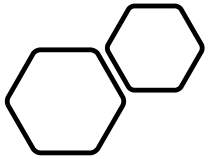


Butterflies of Colorado

Nymphalidae: Checkerspots

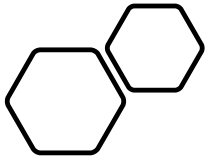




Checkerspots

- Northern
- Arachne
- Variable
- Rockslide
- Edith's
- Dotted
- Gorgone
- Leanira



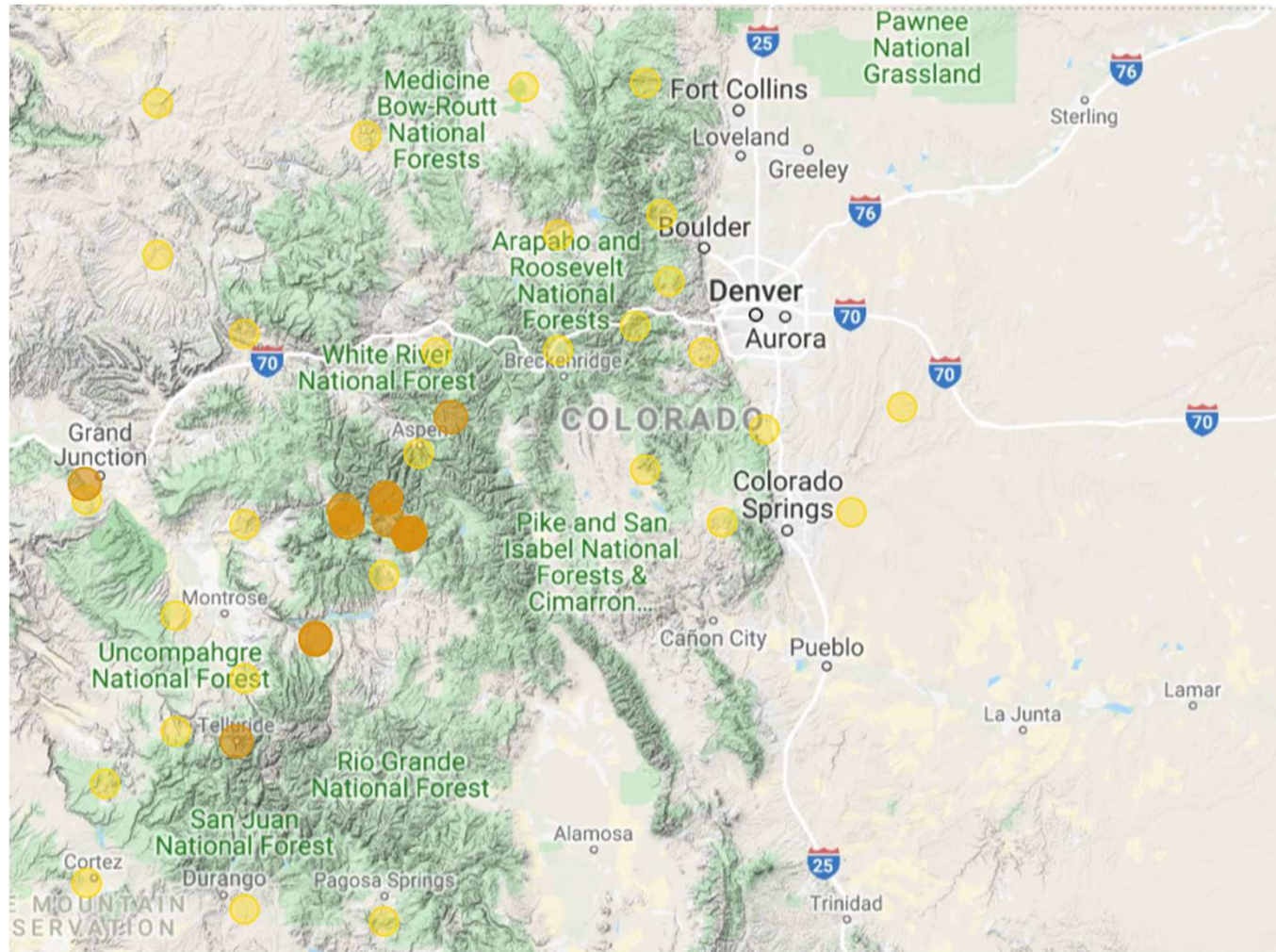


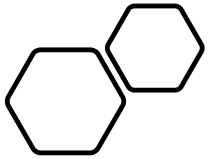
Northern Checkerspot (*Chlosyne palla*)

