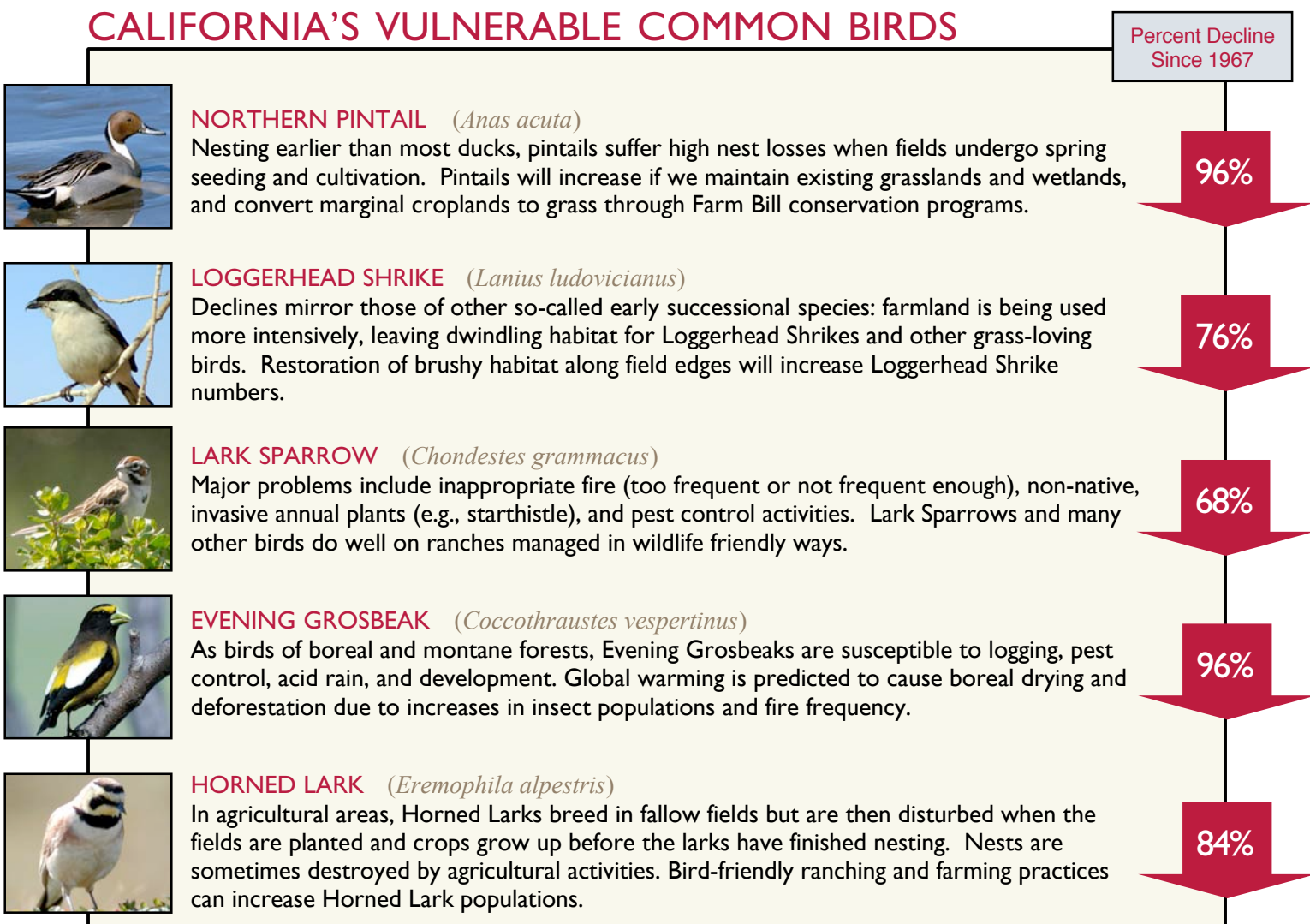


COMMON BIRDS IN DECLINE

A State of the Birds Report Summer 2007

Many of our most common and beloved birds are experiencing precipitous population declines. Analyzing forty years of bird population data collected by citizen scientists for Audubon's Christmas Bird Count, combined, for the first time, with Breeding Bird Survey data from the U.S. Geological Survey, Audubon has identified our nation's most vulnerable common birds. Additional analyses focused on state level trends. Some mirror the national picture, while others reveal local and regional differences. The birds below are suffering the most serious population declines in California. Along with the national *Common Birds in Decline*, they showcase the need for vigilance in protecting local habitats and the health of our environment. Working together, we can make a difference. Visit <http://stateofthebirds.audubon.org/CBID> for the national findings.

CALIFORNIA'S VULNERABLE COMMON BIRDS





CALIFORNIA HABITATS AT RISK

California is a globally recognized biodiversity hotspot. This diversity springs from the wide variety of habitats found in California, from the oak woodlands and agricultural lands of the Central Valley to the coniferous forests of the Sierra Nevada and Klamath Basin, and to the rocky coastline, bays, and estuaries along the Pacific. Less than five percent remain of many habitats in California, and birds face a number of additional threats, including global warming and development pressures.

Audubon California works to reverse habitat declines and promote wildlife friendly legislation and policies. Our 48 local Audubon chapters are key partners in accomplishing this work. Much of our success comes from our cooperative efforts tying chapter efforts in local communities to state policy and best available science.



WHAT AUDUBON CALIFORNIA IS DOING

Across the state Audubon California enlists birdwatchers of all stripes to monitor bird populations and to promote sound stewardship on the ground. With 50% of California in private ownership, our Landowner Stewardship Program is working with landowners to manage their lands in bird friendly ways by offering technical assistance, implementing habitat restoration projects and conducting bird and plant monitoring surveys. Our network of wildlife sanctuaries provides refuge for both common and threatened wildlife. Audubon centers, along with local chapters, reach out into diverse communities to connect the public with nature.

At the state capital, Audubon California helps shape legislation, policy and public funding to protect wildlife and its habitats. Audubon is currently focused on ensuring maximum feasible protection of wildlife habitat and air quality at the Salton Sea, guiding the development of wind power guidelines to reduce its impacts on wildlife, and helping to develop wetlands and riparian policies to protect those important waters of the state.

Our Important Bird Areas program is identifying critical bird habitat throughout the state, and we are working directly with our chapters to promote the conservation and restoration of these areas.



WHAT YOU CAN DO

Californians can help keep common birds common in a variety of ways. Landowners can work with Audubon California and its chapters to implement bird friendly management on their lands.

Volunteers can play a critical role in helping us determine bird population trends by taking part in bird monitoring projects. Participating in the Christmas Bird Count, the Great Backyard Bird Count, and entering bird observations into California eBird are all important ways to help ornithologists track bird populations.

Anyone can join the Audubon Advisory and make their voice heard on key decisions that affect birds and wildlife.

Audubon Advisory

<http://audubonaction.org/audubon/join.html>

California eBird

<http://ebird.org/content/ca/>

Important Bird Areas

<http://ca.audubon.org/iba/index.shtml>