

Natural Resource Inventory for Lyme, NH  
**APPENDIX III**  
**DOCUMENTATION OF BIRDS IN TWO SECTIONS OF LYME**  
**SouthEast (SE) 1967-2006 (Holmes)**  
**NorthWest (NW) 1981-2006 (Skelly)**

**Bird Species of Southeastern & Northwestern Sections of Lyme, NH 1967-2006**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Comments <u>primarily from</u> <u>Holmes in SE</u>	SE	NW
Bittern, American	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	breeds in swamp below lower edge of fields	x	
Blackbird, Red-winged	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	common breeder in swamp/wet areas	x	x
Blackbird, Rusty	<i>Euphagus carolinus</i>	spring and fall migrant	x	
Bluebird, Eastern	<i>Sialia sialis</i>	sporadic breeder, occurs in fields and nest boxes	x	x
Bobolink	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	common breeder in hayfields	x	x
Bunting, Indigo	<i>Passerina cyanea</i>	breeder along forest edge	x	x
Cardinal, Northern	<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>	occasional on feeder in fall and winter	x	x
Catbird, Gray	<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>	common breeder	x	x
Chickadee, Black-capped	<i>Poecile atricapilla</i>	common breeder in forest, at feeders	x	x
Cowbird, Brown-headed	<i>Molothrus ater</i>	common breeder	x	x
Creeper, Brown	<i>Certhia americana</i>	breeder in forest, widely scattered	x	
Crossbill, Red	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	occasional winter visitor	x	x
Crossbill, White-winged	<i>Loxia leucoptera</i>	occasional winter visitor	x	x
Crow, American	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	common in valley	x	x
Cuckoo, Black-billed	<i>Coccyzus erythrophthalmus</i>	irregular breeder	x	x
Cuckoo, Yellow-billed	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>	occasional records in mid to late summer	x	x
Dickcissel	<i>Spiza americana</i>	one record in May	x	
Dove, Mourning	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	common year round	x	x
Dove, Rock	<i>Columba livia</i>	used to nest in our silo, now gone	x	x
Duck, Black	<i>Anas rubripes</i>	seen flying along valley, on Roby's pond in '05	x	
Duck, Wood	<i>Aix sponsa</i>	flying along valley	x	x
Finch, House	<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>	regularly seen in late 70s when they bred, not seen recently.	x	
Finch, Purple	<i>Carpodacus purpureus</i>	seen mostly in early spring and fall	x	x
Flicker, Common	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	common breeder and migrant	x	x
Flycatcher, Alder	<i>Empidonax alnorum</i>	fairly common breeder and caller		x
Flycatcher, Great Crested	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>	occasional breeder in forest	x	x
Flycatcher, Least	<i>Empidonax minimus</i>	formerly bred along forest edges, less common recently	x	x
Flycatcher, Olive-sided	<i>Contopus cooperi</i>	heard occasionally from hillside across valley	x	x
Flycatcher, Willow	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>	common breeder in alders along swamp edge	x	

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Goldfinch, American	<i>Carduelis tristis</i>	common breeder and present all summer	x	x
Goose, Canada	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	flyovers of flocks in migration, and in last 10 years, 1-2 pairs, probably breeding in swamp between us and Hewes.	x	x
Goose, Snow	<i>Chen caerulescens</i>	flyovers of flocks in both spring and fall migration	x	x
Goshawk, Northern	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	seen in winter 2-3 times	x	x
Grackle, Common	<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>	breeder	x	x
Grosbeak, Evening	<i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i>	common in some winters in 1970s-80s, less common recently	x	x
Grosbeak, Pine	<i>Pinicola enucleator</i>	occasional in some winters, not seen in recent years	x	x
Grosbeak, Rose-breasted	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>	probably breeds in forest, seen commonly in late summer	x	x
Grouse, Ruffed	<i>Bonasa umbellus</i>	breeding in woods	x	x
Harrier, Northern	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	seen twice (5/95, 8/06)	x	x
Hawk, Broad-winged	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>	breeding in area	x	x
Hawk, Cooper's	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	common breeder		x
Hawk, Red-shouldered	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	breeding in area	x	x
Hawk, Red-tailed	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	breeding in area	x	x
Hawk, Sharp-shinned	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	seen most often in late fall, probably breeds	x	x
Heron, Great Blue	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	seen flying along valley occasionally	x	x
Heron, Little Green	<i>Butorides virescens</i>	seen a few times in swampy area	x	
Hummingbird, Ruby-throated	<i>Archilochus colubris</i>	common breeder in garden	x	x
Jay, Blue	<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>	common breeder in forest, at feeders	x	x
Junco, Dark-eyed	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	common migrant in late fall/early spring	x	x
Kestrel, American	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	seen several times along fields	x	x
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	bred in early years, only seen occasionally in spring recently	x	
Kingbird, Eastern	<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>	fairly common breeder		x
Kingfisher, Belted	<i>Ceryle alcyon</i>	frequently heard along swamp/stream course	x	x
Kinglet, Golden-crowned	<i>Regulus satrapa</i>	seen usually as migrant in spring and fall	x	
Kinglet, Ruby-crowned	<i>Regulus calendula</i>	seen usually as migrant in spring and fall	x	
Lark, Horned	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>	one present 02/21-25/99 along edge of field/road	x	
Loon, Common	<i>Gavia immer</i>	rare flyovers	x	x
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	seen once in April, flying up valley (pair)	x	x
Meadowlark, Eastern	<i>Sturnella magna</i>	bred in 1960-70s in Burgess field, not seen recently	x	x

