

Habitat Model for Species: Bobolink

Alpha Code: BOBO Status: Breeding

[Distribution Map](#)

[Habitat Map](#)

Landcover Category

0 - Comments

Joyner, 1978
Herkert, 1994

Kantrud, 1981
Wiens, 1969
Bollinger and Gavin, 1992

Bollinger and Gavin, 1989

Swanson, 1996
Martin and Gavin, 1995

17 - Tallgrass Prairie

Wittenberger, 1978
Wittenberger, 1980
Johnson and Temple, 1984
Johnson and Temple, 1990
Helzer and Jelinski, 1999
Stewart, 1975

Stewart, 1975
Martin and Gavin, 1995

18 - Sand Prairie

Wittenberger, 1978
Wittenberger, 1980
Martin and Gavin, 1995

20 - Western Wheatgrass

Stewart, 1975

22 - Mixed Prairie

Wittenberger, 1978
Wittenberger, 1980
Renken and Dinsmore, 1987

Madden et al., 1999
Stewart, 1975
Higgins et al., 1984
Martin and Gavin, 1995

26 - Grass Playa Lake

[****] Habitat not present within model parameters.
Stewart, 1975

27 - Salt Marsh/Prairie

[****] Habitat not present within model parameters.
Tordoff, 1957

30 - Low or Wet Prairie

Wittenberger, 1978
Wittenberger, 1980
Martin,
Stewart, 1975

Habitat Restrictions

Comments

old field with goldenrod, legumes, and grasses.
area at which the probability of occurrence equals 50% of its maximum = 50 ha.
greatly reduced or extirpated by heavy grazing
high forb density
old hay fields in New York. None detected in oat fields, very few in heavily grazed pastures and brushy fields, site productivity was the best predictor of yearly, site-specific return rates.
literature review
Originally nested in tall-grass or mixed-grass prairie of Midwestern U.S. and s.-central Canada.

unburned prairie.

reached 50% incidence at 46 ha
hayfields and occasionally in croplands with well-developed vegetative growth of small grains.

especially with a mixture of grasses and forbs

especially with a mixture of grasses and forbs

wet meadow zone

few territorial males in idle mixed-grass prairie; most found in alfalfa-wheatgrass plantings.

ungrazed and lightly grazed
newly sown
especially with a mixture of grasses and forbs

wet meadow zone

Big Salt Marsh, Stafford Co.

wet meadow zone

40 - Non-native Grassland

Temple et al., 1999

O'leary and Nyberg, 2000

Kendeigh, 1941

Stewart, 1975

41 - CRP

Patterson and Best, 1996

Johnson and Igl, 1995

Koford, 1999

King, 1991

Johnson and Schwartz, 1993

Stewart, 1975

44 - Cultivated Land

Herkert, 1997

Basore et al., 1986

Stewart, 1975

Martin and Gavin, 1995

hay fields

nested in dairy and beef pastures, mostly in rotationally grazed pastures.

Not found in 4.5 and 2.2 ha fields.

grass/legume mix

cool season grasses

hay fields and oat fields.

Occurred only in corn planted in sod residue (no-till).

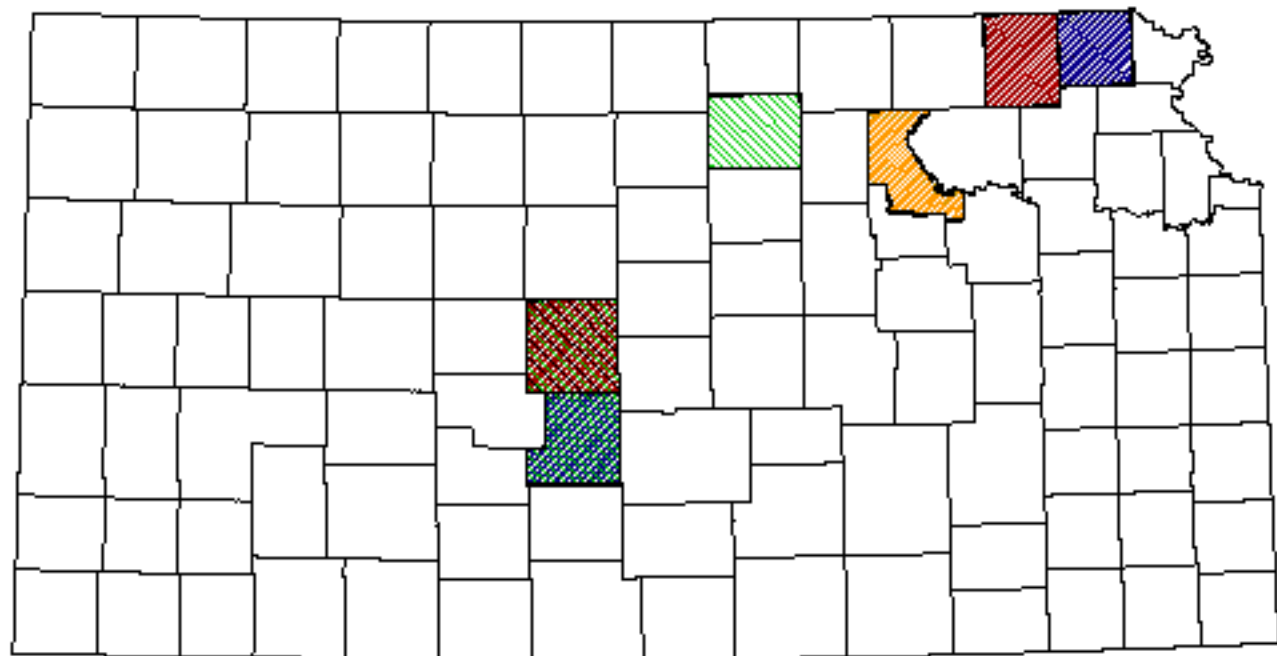
especially with a mixture of grasses and forbs

