



BUMBLE BEES OF WYOMING

wyomingbiodiversity.org

Adapted from the
“Bumble Bees of the Western United States” by
Jonathan Koch, James Strange, and Paul Williams (2012).

Bumble bees are one of Wyoming’s most important and mild-mannered pollinators. There are more than 20 species in Wyoming, which you can often tell apart by the color patterns on their bodies. This guide shows color patterns for queen bees only, and some species can have multiple queen patterns!

Areas in yellow indicate where each species
is found in Wyoming

How can you tell it's a bumble bee?



Bumble bees are the largest bodied bees in Wyoming. Queens can be up to two inches long, but most queens and workers are somewhat smaller than that. They're very hairy all over their bodies, and carry pollen in “baskets” on their hind legs.

Did you find a bumble bee?

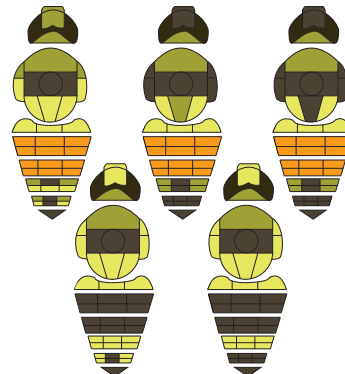
Submit your observation to the Xerces Society of Invertebrate Conservation’s website:

BumbleBeeWatch.org

You can be a member of the citizen science community!

