

Common Name:	American golden-plover	<i>SPCN</i>
Scientific Name:	<i>Pluvialis dominica</i>	
Taxon:	Birds	

Federal Status:	Not Listed	Natural Heritage Program Rank:
New York Status:	Not Listed	Global: G5
		New York: SNRN
		Tracked: No

Synopsis:

The American golden-plover was formerly classified as a subspecies of the lesser golden-plover (*Pluvialis dominica*), which included two forms: American golden-plover (*P. d. dominica*) and Pacific golden-plover (*P. d. fulva*). These are now regarded as separate species. While American golden-plovers breed in the northernmost areas of the continent, fall migrants fly offshore of the east coast and individuals can be found annually in New York. During migration, golden-plovers feed in short-grass prairies, pastures, tilled farmland, golf courses, airports, mudflats, shorelines, estuaries, and beaches.

Population status and conservation needs of transient shorebirds are poorly known. Over-hunting decimated North American populations in the late 1800s and though regulations allowed populations to rebound, numbers have not returned to historic levels. Gunners were known to take thousands from New York's coastal meadows and fields in the 1800s. Today, migrants sometimes number in the hundreds in New York.

Distribution (% of NY where species occurs)		Abundance (within NY distribution)		NY Distribution Trend	NY Abundance Trend
0% to 5%	X	Abundant	X	Unknown	Unknown
6% to 10%		Common			
11% to 25%		Fairly common			
26% to 50%		Uncommon			
> 50%		Rare			

Habitat Discussion:

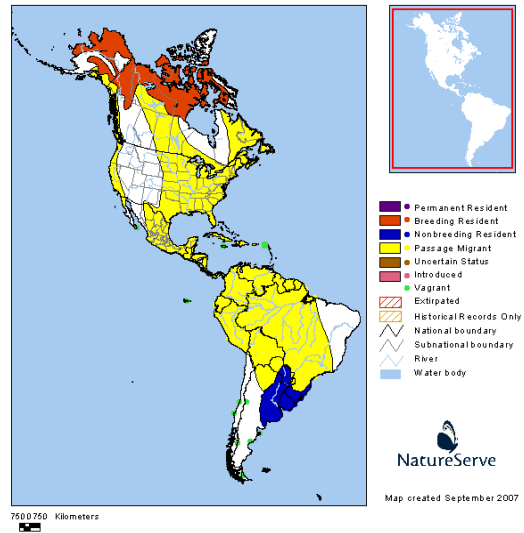
In migration, American golden-plovers use variety of inland and coastal habitats, both natural and human-made: native prairie, pastures, tilled farmland, untilled harvested fields, rice fields, burned fields, golf courses, airports, mudflats, shorelines, estuaries, and beaches. Ridges and hillsides blown free of snow are particularly important in early spring.

There is a clear preference for soybean stubble by American golden-plover in western Indiana, possibly because less insecticide is used on this crop, resulting in greater abundance of soil insects (Erickson 1992). Also, soybean fields are less tilled than other crops and this may favor larger populations of earthworms (Braile 1999).

Primary Habitat Type
Cultivated Crops
Marine Intertidal Gravel/Sand Beach
Tidal Flat
Urban and Recreational Grasses

Distribution:

The American golden-plover is an uncommon to fairly common fall migrant in New York, occurring throughout the state. Typical stopover locations include the east end of Long Island and the Great Lakes Plain.



Ridgely et al. (2003). Data provided by NatureServe in collaboration with Robert Ridgely, James Zook, The Nature Conservancy - Migratory Bird Program, Conservation International - CABS, World Wildlife Fund - US, and Environment Canada - WILDSPACE.

