

Black-throated Blue Warbler



Photo: Richard Fournier

IDENTIFICATION AND SONG Deep blue on top with black mask and throat and white wing-patch. Song is a thick and buzzy *I'm-so-la-zeee* (or *beer-beer-beer-beeee*) with endnote rising up to the “blue” sky. Found statewide.

NEST Open cup of bark strips and vegetation, often bound together with spider web and placed in the fork of a sapling or shrub within a dense shrub understory (0–6’).

FOOD Insectivorous, feeding largely on moth and butterfly larvae and adults.

TERRITORY SIZE From 2.5–10 acres, smaller where there is dense/diverse understory.

FOREST CONDITION Prefers larger contiguous tracts (>250 acres) with 50–80% canopy cover, trees >40’ tall, and a variety of tree sizes and ages. Prefers dense understory of hobblebush and/or small saplings of sugar maple, striped maple, beech, or softwoods.

FOREST HABITAT ASSOCIATION Prefers *Northern Hardwood* and *Northern Mixedwood*, but will use Oak Pine forest.

HABITAT AGE CLASS Prefers *older* forest (dominant trees 70-100 years old and 10-16” diameter), but will use *intermediate* forest (dominant trees 20-70 years old and 5-10” diameter).

HABITAT FEATURES



LAYERS Light gray lines divide overstory (>30’), midstory (6–30’), and understory (<6’), and are not to scale

← **BIRD** Layer where bird typically seen and/or where male typically sings

← **NEST** Typical nest type and height

Generalized graphic depicting forest type, age, layer, and any special features where the bird and nest are typically found.

MANAGEMENT NOTES Maintain or create NH or NM stands with 50-80% canopy cover and dense understory. Responds well to low-intensity cutting where canopy is closed and openings allow for patches of regeneration. Prefers larger forest blocks (>250 acres).