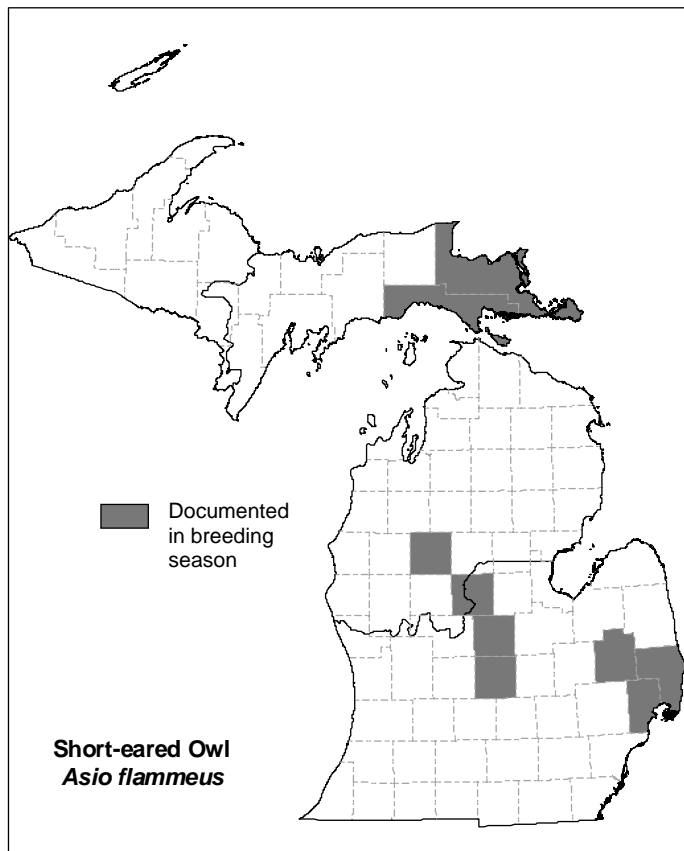


# BIRDS



## Short-eared Owl (*Asio flammeus*)

**DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE:** The Short-eared Owl was probably never common in the State, and it has been undergoing recent declines in numbers due to grassland habitat loss to development and succession. It is currently listed as endangered.

**ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPE FEATURES:** prairie; idle/old field; hayland; pasture; savanna; bog; inland emergent wetland; fen; ephemeral wetland; coastal emergent wetland; large contiguous natural landscape

**ASSOCIATED THREATS:** conversion to agriculture lands; disease, pathogens, & parasites; altered fire regime; fragmentation; grazing & mowing patterns; altered hydrologic regimes; industrial/residential/recreational development; other biological interactions (nest predation by mammals); removal of wildlife; wetland modifications