

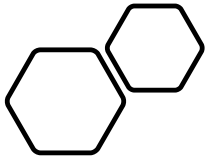
Butterflies of Colorado

Papilionidae (Swallowtails and
Parnassians)



Papilionidae

- Two-tailed Swallowtail
 - Western Tiger Swallowtail
 - Pipevine Swallowtail
 - Pale Tiger Swallowtail
 - Anise Swallowtail
 - Indra Swallowtail
 - Black Swallowtail
 - Rocky Mountain Parnassian
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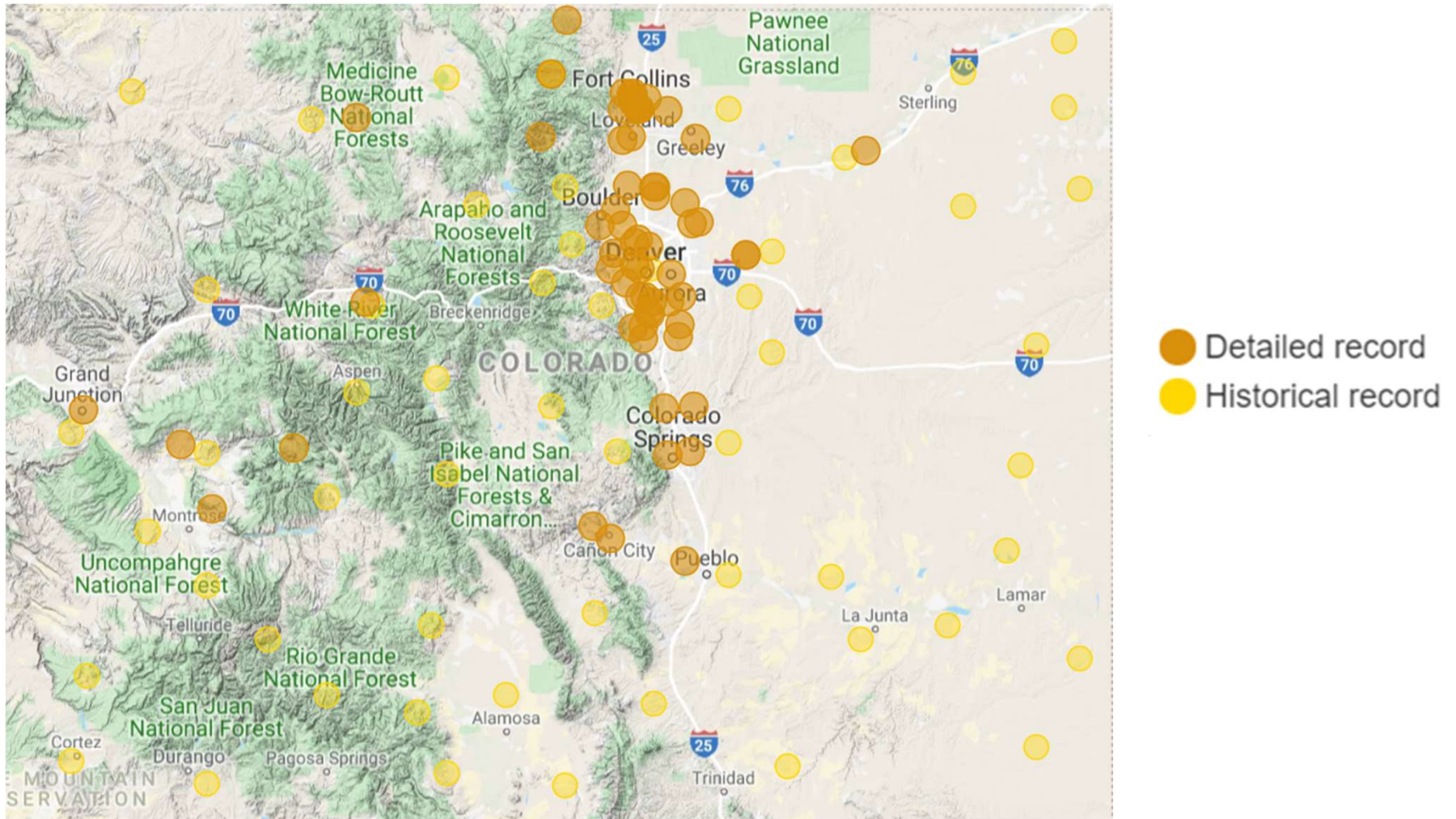
Two-tailed Swallowtail