- Above, **bands of yellow and creamy orange** with median band often paler; **dark brown basal area on hindwing**. Distinctive below with **reddish orange color** and **creamy or pale yellow** (not white) **basal spots**, median band and marginal crescents. Females variable, from orange with black markings to mostly black with creamy bands.
- Wingspan: Medium; 1 3/8 to 1 7/8 inches.
- Habitat: Openings in aspen woodlands, meadows, streamsides, and clearings; foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: April to mid-August; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Rabbitbrush, goldenrods, fleabane daisies, and other asters.



Distribution Map (*Chlosyne palla*)





Arachne Checkerspot (*Polydrias arachne*)

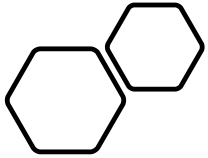
- Above, **brownish orange with black markings** and sometimes a lighter median band. Below, **orange with white bands**, the **white median band has rows with black spots**. The **abdomen is black with orange bands**. The **eyes are blue-gray**.
- Wingspan: Small; 1 1/8 to 1 1/2 inches.
- Habitat: Grasslands and mountain meadows; foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: May to September; one to two broods. Third-stage caterpillars hibernate.
- Larval Foodplant: Beardstongue (Penstemons) in the Figwort family.



Distribution Map (*Polydrias arachne*)

Not in BMONA?

