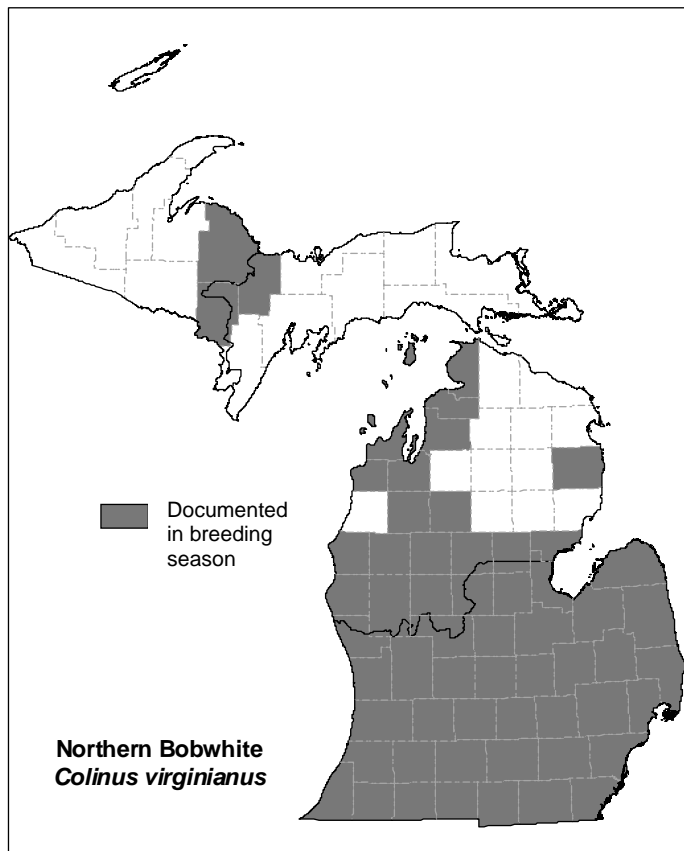


BIRDS



Northern Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*)

DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE: The Northern Bobwhite is found primarily in the Southern Lower Peninsula though it is uncommon outside the eastern half of the ecoregion. BBS data indicate a significant decrease due to the harsh winters of the late 1970s with little recovery. This trend is compounded by a loss of suitable wintering habitat.

ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPE FEATURES: prairie; idle/old field; hayland; pasture; row crop; right-of-way; fence row; savanna; lowland shrub; upland shrub; mesic hardwood; mesic conifer; edge; inland rock/cliff/ledge

ASSOCIATED THREATS: conversion to agriculture lands; altered fire regime; grazing & mowing patterns; incompatible natural resource mgmt; industrial/residential/recreational development; invasive plants & animals; other biological interactions (predation; reduction of vegetative cover due to deer browsing)

COMMENTS: Increases in the use of clean farming practices, plantation forestry, fire suppression, and overgrazing may impact the abundance and quality of available Northern Bobwhite habitat.