle-colored — may be seen haunting the back-beach grasses on the Oregon side about this time. Known as the ochre ringlet, it is often seen tucked up under spiderwebs beneath Queen Anne's lace along seaside dunes. The related large wood nymph may be spotted flip-flopping through pasturelands and wood-edges some distance inland from the shore. The males are dark chocolate and the females cocoa, each with conspicuous eye-spots on the wings to draw birds' attention away from their bodies. Both ringlets and wood nymphs feed on grasses as green, camouflaged caterpillars.

Summertime sees the flights of several colorful members of the brush-footed family. A common resident of towns, countryside and anywhere with willows and ocean spray, the very handsome Lorquin's admiral soars back and forth between occasional flaps. Flying out from a chosen branch, males patrol particular territories where they are most likely to encounter females. Jet-black with broad white bands and cinnamon wing tips, they are unmistakable and unforgettable. Another butterfly commonly called an admiral, the red admiral (or red admirable), is not closely related. It too is black, but its wing bands are scarlet or fire-engine orange, not white. Look closely and you will see its resemblance to the several species of ladies — painted lady, West Coast lady and American lady, each with salmon or citrus-orange wings with distinctive black, tan and white variegations. All three species fly into our area in the summer from farther south, so their numbers are highly irregular and their appearance unpredictable year to year. They especially love to nectar on zinnias and butterfly bushes.

A much smaller brush-foot appears sparsely in spring but much more abundantly in its summer generation. This is the bright orange-and-black spackled mylitta crescent. A mother-of-pearl crescent-spot at the outer edge of the underside of the hindwing gives its group the name "crescents." The brighter orange males, just an inch across, glide and flap, glide and flap, close to the ground, patrolling roadsides, edges of rutted tracks or fields and country lanes, all through late summer into fall. The slightly bigger females are a duller orange. They spend their time visiting flowers and seeking their host plants to lay eggs. They feed exclusively on thistles — native or introduced. So if you do not have a compelling reason to eliminate thistles, by all means keep them around, because they are also the caterpillar host for painted ladies and a favorite nectar source of swallowtails, fritillaries and others.

Another tiny flier of summer is the purplish copper. You will find it in damp spots or waste areas in fields where pink knotweed or smartweed grows (not the big Japanese knotweed). Females are orange- and black-spotted, while the males are tarnished-penny brown with an extraordinary purple sheen when seen in the right light. They occur throughout much of our area, though seldom commonly unless you come upon a good big knotweed patch.

One other, very special species of copper can be claimed by the Columbia Coast, but it is very rare and few have seen it. A newly described subspecies of the mariposa copper (more common in the Cascades), it is known as June's copper. Found at Ilwaco in 1918 and never since on the Long Beach Peninsula, it was discovered among the Gearhart Fen Complex in recent years by local naturalist Mike Patterson. Efforts to find more and to protect their fen-cranberry bog habitats are underway. The uncommon, sedge-feeding dun skipper may be spotted here as well.

(to be continued in the August issue.)

Communal Roosting of Checkerspots???

By Melanie Weiss

Last year, 2024, in late June I observed Snowberry Checkerspots behaving in a way I had not seen before. It was late afternoon, around 5:30. Liz Kuehn and I were in a beautiful meadow at around 4,800 ft. Several species of butterflies were flying, and as clouds moved in and the temperature cooled, there was a definite chill in the air. We observed individual butterflies drop to the ground and spread their wings to absorb the ground's warmth as the sun moved in and out of the clouds. Snowberry Checkerspot, *Euphydryas colon*, was one of the species ground basking and they were abundant in this area. Surprisingly, we also noticed many Snowberry Checkerspots flying into several fir trees, landing on the branches, flying in and out of the tree, chasing each other up and around the tree. Some species of butterflies and moths are known to roost together at night. Although communal roosting has not been observed for this species, could the Checkerspot's behavior suggest that the tree was to be a night time roosting location? Weighing whether to wait and observe their behavior as darkness fell, or head home after being out all day in the sun, heading home won out.



Checkerspot basking on tree. (M. Weiss)

This year I learned that the Sagebrush Checkerspot, *Chlosyne acastus*, had been seen performing similar behavior in the Kennewick area. Lisa Hill observed a large gathering of this species circling and landing in a pine tree in the first week of May, also late in the day.

