

BIRDS



Brown Thrasher

(*Toxostoma rufum*)

DISTRIBUTION & ABUNDANCE: The Brown Thrasher is fairly common statewide with higher densities in the Lower Peninsula. Its abundance likely increased during settlement due to the clearing of forests. As cleared land reverted to forest, brown thrashers began to decline in Michigan.

ASSOCIATED LANDSCAPE FEATURES: idle/old field; right-of-way; fence row; savanna; lowland shrub; upland shrub; dry hardwood; dry conifer; forest opening; forest opening; swamp; edge

ASSOCIATED THREATS: altered fire regime; industrial/residential/recreational development; other biological interactions (competition with catbirds and cardinals for nesting territories)