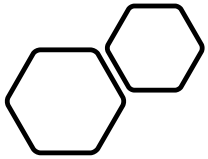


Butterflies of Colorado

Lycaenidae (Blues, Coppers,
Hairstreaks, and Elfins)

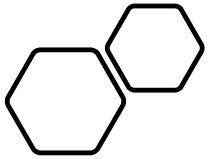




Lycaenidae: Theclinae (Hairstreaks and Elfins)

- Western Green Hairstreak
- Juniper Hairstreak
- White-lined Green Hairstreak
- Thicket Hairstreak
- Colorado Hairstreak
- Behr's Hairstreak
- Coral Hairstreak
- Striped Hairstreak
- Banded Hairstreak
- Hedgerow Hairstreak
- Gray Hairstreak
- Brown Elfin
- Moss' Elfin
- Hoary Elfin
- Western Pine Elfin





Western Green Hairstreak (*Callophrys affinis homoperplexa*)

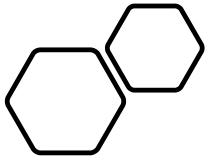
- Tailless. Below, forewing is **green with earthy brown** overtones on lower half; underside of hindwing is **mostly green**. Both wings above are a **dull orange-brown to grayish color**.
- Wingspan: Small; 3/4 to 1 1/8 inches.
- Habitat: Clearings in pine forests and along trails and roads usually close to food source; higher plains, foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: April to July; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Various buckwheats, like sulphur flower; *Ceanothus* species.



Distribution Map (*Callophrys affinis homoperplexa*)

Not in BMONA?

- Detailed record
- Historical record



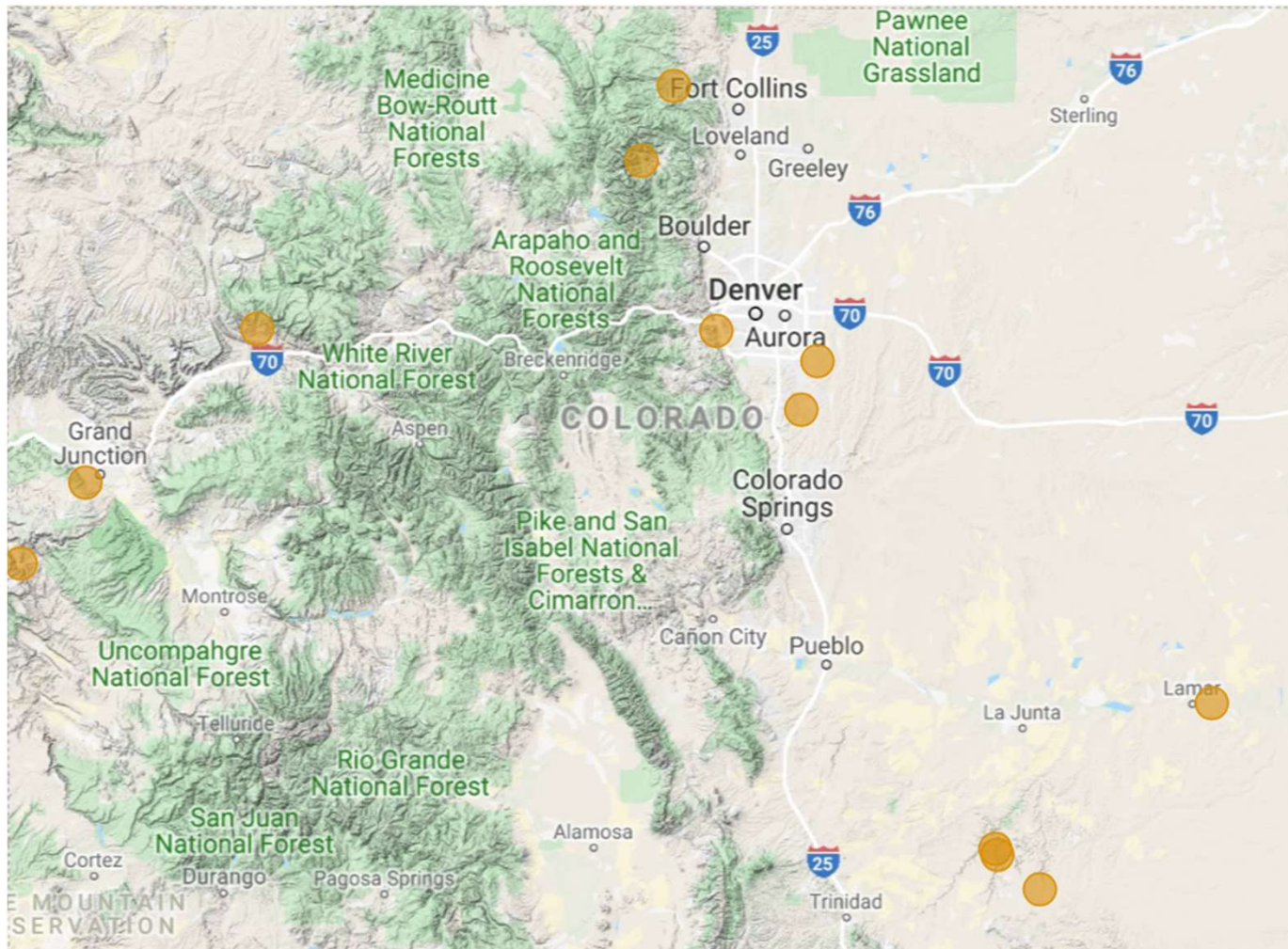
Juniper Hairstreak

(Callophrys gryneus siva)

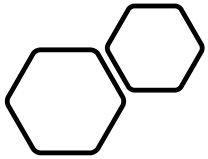
- Above, **male dull red-brown**; **female tawny**, both with **dark brown wing borders**. **Upperside of wings is rarely seen**. Below, the leading edge of the forewing is **brownish green**; the center portion is **red-brown**. The hindwing is **brighter green**. **Two irregular postmedian lines**, one white and one dark red-brown extend from the leading edge of the forewing across both wings to the opposite edge. There is a **fine short tail** on each hindwing.
- Wingspan: Small; 1 to 1 1/4 inches.
- Habitat: Juniper and pinyon-juniper woodlands, fields, bluffs; foothills.
- Flight Times: May to June; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Junipers.



Distribution Map (*Callophrys gryneus siva*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



White-lined Green Hairstreak (*Callophrys sheridanii*)

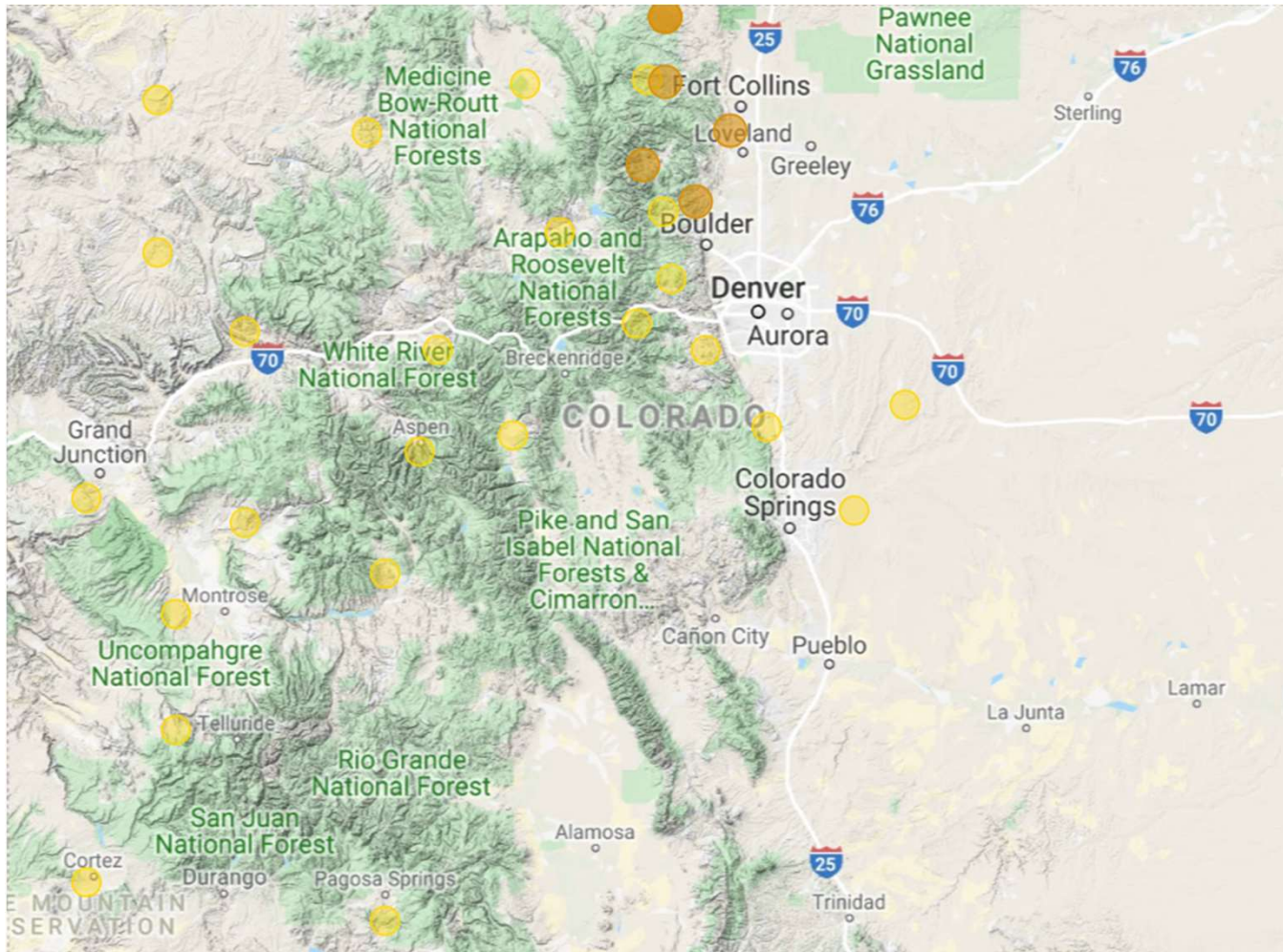
- Below, **bright green to gray-green** with a **nearly straight white postmedian line** (“white-lined” population); lower part of **forewing gray**. Above, **pale to dark brown**.
- Wingspan: Small; 3/4 to 1 1/8 inch.
- Habitat: Open hillsides, canyon slopes and washes; plains, foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: April to May; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Various species of buckwheat (*Eriogonum*).



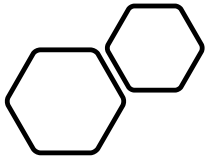
Christian Nunes



Distribution Map (*Callophrys sheridanii*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

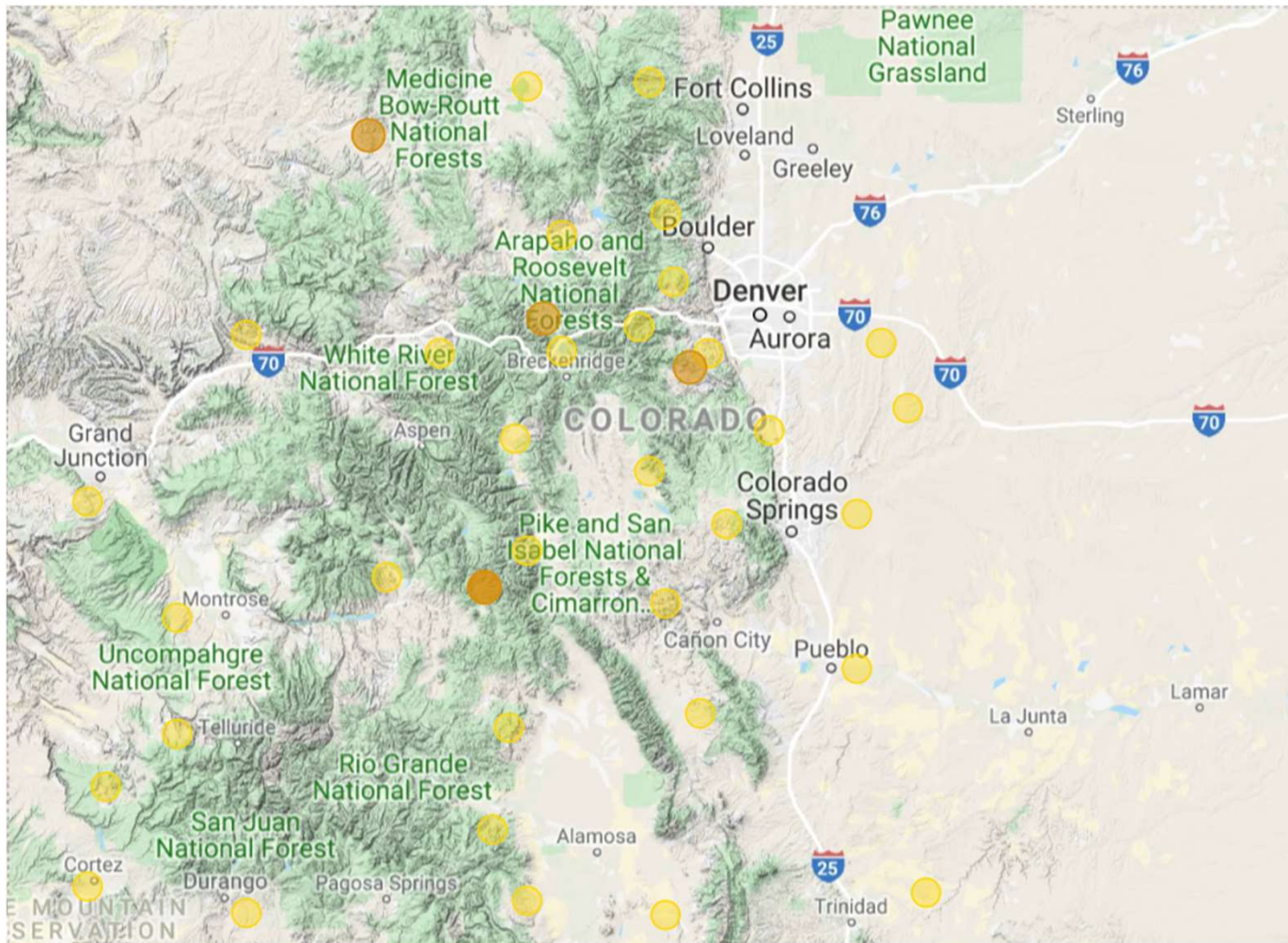


Thicket Hairstreak (*Callophrys spinetorum*)

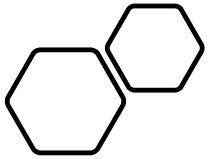
- **Tailed.** Above, **steel blue** (usually not seen; sits with wings closed). Below, **reddish-brown with white postmedian line** forming a “W” at the lower portion of the hindwing. **White forewing cell-end bar** often present.
- Wingspan: Small; 7/8 to 1 1/4 inches.
- Habitat: Pinyon-juniper forest, mixed woodland, coniferous forest; foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: May to August; two broods in foothills, one brood at higher elevations.
- Larval Foodplant: Dwarf mistletoes on pine and other conifers.



Distribution Map (*Callophrys spinetorum*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

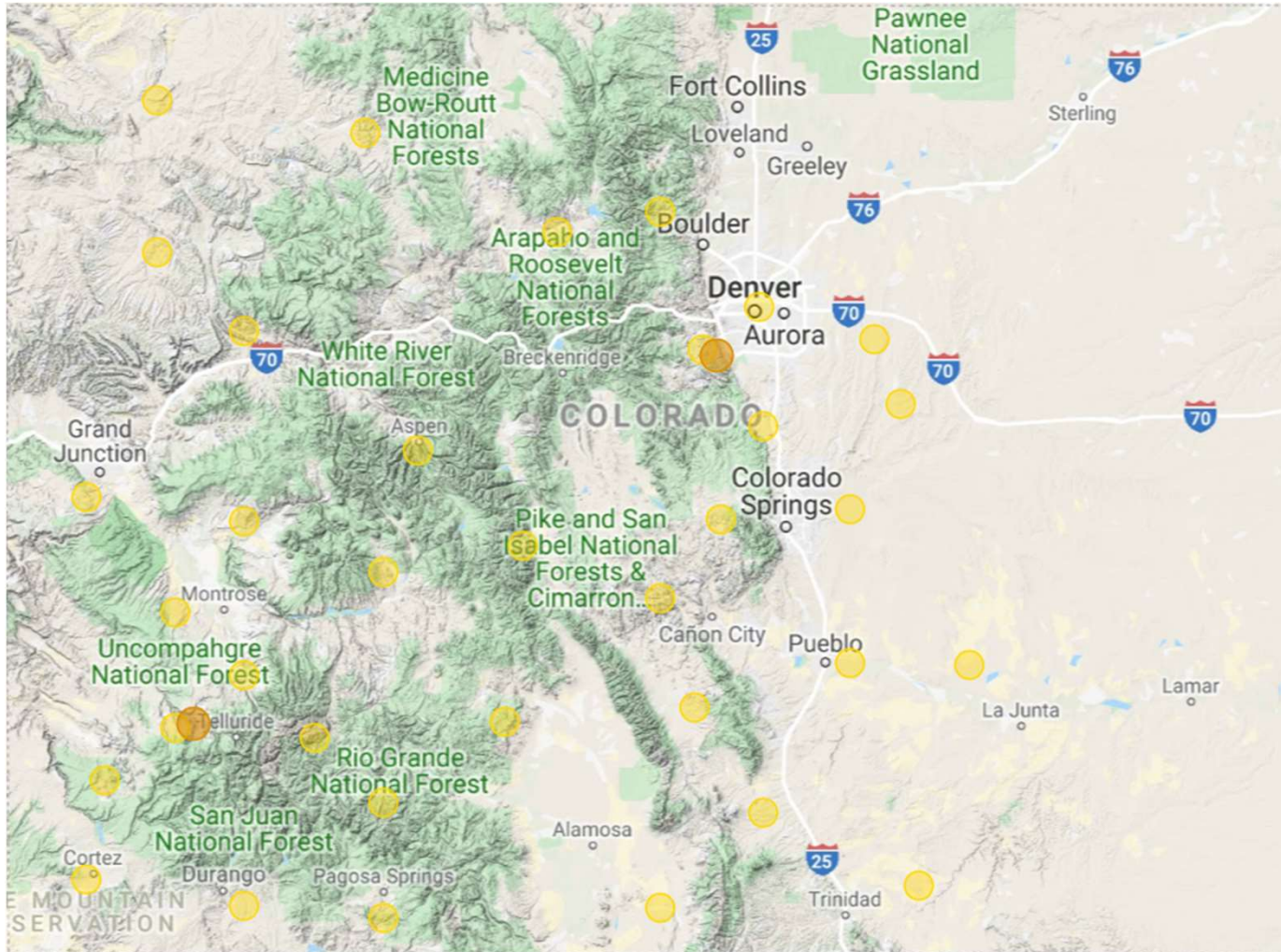


Colorado Hairstreak (*Hypaurotis crysalus*)

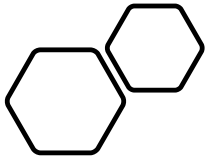
- Above, **black and iridescent purple** with **orange patches** in the dark lower margins of both wings. Below, **brownish-gray** with several **fine white stripes** in the hindwing cell area. A **blue iridescence** to the marginal band and **orange spots with black centers** in front of the tail.
- Wingspan: Small; 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 inches.
- Habitat: Foothills canyons and hillsides where Gambel Oak is found; foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: Late June to August; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Gambel Oak.



