

Butterflies of Colorado

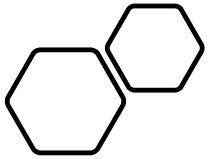
Nymphalidae: Heliconiinae
(Fritillaries)



Heliconiinae: Fritillaries

- Variegated
- Aphrodite
- Edwards'
- Coronis
- Zerene
- Callippe
- Northwestern
- Mormon
- Silver-bordered
- Arctic
- Gulf
- Uncompahgre



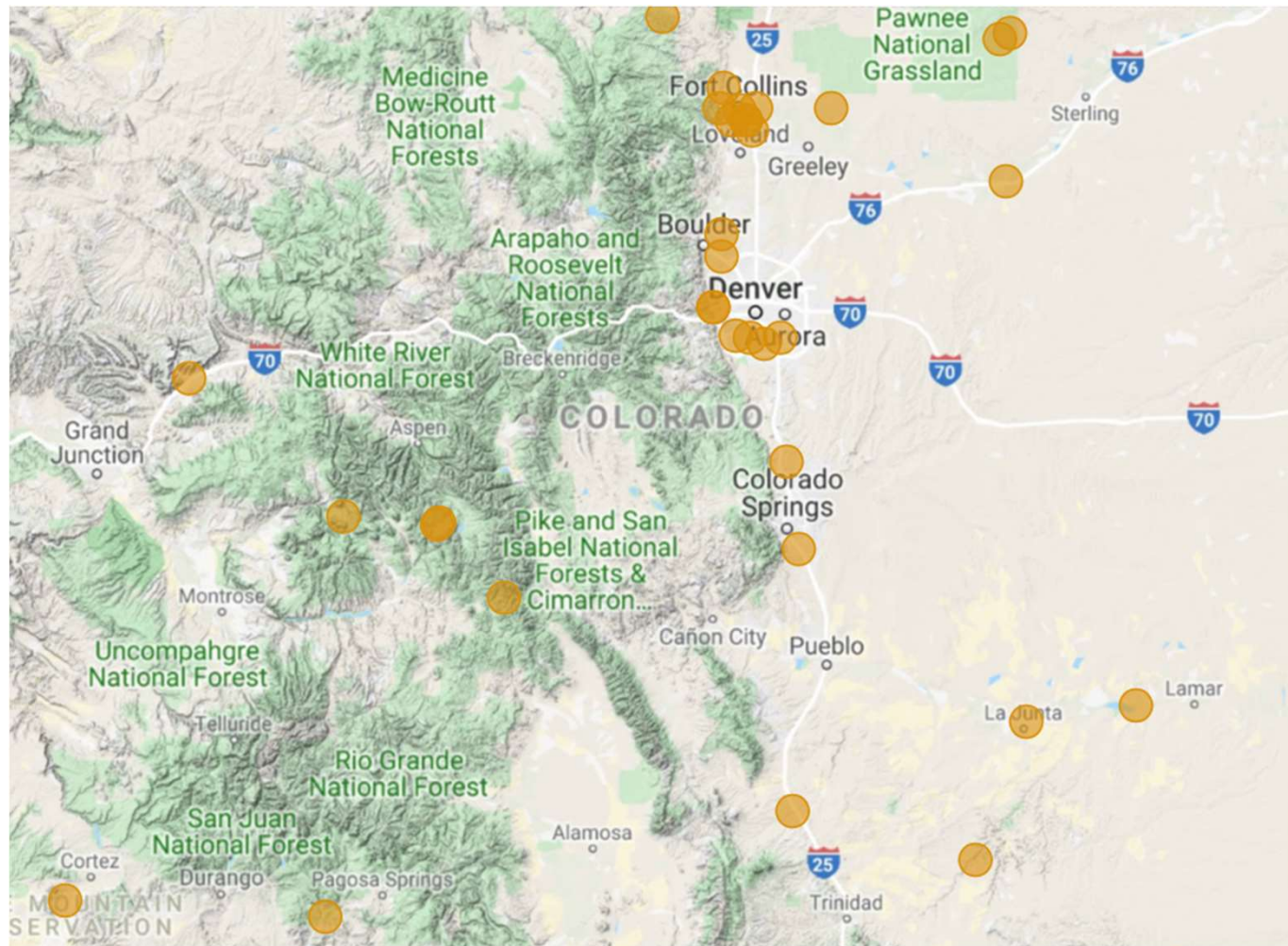


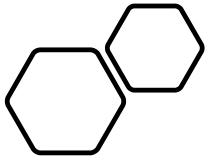
Variegated Fritillary (*Euptoieta claudia*)

- Above, **tawny orange with thick dark veins** and markings; black spots near margin. Hindwing margin **angled and slightly scalloped**. Below, hindwing with a **mottled pattern**, darker near body, and a broad, pale median band across both wings. **No silver spots**. Overall lighter coloration helps distinguish the Variegated Fritillary from other fritillaries.
- Wingspan: Large; 1 3/4 to 3 inches.
- Habitat: Open sunny areas such as prairies, fields, pastures, road edges; plains, foothills, montane, alpine.
- Flight Times: April through September; one or two broods.
- Larval Foodplant: Violets and occasionally stonecrop.



