

Common Name	Scientific Name
Skippers	Hesperiidae
Short-tailed Skipper	<i>Zestusa dorus</i>
Northern Cloudywing	<i>Thorybes pylades</i>
Acacia Skipper	<i>Cogia hippalus</i>
Golden-headed Scallopwing	<i>Staphylus ceos</i>
Arizona Powdered-Skipper	<i>Systasea zampa</i>
Sleepy Duskywing	<i>Erynnis brizo</i>
Rocky Mountain Duskywing	<i>Erynnis telemachus</i>
Meridian Duskywing	<i>Erynnis meridianus</i>
Funereal Duskywing	<i>Erynnis funeralis</i>
Afranius Duskywing	<i>Erynnis afranius</i>
Common Checkered-Skipper	<i>Pyrgus communis</i>
Small Checkered-Skipper	<i>Pyrgus scriptura</i>
Northern White-Skipper	<i>Heliopetes ericetorum</i>
Common Streaky-Skipper	<i>Celotes nesus</i>
Common Sootywing	<i>Pholisora catullus</i>
Saltbush Sootywing	<i>Hesperopsis alpheus</i>
Eufala Skipper	<i>Lerodea Eufalaa</i>
Russet Skipperling	<i>Piruna pirus</i>
Orange Skipperling	<i>Copaeodes aurantiaca</i>
Tropical Least Skipper	<i>Ancyloxypha arene</i>
Fiery Skipper	<i>Hylephila phyleus</i>
Pahaska Skipper	<i>Hesperia pahaska</i>
Sachem	<i>Atalopedes campestris</i>
Carus Skipper	<i>Polites carus</i>
Long Dash	<i>Polites mystic</i>
Taxiles Skipper	<i>Poanes taxiles</i>
Dun Skipper	<i>Euphyes vestris</i>
Viereck's Skipper	<i>Atrytonopsis vierecki</i>
Deva Skipper	<i>Atrytonopsis deva</i>
Sheep Skipper	<i>Atrytonopsis edwardsii</i>
Bronze Roadside-skipper	<i>Amblyscirtes aenus</i>
Dotted Roadside-Skipper	<i>Amblyscirtes eos</i>
Orange Giant-Skipper*	<i>Agathymus neumoegeni</i>
Arizona Giant-Skipper	<i>Agathymus aryxna</i>
Yucca Giant-Skipper*	<i>Megathymus yuccae</i>

*Only one sighting as of 4/2026

Butterflying

“Butterflying” (actively searching for butterflies in order to observe and identify them) has become a popular pastime for many nature enthusiasts.

A net is not needed— just close-focusing binoculars or a camera, and a butterfly field guide. Butterflies can be seen in the Verde Valley in all months of the year (depending on elevation). Peak activity /abundance occurs from July to Oct.

Checklist Data

This Checklist is based on observations of the compilers and local butterfly enthusiasts, combined with data from NABA’s annual *Cottonwood, Arizona 4th of July Butterfly Count*.

For information or to participate in the count, please contact Count Compiler Denise Gibbs at Monarchtagger@gmail.com

Data will be added from the NABA annual *Sedona Spring Butterfly Count*. For information or to participate in the count, contact Count Compiler Becky Hardy at azbutterflygirl@outlook.com

Survey Locations

Butterflies were surveyed in several locations in the Verde Valley as well as in the higher elevations of Oak Creek Canyon & Mingus Mt.

Resources

Finding Butterflies in Arizona: A Guide to the Best Sites, by R. Bailowitz and H. Brodtkin

Butterflies of Arizona: A Photographic Guide, by Stewart, Brodtkin & Brodtkin

A Swift Guide to Butterflies of North America, 2nd Edition, by Jeffrey Glassberg

Butterflies of the Central Arizona Highlands, By Philip McNally

The collection of wildlife can result in reduction of local populations, transmittal of diseases, and introduction of non-endemic species; and is illegal for some species.



