

Abundance codes: 1 - common, easily observed, 17 species; 2 - uncommon, work required to observe, 10 species; 3 - rare, local, sporadic, difficult access, 14 species.



1. Dreamy Duskywing (left)

2. Two-banded Checkered Skipper (right & below)



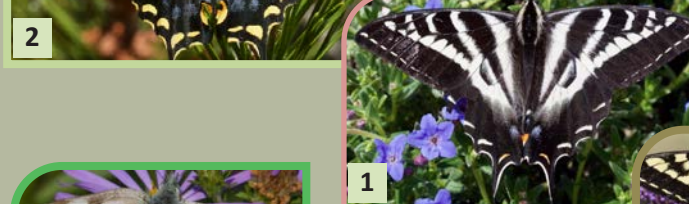
3. Woodland Skipper (below)



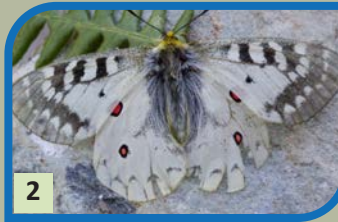
4. Oregon Branded Skipper (below)



6. Anise Swallowtail (left)



7. Pale Swallowtail (below)



5. Clodius Apollo (above)



9. Western White (left x2)



10. Margined White (m - spring - left; f - below x2)



11. Pine White (above)



12. Cabbage White (left)



13. Flora Orangetip (above)



14. Mariposa Copper (f - left, middle; m - right)



16. Clouded Sulphur (right)



15. Purplish Copper (left x2)



17. Johnson's Hairstreak (above)



18. Cedar Hairstreak (below)



19. Brown Elfin (above)



21. Gray Hairstreak (above, left)



22. Western Tailed-blue (below)



20. Western Pine Elfin (above)



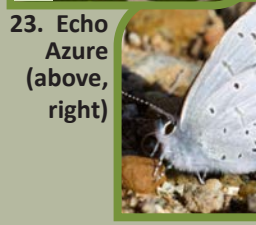
23. Echo Azure (above, right)



24. Silvery Blue (left, below)



25. Satyr Comma (below x2)



26. Green Comma (left x2)



27. Zephyr Comma (left & below)



29. California Tortoiseshell (below)

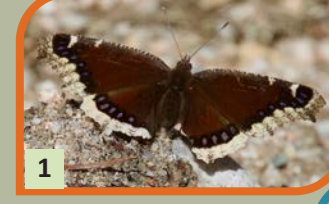
Butterflies of the Sunshine Coast

2022 update

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Note: each species has a unique colour border.

28. Compton Tortoiseshell (below)



30. Mourning Cloak (left)



31. Milbert's Tortoiseshell (left & below)



32. Painted Lady (above, right)



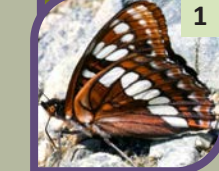
36. Pacific Fritillary (left, below)



38. Field Crescent (left)



39. Lorquin's Admiral (left x2)



41. Common Wood-nymph (right)



40. Greater Arctic

Butterflies (Order: Lepidoptera, Superfamily: Papilionoidea) number around 275 species in Canada and about 190 in British Columbia. The Sunshine Coast, located in the Coastal Temperate Rainforest, is not a butterfly-species rich area with 41 known species occurring here. They are colourful day-time fliers, compared to dull night-time fliers for most moths. Their four wings are covered with fine overlapping and highly colourful minute scales. Mouthparts are modified for sipping nectar from flowers-a tube-like proboscis that curls up when not in use. Caterpillars of each species specialize in their choice of larval food plants.

Abbreviations used in the text: Date format: dd/mm, mm, or mm-mm

OFP - Observed Flight Period **LFP** - Larval Food Plant **ROW** - right-of-way

OG - Old Growth **SC** - Sunshine Coast **FSR** - Forest Service Road **SL** - Sea Level

1. Dreamy Duskywing (*Erynnis icelus*)

Small, 2.8 cm

Duskywings belong to the Skipper complex. Five similar-looking species occur in BC: all are dark with a silvery, furry and moth-like appearance. This is the only SC duskywing recorded. The LFP is willow and adults nectar on composites, clover, and other flowers. Most observations have been at mud-puddles or damp spots on the powerline right-of-way in the Trout Lake area of Halfmoon Bay. Generally observed singly but 10 individuals were recorded mud-puddling together on one occasion. OFP is 29/04 to 29/06.

