

# Butterflies of the Lower Rio Grande Valley

This checklist is based on *Checklist & English Names of North American Butterflies* by The North American Butterfly Association (NABA) (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 2001) and follows their precedents. That publication should be consulted for useful commentary on rarities and for an extensive list of references. The abundance codes and checklist included in *The Birding & Butterfly Guide to the Rio Grande Valley* (2004, RGV Guidebooks division of the Monitor) and the checklist at [www.valleynaturecenter.org](http://www.valleynaturecenter.org) have also been used in preparing this list. Of 500 U.S. butterfly species 60% or 300 are found in the LRGV, of 120 species are limited to South Texas, and of these 70 species (14% of U.S. species) are limited to the LRGV.

## Occurrence Codes:

A = Abundant

C = Common

U = Uncommon

O = Occasional

R = Rare

X = Accidental (less than five records)

H = Hypothetical (needs further documentation for RGV or occurs nearby)

F = Former (not recorded in 50 years)

## Swallowtails Family Papilionidae

### Swallowtails Subfamily Papilioninae

Pipevine Swallowtail	<i>Battus philenor</i>	C
Polydamas Swallowtail	<i>Battus polydamas</i>	O
Dark Kite-Swallowtail	<i>Eurytides philolaus</i>	H
Black Swallowtail	<i>Papilio polyxenes</i>	U
Thoas Swallowtail	<i>Papilio thoas</i>	X
Giant Swallowtail	<i>Papilio cresphontes</i>	A
Ornythion Swallowtail	<i>Papilio ornythion</i>	O
Broad-banded Swallowtail	<i>Papilio astyalus</i>	R
Eastern Tiger Swallowtail	<i>Papilio glaucus</i>	X
Three-tailed Swallowtail	<i>Papilio pilumnus</i>	H
Palamedes Swallowtail	<i>Papilio palamedes</i>	H
Magnificent Swallowtail	<i>Papilio garamas</i>	X
Victorine Swallowtail	<i>Papilio victorinus</i>	H
Pink-spotted Swallowtail	<i>Papilio pharnaces</i>	X
Ruby-spotted Swallowtail	<i>Papilio anchisiades</i>	O

## Whites and Sulphurs Family Pieridae

## Whites Subfamily Pierinae

Mexican Dartwhite	<i>Catantixia nimbice</i>	H
Florida White	<i>Appias Drusilla</i>	O
Checkered White	<i>Pontia protodice</i>	C
Cabbage White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>	R
Great Southern White	<i>Ascia monuste</i>	C
Giant White	<i>Ganyra Josephina</i>	O
Falcate Orangetip	<i>Anthocharis midea</i>	O

## Sulphurs Subfamily Coliadinae

Orange Sulphur	<i>Colias eurytheme</i>	U
Southern Dogface	<i>Colias cesonia</i>	C
White Angled-Sulphur	<i>Anteos clorinde</i>	O
Yellow Angled-Sulphur	<i>Anteos maerula</i>	O
Cloudless Sulphur	<i>Phoebis sennae</i>	C
Orange-barréd Sulphur	<i>Phoebis philea</i>	O
Apricot Sulphur	<i>Phoebis argante</i>	H
Large Orange Sulphur	<i>Phoebis agarithe</i>	C
Tailed Sulphur	<i>Phoebis neocypris</i>	X
Statira Sulphur	<i>Phoebis statira</i>	R
Lyside Sulphur	<i>Kricogonia lyside</i>	A
Barred Yellow	<i>Eurema दौरa</i>	R
Ghost Yellow	<i>Eurema albula</i>	X
Boisduval's Yellow	<i>Eurema boisduvaliana</i>	R
Mexican Yellow	<i>Eurema mexicana</i>	U
Salome Yellow	<i>Eurema Salome</i>	X
Tailed Orange	<i>Eurema proterpia</i>	O
Little Yellow	<i>Eurema lisa</i>	A
Mimosa Yellow	<i>Eurema nise</i>	C
Dina Yellow	<i>Eurema dina</i>	X
Sleepy Orange	<i>Eurema nicippe</i>	C
Dainty Sulphur	<i>Nathalis iole</i>	C