Distribution Map (*Hypaurotis crysalus*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



Behr's Hairstreak (*Satyrium behrii*)

- Above, this **tailless** hairstreak is **orange with dark outer margins** on both the forewings and hindwings. Below, it is **gray to brownish gray** with **black postmedian** and **submarginal spots**, edged in **white**. One or two spots on the lower submarginal portion of the hindwing may show **orange-capped black**.
- Wingspan: Small; 15/16 to 1 1/8 inches.
- Habitat: Rocky arid flats and hillsides in the Front Range foothills.
- Flight Times: May to August; most abundant in June and July.
- Larval Foodplant: Bitterbrush and mountain mahogany.

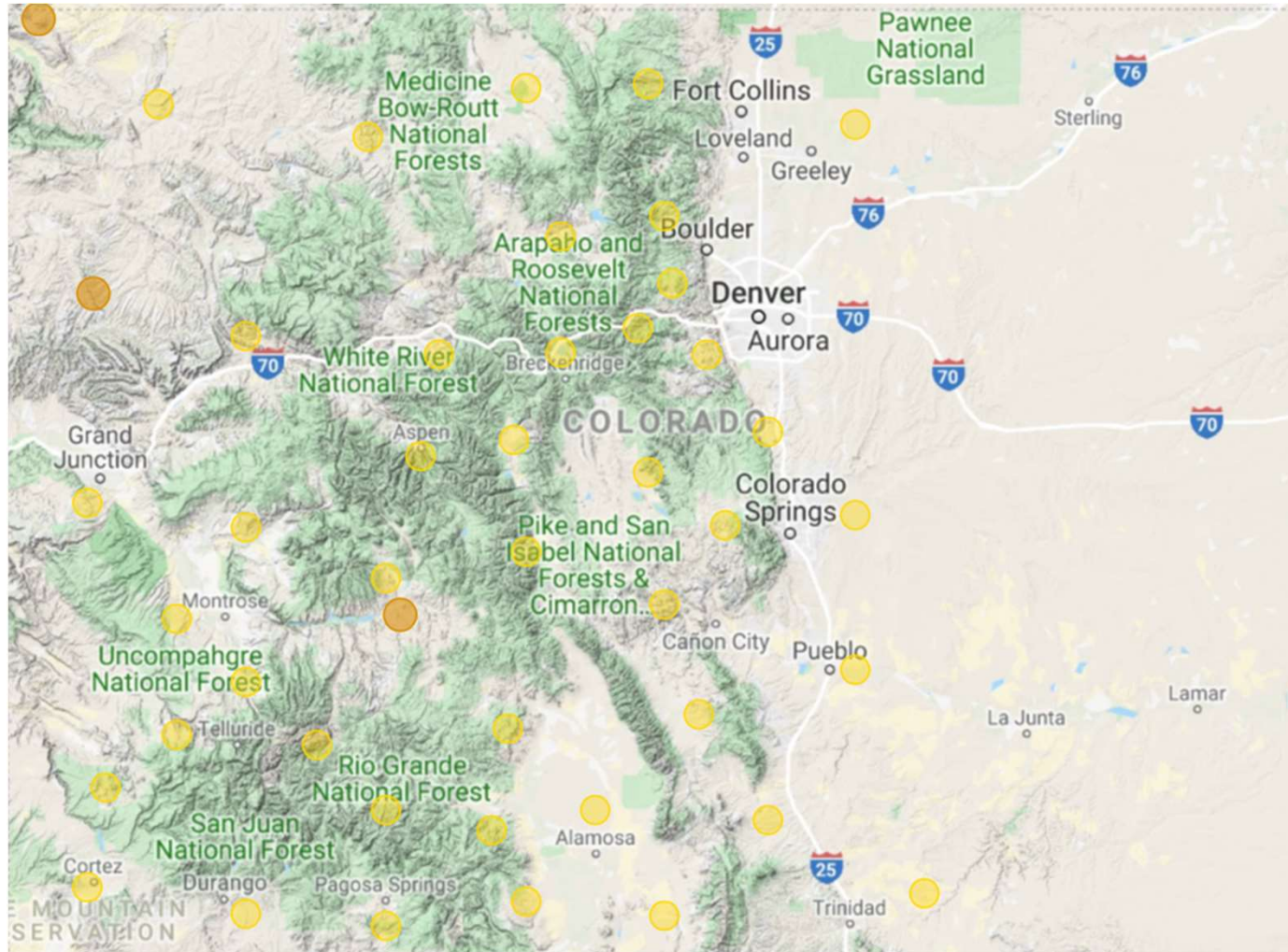
Loch Kilpatrick



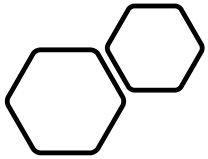
Cathy Cook



Distribution Map (*Satyrium behrii*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

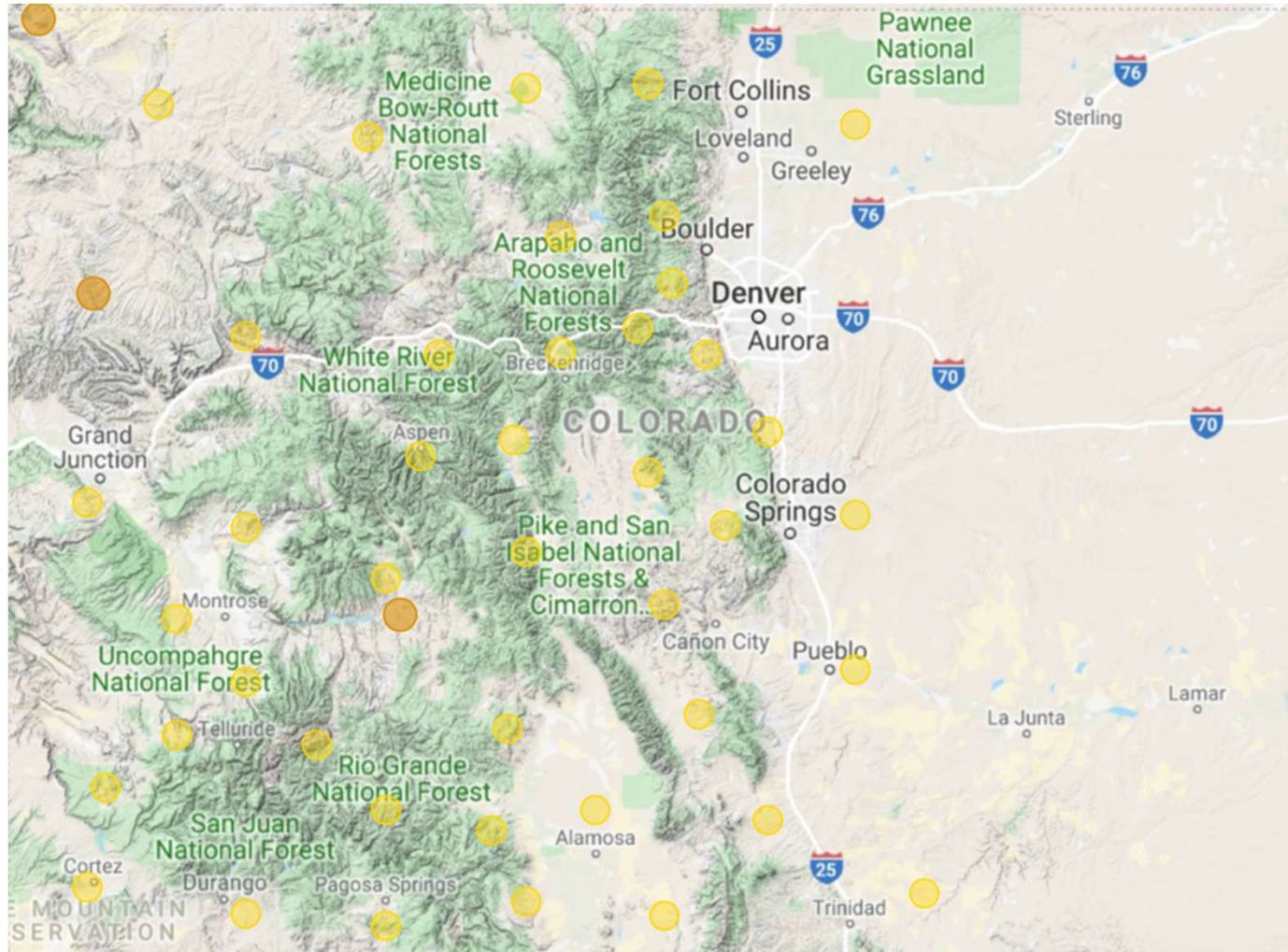


Coral Hairstreak (*Satyrrium titus*)

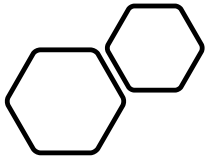
- A **tailless hairstreak**. Above, **dark brown**. Below, **tannish-gray** with a **marginal row of coral red spots** on the hindwing and a **postmedian row of black spots circled in white** on both forewing and hindwing. **Lacks the blue hindwing tail spot of many hairstreaks.**
- Wingspan: Small; 1 to 1 1/2 inches.
- Habitat: Open brushy canyons, woodland openings, streamsides, overgrown fields; foothills.
- Flight Times: May to August; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Chokecherry, wild cherry, and wild plum.



Distribution Map (*Satyrium behrii*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



Striped Hairstreak (*Satyrium liparops*)

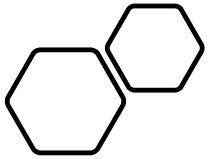
- Above, **dark brown**, sometimes showing **orange areas** on forewing. Below, **brownish-gray** with many thin, **white irregular stripes** and **blue hindwing tail spot** capped with **orange near tails**. Hindwing has **one short and one long tail**.
- Wingspan: Small; 1 to 1 1/2 inches.
- Habitat: Thickets, deciduous forest openings, streamsides, and brushy edges; foothills.
- Flight Times: July to early August; one brood. Eggs overwinter.
- Larval Foodplant: Wild plum, chokecherry, and other members of the rose family.



Distribution Map (*Satyrium liparops*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



Banded Hairstreak (*Satyrrium calanus*)

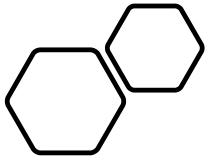
- Above, male and female are **dark brown**. Below, brownish to dark gray. Spots of **postmedian bands** are **elongated and edged in white**. **Blue tail spot usually not capped with orange**. **Two tails** on hindwing with **one longer than the other**.
- Wingspan: Small; 1 to 1 1/4 inches.
- Habitat: Open fields in or near oak woodlands; gambel oak and bur oak groves along stream courses.
- Flight Times: June to early August; one brood. Eggs overwinter.
- Larval Foodplant: Gambel oak.
- Essentially an eastern species, not common in the Colorado foothills and mountains. Those found in Colorado tend to be more whitish gray below.



Distribution Map (*Satyrium calanus*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

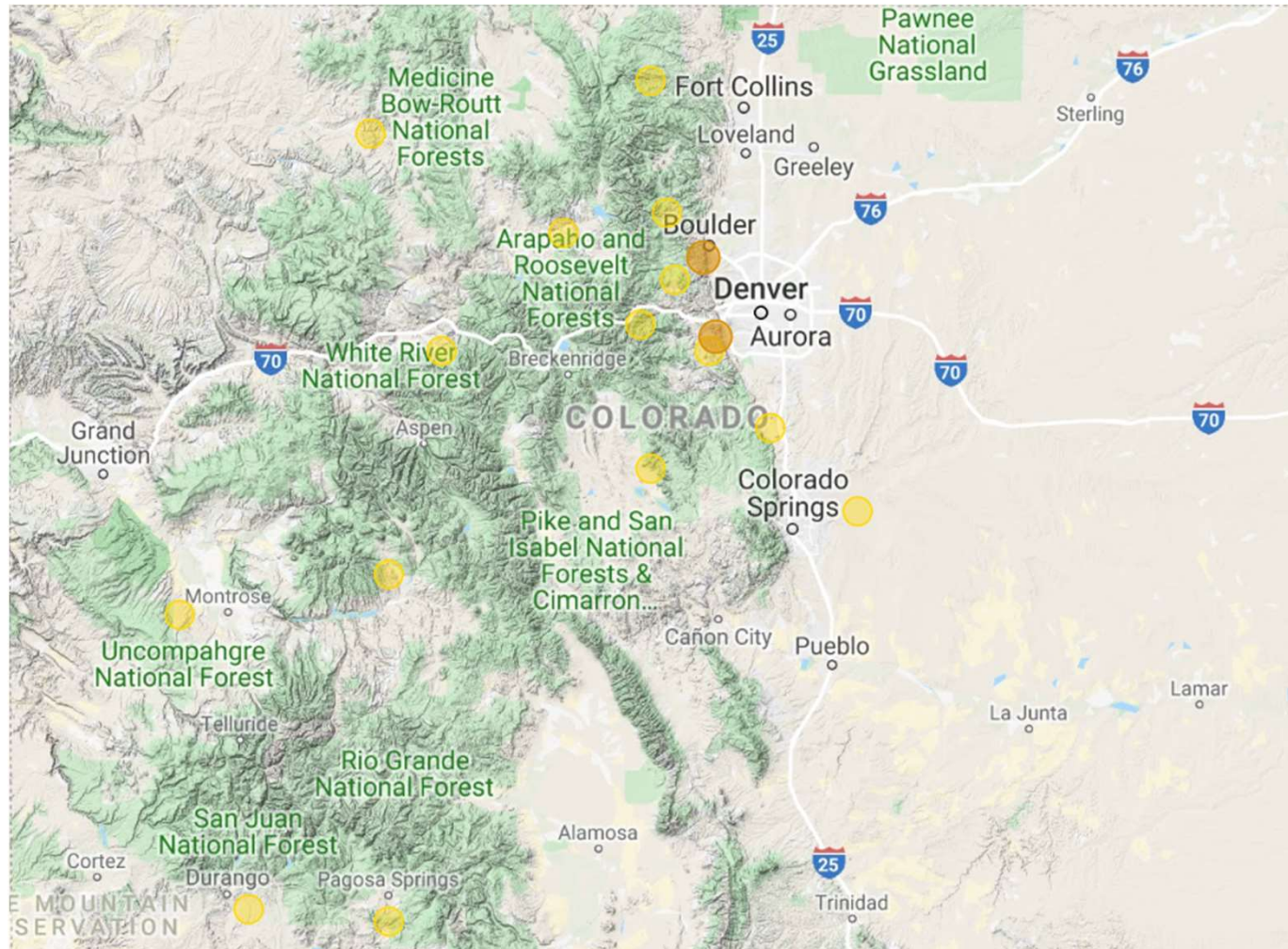


Hedgerow Hairstreak (*Satyrium saepium*)

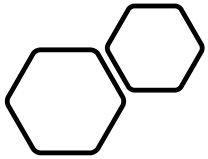
- Above, **iridescent copper-brown**, usually seen in flight. Below, variable, brown with a **crooked postmedian** line and a row of **soft submarginal spots**. A **short tail** is present.
- Wingspan: Small; 1 to 1 1/4 inches.
- Habitat: Open forest, brushy woods (particularly pine and oak); foothills, lower montane.
- Flight Times: June through August; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Ceanothus, buckbrushes.



Distribution Map (*Satyrium saepium*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

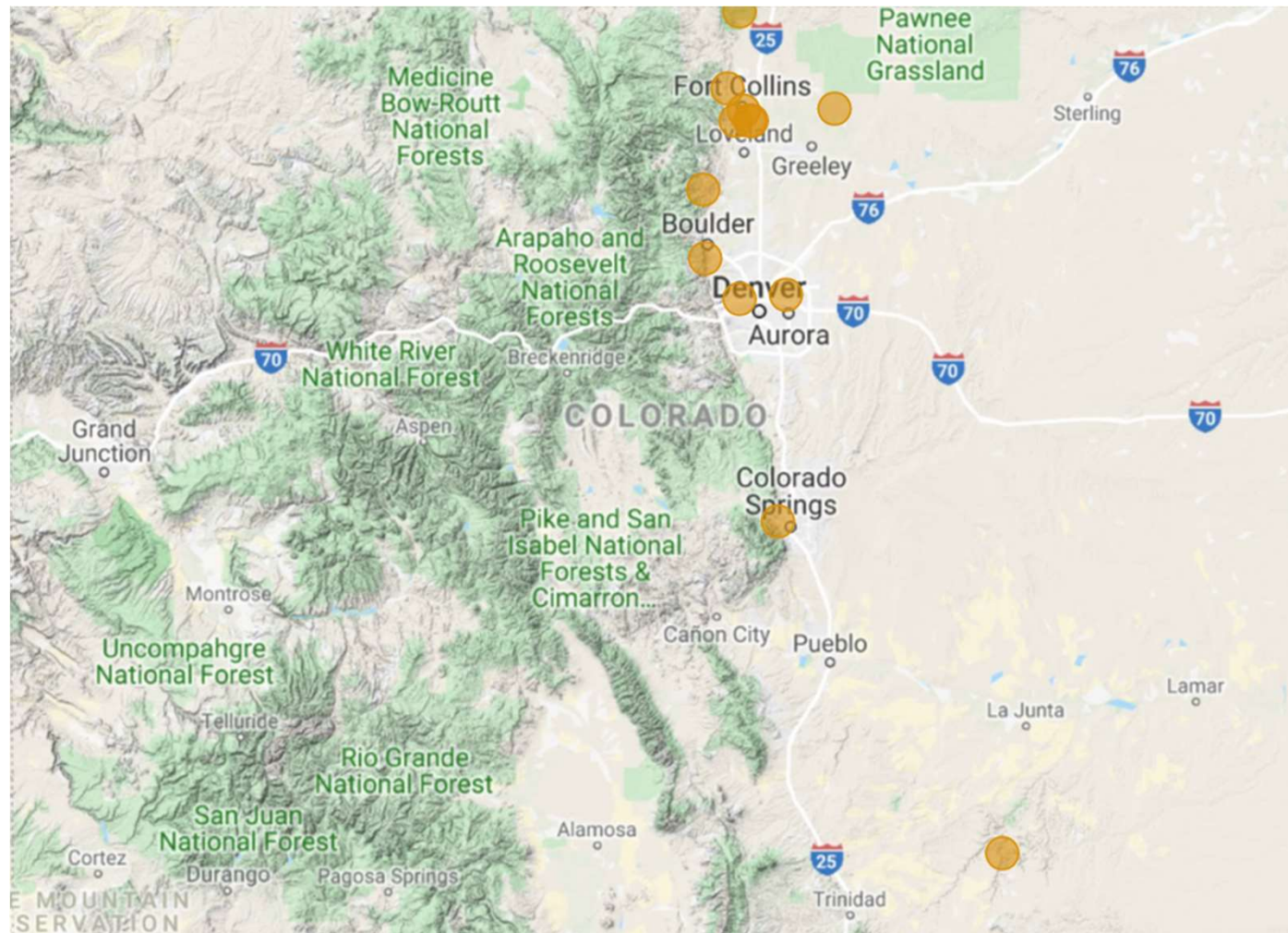


Gray Hairstreak (*Strymon melinus*)

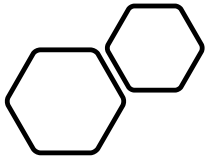
- Above, **blue-gray** with well-defined **orange spot near tail**. Below, **uniform gray with black and white postmedian lines** edged with orange inwardly. **Tip of the gray abdomen is orange on males**.
- Wingspan: Small; 7/8 to 1 3/8 inches.
- Habitat: Open, non-forested areas where host plants are available, prairies, fields, meadows, weedy areas; plains, foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: March to September; two broods.
- Larval Foodplant: Flowers and fruits from many members of the pea and mallow families.
- Unlike most hairstreaks, this species often basks with its wings open.