- Detailed record
- Historical record

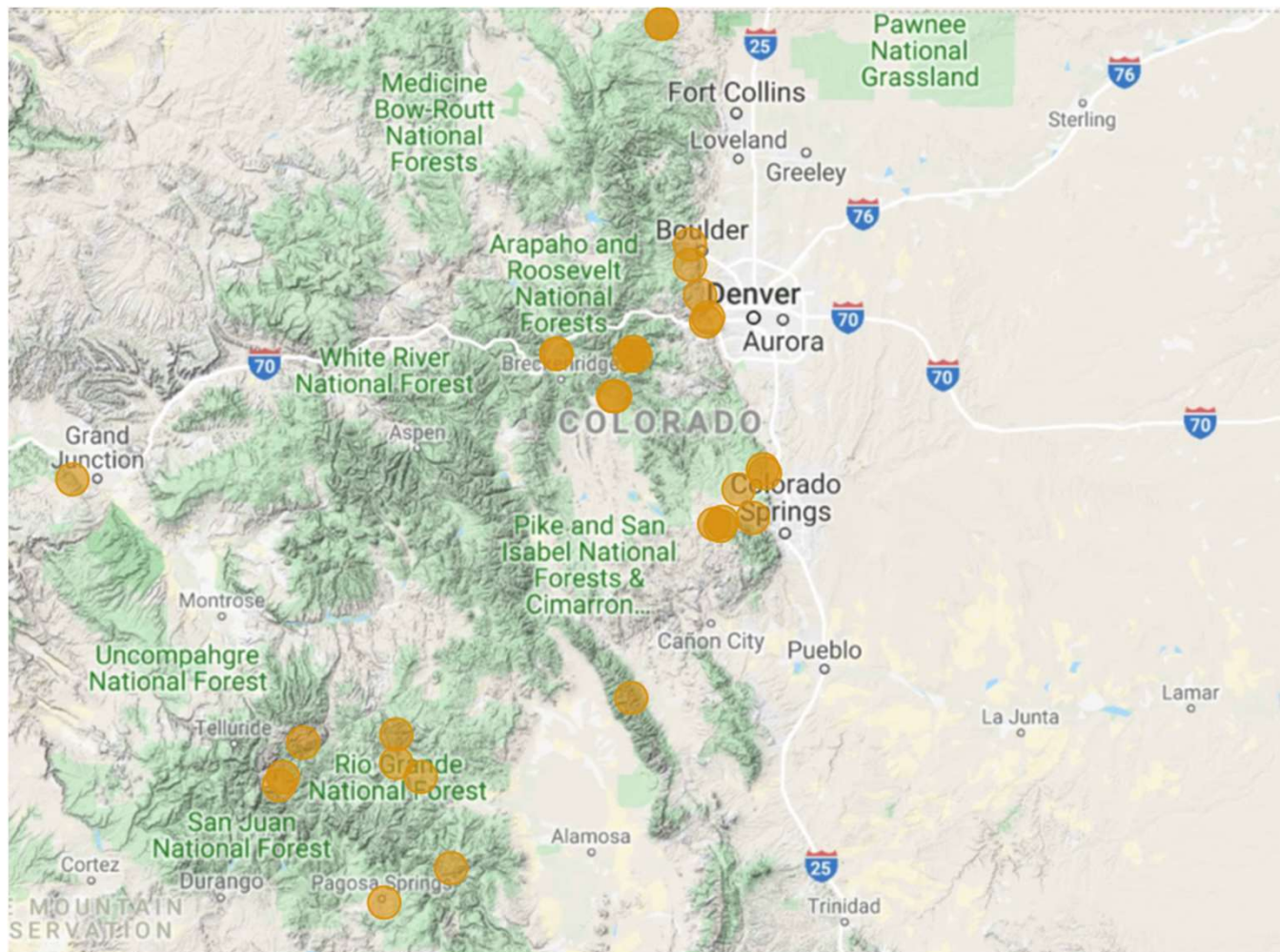


Variable Checkerspot (*Euphydryas anicia*)

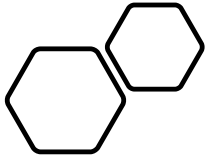
- Above, essentially **black with red, orange and/or white spots; eyes brown, usually with luminous antenna clubs**. Abdomen usually with white dots. Below, the hindwing has **3 bands of cream or white separated by orange bands**.
- Wingspan: Small; 1 1/4 to 2 1/4 inches.
- Habitat: Many open habitats from stream courses to sagebrush hills, canyons and alpine tundra; foothills, montane, alpine.
- Flight Times: May to July; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Indian paintbrush, penstemons and snowberry.



Distribution Map (*Euphydryas anicia*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