## Mimic-Whites Subfamily Dismorphiinae

Costa-spotted Mimic-White	<i>Enantia Albania</i>	X
---------------------------	------------------------	---

## Gossamer-wing Butterflies Family Lycaenidae

### Harvesters Subfamily Miletinae

Harvester	<i>Feniseca tarquinius</i>	H
-----------	----------------------------	---

## Hairstreaks Subfamily Theclinae

Mexican Cycadian	<i>Eumaeus toxea</i>	F	
Strophius Hairstreak	<i>Allosmaitia strophius</i>	R	
Great Purple Hairstreak	<i>Atlides halesus</i>	O	
Stag Hairstreak	<i>Rekoa stagira</i>	X	
Gold-bordered Hairstreak	<i>Rekoa palegon</i>	X	
Marius Hairstreak	<i>Rekoa marius</i>	R	
Black Hairstreak	<i>Ocaria ocrisia</i>	X	
Telea Hairstreak	<i>Chlorostrymon telea</i>	X	
Silver-banded Hairstreak	<i>Chlorostrymon simaethis</i>		O
Clench's Greenstreak	<i>Cyanophrys miserabilis</i>		R
Goodson's Greenstreak	<i>Cyanophrys goodsoni</i>		R
Tropical Greenstreak	<i>Cyanophrys herodotus</i>		X
Xami Hairstreak	<i>Callophrys xami</i>		O
Aquamarine Hairstreak	<i>Oenomaus ortygnus</i>	X	
White M Hairstreak	<i>Parrhasius m-album</i>	H	
Gray Hairstreak	<i>Strymon melinus</i>	C	
Red-crescent Scrub-Hairstreak	<i>Strymon rufofusca</i>	O	
Red-lined Scrub-Hairstreak	<i>Strymon bebrycia</i>	R	
Yojoa Scrub-Hairstreak	<i>Strymon yojoa</i>	O	
White Scrub-Hairstreak	<i>Strymon albata</i>	R	
Lacey's Scrub-Hairstreak	<i>Strymon alea</i>	R	
Mallow Scrub-Hairstreak	<i>Strymon istapa</i>	C	
Tailless Scrub-Hairstreak	<i>Strymon cestri</i>	X	
Lantana Scrub-Hairstreak	<i>Strymon bazochii</i>	O	
Ruddy Hairstreak	<i>Electrostrymon sangala</i>		R
Muted Hairstreak	<i>Electrostrymon canus</i>		X
Dusky-blue Groundstreak	<i>Calycopis isobeaon</i>	C	
Red-spotted Hairstreak	<i>Tmolus echion</i>	X	
Pearly-gray Hairstreak	<i>Siderus tephraeus</i>	X	
Leda Ministreak	<i>Ministrymon leda</i>	H	
Clytie Ministreak	<i>Ministrymon clytie</i>	U	
Gray Ministreak	<i>Ministrymon azia</i>	R	

## Blues Subfamily Polyommatainae

Western Pygmy-Blue	<i>Brephidium exile</i>	C	
Cassius Blue	<i>Leptotes cassius</i>	C	
Marine Blue	<i>Leptotes marina</i>	O	
Cyna Blue	<i>Zizula cyna</i>	R	
Ceraunus Blue	<i>Hemiargus ceraunus</i>	C	
Reakirt's Blue	<i>Hemiargus isola</i>	C	
Eastern Tailed-Blue	<i>Everes comyntas</i>	R	

