

BUTTERFLY CONSERVATION AWARD

INTERAGENCY MARDON SKIPPER WORK GROUP



In 2005, a small group of biologists from the Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management in Oregon and Washington were concerned enough about the survival of a small brown butterfly, the Mardon skipper, to form an Interagency Work Group. The goal of the work group was to learn about conservation gaps regarding this federal candidate species and to determine what it would take—both in terms of personnel and funding—to address them. The Group has evolved over the years to include representation from many other groups including the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the US

Fish and Wildlife Service, and most recently, National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service from California. The Group now addresses key issues across the entire range of the species.

The Interagency work group has been productive. Extensive surveys undertaken by the group have

discovered significant numbers of new Mardon skipper populations. Further, site management plans have been developed for most southern Oregon sites, and extensive restoration actions are being implemented. Efforts also included production of a range-wide conservation assessment that not only has research but also management implications. A major result has been the lowering of the US Fish and Wildlife Service listing priority for this species from a 3 to an 8. In addition to creating strong interagency cohesion aimed at species conservation, the work group has used

the expertise of many partners including the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation. The award recognizes the accomplishments of the Interagency Work Group in the conservation of this rare species.

AWARD WINNERS

- Kelli Van Norman, Region 6 Regional Office/BLM Oregon State Office, US Forest Service
- Rob Huff, Region 6 Regional Office/BLM Oregon State Office, US Forest Service
- Mitch Wainwright, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, US Forest Service
- Carol Chandler, Gifford Pinchot National Forest, US Forest Service
- Ruby Seitz, Willamette National Forest, US Forest Service
- Holly Witt, Rogue-River/Siskiyou National Forest, US Forest Service





- Carole Jorgensen
US Forest Service
 - Joan St. Hilare,
Okanogan-Wenatchee
National Forest,
US Forest Service
 - Ann Potter,
Washington Department of
Fish and Wildlife
 - Scott Hoffman Black,
The Xerces Society
 - Tony Kerwin,
Medford Bureau of Land
Management
 - Steve Godwin,
Medford Bureau of Land
Management
 - Vince Harke,
US Fish and Wildlife
Service
 - Ted Thomas,
US Fish and Wildlife
Service
- CERTIFICATE RECIPIENTS**
- Tom Kogut, retired,
Gifford Pinchot National
Forest, US Forest Service
 - Norm Barrett, retired,
Rogue-River/Siskiyou
National Forest, US Forest
Service
 - Dr. Cheryl Schultz,
Washington State
University
 - Loni Beyer,
Washington State
University