Distribution Map (*Euptoieta claudia*)



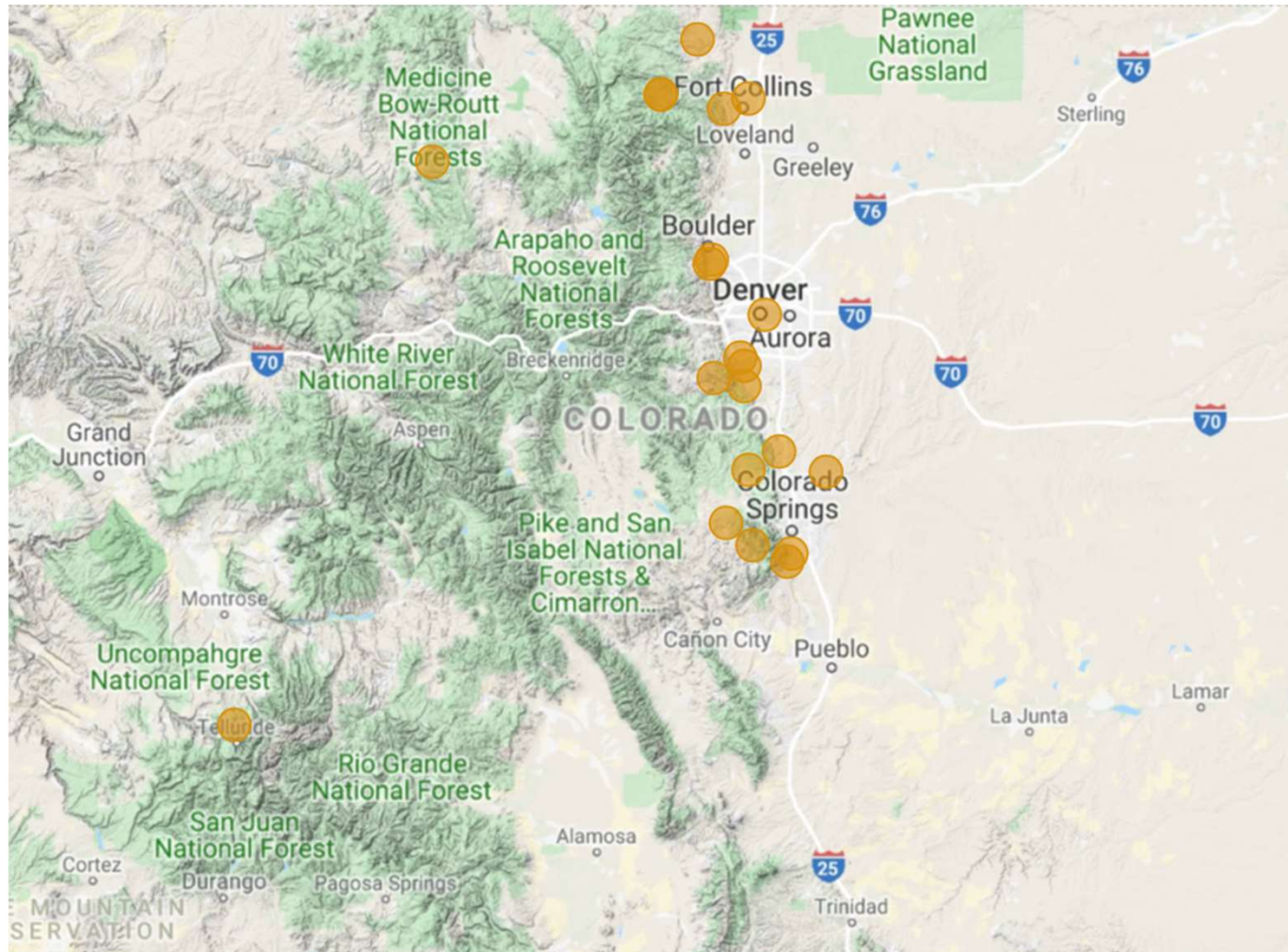


Aphrodite Fritillary (*Speyeria aphrodite*)

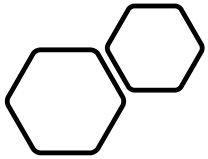
- Above **reddish orange-brown**; the forewing veins are **not lined with black scales**. **Eyes yellow-green**. Underside of hindwing, the **red-brown or brown in the disk often extends beyond postmedian spots into the submargin**. **Hindwing spots are always silvered**.
- Wingspan: Large; 2 1/2 to 3 1/4 inches.
- Habitat: Moist prairies, high mountain meadows, brushlands, dry fields, open woodlands, bogs; plains, foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: May to mid-September; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Various violet species.
- The yellow-green eyes separate this species from all other similar species except for the Great Spangled Fritillary (*Speyeria cybele*)



Distribution Map (*Speyeria aphrodite*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