Threats to NY Populations				
Threat Category	Threat	Scope	Severity	Irreversibility
1. Residential & Commercial Development	Housing & Urban Areas (loss of habitat to housing)	N	L	H
2. Residential & Commercial Development	Tourism & Recreation Areas (shoreline development)	N	L	H
3. Agriculture & Aquaculture	Annual & Perennial Non-Timber Crops (agriculture intensification)	N	L	H
4. Pollution	Agricultural & Forestry Effluents	N	L	M
5. Energy Production & Mining	Renewable Energy (wind)	R	L	M
6. Transportation & Service Corridors	Flight Paths	N	L	H
7. Energy Production & Mining	Mining & Quarrying (sand mining, dredging)	R	L	M

References Cited:

Braile, T. M. 1999. Migration studies of shorebirds in west-central Indiana. M.S. thesis. Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana.

Erickson, H. T. 1992. Spring migration of Lesser Golden-Plovers in Benton County, Indiana. Indiana Audubon Quart. 70:87-92.

Ridgely, R.S., T.F. Allnutt, T. Brooks, D.K. McNicol, D.W. Mehlman, B.E. Young, and J.R. Zook. 2003. Digital Distribution Maps of the Birds of the Western Hemisphere, version 1.0. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia, USA.

Common Name: Great shearwater *SPCN*
Scientific Name: *Puffinus gravis*
Taxon: Birds

Federal Status: Not Listed **Natural Heritage Program Rank:**
New York Status: Not Listed Global: G5
New York: SNRN
Tracked: No

Synopsis:

Formerly known as the greater shearwater (AOU 2010), the great shearwater is a wintering waterbird in New York that is rarely seen from land. It is pelagic during the nonbreeding season, migrating and wintering along the entire east coast of the United States. It breeds only on four islands in the south Atlantic Ocean. The American Bird Conservancy Green List and the North American Waterbird Conservation Plan (2002) consider the great shearwater a Species of High Concern due to apparent population declines in North American waters. New York and New Jersey also share this listing. The causes for these declines are not clear.

The abundance of shearwaters is difficult to estimate, because breeders approach burrows at night and non-breeders may wander the entire Atlantic Ocean. Population trends have not been calculated, but it is considered vulnerable because of its restricted breeding distribution at just four locations (NatureServe 2013).

Distribution (% of NY where species occurs)		Abundance (within NY distribution)		NY Distribution Trend	NY Abundance Trend
0% to 5%	X	Abundant		Unknown	Unknown
6% to 10%		Common			
11% to 25%		Fairly common			
26% to 50%		Uncommon			
> 50%		Rare	X		

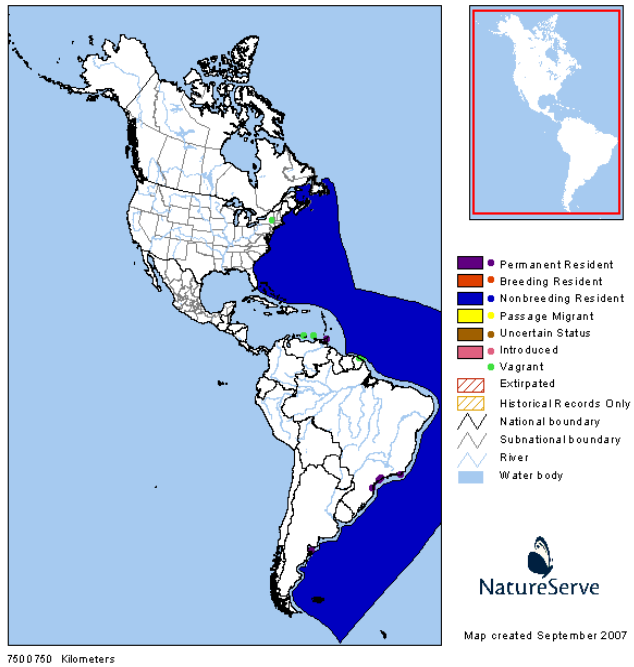
Habitat Discussion:

Great shearwater is pelagic during the nonbreeding season when it occurs in New York waters. Breeding occurs on rocky islands in the south Atlantic Ocean where birds nest in burrows on loose, rocky soils.

Primary Habitat Type
Marine; Deep Sub-tidal

Distribution:

Great shearwater occurs off the coastal regions of New York.



