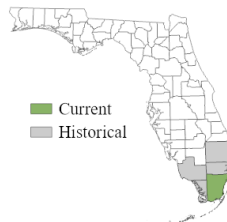


FLORIDA LEAFWING

Anaea troglodyta floridalis



Order: Lepidoptera
Family: Nymphalidae
FNAI Ranks: G4?T1/S1
U.S. Status: Endangered
FL Status: Endangered

Description: A medium large butterfly, 7-8.1 cm (2.7-3.2 in.). Reddish-orange above with a dark postmedian line and dark borders to the wings. Undersides mostly a mottled gray that is effective camouflage. Females have darker markings than males. Each hindwing has a small "tail". Range is essentially diagnostic as no other *Anaea* should occur in south FL.

Similar Species: Goatweed leafwing (*Anaea andria*) does not occur in south Florida, has more uniformly colored dorsal wing surface, and less mottled ventral wing surface.

Habitat: Pine rockland on Long Pine Key in Everglades National Park. Usually seen near patches of the foodplant, pineland croton (*Croton linearis*). Uncommonly found flying through other nearby habitats (Salvato and Salvato 2010a).

Seasonal Occurrence: All stages occur year round. Peak adult flight is from November - March, uncommon July through September (Salvato and Salvato 2010a).

Florida Distribution: Found only on Long Pine Key in Everglades National Park. Historically found in Palm Beach, Broward, Collier, Miami-Dade, and Monroe Counties. Last seen on Big Pine Key around 2006.

Range-wide Distribution: This subspecies is restricted to Florida.

Conservation Status: Loss of pine rockland habitat has led to the decline of this species which could once be found on Big Pine Key and was more widespread in Miami-Dade County. The only extant population is protected on Long Pine Key within Everglades National Park. In addition, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has designated 4,273 hectares (10,561 acres) of critical habitat in Miami-Dade and

Florida Leafwing

Anaea troglodyta floridaalis

Monroe counties for this species (USFWS 2014a).

Protection and Management: This species is currently federally endangered with 4,273 hectares (10,561 acres) of critical habitat in Miami-Dade and Monroe counties (USFWS 2014a,b). Invasive species should be controlled and mosquito spraying discontinued in all habitats designated critical by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS 2014a,b). Prescribed burns should be used every 3-7 years to maintain habitat quality beneficial to this species (FNAI 2010, McElderry et al. 2015). Burns should take place only on portions of the occupied habitat on Long Pine Key to prevent negatively affecting the entire population simultaneously. Creating mosaics of rocky pineland habitats with different fire histories is recommended. Reintroduction to Big Pine Key combined with effective habitat management could potentially help recover this species.

References: Daniels 2003, Salvato and Salvato 2010a, USFWS 2014a, USFWS 2014b



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