Pantala hymenaea (Say)

Spot-winged Glider

Common

43-50 mm (1.7-2.0 in.)

Medium

MALE: Face: red. Thorax: gray, covered w/ tawny/white hairs; sides sometimes have brown bands. Abdomen: tapers to tip; mostly graybrown/reddish w/ middorsal black arrowhead spots larger on S8-10. HW: large brown spot at anal angle (difficult to see in flight). Appendages: pale.

FEMALE: Similar to male but face yellow to orange.

JUVENILE: Face: yellow to orange. Abdomen: mottled gray-brown.

Habitat: Open areas; ponds/pools. Feeds from dawn to dusk, often fast/erratic 2-5 m above ground. Unwary when perched-but seldom perches, then vertically on twigs. Reproduction: Male patrols larger/more linear territories than *P. flavescens*. Female oviposits alone or in tandem by tapping abdomen to water in slow hovering flight or fast, strafing runs. Breeds in temporary ponds/pools in open. Larvae need >28 days to develop.

Notes: Migratory. Old name: Spot-winged Globetrotter.

- Similar Species: *P. flavescens* (Wandering G.) is more golden and does not have HW spot. Less hovering than *P. flavescens*. Old female may become reddish (lighter red than *P. flavescens*). Mixed swarms of *Pantala* are common.
- Locations: Alpha Ridge, Brown's Bridge, Centennial L/S, Elkhorn FB, Font Hill, Fox Chase, Gateway AE/RF/SM, Kittamaqundi, Marriottsville, Meadowbrook, MPEA - MPR, Milk Plant - Schools, Mount Pleasant, Murray Hill, Old Frederick, Pigtail, Savage Mill, Savage Park, Schooley Mill, Stevens E/W, UMDCF, Western Regional.

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