2. Two-banded Checkered Skipper (*Pyrgus ruralis*)

Small, 2.6 cm

There are 3 species of Checkered Skippers in BC but only the Two-banded has been recorded on the SC. The name refers to the checkerboard pattern of black and white. The LFP is wild strawberry. Adults nectar on the hostplant, dandelions and other early blooming flowers. Habitat is moist openings in forested areas, roadsides and rights-of-way from SL up to about 500m. Reliable locations have been the powerline above the Sechelt airport, the powerline to the Hydro pond in Halfmoon Bay and various low-elevation regenerating clearcuts. OFP is 12/04 to 24/06 with the peak in 05.

3. Woodland Skipper (*Ochlodes sylvanoides*)

Small, 2.7 cm

There are about 2,000 species of skippers worldwide, mainly in the neo-tropics. Skippers perch with their wings in a distinctive profile - hindwings at 90 degrees to the body and the forewings at 45 degrees. In late summer the Woodland Skipper is the most abundant local butterfly, occurring in open habitats, especially dry, grassy areas and gardens. LFPs are both native and exotic grasses. Adults are highly successful generalists utilizing many garden flowers and herbs; introduced and native flowering species such as oxeye daisy, aster, yarrow, pearly everlasting, goldenrod, gumweed, thistle, *Buddleia* and fireweed. OFP is 04/07 to 1/10 with a peak from early 08 to early 09.

4. Oregon Branded Skipper (*Hesperia colorado oregonia*)

Small, 3.2 cm

Rare species found so far only on grassy hilltops in the Pender Harbour area. LFP are grasses, incl. *Festuca* sp. Adults nectar on chokecherry and composites, esp. yarrows and pearly everlasting. Elsewhere flies 05-09, but SC OFP has narrow window 30/06 - 13/08.

5. Clodius Parnassius (*Parnassius clodius*)

Medium, 6 cm

Occurs from SL to the sub-alpine. Lower elevation populations fly in 06 and higher elevation ones in late 07 and early 08. Each population has a flight period of 4-6 weeks. Low and mid-elevation populations inhabit moist riparian habitat and those at higher elevations use wet sub-alpine meadows and open forest (white rhodod in OG mountain hemlock at 1400m in Mt. Steele sub-alpine). The LFP is Pacific bleeding heart and adults nectar on a variety of flowers including Himalayan blackberry at low elevation, and asters and pearly everlasting higher up. Adults are thought to be toxic to predators as advertised by their red spot. Female wings partly transparent. OFP is 04/6 to 18/08.

6. Anise Swallowtail (*Papilio zeliaca*)

Large, 5.2-8 cm

Size variation covers small alpine males to large sea-level females. Named for its use of anise as a larval foodplant in California. In BC it utilizes domestic and wild members of the parsley family especially angelica along beach tops, cow parsnip elsewhere, and parsley, parsnips, carrots and dill in gardens. Inhabits a wide range of habitats from beach tops to sub-alpine meadows and includes forest edges, hilltops and open rocky knolls. It appears to be uncommon and local on the SC though reported to be common on Gambier Island. Recorded at a beach top in Howe Sound (in spring), Trout Lake Road power lines, gardens, and on the dry rocky bluffs atop Pender Hill. OFP is 27/02 to 13/08.

7. Pale Swallowtail (*Papilio eurymedon*)

Large, 6.2-10 cm

Distinguished from the other two swallowtail species by the white basal colour (males) or very pale yellow (females). Found in low to mid-elevation forest openings, riparian areas and gardens. Alder is the primary LFP on the coast but also uses cultivated apple, chokecherry, ocean spray, cascara and hardhack. Nectars at various flowers especially *Buddleia*. Mud-puddles. Observed along logging road edges, powerline rights-of-way and disused gravel pits where *Buddleia* is present. OFP is 30/04 to 8/08, peak flight in 06-07.

