

## Yellow-bellied Sapsucker Breeding Points in North Georgia, July 3, 2003

The Duncan Ridge area including Coosa Bald from GA Hwy 180 west along FDR 39 was sampled for breeding Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers, a distance of approximately 3.90 miles. Elevations ranged from 3500 ft. to 4271 ft. Playback was used every ½ mile. No sapsuckers were located.

Habitat investigated included Yellow birch, chestnut oak, hickory, scarlet oak, and scattered white pine. All locations had basal areas of over 150 with understory up to 3 ft high. Understory included various hardwood tree species plus flame azalea and New York fern. Only one location had an open understory that could favor sapsucker habitat. There were 24 dead standing trees located along the route but none had cavities excavated and no drill sign (sap holes) was noted at all on any tree.

One eastern box turtle was located at this elevation.

The temperature was 65-70 with clear skies and no wind. Jeff McDonald and John Petrick were the investigators with 40 years of bird identification experience.

**Table 1 – Other bird associates heard or seen along the Duncan Ridge Sapsucker Route**

Indigo Bunting	9	INBU	Chattahoochee
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	1	YBCU	Chattahoochee
Eastern Towhee	6	EATO	Chattahoochee
Hooded Warbler	3	HOWA	Chattahoochee
Scarlet Tanager	4	SCTA	Chattahoochee
Blue-headed Vireo	2	BHVI	Chattahoochee
American Crow	3	AMCR	Chattahoochee
Dark-eyed Junco	1	DEJU	Chattahoochee
Red-eyed Vireo	8	REVI	Chattahoochee
Carolina Chickadee	5	CACH	Chattahoochee
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	4	BGGN	Chattahoochee
Chestnut-sided Warbler	3	CSWA	Chattahoochee
Ovenbird	3	OVEN	Chattahoochee
Northern Parula	1	NOPA	Chattahoochee
Pileated Woodpecker	2	PIWO	Chattahoochee
Blue Jay	2	BLJA	Chattahoochee
Broad-winged Hawk	1	BWHA	Chattahoochee
Turkey Vulture	1	TUVU	Chattahoochee
Eastern Tufted Titmouse	1	ETTI	Chattahoochee