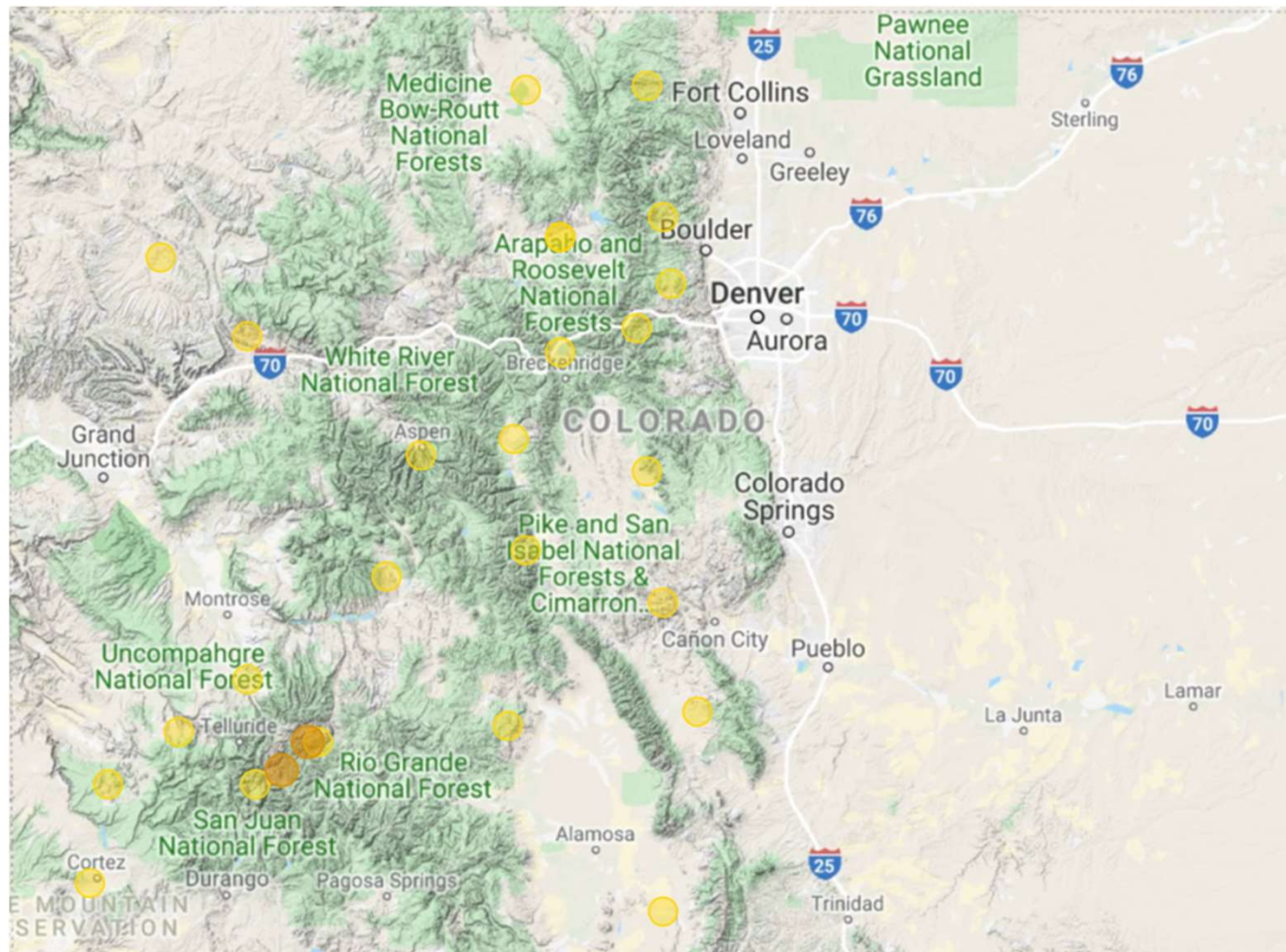


Rockslide Checkerspot (*Chlosyne whitneyi*)

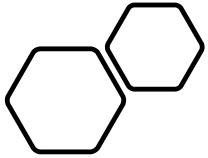
- Above, **pale brown-orange with black markings**, variable; female may be darker. Below, **hindwing creamy white** with a **narrow light orange marginal band** and **alternating orange and white spot bands** to base of hindwing which has **orange and white spots**.
- Wingspan: Small; 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 inches.
- Habitat: Alpine scree and rockslides at or above treeline; alpine.
- Flight times: Late June to August; one brood.
- Larval Foodplant: Alpine plants of sunflower family.



Distribution Map (*Chlosyne whitneyi*)



