

Alaska Natural Heritage Program

Conservation Status Report

Lycaena dorcas - W. Kirby, 1837

Common Name: Dorcas Copper

ELCODE: IILEPC1120	Taxonomic Serial No.: 188508
---------------------------	-------------------------------------

Synonyms:

Taxonomy Notes: NatureServe concept reference: Opler & Warren (2002).

Report last updated – 21 May 2017

Conservation Status

G5 S4S5	ASRS: not yet ranked
----------------	-----------------------------

Occurrences, Range

Number of Occurrences:

number of museum records:
448 (KWP 2017, UAM
2017), number of EOs: 75

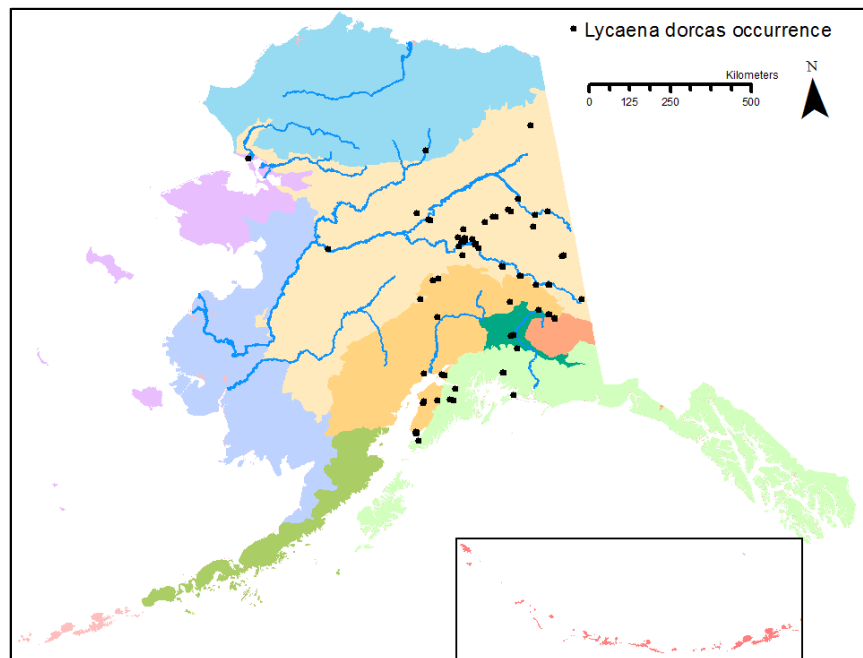
AK Range Extent: 599,977
km²

Occupancy 4 km² grid cells:
75

Nowacki Ecoregions:

southern Brooks Range (and one outlying station in northwestern Alaska) through the eastern interior to the Kenai Peninsula; encompassing Arctic Tundra, Bering Tundra, Intermontane Boreal, Alaska Range Transition, Coast Mountain Transition, and Coastal Rainforest Ecoregions.