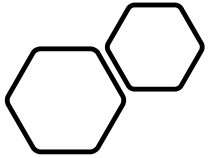
(*Papilio multicaudata*)

- Large yellow swallowtail, **narrower black stripes on forewing vs. Western Tiger Swallowtail. Two tails on hindwing.** Female has more blue and orange on the hindwing.
- Wingspan: Large; 3.5 to 5 inches.
- Habitat: Foothills slopes & canyons, urban parks & gardens, valleys, streamsides, & woodlands; plains, montane.
- Flight Times: April to August; one brood. Overwinters as chrysalis.
- Larval Foodplant: Leaves of ash and chokecherry.



Distribution Map (*Papilio multicaudata*)





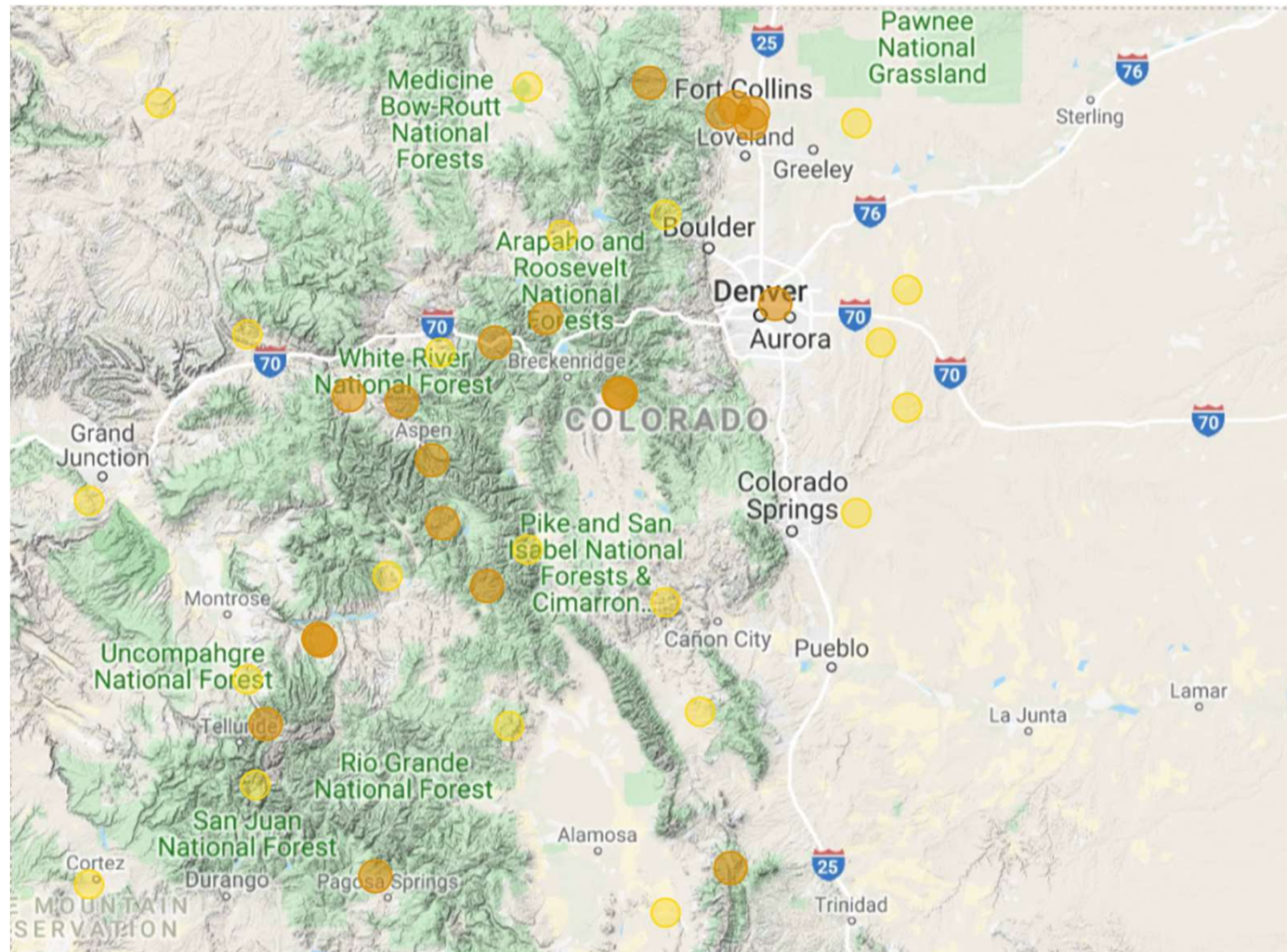
Western Tiger Swallowtail

(*Papilio rutulus*)

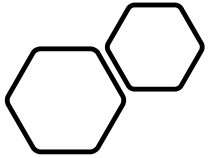
- Boldly yellow swallowtail with **broad black striping (vs. Two-tailed)**. Underside is paler yellow with the same black stripe pattern visible and blue edging on the wings. Hindwing has single long tail.
- Wingspan: Large; 2.5 to 4 inches.
- Habitat: Woodlands near streams and other open areas often near water; plains, foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: April through August, but primarily June to mid-August; one to two broods. Chrysalis overwinters.
- Larval Foodplant: Leaves of a wide variety of shrubs and trees such as chokecherry, willows, alder, aspen, wild plum, and cottonwoods.



Distribution Map (*Papilio rutulus*)



- Orange dot: Detailed record
- Yellow dot: Historical record



Pipevine Swallowtail

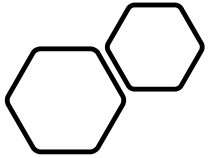
(*Battus philenor*)

- Black with single row of pale spots along trailing edge of wings; more evident on females. Male has blue iridescence on topside hindwings; less obvious on females. **Row of 7 orange spots on bluish background on hindwing underside.** Flutters wings even when perched.
- Wingspan: Large; 2 3/4 to 5 inches.
- Habitat: Open habitats, fields, stream bottoms, open woodlands, and gardens; plains, foothills.
- Flight Times: Late summer and fall. More common in the east, south, southwest and California.
- Larval Foodplant: Pipevines.
- Caterpillars feed on noxious pipevines, making adults distasteful to birds. Spicebush Swallowtail, female Black Swallowtail, & Eastern Tiger Swallowtail (black form) mimic the Pipevine.



Distribution Map (*Battus philenor*)