Black Tail Bumble Bee *Bombus melanopygus*

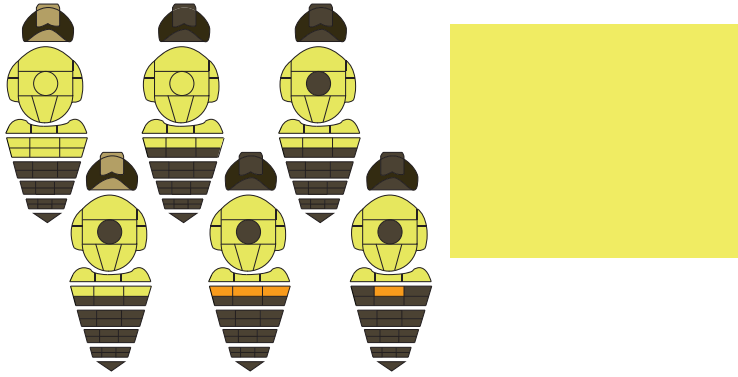
Common



Brown-Belted Bumble Bee

Bombus griseocollis

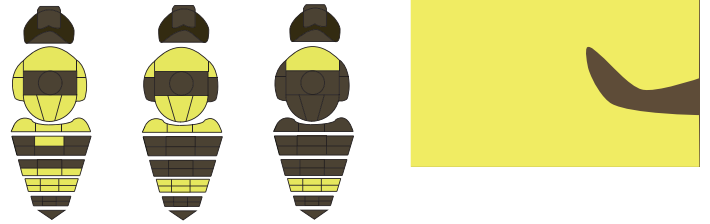
Common



California Bumble Bee

Bombus californicus

Uncommon



Central Bumble Bee

Bombus centralis

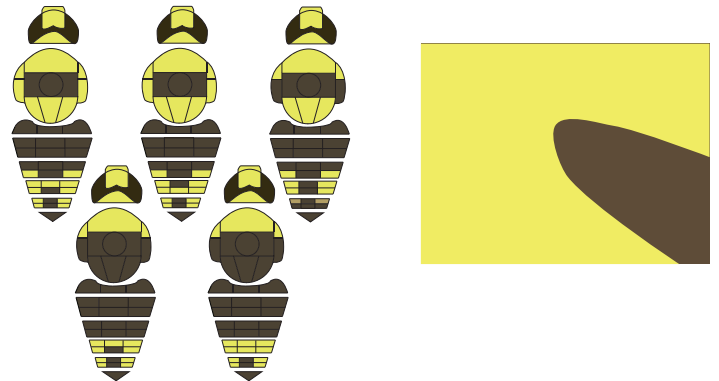
Common



Cuckoo Bumble Bee

Bombus insularis

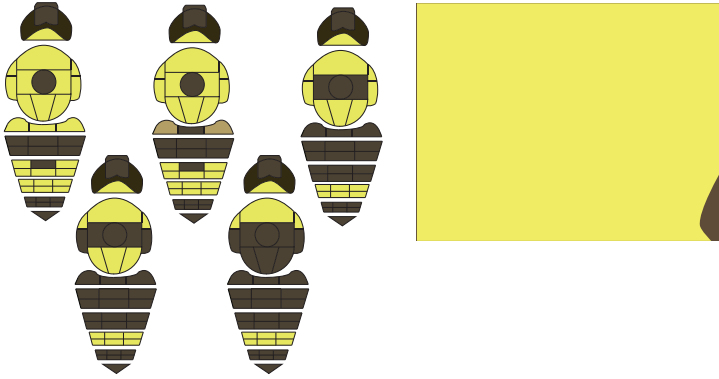
Common



Fernald Cuckoo Bumble Bee

Bombus fernaldae

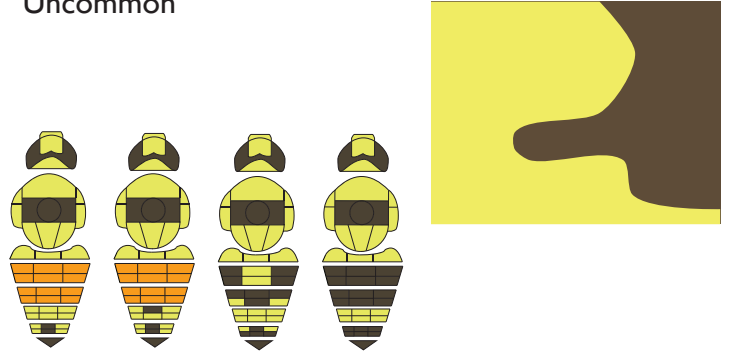
Uncommon



Forest Bumble Bee

Bombus sylvicola

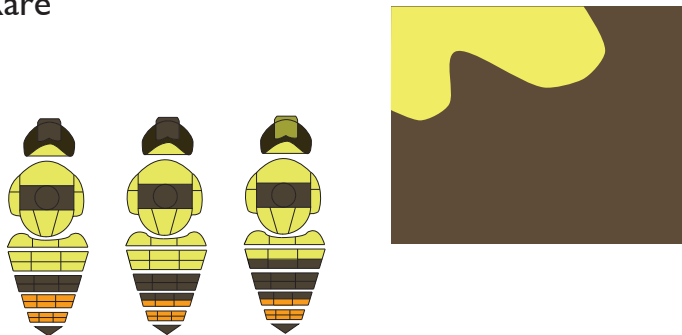
Uncommon



Frigid Bumble Bee

Bombus frigidus

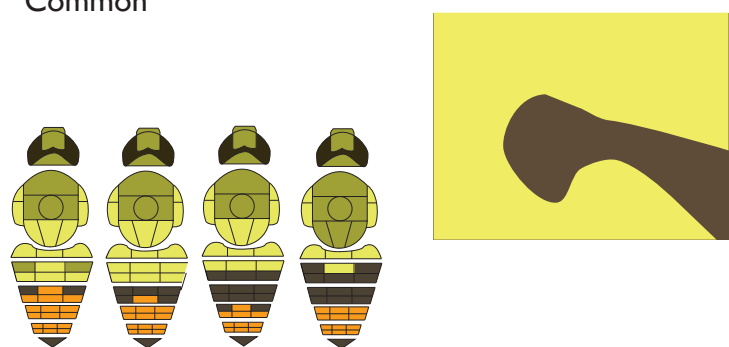
Rare



Fuzzy-Horned Bumble Bee

Bombus mixtus

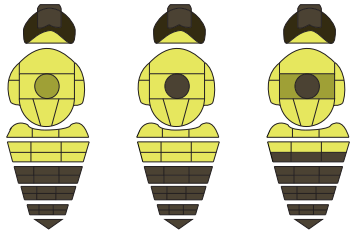
Common



Half-Black Bumble Bee

Bombus vagans

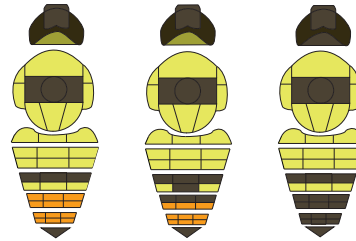
Common



High Country Bumble Bee

Bombus balteatus

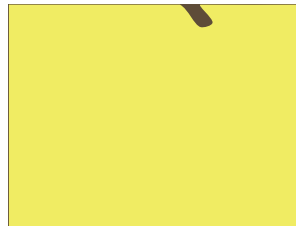
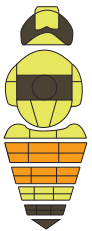
Common



Hunt's Bumble Bee

Bombus huntii

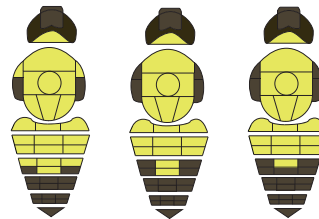
Common



Morrison Bumble Bee

Bombus morrisoni

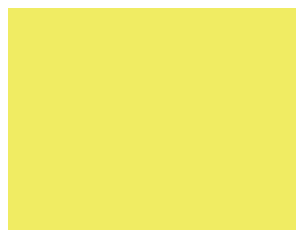
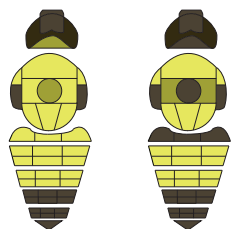
Common



Nevada Bumble Bee

Bombus nevadensis

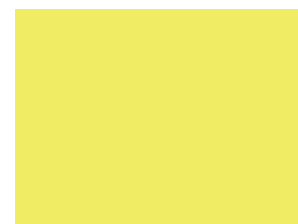
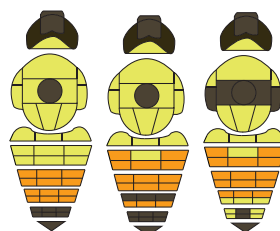
Common