Distribution Map (*Strymon melinus*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



Brown Elfin

(Callophrys augustinus)

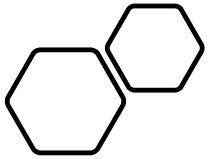
- **No tails.** Above, **male gray-brown; female reddish brown.** Below, reddish brown with **dark, irregular postmedian line**; hindwing darker at base and along hindwing margin.
- Wingspan: Small; less than 1 1/2 inches
- Habitat: Along dry hillsides and in open areas around pine woodlands where host plant is found. Probably our most widespread and commonly encountered elfin; foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: Mid-April to June, often one of the earlier butterflies to fly in spring.
- Larval Foodplant: Kinnikinnick/Bearberry (Trailing arbutus).



Distribution Map (*Callophrys augustinus*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

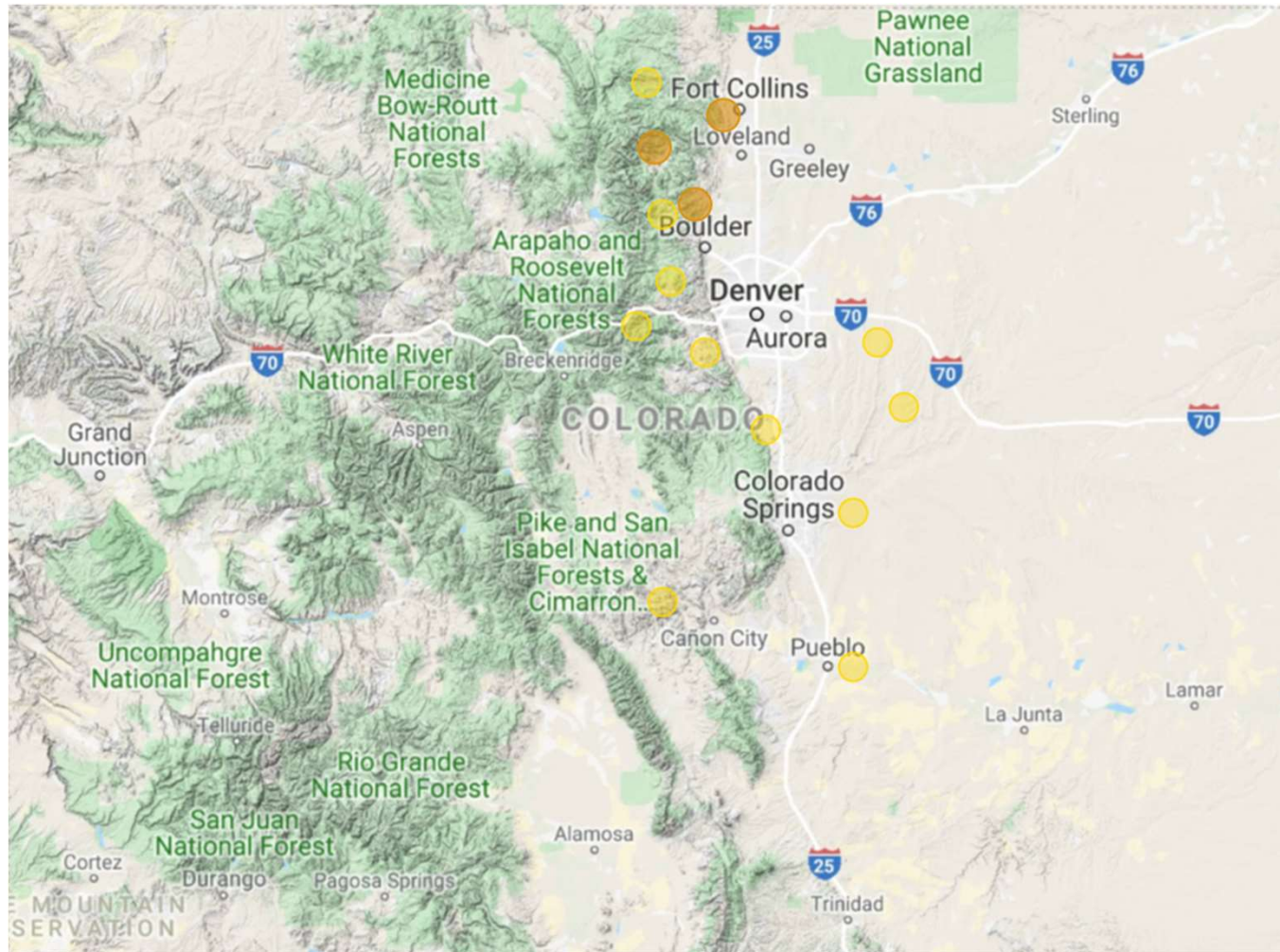


Moss' Elfin (*Callophrys mossii*)

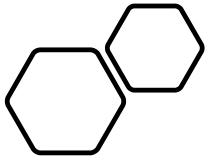
- **Tailless.** Above, male is gray-brown; female light brown. Below, reddish or purplish-brown to gray. Postmedian band on hindwing and forewing usually with white. Inner half of hindwing darker than the outer half and often shows a **grayish patch** at the outer edge of the hindwing postmedian band.
- Wingspan: Small; 7/8 to 1 1/8 inches.
- Habitat: Gullies, washes, canyons, rocky outcrops; foothills.
- Flight Times: March to June; one brood. Chrysalis hibernates.
- Larval Foodplant: Stonecrop family (*Crassulaceae*).



Distribution Map (*Callophrys mossii*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



Hoary Elfin

(Callophrys polios)

- Above, **orange-brown**; below **brown with gray white** (“hoary”) edging to both forewings and hindwings although wider on the hindwing. The underside of hindwing is darker brown toward the body and shows a dark, **irregular postmedian line**. **No tails**.
- Wingspan: Small; 7/8 to 1 1/8 inches.
- Habitat: Open rocky areas near pine woodlands, forest roadsides and edges always near the host plant, kinnikinnick; foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: Mid-April through June; one brood. Chrysalis overwinters.
- Larval Foodplant: Kinnikinnick (Bearberry); used as both host plant and frequent nectar source.

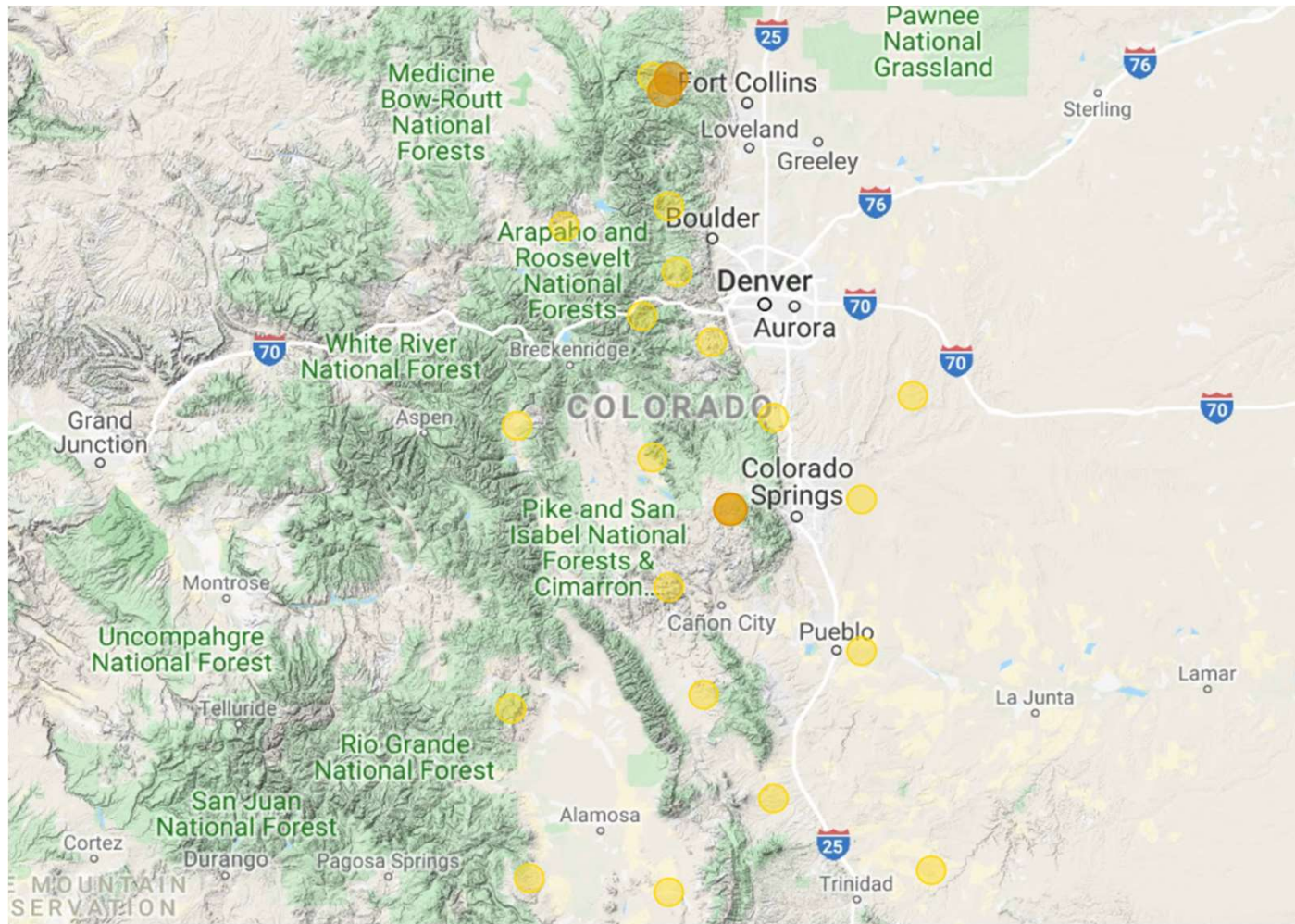
Christian Nunes



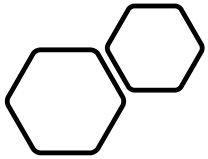
John S Barr



Distribution Map (*Callophrys polios*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

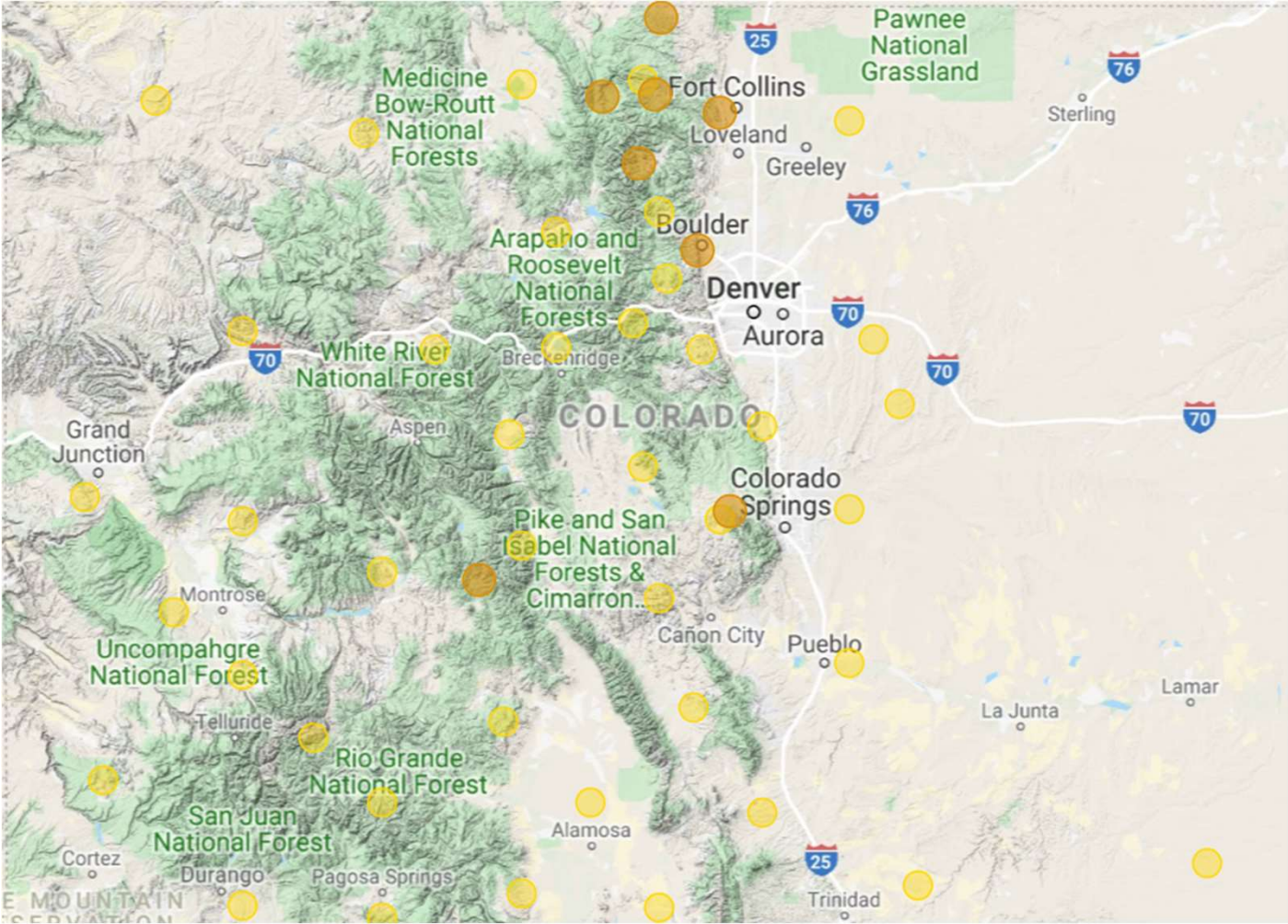


Western Pine Elfin (*Callophrys eryphon*)

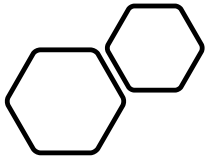
- **Reddish brown** below with **bold, irregular jagged lines of black, white and chestnut brown** on underside of hindwing. The lines on underside of forewing are similar, straighter and fewer in number. The outer margin of both wings beneath show sharply pointed black crescents. Above, varies from light brown to reddish-brown.
- Wingspan: Small; 7/8 to 1 3/8 inches.
- Habitat: Pine forests with openings, along trails, stream sides and roads; foothills, lower montane.
- Flight Times: April to early July; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Young needles of pines including lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*), limber pine (*P. flexilis*), and ponderosa pine (*P. ponderosa*).



Distribution Map (*Callophrys eryphon*)



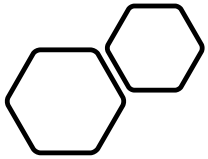
- Detailed record
- Historical record



Lycaenidae:
Lycaeninae
(Coppers)

- **Gray Copper**
- **Edith's Copper**
- **Blue Copper**
- **Ruddy Copper**
- **Lustrous Copper**
- **Bronze Copper**
- **Purplish Copper**
- **Tailed Copper**

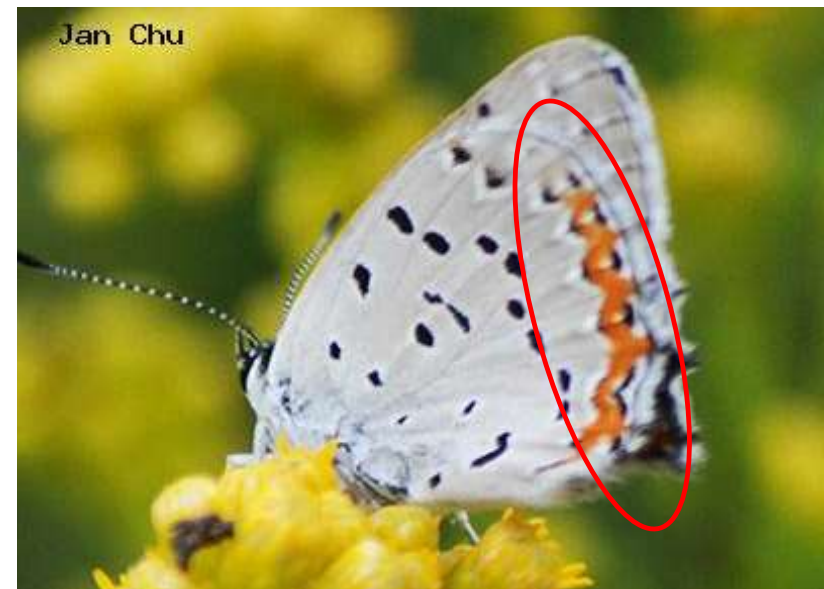




Gray Copper

(Lycaena dione)

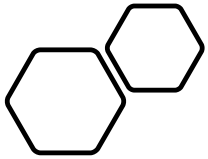
- Large copper that is dark gray with a pale orange and black band on outer edge of hindwing and the trace of a tail (above). **Males have two black cell dots on the forewing.** Light gray with **many black spots and an orange marginal band below.**
- Wingspan: Small; 1 1/3 to 1 1/2 inches.
- Habitat: Meadows, fields, pastures, open areas along roads and ditches where dock is found; plains, foothills.
- Flight Times: Late May through July; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Docks.
- Look for this butterfly where you find sheep sorrel or curly dock.