Ridgely et al. (2003). Data provided by NatureServe in collaboration with Robert Ridgely, James Zook, The Nature Conservancy - Migratory Bird Program, Conservation International - CABS, World Wildlife Fund - US, and Environment Canada - WILDSpace

Threats to NY Populations				
Threat Category	Threat	Scope	Severity	Irreversibility
1. Energy Production & Mining	Renewable Energy (offshore wind tower collisions)	W	M	V
2. Pollution	Industrial & Military Effluents (oil spills, heavy metals)	R	M	M
3. Pollution	Garbage & Solid Waste (entanglement, ingestion of plastic)	N	L	V
4. Invasive & Other Problematic Species & Genes	Problematic Native Species (botulism)	N	L	V
5. Climate Change & Severe Weather	Storms & Flooding	W	L	M
6. Climate Change & Severe Weather	Habitat Shifting & Alteration (food supply)	N	L	M
7. Energy Production & Mining	Mining & Quarrying (sand mining, dredging)	N	L	L

References Cited:

American Ornithologists' Union (AOU). 1983. Check-list of North American Birds, 6th edition. Allen Press, Inc., Lawrence, Kansas. 877 pp.

NatureServe. 2013. NatureServe Explorer: An online encyclopedia of life [web application]. Version 7.1. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia. Available <http://www.natureserve.org/explorer>. (Accessed: February 13, 2013).

Ridgely, R.S., T.F. Allnutt, T. Brooks, D.K. McNicol, D.W. Mehlman, B.E. Young, and J.R. Zook. 2003. Digital Distribution Maps of the Birds of the Western Hemisphere, version 1.0. NatureServe, Arlington, Virginia, USA.

Common Name: Hudsonian godwit *SPCN*
Scientific Name: *Limosa haemastica*
Taxon: Birds

Federal Status: Not Listed **Natural Heritage Program Rank:**
New York Status: Not Listed Global: G4
New York: SNRN
Tracked: No

Synopsis:

Hudsonian godwit completes a nearly non-stop 2,800-mile migration between its breeding grounds in northern Canada and Alaska, and its wintering areas in extreme southern South America. It appears during the fall on coastal areas of New York in “double-digit numbers” and “occasionally upstate” (Brinkley 1998). Few data exist on population trends of Hudsonian godwit, and there is no current monitoring program that is adequate to document population-wide changes. Hudsonian godwit spend little time in New York, though they appear to be declining based on seasonal reports in Kingbird, the publication of the NYS Ornithological Association.

Distribution (% of NY where species occurs)		Abundance (within NY distribution)		NY Distribution Trend	NY Abundance Trend
0% to 5%	X	Abundant		Unknown	Unknown
6% to 10%		Common			
11% to 25%		Fairly common			
26% to 50%		Uncommon	X		
> 50%		Rare			

Habitat Discussion:

During migration, Hudsonian godwit use a variety of inland and coastal wetland habitats: estuaries, mudflats, salt marsh, sandy shores, shell banks, lakes, fresh-water marshes, brackish swamps, flooded rice fields, sewage lagoons, salt ponds, and occasionally uplands. Roost sites include salt marsh, sand spits, small islands, tidal pools behind mangrove, floating vegetation, and grassy fields (Higgins and Davies 1996).

Primary Habitat Type
Coastal Plain Pond
Estuarine; Brackish Intertidal; Tidal Wetland
Freshwater Marsh
Marine Intertidal Gravel/Sand Beach
Tidal Flat
Wet Meadow/Shrub Marsh

Distribution:

In New York, Hudsonian godwit is a rare to uncommon but regular fall migrant both on the coast and inland; it is sometimes more numerous (Bull 1998).



