

Selected Grassland Birds of Orland Grassland with The Bird Conservation Network's Bird of Concern Level

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Photos: Mike McNamee and Jeanne Stacey. Produced by Marnie Baker [marnie.baker@gmail.com]. Acknowledgements: Judy Pollock, The Cornell Lab of Ornithology www.birds.cornell.edu/home, and Bird Conservation Network www.bcnbirds.org. **Legend:** **LVL1** = Immediate Management Needed, **LVL2** = Species experiencing moderate to strong declines and/or threats to breeding, **LVL3** = Declines or threats to regional populations, **N** = Nesting, **M** = Migrant, **MIG** = migrant BOC passing through region in significant numbers, **W** = Winter, **IL-E** = Illinois Endangered.



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The Birds of Concern (BOC) in the Chicago Wilderness (CW) region is a list of species needing priority attention and management. This BOC list was developed using numerous national and state conservation organizations' lists of species of conservation concern.



1 *Ammodramus savannarum*
GRASSHOPPER SPARROW
Buffy tan, unstreaked underparts contrast with brown, gray, orange above; flat head, large bill. **LVL 2 N**



2 *Asio flammeus*
SHORT-EARED OWL
Brown spotted with buff and white on underparts, face pale, yellow eyes, breast streaked with brown. **MIG IL-E**



3 *Calcarius lapponicus*
LAPLAND LONGSPUR
Chunky bird with broad bill, males have black crown, face and bib, and rusty nape. **M**



4 *Calcarius pictus*
SMITH'S LONGSPUR Female
Buffy, finely streaked, slight but sharply pointed bill, black tail with white outer feathers. **MIG M**



5 *Centronyx henslowii*
HENSLow'S SPARROW
Flat-topped, large, olive-tinged head, short tail; white chest with two black bands and white patches. **LVL 1 N**



6 *Charadrius vociferus*
KILDEER
Tan/buff, greenish-washed face, sharp black stripes and orange rump. **N**



7 *Circus hudsonius*
NORTHERN HARRIER
Slim with long-tail, holds wings in V-shape, white patch at base of tail, male grey and white. **MIG LVL 3 W**



8 *Cistothorus platensis*
SEDE WREN
Small wren with round belly, streaked back, banded wings, short tail held upright. **LVL 2 N**



9 *Dolichonyx oryzivorus*
BOBOLINK Male
Black with white back and rump, rich buffy nape, short neck and tail, pointed bill. **LVL 1 N**



10 *Dolichonyx oryzivorus*
BOBOLINK Female
Warm buffy brown, dark brown streaks on the back and flanks, bold brown stripes on the crown. **LVL 1 N**



11 *Falco sparverius*
AMERICAN KESTREL
Slate-blue head, wings contrast elegantly with rusty-red back and tail. **LVL 3 N**



12 *Passerculus sandwichensis*
SAVANNA SPARROW
Short tail, small head, and telltale yellow spot before the eye. **N**

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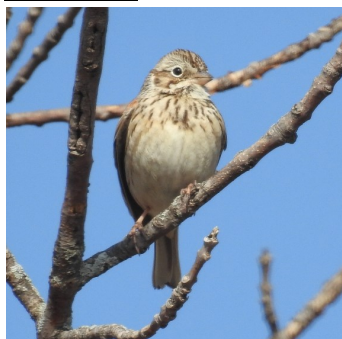
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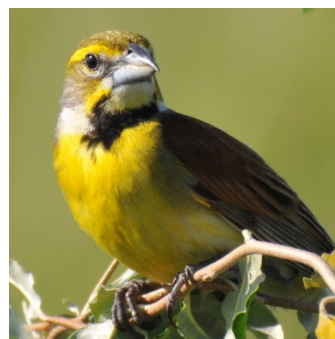
13 *Poocetes gramineus*
VESPER SPARROW

Streaky brown sparrow has thin white eye ring, flashes white tail feathers. **N**



14 *Sialia sialis*
EASTERN BLUEBIRD

Brilliant royal blue back and head, red -brown breast. Blue tinges in wings, tail on females. **N**



15 *Spiza americana*
DICKCISSEL

A chunky bunting is colored like a miniature meadowlark, with black V on yellow chest. **LVL 3 N**



16 *Sturnella magna*
EASTERN MEADOWLARK

Bright-yellow underparts and striking black chevron across chest. **LVL 2 N**



17 *Tyrannus tyrannus*
EASTERN KINGBIRD

Medium sized songbird, blackish above and white below, tail has conspicuous white tip. **N**



Orland Grassland

More than 200 species of birds have been sighted in the prairie, wetland, shrubland, and oak savanna habitats in Orland Grassland's 960 rolling acres. Each ecosystem provides a habitat for many threatened and endangered birds of the Chicago Wilderness Region. In April 2017, this site was officially designated an Important Bird Area by Audubon. A paved bike trail is located round the perimeter of the site. Other marked trails are mowed paths.

Orland Grassland is currently being managed for grassland birds by the Forest Preserve of Cook County. Learn more at www.orlandgrassland.org