Distribution Map (*Lycaena dione*)

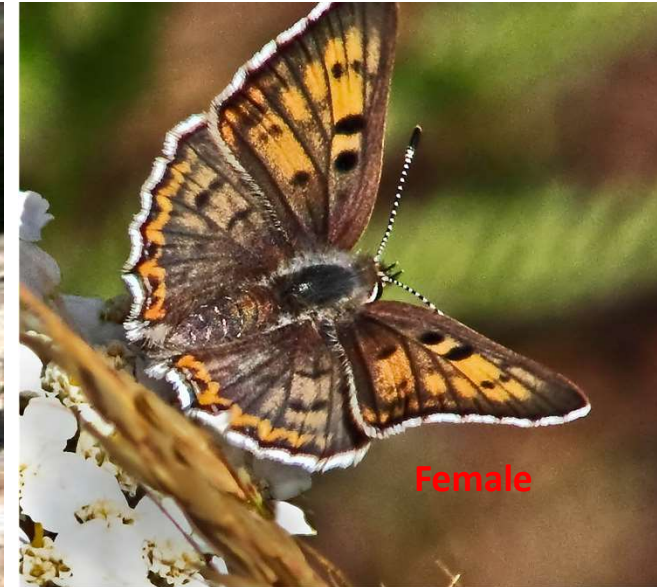


- Detailed record
- Historical record

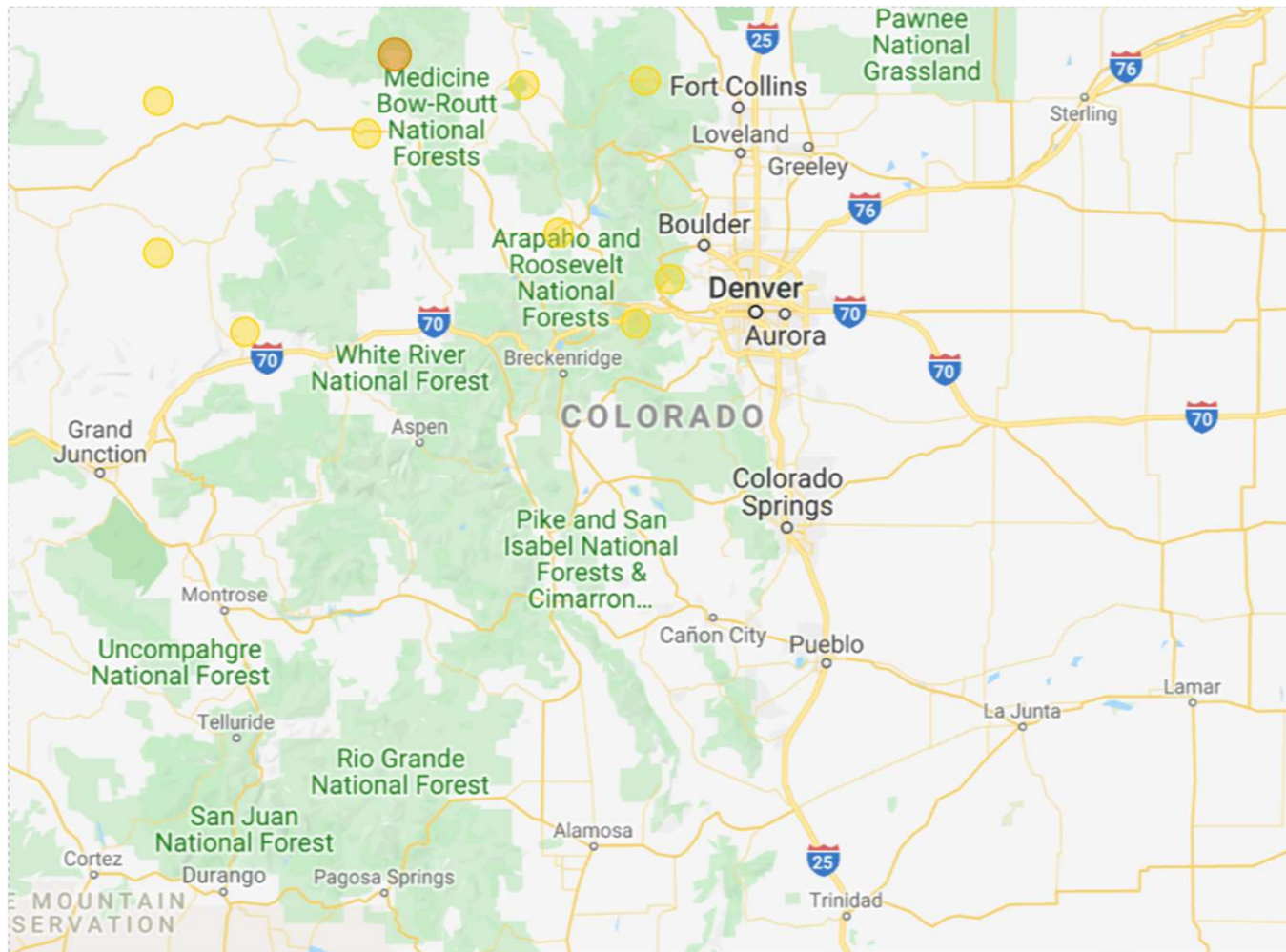


Edith's Copper (*Lycaena editha*)

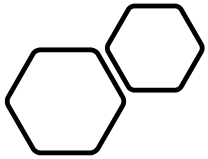
- **Below:** grey hindwing with many irregularly shaped brown spots; **also shows submarginal row of white inward pointing arrowheads.** **Above:** male is dark brown with black cell end bars; female brown with orange patches and orange marginal band on hindwing.
- Wingspan: Small; 7/8 to 1 1/4 inches.
- Habitat: Mountain meadows, stream sides and sagebrush flats.
- Flight Times: Late June to August; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Various docks and knotweeds.



Distribution Map (*Lycaena editha*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



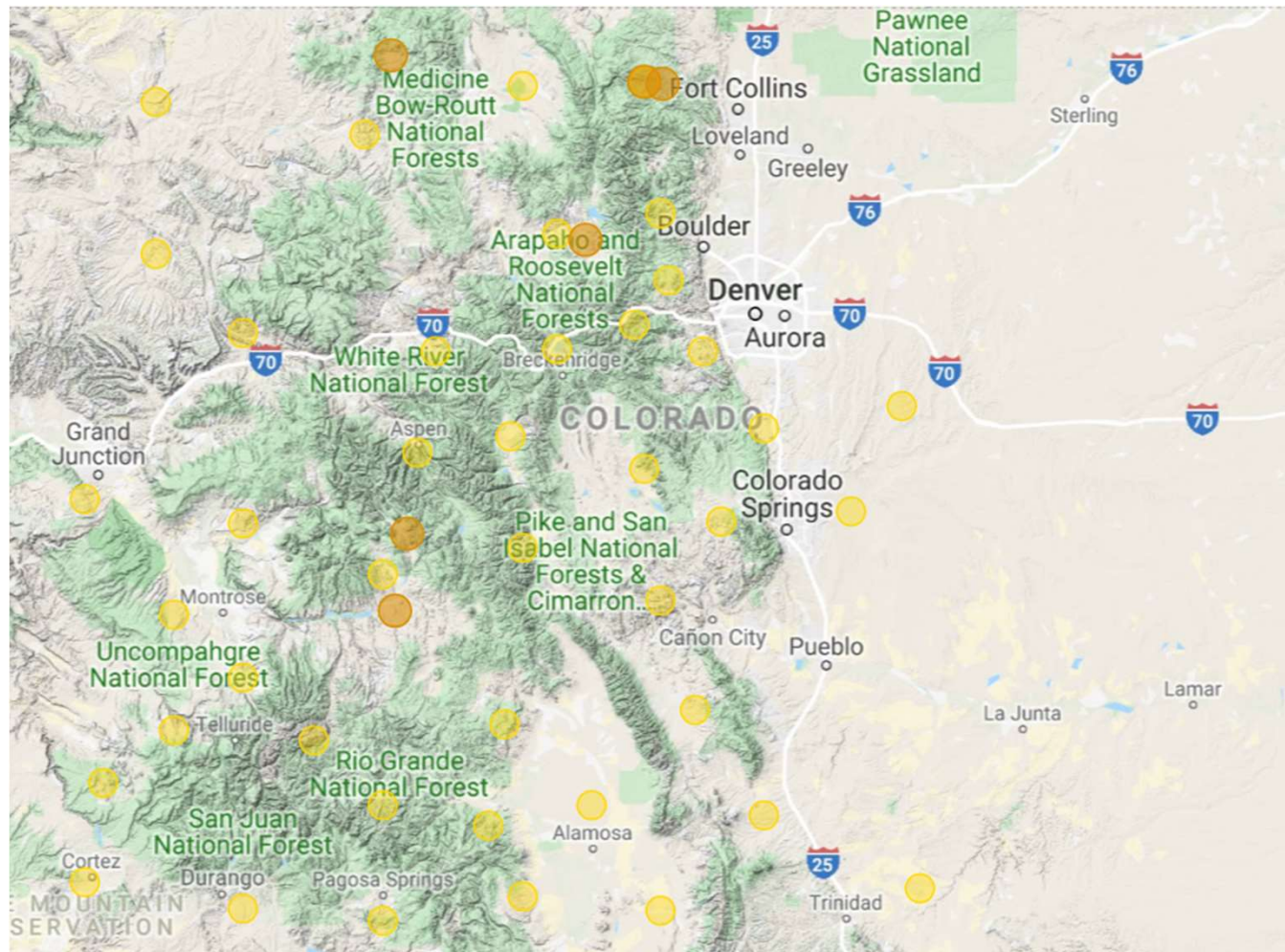
Blue Copper

(Lycaena heteronea)

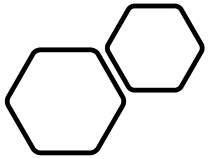
- **Above:** male is brilliant blue with no spots and with fine black veins and border fringed with white; female dull gray-brown or light blue with a scattering of black spots and white fringe. Below, both male and female white to gray with no or few black spots.
- Wingspan: Small; 1 1/8 to 1 3/4 inches.
- Habitat: Brushy areas, canyons, moist meadows and open areas; foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: May to August; one brood. Female lays eggs on the bracts of host plants where they overwinter.
- Larval Foodplant: Sulphur flower, wild buckwheats.
- Erratic flier found close to the ground. Often mistaken for Boisduval's Blue.



Distribution Map (*Lycaena heteronea*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



Ruddy Copper (*Lycaena rubidus*)

- **Above:** male is striking red-orange with thin black margin and light colored fringes; females dull golden-brown with more noticeable black spots on forewing **AND hindwing** and thin black border with a white fringe at wings edges. **Below:** both are gray-white with a scattering of small black spots.

- Wingspan: Small; 1 1/8 to 1 5/8 inches.

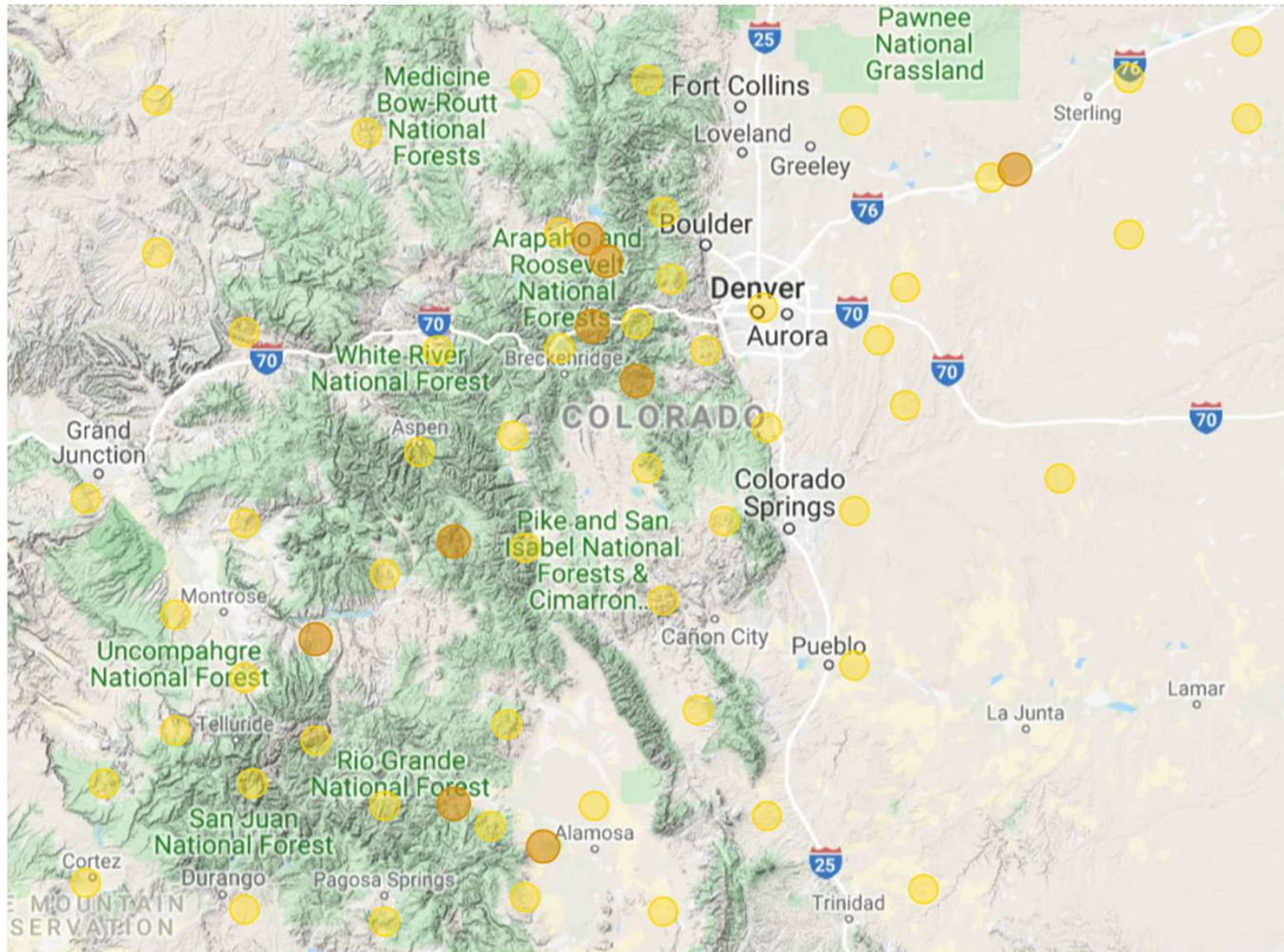
- Habitat: Arid areas such as gravelly or sandy streambanks, sagebrush, dry fields, and meadow edges; foothills to sub-alpine.

- Flight Times: June through August (earlier at lower elevations, later higher up); one brood. Egg overwinters.

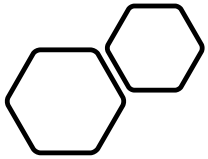
- Larval Foodplant: Docks and alpine sorrel in the buckwheat family.



Distribution Map (*Lycaena rubidus*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



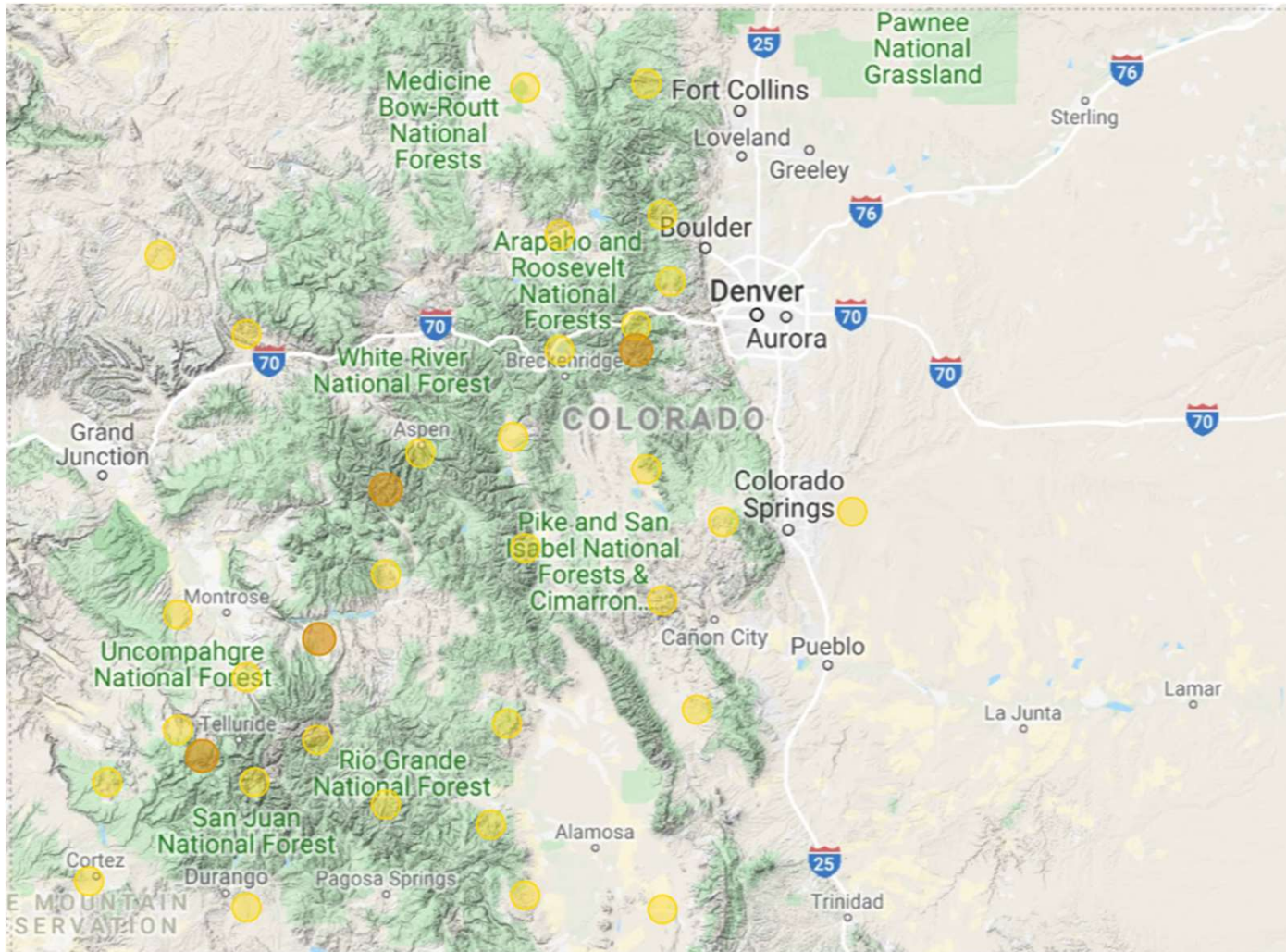
Lustrous Copper (*Lycaena cupreus*)

- **Above:** red-orange with a black border and many small black spots, especially in female. **Below:** orange forewing and gray hindwing, both with numerous black spots and a **thin red submarginal line on the hindwing**. **The spots on the female are more prominent than on the male.**
- Wingspan: Small; 1 to 1 1/4 inches.
- Habitat: Alpine tundra and rockslides; alpine.
- Flight Times: Mid-June to mid-August; one brood. Egg overwinters.
- Larval Foodplant: Alpine sorrel.