National Audubon Society,
<http://birds.audubon.org/species/hudgod>,
 Kenn Kaufman

Threats to NY Populations				
Threat Category	Threat	Scope	Severity	Irreversibility
1. Pollution	Industrial & Military Effluents (oil spills)	N	L	M
2. Pollution	Household Sewage & Urban Waste Water (runoff)	N	L	M
3. Invasive & Other Problematic Species & Genes	Problematic Native Species (overgrazing by Canadian & snow geese)	R	M	H
4. Climate Change & Severe Weather	Storms & Flooding	R	L	M
5. Climate Change & Severe Weather	Habitat Shifting & Alteration	R	L	M
6. Natural System Modifications	Other Ecosystem Modifications (bulkheads, beach nourishment, dredging)	R	L	M

References Cited:

Brinkley, E. S. 1998. Hudsonian godwit, *Limosa haemastica*. Pages 246-47 in Bull's Birds of New York State (E. L. Levine, editor). Comstock Publishing Associates, Ithaca, NY.

Bull, E. L. 1998. Bull's Birds of New York State. Comstock Publishing Associates, Ithaca, NY. 622 pp.

Higgins, P. J. and S. J. J. F. Davies. 1996. Handbook of Australian, New Zealand and Antarctic birds. Snipe to pigeons. Vol. 3. Oxford Univ. Press, Melbourne, Australia.

Common Name: Marbled godwit *SPCN*
Scientific Name: *Limosa fedoa*
Taxon: Birds

Federal Status: Not Listed **Natural Heritage Program Rank:**
New York Status: Not Listed Global: G5
New York: SNRN
Tracked: No

Synopsis:

Marbled godwit breeds in the grasslands of the northern United States and southern Canada. Wintering occurs on the coastlines of the southern United States, Mexico, and Central America. In New York, marbled godwit occurs as a rare fall migrant along the coast.

Trends are difficult to detect in the Northeast because abundance is so low. In New York, fewer than a dozen birds are reported statewide each year, as has been the case for the past 20 years. Breeding Bird Survey data for 2000–2010 suggest a significant increasing trend of 2.6% per year in the United States (Sauer et al. 2011).

Distribution (% of NY where species occurs)		Abundance (within NY distribution)		NY Distribution Trend	NY Abundance Trend
0% to 5%	X	Abundant		Unknown	Unknown
6% to 10%		Common			
11% to 25%		Fairly common			
26% to 50%		Uncommon			
> 50%		Rare	X		

Habitat Discussion:

Marbled godwit uses broad coastal mudflats and muddy shorelines in interior areas for breeding. Away from breeding areas, most migrants are found in flocks at coastal estuaries, mudflats, salt marshes, lagoons, and sandy beaches (Paulson 1993, Stevenson and Anderson 1994, Howell and Webb 1995).

Primary Habitat Type
Estuarine; Brackish Intertidal; Tidal Wetland
Marine; Intertidal
Tidal Flat

Distribution:

Maximum numbers of marbled godwit provided in Bull (1974) are ten in September 1944 (Moriches Inlet, Suffolk County) and eight in August 1951 (Idlewild, Queens County), indicating the rarity of this species in New York. Sherony (1998) lists the same maximum numbers for marbled godwit as stated in Bull (1974), and states that 80% of the records during the preceding 20 years are single birds. In 2008, 9 marbled godwit were reported at Moriches Inlet (Suffolk County).

Threats to NY Populations				
Threat Category	Threat	Scope	Severity	Irreversibility
1. Pollution	Industrial & Military Effluents (oil spills)	N	L	M
2. Pollution	Household Sewage & Urban Waste Water (runoff)	N	L	M
3. Invasive & Other Problematic Species & Genes	Problematic Native Species (overgrazing by Canadian & snow geese)	R	M	H
4. Climate Change & Severe Weather	Storms & Flooding	R	L	M
5. Climate Change & Severe Weather	Habitat Shifting & Alteration	R	L	M
6. Natural System Modifications	Other Ecosystem Modifications (bulkheads, beach nourishment, dredging)	R	L	M

References Cited:

Bull, J. 1974. Birds of New York State. Comstock Publishing Associates, Ithaca, NY.

