

Not R2 SS, consider for other Emphasis Species Lists

Recommendations and Evaluations

Common Name: Arogos Skipper

Scientific Name: *Atrytone arogos*

Recommendation: Not R2 SS, consider for other Emphasis Species Lists

Recommendation Rationale:

Subspecies *iowa* occurs in R2. Subspecies in the eastern US along the piedmont and coastal plain has declined severely. Very patchy range and metapopulation structure. Described as local and nowhere very common due to widespread destruction and fragmentation of native prairie. Opler notes serious loss of habitat in Colorado. Occurs in undisturbed prairie, with habitats ranging from short grass prairie in Colorado to mesic or dry tall grass prairie. The confirmed foodplant (in Missouri) is *Andropogon gerardii* but other grasses are almost certainly used. Threats include excessively frequent or intense prescribed burning, invasion of noxious weeds, and applications of herbicides and insecticides.

The western subspecies does not appear to be experiencing the same significant downward trends as the eastern subspecies. However, populations are isolated and thus vulnerable. This species is considered one of the best barometers of ecosystem health for both tall and short grass prairie ecosystems. The species is known to occur on the Arapaho-Roosevelt-Pawnee and the Comanche NG, and likely to occur on the Comanche NG. We recommend that these units consider this species for other emphasis species lists.