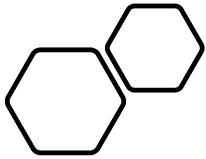


© 2009 Ken Davis & John Steingard * <http://www.butterflyconservation.com>

Distribution Map (*Lycaena cupreus*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



Bronze Copper

(*Lycaena hyllus*)

- **Above:** male is brown with a purplish sheen and an orange marginal hindwing band. Female forewing is pale orange with a brown border, also with an orange marginal hindwing band. Below, hindwing is light gray with an orange marginal band and the forewing is orange with a row of black spots bordering a white marginal area.
- Wingspan: Small; 1 1/4 to 1 7/8 inches.
- Habitat: Wet areas in meadows, near streams, swamps, and pond edges; plains, foothills.
- Flight Times: Mid-June to September; two broods. Eggs hibernate.
- Larval Foodplant: Docks and knotweeds.



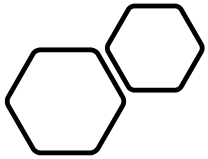
© Richard Payne Jr



Distribution Map (*Lycaena hyllus*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



Purplish Copper (*Lycaena helloides*)

- **Males above:** brown with purplish cast on wings and light scattering of black spots. **Females** brown with extensive orange coloring with similar pattern of black spots. Both: **zigzag orange line along outer edge of hindwing**. Underside hindwings have have grayish lavender with thin orange submarginal line.

- Wingspan: Small; 1 to 1 1/2 inches.

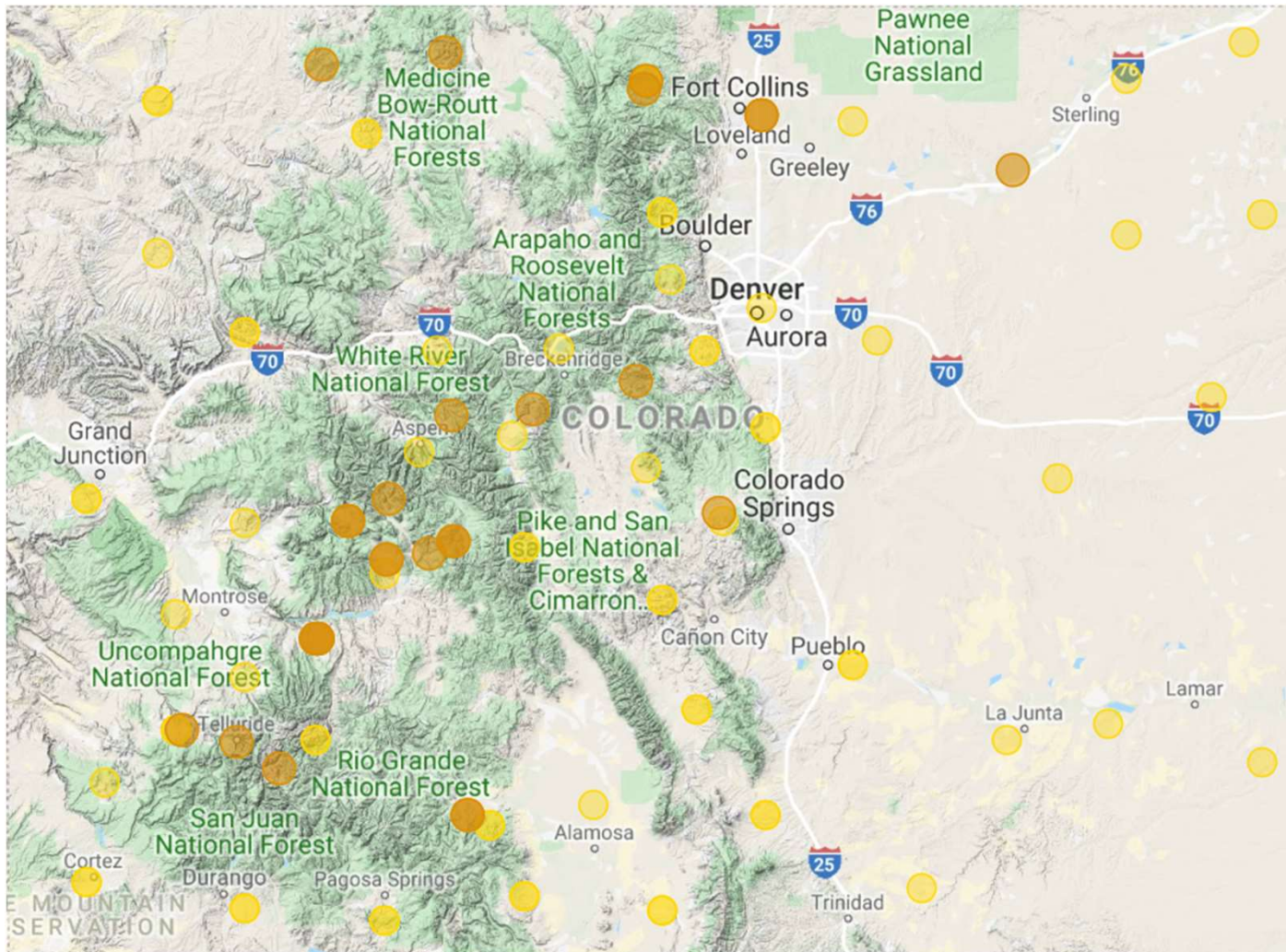
- Habitat: Wide variety of open moist areas, streamsides, meadows, marshes, and roadsides; plains, foothills, montane, alpine.

- Flight Times: May to mid-September; several broods. Chrysalis overwinters.

- Larval Foodplant: Docks, sorrels, cinquefoils, knotweeds.



Distribution Map (*Lycaena helloides*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

Tailed Copper (*Lycaena arota*)

- Hindwings have **prominent tails**. **Above:** male copper-brown with **purplish cast**; **female brown and orange**. **Below:** gray with bold markings and an **orange flush in the median area of the forewing**. **Hindwing** has an **uneven white submarginal band** and a **black spot on the margin above the tail**.
- Wingspan: Small; 7/8 to 1 3/8 inches.
- Habitat: Open mixed woodlands, canyons, meadows where scrub oak and sagebrush occur; foothills.
- Flight Times: May through August; one brood. Eggs hibernate.
- Larval Foodplant: Gooseberries and currants.

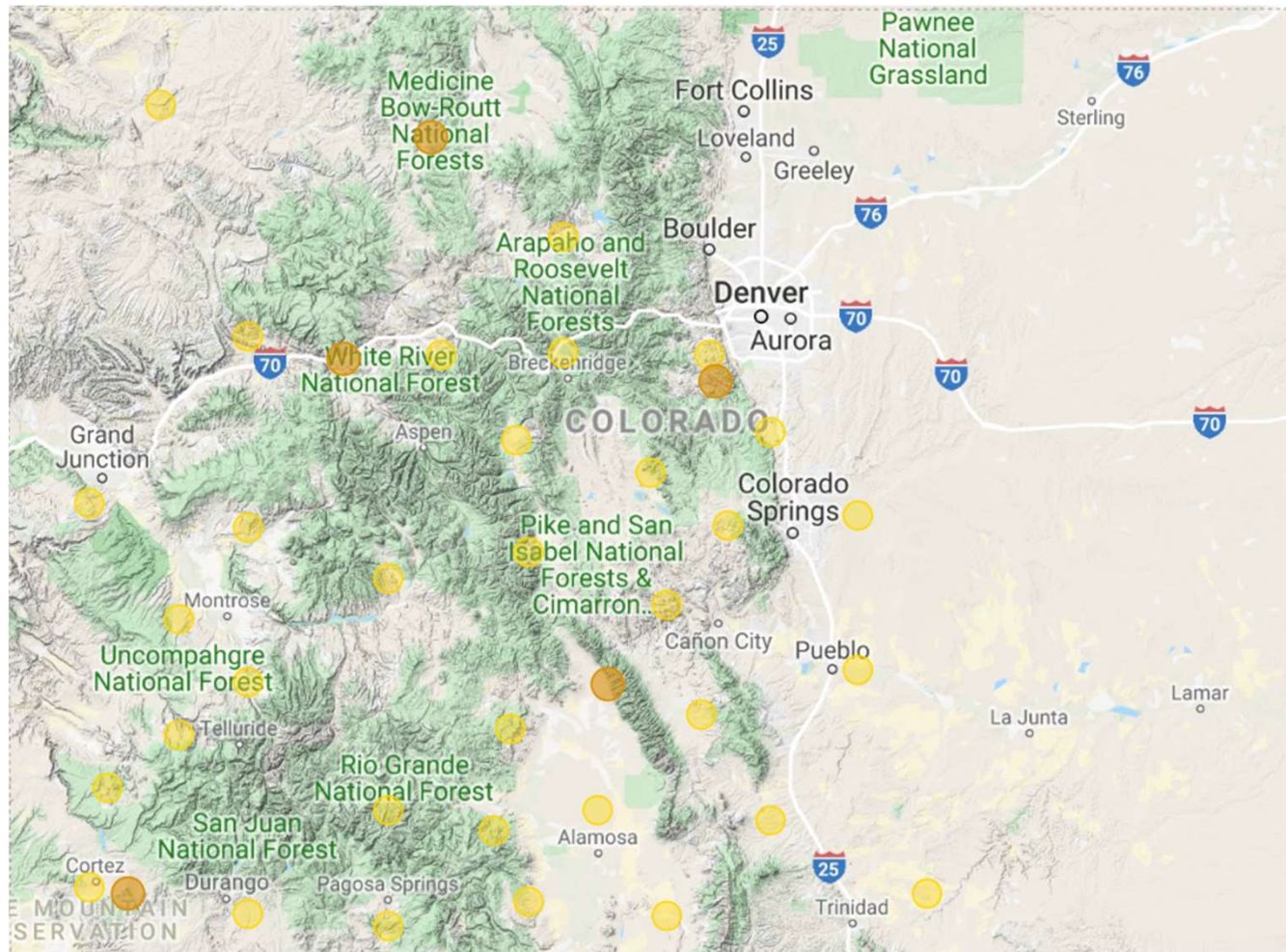


Male



Female

Distribution Map (*Lycaena arota*)



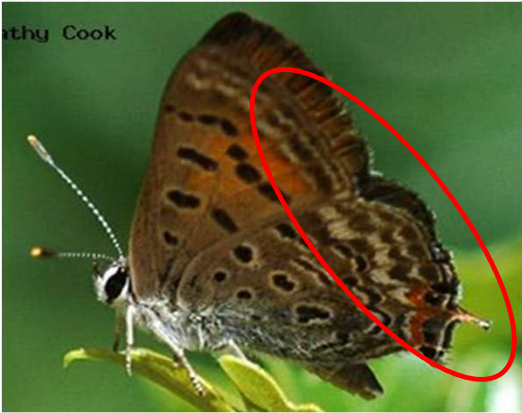
- Detailed record
- Historical record

Similar Coppers

Purpleish



Tailed



Bronze



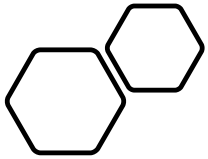
Similar Coppers

Lustrous



Ruddy

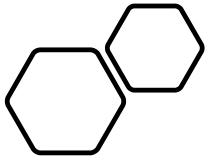




Lycaenidae:
Polyommatainae
(Blues)

- Marine Blue
- Western Tailed Blue
- Echo Azure
- Hops Azure
- Arrowhead Blue
- Silvery Blue
- Rocky Mountain Dotted Blue
- Reakirt's Blue
- Melissa Blue
- Greenish Blue
- Boisduval's Blue
- Shasta Blue
- Lupine Blue
- Arctic Blue
- Western Pygmy Blue



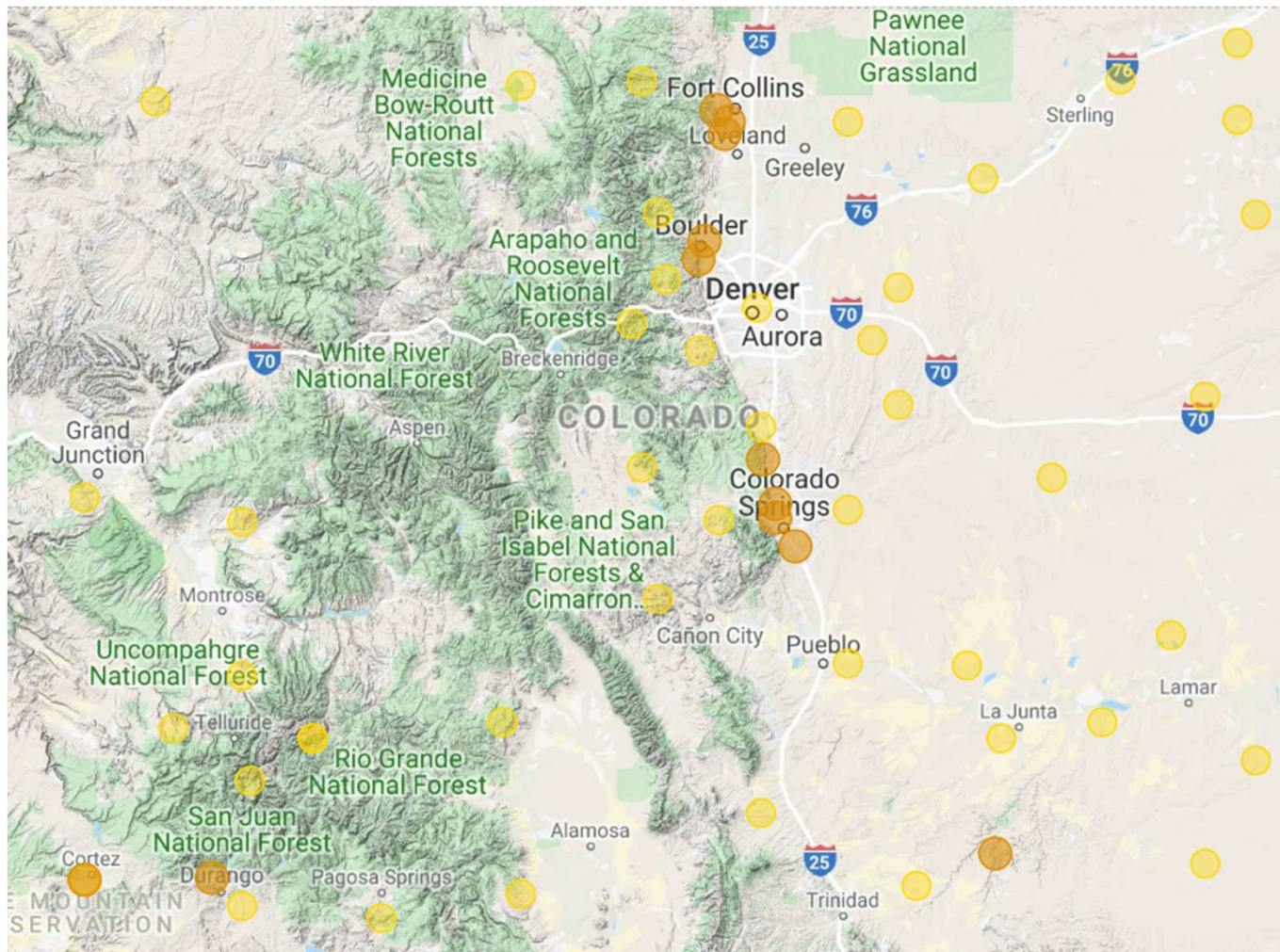


Marine Blue (*Leptotes marina*)

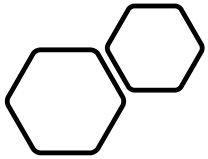
- Above, males a **light brownish-gray with purple overlay**, darker at the base of the wings. Females, **brownish with some blue basally**. Below, **gray-brown bands** separated by **thin white bands** across wings. **Two slight iridescent sub-marginal spots** at outer angle of hindwing.
- Wingspan: Small; 7/8 to 1 1/8 inches.
- Habitat: Scrub lots, gardens, alfalfa fields and disturbed areas; foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: April to September; several broods.
- Larval Foodplant: Legumes, such as milk vetch, clover and alfalfa.



Distribution Map (*Leptotes marina*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

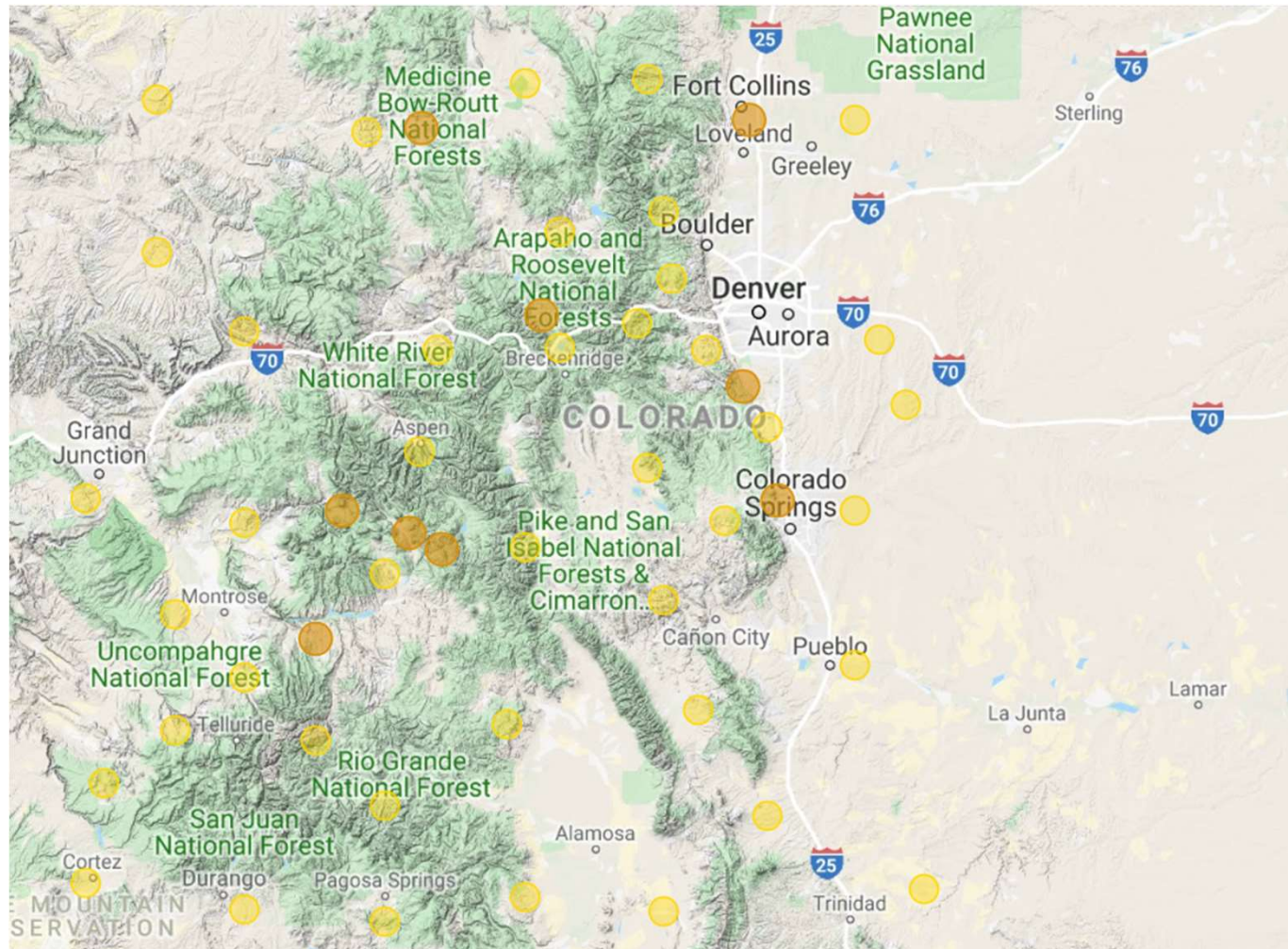


Western Tailed Blue (*Cupido amyntula*)

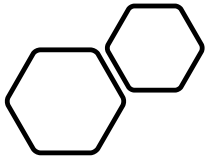
- **Small, fine tail** on hindwing. Above, **male is purple-blue; female slate gray** with blue at wing base. Tail spot when present is not conspicuous. Below, **black spots** are either **indistinct or missing** and **one small indistinct orange tail spot**.
- Wingspan: Small; 7/8 to 1 1/8 inches.
- Habitat: Moist habitats, meadows, open woodland; foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: April to August; one brood. Sometimes there is a partial second brood in southern Rocky Mountains.
- Larval Foodplant: Legumes, especially vetches and locoweed.