**Butterfly Enthusiasts
of Northern Arizona**

www.butterflyenthusiastsofnaz.org

Last edit 4/2026

A Checklist of Butterflies in the Verde Valley

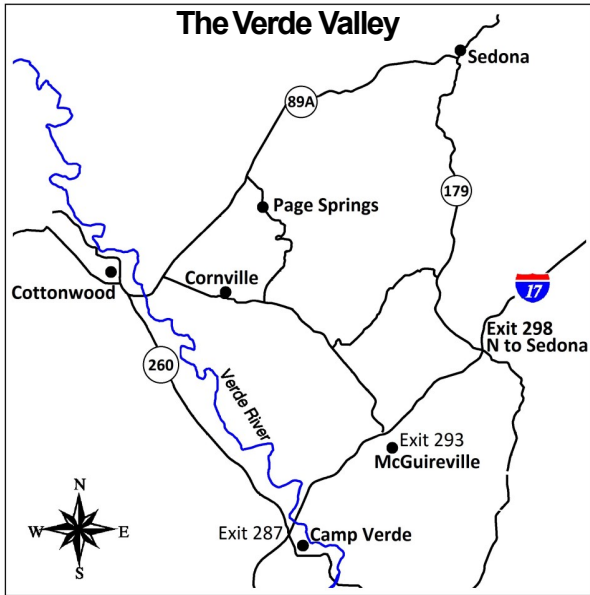
**Including Sedona, Cottonwood,
Clarkdale, Page Springs,
Camp Verde and Rimrock**



Monarch drawing by Kandy Vermeer Phillips

Checklist Compilers

Paul Tuskes, Entomologist
Denise Gibbs, Butterfly Specialist



The Verde Valley is defined geographically as the low-lying area surrounded by Mingus Mountain on the west, the Mogollon Rim on the north and east, and Squaw Peak and Pine Mountain on the South. It includes the towns of Cottonwood, Clarkdale, Cornville, Sedona, Lake Montezuma/Rimrock/McGuireville, and Camp Verde.

The Verde Valley contains a variety of habitats including mixed conifer, ponderosa pine, pinyon-juniper woodlands, chaparral, Sonoran desert scrub, semi-desert grassland, and riparian. These habitats support complex groups of wildlife and plant species.

Butterflies can be seen in the Verde Valley in all months of the year (depending on elevation). Peak activity/abundance occurs from July to October.

Please report sightings of additional species to Denise Gibbs at Monarchtagger@gmail.com.

Checklist Order:

This checklist order and common names follow the North American Butterfly Association (NABA) *Checklist of North American Butterflies*

