

# Island Marble Butterfly Basics



Adults fly approximately 6 to 9 days



Eggs hatch after 10 to 12 days



The larval phase lasts 26 to 27 days



The island marble butterfly may remain in chrysalis form for up to 330 days

Ongoing conservation efforts include stewardship and monitoring by the National Park Service, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; habitat creation and management on Federal, State, County, and private lands; public outreach and coordination; and the development of a formal conservation strategy.

The island marble butterfly was believed to be extinct for 90 years. After disappearing from British Columbia, Canada, in 1908, the island marble butterfly was rediscovered on San Juan Island in 1998 and was later also found on Lopez Island.

**All but one population of the butterfly has disappeared due to the loss of suitable habitat.**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has proposed to list the island marble butterfly as endangered; it is a **candidate** for listing. On April 12, 2019, the final listing rule is anticipated to publish. The island marble butterfly is threatened by:

- Habitat loss and degradation
- Predation
- Small population size and chance events that increase mortality
- Lack of regulatory protections

**In order to conserve the island marble butterfly, we additionally need to enhance and create more suitable habitat and reintroduce populations to more places, specifically across San Juan and Lopez islands. That is why we are developing a Candidate Conservation Agreement with Assurances (CCA).**

The island marble butterfly is known to use three types of mustard plants to complete its life cycle. The mustard it uses in “upland habitat” is common field mustard, or *Brassica rapa*.



**How this meeting is set up:**

- Station 1: Basics
- Station 2: Creating and Maintaining Habitat
- Station 3: Avoiding Detrimental Habitat
- Station 4: Protecting Habitat from Deer
- Station 5: CCAA General Information