Reference List

1. Basore, N. S., L. B. Best, and J. B. Wooley, Jr. 1986. Bird nesting in Iowa no-tillage and tilled cropland. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 50(1):19-28.
2. Bollinger, E. K. and T. A. Gavin. 1989. The effects of site quality on breeding-site fidelity in Bobolinks. *Auk* 106:584-594.
3. _____. 1992. Eastern Bobolink populations: ecology and conservation in an agricultural landscape. Pages 497-506 in J. M. Hagan III and D. W. Johnston, editors. *Ecology and conservation of neotropical migrant landbirds*. Smithsonian Institution Press, Washington, D.C., USA.
4. Helzer, C. J. and D. E. Jelinski. 1999. The relative importance of patch area and perimeter-area ratio to grassland breeding birds. *Ecological Applications* 9(4):1448-1458.
5. Herkert, J. R. 1994. The effects of habitat fragmentation on Midwestern grassland bird communities. *Ecological Applications* 4(3):461-471.
6. _____. 1997. Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) population decline in agricultural lands in the Midwestern USA. *Biological Conservation* 80:107-112.
7. Higgins, K. F., T. W. Arnold, and R. M. Barta. 1984. Breeding bird community colonization of sown stands of native grasses in North Dakota. *Prairie Naturalist* 16(4):177-182.
8. 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.
9. Johnson, D. H. and M. D. Schwartz. 1993. The Conservation Reserve Program: habitat for grassland birds. *Great Plains Research* 3(August):273-295.
10. Johnson, R. G. and S. A. Temple. 1984. Assessing habitat quality birds nesting in fragmented tallgrass prairies. Pages 245-249 in J. Verner, M. L. Morrison, and C. J. Ralph, editors. *Wildlife 2000: Modeling Habitat Relationships of Terrestrial Vertebrates*. University of Wisconsin Press, Madison, Wisconsin, USA.
11. _____. 1990. Nest predation and brood parasitism of tallgrass prairie birds. *Journal of Wildlife Management* 54(1):106-111.
12. Joyner, D. E. 1978. Use of an old-field habitat by Bobolinks and Red-winged Blackbirds. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 92(4):383-386.
13. Kantrud, H. A. 1981. Grazing intensity effects on the breeding avifauna of North Dakota native grasslands. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 95(4):404-417.
14. Kendeigh, S. C. 1941. Birds of a prairie community. *Condor* 43(4):165-174.
15. King, J. W. 1991. Effects of the Conservation Reserve Program on selected wildlife populations in southeast Nebraska. Thesis, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, Nebraska, USA.
16. Koford, R. R. 1999. Density and fledging success of grassland birds in Conservation Reserve Program fields in North Dakota and west-central Minnesota. *Studies in Avian Biology* 19:187-195.
17. Madden, E. M., A. J. Hansen, and R. K. Murphy. 1999. Influence of prescribed fire history on habitat and abundance of passerine birds in northern mixed-grass prairie. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 113(4):627-640.
18. Martin, S. G. and T. A. Gavin. 1995. Bobolink. A. Poole and F. Gill, editors. *The Birds of North America*. No. 176. The American Ornithologists' Union and The Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA.
19. Martin, S. G. Polygyny in the Bobolink: habitat quality and the adaptive complex. Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon, USA.
20. O'leary, C. H. and D. W. Nyberg. 2000. Treelines between fields reduce the density of grassland birds. *Natural Areas Journal* 20(3):243-249.
21. 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.
22. Renken, R. B. and J. J. Dinsmore. 1987. Nongame bird communities on managed grasslands in North Dakota. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 101(4):551-557.

23. Stewart, R. E. 1975. Breeding birds of North Dakota. Harrison Smith, Lund Press, Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA.
24. Swanson, D. A. 1996. Nesting ecology and nesting habitat requirements of Ohio's grassland-nesting birds: A literature review. Ohio Fish and Wildlife Report 13. Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife, Columbus, Ohio, USA.
25. 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.
26. Tordoff, H. B. 1957. Nesting of the Bobolink in Kansas. *Kansas Ornithological Society Bulletin* 8(3):13-14.
27. Wiens, J. A. 1969. An approach to the study of ecological relationships among grassland birds. *Ornithological Monographs* 8
28. Wittenberger, J. F. 1978. The breeding biology of an isolated Bobolink population in Oregon. *Condor* 80:355-371.
29. _____. 1980. Vegetation structure, food supply, and polygyny in Bobolinks (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*). *Ecology* 61(1):140-150.


Bobolink





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.

Bobolink