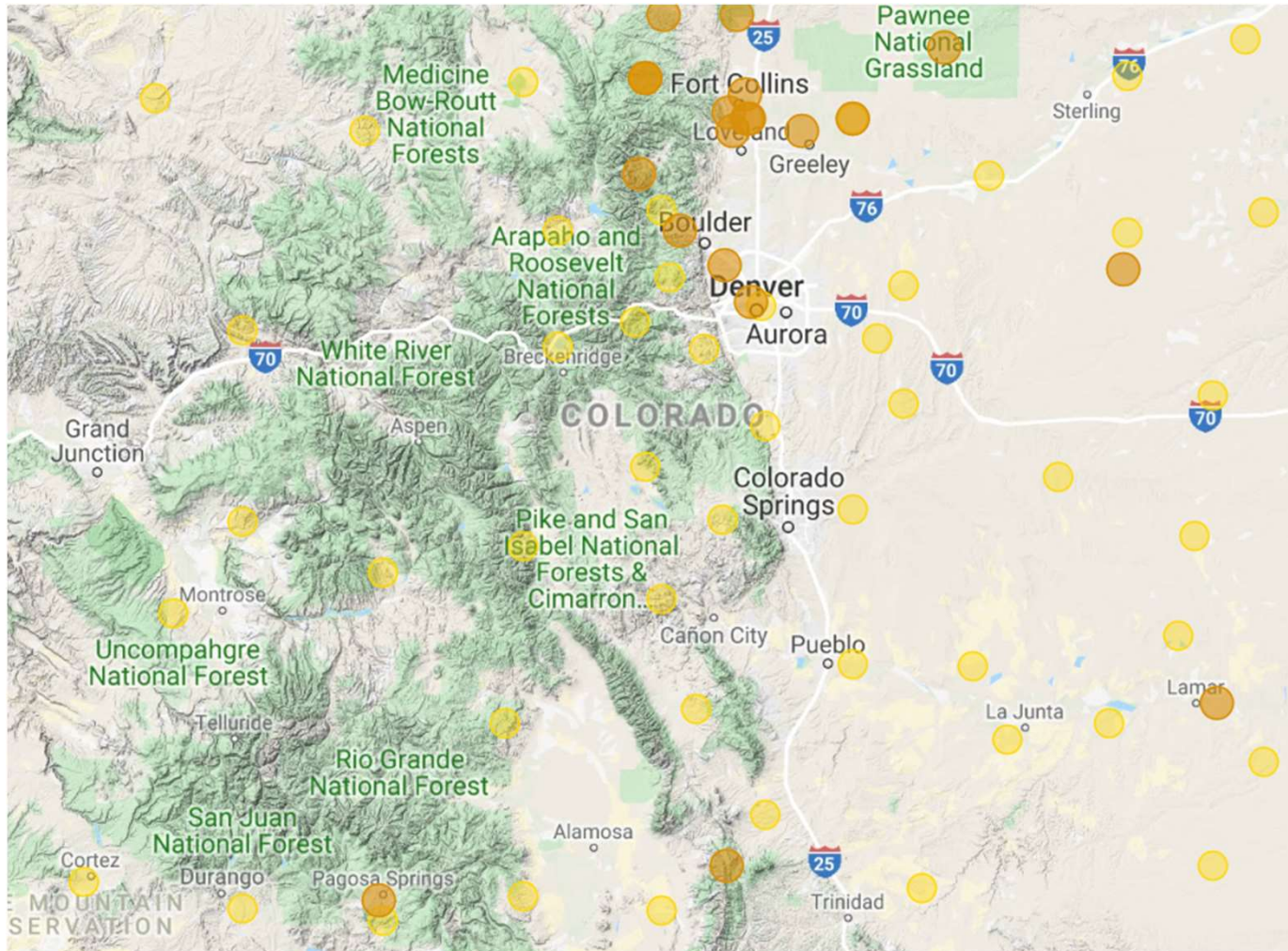


Edwards' Fritillary (*Speyeria edwardsii*)

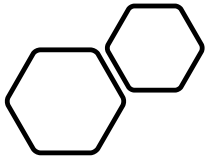
- Above, both wings **orange with prominent black margins with orange spots with black caps**. Underside **green or gray-green** with narrow buff submarginal band and **metallic silver markings**. Below, submarginal spot row on both wings and inwardly the larger postmedian spot band.
- Wingspan: Large; 2 1/2 to 3 3/8 inches.
- Habitat: Short-grass prairie, foothills and canyons, mountain meadows, open pine forests where the host plant, violets, are found; plains, foothills, montane, alpine.
- Flight Times: May to early September; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Violets including *Viola nuttallii*.



Distribution Map (*Speyeria edwardsii*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

