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**INITIAL PROPOSED PBAs IN LEBANON**

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**SPNL**

**1. Coastline/Coastal Plain and Farmland (Coastal)**

Justification:

Presence of threatened species:

*Euchloe charlonia* (vulnerable)

*Colotis fausta* (vulnerable)

*Cigaritis acamas* (vulnerable)

*Cigaritis cilissa* (endangered)

*Polyommatus icarus* (vulnerable)

*Melitaea deserticola* (vulnerable)

*Melitaea trivia* (vulnerable)

*Pseudotergumia pisidice* (vulnerable and endemic)

*Carcharodus stauderi* (vulnerable and endemic)

This proposed PBA supports numerous eremic species, many of their statuses in Lebanon are not known or haven't been studied well. Butterflies from inland deserts and warmer parts of the world are found here, and this could increase due to global warming and desertification.

Further justification:

Presence of near threatened species:

*Thymelicus acteon*

Presence of endemic and near endemic species:

*Glaucopsyche alexis*

*Melitaea punica*

*Melanargia titea*

*Muschampia proto*

Presence of non-evaluated species:

*Belenois aurota*

*Zizeeria knysna*

*Polyommatus bellis*

*Chilades galba*

*Hypolimnas misippus* (not applicable)

*Melitaea collina*

*Pseudochazara telephassa*

*Ypthima asterope*

**2. Rihane-Barouk-Sannine-Shouf Biosphere/Southern Lebanon Chain**

Justification:

Presence of threatened species:

*Papilio alexanor* (endangered)

*Tomares nogelii* (vulnerable)

*Albulina loewii* (vulnerable)

*Polyommatus icarus* (vulnerable)

*Melitaea trivia* (vulnerable)

*Carcharodus stauderi* (vulnerable)

Further justification:

Presence of near threatened species:

*Allancastria cerisyi*

*Archon apollinus*

*Parnassius mnemosyne*

*Pseudophilotes vicrama* (with endemic subspecies)

*Plebejus pylaon*

*Hipparchia alcyone*

Presence of endemic and near endemic species:

*Euchloe ausonia*

*Callophrys rubi*

*Glaucopsyche alexis*

*Aricia dorsumstellae*

*Aricia bassoni*

*Polyommatus isauricoides* (data deficient)

*Polyommatus ellisoni*

*Polyommatus thersites*

*Polyommatus syriacus*

*Polyommatus amandus*

*Lycaena phlaeas*

*Melitaea punica*

*Melanargia titea*

*Coenonympha pamphilus*

*Carcharodus alceae*

*Muschampia nomas*

Presence of non-evaluated species:

*Allancastria deyrollei*

*Satyrium abdominalis* (also endemic)

*Tomares nesimachus*

*Plebejus nichollae* (also endemic)

*Polyommatus bellis*

*Turanana endymion*

*Lycaena ochimus*

*Lycaena asabinus*

*Melitaea collina*

*Pseudochazara telephassa*

*Pseudochazara pelopea*

**3. Qaraoun-Ammiq-Upper Litani River Basin and Wetland/Southern Bekaa Plain**

Justification:

Presence of threatened species:

*Colotis fausta* (vulnerable)

*Euchloe charlonia* (vulnerable)

*Albulina loewii* (vulnerable)

*Polyommatus icarus* (vulnerable)

*Melitaea trivia* (vulnerable)

*Melitaea deserticola* (vulnerable)

*Carcharodus stauderi* (vulnerable)

This proposed PBA supports an abundance and diversity of butterfly species that frequent wet, highly vegetated places as well as eremic species, and woodland and grassland specialist butterflies typical of the lower slopes of the Lebanon and Antilebanon ranges.

Further justification:

Presence of near threatened species:

*Allancastria cerisyi*

*Archon apollinus*

Presence of endemic and near endemic species:

*Callophrys rubi*

*Lycaena phlaeas*

*Melanargia titea*

*Coenonympha pamphilus*

*Muschampia nomas*

Presence of non-evaluated species:

*Satyrium abdominalis* (also endemic)

*Satyrium myrtale* (also endemic)

*Chilades galba*

*Polyommatus bellis*

*Lycaena kurdistanica* (also endemic)

*Pseudochazara pelopea*

**4. Mount Hermon**

Justification:

Presence of threatened species:

*Colotis fausta* (vulnerable)

*Albulina loewii* (vulnerable)

*Cigaritis acamas* (vulnerable)

*Polyommatus icarus* (vulnerable)

*Melitaea trivia* (vulnerable)

*Melitaea deserticola* (vulnerable)

*Pseudotergumia pisidice* (vulnerable)

*Spialia osthelderi* (critically endangered)

*Muschampia proteides* (endangered)

Further justification:

Presence of near threatened species:

*Parnassius mnemosyne*

*Pseudophilotes vicrama* (with endemic subspecies)

Presence of endemic and near endemic species:

*Euchloe ausonia*

*Glaucopsyche alexis*

*Aricia crassipuncta*

*Melitaea punica*

*Melanargia titea*

*Coenonympha pamphilus*

*Muschampia nomas*

*Muschampia poggei*

Presence of non-evaluated species:

*Allancastria deyrollei*

*Pieris pseudorapae*

*Satyrium abdominalis* (also endemic)

*Satyrium myrtale* (also endemic)

*Pseudochazara pelopea*

*Pseudochazara telephassa*

*Hipparchia parisatis*

Likely presence of:

*Melitaea acentria* (a newly discovered species found on the non-Lebanese side, endemic, and probably threatened and range-restricted)

**5. Antilebanon**

Justification:

Presence of threatened species:

*Colotis fausta* (vulnerable)

*Albulina loewii* (vulnerable)