- Orange circle: Detailed record
- Yellow circle: Historical record

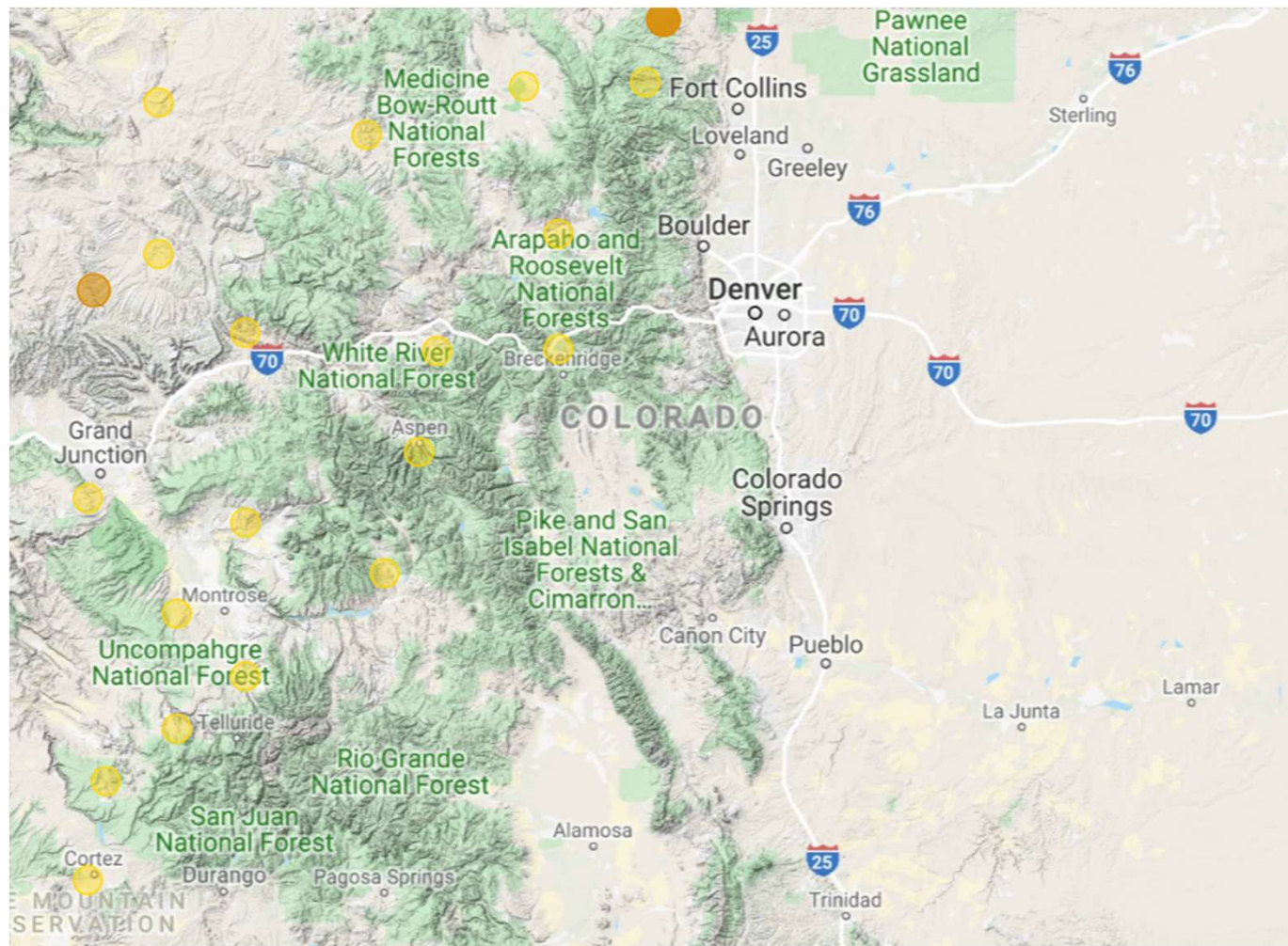


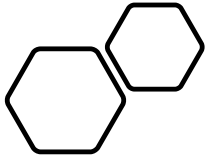
Edith's Checkerspot (*Euphydryas editha*)

- Front wing **rounded at tip**. Upperside is **black with red and pale yellow or white bands**. Submarginal band of small yellow or white spots; wide postmedian band is red. Underside of hindwing with alternating bands of yellow-orange and cream.
- Wing Span: 1 1/4 - 2 inches (3.2 - 5.1 cm).
- Habitat: From sea level to treeline through diverse habitats including coastal chaparral, meadows, fields, foothills, open woods, alpine fellfields.
- Flight times: One brood; from March-May at low elevations, June-August at high elevations and in the north.
- Larval Foodplant: Various species of paintbrush, beardtongues, lousewort, owl's clover, Chinese houses, plantain.



Distribution Map (*Euphydryas editha*)





