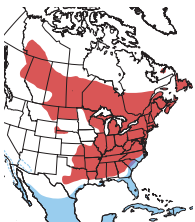




Black-and-white Warbler *Mniotilta varia* **BAWW** L 5.25in



Common and widespread breeder and migrant in deciduous and mixed forest. Scarce in winter. Distinctive behavior, creeps on or under branches, sometimes upside down, like a black-and-white mouse. Nests on ground. On migration joins feeding flocks that will often include several BAWW. **ID:** A medium-sized warbler with short tail, heavy in the belly and long, downcurved, pointed head and bill – a distinctive profile. Large feet for grasping branches. From below black undertail co-

verts are a giveaway. Despite large variation in plumages, the bold black-and-white striped head pattern and coloring make it one of the easiest warblers to id. Ad ♂ br solid black cheeks, throat and flank streaking. Throat and ear coverts paler toward fall. Ad ♀/1st-yr ♂ paler than ad ♂ with white ear coverts and throat. Diffuse streaking on variably buff flanks and undertail coverts. 1st-w ♀ paler and more buff. 1st-yr birds have brown greater primary coverts.