## Metalmarks Family Riodinidae

Fatal Metalmark	<i>Calephelis nemesis</i>	C
Rounded Metalmark	<i>Calephelis perditalis</i>	C
Rawson's Metalmark	<i>Calephelis rawsoni</i>	R
Red-bordered Metalmark	<i>Caria ino</i>	U
Blue Metalmark	<i>Lasaia sula</i>	U
Red-bordered Pixie	<i>Melanis pixe</i>	U
Curve-winged Metalmark	<i>Emesis emesia</i>	R
Falcate Metalmark	<i>Emesis tenedia</i>	X
Narrow-winged Metalmark	<i>Apodemia multiplaga</i>	X
Walker's Metalmark	<i>Apodemia walkeri</i>	R

## Brushfooted Butterflies Family Nymphalidae

### Snouts Subfamily Libytheinae

American Snout *Libytheana carinenta* A

### Heliconians and Fritillaries Subfamily Heliconiinae

Gulf Fritillary	<i>Agraulis vanillae</i>	A
Mexican Silverspot	<i>Dione moneta</i>	O
Banded Orange Heliconian	<i>Dryadula phaetusa</i>	X
Julia Heliconian	<i>Dryas iulia</i>	U
Isabella's Heliconian	<i>Eueides isabella</i>	R
Zebra Heliconian	<i>Heliconius charithonia</i>	C
Erato Heliconian	<i>Heliconius erato</i>	R
Variegated Fritillary	<i>Euptoieta Claudia</i>	C
Mexican Fritillary	<i>Euptoieta hegesia</i>	O

### True Brushfoots Subfamily Nymphalinae

Theona Checkerspot	<i>Thessalia theona</i>	U
Bordered Patch	<i>Chlosyne lacinia</i>	C
Definite Patch	<i>Chlosyne definite</i>	O
Banded Patch	<i>Chlosyne endeis</i>	R
Crimson Patch	<i>Chlosyne janais</i>	R
Rosita Patch	<i>Chlosyne rosita</i>	R
Red-spotted Patch	<i>Chlosyne marina</i>	X
Elf	<i>Microtia elva</i>	X
Tiny Checkerspot	<i>Dymasia dymas</i>	R
Elada Crescent	<i>Texola elada</i>	C
Texan Crescent	<i>Phyciodes texana</i>	C
Pale-banded Crescent	<i>Phyciodes tulcis</i>	R
Black Crescent	<i>Phyciodes ptolyca</i>	X
Chestnut Crescent	<i>Phyciodes argentea</i>	R

Black-bordered Tegosa	<i>Tegosa anieta</i>	H	
Vesta Crescent	<i>Phyciodes vesta</i>	C	
Phaon Crescent	<i>Phyciodes phaon</i>	C	
Pearl Crescent	<i>Phyciodes tharos</i>	C	
Question Mark	<i>Polygonia interrogationis</i>		O
Mourning Cloak	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>	R	
American Lady	<i>Vanessa virginiensis</i>	U	
Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	U	
West Coast Lady	<i>Vanessa annabella</i>	X	
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>	U	
Orange Mapwing	<i>Hypanartia lethe</i>	H	
Mimic	<i>Hypolimnys misippus</i>	X	
Common Buckeye	<i>Junonia coenia</i>	U	
Mangrove Buckeye	<i>Junonia evarete</i>	O	
Tropical Buckeye	<i>Junonia genoveva</i>	R	
Dark Buckeye	<i>Junonia genoveva nigrosuffusa</i>		U
White Peacock	<i>Anartia jatrophae</i>	C	
Banded Peacock	<i>Anartia Fatima</i>	R	
Malachite	<i>Siproeta stelenes</i>	O	
Rusty-tipped Page	<i>Siproeta epaphus</i>	X	

