

## Myrtle's Silverspot Butterfly Facts

- Scientific name: Speyeria zerene myrtleae
- Status: Endangered
- Host plant: Western dog violet (*Viola adunca*)
- Where they live: Coastal dunes and bluffs from Sonoma County to Marin County, CA.
- Myrtle's silverspot butterfly gets its name from the white spots on the ventral side of its wings which is the side you see when the wings are closed
- The caterpillars of Myrtle's silverspot hatch in summer or early fall but then sleep until the next spring when they wake up and feed on western dog violet.
- To spot a Myrtle's silverspot butterfly, you might have luck at Point Reyes National Seashore between June and August.

## Bay Checkerspot Butterfly Facts

- Scientific name: Euphydryas editha bayensis
- Status: Threatened
- Host plant: California plantain (*Plantago erecta*)
- Where they live: Serpentine grasslands of Santa Clara County, CA and annual grasslands at San Bruno Mountain in San Mateo County, CA.
- Bay checkerspot caterpillars go through two different phases of feeding with a pause in between. The first is just after they hatch between March and May, where they will feed until they have molted three times. Then after going dormant for the hot and dry months of summer and fall, they wake up sometime in November to February, and eat more until finally making their chrysalis in early spring.
- The Bay checkerspot butterfly has brilliant markings in a mosaic of white, black, and orange, but don't get this confused with more common orange butterflies like the painted lady. This butterfly was only found in Santa Clara County until recently reintroduced to San Bruno Mountain and Edgewood County Park in San Mateo County, CA.