

WESTFALL'S CLUBTAIL

Phanogomphus westfalli



Order: Odonata
Family: Gomphidae
FNAI Ranks: G2/S2
U.S. Status: none
FL Status: none

Description: A small dragonfly (ca 1.6 in. = 40 mm). Eyes are blue-gray and widely separated. Thorax is green with two pairs of black stripes. Abdomen is black with yellow-green lateral and dorsal markings. Face has a dark horizontal stripe. Abdominal segment S9 longer than S8.

Similar Species: Distinguished from *P. hodgesi* by abdominal segment S9 longer than S8 (S8=S9 in *P. hodgesi*), presence of a dark facial stripe, less extensive yellow on the dorsal surface of the abdomen, and male cerci with a different shape.

Habitat: Streamlets, typically less than 1 m wide, and marshes or small lakes fed by seepages with adjacent sandhill habitat. Adults are found in high quality sandhill habitat with low woody vegetation density and low vegetation height.

Seasonal Occurrence: Flight season is March - April.

Florida Distribution: Only known from Santa Rosa County and Okaloosa County.

Range-wide Distribution: Endemic to the Florida panhandle.

Conservation Status: Currently protected in Blackwater River State Forest and Eglin Air Force Base, where there are many seepage areas that could support this rare species.

Protection and Management: Prescribed fires conducted during the growing season are needed in sandhill habitat, particularly on Eglin Air Force Base.

References: Carle and May 1987, Dunkle 2000, Paulson 2011



Copulating pair. Note dark facial stripe. © Robert Gundy



Female. Note abdominal segment S9 is longer than S8. © Robert Gundy