

# BUTTERFLIES OF NIOC SUGAR GROVE AND GEORGE WASHINGTON NF



**Relative Abundance Codes (RA):** **C - Common:** easily observed in preferred habitat. **U - Uncommon:** generally observed in preferred habitat during the breeding season, in low numbers or present only in some areas of its preferred habitat. **R - Rare:** only rarely detected in its preferred habitat. **\*-migratory species** that may be abundant in some years or abundant only in limited, specific habitat areas. **\*\***- no records exist for several decades. ( In the first box: “O” indicates historical Pendleton County record, and “R” - NIOC Sugar Grove record. Flying months M A m J j a S

**Habitat Codes:** **F**- Forest & Woodland; **S**- Semi-open woodland, brushy, clearings in forest; **E**-Edges/roads of forests & woodlands; **R**-Riparian/wetland; **O**-Open areas, fields & pastures, man-made corridors, & disturbed; **M**-meadows, grassy, brushy, hillsides; **A**-Acid Bog; **H**-Heath; **B**-Shale barren; **C**-Cedars  
A period (.) indicates modified by codes following. A dash (-) indicates a combination of habitat codes (e.g. R-F denotes riparian forest).

FAMILY		Flying Months	Preferred RA	Habitat
Common Name				
<b>SWALLOWTAILS</b>				
Ⓜ	Pipevine Swallowtail	J-a	C	EFMR
O	Zebra Swallowtail		C	EFMR
O	Black Swallowtail		C	OR
O	Giant Swallowtail		U	ERS
Ⓜ	Eastern Tiger Swallowtail	J-j	C	FOR
Ⓜ	Can Tiger Swallowtail	J-j	C	EF
O	Spicebush Swallowtail		U	EOS
<b>WHITES</b>				
	Checkered White		R	O
O	West Virginia White		C	EFM
Ⓜ	Cabbage White	J-j	C	MOS
O	Olympia Marble		U	BS
Ⓜ	Falcate Orangetip		U	BMRS
<b>SULPHURS</b>				
Ⓜ	Clouded Sulphur	J-j	C	MO
Ⓜ	Orange Sulphur	J-j	C	O
O	Pink-edged Sulphur		U	EO
O	Cloudless Sulphur		R	O
O	Little Yellow		R	O
O	Sleepy Orange*		U	ORM.
<b>HARVESTERS</b>				
O	Harvester		U	EFR
<b>COPPERS</b>				
O	American Copper		C	O
	Bronze Copper		R	RM.
	Bog Copper		R	A
<b>HAIRSTREAKS</b>				
	Great Purple Hairstreak		R	EFR
O	Coral Hairstreak		U	E
O	Edward's Hairstreak		U	BE
O	Banded Hairstreak		C	BES
	Hickory Hairstreak		R	EFS
O	Striped Hairstreak		U	ERS
O	Southern Hairstreak		R	BEF
O	Brown Elfin		U	HO
	Hoary Elfin		R	BE
	Frosted Elfin		R	ES
O	Henry's Elfin		U	BFO

FAMILY		Flying Months	Preferred RA	Habitat
Common Name				
<b>HAIRSTREAKS (cont.)</b>				
O	Eastern Pine Elfin		U	BOS
O	'Olive' Juniper Hairstreak		U	C
O	Early Hairstreak		R	EFOR
Ⓜ	Gray Hairstreak	A	U	EOM
	Red-banded Hairstreak*		U	ES
<b>BLUES</b>				
Ⓜ	Spring Azure	M-j	C	ERS
O	Appalachian Azure		U	EFR
O	Dusky Azure		R	FR
O	Silvery Blue		U	ES
Ⓜ	Eastern-tailed Blue	J-j		OS
<b>METALMARKS</b>				
	Northern Metalmark		R	BERS
<b>SNOUTS</b>				
	American Snout		R	ERS
<b>HELICONIANS AND FRITILLARIES</b>				
O	Variegated Fritillary		U	MO
	Diana Fritillary		U	EFS
Ⓜ	Great Spangled Fritillary	J-j	C	MOR
Ⓜ	Aphrodite Fritillary	J-j	C	BOS
O	Regal Fritillary		R	MR
O	Atlantis Fritillary		U	EMO
O	Silver-bordered Fritillary		U	RM.
O	Meadow Fritillary		C	MO
<b>TRUE BRUSH-FOOTS</b>				
	Gorgone Checkerspot**		R	ORS
Ⓜ	Silvery Checkerspot	M-j	U	RS
O	Harris' Checkerspot		U	ER
Ⓜ	Pearl Crescent	J-j	C	O
O	Northern Crescent		U	BRS
	Tawny Crescent**		R	M
O	Baltimore Checkerspot		U	RM.
O	Question Mark		C	ERS
Ⓜ	Eastern Comma	J-j	C	RS
O	Green Comma		R	EFR
O	Gray Comma		U	EFS
O	Compton Tortoiseshell		R	EF
	Milbert's Tortoiseshell		R	REMO