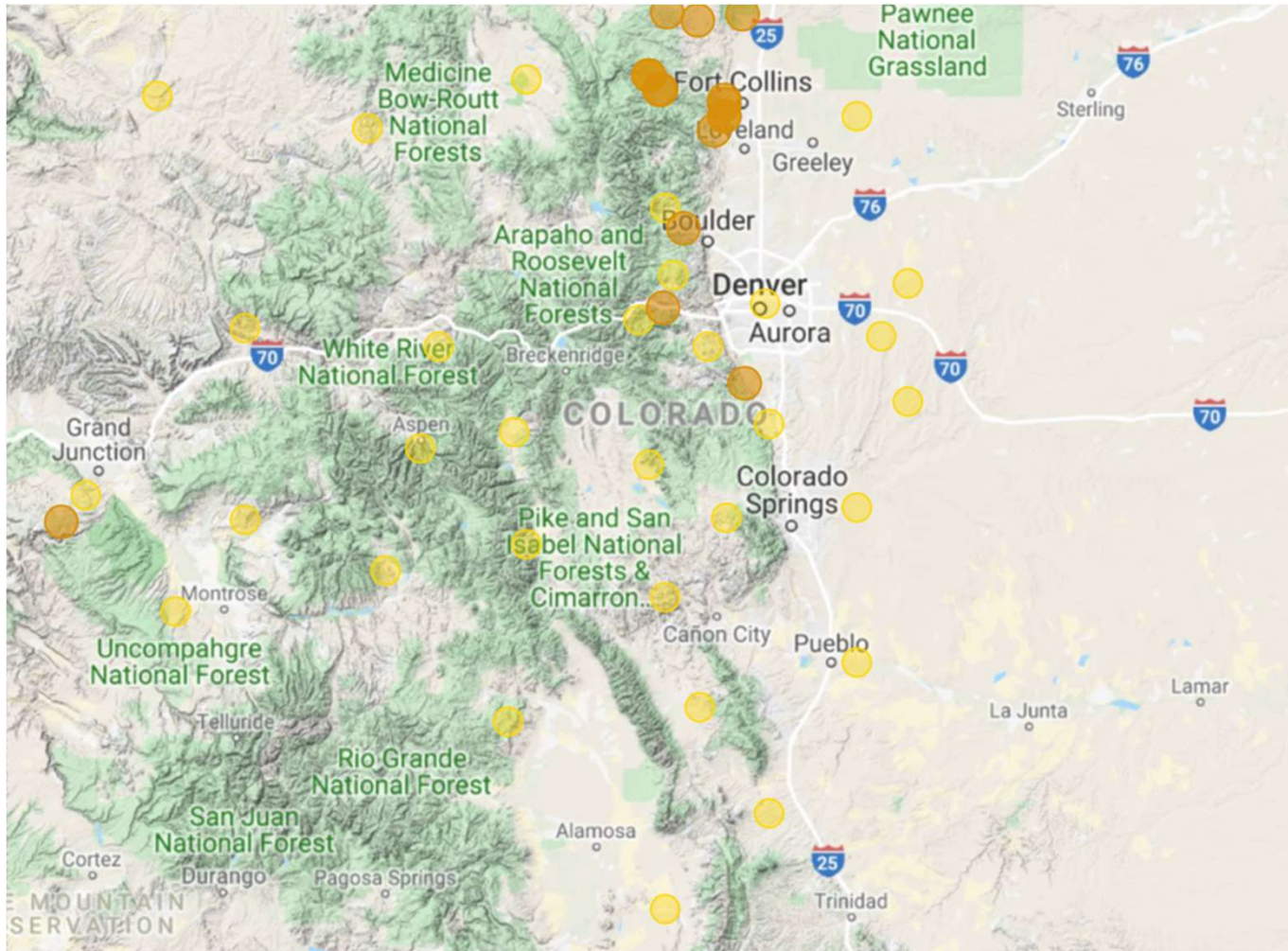


Coronis Fritillary (*Speyeria coronis*)

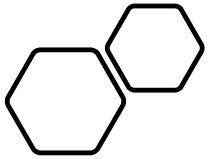
- Above, **varying shades of tawny to orange-brown with black markings.** Below, **brown or olive disk with tan submarginal band** on hindwing and **rounded silver spots** in marginal row.
- Wingspan: Medium; 2 to 3 3/8 inches.
- Habitat: Mixed conifers, meadows, brushy ravines and hillsides; foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: Late May to September; one brood. First-stage caterpillars overwinter.
- Larval Foodplant: Violets.



Distribution Map (*Speyeria coronis*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

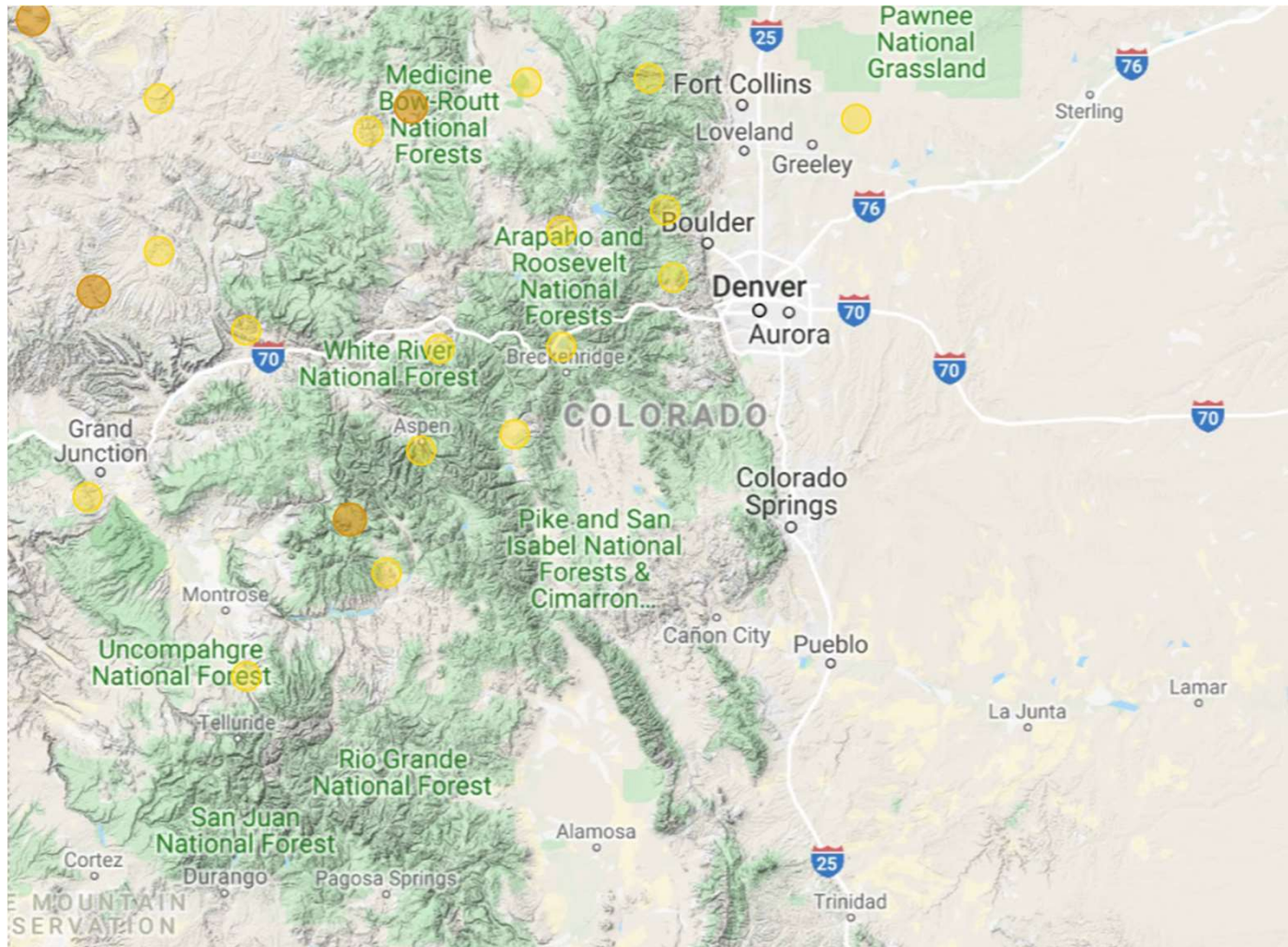


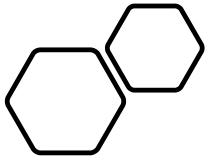
Zerene Fritillary (*Speyeria zerene*)

- Above, varies from **rich to pale orange** with **strong median and postmedian black markings**. Below, **hindwing spots may be silvered or unsilvered; disk brown to reddish**. Marginal spots **more triangular** than on Coronis Fritillary.
- Wingspan: Medium; 2 1/8 to 2 3/4 inches.
- Habitat: Montane forests, shrubby areas, and meadows; foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: Mid-June to August; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Violets.
- Species is closely related to Coronis Fritillary, but slightly smaller.