Dotted Checkerspot

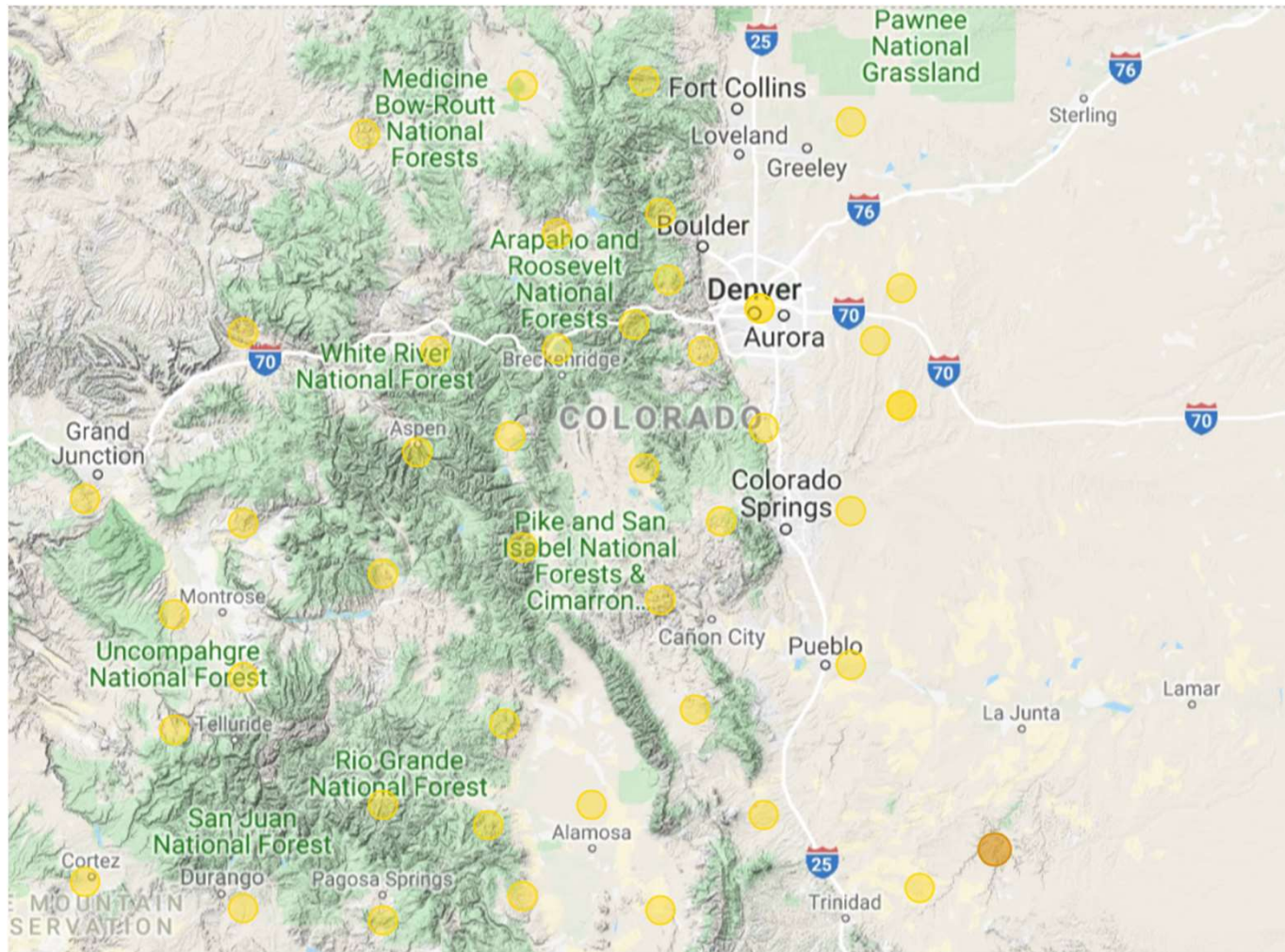
(Poladryas minuta)

- Upperside **bright red-orange** with submarginal band of **small crescents**. Underside orange. Hindwing outer margin with **row of white spots** and then **a row of white crescents bordered with black**. White median band has **thin black line or 2 rows of black spots**.
- Wing Span: 1 1/4 - 1 7/8 inches
- Habitat: Foothill ridges, grasslands, open mountain meadows.
- Flight: Several flights from January-September.
- Larval Foodplant: Various beardtongues (Penstemon species) in the figwort family

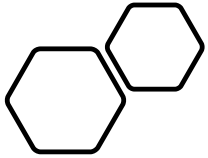


©Janice M Hips

Distribution Map (*Poladryas minuta*)