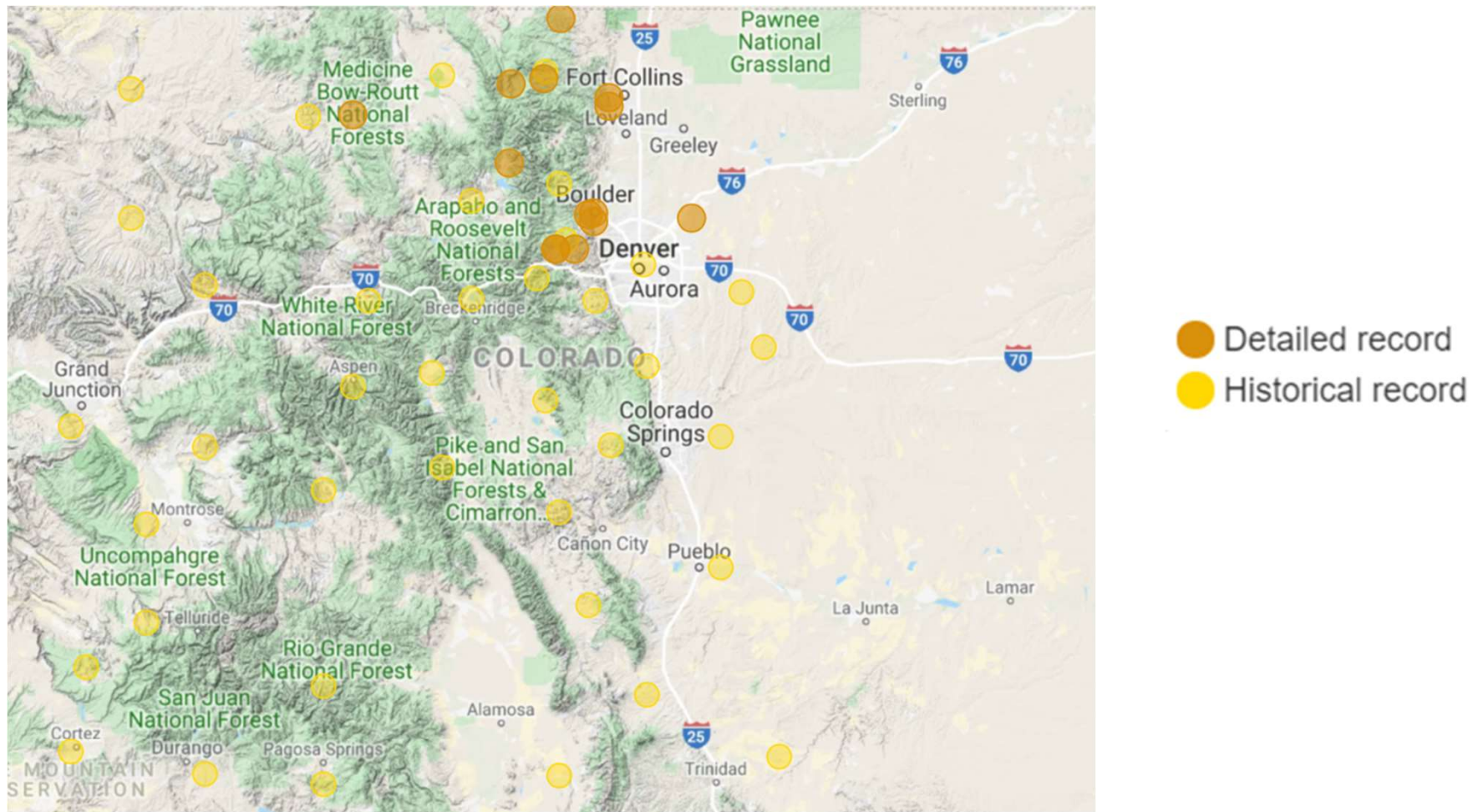
Pale Tiger Swallowtail

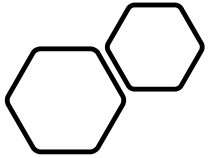
(*Papilio eurymedon*)

- Above: Cream/whitish background & heavy black stripes. Broad black borders on trailing edges of both wings with whitish dashes & crescents within borders. Below: **forewing & hindwing similar to Western Tiger Swallowtails (yellow above)** with broad dark stripes & black margins but has **orange crescent spot leading into tail**.
- Wingspan: Large; 2.5 to 3 3/4 inches.
- Habitat: Streams, canyons and open areas in forested regions; plains, foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: May to August; one brood. Chrysalis overwinters.
- Larval Foodplant: Buckbrush, chokecherry, alder, wild plum, and others.
- This is the only cream and black swallowtail in the west. More likely to be found flying near hilltops & along ridge tops than either the Two-tailed or Western Tiger Swallowtail. Most of our swallowtails overwinter in the chrysalis stage.



