

HELP US FIND THE RUSTY PATCHED BUMBLE BEE

Where to Search

- Public Lands- we are all welcome to search on public Forest Service lands
 - Some suggested public lands:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1v9otzZXfztJVk5pTW3_JCvQwM-ubF3LESkZO0Zx9Na8/edit
- Private Landowners- some have asked for help to photograph the bees on their property
 - Contact Anne Bryan at hike2day@gmail.com for a sheet of landowner contact information
 - Sites in Bath, Highland, and Nelson Counties
- Proposed Atlantic Coast Pipeline Route: <https://dpmc-gis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=86d265defe5543c095cc5b8c5ff9db66>

How to Identify the Bees

worker



male



- Thorax predominantly yellow, or with a black spot / band between the wing spaces
- Workers and males have a rusty reddish patch centrally located on the back
- Tail black, head black



- Select food plants: sunflowers, asters, goldenrods, honeysuckles, rhododendron
- More info: <https://www.fws.gov/midwest/endangered/insects/rpbb/factsheetrpbb.html>

If you see a bumble bee that *might be* the Rusty Patched, please take LOTS of pictures, but DO NOT attempt to capture any.

What to Do with Your Photos

- To help coordinate efforts, please track where you search on this quick form: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc4UhIIKwoPz-6ncKBiEjPOdcEb8QMrPOEfYIF29bZ77-zVww/viewform>
- Be prepared to answer the following questions:
 - Where did you search (include GPS coordinates if you have them)?
 - On what type of plants did you see ANY type of bumble bee?
 - Roughly estimate the number of bumble bees (any kind) you saw on the plants
- Contact someone who can help you make a positive ID from the photo:
 - Bees found on National Forest land: Steve Tanguay- stanguay@fs.fed.us
 - Bees found on private land: T'ai Roulston- tai.roulston@virginia.edu

Please contact Misty Boos with any questions: misty@wildvirginia.org, (434) 971-1553
Visit our website for more information: wildvirginia.org