I'm wondering if anyone else has observed similar behavior. Let's keep an eye on Checkerspots this season!

2024 Field Trip Protocols

Non-consumptive appreciation of butterflies is central to our purpose, basic to our approach, and the guiding principle 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: Anyone can sign up by contacting the trip leader.

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 may involved.
- 3 Moderate, 3-4 miles walking, or 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.

WBA & Cowiche Canyon Conservancy joint Community Butterfly Field Day

Wednesday, May 21

Washington Butterfly Association and the Cowiche Canyon Conservancy in Yakima will be teaming up to present a

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Community Butterfly Field Day at Snow Mountain Ranch on the western outskirts of Yakima in late May. Targeted mostly at children, we will start with a Show and Tell session presenting an overview of butterflies and showing them some examples of butterflies and caterpillars. Then we will lead a field trip into Snow Mountain Ranch where we will show and tell everyone about butterflies in their natural habitat! This is a chance for WBA members to share their passion and knowledge about our butterflies!above and beyond the area that we'll focus on, and not to trail users! Here, at spring time, visitors find rich and varied

Difficulty: Level 2. Leader: David James tl_DavidJ@wabutterflyassoc.org

Little Spokane River Natural Area, VanHorn-Edburg-Bass Conservation Area, a.k.a. "The Knothead Trail"

Saturday, May 31

We ought not take the name of this amazing butterfly lovers' trail personally: the "knothead" moniker refers to the rocky knob located 2 miles wildflowers and butterfly fauna along a trail that passes through an interesting forest fire recovery zone and proceeds into an older growth dry forest. Before the 2015 wildfire, Spokane area butterflyers had identified over 40 species of butterflies that frequented this conservation area, and, after the fire, one or two new species seem to pop up each season. This moderately challenging hike, 2 to 3 miles round-trip, follows a gradual incline on good trail, and you might be harassed by mosquitoes or wood ticks. Those who can brave these risks may find all four species of Washington state elfins, Thicket Hairstreaks, Western Arctic Skippers, and numerous Swallowtails, Blues, Whites, Angewings, Tortoiseshells and Ladies. Silver-spotted Skippers, which started appearing regularly here several years after the fire, might also make an early showing.

We should plan to meet in the parking lot of the Yoke's grocery store on Indian Trail Road at 10 AM, where we can organize ourselves into carpools before driving to the trailhead at Indian Painted Rocks. State Discover Passes are required for all those offering to drive to the trailhead.

Difficulty: Level 2-3, some distance, moderate, gradual climb. Leader: John Baumann tl_JohnB@wabutterflyassoc.org

Kamiak Butte County Park

Early June, TBD (To Be Determined)

Kamiak Butte County Park is located off SR 27 between Palouse and Pullman. The area offers 5 miles of hiking trails and reaches an elevation of 3,641 feet. There will be an abundance of birds, critters, plants and butterflies! Please pack snacks/lunch and bring plenty of water. Camping is an option on a first come, first served basis. Contact Hailey for more details or if you would like to sign up.

Leader: Hailey Armstrong tl_HaileyA@wabutterflyassoc.org

Spiva Butte Preserve

June 8 TBD

This beautiful Preserve was significantly impacted by fire in September of 2020, and the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust would like an update on what butterflies are currently present. It is an opportunity to observe the recovery status five years after the fire. Hopefully we will find the Silver-bordered Fritillary, a Species of Greatest Conservation Need



Snow Mtn. Ranch. (M. Weiss)



Hailey photographing a butterfly. (Sue Orlowski)

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WBA at Spiva Butte in 2019, pre-wildfire. From left: Jon Pelham, Melanie Weiss, Paulette Murphy, and Cheryl Bellin with back to camera. (R. Johnson)

SGCN). The fire burned 100% of the property and eliminated big sagebrush, the plant that provides critical cover and food for sage grouse. Re-planting of sagebrush and native plants has been ongoing. This prime shrub-steppe habitat previously had a four-acre lake, three springs, a diversity of birds, plants, animals and butterflies in addition to the sage grouse lek nearby. On earlier visits prior to the fire we had documented Silver-bordered Fritillary flying in good numbers along with the Garita Skipperling, Coronis Fritillary, Northern Crescent, Arrowhead Blue, Ruddy Copper, Large Marble, Sheridan's Hairstreak, Western Green Hairstreak, Blue Copper, and more.