### Admirals and Relatives Subfamily Limenitidinae

Red-spotted Purple	<i>Limenitis arthemis astyanax</i>	R	
Viceroy	<i>Limenitis archippus</i>	X	
Band-celled Sister	<i>Adelpha fessonia</i>	O	
California Sister	<i>Adelpha bredowii</i>	X	
Spot-celled Sister	<i>Adelpha basiloides</i>	X	
Common Banner	<i>Epiphile adrasta</i>	X	
Mexican Bluewing	<i>Myscelia ethusa</i>	U	
Dingy Purplewing	<i>Eunica monima</i>	R	
Florida Purplewing	<i>Eunica tatila</i>	R	
Blue-eyed Sailor	<i>Dynamine dyonis</i>	R	
Mexican Eighty-eight	<i>Diaethria asteria</i>	H	
Common Mestra	<i>Mestra amymone</i>	C	
Red Rim	<i>Biblis hyperia</i>	O	
Red Cracker	<i>Hamadryas amphinome</i>	X	
Gray Cracker	<i>Hamadryas februa</i>	O	
Variable Cracker	<i>Hamadryas feronia</i>	X	
Guatemalan Cracker	<i>Hamadryas guatemalena</i>		R
Orion Cecropian	<i>Historis odius</i>	X	
Blomfield's Beauty	<i>Smyrna blomfieldia</i>	R	
Waiter Daggerwing	<i>Marpesia coresia</i>	X	
Many-banded Daggerwing	<i>Marpesia Chiron</i>	R	
Ruddy Daggerwing	<i>Marpesia petreus</i>	R	

## Leafwings Subfamily Charaxinae

Tropical Leafwing	<i>Anaea aidea</i>	C
Goatweed Leafwing	<i>Anaea andria</i>	U
Angled Leafwing	<i>Anaea glycerium</i>	X
Pale-spotted Leafwing	<i>Anaea pithyusa</i>	R

## Emperors Subfamily Apaturinae

Hackberry Emperor	<i>Asterocampa celtis</i>	U	
Empress Leilia	<i>Asterocampa leilia</i>	C	
Tawny Emperor	<i>Asterocampa clyton</i>		A
Pavon Emperor	<i>Doxocopa pavon</i>	R	
Silver Emperor	<i>Doxocopa laure</i>	R	

## Morphos Subfamily Morphinae

White Morpho	<i>Morpho polyphemus</i>	H
--------------	--------------------------	---

## Satyrs Subfamily Satyrinae

Gemmed Satyr	<i>Cyllopsis gemma</i>	U	
Carolina Satyr	<i>Hermeuptychia sosybius</i>	C	
Red Satyr	<i>Megisto rubricate</i>	H	

## Clearwings Subfamily Ithomiinae

Klug's Clearwing	<i>Dircenna klugii</i>	F
------------------	------------------------	---

## Monarchs Subfamily Danainae

Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>	U	
Queen	<i>Danaus gilippus</i>	A	
Soldier	<i>Danaus eresimus</i>	U	
Tiger Mimic-Queen	<i>Lycorea cleobaea</i>	H	

## Skippers Family Hesperidae

### Spread-wing Skippers Subfamily Pyrginae

Beautiful Beamer	<i>Phocides belus</i>	X	
Guava Skipper	<i>Phocides polybius</i>	O	
Mercurial Skipper	<i>Proteides mercurius</i>	R	
Silver-spotted Skipper	<i>Epargyreus clarus</i>	X	
Broken Silverdrop	<i>Epargyreus exadeus</i>	X	

