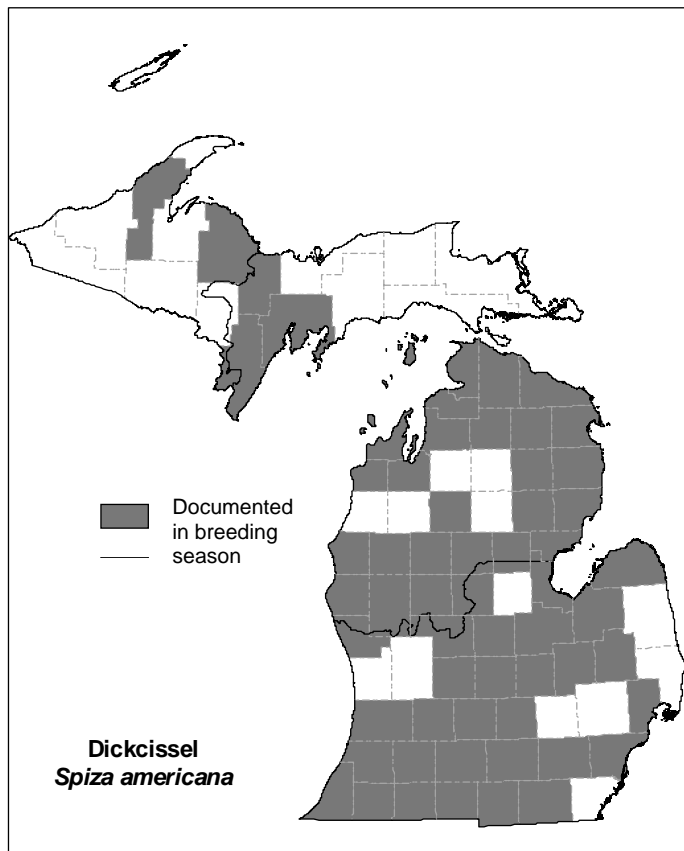


BIRDS



Dickcissel

(*Spiza americana*)

DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE: A species of special concern, the Dickcissel is at the edge of its range in Michigan and may exhibit dramatic fluctuations in population size. In average years, it may be regularly found throughout the Lower Peninsula with higher densities in the southwestern corner of the State.

ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPE FEATURES: prairie; idle/old field; hayland; pasture; right-of-way; fence row; savanna

ASSOCIATED THREATS: grazing & mowing patterns; invasive plants & animals; pesticides & herbicides

COMMENTS: Nest parasitism by Cowbirds (*Molothrus ater*) may be significant. Accidental poisoning of roosting birds on the wintering grounds in Venezuela due to pesticide application may have an impact.