

Status of the Oregon Silverspot Butterfly in Washington



Diversity Division, Wildlife Program

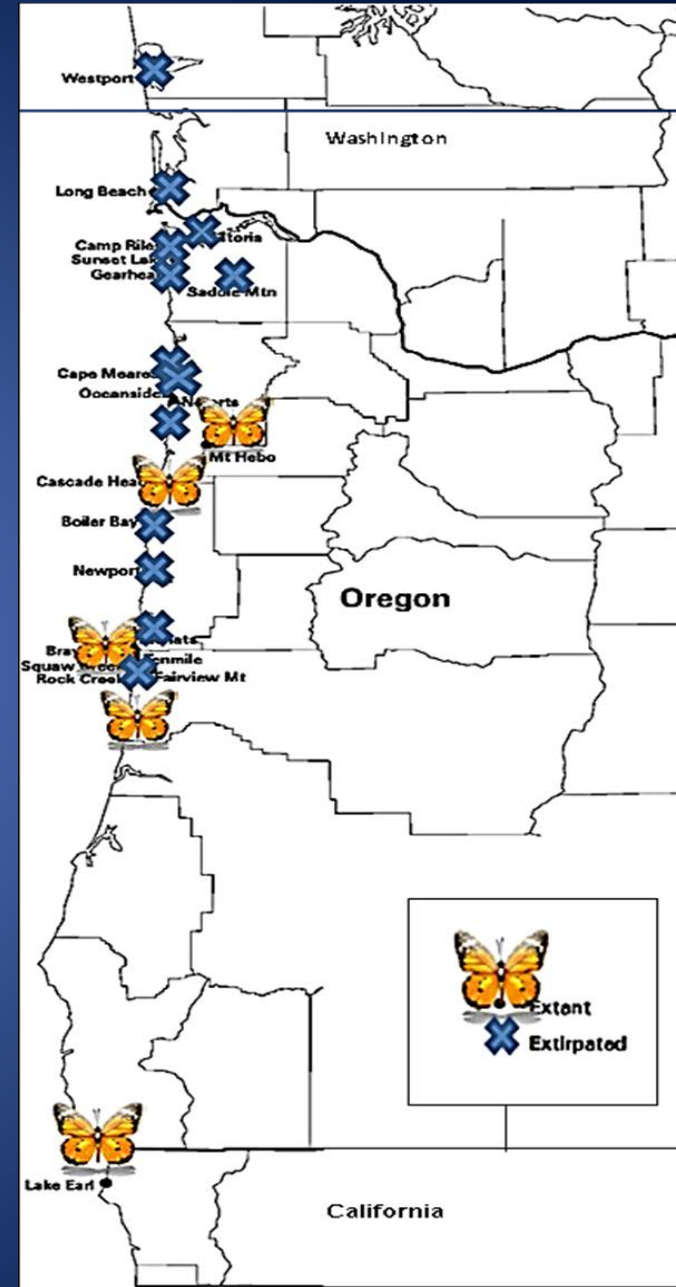
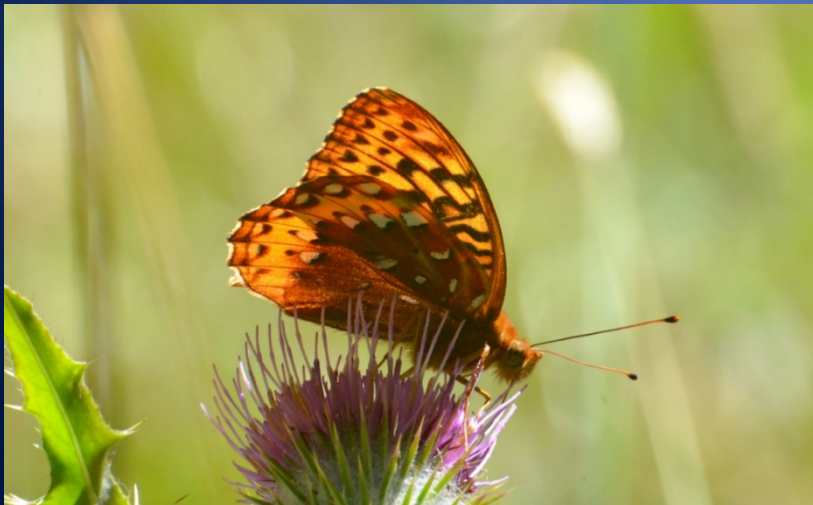
Listing Status