Distribution Map (*Cupido amyntula*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



Echo Azure

(Celestrina echo sidara)

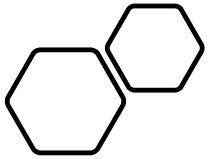
- Below, hindwing **grayish blue to brownish** with a scattering of **short black bars and spots**. The forewing beneath shows a more **organized postmedian band of wavy short black lines**. Outer edges of both wings below show a line of black inward-pointing **chevrons with black dots**. The wings above are **bluish with darker borders** more pronounced on the forewing. **Seasonally variable**.
- Wingspan: Small; 7/8 to 1 3/8 inches.
- Habitat: Openings in deciduous woodlands, trails, marshes, and stream sides; foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: April through July.
- Larval Foodplant: Has a wide range of host plants. chokecherry, waxflower (*Jamesia Americana*), and ocean spray.



Distribution Map (*Celestrina echo sidara*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

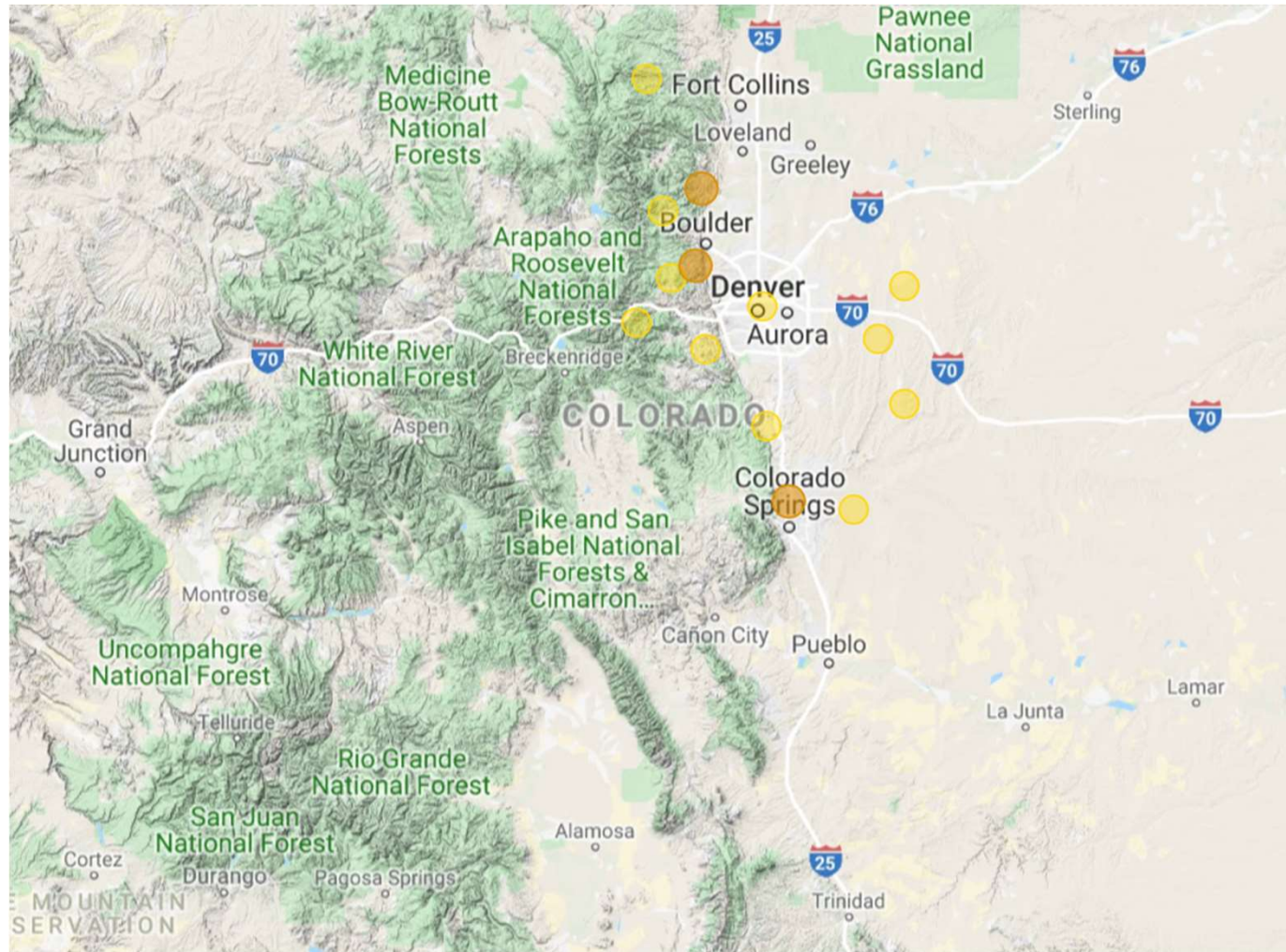


Hops Azure (*Celestrina humulus*)

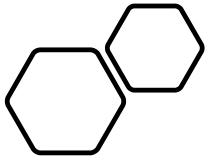
- Above, male is **light powdery blue**; females vary from **pale iridescent blue to mostly white** with **dark leading and outer edges** of forewings and dark leading edges of hindwings. Below, both are very **light, with variable black spots**, almost absent on some females to quite prominent on some males.
- Wingspan: Very small; 3/4 to 1 1/16 inches.
- Habitat: Canyon bottoms and gulches with patches of hops host plant; foothills.
- Flight Times: Mid-June to early July; one brood. Chrysalis overwinters.
- Larval Foodplant: Hops and possibly Lupine.



Distribution Map (*Celestrina humulus*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



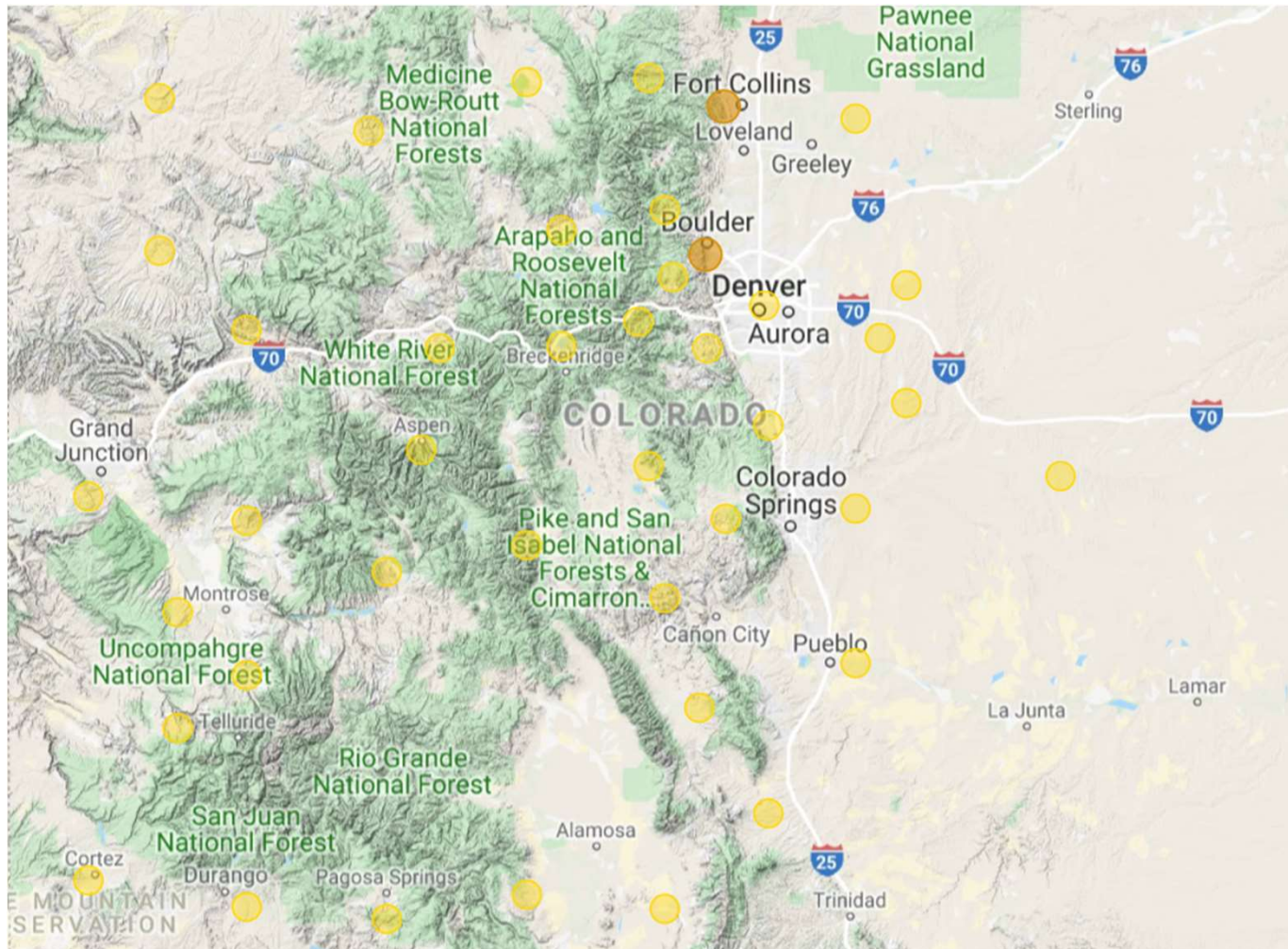
Arrowhead Blue

(Glaucopsyche piasus)

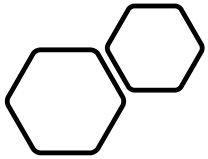
- Below, **light to dark gray** with **distinct band of white “arrowheads”** pointing inward on the hindwing. Also shows **white spike** in basal area of hindwing disk. Above, **blue with brown margins** and fringes **checkered black and white**.
- Wingspan: Small; 1 1/8 to 1 3/8 inches.
- Habitat: Open woods, trails, meadows, streamsides, slopes, sagebrush flats with lupines; foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: March through July. Chrysalis overwinters.
- Larval Foodplant: Lupine and milk vetch species in the pea family.



Distribution Map (*Glaucopsyche piasus*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



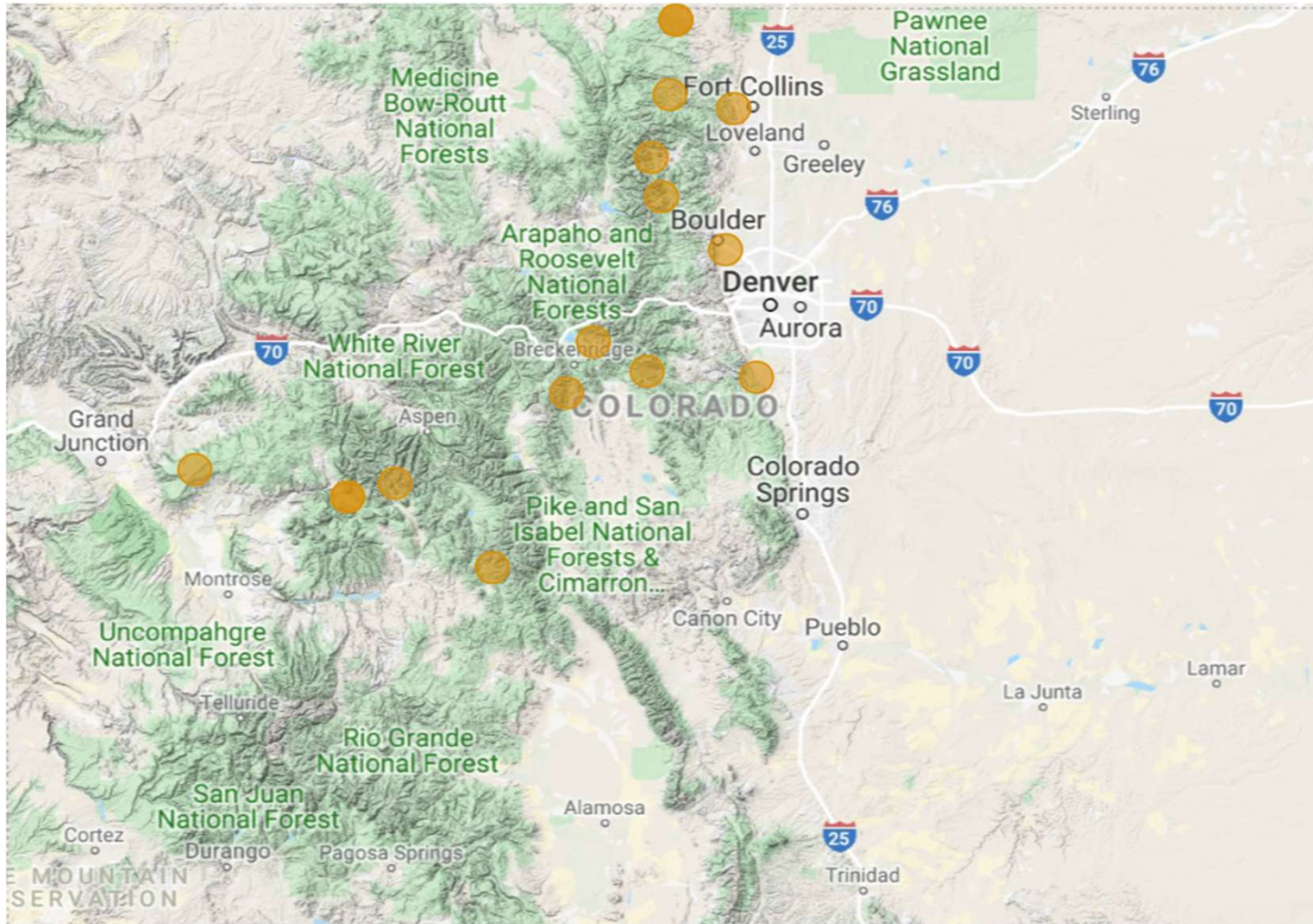
Silvery Blue

(Glaucopsyche lygdamus)

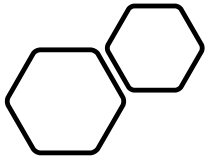
- Above, **male iridescent silvery blue** with **narrow dark borders** on forewing and hindwing; female varies from **mostly brown to mostly blue with wide borders**. Both sexes have **white fringe**. Below, **gray-brown**; both wings with row of **white-ringed, round black spots**.
- Wingspan: Small; 7/8 to 1 1/4 inches
- Habitat: Mountain meadows, open woods and grasslands, trails and roadsides; plains, foothills, montane, alpine.
- Flight Times: April to late July, dependent on elevation.
- Larval Foodplant: Golden banner, mountain lupine, milk vetches and other species in the pea family.



Distribution Map (*Glaucopsyche lygdamus*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

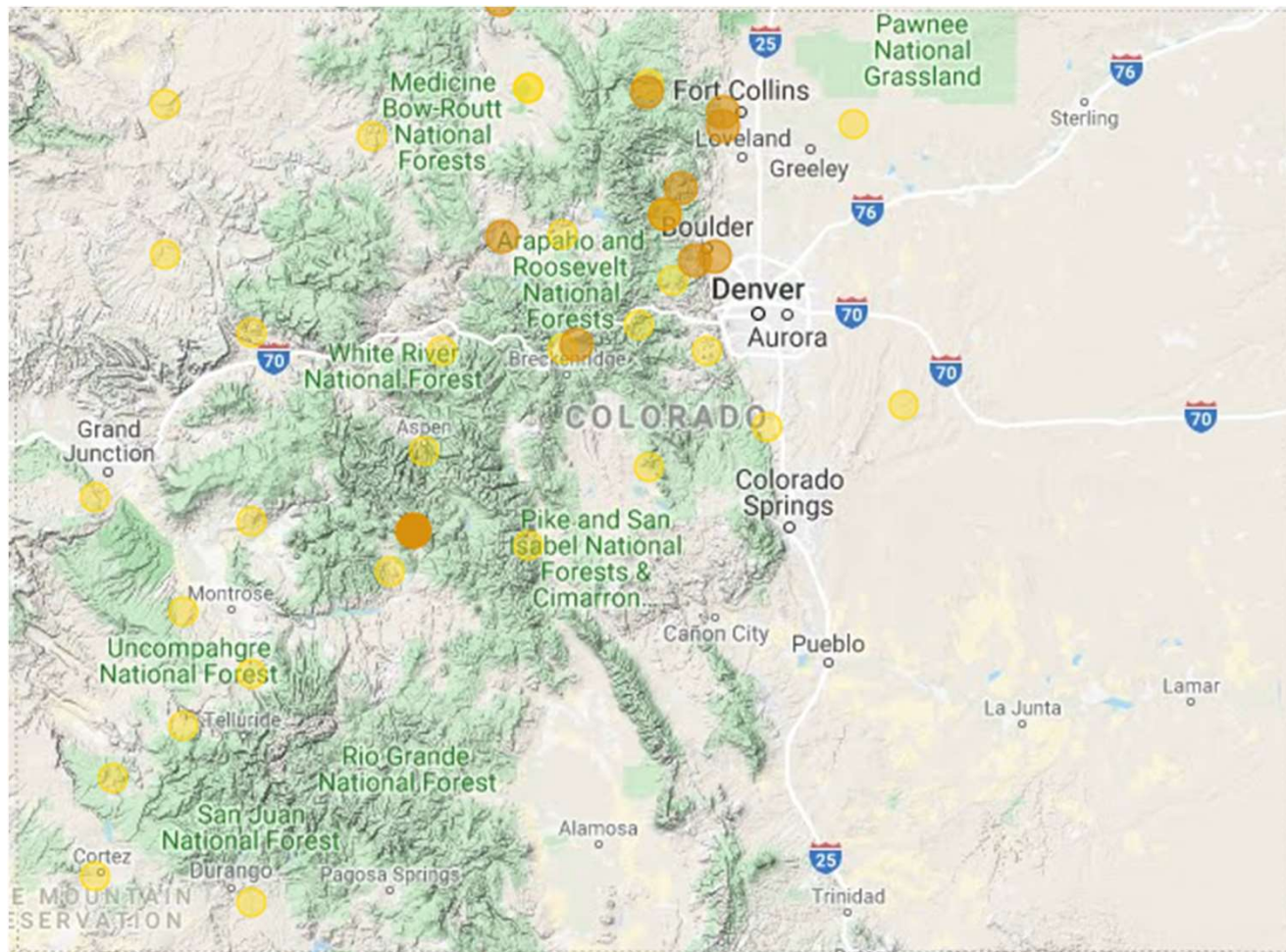


Rocky Mountain Dotted Blue (*Euphilotes ancilla*)

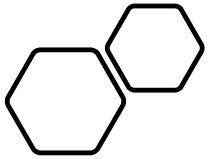
- Above, male is **dark blue with medium black borders**; female is **brown with orange on trailing edge of hindwing**. Below, hindwing **light blue-gray** on both sexes and a row of **submarginal orange crescents** edged outwardly with disconnected **black spots that form a band**. The underside of forewings show numerous **bold black spots on dusky gray**.
- Wingspan: Small; 5/8 to 1 inch.
- Habitat: Trails, rocky hilltops, ridges and slopes with host plant colonies; foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: Late April to early August depending on location and elevation, one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Various buckwheat (*Eriogonum*) species, especially sulphur flower.



