

Species: Henslow's Sparrow (*Ammodramus henslowii*)
Global Rank: G4
State Rank: S4
State Wildlife Action Plan: High-level Concern Species
Climate Change Vulnerability: Not Vulnerable/ Increase Likely
Confidence: Very High

Habitat:

Henslow's sparrow prefers extensive grasslands with some vertical structure for perching. The species may be found in meadows, uncut hayfields, and abandoned farm fields but is most commonly found in reclaimed mine sites (McWilliams and Brauning 2000).

Current Threats:

Henslow's sparrows are threatened by habitat loss and habitat fragmentation. The grassland habitat favored by Henslow's sparrows has been reduced due to urbanization, establishment of woody species resulting in a successional conversion from grassland into shrubland or forest, and conversion into agricultural lands. Fragmentation of suitable habitat into smaller patches is another serious threat (NatureServe 2010). Henslow's sparrows prefer generally open landscapes larger than 80 acres and avoid fields that were mowed the previous year (McWilliams and Brauning 2000).

Main Factors Contributing to Vulnerability Rank:

The CCVI rank for this species is Not Vulnerable/Increase Likely. Available evidence suggests that abundance and/or range extent within Pennsylvania is likely to increase by 2050. However, additional stressors that may affect the species are not considered in the CCVI and should also be evaluated when planning conservation related actions.

References:

Brauning, D.W. 1992. Atlas of Breeding Birds in Pennsylvania. University of Pittsburgh Press, Pittsburgh, PA.

McWilliams, G.M. and D.W. Brauning. 2000. The Birds of Pennsylvania. Comstock Publ. Assoc., Cornell Univ. Press, Ithaca, NY.

NatureServe. 2010. NatureServe Central Databases. Arlington, Virginia. USA.