Hammock Skipper	<i>Polygonus leo</i>	R	
Manuel's Skipper	<i>Polygonus manueli</i>	X	
White-striped Longtail	<i>Chioides catillus</i>	U	
Zilpa Longtail	<i>Chioides zilpa</i>	O	
Gold-spotted Aguna	<i>Aguna asander</i>	O	
Emerald Aguna	<i>Aguna claxon</i>	X	
Tailed Aguna	<i>Aguna metophis</i>	R	
Mottled Longtail	<i>Typhedanus undulates</i>	X	
Mexican Longtail	<i>Polythrix mexicanus</i>	X	
Eight-spotted Longtail	<i>Polythrix octomaculata</i>	R	
White-crescent Longtail	<i>Codattractus alcaeus</i>	X	
Long-tailed Skipper	<i>Urbanus proteus</i>	U	
Pronus Longtail	<i>Urbanus pronus</i>	X	
Esmeralda Longtail	<i>Urbanus esmeraldus</i>	X	
Double-striped Longtail	<i>Urbanus belli</i>	X	
Dorantes Longtail	<i>Urbanus dorantes</i>	U	
Teleus Longtail	<i>Urbanus teleus</i>	U	
Tanna Longtail	<i>Urbanus tanna</i>	X	
Plain Longtail	<i>Urbanus simplicius</i>	X	
Brown Longtail	<i>Urbanus procne</i>	U	
White-tailed Longtail	<i>Urbanus doryssus</i>	R	
Two-barred Flasher	<i>Astraptus fulgurator</i>	O	
Small-spotted Flasher	<i>Astraptus egregious</i>	X	
Frosted Flasher	<i>Astraptus alardus</i>	X	
Gilbert's Flasher	<i>Astraptus gilberti</i>	X	
Yellow-tipped Flasher	<i>Astraptus anaphus</i>	R	
Skinner's Cloudywing	<i>Achalarus albociliatus</i>	H	
Coyote Cloudywing	<i>Achalarus toxeus</i>	O	
Jalapus Cloudywing	<i>Achalarus jalapus</i>	H	
Northern Cloudywing	<i>Thorybes pylades</i>	H	
Potrillo Skipper	<i>Cabares potrillo</i>	O	
Fritzgaertner's Flat	<i>Celaenorrhinus fritzgaertneri</i>		X
Stallings' Flat	<i>Celaenorrhinus stallingsi</i>		R
Falcate Skipper	<i>Spathilepia clonius</i>	R	
Mimosa Skipper	<i>Cogia calchas</i>	C	
Acacia Skipper	<i>Cogia hippalus</i>	X	
Outis Skipper	<i>Cogia outis</i>	H	
Starred Skipper	<i>Arteurotia tractipennis</i>	X	
Purplish-black Skipper	<i>Nisoniades rubescens</i>	X	
Glazed Pellicia	<i>Pellicia arina</i>	U	
Morning Glory Pellicia	<i>Pellicia dimidiata</i>	H	
Mottled Bolla	<i>Bolla clytius</i>	R	
Obscure Bolla	<i>Bolla brennus</i>	H	
Golden-headed Scallopwing	<i>Staphylus ceos</i>	R	
Mazans Scallopwing	<i>Staphylus mazans</i>	U	
Hayhurst's Scallopwing	<i>Staphylus hayhurstii</i>	H	

Variegated Skipper	<i>Gorgythion begga</i>	X	
Blue-studded Skipper	<i>Sostrata bifasciata</i>	X	
Hoary Skipper	<i>Carrhenes canescens</i>	R	
Glassy-winged Skipper	<i>Xenophanes tryxus</i>	R	
Red-studded Skipper	<i>Noctuana stator</i>	X	
Texas Powdered-Skipper	<i>Systasea pulverulenta</i>	O	
Sickle-winged Skipper	<i>Achlyodes thraso</i>	C	
Hermit Skipper	<i>Grais stigmatica</i>	R	
Brown-banded Skipper	<i>Timochares ruptifasciatus</i>		O
White-patched Skipper	<i>Chiomara asychis</i>	U	
False Duskywing	<i>Gesta gesta</i>	H	
Horace's Duskywing	<i>Erynnis horatius</i>	H	
Mournful Duskywing	<i>Erynnis tristis</i>	H	
Funereal Duskywing	<i>Erynnis funeralis</i>	C	
Common Checkered-Skipper	<i>Pyrgus communis</i>	A	
White Checkered-Skipper	<i>Pyrgus albescens</i>	C	
Tropical Checkered-Skipper	<i>Pyrgus oileus</i>	A	
Desert Checkered-Skipper	<i>Pyrgus philetas</i>	O	
Erichson's White-Skipper	<i>Heliopetes domicella</i>	R	
Laviana White-Skipper	<i>Heliopetes laviana</i>	C	
Turk's-cap White-Skipper	<i>Heliopetes macaira</i>	U	
Veined White-Skipper	<i>Heliopetes arsalte</i>	H	
Common Streaky-Skipper	<i>Celotes nessus</i>	O	
Common Sootywing	<i>Pholisora catullus</i>	U	
Mexican Sootywing	<i>Pholisora mejicana</i>	H	
Saltbush Sootywing	<i>Hesperopsis alpheus</i>	H	