- Federal: listed threatened under ESA in 1980
 - 2012 assessment recommended uplist to 'E'
- Washington: state-listed endangered 1993

Distribution and Population Status:

- Historical: 20 documented sites, (Westport, WA to Del Norte County, CA)
- Current: five extant sites (4 OR, 1 CA)
- WA: last observed at Loomis Lake, Long Beach Peninsula ~1990
- Oregon silverspot continues to decline in Oregon and California



Natural History



- Adults emerge late summer, and lay eggs
- Larvae hatch fall and seek wintering sites, where dormant
- Emerge and feed in spring



Silverspots need:

- 1) Host (early blue violets)
- 2) Nectar for adults
- 3) Wind protection



Habitat

- Coastal salt spray meadows
- Stabilized dunes
- Montane meadows

Cascade Head HCA



Mt Hebo



Long Beach HCA sites:

- **Long Beach Peninsula: 110 ac. (WDFW, FWS, NRCS)**
- **Milepost 6: 30 ac. (WDFW)**
- **Tarlatt: 30 ac. (FWS)**
- **Enyart: 60 ac. (NRCS)**



Factors Affecting Oregon Silverspots

- Small population sizes, isolation
- Habitat (development, succession, invasive grasses, Scotch broom)
- Road kill (HWY 101 at OR site)



Conservation Actions

- Federal Recovery Plan: updated 2001
- Reintroduction Plan and Husbandry Manual, 2010
- Captive rearing by Oregon Zoo and Woodland Park Zoo
 - Augmentations in Oregon
 - Reintroductions in 2017-2018
- Monitoring and research
- Habitat restoration



Recovery Criteria

- Ten populations (one in WA)
- Populations ≥ 200 -500 for ten years
- Management plans



Summary & Recommendation

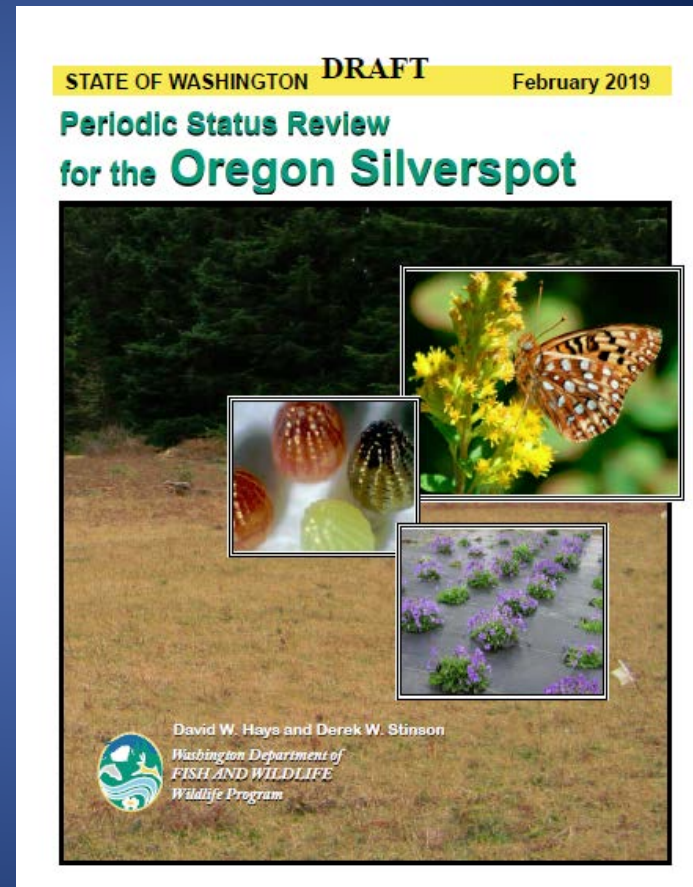
- Extirpated in Washington, will require reintroduction
- Habitat restoration has been ongoing in Oregon and Washington
- We recommend the Oregon silverspot remain classified as endangered in Washington



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Public Comments/Concerns

- Six comments supported recommendation to maintain endangered status
- Six comments did not support expenditures for butterflies



Questions?

