

Habitat Model for Species: Horned Lark

Alpha Code: HOLA Status: Resident

[Distribution Map](#)

[Habitat Map](#)

Landcover Category

0 - Comments

Crutchfield, 1985

Beason, 1995

Easterla, 1962

Kantrud, 1981
Samson, 1980
Pickwell, 1931

Wiens, 1985

Habitat Restrictions

Comments

Breeding on a landfill, a military reservation, and an airport. Prefer nesting on stubble fields, airports and other areas of short vegetation and bare earth.

Generally prefers bare ground such as plowed or fall-planted fields for nest site selection. In agricultural areas, inhabits bare ground and fields of row crop stubble. Frequently makes use of waste grains in livestock feed lots, especially in winter.

Common nesting sites in Missouri: in plowed fields, golf courses, wind-swept hill tops and unnatural and artificial barrens.

Used heavily grazed native grasslands.

Minimum habitat area was calculated to be > 1 ha. Conditions preferred in fall or winter do not differ materially from those in which the species breeds.

Only found in mixed grass prairies in eastern Kansas (including Pottawatomie County).

20 - Western Wheatgrass

Stewart, 1975 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).

Davis and David C. Duncan, 1999 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).

Renken and Dinsmore, 1987

Wiens, 1985 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).

22 - Mixed Prairie

Greer, 1988 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).

Baicich and Harrison, 1997 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).

Stewart, 1975 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).

Renken and Dinsmore, 1987

Huber, 1984

Wiens, 1985 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).

25 - Shortgrass Prairie

With and D.R. Webb, 1993 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing). Study area occurred in moderately to heavily grazed shortgrass prairie.

Stewart, 1975 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).

37 - Winterfat - Blue Grama

Prairie - not mapped

Beason, 1995 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).

40 - Non-native Grassland

Hurley and Edwin C. Franks, 1976Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short
(perhaps due to heavy grazing).

Brescott and Andrew J. Murphy, 1999

Breeding in upland areas.

Temple et al., 1999

Garrett, 1948

Beason, 1995

Sample and Mossman, 1997

Baicich and Harrison, 1997

Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation, 1995

Gabrielson, 1914

Johnson and Igl, 1995

Patterson and Best, 1996

Stewart, 1975

Dinsmore et al., 1984

Davis and David C. Duncan, 1999

DuBois, 1935

Klute and Robel, 1997

Pickwell, 1931

41 - CRP

Brescott and Andrew J. Murphy, 1999

Breeding in upland areas.

Johnson and Schwartz, 1993Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short
(perhaps due to heavy grazing).

Herkert, 1994 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short Area requirement for horned lark ranged from <10ha.
(perhaps due to heavy grazing).

Johnson and Igl, 1995Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short
(perhaps due to heavy grazing).

Patterson and Best, 1996Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short
(perhaps due to heavy grazing).

Davis and David C. Duncan, 1999Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short
(perhaps due to heavy grazing).

43 - Rock Outcrop/Bluff/Cliff - not mapped

Baicich and Harrison, 1997

44 - Cultivated Land

Hurley and Edwin C. Franks, 1976

Temple et al., 1999

Gremaud, 1983

Beason, 1995

Sample and Mossman, 1997

Baicich and Harrison, 1997

Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation, 1995

Gabrielson, 1914

Johnson and Igl, 1995

Patterson and Best, 1996

Stewart, 1975

DuBois, 1935

Zimmerman and Tatschl, 1975

Kahl et al., 1985

Pickwell, 1931

[KS GAP]

Mainly fallow wheat fields with stubble - not in row crops

60 - Mixed Prairie-Disturbed

Land

- Temple et al., 1999 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).
- Cannings and William Threlfall, 1981 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).
- Beason, 1995 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).
- Sample and Mossman, 1997 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).
- Baicich and Harrison, 1997 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).
- Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation, 1995 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).
- Herkert, 1994 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing). Area requirement for horned lark ranged from <10ha.
- Dinsmore et al., 1984 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short Found along roadsides. (perhaps due to heavy grazing).
- Davis and David C. Duncan, 1999 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).
- Pickwell, 1931 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).
- Wiens, 1985 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).

71 - Weedy Upland

- Temple et al., 1999 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).
- Beason, 1995 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).
- Sample and Mossman, 1997 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).
- Dinsmore et al., 1984 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).
- Klute and Robel, 1997 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).
- Pickwell, 1931 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).
- Wiens, 1985 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short (perhaps due to heavy grazing).