Common Name	Scientific Name
Swallowtails	Papilionidae
Pipeline Swallowtail	<i>Battus philenor</i>
Desert Black Swallowtail	<i>Papilio polyxenes</i>
Western Tiger Swallowtail	<i>Papilio rutulus</i>
Two-tailed Swallowtail	<i>Papilio multicaudata</i>
Whites and Sulphurs	Pieridae
Pine White	<i>Neophasia menapia</i>
Spring White	<i>Pontia sisymbrii</i>
Checkered White	<i>Pontia protodice</i>
Cabbage White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>
'Desert' Pearly Marble*	<i>Euchloe lotta</i>
Sara Orangetip	<i>Anthocharis sara</i>
Clouded Sulphur	<i>Colias philodice</i>
Orange Sulphur	<i>Colias eurytheme</i>
Queen Alexandra's Sulphur	<i>Colias alexandra</i>
Southern Dogface	<i>Colias cesonia</i>
Cloudless Sulphur	<i>Phoebis sennae</i>
Large Orange Sulphur*	<i>Phoebis agarithe</i>
Lyside Sulphur*	<i>Kricogonia lyside</i>
Mexican Yellow	<i>Eurema mexicana</i>
Tailed Orange	<i>Eurema proterpia</i>
Sleepy Orange	<i>Eurema nicippe</i>
Dainty Sulphur	<i>Nathalis iole</i>
Gossamer-wing Butterflies	Lycaenidae
Colorado Hairstreak	<i>Hypaurotis crysalus</i>
Great Purple Hairstreak	<i>Atlides halesus</i>
Soapberry Hairstreak	<i>Phaeostrymon alcestis</i>
Ilavia Hairstreak	<i>Satyrrium ilavia</i>
Brown Elfin	<i>Callophrys augustinus</i>
'Siva' Juniper Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys gryneus siva</i>
Gray Hairstreak	<i>Strymon melinus</i>
Mallow Scrub-Hairstreak*	<i>Strymon istapa</i>
Leda Ministreak	<i>Ministrymon leda</i>
Arizona Hairstreak	<i>Erora quaderna</i>
Western Pygmy-Blue	<i>Brephidium exile</i>
Marine Blue	<i>Leptotes marina</i>
Ceraunus Blue	<i>Hemiargus ceraunus</i>
Reakirt's Blue	<i>Echinargus isola</i>
Western Tailed-Blue	<i>Everes amyntula</i>
Western Azure	<i>Celastrina echo</i>
Spalding's Blue	<i>Euphilotes spaldingi</i>
Silvery Blue	<i>Glaucopsyche lygdamus</i>
Greenish Blue	<i>Plebejus saepiolus</i>
Lupine Blue	<i>Plebejus lupini</i>
Arctic Blue	<i>Agriades glandon</i>
Metalmarks	Riodinidae
Fatal Metalmark	<i>Calephelis nemesis</i>
Zela Metalmark	<i>Emesis zela</i>
Mormon Metalmark	<i>Apodemia mormo</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
Palmer's Metalmark	<i>Apodemia palmeri</i>
Nais Metalmark	<i>Apodemia nais</i>
Brush-footed Butterflies	Nymphalidae
American Snout	<i>Libytheana carinenta</i>
Gulf Fritillary	<i>Agraulis vanillae</i>
Variiegated Fritillary	<i>Euptoieta claudia</i>
Mexican Fritillary*	<i>Euptoieta hegesia</i>
Atlantis Fritillary	<i>Speyeria atlantis</i>
Fulvia Checkerspot	<i>Chlosyne fulvia</i>
California Patch	<i>Chlosyne californica</i>
Bordered Patch	<i>Chlosyne lacinia</i>
Sagebrush Checkerspot	<i>Chlosyne acastus</i>
Tiny Checkerspot	<i>Dymasia dymas</i>
Elada Checkerspot	<i>Texola elada</i>
Arnica Checkerspot	<i>Euphydryas arnica</i>
Northern Crescent	<i>Phyciodes selenis</i>
Field Crescent	<i>Phyciodes campestris</i>
Painted Crescent	<i>Phyciodes picta</i>
Mylitta Crescent	<i>Phyciodes mylitta</i>
Variable Checkerspot	<i>Euphydryas chalcedona</i>
Question Mark	<i>Polygonia interrogationis</i>
Satyr Comma	<i>Polygonia satyrus</i>
Hoary Comma	<i>Polygonia gracilis</i>
California Tortoiseshell	<i>Nymphalis californica</i>
Mourning Cloak	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>
American Lady	<i>Vanessa virginiensis</i>
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>
West Coast Lady	<i>Vanessa annabella</i>
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>
Common Buckeye	<i>Junonia coenia</i>
Tropical Buckeye	<i>Junonia evarete</i>
Red-spotted Admiral	<i>Limenitis arthemis</i>
Viceroy	<i>Limenitis archippus</i>
Weidemeyer's Admiral	<i>Limenitis weidemeyerii</i>
Arizona Sister	<i>Adelpha eulalia</i>
Goatweed Leafwing	<i>Anaea andria</i>
Hackberry Emperor	<i>Asterocampa celtis</i>
Empress Leilia	<i>Asterocampa leilia</i>
Tawny Emperor	<i>Asterocampa clyton</i>
Canyonland Satyr	<i>Cyllopsis pertepida</i>
Red Satyr	<i>Megisto rubricata</i>
Common Wood-Nymph	<i>Cercyonis pegala</i>
Mead's Wood-Nymph	<i>Cercyonis meadii</i>
Red-bordered Satyr	<i>Gyracheilus patrobas</i>
Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>
Queen	<i>Danaus gilippus</i>
Skippers	Hesperiidae
Silver-spotted Skipper	<i>Epargyreus clarus</i>
Hammock Skipper	<i>Polygonus leo</i>