

Bartram's scrub-hairstreak and Florida leafwing hurricane response best management practices

Specific islands: Big Pine, No Name and Little Pine Keys (National Key Deer National Wildlife Refuge)

Habitat: Pine Rocklands, specifically those within the designated critical habitat for these species on Big Pine, No Name and Little Pine Keys.



Physical Descriptions:

The Bartram's scrub-hairstreak is a small butterfly approximately 25 millimeters [mm; 1 inch (in)] in length with a forewing length of 10.0 to 12.5 mm (0.4 to 0.5 in) and has an appearance characteristic of the genus (*i.e.*, dark gray-colored on the upper (open) wings, light gray-colored under (closed) wings, small size, body shape, distinctive white barring or dots on underwings, and tailed hindwings).



The Florida leafwing butterfly is a medium-sized butterfly approximately 76 to 78 millimeters (mm) (2.75 to 3.00 inches (in)) in length with a forewing length of 34 to 38 mm (1.3 to 1.5 in). The upper-wing (or open wing) surface color is red to red-brown. The underside (closed wings) is gray to tan, with a tapered outline, cryptically looking like a dead leaf or the bark of South Florida slash pine trees (*Pinus elliottii* var. *densa*) when the butterfly is at rest. The Florida leafwing exhibits sexual dimorphism (male and female are different from each other), with females being slightly larger and with darker coloring along the wing margins than the males.

Actions minimize impacts of hurricane clean-up efforts:

1. Extreme care should be taken while working around the species hostplant, pineland croton (*Croton linearis*), to reduce the risk of damage to both the plant and any immature stages of the butterflies that may be present from trampling.
2. When clean up or restoration activities are conducted in areas with pineland croton an effort should be made to avoid destroying or disturbing the hostplant.

3. Prior to any clean up or restoration activities, contractors should be instructed on the identification of these butterflies and pineland croton to ensure the plant is not treated with herbicide or hand pulled during the project.
4. If pineland croton is trimmed or pulled, all clipped/pulled vegetation should be left near adjacent live hostplants for 24 hours so as to allow any larvae present to relocate on to the remaining vegetation.