Yellow-faced Bumble Bee

Vosnesensky Bumble Bee | *Bombus vosnesenskii*



A FLOWER VISITOR

Bright yellow *in the meadow*

A yellow face and collar shine against this bee's mostly black body. It visits a variety of flowers and has been recorded in parts of coastal British Columbia, including Garry Oak landscapes.

THROUGH THE SEASONS

Queens establish annual colonies in spring; workers follow as colonies grow, with males appearing later in the season.

WHERE IT OCCURS

Recorded on Vancouver Island and elsewhere in southern BC. It is not restricted to Garry Oak habitats.

A MEADOW CONNECTION

Different native flowers provide food for pollinators. A particular bee-flower partnership should never be assumed without evidence.

FIELD NOTES

RECOGNIZE IT

Look for a yellow face and collar, mostly black body, smoky wings and a yellow band near the rear of the abdomen.

POLLINATOR ROLE

A generalist flower visitor, this bumble bee can contribute to pollination but does not depend on one single flower.

RANGE AND RECORDS

Historical BC records were sparse; more recent observations show a much wider southwestern provincial distribution.

Sources: Fraser et al. (2012); E-Fauna BC; Beckett et al. (2022).