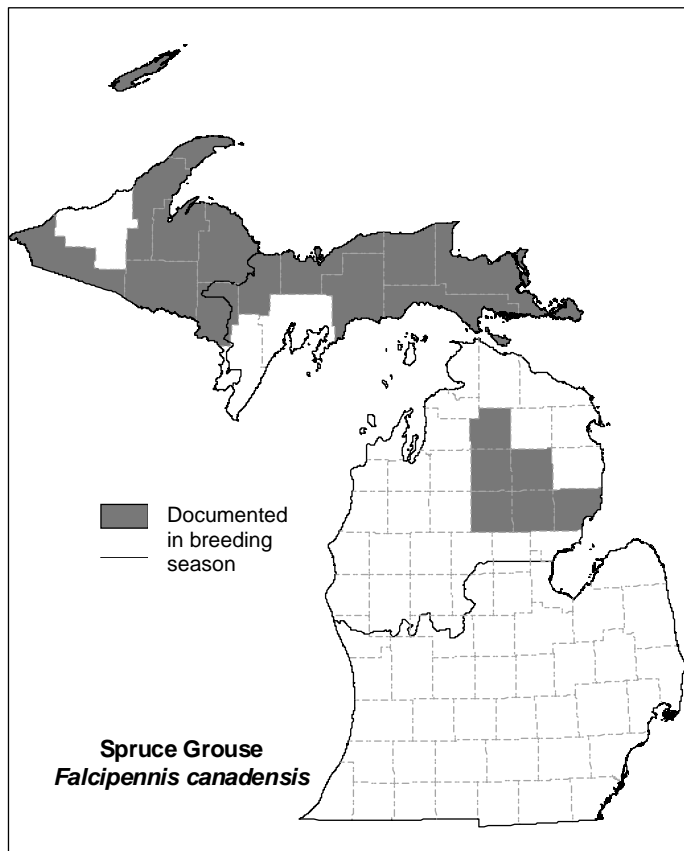


# BIRDS



## Spruce Grouse

*(Falci pennis canadensis)*

**DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE:** Spruce Grouse are rare in Michigan and are designated as a species of special concern.

**ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPE FEATURES:** lowland hardwood; lowland conifer; mesic conifer; dry conifer; forest opening; other (low berries (especially blueberry)); down woody debris

**ASSOCIATED THREATS:** altered fire regime; fragmentation; incompatible natural resource mgmt; industrial/residential/recreational development; forestry practices; other biological interactions (predation by birds and mammals); removal of wildlife.

**COMMENTS:** Low berries, especially blueberry, are a vital food source. Both presence and condition of spruce-jack pine forest are important: fire suppression results in over mature stands; recreational development along lakeshores removes stands, and conversion to pine plantations reduces their value Spruce Grouse.