

Alaska Natural Heritage Program

Conservation Status Report

Parnassius corybas

Common Name: Phoebus Parnassian

ELCODE: IILEP90030

Taxonomic Serial No.: 777687

Synonyms: *Parnassius phoebus* - Fabricius, 1793

Taxonomy Notes: Two subspecies of *Parnassius phoebus* have been referenced for Alaska: *Parnassius phoebus apricatus* (Stichel, 1906), and *Parnassius phoebus golovinus* (W. Holland, 1930), and *Parnassius phoebus phoebus* is restricted to Eurasia (Philip & Ferris 2016). 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).

Parnassius phoebus is now *Parnassius corybas* based on International Commission of Zoological Nomenclature Opinion 2382 (Case 3637).

<http://www.bioone.org/doi/abs/10.21805/bzn.v73i2.a21>

Report last updated – 16 May 2016

Conservation Status

G5 S4

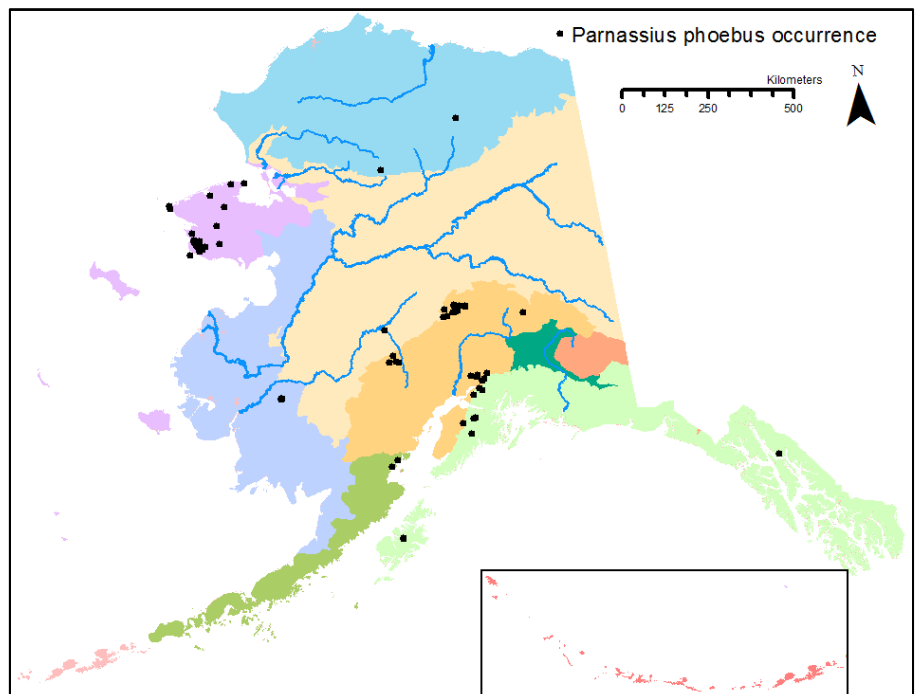
ASRS: not
yet ranked

Occurrences, Range

Number of Occurrences:
number of museum records:
490 (UAM 2017), number of
EOs: 67. Populations are
localized, but can be abundant
once found (Philip & Ferris
2016).

AK Range Extent: 799,576 km²

Occupancy 4 km² grid cells: 69



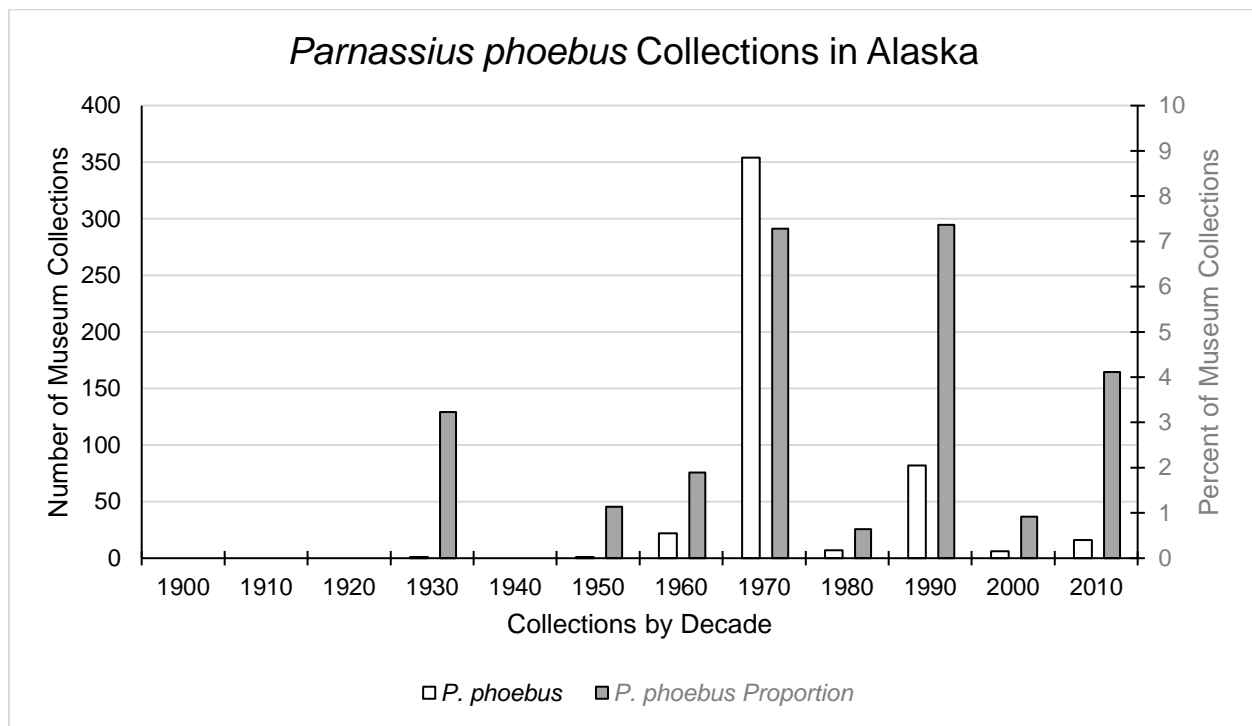
Nowacki Ecoregions: Central Brooks Range and Seward Peninsula; Alaska Range, Chugach and Kenai Mountains, Kodiak, and southeastern Alaska; encompassing Arctic Tundra, Bering Tundra, Bering Taiga, Intermontane Boreal, Alaska Range Transition, and Coastal Rainforest Ecoregions.

North American Distribution: Alaska southeast through Yukon, British Columbia, southern Alberta and the western montane states to California and New Mexico (Scott 1986).

Trends

Short-term: Proportion collected has remained stable (<10% change).

Long-term: Proportion collected has remained stable (<10% change).



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, especially as a species found above treeline; however we cannot anticipate the scope or severity of such impacts.

Comments:

Ecology

Habitat: Mountains and tundra.

Host Plants: Species in the family Crassulaceae, notably *Rhodiola integrifolia* in Alaska (Philip & Ferris 2016).

Life History: Flight period from late June to mid-August. Males patrol for females a few feet above the tundra and typically are found near their host-plants; stage of winter hibernation is not known for Alaska (Philip & Ferris 2016).

Intrinsic Vulnerability: This species has a very high host specificity. This species of plant is quite common across Alaska above treeline and can be locally dominant.

Literature

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

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.