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Merganser, Hooded	<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>	common breeder		x
Mockingbird, Northern	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>	seen sporadically, usually in late summer	x	
Nighthawk, Common	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>	rare visitor		x
Nuthatch, Red-breasted	<i>Sitta canadensis</i>	heard most often in fall and winter	x	x
Nuthatch, White-breasted	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>	breeder in forest, widely scattered	x	x
Oriole, Baltimore	<i>Icterus galbula</i>	common breeder along forest edge	x	x
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	seen flying down valley on 2-3 occasions	x	
Ovenbird	<i>Seiurus aurocapillus</i>	common breeder in forest	x	x
Owl, Barred	<i>Strix varia</i>	common year-round resident	x	x
Owl, Northern Saw-whet	<i>Aegolius acadicus</i>	occasional records in late fall/winter	x	
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	seen occasionally flying along valley	x	
Pewee, Eastern Wood-	<i>Contopus virens</i>	heard occasionally in forest behind house	x	x
Pheasant, Ring-necked	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	seen occasionally, probably stocked by NH Fish & Game	x	
Phoebe, Eastern	<i>Sayornis phoebe</i>	breeds every year on garage or house	x	x
Rail, Virginia	<i>Rallus limicola</i>	one flying over (Pam Hunt, NH Audubon by call)	x	
Raven, Common	<i>Corvus corax</i>	common, often flying along valley	x	x
Redpoll, Common	<i>Carduelis flammea</i>	occasional in some winters	x	x
Redpoll, Hoary	<i>Carduelis hornemanni</i>	rare winter feeder		x
Redstart, American	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>	breeder along forest edges & in forest	x	x
Robin, American	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	breeds and common migrant	x	x
Sandpiper, Solitary	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>	two seen on 05/15/97 along edge of swamp	x	x
Sandpiper, Spotted	<i>Actitis macularia</i>	uncommon probable breeder		x
Sapsucker, Yellow-bellied	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>	breeder along forest edge	x	x
Shrike, Northern	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>	one behind house on 10/15/95	x	
Siskin, Pine	<i>Carduelis pinus</i>	common in some winters, absent in others	x	x
Snipe, Common	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	breeding in fields/edge of swamp	x	x
Sparrow, American Tree	<i>Spizella arborea</i>	uncommon winter feeder		x
Sparrow, Chipping	<i>Spizella passerina</i>	common breeder	x	x
Sparrow, Field	<i>Spizella pusilla</i>	occasional breeder along edge of swamp in brushy areas	x	
Sparrow, Fox	<i>Passerella iliaca</i>	rare winter feeder		x
Sparrow, House	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	straggler, seen once on 03/17/02	x	x
Sparrow, Savannah	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>	bred in wet pasture in late 60s/early 70s, not seen in recent years	x	

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Sparrow, Song	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	very common breeder	x	x
Sparrow, Swamp	<i>Melospiza georgiana</i>	breeder in wet marshy edges/alder thickets	x	
Sparrow, White-crowned	<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>	uncommon winter feeder		x
Sparrow, White-throated	<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>	used to breed commonly in shrubby/edge areas, scarce in recent years	x	x
Starling, European	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	breeds occasionally in crevices in barn/house	x	x
Swallow, Barn	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	breeder (in barn)	x	x
Swallow, Cliff	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>	used to breed on back of barn, but absent for last 20± years	x	
Swallow, Tree	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>	common breeder in boxes in field	x	x
Swift, Chimney	<i>Chaetura pelagica</i>	Flyovers in valley, less common in recent years	x	
Tanager, Scarlet	<i>Piranga olivacea</i>	breeder in forest	x	x
Teal, Blue-winged	<i>Anas discors</i>	seen on Roby's pond in 08/06	x	
Thrasher, Brown	<i>Toxostoma rufum</i>	breeder in early years, but now only seen briefly in early spring	x	
Thrush, Hermit	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>	breeds in forest	x	x
Thrush, Varied	<i>Ixoreus naevius</i>	one record at feeder in winter	x	
Thrush, Wood	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>	breeds in forest, but less common recently	x	
Titmouse, Tufted	<i>Baeolophus bicolor</i>	first recorded 11/91, heard and seen regularly in spring and fall since about 2000	x	x
Towhee, Rufous-sided	<i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i>	bred in shrubby areas in late 1960s, early 1970s, not since	x	x
Turkey, Wild	<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>	first seen in 1997, and then regularly since	x	x
Veery	<i>Catharus fuscescens</i>	breeds in wooded areas swamp, seems more sporadic in recent years	x	x
Vireo, Red-eyed	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	breeder in forest	x	x
Vireo, Solitary	<i>Vireo solitarius</i>	breeder in forest, widely scattered	x	
Vireo, Warbling	<i>Vireo gilvus</i>	bred in early years in large tree in front of house, now rarely seen	x	
Vireo, Yellow-throated	<i>Vireo flavifrons</i>	a few sightings in the 1970s, none recently	x	
Vulture, Turkey	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	first recorded about 1995 increasing since	x	x
Warbler, Bay-breasted	<i>Dendroica castanea</i>	spring and fall migrant	x	x
Warbler, Black-and-white	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>	common migrant in spring	x	x
Warbler, Blackburnian	<i>Dendroica fusca</i>	common spring migrant, probable breeder	x	
Warbler, Blackpoll	<i>Dendroica striata</i>	migrant	x	
Warbler, Black-throated Blue	<i>Dendroica caerulescens</i>	scattered breeding pairs in forest	x	x
Warbler, Black-throated	<i>Dendroica virens</i>	common breeder in mixed	x	x