8. Western Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio rutulus*)

Large, 6.5-9 cm

Our largest butterfly. Perhaps the most familiar of all SC butterflies. Found wherever the LFPs occur but especially common in riparian zones, forest openings and residential areas. LFPs include alder, big-leaf maple, cherry, willow and cultivated apple. Nectars on *Buddleia*, blackberry, thistles and yarrow. Abundant and easily observed when nectaring on *Buddleia* (butterfly bush) in gardens, roadsides, regenerating clearcuts and rights-of-way. An avid mud-puddler. Most abundant at low elevation but has been recorded at 1050m at Dakota Ridge. OFP is 28/04 to 27/08.

All photos ©Rand Rudland. All photos taken on the Sunshine Coast except 22 & 33.

9. Western White (<i>Pontia occidentalis</i>)	Medium, 3.6-4.4 cm
A single record of this species that was not expected to appear on the SC, but is a known wanderer and can turn up anywhere. It appeared in the estuary at Sargeant Bay PP and nectared on asters for three days, 6-8/08	
10. Margined White (<i>Pieris marginalis</i>)	Medium, 4.2 cm
Variable wing pattern between sexes and differing spring and summer forms. The only local confusion species is Cabbage White which has a black spot in the middle of the ventral forewing and is largely confined to gardens and sea-level locations. Margined White is one of the first butterflies seen in spring. They utilize native rockcress and bittercress, species which grow in open forest and subalpine meadows. Also uses cultivated brassicas. Preferred habitat is damp, deciduous forest areas with partial shade and cool temperatures. Most records are from low to mid-elevations in 04 and 05 with a small number of second generation records in 07 and early 08. Has also been recorded at c.1000m elevation in Tetrahedron PP. OFP is 13/04 to 19/08.	
11. Pine White (<i>Neophasia menapia</i>)	Medium, 4.2–5 cm
A common, easily recognizable white butterfly with black wingtips with white spots, and black veins on the underside. It has a slow, weak, floppy flight and flies close to forest margins along logging roads and also in gardens where it nectars on flowers. Found from SL and throughout the local mountains to at least 1050m at Dakota Ridge. It is one of only three butterflies of which the larvae feed on conifers. OFP is 19/07 to 24/09.	
12. Cabbage White (<i>Pieris rapae</i>)	Medium, 4.6–4.9 cm
An abundant introduced species which arrived in North America (Quebec) from Europe in the 1860s and rapidly spread continent-wide. Found throughout the world where the cabbage family is grown. It flies early in the year and adults become more common as summer progresses. One generation takes 4-8 weeks with 3-4 generations/year. The LFPs are brassicas of European origin - cabbage, broccoli, mustards, canola and other weedy <i>Brassica</i> species. Adults nectar at many species including <i>Buddleia</i> . Its habitat is farmland, urban and suburban gardens, and weedy areas. OFP is 31/03 to 30/10.	
13. Flora Orangetip (<i>Anthocharis julia flora</i>)	Medium, 4 cm
A Coast Range subspecies that occurs in forest openings and rock slopes from sea-level to the sub-alpine, preferring dry, open, brushy habitats such as roadsides. The larval foodplant is rockcress/mustard family. The literature refers to the species as local and uncommon and this is the case on the Sunshine Coast with the single known location for the species being the powerline right-of-way/Suncoaster Trail directly above the Ruby Lake Resort. It is common at this location from late March to May. The only other location in our area where it has been recorded is at K9 on the logging road at Narrows Inlet. OFP is 30/03 to 30/05.	
14. Mariposa Copper (<i>Tharsalea mariposa</i>)	Small, 2.5 cm
Mainly a western mountain species and likely to be found in any forest opening or riparian situation where the larval foodplant, <i>Vaccinium</i> , occurs. Flies from late 06 to early 09 depending on elevation and the melting of the winter’s snowpack. OFP is 13/07 to 04/09.	
15. Purplish Copper (<i>Lycaena helleoides</i>)	Small, 2.8–3.3 cm
The name is derived from the purplish colour of the male’s dorsal wings. It occurs throughout southern BC in disturbed roadside and pasture habitat and natural riparian areas, but varies in abundance from year to year. It flies in two generations from late 05 to early 07 and from mid 08 to mid 09. There are only 2 records for the Sunshine Coast, one in 05, the other in 09. OFP is 3/05 to 11/09.	
16. Clouded Sulphur (<i>Colias philodice</i>)	Medium, 4–4.6 cm
Clouded Sulphur is one of the most widespread and common North American butterflies, occurring in all Canadian provinces and territories but in BC they are generally only found east of the Coast Range. They are on the wing from 05-10. The LFPs are mainly native and introduced clovers and alfalfa. Records of the species in the Vancouver area are thought to be migrants or individuals that arrived on imported hay or alfalfa, rather than a resident population. There are only a few SC records but the species may be increasing. OFP 02/07 to 01/10.	
17. Johnson’s Hairstreak (<i>Loranthomitoura johnsoni</i>)	Small, 3.2 cm
Rare and local throughout its range. Recorded from a few locations in BC; SE Vancouver I., Fraser Valley and the SC. Also Stanley Park. An old-growth obligate species found in association with its LFP, dwarf mistletoe, which infects mature western hemlocks. Rarely seen as it flies high in the canopy where the foodplant occurs, but it does descend to the ground to nectar on flowers and also mud-puddles. The flight period is variously given as late 05 to early 07 (Shepard) or to early 09, with peaks in 05 and 08 (Pyle). Surveys by the BC Ministry of the Environment specifically looking for this species on the SC located two on the Sechelt-Dakota FSR on 23/06/09 in a mature forest with large hemlocks. Relocated on same FSR late 27/06 to 24/07/2022. Beware confusion with the abundant Cedar Hairstreak (#18).	
18. Cedar Hairstreak (<i>Callophrys gryneus plicataria</i>)	Small, 2.5 cm
A small, brown, tailed species likely to be found wherever the larval foodplant, western red cedar, occurs. Recorded from SL to mid-elevations. Adults nectar on a wide variety of	

