

Alaska Natural Heritage Program Conservation Status Report

Lycaena mariposa - Reakirt, 1866

Common Name: Mariposa Copper

ELCODE: IILEPC1150	Taxonomic Serial No.: 777802

Synonyms:

Taxonomy Notes: At least three subspecies of *Lycaena mariposa* are referenced for North America (Pelham 2008). Specimens from Alaska correspond to *Lycaena mariposa charlottensis* (W. Holland, 1930). The majority of butterfly records were determined only to species. We therefore only treat this butterfly at the species level for conservation assessment while recognizing that currently Alaskan specimens are considered to fall under (name of subspecies) - as treated by Ferris 2016. NatureServe concept reference: Opler & Warren (2002).

Report last updated – 21 May 2017

Conservation Status

G5 S3S4

ASRS: not yet ranked

Occurrences, Range

Number of Occurrences: number of museum records: 4 (KWP 2017, UAM 2017), number of EOs: 4 (can be locally common, Philip & Ferris 2016).

AK Range Extent: 25,101 km²

Occupancy 4 km² grid cells: 4

Nowacki Ecoregions: southeastern Alaska; encompassing the Coastal Rainforest Ecoregion.



North American Distribution: Southeastern Alaska south to along the mountains to California and Wyoming (BAMONA 2017).



<u>Trends</u>

Short-term: Proportion collected has remained stable (<10% change); however, collections have been limited to one or two specimens per decade.

Long-term: Unknown.



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.

Comments:

Ecology

Habitat: Forest openings and bogs (Philip & Ferris 2016, BAMONA 2017).

Plant Hosts: Dasiphora fruticosa is believed to be the primary host in Alaska (Philip & Ferris 2016); elsewhere it is members of the Ericaceae, including *Vaccinium* (BAMONA 2017).

Life History: Flight period is late June to July (Philip & Ferris 2016). Males typically perch in low spots to intercept for females (BAMONA 2017).

Intrinsic Vulnerability: Unknown



Literature

- BAMONA. 2017. Butterflies and Moths of North America. Attributes of *Lycaena mariposa*. <u>http://www.butterfliesandmoths.org/species/Lycaena-mariposa. Accessed 21 May 2017</u>.
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- 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.
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- 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.
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- UAM Arctos Museum of the North 2017. Date Accessed 24 April 2017.