Distribution Map (*Speyeria zerene*)





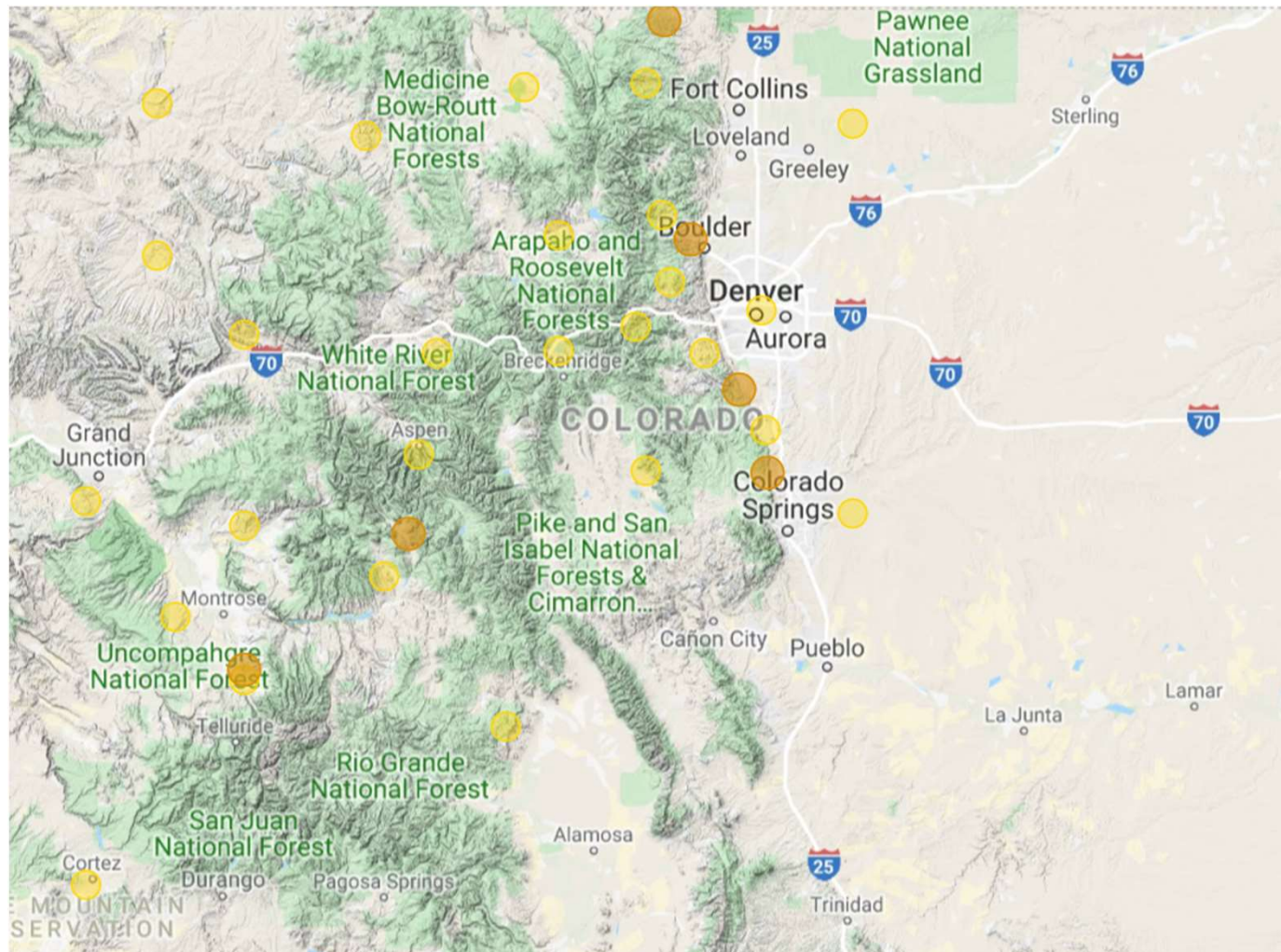
Callippe Fritillary (*Speyeria callippe*)

- Above, varies from **light tan to bright orange** with **black, evenly-spaced markings**. Below, disk **olive or brown** with a **buff submarginal band** on the hindwing; **spots usually silvered**. Hindwing marginal spots often more **triangular with narrow brown edging**.

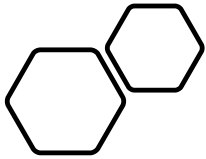
- Wingspan: Medium; 2 to 2 1/2 inches.
- Habitat: Grasslands, woodlands, ravines and ridges; foothills.
- Flight Times: May to August; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Violets.



