

Appendix 2

Priority Species of the Central Hardwoods BCR as Defined by the Various Bird Initiatives

Partners in Flight priority breeding bird species in the Central Hardwoods Bird Conservation Region

Habitat type	Species	Score¹	Tier²	% pop³	Comments
Forest	Cerulean Warbler	28	I	12	Populations both in riparian areas and uplands
	Worm-eating Warbler	27	I	20	Associated with forest understory on slopes
	Wood Thrush	25	I	7	Associated with the mid-canopy.
	Kentucky Warbler	24	I	28	Associated with forest understory
	Louisiana Waterthrush	24	I	18	Associated with small streams and riparian zones within forests
	Whip-poor-will	24	I	35	
	Yellow-throated Vireo	23	I	12	
	Acadian Flycatcher	22	I	15	Associated with the mid-canopy.
	American Woodcock	22	I	4	Associated with stands of small diameter trees, and moist soils.
	Chimney Swift	21	IIA	10	Associated with top-killed trees, but more often with chimneys in urban and rural areas
	Eastern Wood-Pewee	21	IIA	18	Favors more open forests and woodlands

Habitat type	Species	Score ¹	Tier ²	% pop ³	Comments
	Yellow-billed Cuckoo	21	IIA	14	
	Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	20	IIA	17	
	Great Crested Flycatcher	20	IIA	7	Cavity nester in more open forests and woodlands
	Sharp-shinned Hawk	19	IIA	3	Associated with a pine component.
Riparian zones	Swallow-tailed Kite	29	I	0	Extirpated. Once bred in bottomlands with forest components associated with large river systems
	Swainson's Warbler	26	I	<1	Typically associated with cane thickets in forested riparian areas
	Prothonotary Warbler	22	I	4	Associated with forested riparian areas
	Belted Kingfisher	19	IIA	3	Associated with streams and flooded areas in a variety of habitat types
	Green Heron	19	IIA	9	Associated with forested riparian areas
Early-successional Forest	Blue-winged Warbler	26	I	16	
	Prairie Warbler	25	I	16	
	Field Sparrow	23	I	21	
	White-eyed Vireo	22	I	9	
	Yellow-breasted Chat	22	I	13	

Habitat type	Species	Score ¹	Tier ²	% pop ³	Comments
	Brown Thrasher	21	IIA	8	
	Eastern Towhee	19	IIA	9	
Pine Woodlands	Red-cockaded Woodpecker	29	I	0	Extirpated
	Bachman's Sparrow	26	I	<1	Now very rare in the BCR; also associated with glades, pine and mixed deciduous forest regeneration cuts.
	Brown-headed Nuthatch	22	I	0	Extirpated throughout much of the BCR, but small populations in the Boston Mountains in Arkansas.
	Northern Bobwhite	21	IIA	9	
Grass-shrublands	Prairie Warbler	25	I	16	
	Bell's Vireo	24	I	<1	
	Field Sparrow	23	I	21	
	Yellow-breasted Chat	22	I	13	
	Brown Thrasher	21	IIA	8	
	Northern Bobwhite	21	IIA	9	
	Eastern Towhee	19	IIA	9	

Habitat type	Species	Score ¹	Tier ²	% pop ³	Comments
Grasslands	Greater Prairie Chicken	29	I	<1	Now restricted to small isolated populations in the western part of the BCR and southern Illinois.
	Henslow's Sparrow	26	I	18	Largest populations in the BCR associated with reclaimed minelands.
	Grasshopper Sparrow	21	IIA	3	
	Eastern Meadowlark	19	IIA	12	

¹Score refers to the total score provided by the Partners in Flight Species Assessment Database.

²Tier refers to the level of conservation priority that should be afforded a species as suggested by the Partners in Flight species assessment process. Tier I identifies high-scoring species that require conservation consideration wherever they occur in manageable numbers. Tier IIA identifies species that occur in a bird conservation region in relatively large numbers and whose trends are unknown or declining.

³%pop refers to the percentage of the global population estimated to breed within the Central Hardwoods Bird Conservation Region

Waterfowl (from the draft 2002 update to the North American Waterfowl Management Plan):

Species:

Geographic Importance

Dabbling Ducks:

Mallard – nonbreeding season

moderately high

Black Duck – nonbreeding season	moderately high
Northern Pintail – nonbreeding season	moderately low
American Wigeon – nonbreeding season	moderately low
Gadwall – nonbreeding season	moderately high
American Green-winged Teal – nonbreeding season	moderately low
Northern Shoveler – nonbreeding season	moderately low

Perching Ducks:

Wood Duck – breeding and non-breeding seasons	moderately high, breeding; moderately low, non-breeding
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Diving Ducks:

Greater Scaup – nonbreeding season	moderately low
Lesser Scaup – nonbreeding season	moderately low
Canvasback – nonbreeding season	moderately low
Ring-necked Duck – nonbreeding season	moderately high

Stiff-tailed Ducks:

Ruddy Duck – nonbreeding season	moderately low
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Sea Ducks:

Common Goldeneye – nonbreeding season	moderately low
Hooded Merganser – breeding season	moderately low
Hooded Merganser – nonbreeding season	moderately high
Bufflehead – nonbreeding season	moderately low

Geese:

Canada Goose (Southern James Bay population)	high
Canada Goose (Mississippi Valley population)	high
Canada Goose (resident giant population)	moderately high

Shorebirds (The list provided here is from the Upper Mississippi Valley Great Lakes Shorebird Conservation Plan. This plan may be updated in the near future. For more information on the regional shorebird planning effort, contact: Bob Russell at the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service: 612-713-5437; Robert_Russel@fws.gov):

Species:	Priority (scaled 1-5 with 5 being highest priority):
American Golden-Plover – migration	3
Killdeer – migration and breeding	3
Greater Yellowlegs – migration	4
Upland Sandpiper – migration and breeding	4
Semipalmated Sandpiper – migration	3
Least Sandpiper – migration	3
Solitary Sandpiper – migration	3
Dunlin – migration	3
Stilt Sandpiper – migration	3
Buff-breasted Sandpiper – migration	4
Short-billed Dowitcher – migration	4
Common Snipe – migration	3
American Woodcock – migration and breeding	4

Waterbirds (A regional planning effort associated with Waterbird Conservation for the Americas, the North American Waterbird Conservation Plan is underway. The list provided here is a draft that has resulted from the

regional planning process, and the BCR's priority species may be amended before the plan is completed. For more information on the regional waterbird planning effort, contact: Steve Lewis at the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service: 612-713-5473; [Steve J Lewis@fws.gov](mailto:Steve_J_Lewis@fws.gov)

Species:	Priority:
Bonaparte's Gull – winter and migration	moderate
Franklin's Gull – migration	moderate
Common Tern – migration	high
Forster's Tern – migration	moderate
Least Tern – breeding season and migration	high
Black Tern – breeding and migration	moderate
Little Blue Heron - breeding and migration	high
Snowy Egret – breeding	high
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron – breeding	moderate
Black-crowned Night-Heron – breeding and winter	moderate
Least Bittern – breeding and migration	high
King Rail – breeding	high

Black Rail – breeding

high

Whooping Crane – migration

high