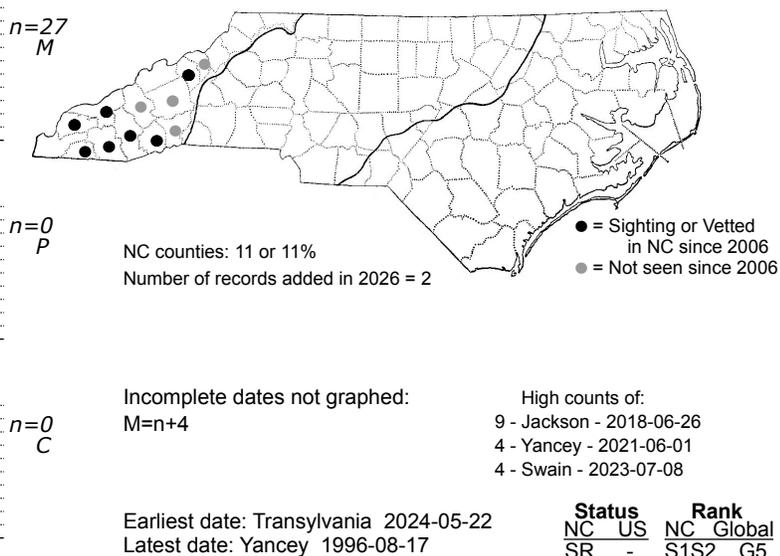
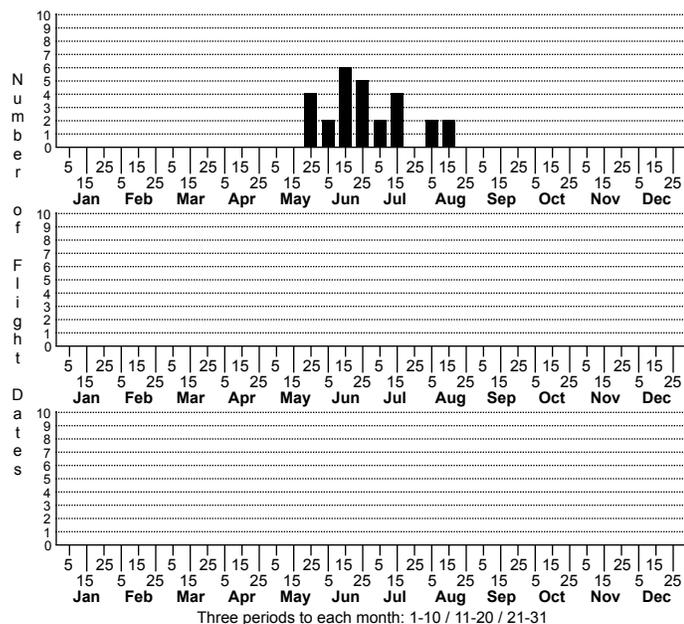


Calopteryx amata Superb Jewelwing



DISTRIBUTION: The southern two-thirds of the mountains, if not the entire mountain region. The range map in Paulson (2011) shows that this region is a southerly disjunct area from central WV, with apparently no records for western VA. Thus, this Northeastern species might truly be missing from the northern counties of the NC mountains.

ABUNDANCE: Rare, to perhaps locally uncommon. Thankfully, there have been a handful of recent records -- five in 2022 alone. Except for a 2018 count of nine individuals, the peak one-day count appears to be only four individuals.

FLIGHT: Flies from late May to mid-August.

HABITAT: Rocky streams or rivers in wooded areas.

BEHAVIOR: Seems to always stay very close to rivers and large streams, often perching on rocks along such waters. Habitat and behavior in NC seem not to be well differentiated from Appalachian Jewelwing, though the Appalachian is much more widespread and also occurs in the warmer upper Piedmont.

COMMENTS: The N.C. Natural Heritage Program considered this as a Watch List species in 2010. However, as there are so few recent data, and relatively few records overall, that Program elevated the species to the Rare List in fall 2012. Thankfully, the website received its first photo record, made by Owen McConnell in 2015 in Graham County, which was a new county record as well. In June 2018, several observers -- Mark Shields, John Petranka, and Sally Gewalt -- counted an excellent nine individuals and obtained photographs to document the record. And, as of 2020, there is now photographic documentation for five counties; perhaps there are now more observers/photographers in recent years, and more visits to the southern mountains (where few odonate enthusiasts live).