

## Common Ringlet *Coenonympha tullia*

**Habitat Preference:** Prairie

**Threats:**

- Loss of prairie habitat
  - Conversion of prairie to cultivated ground
  - Tree invasion: shade is detrimental to the success of this species
- Invasion of non-native plants
- Haying at certain times of the year could limit available flowering plants used for food.
- Over grazing will limit available flowering plants used for food.
- Fragmentation could cause butterflies to travel long distance to find the particular plant species it feeds on.



**Habitat Improvement Guidelines:**

- Restore wetland habitat. Caterpillars host on grasses and rushes. Having wet areas that will sustain rushes is important.
- Common Ringlet butterflies feed mostly on grasses in the Poaceae family. It is important to restore native grass uplands when restoring wetland areas.
- Areas should not be burned more than every 3-5 years. Areas should be broken up into several burn units that are burned on a rotational basis to provide refuge for Common Ringlet. This species will not use an area that is grown up to trees.
- Haying can keep tree growth down but may take away an important source of food in the most crucial time periods. Haying should only be done on a portion of the area (25%) in any given year.