Difficulty: Level 4, mostly off road through recovering shrub steppe and up the butte for hill-topping butterflies. Leader: Melanie Weiss. The number of participants to be allowed will be determined by the Preserve soon.

tl_MelanieW@wabutterflyassoc.org

Umtanum Ridge, Yakima River Canyon

Sunday, June 15

David has never seen a Nevada Skipper, but he also doesn't have a high clearance, 4 wheel drive vehicle to get up the sketchy road to Umtanum Ridge. So he's going to walk the trail leading up from Umtanum Recreation Area to the ridge! Expect a 2400 foot, but leisurely taken, climb up to the ridge where the butterfly is known to be. Other possibilities are Western Green Hairstreak, scores of blues, hilltopping swallowtails, etc. Expect plenty of sweat, butterflies, and good times!

Meet at Tibbett's Valley Park at 7:00 AM and we'll carpool from there. Parking payment necessary at Umtanum Recreation Area - bringing your federal America the Beautiful pass is best, or cash.

Difficulty: Level 3-4. Leader: David Droppers tl_DavidD@wabutterflyassoc.org



David Droppers at Wings over Metaline Falls. (M. Weiss)

WBA Annual Butterfly Weekend, Wings Over Yakima

June 20-22

Additional information and how to register for this event may be found on our website.

Mt. Spokane State Park, trail to Mt. Kit Carson Summit Meadows

Saturday, July 12

Among the most ecologically rich, intact areas of eastern Washington, Mt. Spokane State Park and its surrounding foothills have provided habitat to 65 butterfly species. We will most likely hike to the Mount Kit Carson Summit by way of the Mount Kit Carson upper loop trail, an approximately 2.5 mile path that mostly follows an old logging road through higher elevation forest until reaching a steeper, single track climb with multiple switchbacks which takes a hiker the last three quarters of a mile to the Mount Kit Carson Summit. Midsummer, the meadows just beneath the summit should be

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awash with wildflowers. Parnassians, Swallowtails, Fritillaries, Blues, Ladies and Crescents may all be seen here in numbers on a good season.

Plan to meet at the Upper Kit Carson Loop Trailhead parking area at 10:30 AM. State Discover Passes are required.

Difficulty: 3-4, some distance and climbing involved. Leader: John Baumann tl_JohnB@wabutterflyassoc.org



Red Top. (M. Weiss)

Red Top Lookout

Sunday, July 13

Located south of Blewett Pass, we'll stop at several roadside spots to look for butterflies on our way up to the lookout. Butterflies are also present around the upper parking lot. Once we reach the trailhead, it will be a short, but steep, 3/4 mile walk to the lookout, with butterflies and meadows along the way.

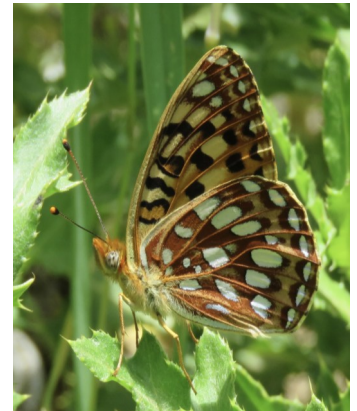
Meet at Tibbett's Valley Park at 7:00 AM and we'll carpool from there.

Difficulty: 1-3. Leader: David Droppers tl_DavidD@wabutterflyassoc.org

Little Quilcene for Zerene and more.

Late July or August, to be determined. Meeting Time: 10:00.

Participants will join Karen Holtrop and Tanna Knouse for a walk in the Olympic National Forest, Little Quilcene River watershed. The goal will be to count the numbers and species of butterflies, while noting nectar plants, search time, and weather conditions. Potential sightings include Zerene and Hydaspe Fritillaries, Western Branded and Woodland Skippers, Painted Lady, Red Admiral, and Clodius Parnassian. The walk will be relatively flat along an old road but may involve rocky terrain and dense vegetation.



Zerene Fritillary. (M. Weiss)

The group will meet at the Forest Service office in Quilcene and carpool for a 40-minute drive to the site.

Difficulty: 3. Leader: Karen Holtrop tl_KarenH@wabutterflyassoc.org



Documenting butterflies for iNaturalist and the WBA Big Butterfly Month. (C. Clark)

Board Members

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At-Large	Jim Reed			

Committees

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