

Cistothorus platensis (Sedge Wren)

Priority 1 Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)

Class: Aves (Birds)

Order: Passeriformes (Perching Birds)

Family: Troglodytidae (Wrens)

General comments:

Historical breeder since 1933. Documented at ~15 sites over time (IFW database), but most unoccupied today (2014). Nine individuals found at 8 sites during 1998-2009 Ecoregional Survey effort. There is likely fewer than 50 pairs in state.

Species Conservation Range Maps for Sedge Wren:

Town Map: [Cistothorus platensis_Towns.pdf](#)

Subwatershed Map: [Cistothorus platensis_HUC12.pdf](#)

SGCN Priority Ranking - Designation Criteria:

Risk of Extirpation:

Maine Status: Endangered

State Special Concern or NMFS Species of Concern: NA

Recent Significant Declines: NA

Regional Endemic: NA

High Regional Conservation Priority:

Northeast Endangered Species and Wildlife Diversity Technical Committee:

Risk: Yes, Data: Yes, Area: No, Spec: No, Warrant Listing: No, Total Categories with "Yes": 2

Partners In Flight:

Regional Species of Concern: Yes, United States and Canada Species of Concern: No, Regional Stewardship Species: No

United States Birds of Conservation Concern:

Bird of Conservation Concern in Bird Conservation Regions 14 and/or 30: Yes

High Climate Change Vulnerability: NA

Understudied rare taxa: NA

Historical: NA

Culturally Significant: NA

Habitats Assigned to Sedge Wren:

Formation Name Agricultural

Macrogroup Name Agricultural

Habitat System Name: Pasture-Hay Notes: *must be wet*

Formation Name Freshwater Marsh

Macrogroup Name Emergent Marsh

Habitat System Name: Laurentian-Acadian Freshwater Marsh Notes: *needs to be grassy or sedgy*

Macrogroup Name Modified-Managed Marsh

Habitat System Name: Modified-Managed Marsh Notes: *needs to be grassy or sedgy*

Macrogroup Name Wet Meadow-Shrub Marsh

Habitat System Name: Laurentian-Acadian Wet Meadow-Shrub Swamp Notes: *most common*

Formation Name Grassland & Shrubland

Macrogroup Name Ruderal Shrubland & Grassland

Habitat System Name: Ruderal Upland - Old Field Notes: *when wet or seepy*

Stressors Assigned to Sedge Wren:

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Stressor Priority Level based on Severity and Actionability		Moderate Severity	High Severity
	Highly Actionable	Medium-High	High
	Moderately Actionable	Medium	Medium-High
	Actionable with Difficulty	Low	Low

IUCN Level 1 Threat Natural Systems Modifications

IUCN Level 2 Threat: Dams and Water Management-Use

Severity: Moderate Severity **Actionability:** Highly actionable

Notes: Can contribute to loss of nesting habitat, but can also create habitat.

IUCN Level 1 Threat Other Options

IUCN Level 2 Threat: Lack of knowledge

Severity: Moderate Severity **Actionability:** Highly actionable

Notes: Knowledge of currently occupied wetlands is very limited; need more survey and monitoring in order to adequately protect nesting wetlands.

IUCN Level 1 Threat Agriculture and Aquaculture

IUCN Level 2 Threat: Annual and Perennial Non-timber crops

Severity: Moderate Severity **Actionability:** Moderately actionable

Notes: Conversion of sedge meadows to agricultural uses.

IUCN Level 2 Threat: Livestock Farming and Ranching

Severity: Moderate Severity **Actionability:** Moderately actionable

Notes: Conversion of sedge meadows to agricultural uses.

IUCN Level 1 Threat Climate Change and Severe Weather

IUCN Level 2 Threat: Storms and Flooding

Severity: Moderate Severity **Actionability:** Actionable with difficulty

Notes: Torrential rains can cause nest failure. Every nesting pair is vital.

Species Level Conservation Actions Assigned to Sedge Wren:

None. *Only species specific conservation actions that address high (red) or medium-high (orange) priority stressors are summarized here.*

Conservation Actions Associated with the Marsh birds Guild:

Conservation Action **Category:** Survey and Monitoring **Biological Priority:** high **Type:** new
Implement targeted surveys to better understand the distribution and status of this species and to help direct conservation actions to newly documented populations

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Lack of knowledge

Conservation Action **Category:** Habitat Management **Biological Priority:** high **Type:** new
Work with landowners to maximize hemi-marsh conditions and maintain stable water levels.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Dams and Water Management-Use

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Conservation Action **Category:** Species Management **Biological Priority:** moderate **Type:** new
Work with landowners to develop and post signs or other strategies for discouraging recreational users from disturbing nesting birds.

Stressor(s) Addressed By This Conservation Action

Recreational Activities

Broad Taxonomic Group Conservation Actions:

Additional relevant conservation actions for this species are assigned within broader taxonomic groups in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-1.

Habitat Based Conservation Actions:

Additional conservation actions that may benefit habitat(s) associated with this species can be found in Maine's 2015 Wildlife Action Plan: Element 4, Table 4-15. Click on the Habitat Grouping of interest to launch a habitat based report summarizing relevant conservation actions and associated SGCN.

The Wildlife Action Plan was developed through a lengthy participatory process with state agencies, targeted conservation partners, and the general public. The Plan is non-regulatory. The species, stressors, and voluntary conservation actions identified in the Plan complement, but do not replace, existing work programs and priorities by state agencies and partners.