Howell, S. N. G. and S. Webb. 1995. A guide to the birds of Mexico and northern Central America. Oxford Univ. Press, New York.

Paulson, D. 1993. Shorebirds of the Pacific Northwest. Univ. of Washington Press, Seattle.

Sauer, J. R., J. E. Hines, J. E. Fallon, K. L. Pardieck, D. J. Ziolkowski, Jr., and W. A. Link. 2011. The North American Breeding Bird Survey, Results and Analysis 1966 - 2010. Version 12.07.2011 USGS Patuxent Wildlife Research Center, Laurel, MD.

Sherony, D.F. 1998. Marbled godwit, *Limosa fedoa*. Pages 248-49 in Bull's Birds of New York State (E. Levine, ed.). Cornell University Press, Ithaca, NY.

Stevenson, H. M. and B. H. Anderson. 1994. The birdlife of Florida. Univ. Presses of Florida, Gainesville.

Common Name: Red-necked phalarope *SPCN*
Scientific Name: *Phalaropus lobatus*
Taxon: Birds

Federal Status: Not Listed **Natural Heritage Program Rank:**
New York Status: Not Listed Global: G4G5
New York: SNRN
Tracked: No

Synopsis:

Previously known as the northern phalarope, the red-necked phalarope is the smallest of only three species of phalaropes worldwide. It breeds across the Holarctic and spends the remaining nine months of the year at sea. Wintering occurs in tropical waters off the Pacific Coast of South America, especially Peru (Murphy 1936).

During migration, this shorebird occurs along the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. As recently as the early 1980s, up to two million migrating birds staged annually in the western part of the Bay of Fundy near the Gulf of Maine during the fall migration. By the early 1990s, these large congregations disappeared and alternate staging areas have not been found (Brown et al. 2010). Despite these apparent losses, the status of the North American population is unknown due to the difficulty of surveying this pelagic species. Concern has been expressed about a documented decline in the red-necked phalarope’s primary food source during migration, the zooplankton *Calanus finmarchicus*, a cool-water species that may have been negatively affected by warmer water temperatures (Morrison et al. 1994, Brown et al. 2010).

Distribution (% of NY where species occurs)		Abundance (within NY distribution)		NY Distribution Trend	NY Abundance Trend
0% to 5%	X	Abundant		Unknown	Unknown
6% to 10%		Common	X		
11% to 25%		Fairly common			
26% to 50%		Uncommon			
> 50%		Rare			

Habitat Discussion:

Red-necked phalaropes are unusual among shorebirds because they use both terrestrial and pelagic habitats. Nesting occurs in arctic regions, usually near lakes, marshes, and small tundra pools (Rubega et al. 2000). Wintering occurs at sea. Migration stopover sites include inland freshwater habitats as well as marine and coastal areas (Brown et al. 2010).

Primary Habitat Type
Marine; Deep Sub-tidal

Distribution:

In New York, red-necked phalaropes are observed annually during migration—especially in the spring—in small numbers on the coast of Long Island as well as on inland lakes. These observations are reported by dedicated birders regularly but not systematically in *The Kingbird*, the state’s ornithological journal.

Large flocks of up to 900 birds were observed in New York as late as 1958; the high count from 2000 to 2009 was 27 birds (Able 1998).

Threats to NY Populations				
Threat Category	Threat	Scope	Severity	Irreversibility
1. Energy Production & Mining	Renewable Energy (offshore wind towers)	W	M	M
2. Biological Resource Use	Fishing & Harvesting Aquatic Resources (entanglement in fishing lines)	N	L	L
3. Climate Change & Severe Weather	Temperature Extremes (ocean temperatures)	P	H	V
4. Transportation & Service Corridors	Utility & Service Lines (collisions)	W	M	M
5. Pollution	Industrial & Military Effluents (oil spills, contaminants)	W	M	M

References Cited:

Able, K.P. 1998. Red-necked Phalarope, *Phalaropus lobatus*. Page 270 in Bull's Birds of New York (E. Levine, ed.). Cornell University Press, Ithaca, NY.