flowers including wild strawberry, trailing blackberry, oxeye daisy, goatsbeard, composites and garden flowers. Gardens, roadsides. OFP is 17/04 to 01/07.

19. Brown Elfín (*Callophrys augustinus*) **Small, 2.5–2.7 cm**
A small, brown species distinguishable from Cedar Hairstreak by lack of a jagged white line on the ventral wings. Found in open forest areas such as roadsides, powerlines and gardens from SL to mid-elevations. LFPs are salal, kinnickinnick, arbutus and ocean spray. Adults nectar on wild strawberry, oxeye daisy, goatsbeard and garden flowers. OFP is 12/04 to 17/06.

20. Western Pine Elfín (*Callophrys eryphon*) **Small, 2.6–2.7 cm**
Uncommon. The black chevrons on the ventral hindwing are distinctive for this species. The LFP is lodgepole pine, a scarce species on the Sunshine Coast. The butterfly can be found in the Pine Flats area on the trail to Chapman Falls. The few other locations where it has been found include the powerline near the Hydro pond in Halfmoon Bay, and the Crossover Road (neither of these being pine areas). Adults are said to nectar on willow catkins, spirea and composites and locally on wild strawberry. OFP is 26/04 to 01/07.

21. Gray Hairstreak (*Strymon melinus*) **Small, 2.4 cm**
Distinctive, with obvious orange spots on both dorsal and ventral hindwing. A fast erratic flyer. The LFPs are legumes; is a pest of cultivated beans. Adults nectar on many species of flowers including wild strawberry and garden flowers. Occurs in forest edges associated with Douglas-fir, in riparian areas where legumes are present and in gardens. It flies in two generations; spring (late 04 to early 06), summer (mid 07 to late 08). OFP 30/03 to 26/09.

22. Western Tailed-blue (*Everes amyntula*) **Small, 2.4–2.6 cm**
There are only five local records of this species--on 10/07/01 in Pender Harbour and on 5-8/07/01 on gas line ROW in Halfmoon Bay near Trout Lake. Found in forest edges, clearings, and riparian situations where the larval foodplants, *Lathyrus nevadensis* (purple peavine), and *Astragalus* (milkvetch) occur. It is an avid mud-puddler. OFP is late 04 to 07.