Distribution Map (*Speyeria callippe*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

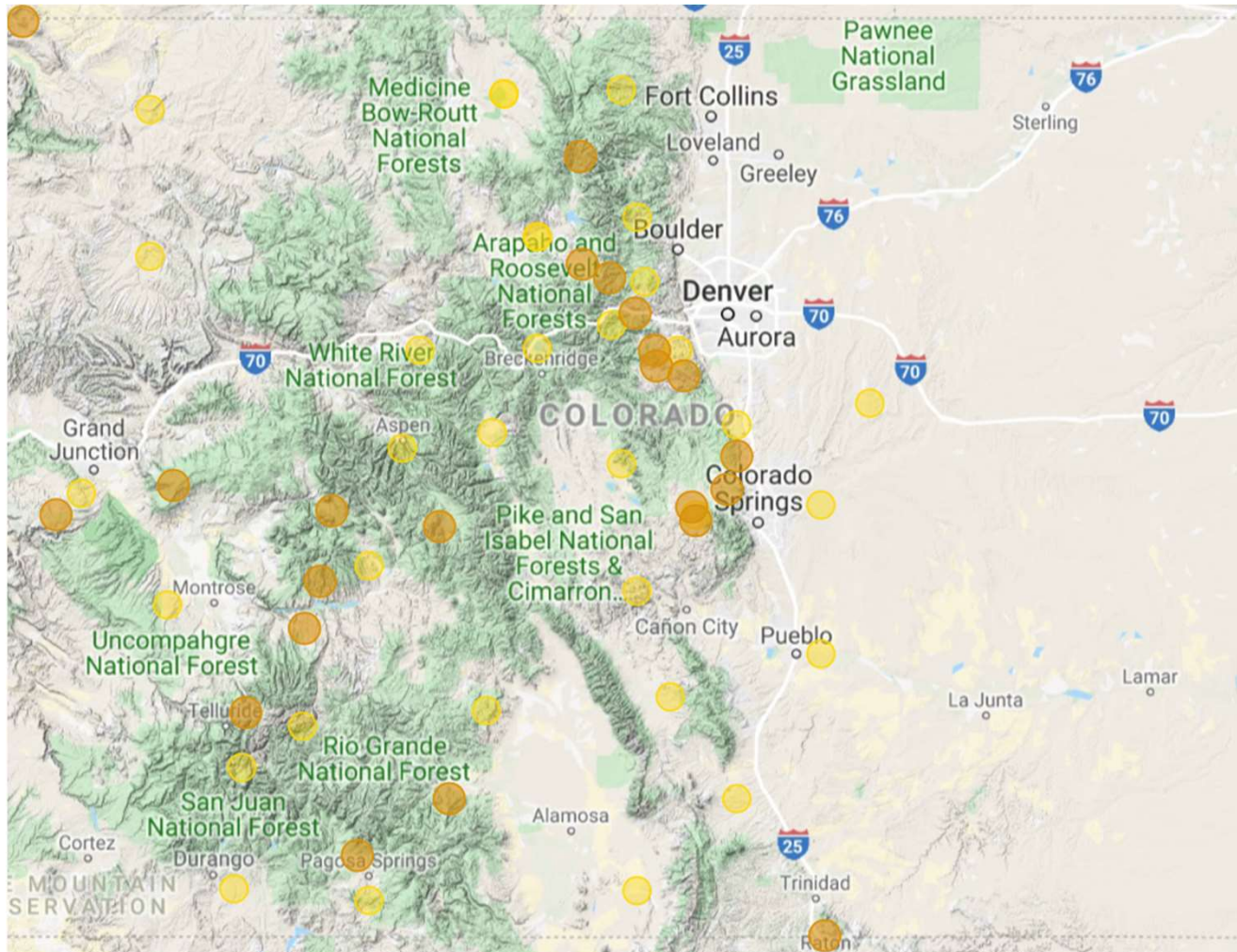


Northwestern Fritillary (*Speyeria hesperis*)

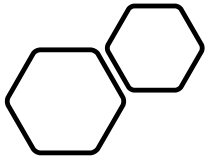
- Above, both wings are **orange-brown**, often darker at base and swollen black veins especially on forewing; male has black scales on veins. Below, hindwing with **basal disk of reddish-brown to brown** with **pale submarginal band**; **spots silvered or unsilvered**. Marginal & submarginal black spots are small. **Eyes blue-gray**.
- Wingspan: Medium; 2 to 2 1/2 inches.
- Habitat: Moist meadows, open woodlands and hillsides, wooded streambanks; foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: Late June to early September; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Violets.



Distribution Map (*Speyeria hesperis*)

