

# Butterflies of the Colorado Front Range

A Photographic Guide to 80 Species

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**Pale Swallowtail**

*Papilio eurymedon*

**Habitat:** Hillsides and canyons; plains, foothills and montane.

**Appearance:** Creamy white above with thick tiger stripes. Wings pale yellow below with dark bands and black margins. Wingspan 2 1/2 – 3 3/4".

**Host Plants:** Buckbrush, wild plum and alder.

**Life Cycle:** Adults fly May-August producing one brood. Feeding caterpillar hides and rests on a silken mat sheltered by curled leaves. Bark-colored chrysalis overwinters.

**Similar Butterflies:** Western Tiger Swallowtail is lemon-yellow above.

The buoyant, erratic flight of swallowtails makes them difficult to approach and photograph. However, if a cloud hides the sun, they may linger on a single perch while waiting for the sunlight to warm their flight muscles.