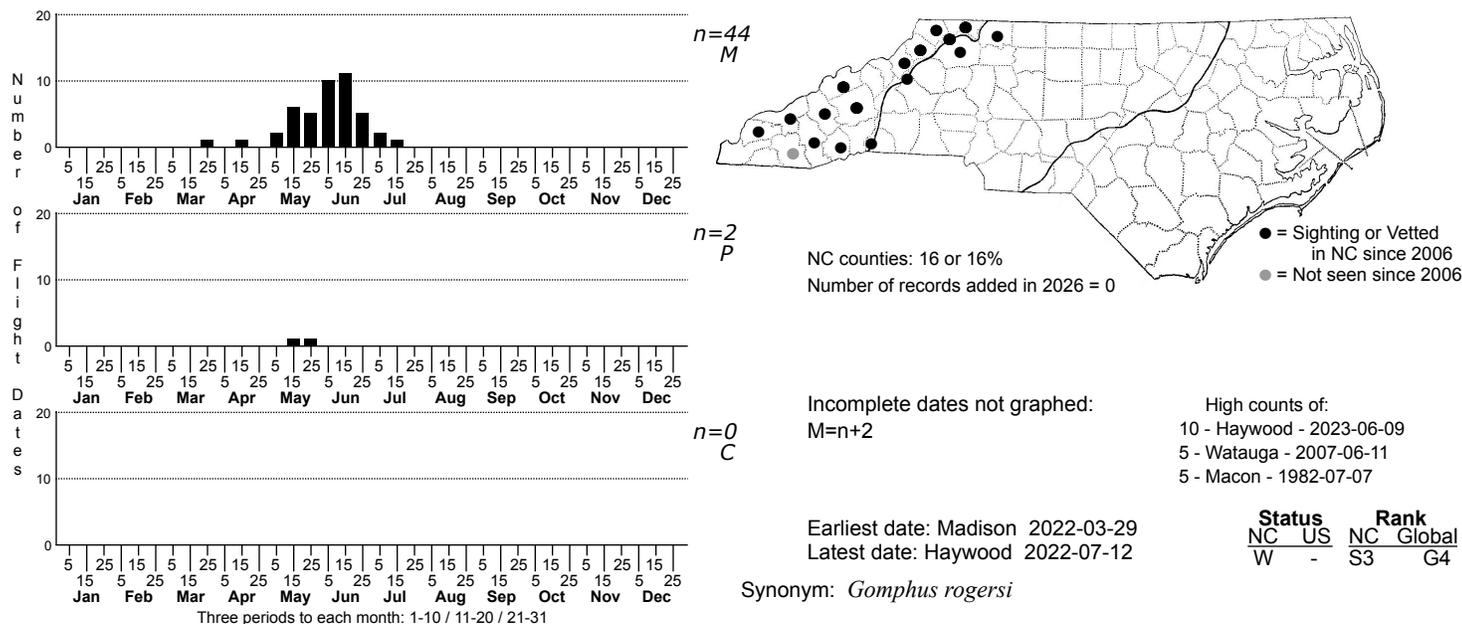


## *Stenogomphurus rogersi* Sable Clubtail



**DISTRIBUTION:** Mountains only (and apparently into the immediate foothills), throughout the province, as it is a Northern species yet does range into northern GA and AL.

**ABUNDANCE:** Uncommon, but somewhat widespread in the mountains, with records for 12 of the 17 counties wholly within the province. Very rare to rare in the Piedmont foothills close to the Blue Ridge Escarpment.

**FLIGHT:** A mid-spring to early summer flier; recent occurrences from 29 March to the end of June, though the flight generally does not begin until early May. Interestingly, older collection dates fall from 17 June to 7 July. Thus, perhaps owing to global warming, the species is flying earlier in recent decades. The overall flight in the state is mid-May to early July.

**HABITAT:** Breeds at small and clear, woodland streams, with sand or gravel bottoms.

**BEHAVIOR:** Males perch on vegetation or rocks, seldom on the ground, near streams. They often perch in shady places and can be hard to see.

**COMMENTS:** This species is called "secretive" by Dunkle (2000). Records for this clubtail have, thankfully, been increasing in the past few years, presumably owing to more thorough coverage by biologists in the state. Several new counties (Surry, Burke, and Jackson) were documented in 2018, each with photographs; and two more (Haywood and Transylvania) were added in 2022. Even so, the N.C. Natural Heritage Program has placed the species on the Watch List, at least until more surveys of montane areas have been done for all odonates.