

MPG Ranch Field Observations

July 23, 2013

Nate Gordon



Brush-tipped Emerald Dragonfly (*Somatochlora walshii*)



Brush-tipped Emeralds are a species of concern in Montana due to limited population numbers or habitat. This specimen patrols the ponds in Whaley Draw.



Eight-spotted Skimmers (*Libellula forensis*) are common near the Bitterroot River.



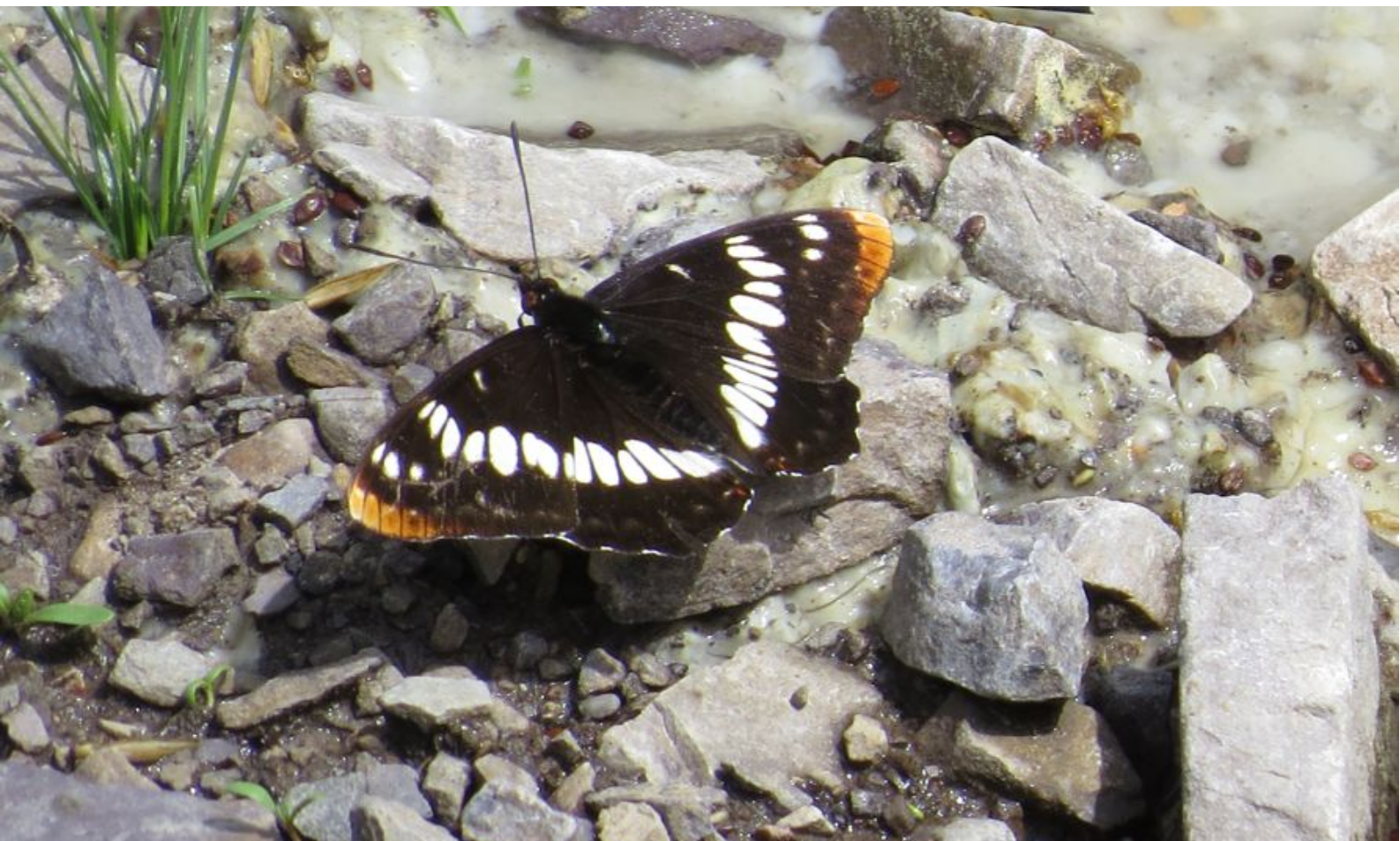
A Northwestern Fritillary (*Speyeria hesperis*) congregates with a checkerspot and several blues.



Common Wood Nymphs (*Cercyonis pegala*) have eyespots that may discourage predator attacks.



This Silver-bordered Fritillary (*Boloria selene*) pollinates horsemint.



A Lourquin's Admiral (*Limenitis lorquini*) drinks near a pond.



This Western Tiger Swallowtail (*Papilio rutulus*) lost most of its tail to nibbling birds.



Variable Checkerspots (*Euphydryas chalcedona*) exhibit great variation in spot patterns.



Matthew Schertz measures a painted turtle's bottom shell.



A downy woodpecker clings to a tree.



Dark and intermediate color morphs account for only 10–20% of red-tailed hawks.



A banded American kestrel perches atop a tall pine.

