

## **KAISER-I-HIND**

*(Teinopalpus imperialis imperatrix)*

### **Status**

IUCN status: Threatened

### **Description**

The Kaiser-I-Hind is a superb green, black and orange tailed butterfly.

### **Natural history**

This butterfly is restricted to mountainous wooded districts, where it flies high in the canopy of broad leaved evergreen forest. The caterpillar is green with a large head and eats the laurel like shrub, *Daphne spp.*

### **Distribution**

The Kaiser-I-Hind is found from Nepal to Myanmar and in two Chinese provinces. Although they are widely distributed they are very localized and rare.

### **Threats**

This butterfly is very localized and never abundant and only survives in intact forests. Much of the forest habitat in these regions is under great pressure from logging and development. It is threatened by over collecting and rapid destruction of the high elevation forests upon which it depends.

### **Conservation**

The best way to protect this species is to protect the forest habitat where it remains and impose collecting restrictions.

### **References**

Collins, N. Mark and Michael G. Morris (1985) *Threatened Swallowtail Butterflies of the World: The IUCN Red Data Book*. IUCN, Cambridge, U.K. 401 pp. (see pp. 299 to 300).

Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide  
*Advocate*, August 2002

<http://www.elaw.org/news/advocate/default.asp?article=1428>

Article on legal efforts to protect *T. imperialis* in Nepal.



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