

## Study guide for the USFWS Laguna Mountain skipper practical exam

We recommend that you visit a museum and study pinned butterfly specimens, search on-line for information on specific species, and/or review various references and field guides that are available to the public.

### Test Rules:

1. All of the butterflies on the exam either co-occur or can otherwise be confused with the Laguna Mountain skipper.
2. The exam involves identification of 10 mounted and/or pinned specimens.
3. The exam is timed, with 30 seconds given to identify each specimen (5 minutes to identify all 10 butterflies).
4. The testee can pick up the boxes with mounted specimens in them, but the boxes should not be opened. The specimens should be mounted at an angle to allow the testee to see the ventral side. (The boxes should remain covered when not being viewed)
5. The responses on the answer sheet can be common name or scientific name (names published in recent literature,  $\geq 1980$ ).
6. The testee may miss up to 2 specimens on the exam but cannot misidentify the Laguna Mountain skipper (i.e., they cannot identify LMS as another species or identify another species as the LMS, this is an automatic failure).
7. An individual may take the exam twice prior to any given flight season. If they fail twice they must wait until the end of the flight season before they can come in for another attempt at the test.

### Test species for the Laguna Mountain skipper practical exam are limited to the following:

*Pyrgus ruralis lagunae* (Laguna Mountain skipper)  
*Pyrgus scriptura* (small checkered skipper)  
*Pyrgus albescens* (formerly *communis*) (checkered skipper)  
*Plebejus melissa* (melissa blue)  
*Plebejus icariodes evius* (Evius blue)  
*Hesperia harpalus leussleri*, (harpalus skipper)  
*Erynnis funeralis* (funereal duskywing skipper)  
*Hesperia juba* (also *yuba*) (Juba skipper)  
*Habrodais grunus* (Boisduval's hairstreak)  
*Apodemia mormo* (Behr's or mormon metalmark)