23. Echo Azure (*Celastrina echo*) **Small, 2.6–2.9 cm**
The common blue butterfly of the Sunshine Coast flying mainly in late 04-05, and abundant in the right habitat. There may be an infrequent partial second generation. Male Spring Azures are avid mud-puddlers and they nectar on a variety of flowering shrubs including Douglas spirea and ocean spray. LFPs include spirea, ocean spray, elderberry, red-osier dogwood, huckleberry and cherry. The species frequents low to mid-elevation open woodlands and woodland margins with flowering shrubs, and also gardens. It can be common early in 04 if the weather is warm and sunny, but in many years the first reports are in the last week of 04. 05 is the month of peak abundance and the flight period comes to an end usually by 7/06. There is only a single record of Spring Azure in 07, unequivocally representing the second generation. OFP is 30/03 to 19/07.

24. Silvery Blue (*Glaucopsyche piasus*) **Small, 2.9–3.1 cm**
This species is referred to as the common late spring/early summer blue butterfly throughout BC after the flight period of the Echo Azure (above). However, on the Sunshine Coast it has only been recorded in the alpine area atop Mt. Steele, elevation 1450m, where it was nectaring on patches of dwarf alpine lupine. Elsewhere in BC it is reported to be found from SL to timberline in flowery meadows, open woods and roadsides, wherever the LFP (wild legumes such as lupine), occurs. OFP is 08.

25. Satyr Comma (*Polygonia satyrus*) **Medium, 5.2 cm**
Polygonias, also known as anglewings or commas, are represented on the Sunshine Coast by 3 species (#25, #26, #27). All have a bark/leaf cryptic pattern on the underside with a silver comma mark. Males and females vary slightly. The species are difficult to identify even in the hand or with good photographs. LFP is stinging nettle, rare on SC. Adults feed on sap, soft fruit and flowers. Habitat preferences are riparian areas and forest clearings where stinging nettles are present. Few SC records range from the powerline above the Sechelt airport, Gibsons, and Dakota Bowl. OFP is 21/03 - 03/09.

26. Green Comma (*Polygonia faunus*) **Medium, 4.6–4.8 cm**
On the SC this is the most common of the three difficult to identify polygonia species. The main confusion species is #27 and the two species occur in the same habitat and locations and sometimes fly together. The LFPs are alder, willow and blueberry and the adults feed on sap, carrion and dung. Occurs in riparian areas and open deciduous and coniferous forest. Typically it alights on gravelly road surfaces and returns again and again at or near the same spot. Adults fly from 07-10, hibernate through the winter, fly again 03-05, and the next generation emerges in 07. Common and easily observed on logging roads c.800-1100m elevation at Dakota Ridge, Gray Creek and the Caren Range. At low elevation, the Gray Creek bridge is a favoured location; both #26 & #27 have been found here. OFP is 18/03 to 5/10.

Note: Green Comma and Zephyr Comma are both common on the SC and difficult to separate on the wing. Many field observations cannot be identified to species.

27. Zephyr Comma (*Polygonia gracilis zephyrus*) **Medium, 4.8 cm**
One of the 3 local polygonias. See notes above concerning the identification of the 3 species. Zephyrs have a more two-toned grey underside than the other species. The LFPs include red-flowering currant and white rhododendron. Adults nectar on asters, pearly everlasting and white rhododendron. They occur at all elevations but more commonly in the mountains than lowlands, and most abundantly in sub-alpine forest with understory white rhododendron. Adults fly from 07-09, hibernate through the winter, fly again in 04-05 and the next generation emerges in 07. OFP is 16/04 to 21/09. Usually observed along logging roads, from near SL to above 1000m at Dakota Ridge and the Caren Range.

28. Compton Tortoiseshell (*Roddia l-album*) **Medium, 6 cm**
A circumpolar butterfly but only occurs west of the Coast Range as a rare stray. There are two Sunshine Coast records with an OFP of 8-30th March. In its normal range the species flies from late 7-10, then hibernates overwinter, and flies again from 03-05. Compton’s is thought to be the longest-lived Canadian butterfly in the adult stage. Their habitat is usually forest openings but it can occur anywhere during dispersals.