Distribution Map (*Papilio eurymedon*)





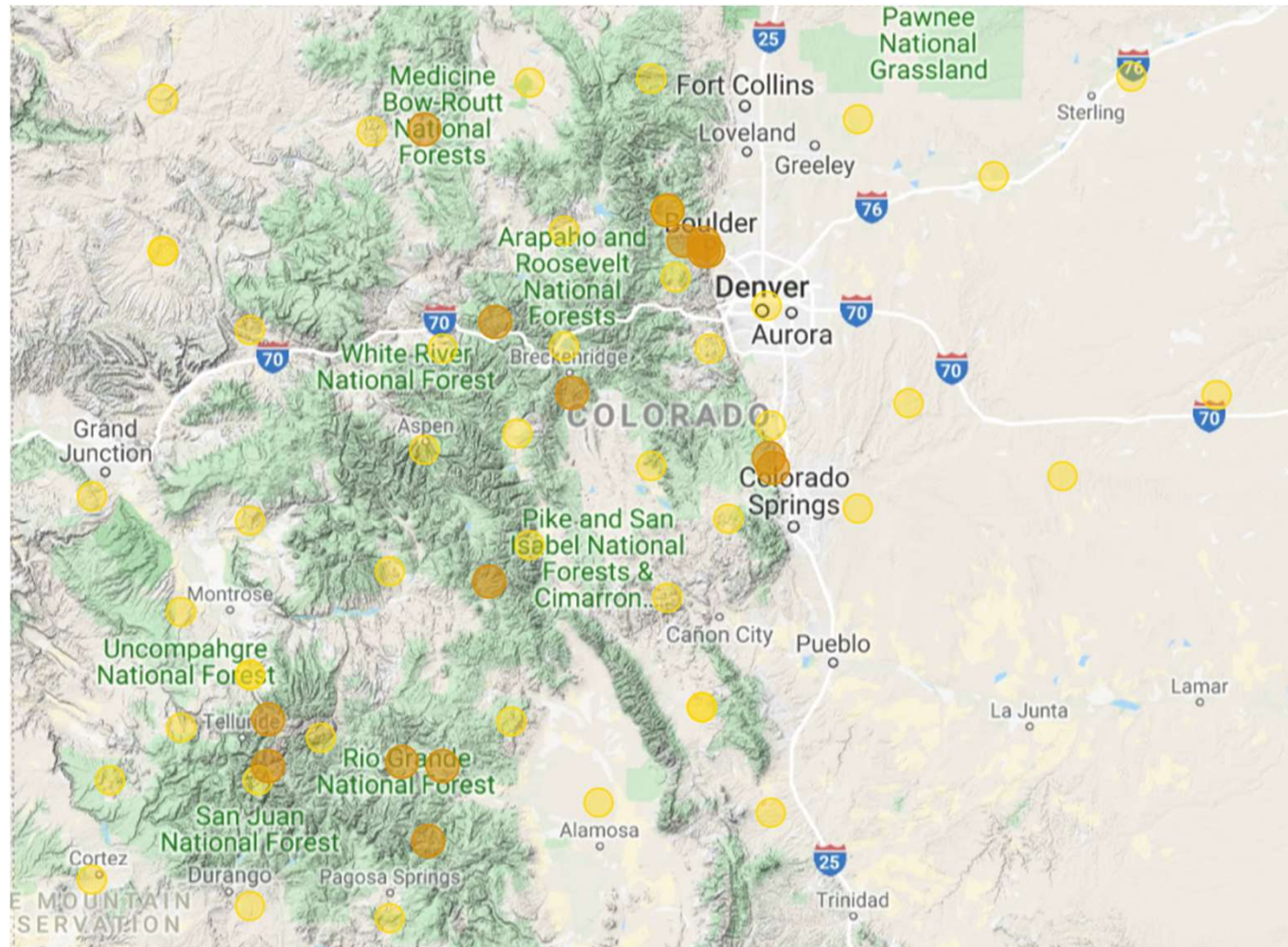
Anise Swallowtail

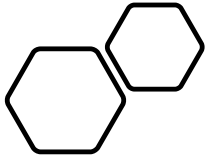
(*Papilio zelicaon*)

- Mostly black with broad yellow central band. Edges on wings show a single row of flattened yellow spots and yellow-orange eyespot near tail with round black center not connected to hindwing margin. Underside of forewing & hindwing is mostly yellow with a blue band near outer edge.
- Wingspan: Large; 2 3/4 to 3.5 inches.
- Habitat: Mountains, hilltops, forests, meadows, and gardens; wide variations in altitude from sea level to nearly 14,000 feet; plains, foothills, montane.
- Flight Times: March to August; one to two broods.
- Larval Foodplant: Parsley family (cow parsnip, giant angelica, dill, fennel, & mountain parsley); some citrus family.
- Possesses one of the broadest ecological amplitudes of any of our butterflies, capable of prospering in a remarkable array of places and conditions. They are active hill toppers and overwinter as chrysalis.