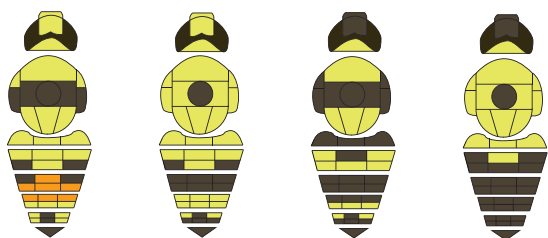
Red-Belted Bumble Bee

Bombus rufocinctus

Common



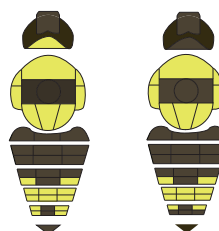
Red-Belted Bumble Bee, continued



Suckley Cuckoo Bumble Bee

Bombus suckleyi

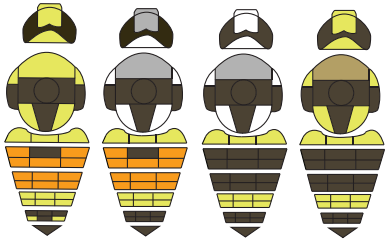
Uncommon



Two-Form Bumble Bee

Bombus bifarius

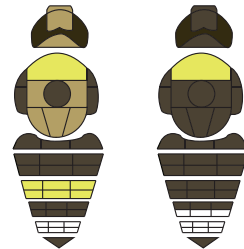
Common



Western Bumble Bee

Bombus occidentalis

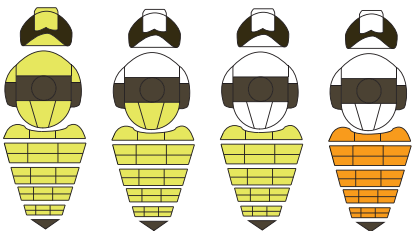
Rare throughout much of its range,
but common in Wyoming.



White-Shouldered Bumble Bee

Bombus appositus

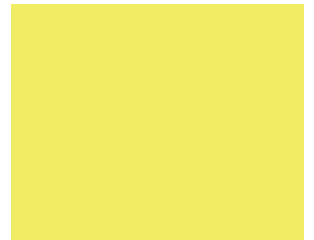
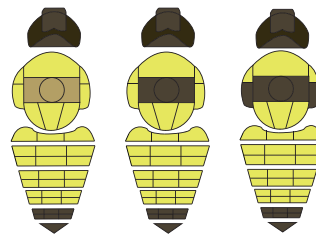
Common



Yellow Bumble Bee

Bombus fervidus

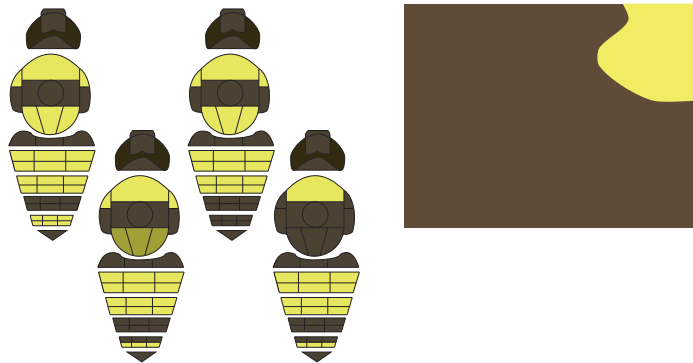
Common in Western U.S.



Yellow-Banded Bumble Bee

Bombus terricola

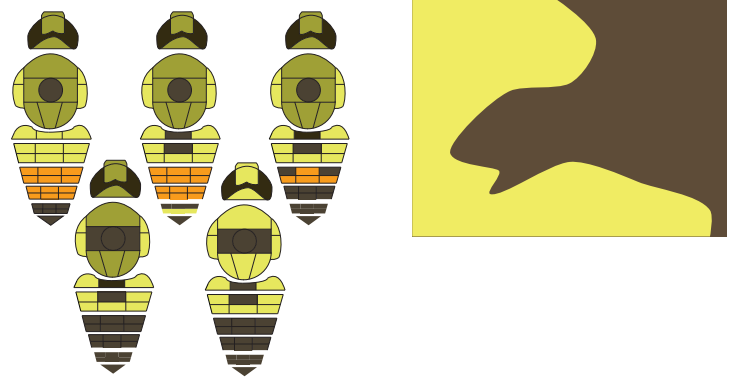
Rare



Yellow Head Bumble Bee

Bombus flavifrons

Common



Wyoming has many species of native bees, butterflies, moths, wasps and flies that are responsible for pollinating services. Learn more about pollinators as well as access other field guides, lesson plans and images of these organisms at:

www.wyomingbiodiversity.org/pollinators



Photo Credit: Dorothy Tuthill

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Designed by Vittrio Capitan and Kristen Nielsen,
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