FAMILY		Flying Months	Preferred RA	Habitat
Common Name				
<b>TRUE BRUSHFOOTS (cont.)</b>				
O	Mourning Cloak		C	EOR
Ⓜ	American Lady		C	O
Ⓜ	Painted Lady*	J	U	O
Ⓜ	Red Admiral	J-j	C	EORS
O	Common Buckeye		R	O
<b>ADMIRALS AND RELATIVES</b>				
Ⓜ	Red-spotted Purple	J-j	C	EF
Ⓜ	Viceroy	A	U	RS
<b>EMPERORS AND RELATIVES</b>				
O	Hackberry Emperor		U	BER
O	Tawny Emperor		U	EOR
<b>SATYRS</b>				
Ⓜ	Northern Pearly-eye	J	U	R.FE.
	Eyed Brown		R	MR
	Appalachian Brown		U	MR
	Gemmed Satyr		R	RS
	Carolina Satyr*		U	ERS
Ⓜ	Little Wood-Satyr	J-j	C	EMS
Ⓜ	Common Wood-Nymph	j	C	EMR
	Dull-Eyed Grayling		R	EMR
<b>MONARCHS</b>				
Ⓜ	Monarch	j	C	MOR
<b>SPREAD-WING SKIPPERS</b>				
Ⓜ	Silver-Spotted Skipper	J-j	C	FO
	Long-tailed Skipper**		R	EOS
	Golden-banded Skipper		R	EFRS
	Hoary Edge		U	ES
O	Southern Cloudywing		C	MO
O	Northern Cloudywing		C	EMOS
	Confused Cloudywing**		R	MOS
	Hayhurst's Scallopwing		R	OR
O	Dreamy Duskywing		C	ES
O	Sleepy Duskywing		C	BEF
Ⓜ	Juvenal's Duskywing	J-j	C	ES
Ⓜ	Horace's Duskywing	J-j	U	EOS

Sources: Allen, Thomas J. 1997. The butterflies of West Virginia and their caterpillars. University of Pittsburgh Press, Pittsburgh, PA 15261 Pendleton County records from www.butterfliesandmoths.org

**SPREAD-WING SKIPPERS (cont.)**

	Persius Duskywing**		R	FO
O	Grizzled Skipper*/**		R	BO
O	Common Checkered-Skipper		U	MOR
O	Common Sootywing		U	O
O	Mottled Duskywing		R	FS
O	Columbine Duskywing		R	BE
O	Wild Indigo Duskywing		U	OS

**GRASS SKIPPERS**

®	Swarthy Skipper	J-j	R	O
	Clouded Skipper		R	ER
®	Least Skipper	J-j	C	RM
®	European Skipper	J-j	C	O
	Fiery Skipper		R	O
	Leonard's Skipper		U	O RM
O	Cobweb Skipper		R	BO
O	Indian Skipper		U	OS
O	Peck's Skipper		C	MOR
O	Tawny-edged Skipper		C	R.MO
O	Crossline Skipper		C	MOS
O	Long Dash		C	R.EM
	Whirlabout		R	OR
O	Northern Broken-Dash		C	EO
®	Little Glassywing	J	C	ORS
	Sachem*		U	O
O	Delaware Skipper		U	R.MO
O	Hobomok Skipper		C	ERS
®	Zabulon Skipper	J-j	U	ER
O	Two-spotted Skipper		R	R
O	Dun Skipper		C	R.FO.
	Dusted Skipper		R	OS
	Pepper and Salt Skipper		R	ER
O	Common Roadside-Skipper		U	BEFR
O	Ocola Skipper		R	R

**ADDITIONAL SPECIES**


**ABOUT NIOC SUGAR GROVE**

Navy Information Operations Command (NIOC) Sugar Grove is located in Pendleton County in the "Eastern Panhandle" of West Virginia. The Main Base is located in the valley between Hoover Mountain and the foothills of Shenandoah Mountain, and is bordered by the head waters of South Fork, the South Branch of the Potomac River. The Operations Area, located approximately five miles to the south, is situated on several ridge tops of Shenandoah Mountain and is surrounded by the George Washington National Forest. The Operations Area is bounded by three streams: Lick Run on the west, and Wolf Run and Little Fork on the east. NIOC Sugar Grove and surrounding region features Appalachian Ridge and Valley geology ranging from 1,250 to 4,000 feet in elevation.

Sugar Grove is also home to a rare geologic feature and biotic community called the Little Fork "shale barren", which is characterized by very steep slopes that have resulted from erosion by the Little Fork and Lick Run rivers. The shale barren and immediate vicinity are predominantly forested with numerous tree species of various age classes. Non-forested areas, such as beaver pond wetlands, cliffs, grassy meadows, forest tracks, and creeks, provide extremely diverse and good quality habitat for butterflies. Of the 128 West Virginia butterfly species 96 can potentially be found in Pendleton County. Unfortunately the Grizzled Skipper, which is federally listed as a species of concern, used to be found in the vicinity of the shale barrens of Pendleton County but has not been seen for many years.

This checklist was prepared by The Institute for Bird Populations (IBP) with funding from Naval Facilities Command and is available as an online checklist ([www.birdpop.net/sugargrove/html](http://www.birdpop.net/sugargrove/html)). IBP is a non-profit organization dedicated to avian research and conservation. To learn more about us, please visit our website: [www.birdpop.org](http://www.birdpop.org)

**BUTTERFLY CHECKLIST FOR  
NIOC SUGAR GROVE AND GEORGE  
WASHINGTON NATIONAL FOREST,  
PENDLETON COUNTY,  
WEST VIRGINIA.**



Aphrodite fritillary at NIOC Sugar Grove

*I've watched you now a full half-hour;  
Self-poised upon that yellow flower  
And, little Butterfly! Indeed  
I know not if you sleep or feed.  
How motionless! - not frozen seas  
More motionless! and then  
What joy awaits you, when the breeze  
Hath found you out among the trees,  
And calls you forth again!*

~William Wordsworth, "To a Butterfly"



The Institute for  
Bird Populations