Distribution Map (*Papilio zelicaon*)





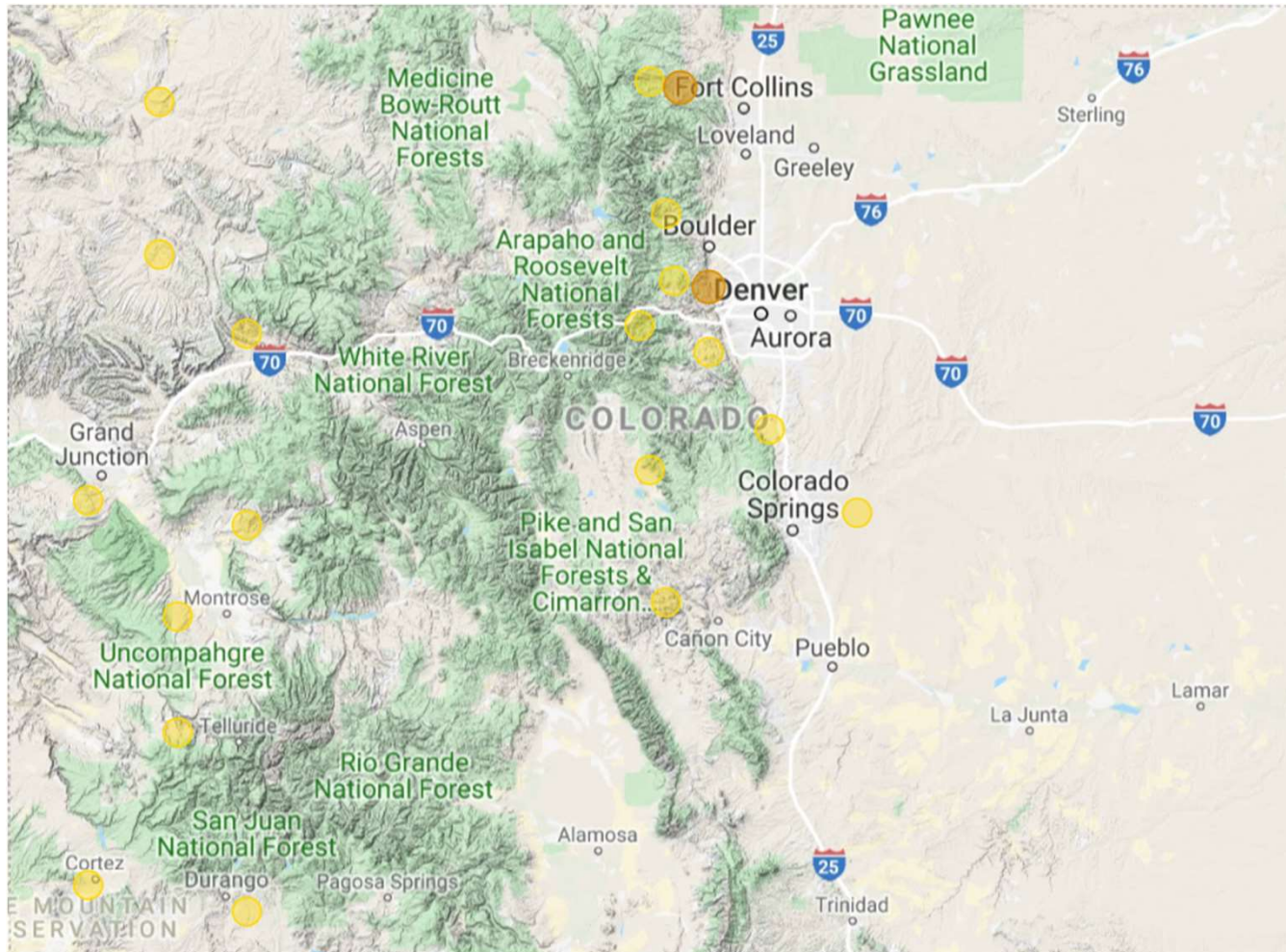
Indra Swallowtail

(*Papilio indra*)

