



## Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program

[www.mass.gov/nhesp](http://www.mass.gov/nhesp)

Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

## Yellow Bumble Bee *Bombus fervidus*

State Status: **None**  
Federal Status: **None**

**DESCRIPTION:** The Yellow Bumble Bee is a native bumble bee. Its abdomen is mostly covered with yellow hairs, except for the last segments. As for many native bees, consultation of a technical manual is needed for accurate identification. For a complete description of male and female, see:

<http://www.discoverlife.org/mp/20q?search=Bombus+fervidus&flags=subgenus>:

**HABITAT:** This bumble bee is most common in open fields and meadows.

**LIFE HISTORY:** Its flight season is April to October.

**GEOGRAPHIC RANGE:** Formerly, this species was known from the Atlantic to the Pacific oceans. In Massachusetts, it is recorded statewide, but most records are from the western counties.

**STATUS AND THREATS:** This bee has exhibited a precipitous decline rangewide and may be extirpated from Massachusetts. Introduced pathogens are primarily responsible for its current status.

### REFERENCES:

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Photo by John Baker

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- Gillespie, S. 2010. Factors affecting parasite prevalence among wild bumble bees. *Ecol. Entom.* 1-11.
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**A Species of Greatest Conservation Need in the Massachusetts State Wildlife Action Plan**

## Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife

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Please allow the Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program to continue to conserve the biodiversity of Massachusetts with a contribution for 'endangered wildlife conservation' on your state income tax form, as these donations comprise a significant portion of our operating budget.

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