Brown, S., C. Duncan, J. Chardine, and M. Howe. 2010. Version 1.1. Red-necked Phalarope Research, Monitoring, and Conservation Plan for the Northeastern U.S. and Maritimes Canada. Manomet Center for Conservation Sciences, Manomet, Massachusetts USA.

Morrison, R. I. G., R. E. Gill, Jr., B. A. Harrington, S. Skagen, G. W. Page, C. L. Gratto-Trevor, and S. M. Haig. 2001. Estimates of shorebird populations in North America. Occasional Paper Number 104, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada, Ottawa, ON. 64 pages.

Murphy, R.C. 1936. Oceanic Birds of South America. Vol 2. American Museum of Natural History, New York.

Rubega, M. A., D. Schamel and D.M. Tracy. 2000. Red-necked Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*), 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/bna/species/538> doi:10.2173/bna.538

Common Name: Sanderling *SPCN*
Scientific Name: *Calidris alba*
Taxon: Birds

Federal Status: Not Listed **Natural Heritage Program Rank:**
New York Status: Not Listed Global: G5
New York: SNRN
Tracked: No

Synopsis:

Sanderlings breed in the Canadian arctic. Wintering occurs along both coastlines of the United States. In New York, sanderlings occur on the sandy beaches of Long Island during the winter months; numbers increase when migrants that spend the winter farther south pass through. Sanderling was formerly placed in the genus *Crocethia*. There are no subspecies recognized.

Numbers of sanderlings at the Delaware Bay, which serves as a vital migration stopover, dropped from 425,000 in 1986 to 115,000 in 2008. Breeding Bird Survey data and Christmas Bird Count data also show declines in populations along the Atlantic Coast. Sanderling is considered to be “significantly declining” in the U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan.

Distribution (% of NY where species occurs)		Abundance (within NY distribution)		NY Distribution Trend	NY Abundance Trend
0% to 5%	X	Abundant	X	Unknown	Unknown
6% to 10%		Common			
11% to 25%		Fairly common			
26% to 50%		Uncommon			
> 50%		Rare			

Habitat Discussion:

During winter, sanderlings occur primarily on sandy beaches and less frequently on mudflats and shores of lakes and rivers. Roosting takes place higher on the beach.

Primary Habitat Type
Marine Intertidal Gravel/Sand Beach
Tidal Flat

Distribution:

Sanderling are found in coastal areas of New York. From Morris (1989) in description of the 1988 fall shorebird season at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge: “Except for a fair showing, including a flock of 112, at the end of August, few sanderling visited the refuge this season. The virtual disappearance of this species from the East Pond is an indication of its precipitous decline in the Americas over the past 15 years.” In 2009 a total of 2,300 sanderlings were counted at Plum Beach and a maximum of 2,700 were counted at Pike’s Beach, both in Suffolk County (Lindsay and Mitra 2009).

Threats to NY Populations				
Threat Category	Threat	Scope	Severity	Irreversibility
1. Human Intrusions & Disturbance	Recreational Activities	W	M	H
2. Residential & Commercial Development	Housing & Urban Areas	N	L	L
3. Residential & Commercial Development	Tourism & Recreation Areas (shoreline development)	R	L	H
4. Pollution	Industrial & Military Effluents (oil spills, contaminants)	N	M	M
5. Pollution	Household Sewage & Urban Waste Water (runoff)	W	L	L
6. Climate Change & Severe Weather	Habitat Shifting & Alteration	W	L	H
7. Climate Change & Severe Weather	Storms & Flooding	W	L	H
8. Natural System Modifications	Other Ecosystem Modifications (beach nourishment, bulkheads)	R	L	H
9. Energy Production & Mining	Mining & Quarrying (sand mining)	R	L	H

References Cited:

Lindsay, P.J. and S.S. Mitra. 2009. Region 10 – Marine. Kingbird 59(3):294-302.

Morris, A. 1989. The 1988 Fall shorebird season at Jamaica Bay Wildlife Refuge. Kingbird 39:80-95.

