

# PROTHONOTARY WARBLER

*Protonotaria citrea*

**ID TIPS** Bright yellow overall with black beady eyes, a greenish back, grayish wings, and white undertail. Females are slightly paler than males.

**SONG** Ringing “tweet-tweet-tweet-tweet,” repeated 4–14 times.

**HABITAT** Wooded swamps, forested wetlands, and forests near lakes and streams; tend to avoid forest patches smaller than 250 acres.

**NEST** One of two warbler species that nest in cavities. Often use holes or cavities created by woodpeckers or chickadees, but will also use nest boxes in forests near water.

**FOOD** Primarily insects, including aquatic larvae, but also snails, mollusks, and some seeds.

Forage in fallen logs, shrubs, and subcanopy, often over water and on shorelines.

## ACTIVITIES & STRATEGIES

Retain large (250+ acres) intact mature swamp forests and riparian buffers.

Retain snags and fallen logs.

Consider single-tree canopy openings.

## EXAMPLE SCENARIO

Promote insect abundance with small gap openings in bottomland forests.

## TIMING

Avoid timber harvesting during the breeding season (April - July).



## CONSERVATION STATUS

Declining

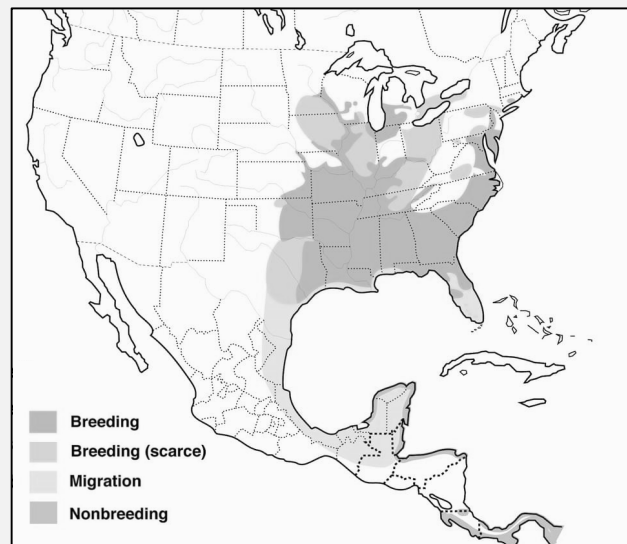
*NC Species of Greatest Conservation Need*

## FOREST USE AT A GLANCE

Understory & midstory in bottomland forests

## SPECIES RANGE

Eastern NC has high breeding densities (almost 20% of the population).



## DID YOU KNOW?

Prothonotary refers to the bright yellow robes worn by papal clerks, known as prothonotaries, in the Roman Catholic Church.