

**WRP Easement Management
Species of Greatest Conservation Need (Grassland Birds)**

Common Name	State Distribution	Area Sensitivity	Habitat Preference
Northern Harrier	1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 9	High area sensitivity • 250 acres	large grassland tracts +250 acres infrequently disturbed – Prefer relatively large open tracts of grassland characterized by tall, dense vegetation with abundant ground litter and associated wetlands.
Greater Prairie-Chicken	7, 9	High area sensitivity • 2500 acres	large grassland complexes at least 2,500 acres in size – Requires large grassland complexes in relatively open condition, and varying grassland habitat stages for different stages of life history needs and behaviors.
Northern Bobwhite	Statewide	Low area sensitivity • 10 acres	medium height grasslands w/shrubs & forbs – Prefer brushy, weedy grassland habitats interspersed with row crops, alfalfa, and other agricultural crops.
Upland Sandpiper	Statewide	High area sensitivity • 125 acres	short-to-medium ht. grasslands w/forbs – Utilize short-to-medium height grasslands, meadows, hayfields, pastures, beanfields, planted cover (CRP). Fence posts and other display perches important in habitat.
Short-eared Owl	2, 3, 7, 9	High area sensitivity • 250 acres	large grassland tracts +250 acres infrequently disturbed – Large, open grassland and/or wetland areas with abundant ground litter; native prairie, CRP grasslands, WRP wetlands. Smaller grassland may be used if near larger expanses of medium-to-tall height grasslands.
Sedge Wren	Statewide	Moderate area sensitivity • 25 acres	tall grass infrequently disturbed – Prefer both upland and mesic habitats with tall, dense grasses and moderate forb cover. Also prefer areas of wet-meadow vegetation. Vegetation cover usually determines territory size versus actual area available.
Loggerhead Shrike	Statewide	Moderate area sensitivity ~15-25 acres	short grassland/savanna w/thorny shrublands – Commonly nests in thorny shrubs or cedars in open, short grasslands. Also, road rights-of-way with smooth brome and small, scattered trees and shrubs.
Bell's Vireo	Statewide	Low area sensitivity ~2-3 acres	shrubby habitat - in grasslands, riparian areas, and savannas – Prefer dense, shrubby habitat in grasslands, riparian areas, and savannas.
Dickcissel	Statewide	Low area sensitivity ~3-4 acres)	medium high grass w/sparse forbs – Prefer dense, moderate to tall vegetation with forbs. Also like road rights-of-way, planted cover (CRP), and moderately grazed, idle prairie.

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Field Sparrow	Statewide	Low area sensitivity • 5 acres	old grassland fields w/shrubs – Prefer woody edges, shrubby vegetation and dry to mesic, moderately tall grasslands with somewhat dense, abundant litter.
Lark Sparrow	Statewide	Probably low area sensitivity Territory ~15 acres	sand prairie w/sparse herbaceous vegetation – often at woodland edge – Prefer short grassland or prairie, sandhills with some herbaceous vegetation, and open areas adjacent to shrubby thickets or woodland edges.
Grasshopper Sparrow	Statewide	Moderate Area sensitivity • 25 acres	medium height grass w/forbs – Prefer large areas of medium height grasslands with moderately deep litter cover and avoids areas with high shrub cover.
Henslow's Sparrow	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9	High area sensitivity • 125 acre tracts	tall grass and infrequent disturbance, +125 acre tracts; weedy – Utilize grasslands with high litter content and tall height grass. CRP projects very important. Prefer areas of infrequent disturbance.
Bobolink	Statewide	High area sensitivity • 75 acres	medium height grass w/some forbs – Prefer large (native and tame) grasslands of moderate height and density, with moderate litter, moderate forb density, and no woody vegetation.
Eastern Meadowlark	Statewide	Moderate Area sensitivity • 25 acres	grassland w/few trees or savanna – Prefer grasslands of moderate to tall height, with dense litter, moderate forb density, and few shrubs.