

Mission Blue Butterfly Facts

- Scientific Name: Icaricia icarioides missionensis
- Status: Endangered
- Host plant: Silver lupine (*Lupinus albifrons*), summer lupine (*L. formosus*) and manycolored lupine (*L. variicolor*).
- Where they live: San Francisco Bay Area grasslands in Marin, San Francisco, and San Mateo counties
- Males are bluer overall compared to females, which have more brown on their wings.
- The fuzzy, green caterpillars hatch on their host plant, lupine, and only eat lupine until they're ready to pupate and become butterflies.
- If you want to catch a glimpse of a mission blue butterfly, visit the Marin Headlands at the Golden Gate National Recreation Area in Marin County, San Bruno Mountain in San Mateo County, or Twin Peaks in San Francisco between March and July and you might see one!