Common Name: Tennessee warbler *SPCN*
Scientific Name: *Oreothlypis peregrina*
Taxon: Birds

Federal Status: Not Listed **Natural Heritage Program Rank:**
New York Status: Not Listed Global: G5
New York: S2
Tracked: Yes

Synopsis:

Formerly placed into the genus *Vermivora*, the Tennessee warbler was reclassified into the genus *Oreothlypis* in 2010. This warbler breeds only in Canada and the northernmost parts of the United States, where it nests in boreal habitats. Wintering occurs in Central America, giving this warbler the “neotropical migrant” status that results in vulnerability to healthy populations.

In New York, the Tennessee warbler nests in the Adirondack Mountains in young mixed deciduous and coniferous forests with a boreal plant assemblage. The population is disjunct from the main distribution to the north. It is one of several warbler species whose occurrence is strongly linked to periodic outbreaks of the spruce budworm. The Breeding Bird Atlas documented Tennessee warbler in fewer than 1% of survey blocks statewide. Occupancy shifted from 1980–85 to 2000–05 and the number of survey blocks with confirmed breeding dropped from 5 to 1. The six breeding records documented during the two Atlas surveys represent the only known nesting of Tennessee warbler in the state since New York’s first record in 1926 (see Peterson 2008).

Distribution (% of NY where species occurs)		Abundance (within NY distribution)		NY Distribution Trend	NY Abundance Trend
0% to 5%	X	Abundant		Unknown	Unknown
6% to 10%		Common			
11% to 25%		Fairly common			
26% to 50%		Uncommon			
> 50%		Rare	X		

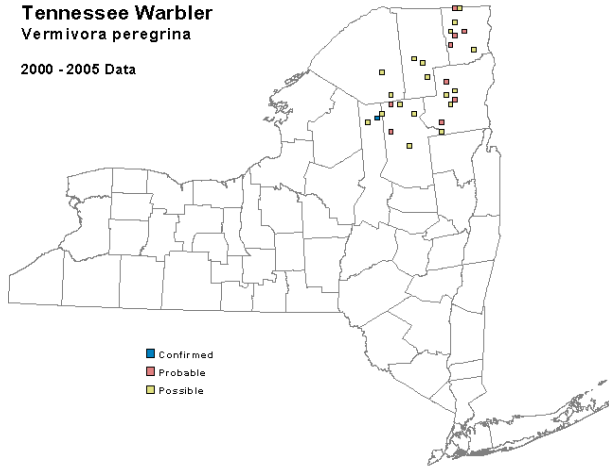
Habitat Discussion:

Tennessee warbler breeds in boreal habitats, favoring young second growth. In northernmost portions of the eastern U.S., it prefers coniferous bogs dominated by black spruce and tamarack, with some white cedar, birch, poplar, alder, and ericaceous shrubs (Palmer 1949, Bull 1974, Laughlin and Kibbe 1985, Brewer et al. 1991). Peterson (1988) described its habitat in the Adirondacks: “...somewhat wet areas of young deciduous growth, often aspen, with a mixture of balsam fir, spruce, or tamarack, northern shrubs and often a ground cover of sphagnum mosses.” Relatively open areas are used, with edge provided by roads, power lines, or other forest clearings. On wintering grounds, the Tennessee warbler has a strong affinity for coffee plantations.

Primary Habitat Type
Conifer Forest Swamp
Mixed Hardwood Swamp
Spruce-Fir Forests and Flats

Distribution:

Tennessee warbler is a rare breeder in New York, occurring locally in the Adirondack Mountains region. There are fewer than ten breeding records in New York and a nest has never been found. It occurs cyclically as a very common to uncommon migrant. It is usually most common during spring in western and central New York.