*Cigaritis acamas* (vulnerable)

*Polyommatus icarus* (vulnerable)

*Melitaea trivia* (vulnerable)

*Melitaea deserticola* (vulnerable)

*Pseudotergumia pisidice* (vulnerable)

*Spialia osthelderi* (critically endangered)

*Muschampia proteides* (endangered)

Further justification:

Presence of near threatened species:

*Parnassius mnemosyne*

*Pseudophilotes vicrama* (with endemic subspecies)

Presence of endemic and near endemic species:

*Euchloe ausonia*

*Glaucopsyche alexis*

*Aricia crassipuncta*

*Melitaea punica*

*Melanargia titea*

*Coenonympha pamphilus*

*Muschampia nomas*

*Muschampia poggei*

Presence of non-evaluated species:

*Allancastria deyrollei*

*Pieris pseudorapae*

*Satyrium abdominalis* (also endemic)

*Satyrium myrtale* (also endemic)

*Pseudochazara pelopea*

*Pseudochazara telephassa*

*Hipparchia parisatis*

**6. Hrajel-Faqra-Faraya/Middle Lebanon Chain**

Justification:

Presence of threatened species:

*Papilio alexanor* (endangered)

*Polyommatus icarus* (vulnerable)

Further justification:

Presence of near threatened species:

*Parnassius mnemosyne*

*Pseudophilotes vicrama* (with endemic subspecies)

Presence of endemic and near endemic species:

*Callophrys rubi*

*Glaucopsyche alexis*

*Aricia bassoni*

*Polyommatus isauricoides* (data deficient)

*Polyommatus syriacus*

*Polyommatus amandus*

*Lycaena phlaeas*

*Coenonympha pamphilus*

*Carcharodus alceae*

Presence of non-evaluated species:

*Allancastria deyrollei*

*Polyommatus bellis*

*Melitaea persea*

*Melitaea collina*

**7. Ehmej-Jabal Qaraqef-Laqlouq-Aaqoura-Afqa/Middle Lebanon Chain**

Justification:

Presence of threatened species:

*Polyommatus icarus* (vulnerable)

Further justification:

Presence of near threatened species:

*Parnassius mnemosyne*

Presence of endemic and near endemic species:

*Callophrys rubi*

*Glaucopsyche alexis*

*Aricia bassoni*

*Polyommatus syriacus*

*Polyommatus amandus*

*Lycaena phlaeas*

*Melitaea punica*

*Melanargia titea*

*Coenonympha pamphilus*

*Carcharodus alceae*

*Muschampia nomas*

Presence of non-evaluated species:

*Allancastria deyrollei*

*Plebejus nichollae* (also endemic)

**8. Abou Ali River Valley**

Justification:

Presence of threatened species:

*Colotis fausta* (vulnerable)

*Polyommatus icarus* (vulnerable)

*Melitaea trivia* (vulnerable)

Further justification:

Presence of near threatened species:

*Allancastria cerisyi*

Presence of endemic and near endemic species:

*Lycaena phlaeas*

*Carcharodus alceae*

*Muschampia proto*

Presence of non-evaluated species:

*Pieris pseudorapae*

*Ypthima asterope*

**9. Jabal Mneitra-Cedar Mountain-Horsh Ehden-Makmel-Qornet el Saouda Massif/Northern Lebanon Chain**

Justification:

Presence of threatened species:

*Papilio alexanor* (endangered)

*Tomares nogelii* (vulnerable)

*Albulina loewii* (vulnerable)

*Polyommatus icarus* (vulnerable)

*Polyommatus poseidon* (endangered, also endemic)

*Carcharodus stauderi* (vulnerable)

*Muschampia proteides* (endangered)

Presence of likely restricted-range species:

*Pontia callidice*

*Satyrium myrtale* (also endemic and non-evaluated)

*Satyrium guichardi*

*Eumedonia eumedon*

*Plebejus carmon*

*Plebejus baldur* (also endemic and non-evaluated)

*Aricia isaurica* (also endemic and non-evaluated)

*Polyommatus alcestis* (also endemic and non-evaluated)

*Polyommatus larseni* (also endemic and data-deficient)

*Polyommatus juno* (also endemic and non-evaluated)

*Hipparchia syriaca* (also endemic)

*Pyrgus serratulae*

This proposed PBA supports a high diversity, endemism, range-restriction, and threatened status of numerous species of butterflies, many of them alpine isolates and restricted to higher altitudes.

Further justification:

Presence of near threatened species:

*Archon apollinus*

*Parnassius mnemosyne*

*Pseudophilotes vicrama* (with endemic subspecies)

*Plebejus pylaon*

Presence of endemic and near endemic species:

*Callophrys rubi*

*Glaucopsyche alexis*

*Aricia dorsumstellae* (non-evaluated)

*Aricia bassoni*

*Aricia crassipuncta*

*Polyommatus isauricoides* (data deficient)

*Polyommatus ellisoni* (data deficient)

*Polyommatus thersites*

*Polyommatus syriacus*

*Polyommatus amandus*

*Lycaena phlaeas*

*Melitaea punica*

*Melanargia titea*

*Coenonympha pamphilus*

*Carcharodus alceae*

*Muschampia nomas*

Presence of non-evaluated species:

*Allancastria cerisyi*

*Allancastria deyrollei*

*Pieris pseudorapae*

*Plebejus nichollae* (also endemic)

*Turanana endymion*

*Polyommatus bellis*

*Meleageria daphnis*

*Lycaena ochimus*

*Lycaena asabinus* (also endemic)

*Melitaea persea*

*Melitaea collina*

*Pseudochazara pelopea*

*Pseudochazara telephassa*

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