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Green Warbler, Cape May	<i>Dendroica tigrina</i>	forest spring migrant	x	
Warbler, Chestnut-sided	<i>Dendroica pensylvanica</i>	breeder along forest/swamp edge	x	x
Warbler, Magnolia	<i>Dendroica magnolia</i>	occasional breeder	x	x
Warbler, Nashville	<i>Vermivora ruficapilla</i>	local breeder on hillside towards Roby's	x	
Warbler, Palm	<i>Dendroica palmarum</i>	two seen next to barn on 04/08/05	x	
Warbler, Pine	<i>Dendroica pinus</i>	spring migrant	x	
Warbler, Yellow	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>	common breeder in alders below field.	X	x
Warbler, Yellow-rumped	<i>Dendroica coronata</i>	common in spring and fall, probably breeds in forest	x	x
Waxwing, Bohemian	<i>Bombycilla garrulus</i>	flock of 20 on 03/05/94, 8-10 on 02/22/96	x	x
Waxwing, Cedar	<i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i>	breeds some years, regular in summer	x	x
Whip-poor-will	<i>Caprimulgus vociferus</i>	breeder through early 1970s, then absent	x	
Woodcock, American	<i>Scolopax minor</i>	breeding in fields, edge areas	x	x
Woodpecker, Downy	<i>Picoides pubescens</i>	breeder in forest	x	x
Woodpecker, Hairy	<i>Picoides villosus</i>	breeder in forest	x	x
Woodpecker, Pileated	<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>	breeder in forest	x	x
Wren, House	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	common breeder in nest boxes	x	x
Wren, Winter	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	breeder in forest	x	x
Yellowthroat, Common	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	common breeder in thickets	x	x

**Bird Species in Southeastern (SE) Lyme:** Recorded by Richard and Deborah Holmes at their home at 31 Bliss Lane in Lyme Center. Richard Holmes holds a Ph.D. in Zoology from the University of California, Berkeley, and was a Professor of Biological Sciences and Environmental Biology at Dartmouth College from 1967 to 2004. He is now a Research Professor, as well as an Emeritus Professor, at Dartmouth. Professionally, he is an ornithologist, specializing in avian ecology. His research for the last 40 years has been focused on forest birds in New Hampshire, with field studies conducted primarily at the Hubbard Brook Experimental Forest in West Thornton, NH. He is a former vice-president of the American Ornithologists' Union (AOU), and has received a lifetime achievement awards from the AOU, the Wilson Ornithological Society and the Cooper Ornithological Society.

**Bird Species in Northwestern (NW) Lyme:** Recorded species seen or heard by John Skelly in the area of his home at 22 Pony Hill Lane. Mr. Skelly is a forester and has lived in Lyme since 1981. He holds a bioecology degree and taught high school biology including courses on predatory birds. He did post-graduate work in forestry and wildlife at UVM. Ecological parameters - 360 degree view with best and furthest visuals east to Dimmick hill and Lambert ridge, and west to near Vermont hills on Connecticut river and "the Pinnacle" off Franklin Hill road. Habitat includes beaver meadow wetland, through which flows Trout brook, a man-made pond less than one half acre, white pine and mixed hardwood second growth forest spreading east and north into Lyme town forest (Trout pond area Q), and open farmland with mixed wood (soft and hardwood) quadrants and corridors to the south and west. Elevation is near 1100'.

Relative abundance of birds is indicated by the following: common - seen most years; uncommon - seen occasionally; rare - only one or two sightings since 1981. Breeders that are obvious, which are most summer inhabitants, are designated as such, though I may not have them nesting in my area. Birds that visit the feeder, either summer or winter, are designated as feeder birds. Birds that have killed his chickens are labeled accordingly. Birds that could be seen in this area of Lyme Center (such as Peregrine falcons!), and that are locally not uncommon, but have not been seen or heard from our property, are not included in this listing...yet. Birds that are actually more common than witnessed in our area are designated only according to his view of their relative abundance or obscurity.