

Butterfly Conservation Course in Colorado

The second offering of the AZA Board of Regents' "Techniques for Butterfly Conservation & Management" course will be offered 23-27 June 2007 in Florissant, CO, west of Colorado Springs. Course topics include natural history and identification, captive propagation, host plant care and needs, field/lab research techniques, permitting/recovery planning basics, population monitoring, habitat restoration, butterfly exhibitry, education and outreach, and more.

Last year's class was a great success and we encourage anybody interested in butterfly conservation to participate. Visit www.aza.org/prodev/ButterflyCon/ or contact Geri Noland (azatraining@aza.org or 301-562-0777 x238) for more information and/or to register.

Review of Conservation Status of Four Butterflies

On 14 February 2007, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) announced the initiation of a 5-year review of 58 species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act, including four butterflies. The review will determine whether their current classifications are appropriate. FWS would like to receive information about El Segundo blue (listed as endangered in 1976), Lange's metalmark (listed as endangered in 1976), Lotis blue (listed as threatened in 1976), and Palos Verdes blue (listed as endangered in 1980) butterflies by 16 April 2007. Additional information is found in the Federal Register 72(30): 7064-7068 (<http://www.gpoaccess.gov/fr/>).

Smith's Blue Butterfly Review Completed

A 5-year review completed in 2006 recommends downlisting the Smith's blue butterfly status from endangered to threatened and can be found at: <http://www.fws.gov/cno/es/Smith's%20blue%20butterfly%205-year%20review.FINAL.pdf>.

Thank you Mediaville!

BFCI's Web site (www.butterflyrecovery.org) has received accolades from BFCI members and has captured the attention of the public. The designers of this site, Mediaville (<http://mediaville.net/>), have continued to manage the site, donating their time and expertise for almost two years.

Population Explosion of Oregon Silverspots at Oregon Zoo

By: MaryJo Andersen, Oregon Zoo

The Oregon Zoo has a bumper "crop" of Oregon silverspot larvae this year. Thirty-two adult females arrived at the zoo in late summer and laid over 8,000 eggs! Over 6,400 hatched and have been in diapause as first instar larvae in the Butterfly Lab refrigerators. The Zoo increased diapause survival by using "yurts," small pieces of corrugated paperboard. The larvae hatch, drink a little water, and then wander. When provided with the yurts, they line up in the grooves, sometimes frass, then sleep for the next seven months. Zoo staff check the larvae each week, to reduce mold and desiccation.



Oregon silverspot larvae.
Photo: Michael Durham.

The zoo's horticulture staff are also busy propagating the host plants, *Viola adunca*. It takes about 150 leaves for one larva to make it to pupation, so leaf demand will be high next summer. We are working on this project with the Woodland Park Zoo.

The Oregon Zoo also works on Taylor's checkerspot and Mardon skipper butterflies with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Wishing Wells Support BFCI

After the success of their own wishing well, The **Butterfly House** offered a free wishing well to another BFCI member who committed to dedicating the revenues to BFCI. The **Naples Zoo** took them up on the offer and sent BFCI \$500 in addition to their annual pledge. The **Detroit Zoological Society** has also purchased a well that is garnering much attention. We thank these members for their support of BFCI. If you are interested in purchasing a well for your facility, please contact Shelly Grow (sgrow@aza.org) or visit: www.spiralwishingwells.com/index.html.

Need Funding for Butterfly Conservation?

The deadline to submit a proposal to AZA's Conservation Endowment Fund is 2 April 2007. Past CEF awards have supported population augmentation for listed butterflies in the Pacific Northwest, the development of protocols for captive rearing of endangered butterflies, and the Florida Butterfly Monitoring Network. We encourage BFCI members to submit proposals. Partner on collaborative projects, request funding for a local priority, or both! Visit <http://www.aza.org/ConScience/WhatIsCEF/> to learn more.



Current Members

- ** Abilene Zoo
- ** Akron Zoological Park
- ** Albuquerque Biological Park
- ** Binder Park Zoo
 - Birmingham Zoo
 - Brookfield Zoo
- ** Bronx Zoo/WCS
 - The Butterfly House
- ** Calgary Zoo, Botanical Garden and Prehistoric Park
- ** Central Florida Zoological Park
- ** Chaffee Zoological Gardens
- ** Cheyenne Mountain Zoo
 - Chicago Academy of Sciences and Notabaert Nature Museum
- ** Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden
- ** Cleveland Metroparks Zoo
- ** Columbus Zoo and Aquarium
 - Como Park Zoo and Conservatory
- ** Connecticut's Beardsley Zoological Gardens
- ** The Dallas World Aquarium
- ** Detroit Zoological Institute
- ** Disney's Animal Kingdom
- ** Friends of the WNC Nature Center
- ** Fort Wayne Children's Zoo
- ** Henry Vilas Zoo
 - Houston Zoo
- ** John Ball Park Zoological Garden
- ** The Living Desert
- ** Louisville Zoological Garden
- ** Lowry Park Zoo Eco-Conservation Committee
 - Museum of Science
 - Naples Zoo
- ** National Aquarium in Baltimore
- ** The Oakland Zoo
- ** Oklahoma City Zoo & Botanical Garden
 - Potawatomi Zoo
- ** Racine Zoological Gardens
- ** Roger Williams Park Zoo
 - San Diego Zoo's Wild Animal Park
- ** Santa Barbara Zoological Gardens
- ** Seneca Park Zoo
- ** The Toledo Zoo
- ** Toronto Zoo
 - Utah's Hogle Zoo
- ** Vancouver Aquarium
- ** Woodland Park Zoo

Contributors

- ** Audubon Nature Institute
- Brandywine Zoo
- Brevard Zoo
- Chesapeake Chapter of the American Association of Zoo Keepers – Salisbury Zoo
- Oregon Coast Aquarium
- ** Oregon Zoo
- ** San Antonio Zoological Gardens and Aquarium
- Steinhart Aquarium

** *Founding member*

Partners

- Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA)
- Environmental Defense
- McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity
- National Wildlife Federation
- North American Pollinator Protection Campaign (NAPPC)
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation

New Bughouse in Connecticut

Connecticut's Beardsley Zoo is opening a bughouse in mid-April that will include butterflies.

Connect Your Butterfly Conservation Activities to National Events

In the US, *Endangered Species Day* is 18 May 2007. Celebrate the efforts of your facility and those of other BFCI members to protect federally protected and locally vulnerable butterflies. For more about what BFCI members are doing on behalf of threatened and endangered butterflies, visit the BFCI Web site: www.butterflyrecovery.org. For promotional materials about Endangered Species Day, visit: <http://www.stopextinction.org/endangeredspeciesday>.

Pollinator Week is 24-30 June 2007. For informational and promotional materials, visit: http://pollinator.org/pollinator_week.htm.

Thanks to Our Supporters

As always, we thank our members, contributors, and partners for their dedication to BFCI's mission and goals.

Announce your butterfly efforts and activities in *BFCI News* by contacting Shelly Grow, BFCI Program Coordinator at: sgrow@aza.org or 301-562-0777 x263. To learn more about the BFCI, please visit our Web site (www.butterflyrecovery.org).