Distribution Map (*Euphilotes ancilla*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



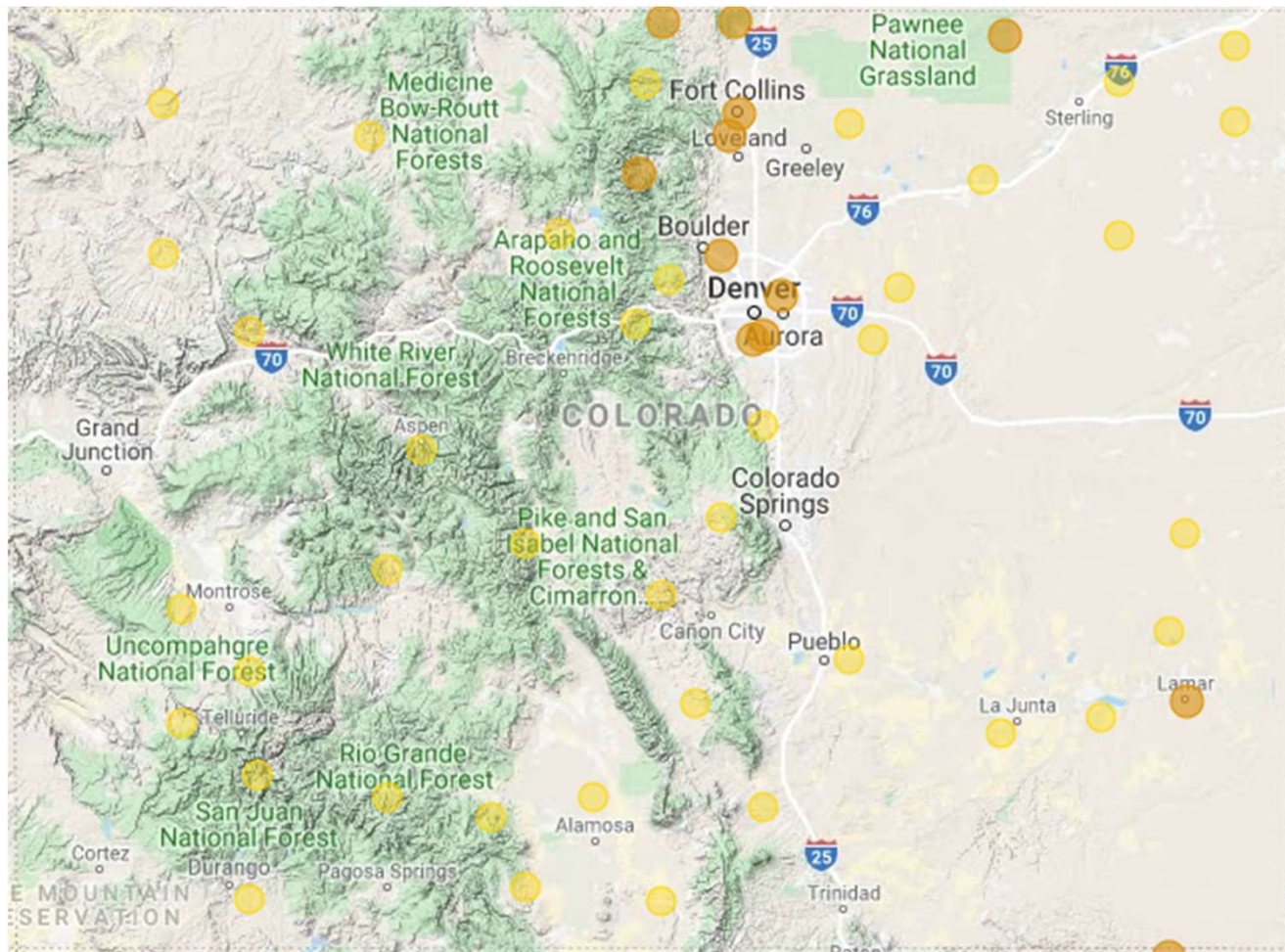
Reakirt's Blue (*Echinargus isola*)

- Above, **male light blue with medium dusky black border and dark spot** on posterior of hindwing; **female brown with blue basally**. Below, forewing with **postmedian row of large white-ringed black spots** and hindwing outer angle shows **prominent black spot** above and below on both sexes..

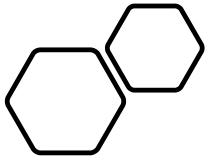
- Wingspan: Small; 3/4 to 1 1/8 inches.
- Habitat: Open areas, grasslands, fields, meadows, and streamsides; foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: April to September; two to three broods.
- Larval Foodplant: Various species of legumes.



Distribution Map (*Echinargus isola*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

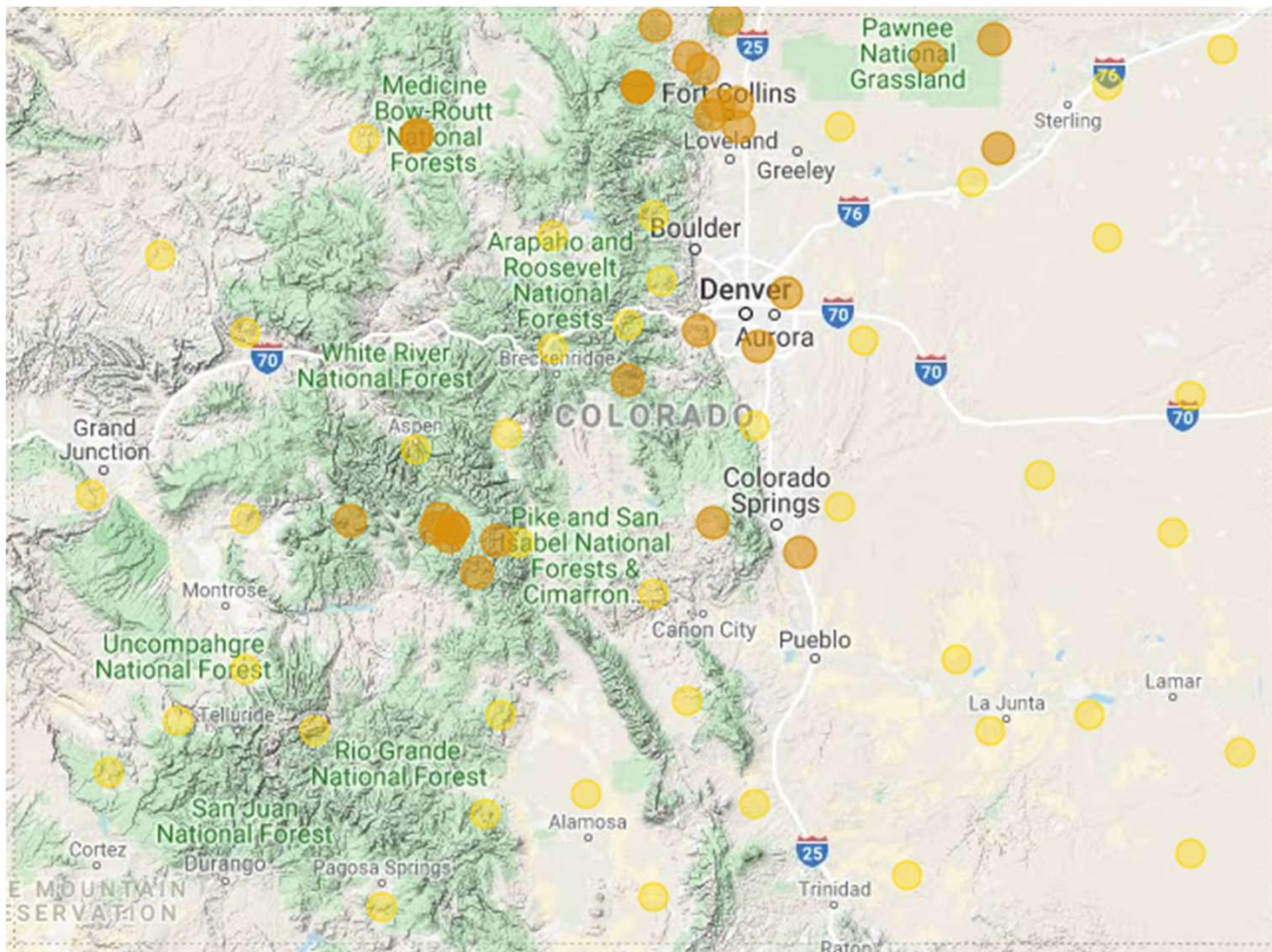


Melissa Blue (*Plebejus melissa*)

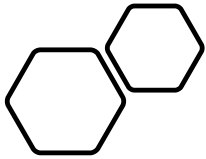
- Male is **blue above** with **narrow dark border**. Female is **gray-brown above** with **blue tinge** marked by an **outer orange band** on both wings. Below, both are **dusky white** with **scattered black spots** and a **prominent orange submarginal spot band** on both wings; **tiny blue-green iridescent spots** near outer edge of hindwing.
- Wingspan: Small; 7/8 to 1 3/8 inches.
- Habitat: Wide variety including agricultural land, disturbed areas, prairies, sagebrush steppes, mountain meadows in pine forests, as well as summits of mountain peaks; plains, foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: April to August; two to three broods. Overwinters as egg or young caterpillar.
- Larval Foodplant: A variety of legumes of the pea family including lupines, and alfalfa.



Distribution Map (*Plebejus melissa*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



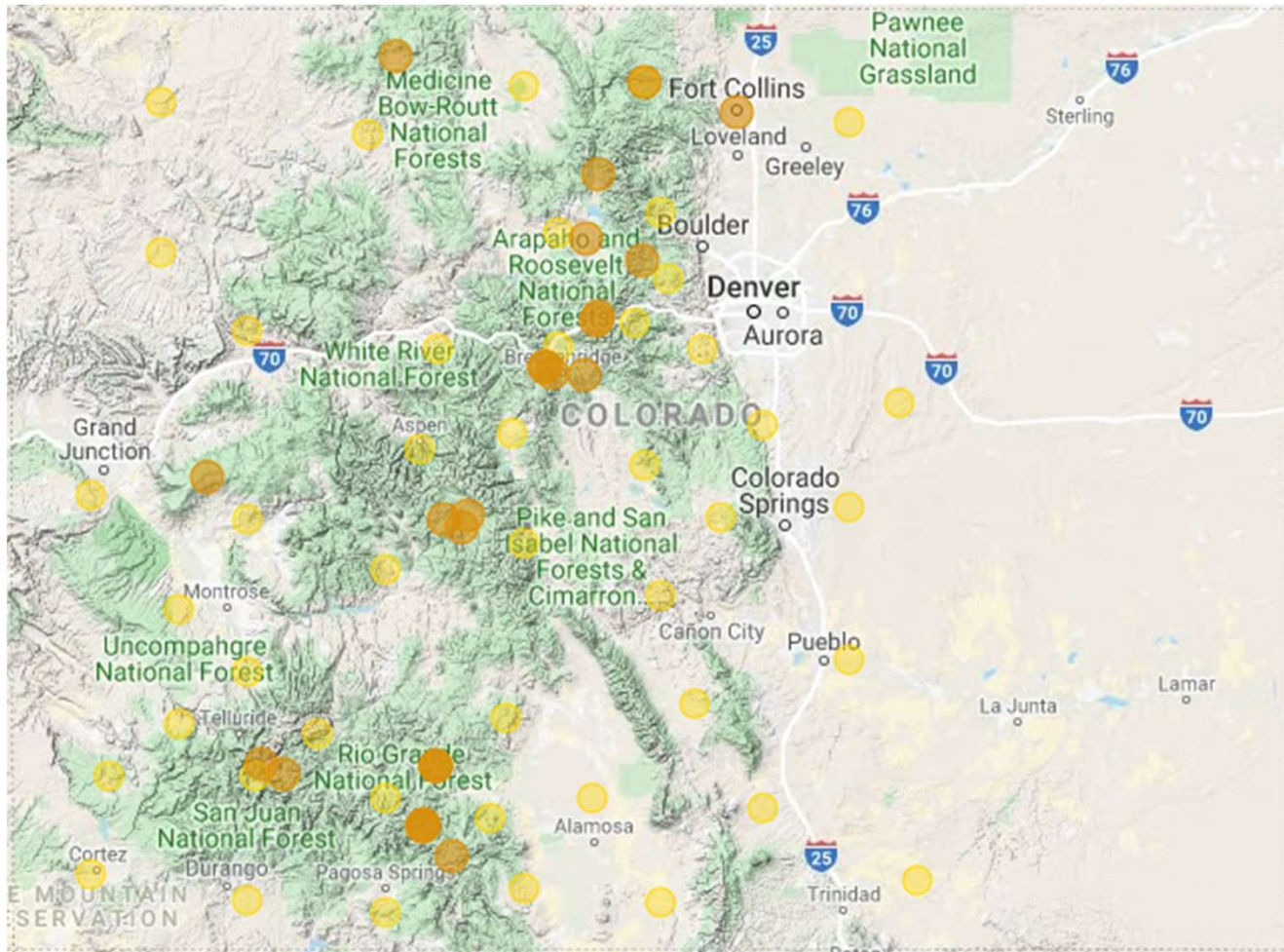
Greenish Blue

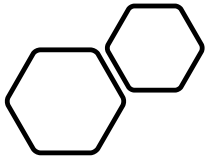
(Icaricia saepiolus)

- Below, **gray with marginal and submarginal spot band** equally prominent, but less intense than bold **postmedian black spots** which show **less circling white than on similar Boisduval's Blue**. Male above **iridescent blue with greenish tints** basally and with **conspicuous black and white** edging to wings. Female **orange-brown to bluish** toward body. Both sexes can show **cell-end bars** on forewings.
- Wingspan: Small; 1 to 1 1/4 inches.
- Habitat: Forest openings with abundant clover, wet meadows with flowers, stream edges, bogs, and roadsides; foothills, montane, alpine.
- Flight Times: May to August; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Flowers of various clovers and milk vetches.



Distribution Map (*Icaricia saepiolus*)





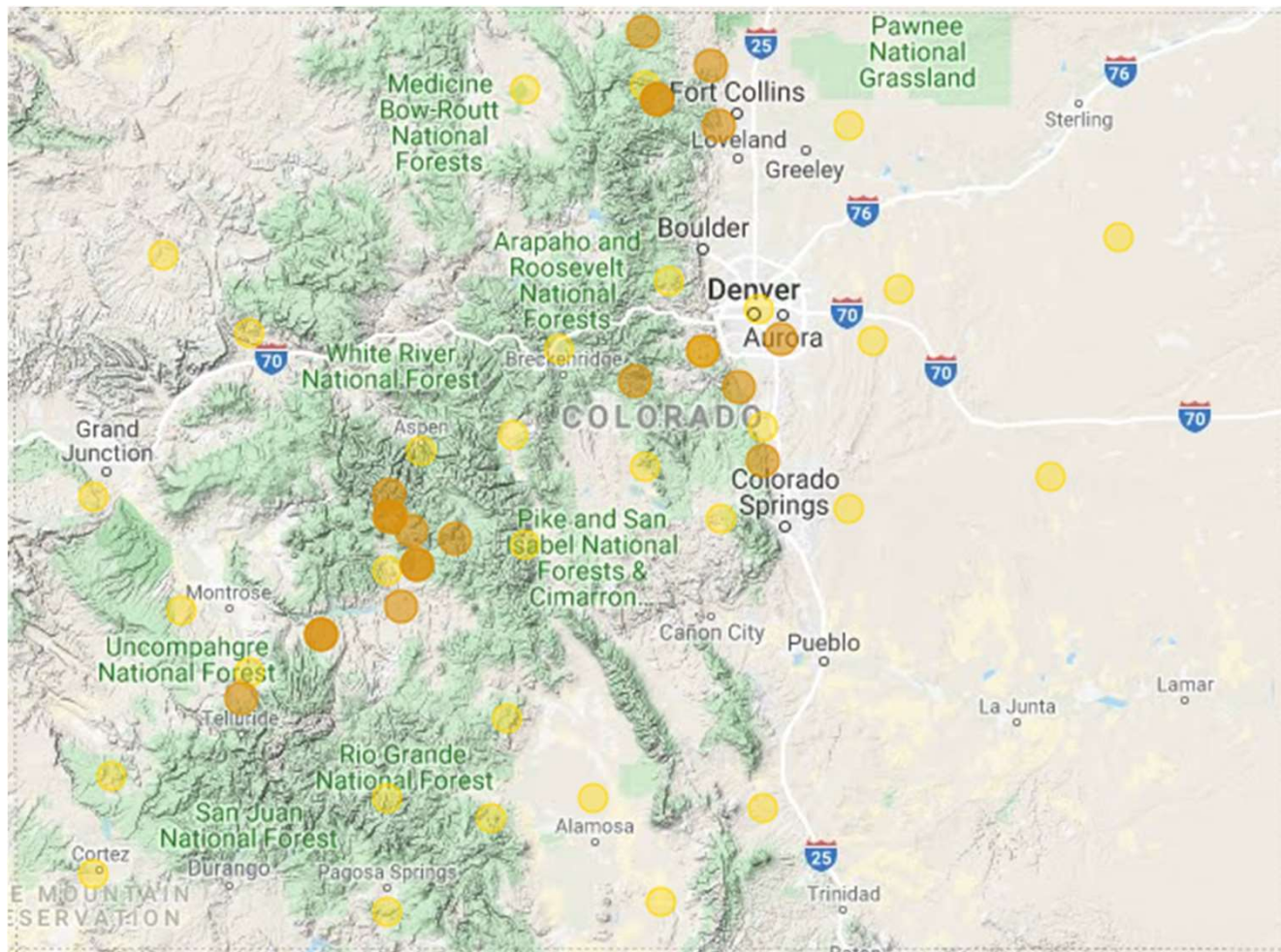
Boisduval's Blue

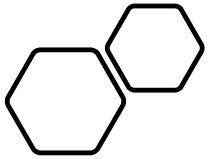
(Icaricia icarioides)

- Hindwing below with **postmedian spot band** variable from **almost all white to black circled in white** and forewing shows larger **bold black spot band circled in white**. Above, **male violet-blue** and **female brown**, both with a **white fringe**. **Black cell-end bar** prominent on forewing above and below.
- Wingspan: Small; 1 to 1 3/8 inches (large in comparison to other blues).
- Habitat: Mountain meadows and forest openings with abundant lupine species; foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: May through August; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Various lupine species (*Lupinus*) in the pea family.