- Orange circle: Detailed record
- Yellow circle: Historical record

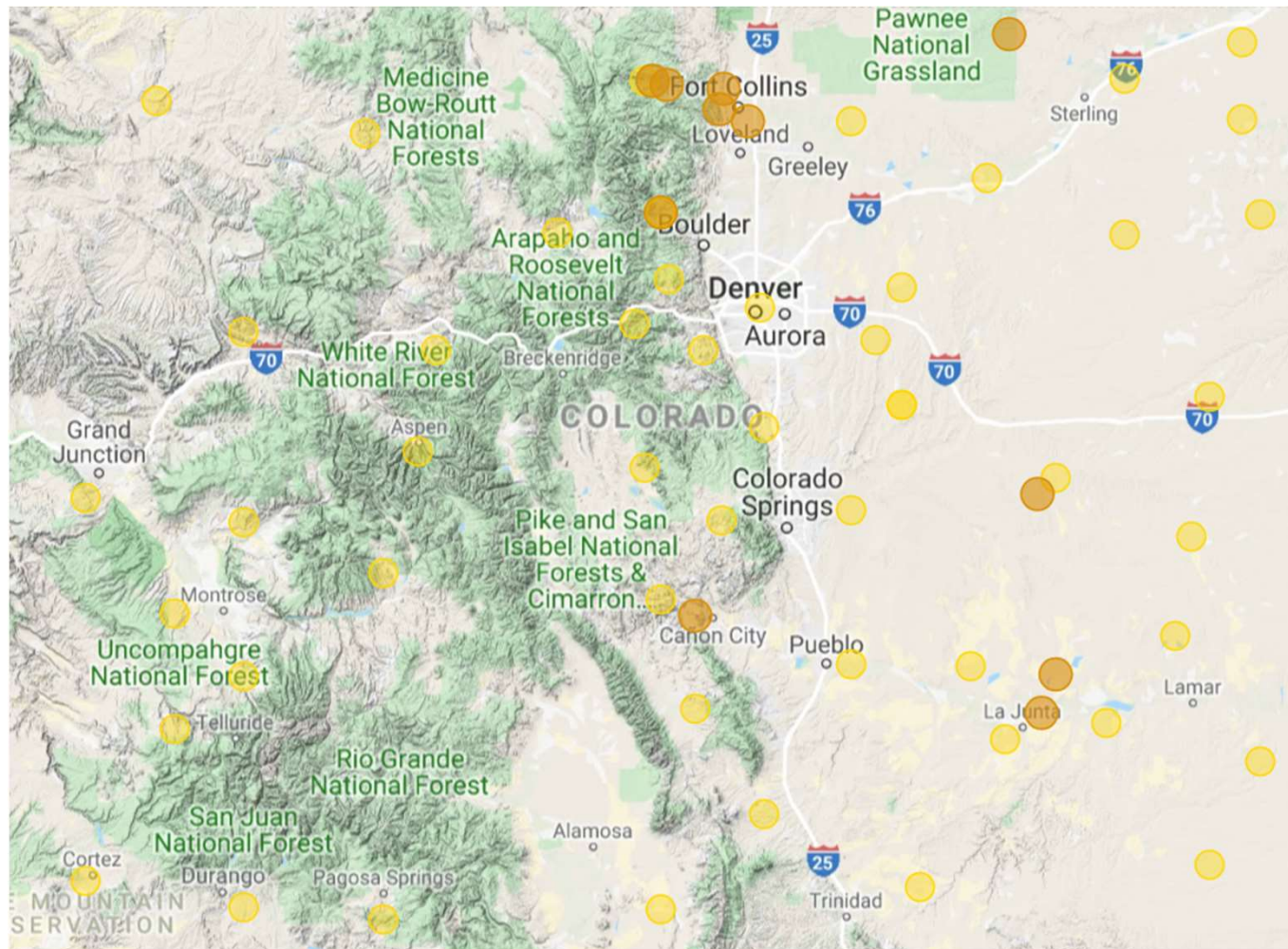


Gorgone Checkerspot (*Chlosyne gorgone*)

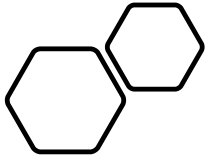
- Upperside is **orange with black markings**; hindwing with submarginal row of **solid black spots**. Underside of hindwing has a **zigzag pattern of brown and white bands** and a **median band of white chevrons**.
- Wing Span: 1 1/4 - 1 3/4 inches
- Habitat: Open areas including ridges, prairies, streamsides, open hardwood forests, old fields, forest edges.
- Flight: One brood in the north from July-August, two broods in the central part of the range from May-September.
- Caterpillar Hosts: Several plants in the Asteraceae including sunflower and crosswort species.



Distribution Map (*Chlosyne gorgone*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



Leanira Checkerspot (*Chlosyne leanira*)

- Upperside ranges from **black to orange**, with **light spots**. Underside of hindwing is **cream-colored with black veins**; **wide black median band** surrounds **cream-colored spots**.
- Wing Span: 1 3/8 - 1 3/4 inches (3.5 - 4.5 cm).
- Habitat: Open prairies, canyons, desert hills, foothills, washes, roadcuts.
- Flight: One flight from April-July.
- Caterpillar Hosts: Paintbrush (Castilleja species).