### **Skipperlings Subfamily Heteropterinae**

Small-spotted Skipperling <i>Piruna microstictus</i>	H
--	---

### **Grass-Skippers Subfamily Hesperinae**

Malicious Skipper	<i>Synapte malitiosa</i>	R
Salenus Skipper	<i>Synapte salenus</i>	X
Redundant Skipper	<i>Corticea corticea</i>	R
Pale-rayed Skipper	<i>Vidius perigenes</i>	H
Violet-patched Skipper	<i>Monca tyrtaeus</i>	R
Swarthy Skipper	<i>Nastra lherminier</i>	H
Julia's Skipper	<i>Nastra julia</i>	U
Fawn-spotted Skipper	<i>Cymaenes odilia</i>	U
Clouded Skipper	<i>Lerema accius</i>	A
Liris Skipper	<i>Lerema liris</i>	X
Fantastic Skipper	<i>Vettius fantasos</i>	X
Green-backed Ruby-eye	<i>Perichares philetas</i>	R
Osca Skipper	<i>Rhinthon osca</i>	X

Double-dotted Skipper	<i>Decinea percosius</i>	O
Hidden-ray Skipper	<i>Conga chydaea</i>	X
Least Skipper	<i>Ancyloxypha numitor</i>	R
Tropical Least Skipper	<i>Ancyloxypha arene</i>	H
Orange Skipperling	<i>Copaeodes aurantiacus</i>	O
Southern Skipperling	<i>Copaeodes minimus</i>	U
Fiery Skipper	<i>Hylephila phyleus</i>	A
Southern Broken-Dash	<i>Wallengrenia otho</i>	C
Little Glassywing	<i>Pompeius verna</i>	H
Sachem	<i>Atalopedes campestris</i>	C
Delaware Skipper	<i>Anatrytone logan</i>	H
Common Mellana	<i>Quasimellana eulogius</i>	O
Dun Skipper	<i>Euphyes vestries</i>	U
Nysa Roadside-Skipper	<i>Amblyscirtes nysa</i>	U
Celia's Roadside-Skipper	<i>Amblyscirtes celia</i>	C
Eufala Skipper	<i>Lerodea eufala</i>	C
Olive-clouded Skipper	<i>Lerodea dysaules</i>	R
Brazilian Skipper	<i>Calpodus ethlius</i>	U
Obscure Skipper	<i>Panoquina panoquinoides</i>	O
Ocola Skipper	<i>Panoquina ocola</i>	C
Hecebolus Skipper	<i>Panoquina hecebola</i>	R
Purple-washed Skipper	<i>Panoquina sylvicola</i>	U
Evans' Skipper	<i>Panoquina fusina</i>	R
Violet-banded Skipper	<i>Nyctelius nyctelius</i>	U
Chestnut-marked Skipper	<i>Thespieus macareus</i>	X

### **Giant-Skippers Subfamily Megathyminae**

Yucca Giant-Skipper	<i>Megathymus yuccae</i> (includes <i>coloradensis</i> )	H
Manfreda Giant-Skipper	<i>Stallingsia maculosa</i>	H

Compiled by:

Keith Hackland (President, Valley Nature Center and Owner, Alamo Inn B&B for birders) Martin Hagne (Executive Director, Valley Nature Center)

In consultation with Mike Quin (Texas Parks & Wildlife Department, Entomologist for Texas)