

*The Blackburnian Warbler is a common and increasing breeder in coniferous forests in the Hudson River Valley.*

### **Conservation Status**

Partners in Flight list this species as a Species of Regional Concern in Bird Conservation Regions (BCR) 14 and 28, and of Continental Stewardship and Regional Stewardship in BCR 14. Breeding Bird Survey data indicate stable or increasing populations statewide in the past four decades. NYS Breeding Bird Atlas data show a relative consistent distribution in the Hudson River Valley during the past two decades.



### **Identification**

This bird is about the size of a chickadee. The adult male has an intensely reddish-orange throat and upper breast, a yellow-orange head with a black mask and 2 black crown stripes, black upperparts with a white wing patch, whitish underparts, and dark streaking on the sides. The female is similar to the male, but has an overall brownish appearance with a yellow-orange upper breast and throat.

### **Habitat**

This bird is found in mature coniferous forests of hemlock, pines, fir, and spruce with a nearly-closed canopy cover, as well as mixed woodlands and moist forests where spruces are thickly draped with Usnea lichen. Kendeigh 1945 found that the average territory was 1.3 acres per pair.

### **Food**

This species feeds almost exclusively on insects such as beetles, caterpillars, ants, and crane-flies. It forages high in the upper branches of conifers by gleaning on small branches.

### **Nesting**

The nest is located high in a conifer out near the end of a limb away from the trunk. It is built by the female and is a cup built of bark, twigs, lichens, and plant fibers concealed in dense vegetation.

### **Threats**

- Destruction and fragmentation of mature coniferous forests due to suburban and commercial development.
- Decline of coniferous forests due to hemlock wooly adelgid infestations.
- Predation of young birds by red squirrels and Blue Jays and of adults by Sharp-shinned and Cooper's hawks.

### **Management Recommendations**

- Maintain a closed canopy and mature stands coniferous forests.

**For additional information, use the following references:**

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[http://www.fws.gov/r5gomp/gom/habitatstudy/metadata2/blackburnian\\_warbler\\_model.htm](http://www.fws.gov/r5gomp/gom/habitatstudy/metadata2/blackburnian_warbler_model.htm).

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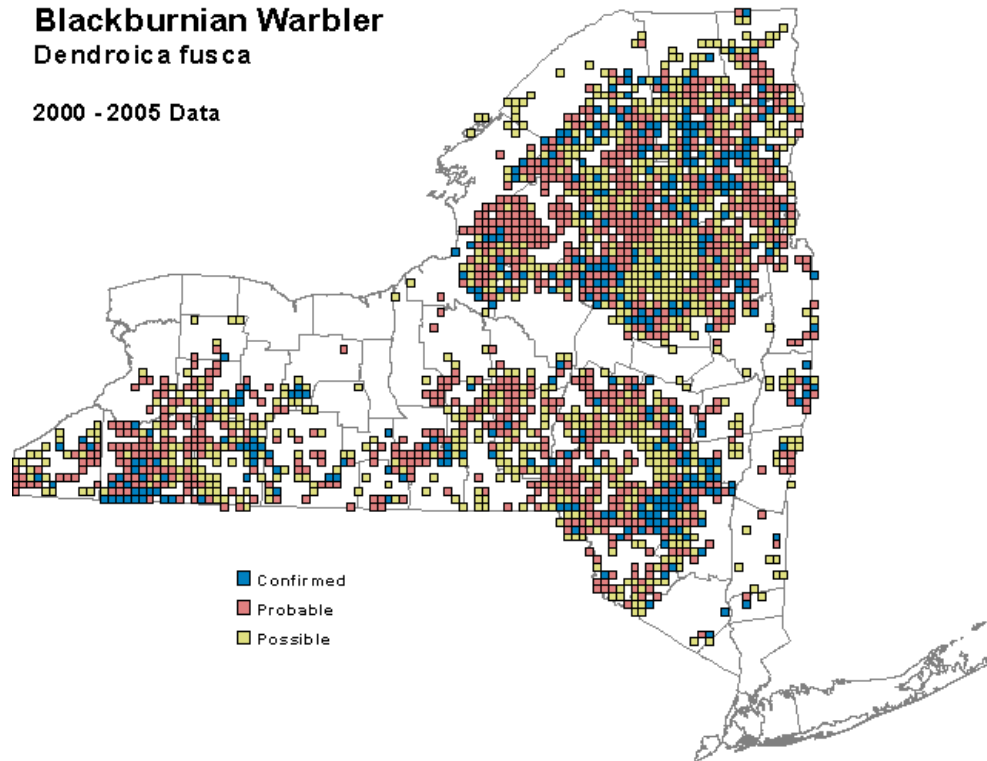
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## NYS BREEDING BIRD ATLAS COMPARATIVE DATA

### Blackburnian Warbler *Dendroica fusca*

2000 - 2005 Data



### Blackburnian Warbler *Dendroica fusca*

1980 - 1985 Data