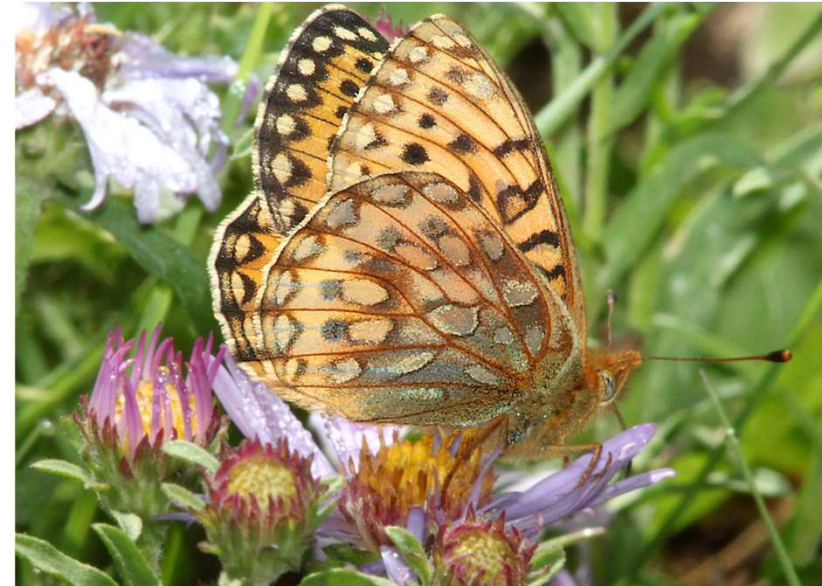


- Detailed record
- Historical record

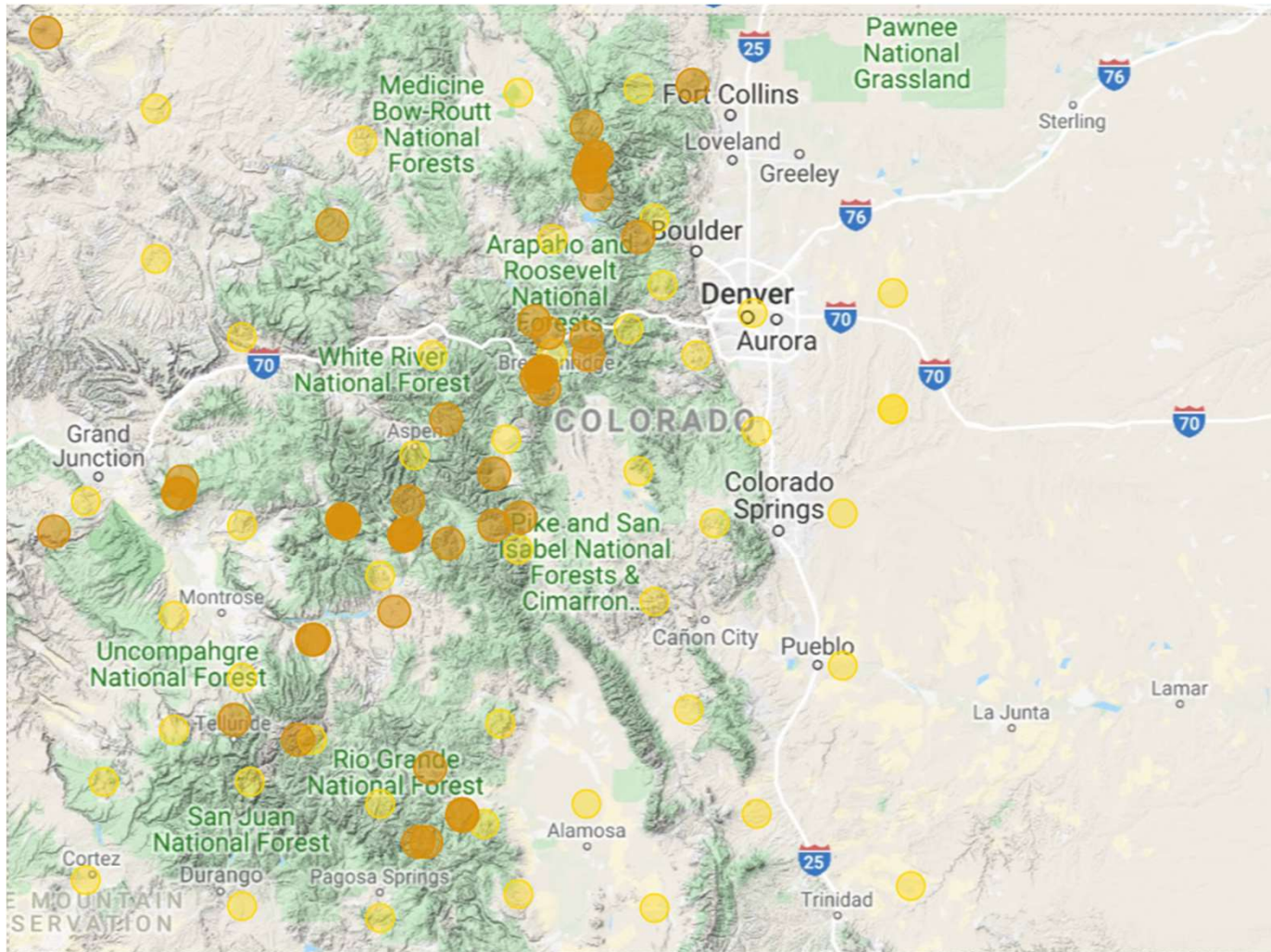


Mormon Fritillary (*Speyeria mormonia*)

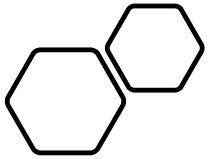
- Above, **orange with black markings, thin black veining, and little or no basal darkening.** Forewing is short and rounded. Light yellow to cream submarginal spots are usually surrounded by black. Below, variable but **generally pale.** Hindwing has a **marginal row of silvered or white spots**, a unmarked postmedian band and a median row of 5 or 6 large spots, with a smaller spot in the middle of the row. **Usually smaller than most similar species.**
- Wingspan: Medium; 1 1/2 to 2 3/8 inches.
- Habitat: Moist mountain habitats at and above approximately 6,000 feet; upper foothills, montane, alpine.
- Flight Times: July to September; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Violets.



Distribution Map (*Speyeria mormonia*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



Silver-Bordered Fritillary (*Boloria selene*)

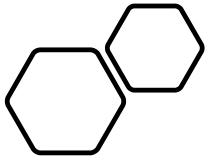
- Above, **pale orange with a fairly broad postmedian band** containing **solid black spots** and **black marginal bands** surrounding **pale orange spots**. Below, the hindwing has **silver or white marginal spots**, a row of **submarginal black spots** and a relatively **large irregular rectangular spot** just behind the hindwing cell.
- Wingspan: Medium; 1 3/8 to 2 1/8 inches.
- Habitat: Meadows, marshes and bogs.
- Flight Times: June to July; 1 brood in mountains. Third-stage caterpillars overwinter.
- Larval Foodplant: Violets.