81 - Urban Areas

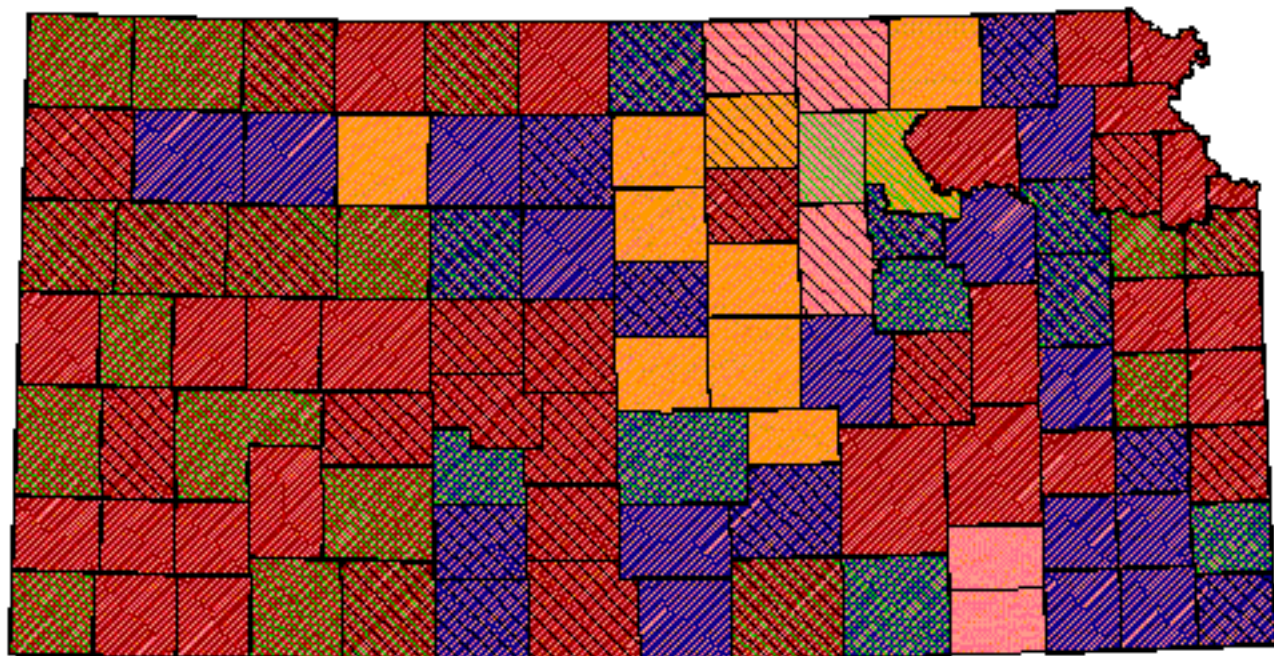
- Garrett, 1948 Nesting in golf courses, air fields, school yards and bare fields.
- Dinsmore et al., 1984 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short Found on golf courses. (perhaps due to heavy grazing or mowing).
- Pickwell, 1931 Herbaceous cover should include bare ground or be very short Nesting on golf courses. (perhaps due to heavy grazing or mowing).

Reference List

1. Baicich, P. J. and C. J. Harrison. 1997. A guide to the nests, eggs, and nestling of North American birds. Second edition. Academic Press, San Diego, California, USA.
2. Beason, R. C. 1995. Horned Lark. A. Poole and F. Gill, editors. The Birds of North America. No. 195. The American Ornithologists' Union and The Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA.
3. Brescott, D. R. C. and Andrew J. Murphy. 1999. Bird populations of seeded grasslands in the aspen parkland of Alberta. *Studies in Avian Biology* (19):203-210.
4. Cannings, R. J. and William Threlfall. 1981. Horned lark breeding biology at Cape St. Mary's, Newfoundland. *Wilson Bulletin* 93(4):519-530.
5. Crutchfield, P. J. 1985. Horned larks as breeding birds in the sandhills of North Carolina. *Chat* 49(1):18-20.
6. Davis, S. K. and David C. Duncan. 1999. Grassland songbird occurrence in native and crested wheatgrass pastures of southern Saskatchewan. *Studies in Avian Biology* (19):211-218.
7. Dinsmore, J. J., K. H. Thomas, D. Koenig, C. P. Petersen, and M. D. Roosa. 1984. *Iowa Birds*. Iowa State University Press, Ames, Iowa, USA.
8. DuBois, A. D. 1935. Nests of horned larks and longspurs on a Montana prairie. *Condor* 37:56-73.
9. Easterla, D. A. 1962. Avifauna of Tucker Prairie. Thesis, University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri, USA.
10. Gabrielson, I. N. 1914. Breeding birds of a Clay County, Iowa farm. *Wilson Bulletin* 26(2):69-81.
11. Garrett, M. L. 1948. The life history of the prairie Horned Lark. Pages Columbus, Ohio, USA *in* Thesis, Ohio State University.