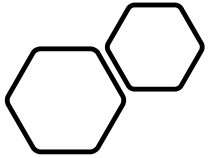
- This smaller swallowtail is usually **black above with small to medium yellow submarginal and marginal bands. The hindwing has iridescent blue spots and orange eye spots with black pupils.** The abdomen is mostly black; tails can be very short.
- Wingspan: Large; 2.5 to 3 inches.
- Habitat: Dry canyons, washes and mountainous areas; foothills, montane. Puddles and hilltops.
- Flight Times: Late May to August; one brood. Chrysalis overwinters.
- Larval Foodplant: Wild members of the parsley family.
- *P. indra* is difficult to find and photograph for several reasons – rapid flight, frequents rugged terrain and difficult to approach.



Distribution Map (*Papilio indra*)



- Detailed record
- Historical record



Black Swallowtail

(Papilio polyxenes)

- Males are black with a row of yellow spots along the trailing edge of the wing edges & yellow submarginal band. Females black above with small yellow spots on trailing edge of forewing & blue scaling on hindwing. **Yellow spot on tips of the forewing.** Below, the hindwing has two rows of orange spots with blue between. **Long tails & black abdomen.**
- Wingspan: Large; 3 to 4 1/4 inches.
- Habitat: Urban, suburban and rural open areas including fields, gardens, marshes, hilltops, and roadsides; plains, foothills.
- Flight Times: April to July; two or more broods.
- Larval Foodplant: Plants in the parsley family (cultivated and native) and sometimes plants in the citrus family.
- Males perch and patrol for receptive females. Female lays eggs singly on leaves and flowers of the host plant, which are then eaten by hatching larvae. Overwinters as a chrysalis.