Distribution Map (*Boloria selene*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

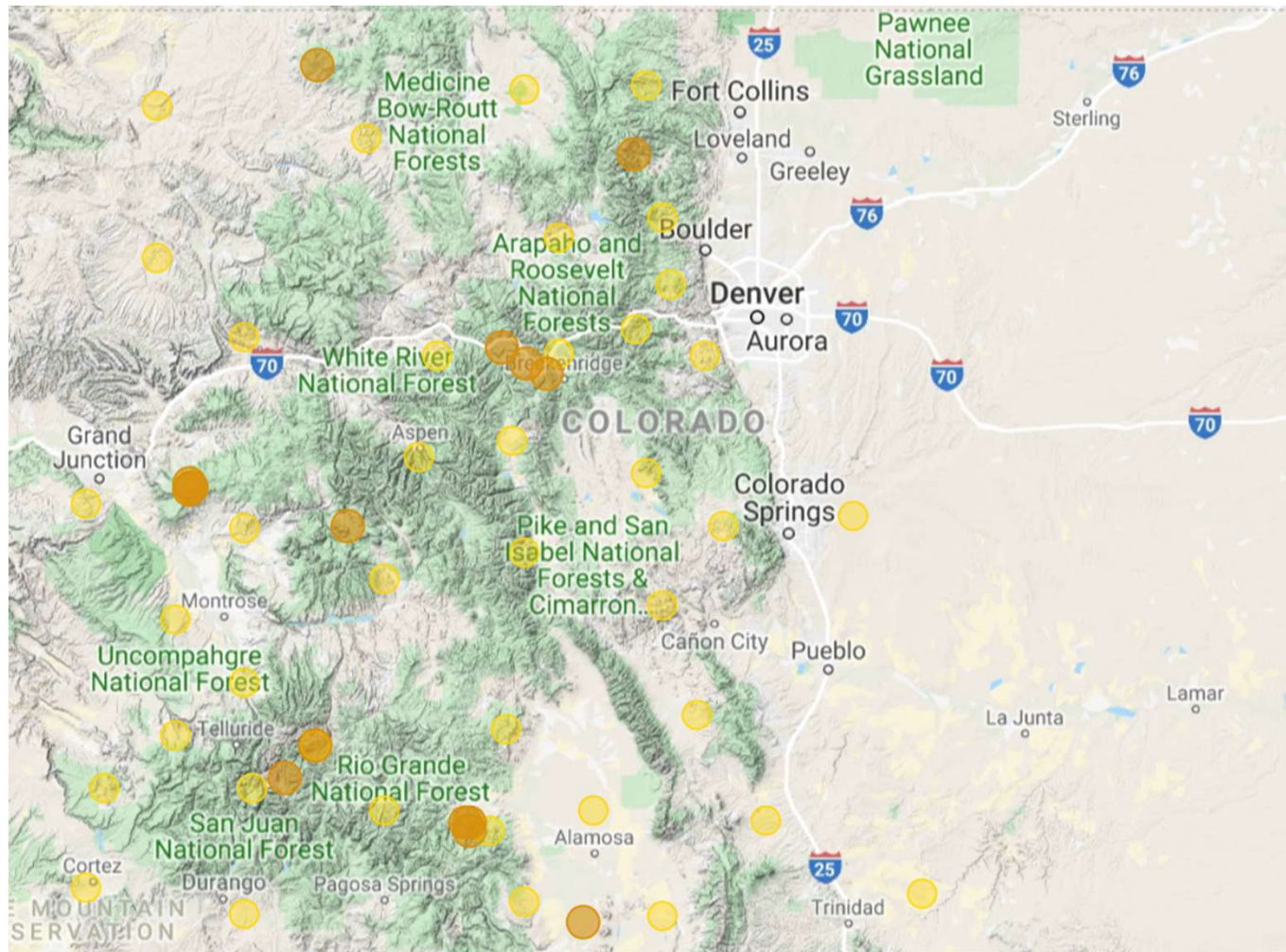


Arctic Fritillary (*Boloria chariclea*)

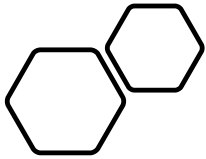
- Above, **orange with black markings and solid black dots** in the median band. Below, **reddish brown with white or cream colored cells** forming a median band with the **central cell being sharply pointed**.
- Wingspan: Medium; 1 3/8 to 1 1/2 inches.
- Habitat: Subalpine and Alpine meadows, marshes, streams and bogs.
- Flight Times: July to early September; 1 brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Willows, violets, American bistort and possibly blueberries.



Distribution Map (*Boloria chariclea*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



Gulf Fritillary (*Agraulis vanillae*)

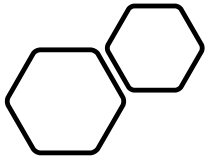
- Above, **bright orange with black markings; 3 black-encircled white dots on forewing leading edge**. Below, brown; forewing with orange at base; both wings with **elongated, iridescent silver spots**.
- Wing Span: 2 1/2 - 3 3/4 inches (6.3 - 9.5 cm).
- Habitat: Pastures, open fields, second-growth subtropical forest and edges, city gardens.
- Flight Times: Throughout the year in south Florida and South Texas, January-November in the north. Number of broods has not been determined.
- Larval Foodplant: Various species of passion-vine including maypops and running pop.



Distribution Map (*Agraulis vanillae*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



Uncompahgre Fritillary (*Boloria acronema*)

- Males have **rusty brown wings criss-crossed with black bars**; females' wings are somewhat lighter. Below, the forewing is **light ochre** and the hind wing has a **bold, white jagged bar** dividing the crimson brown inner half from the purple-grey scaling on the outer wing surface. The body has **rusty brown thorax** and a **brownish black abdomen**.
- Wingspan: 1 inch
- Habitat: Its habitat is limited to 11 verified sites in the San Juan Mountains, all above 12,000 feet. One of the smallest ranges of North American butterflies.
- Flight Times: TBD
- Larval Foodplant: Snow willow



Distribution Map (*Boloria acronema*)

Not in BMONA?

- Detailed record
- Historical record

Side-by-Side: Fritillaries



Aphrodite

Edwards'

Coronis

Zerene

Callippe

Side-by-Side: Fritillaries



Northwestern

Mormon

Silver-Bordered

Arctic

Rare Fritillary Species in Colorado



Uncompahgre
Fritillary
(San Juan
Mountains)



Gulf
Fritillary
(SE
Colorado)