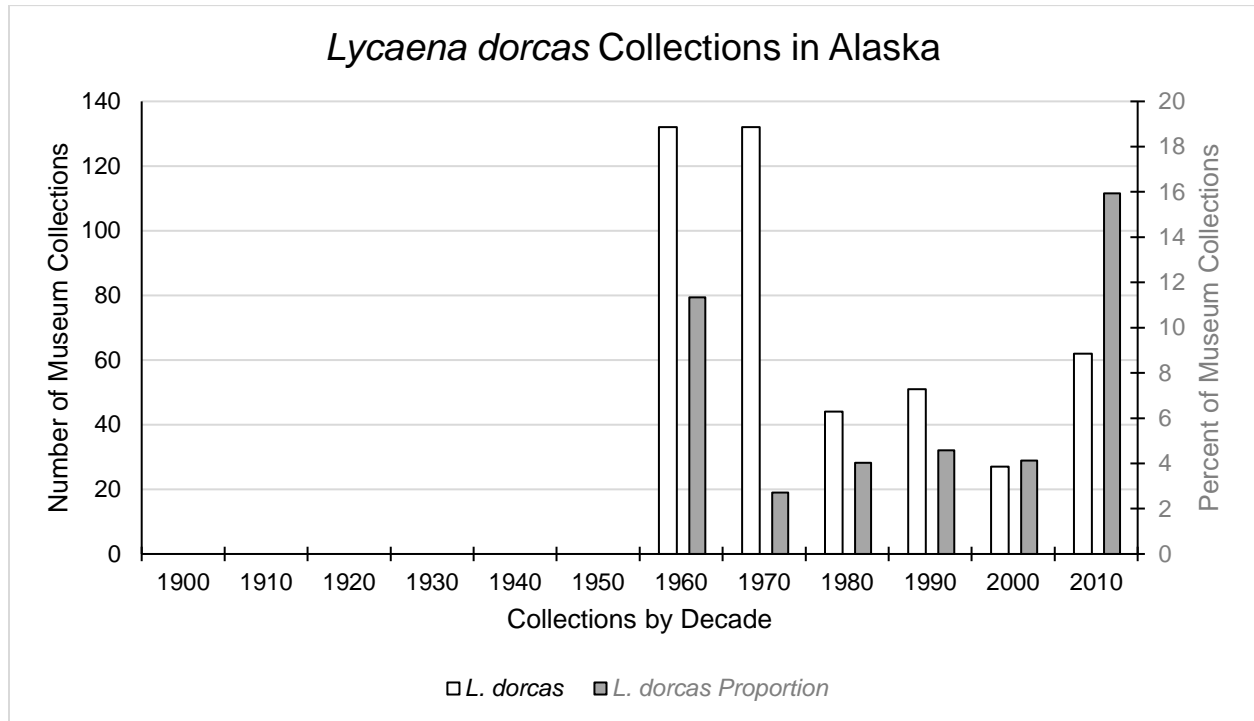
North American Distribution: From Alaska south to Washington, east to Ontario and the Great Lakes states, with a disjunct population in Maine (BAMONA 2017).



Trends

Short-term: Proportion collected has increased (>10% change).

Long-term: Proportion collected has remained relatively stable (<10% change) with an increase during the past decade.



Threats

Scope and Severity: Most threats (including development, pollution, biological resource use, etc.) are anticipated to be negligible in scope and unknown in severity. Climate change and severe weather has the potential to affect populations; however we cannot anticipate the scope or severity of such impacts.

Ecology

Habitat: Moist scrub, bogs, and open areas in moist boreal forest in Alaska (Philip & Ferris 2016).

Host Plants: *Dasiphora fruticosa* (*Potentilla fruticosa*) and other species of *Potentilla* (BAMONA 2017)

Life History: Flight period is in July in Alaska (Philip & Ferris 2016). Males perch and patrol near hostplants in search of females. Females lay eggs on the underside of host leaves, which then drop to the ground in autumn. Some sources suggest overwinter hibernation occurs as pupae

(Philip & Ferris 2016); and other suggest eggs overwinter and the young larvae return to the host plants to feed on the leaves (BAMONA 2017).

Intrinsic Vulnerability: Unknown.

Literature

BAMONA. 2017. Butterflies and Moths of North America. Attributes of *Lycaena dorcus*.

<http://www.butterfliesandmoths.org/species/Lycaena-dorcus>. Accessed 21 May 2017.

KWP, Kenelm W. Philip Lepidoptera Collection. 2017. Date Accessed 24 April 2017.

NatureServe. 2017. NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application].

Version 7.1. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia. Available <http://explorer.natureserve.org>. Accessed 21 May 2017.

Opler, P. A., and A. D. Warren. 2002. Butterflies of North America. 2. Scientific Names List for Butterfly Species of North America, north of Mexico. C.P. Gillette Museum of Arthropod Diversity, Department of Bioagricultural Sciences and Pest Management, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado. 79 pp.

Pelham, J. P. 2008. A catalogue of the butterflies of the United States and Canada with a complete bibliography of the descriptive and systematic literature. *Journal of Research on the Lepidoptera*, vol. 40. xiv + 658.

Philip, K. W. and C. D. Ferris. 2016. Butterflies of Alaska: A Field Guide. Second Edition. Alaska Entomological Society. Clifford D. Ferris. Laramie, Wyoming. 110 pp.

UAM Arctos Museum of the North 2017. Date Accessed 24 April 2017.