McGowan and Corwin (2008)



Rimmer and McFarland (2012)

Threats to NY Populations				
Threat Category	Threat	Scope	Severity	Irreversibility
1. Transportation & Service Corridors	Roads & Railroads (fragmentation)	R	M	H
2. Transportation & Service Corridors	Utility & Service Lines (collision with towers)	R	M	H
3. Biological Resource Use	Logging & Wood Harvesting	N	M	H
4. Climate Change & Severe Weather	Habitat Shifting & Alteration	P	V	V
5. Pollution	Air-borne Pollutants (acid rain, mercury)	W	H	H
6. Pollution (migration, esp. NYC)	Excess Energy	R	M	M
7. Residential & Commercial Development	Housing & Urban Areas (fragmentation)	R	M	H
8. Natural System Modifications	Other Ecosystem Management (insect spraying)	R	M	H

References Cited:

Brewer, R., G. A. McPeck, and R. J. Adams, Jr. 1991. The atlas of breeding birds of Michigan. Michigan State Univ. Press, East Lansing.

Bull, J. 1974. Birds of New York State. Doubleday, Garden City, NY.

Laughlin, S. B. and D. P. Kibbe. 1985. The atlas of breeding birds of Vermont. Univ. Press of New England, Hanover.

McGowan, K. J. and K. Corwin, eds. 2008. The Second Atlas of Breeding Birds in New York. Cornell University Press, Ithaca, NY.

Palmer, R. S. 1949. Maine birds. Mus. Comp. Zool., Harvard Univ., Cambridge, MA.

Peterson, J.M.C. 2008. Tennessee warbler, *Vermivora peregrina*. Pages 474-75 in The second atlas of breeding birds in New York State (K.J. McGowan and K. Corwin, eds.). Cornell University Press, Ithaca, NY.

Rimmer, Christopher C. and Kent P. McFarland. 2012. Tennessee Warbler (*Oreothlypis peregrina*), 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/bna/species/350doi:10.2173/bna.350>

Common Name: Thayer's gull *SPCN*
Scientific Name: *Larus thayeri*
Taxon: Birds

Federal Status: Not Listed **Natural Heritage Program Rank:**
New York Status: Not Listed Global: G5
New York: SNRN
Tracked: No

Synopsis:

Thayer's gull was first described in 1917 as a subspecies of herring gull, *L. argentatus* (Dwight 1917) but was reclassified as a distinct, monotypic species in the 1960s. Uncertainty regarding its taxonomy persists today and there is disagreement as to whether Thayer's gull is a separate species from Iceland gull, *L. glaucoides* (Snell 2002). The increase in the frequency of winter records in many areas of New York since 1970s may represent heightened interest and awareness by observers, perhaps due to the changing taxonomic status of the species. Trends and status have been difficult to determine due to identification challenges.

Thayer's gull breeds in the high arctic. In the east, wintering birds are found annually on the Great Lakes. New York's wintering birds associate with herring gulls primarily on the Niagara and St. Lawrence rivers. Thayer's gull is uncommon to rare in New York and trends are difficult to interpret because of the uncertainty of its taxonomic status as well as the difficulty associated with identification.

Distribution (% of NY where species occurs)		Abundance (within NY distribution)		NY Distribution Trend	NY Abundance Trend
0% to 5%	X	Abundant		Unknown	Unknown
6% to 10%		Common			
11% to 25%		Fairly common			
26% to 50%		Uncommon			
> 50%		Rare	X		

Habitat Discussion:

Thayer's gulls are found during winter in New York on large inland bodies of water, feeding around fishing harbor, at landfills, and among other human settlements. It may also occur at flooded open lands such as agricultural fields (BirdLife International 2012).

Primary Habitat Type
Erosional Bluff
Lake; Very Large Lake
Large/Great River
Urban and Recreational Grasses

Distribution:

Thayer's gull is a rare winter visitant in New York away from the Niagara and St. Lawrence rivers where it is found during most winters from December through February. In eastern and southeastern New York, it is very rare.

Threats to NY Populations				
Threat Category	Threat	Scope	Severity	Irreversibility
1. Pollution	Household Sewage & Urban Wastewater (garbage, especially plastic)	N	L	L

References Cited:

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