29. California Tortoiseshell (*Nymphalis californica*) **Medium, 5.9 cm**
Migrates into BC in the spring but is absent or very rare in many years following the species boom/bust population cycles to the south. Hibernates in BC in woodpiles and cool buildings and adults emerge in the spring. It is not thought to breed in coastal BC because of the rarity of the LFP *Ceanothus*. Random locations during migration. Known to nectar on broad-leaf maple blossoms. OFP is 18/03 to 22/05.

30. Mourning Cloak (*Nymphalis antiopa*) **Large, 6.1 cm**
One of the easiest butterflies to identify with no confusion species. Hibernates in wood or debris piles; emerges on warm, sunny days in late winter and early spring. The LFPs are willows and cottonwood. Adults feed on sap and fruit juices. Most often found along logging roads, also in forest openings, sunny glades, riparian areas with willows. From SL to at least 1050m at Dakota Ridge. Most common at lower elevations. OFP is 08/02 to 11/10.

31. Milbert’s Tortoiseshell (*Aglais milberti*) **Medium, 4.8 cm**
Distinctive. Uncommon, with few reports in any one year. Despite this, it might be seen in any month of the year, and it also occurs from SL to the alpine. The LFP is stinging nettle, uncommon on the SC, accounting for the scarcity of the butterfly. Adults present 03-05 and 07-10, then hibernate in tree cavities, barns, etc. In spring they breed at low elevation and then migrate upslope in search of nectar. Has been recorded in the alpine zone of Mt. Steele at 1500m. At low elevations they are found on beaches, gardens, powerlines, roadsides and clearcuts. OFP is 3/03 to 4/10.

32. Painted Lady (*Vanessa cardui*) **Medium, 5.9 cm**
The most widely distributed butterfly in the world occurring on all continents except Antarctica. It is strongly migratory, moving north in the spring with no corresponding southward movement. Not known to hibernate in BC so must repopulate in succeeding years. Rare in Canada in most years but abundant in others with estimated billions of migrants. Only a tiny percentage of migrants reach BC - thousands in some years and none in others. One generation is produced in BC with the first adults emerging in 07. Larval foodplants are composites such as thistles and pearly everlasting and adults nectar on composites including *Buddleia*. They occur in open areas at all elevations from sea-level gardens to above treeline on Mt. Steele. Absent from the SC in 2016 and 2018 but abundant in 2017. OFP is 22/04 to 17/11 (which is the latest ever date for a SC butterfly sighting).

33. West Coast Lady (*Vanessa annabella*) **Medium, 4.5 cm**
The rarest “Lady” on the SC, with only one sighting to date on the Roberts Creek jetty. Not known to over-winter in BC so like #32 must repopulate from southern populations in succeeding years. Differentiated from #32 by having orange subapical forewing spot, white in #32. Single brood each year with eggs laid in 04-06, adults emerge late 07-08. Adults may move to sub-alpine elevations in search of nectar sources. Males hilltop and are aggressive to other insects, butterflies and even small birds. LFP is stinging nettle and hollyhock. Nectars on goldenrod, gumweed, Douglas aster, etc. OFP is 07/09

34. Red Admiral (*Vanessa atalanta*) **Medium, 5.5 cm**
Adults migrate into BC from mid 04-06, lay eggs, and the next generation emerges in late 07 and flies until 11. It is not known if there is a southern migration. The species does not normally hibernate in BC. The LFP is stinging nettle and adults nectar on the flowers of composites. Habitat is variable from forest openings to gardens. Aggressive to other butterflies but can be “friendly” to humans by perching on them. They are a scarce species on the SC with no records in some years. There is only a single spring record on 30/04/16 and the post-breeding generation has been observed from mid 07 to mid 10. OFP is 29/04 to 17/10. Records range from SL to 1050m at Dakota Ridge.

35. Hydaspe Fritillary (*Speyeria hydaspe*) **Medium, 5.2 cm**
A mountain butterfly, above 1000m elevation at Dakota Ridge, Tetrahedron PP and the Caren Range, but also found at mid-elevation on the Carlson FSR. Common in its preferred habitat alongside old logging roads where the LFP, violet, occurs. An easy location is on the roads and trails at Dakota Ridge. Adults nectar on wildflowers such as pearly everlasting and thistle. OFP is 12/07 to 27/09.

