

## *Species of Habitat Fragmentation Concern*

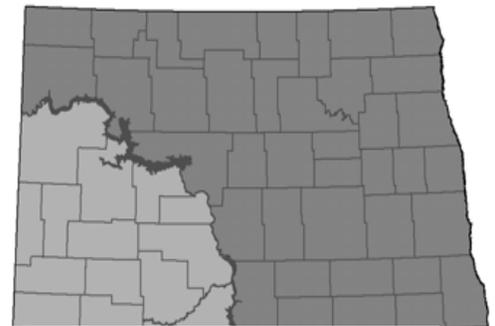
**Species:** Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*)

**Habitat Preference:** Seasonal resident, species nests in North Dakota. Bobolinks prefer a wide variety of grasslands including native prairie, light to moderately grazed pastures and hay fields (Hagen et al., 2005, Martin and Gavin 1995). Vegetation structure and density as well as litter depth important for species nesting in North Dakota (Hagen et al., 2005). Periodic burning of grasslands and suppression of woody vegetation in grasslands known to enhance use by Bobolinks (Hagen et al., 2005)

**Habitat Fragmentation Concerns:** Species of Conservation Priority in North Dakota because of significant declines throughout species range (Level II; Hagen et al., 2005). Majority of research suggests density and occurrence of Bobolinks sensitive to habitat patch size (Ribic et al., 2009; Martin and Gavin, 1995). Major threats to species survival include destruction and/or degradation of grasslands, loss of CRP lands and encroachment of woody vegetation. (Hagen et al., 2005; Martin and Gavin 1995).



Credit: David Herr



**Map of Species Range in North Dakota**  
Source: Hagen et al., 2005

### **General Review Literature:**

- Hagen, S.K., P.T. Isakson, and S.R. Dyke. 2005. North Dakota Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy. North Dakota Game and Fish Department. Bismarck, ND. 454 pp.  
<http://gf.nd.gov/conservation/cwcs.html>.
- Martin, S.G. and T.A. Gavin. 1995. Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*), The Birds of North America Online (A. Poole, Ed.). Ithaca: Cornell Lab of Ornithology; Retrieved from the Birds of North America Online: <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna/species/176>
- Ribic, C.A., R.R. Koford, J.R. Herkert, D.H. Johnson, N.D. Niemuth, D.E. Naugle, K.K. Bakker, D.W. Sample, and R.B. Renfrew. 2009. Area sensitivity in North American grassland birds: Patterns and process. Auk 126:233-244.

Additional Species Management Information: <http://www.npwrc.usgs.gov/resource/literatr/grasbird/bobo/bobo.htm>