Distribution Map (*Icaricia icarioides*)





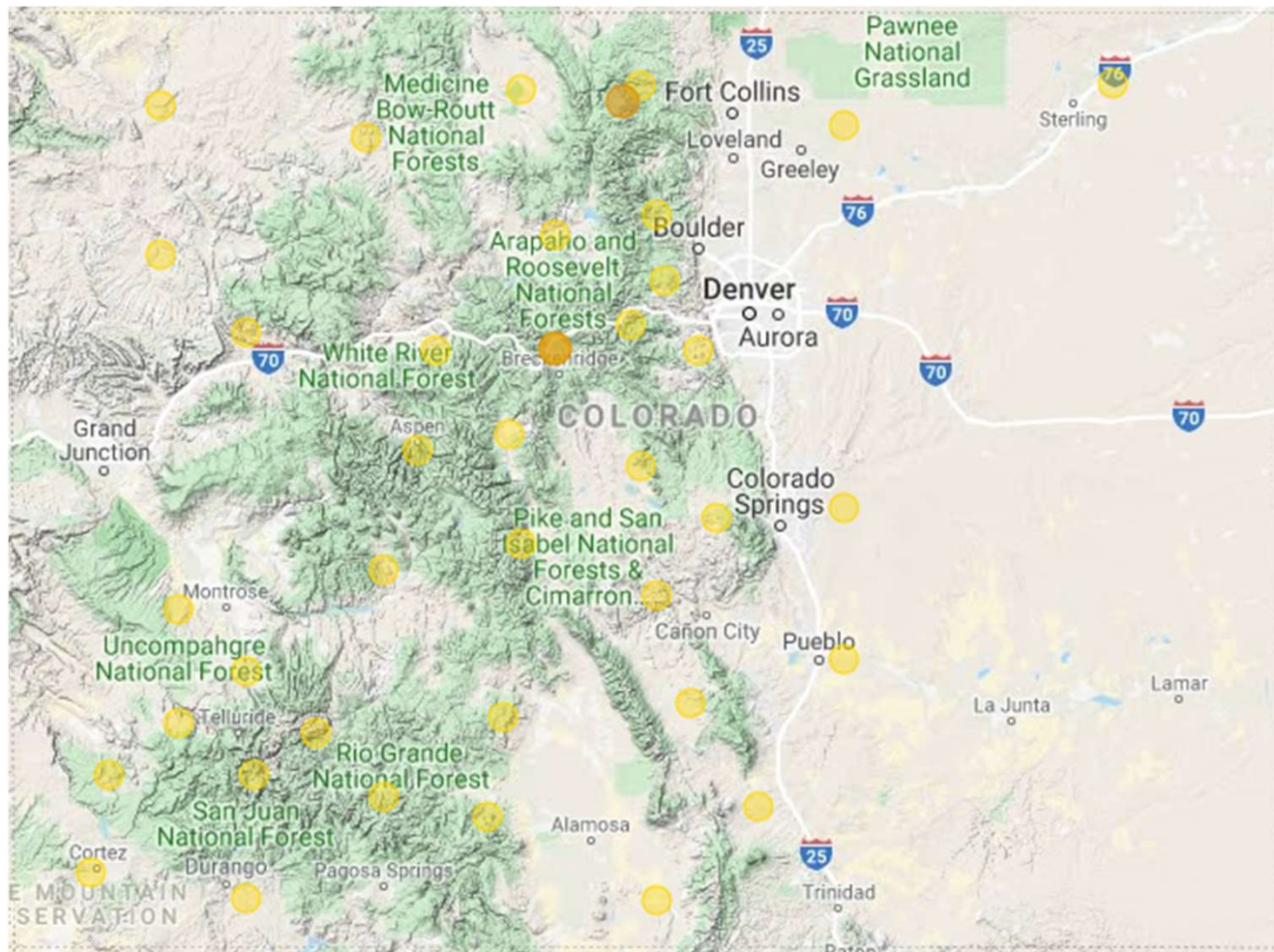
Shasta Blue

(Plebejus shasta)

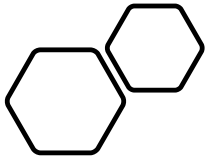
- Above, the male is **lilac blue** with **wide, dark border**; females more **brownish blue** and may have **orange band** at outer margin of hindwing. Both sexes have **cell-end bars** on forewing and hindwing. Below, both sexes **gray**; hindwing has a **pale orange submarginal band** containing **metallic spots**. **Postmedian spots** are **pale brown or gray**, but not black.
- Wingspan: Small; 7/8 to 1 1/8 inches.
- Habitat: Rocky hilltops and slopes, forest openings, high plains, and barren slopes above timberline.
- Flight Times: June to August; one brood. Above treeline, hibernate first year as egg and second winter as mature caterpillar.
- Larval Foodplant: Legumes – milk vetch, locoweed, lupines and clover.



Distribution Map (*Plebejus shasta*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



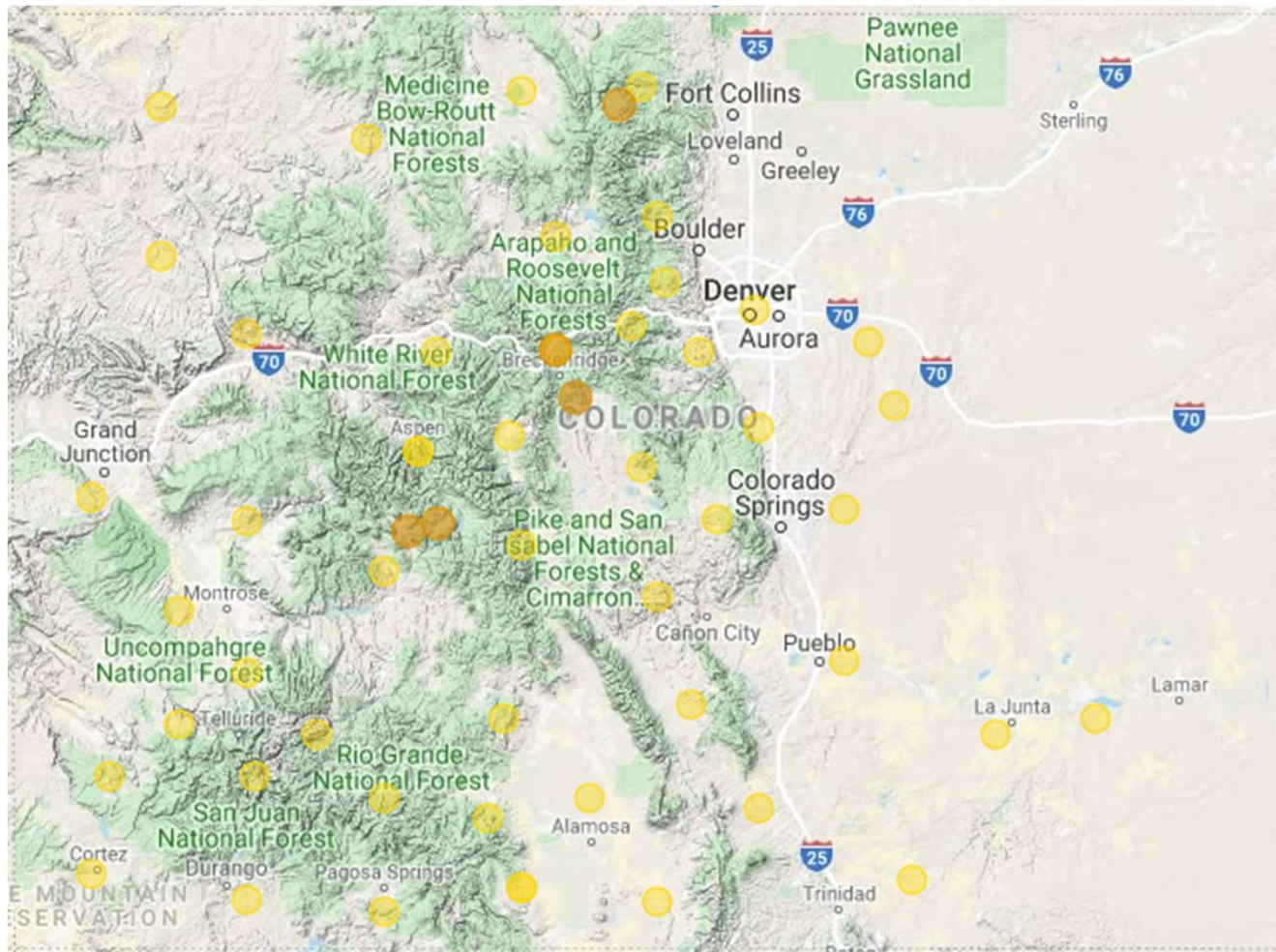
Lupine Blue

(Icaricia lupini lutzi)

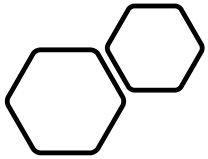
- Above, **male bright lilac-blue** with **submarginal orange band capped in black** on hindwing (no orange band on forewing). Male beneath is **silvery gray with numerous black spots** and a similar orange band on hindwing only. Female is similar, but more **brownish-blue** and also has an **orange band only on the hindwing**.
- Wingspan: Small; 3/4 to 1 1/8 inches.
- Habitat: Prairies, rocky outcrops, mountain meadows, montane and alpine slopes; foothills, montane, alpine.
- Flight Times: March through July, one to two broods.
- Larval Foodplant: Several species of buckwheat (*Eriogonum*), including sulphur flower.



Distribution Map (*Icaricia lupini lutzi*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



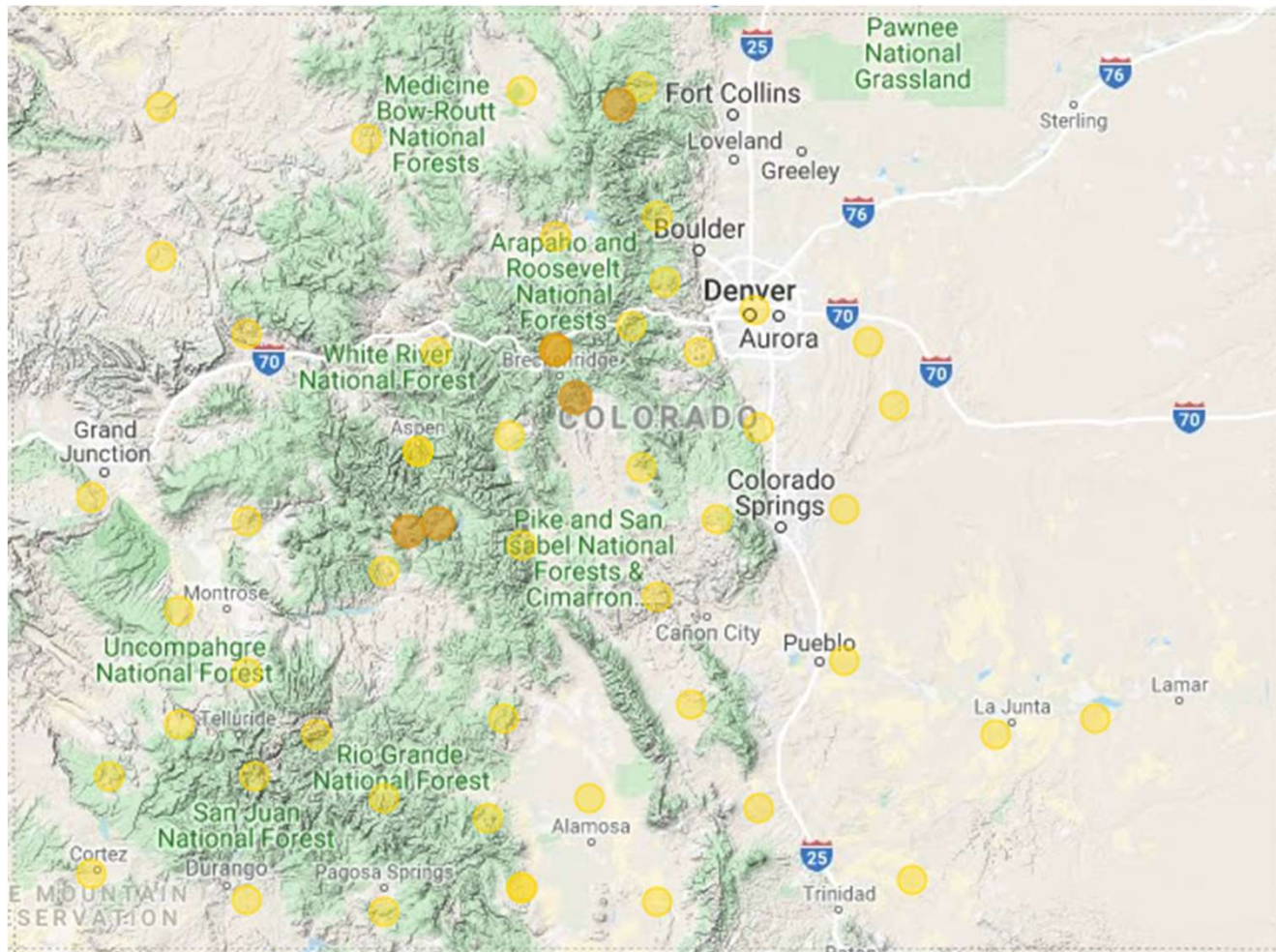
Arctic Blue

(Plebejus glandon)

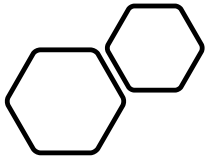
- Below, hindwing usually has **white band just inward of white marginal spots** with **male grayish-blue** and **female ochre-colored**. Both show **two black spots** on leading edge of hindwing below. Above, male is **grayish-blue** with **black cell-end bars** on both wings; female **brown** with **similar cell-end bars on forewing only**.
- Wingspan: Small; 7/8 to 1 inch.
- Habitat: Montane and subalpine meadows, alpine tundra.
- Flight Times: May/June to late September.
- Larval Foodplant: Rock Primrose.



Distribution Map (*Plebejus glandon*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

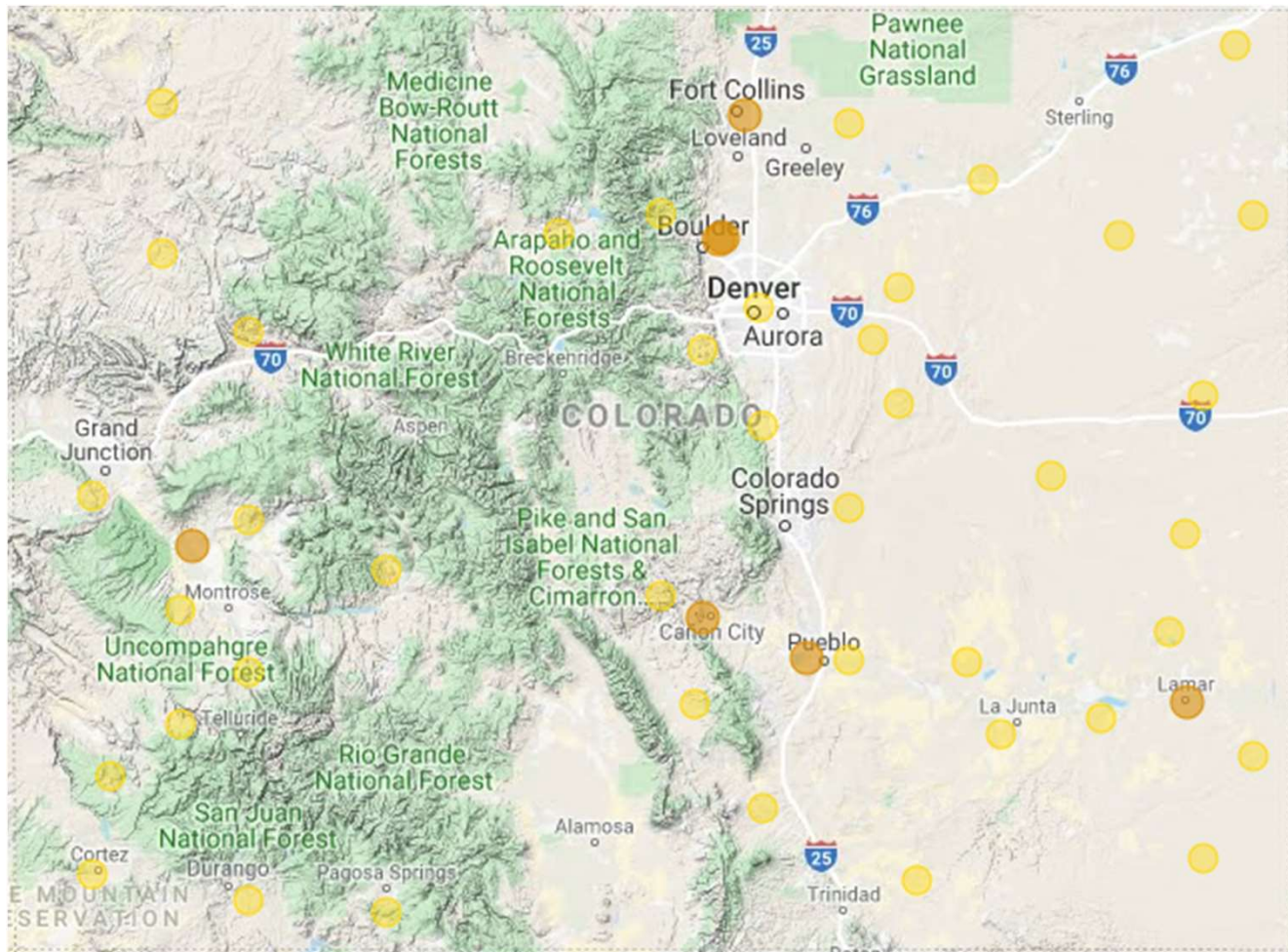


Western Pygmy Blue (*Brephidium exile*)

- **Tiny.** Above, **both wings copper brown** with **blue only in basal area** and **mostly white fringe**. Below, wings are **two-toned with gray at the base** and **copper toward the edges**. Hindwing has **four pronounced marginal dots with iridescence**.
- Wingspan: Tiny; 1/2 to 3/4 inch.
- Habitat: Salty marshes, alkaline and other disturbed areas; plains, foothills.
- Flight Times: Spring to fall in southern U.S.; northern sightings are probably emigrants or their summer offspring.
- Larval Foodplant: Goosefoot family such as lambsquarters, salt bush, and Russian thistle.



Distribution Map (*Brephidium exile*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record