

Species: Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulean*)

Global Rank: G4

State Rank: S4B

State Wildlife Action Plan: High-level Concern Species

Climate Change Vulnerability Index: Not Vulnerable/Presumed Stable

Confidence: Very High

#### Habitat:

Cerulean warblers are found throughout PA during migration and breed across the state, but are most common in the southwest (McWilliams and Brauning 2000). Cerulean warblers are usually found in mature, unfragmented stands in bottomlands or floodplains and also in oak forests at higher elevations along the mountain ridges (Brauning 1992; McWilliams and Brauning 2000).

#### Current Threats:

These birds prefer relatively unfragmented forest blocks with average size increasing to the south in its U.S. range. Deforestation of its wintering range in South America (east slope of Andes) may be most crucial but forest fragmentation in its breeding range in the U.S. and southern Canada may make it subject to predation and nest parasitism (NatureServe 2010).

#### Main Factors Contributing to Vulnerability Rank:

Although cerulean warblers may be sensitive to certain climate change related factors addressed in the CCVI, such as predicted land use impacts designed to mitigate against climate change, the CCVI rank is Not Vulnerable/Presumed Stable. Available evidence assessed in the CCVI suggests that abundance and/or range extent within Pennsylvania will not likely change (increase/decrease) substantially by 2050, but actual range boundaries may change. However, additional stressors that may affect the species are not considered in the CCVI and should also be evaluated when planning conservation related actions.

#### References:

Brauning, D.W. 1992. Atlas of Breeding Birds in Pennsylvania. University of Pittsburgh Press. Pittsburgh, PA, 484pp.

McWilliams, G.M. and D.W. Brauning. 2000. The Birds of Pennsylvania. Comstock Publ. Assoc., Cornell Univ. Press, Ithaca, NY.

NatureServe. 2010. NatureServe Central Databases. Arlington, Virginia. USA.