12. Greer, R. D. 1988. Effects of habitat structure and productivity on grassland birds. Pages Laramie, Wyoming, USA in Dissertation, University of Wyoming .
13. Gremaud, G. K. 1983. Factors influencing nongame bird use of rowcrop fields. Thesis, Iowa State University, Ames, Iowa, USA.
14. Herkert, J. R. 1994. The effects of habitat fragmentation on Midwestern grassland bird communities. *Ecological Applications* 4(3):461-471.
15. Huber, G. E. 1984. Vegetation profile and grassland bird response to spring burning. *Prairie Naturalist* 16(2):55-61.
16. Hurley, R. J. and Edwin C. Franks. 1976. Changes in the breeding ranges of two grassland birds. *Auk* 93:108-115.
17. Johnson, D. H. and L. D. Igl. 1995. Contributions of the Conservation Reserve Program to populations of breeding birds in North Dakota. *Wilson Bulletin* 107(4):709-718.
18. Johnson, D. H. and M. D. Schwartz. 1993. The Conservation Reserve Program: habitat for grassland birds. *Great Plains Research* 3(August):273-295.
19. Kahl, R. B., T. S. Baskett, J. A. Ellis, and J. N. Burroughs. 1985. Characteristics of summer habitats of selected nongame birds in Missouri. University of Missouri Agriculture Experiment Station Research Bulletin 1056. University of Missouri, Columbia, Missouri, USA.
20. Kantrud, H. A. 1981. Grazing intensity effects on the breeding avifauna of North Dakota native grasslands. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 95(4):404-417.
21. Klute, D. S. and R. J. Robel. 1997. Will conversion of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) lands to pasture be detrimental for grassland birds in Kansas? *American Midland Naturalist* 137:206-212.
22. Patterson, M. P. and L. B. Best. 1996. Bird abundance and nesting success in Iowa CRP fields: The importance of vegetation structure and composition. *American Midland Naturalist* 135:135-167.
23. Pickwell, G. B. 1931. The prairie Horned Lark. *Transactions of the Academy of Science of St. Louis* 27:1-153.
24. Renken, R. B. and J. J. Dinsmore. 1987. Nongame bird communities on managed grasslands in North Dakota. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 101(4):551-557.
25. Sample, D. W. and M. J. Mossman. 1997. Managing habitat for grassland birds: a guide for Wisconsin. Bureau of Integrated Science Services, Madison, Wisconsin, USA.
26. Samson, F. B. 1980. Island biogeography and the conservation of prairie birds. *Proceedings of the Seventh North American Prairie Conference* 7:293-299.
27. Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation. 1995. Songbirds of Saskatchewan. Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.
28. Stewart, R. E. 1975. Breeding birds of North Dakota. Harrison Smith, Lund Press, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA.
29. Temple, S. A., B. M. Fevold, L. K. Paine, D. J. Undersander, and D. W. Sample. 1999. Nesting birds and grazing cattle: accommodating both on Midwestern pastures. *Studies in Avian Biology* 19:196-202.
30. Wiens, J. A. 1985. Habitat selection in variable environments: shrub-steppe birds. Pages 191-226 in M. L. Cody, editor. *Habitat selection in birds*. Academic Press, Orlando, Florida, USA.
31. With, K. A. and D.R. Webb. 1993. Microclimate of ground nests: the relative importance of radiative cover and wind breaks for three grassland species. *Condor* 95:401-413.
32. Zimmerman, J. L. and J. L. Tatschl. 1975. Floodplain birds of Weston Bend, Missouri River. *Wilson Bulletin* 87(2):196-208.

Horned Lark



Kansas Breeding Bird Atlas

Confirmed Breeding

Probable Breeding

Possible Breeding

Breeding Bird Survey

Birds of Kansas,
Horned Lark

Range from Johnsgard, 1998
The Birds of Nebraska

Habitat

All shaded counties will be included in the possible distribution of the species.

Horned Lark