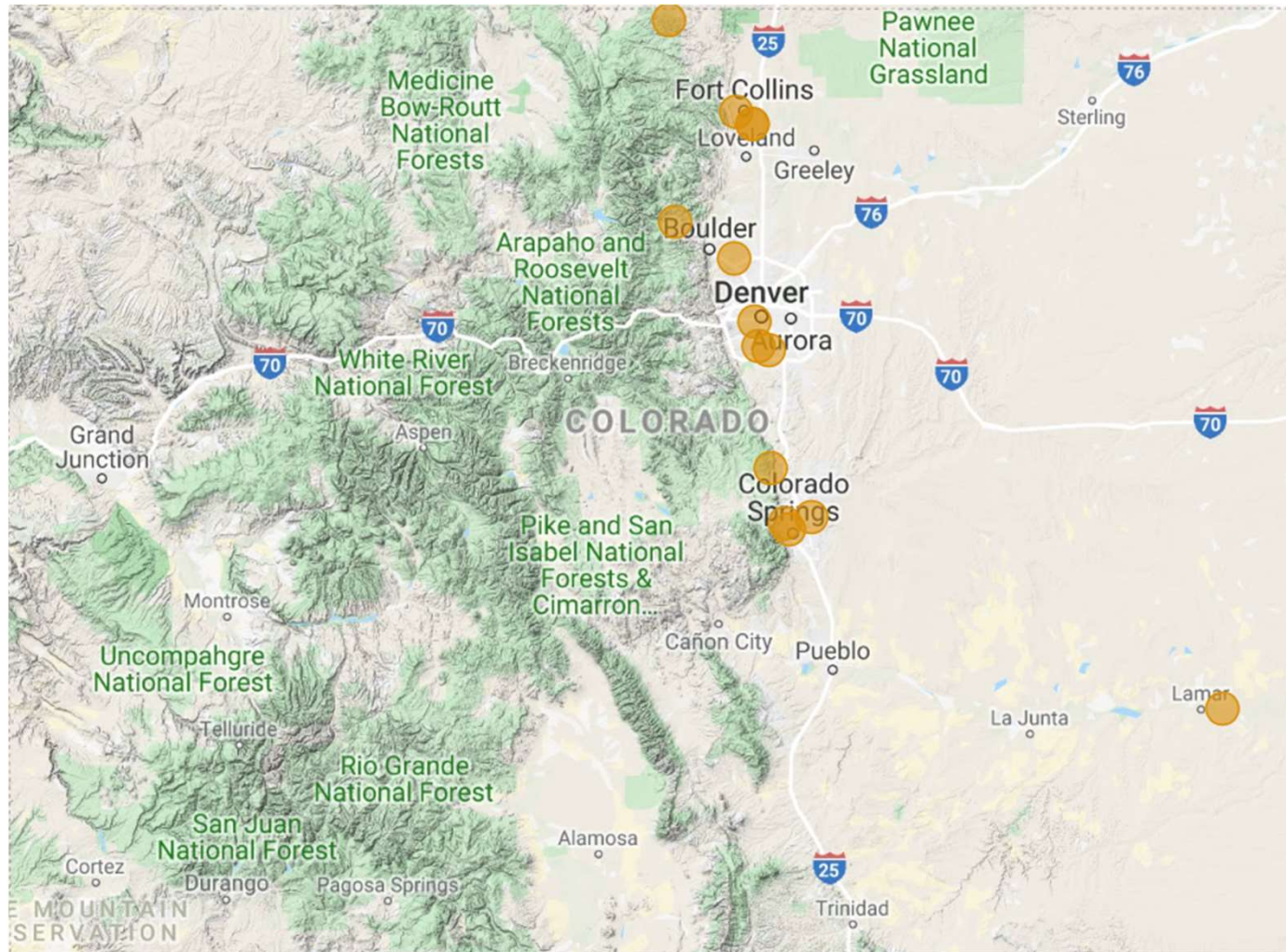
Cathy Cook



Joe Krieg



Distribution Map (*Papilio polyxenes*)



- Orange dot: Detailed record
- Yellow dot: Historical record

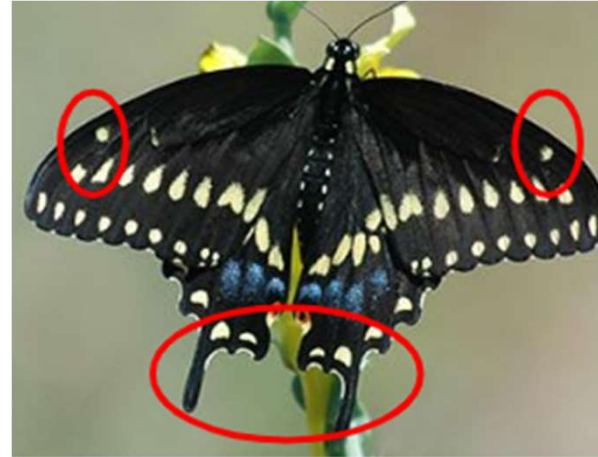
Similar Swallowtails



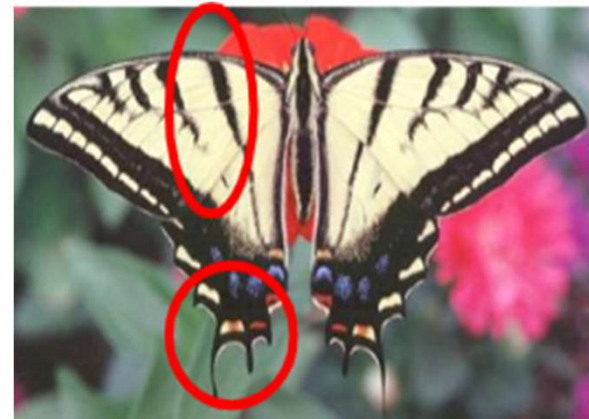
Indra Swallowtail has shorter tails, also had yellow on outer margin of hindwing above,



Western Tiger Swallowtail has broader black stripes. Only one tail per hindwing.



Black Swallowtail has longer tails and outer margin of hindwings above is black, not yellow.



Two-tailed Swallowtail has... TWO TAILS per hindwing. Has thinner black stripes