

REGION 2 SENSITIVE SPECIES EVALUATION FORM

Species: Upland sandpiper (<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>)			
Criteria	Rank	Rationale	Literature Citations
1 Distribution within R2	C	The upland sandpiper occurs in all states of Region 2. Confidence in Rank High or Medium or Low	•
2 Distribution outside R2	C	BREEDING: locally from north-central Alaska eastward across central Canada and through the Great Lakes region to southern New Brunswick, south in the interior to eastern Washington, northeastern Oregon, Idaho, Colorado, northwestern Oklahoma, Texas, central Missouri, southern Illinois, northern Kentucky, southern Ohio, West Virginia, central Virginia, and Maryland; formerly farther south. Recently documented as breeding in British Columbia. Populations are small and widely scattered in the northeastern U.S. NON-BREEDING: South America from Surinam and northern Brazil south to central Argentina and Uruguay; the largest concentrations occur in Argentina and Uruguay. Confidence in Rank High or Medium or Low	• www.natureserve.org
3 Dispersal Capability	C	There does not appear to be any hindrance to dispersal recorded in the literature. Confidence in Rank High or Medium or Low	•
4 Abundance in R2	D	There are no absolute numbers of upland sandpipers for Region 2. Confidence in Rank High or Medium or Low	• www.natureserve.org
5 Population Trend in R2	B	Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) data indicate a significant increase in central North America in recent decades. BBS data for eastern North America indicate no significant population change in recent decades, though a decline is evident based on data from 1980-1989 and large declines have occurred in the northeastern U.S. Rangewide, areas exhibiting increases far outnumber those showing declines and the BBS trend for 1966-1993 was a significant increase averaging 2.41% per year. Population trend in Canada is decreasing? NORTHERN PLAINS: In North Dakota, Montana, and Ontario, appears to be maintaining its numbers or increasing. In Minnesota, Montana,	• www.natureserve.org • http://www.mbr-pwrc.usgs.gov/bbs/

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		<p>and North and South Dakota, the 1985 Farm Bill has idled millions of acres of croplands through the Agriculture Conservation Reserve Program, potentially creating new habitat. Populations in the central portions of the continent have increased an average of 2.9% (P <= to 0.05) annually over the last decade. Statistically significant annual increases in the relative abundance have been registered in the High Plains Border (8.5%, P <= to 0.05) and Missouri Plateau-Glaciated (11.8%, P <= 0.05) strata of the Great Plains Physiographic Region. The species is viewed as secure in South Dakota and Nebraska, apparently secure in Kansas, and vulnerable in Wyoming and Colorado.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High or Medium or Low</p>	
<p>6 Habitat Trend in R2</p>	<p>B</p>	<p>In general, Upland Sandpipers use areas with low to moderate forb cover, low woody cover, moderate grass cover, moderate to high litter cover, and little bare ground (Buss and Hawkins 1939, Rotenberry and Wiens 1980, Renken 1983, Skinner et al. 1984, Sample 1989, Kantrud and Higgins 1992, Hull et al. 1996). Fence posts or other display perches may be important components of suitable habitat (Bent 1962, Salt and Salt 1976, White 1983). Upland Sandpipers use native and tame grasslands, wet meadows, hayland, pastures, planted cover (e.g., Conservation Reserve Program [CRP] and dense nesting cover [DNC]), cropland, highway and railroad rights-of-way, and grassy areas of airports (Bates 1907, Bent 1962, Goering 1964, Oetting and Cassel 1971, Higgins 1975, Stewart 1975, Johnsgard 1980, White 1980, Renken 1983, Messmer 1985, Renken and Dinsmore 1987, Snyder et al. 1987, Sample 1989, Kantrud and Higgins 1992, Johnson and Schwartz 1993, Johnson and Igl 1995, King and Savidge 1995, Hull et al. 1996). In Wisconsin, Upland Sandpipers were more numerous in non-forested areas with level terrain and with large, unfragmented agricultural fields, preferably hay, oats, or pasture, but not corn (White 1980, 1983). Farm programs promoting idle cover suggest that habitat trends are not declining.</p> <p>Confidence in Rank High or Medium or Low</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • citations in references section
<p>7 Habitat Vulnerability or Modification</p>	<p>B</p>	<p>Initial declines of upland sandpipers were due largely to market hunting. Has disappeared or declined in portions of the eastern U.S. due to destruction (suburbanization) and natural succession of habitat, and probably also frequent disturbance of pastures and hayfields (cut too often to allow breeding). Extensive row-cropping and early crop-cutting probably pose threats to breeders. Some western populations may have declined due to overgrazing. Much of the wintering habitat has been usurped by agriculture.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • www.natureserve.org

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		Loss and fragmentation of habitat due to increased urbanization, changes in farming practices and natural forest succession pose the most serious threats to populations. Livestock trampling and mowing cause damage to nests and eggs. Rapid improvements in habitat can be made through grazing management offering substantial areas of rest or low stocking. Confidence in Rank High or Medium or Low	
8 Life History and Demographics	B	Confidence in Rank High or Medium or Low	•
Initial Evaluator(s): John Sidle			Date: 7/12/01

National Forests in the Rocky Mountain Region where species is KNOWN (K) or LIKELY(L)¹ to occur:

<u>Colorado NF/NG</u>	Known	Likely	<u>Kansas NF/NG</u>	Known	Likely	<u>Nebraska NF/NG</u>	Known	Likely	<u>South Dakota NF/NG</u>	Known	Likely	<u>Wyoming NF/NG</u>	Known	Likely
Arapaho-Roosevelt NF	K		Cimmaron NG	K		Samuel R. McKelvie NF	K		Black Hills NF	K		Shoshone NF		L
White River NF		L				Halsey NF	K		Buffalo Gap NG	K		Bighorn NF		L
Routt NF		L				Nebraska NF	K		Ft. Pierre NG	K		Black Hills NF	K	
Grand Mesa, Uncompahgre, Gunnison NF		L				Ogalala NG	K					Medicine Bow NF	K	
San Juan NF		L										Thunder Basin NG	K	
Rio Grande NF		L												
Pike-San Isabel NF	K													
Comanche NG	K													

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¹ Likely is defined as more likely to occur than not occur on the National Forest or Grassland. This generally can be thought of as having a 50% chance or greater of appearing on NFS lands.

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