36. Pacific Fritillary (*Boloria epithore*) **Medium, 4.1 cm**
The fritillaries are a difficult family to identify but on the Sunshine Coast any low/mid- elevation fritillary should be this species. Uncommon. It flies from early 05 to early 09 with only one generation per year and any one population flying for about 3 weeks. Inhabits sunny openings, logging roads and forest meadows from SL to the sub-alpine but has only been found at low to mid-elevations on the SC. The LFP is violet. Adults nectar on strawberry, blackberry, asters and composites. Records of this species are few and most observations are on the Halfmoon-Carlson FSRs. OFP is 03/05 to 07/09.

37. Mylitta Crescent (*Phyciodes melitta*) **Small, 3.4 cm**
Common. Two generations fly in late 04 - 05 and 07 - 08. Frequents roadsides, powerlines and regenerating clearcuts. The LFP is thistle and adults nectar on many different flowers. Mostly found at low elevation up to about 300m. OFP is 08/04 to 11/09.

38. Field Crescent (*Phyciodes pratensis*) **Small, 3.4 cm**
Occurs widely in BC except west of the Coast Range. The single record in our area was alongside the estuary of the Tzoonie River at the head of Narrows Inlet on 01/07/17. Flight period is late 05 to early 08 with the peak in early 07. Like other crescents it is an aster feeder and adults nectar on asters, pearly everlasting and other composites. Its habitat varies widely from SL to summits, from fields and roadsides, to clearings in the mountains.

39. Lorquin’s Admiral (*Limenitis lorquini*) **Large, 5.7–6.5 cm**
One of the commonest SC species, no confusion species. Males defend territories and are pugnacious, even attacking birds. The first generation emerges in 06, a second generation in 08. LFPs include willow, cherry and apple. Adults nectar on various flowers, especially *Buddleia*. Always near woodlands including riparian areas and gardens. Occurs from SL to at least 1050m at Dakota Ridge, Tetrahedron PP and the Caren Range. OFP is 27/05 to 11/09.

40. Common Woodnymph (*Cercyonis pegala*) **Medium, 5.0 cm**
A common and easily identified butterfly with its two prominent eyespots. In flight for about 7 weeks from mid 07 to early 09. Usually found at lower elevations but occasionally as high as 1050m. Frequents various habitats including gardens, logging roads, powerlines, regenerating clearcuts and fields. The LFPs are grasses and adults nectar on flowers and willow sap. OFP is 10/07 to 16/09.

41. Greater Arctic (*Oeneis nevadensis gigas*) **Medium, 5.8 cm**
Two populations located so far on the SC, with males aggressively patrolling dry mossy openings atop Pender Hill and nearby Mt. Daniel. Vancouver Island populations differ from other Cascadia populations by flying every year, compared to even-year flights in other areas. This remains to be determined on the SC. LFPs are grasses. In flight elsewhere 05 to 08. SC OFP is 29/06 to 21/07 but certainly will be extended with future observations.

Species found in adjacent localities that may be expected to occur on the Sunshine Coast.
Rocky Mountain Parnassian - found on Vancouver Island and in the Squamish area in alpine meadows primarily. Differs from #5 by presence of red markings on both fore- and hind-wings.
European Skipper - introduced species common from SL to alpine in Lower Mainland and Vancouver Island. Differs from #3 by lack of contrasting markings on dorsum of wings.
Anna’s Blue - Vancouver Island, Garibaldi, and Lower Mainland sightings to date. Dorsal view similar to #22 but lacks “tails”; underside of wings show subterminal yellow-orange chevrons.
Anicia Checkerspot - alpine above Lion’s Bay. Difficult to separate from **Chalcodon Checkerspot** except in hand. Orange/white checkerboard pattern on dark background of dorsal wings.

Taxonomy in this brochure follows that of the web-based world-wide biodiversity site iNaturalist. For ongoing updates on the current status of butterflies on the Sunshine Coast, visit www.inaturalist.org/projects/butterflies-of-the-sunshine-coast-bc-canada .

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