

# *Species of Habitat Fragmentation Concern*

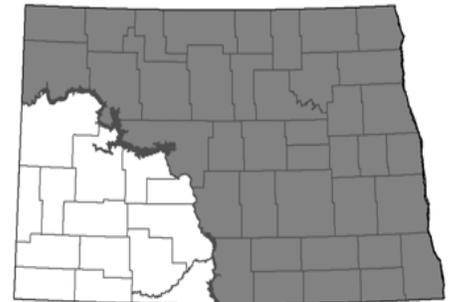
**Species:** Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*)

**Habitat Preference:** Seasonal resident, species nests in North Dakota. Sedge Wren breeding habitat includes dense, tall growths of sedges and grasses in wet meadows, hayfields, retired croplands, upland margins of ponds and marshes (Herkert et al., 2001). Typical breeding habitat is in areas characterized by vegetation and soils that are highly susceptible to drying or flooding caused by annual and seasonal variation in rainfall (Herkert et al., 2001).

**Habitat Fragmentation Concerns:** Species of Conservation Priority in North Dakota because a significant portion of the population (nearly 1/3) of the species breeds in North Dakota (Level II; Hagen et al., 2005). Wetlands preferred by Sedge Wrens, such as sedge/grass meadows with moist or saturated soils, are the most easily drained and filled and have been the type of wetland most frequently destroyed by agriculture and urbanization (Herkert et al., 2001). Occurrence of species is sensitive to habitat patch size (Ribic et al., 2009).



Credit: Berlin Heck



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>.
- Herkert, J. R., D. E. Kroodsma and J. P. Gibbs. 2001. Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*), 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/582>
- 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/sewr/sewr.htm>