

BLACKPOLL WARBLER

(*Dendroica striata*)

GUIDANCE FOR CONSERVATION

The Blackpoll Warbler is a fairly common breeder in the Catskill High Peaks and can be seen widely in spring and fall migration in the Hudson River Valley.

Conservation Status

Partners in Flight list this species as a Species of Regional Concern in Bird Conservation Region 14. This species cannot be surveyed using Breeding Bird Survey protocols, but NY Breeding Bird Atlas data indicate a growing population of these birds in appropriate habitats in the Hudson River Valley during the past two decades.

Identification

This wood-warbler is the size of a chickadee. The adult male has gray upperparts streaked with black, 2 white wing bars, a white face, black cap and chin stripe, white underparts streaked with black, and orange legs. The female has overall olive upperparts with dark streaks, white wing bars, and whitish underparts. The song is a uniform high-pitched trill.



Blackpoll Warblers are found in high elevation forests.

Click on the sound icon to hear this species



Habitat

This bird is found in the Catskills Mountains at elevations above 2,600 ft. in red spruce and balsam-fir forests. At higher elevations it occupies black spruce.

Nesting

The well-hidden cupped shape nest is placed against the trunk of a small conifer, usually spruce, about 1-10 ft. above the ground. It is built by the female and made of twigs, bark, and other plant materials.

Food

This bird forages mainly in conifers by gleaning foliage or branches for a variety of insects, including aphids, mosquitoes, beetles, spiders, wasps, and caterpillars. During fall migration it will also eat fruit and seeds.

Threats

- Decline of high-elevation forests, especially red spruce and balsam fir, due to acid rain.
- Decline of balsam-fir forests due to climate change.

Management Recommendations

No known specific management recommendations for this species.



This species summary is adapted from Hunt and Eliason 1999 and Peterson 1988.

For more information, see the following references:

Hunt, P. D. and B. C. Eliason. 1999. Blackpoll Warbler (*Dendroica striata*). The Birds of North America Online (A. Poole, ed.). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Retrieved from the Birds of North America Online: <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu.bnaproxy.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/431>.

Morse, D. H. 1979. Habitat use by the Blackpoll Warbler. *Wilson Bulletin* 91:234–243.
<http://elibrary.unm.edu/sora/Wilson/v091n02/p0234-p0243.pdf>

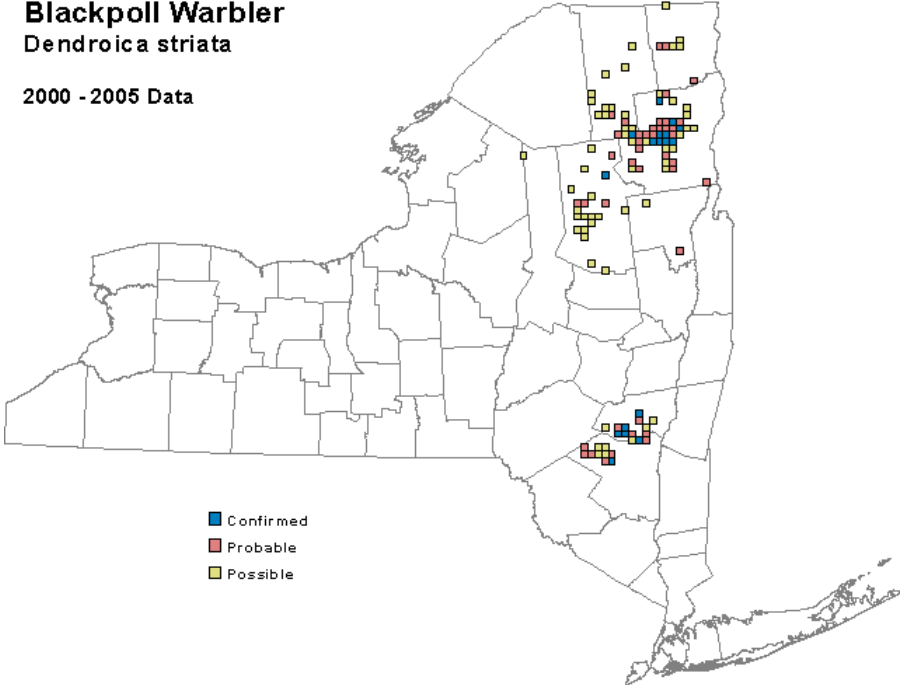
NatureServe. 2008. NatureServe Explorer: an Online Encyclopedia of Life [web application]. Version 7.0. NatureServe, Arlington, VA. <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>.

Peterson, J. M. C. 1988. Blackpoll Warbler (*Dendroica striata*). Pages 394-395 in *The Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York State* (R. Andrie and J. R. Carroll, eds.). Cornell Univ. Press, Ithaca, NY

NYS BREEDING BIRD ATLAS COMPARATIVE DATA

Blackpoll Warbler
Dendroica striata

2000 - 2005 Data



Blackpoll Warbler
Dendroica striata

1980 - 1985 Data