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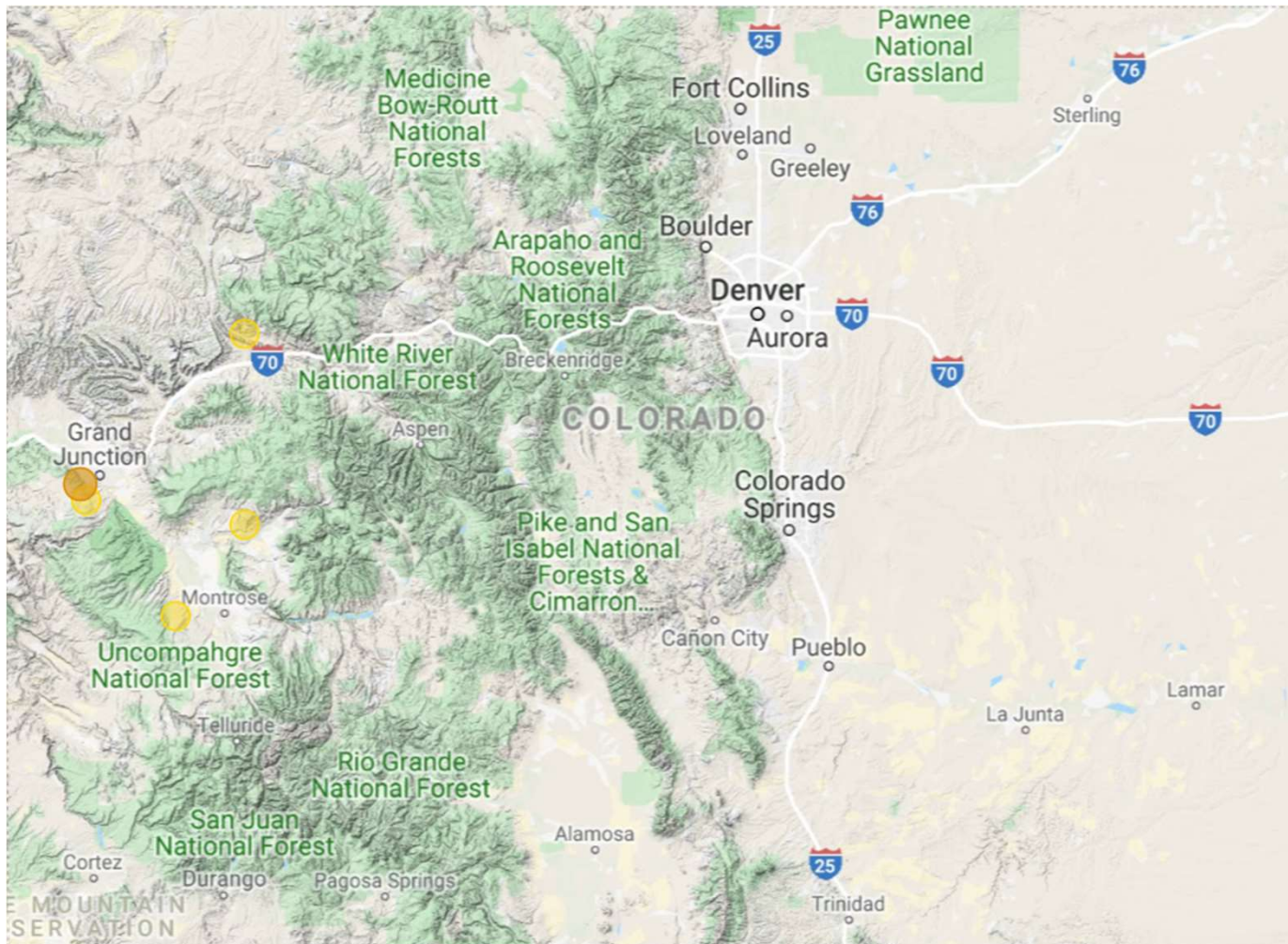
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A4612



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Distribution Map (*Chlosyne leanira*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record

Side-by-Side: Checkerspots



Northern

Arachne

Variable

Rockslide

Side-by-Side: Checkerspots



Edith's

Dotted

Gorgone

Leanira