

## **The Post-Clovis Younger Dryas Record of the Eastern Woodlands**

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The Younger Dryas climatic episode (~12,870-11,600 cal yr BP) was associated with a reversal to cooler temperatures on a global scale, and in Eastern North America, this event led to significant sub-regional variation. Some areas experienced decreased precipitation, increased aridity, the loss and degradation of coastal habitats, and substantial shifts in vegetation often expressed by the rebounding of cold-adapted flora, while in other subregions the effects were less pronounced and/or more gradual. Following Clovis we see the emergence of technologically-distinct point forms marking the spread and fragmentation of populations locally adapting to varied YD landscapes. Redstone/Cumberland/Barnes developed in the Southeast and Midcontinent, Suwanee/Simpson emerge in Florida, and other fluted forms, like Crowfield and Michaud–Neponset points, reflect the later pulse of hunter-gatherer populations moving into the Northeast. By the end of the Younger Dryas, Plains-related populations associated with Agate Basin, Hell Gap, and Eden points move into the Great Lakes and Northeast. Further south, the origins of the Dalton Horizon, including Dalton, San Patrice, Hardaway, and Hi-Lo, recognized by technological innovations including point beveling and serrating, marks a significant transition in lifeways and a population reexpansion throughout the region. In this paper, we review the climatic and environmental shifts associated with the YD, and we describe how humans adapted to these changes across the Eastern Woodlands.