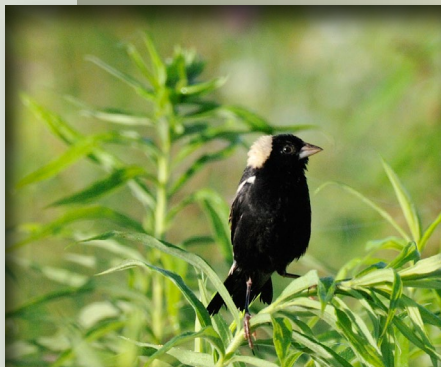




KNIFE RIVER INDIAN VILLAGES NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE 2014 RESOURCE BRIEF



Above: The Bobolink was detected 232 times during the 2014 field season. Although abundant, it is listed as a species of concern by Partners in Flight and the state of North Dakota. Photo Credit: Bill Thompson

LANDBIRD MONITORING

Overview: Knife River Indian Villages National Historic Site was established in 1974 to preserve and interpret an area rich in Hidatsa, Mandan and Arikara culture near the confluence of the Knife River and the Missouri River in North Dakota. The park encompasses 1,749 acres of native grasslands, riparian forests, sandbars and wetlands.

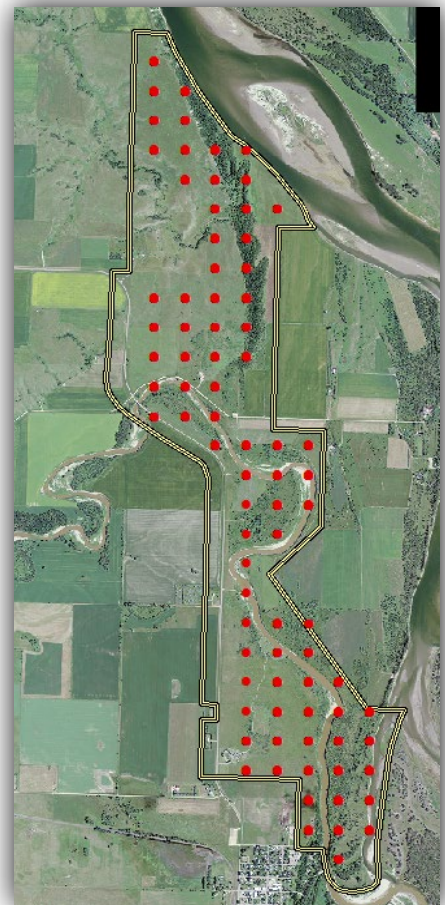
The Northern Great Plains Inventory and Monitoring Network assisted in development of a long-term bird monitoring protocol jointly with Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory (RMBO). The 2014 breeding season was the second year of bird surveys.

RMBO technicians surveyed 83 points in 2014. The counts were conducted in June, and a total of 2,125 birds representing 87 species were recorded.

Highlights: As in 2013, the Bobolink was the most common bird detected in the park with 11% of the species composition. Other common species were the Western Meadowlark (6%), Clay-colored Sparrow (6%), Ring-necked Pheasant (6% - non-native species) and the Mourning Dove (6%). In 2014, seven new species were recorded for the park. These included the Connecticut Warbler, Eurasian Collared-Dove (non-native), Hooded Merganser, Northern Bobwhite, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Sora, and Wilson's Snipe.

The Bobolink is listed as a species of concern by Partners in Flight and the state of North Dakota (page 2). According to the Breeding

Bird Survey, their population has declined significantly since 1966. On their wintering grounds in South America, they are shot as agricultural pests and trapped as pets. However, the primary reason for their decline is land-use change. One important management practice that benefits the Bobolink is managing natural prairies through prescribed burning.



Right: Point locations surveyed during the 2014 field season.



BIRD SPECIES DETECTED AT KNIFE RIVER INDIAN VILLAGES NHS

Common Name	2013	2014	Common Name	2013	2014	Common Name	2013	2014	Common Name	2013	2014
Alder Flycatcher	1	0	Chipping Sparrow	3	2	Lark Bunting	0	3	Sora	0	1
American Crow	2	0	Clay-colored Sparrow	107	126	Lark Sparrow	8	11	Spotted Sandpiper	6	6
American Goldfinch	70	52	Cliff Swallow	84	32	Lazuli Bunting	0	6	Spotted Towhee	11	16
American Kestrel	3	2	Common Grackle	32	34	Le Conte's Sparrow	1	0	Tennessee Warbler	7	0
American Redstart	28	20	Common Nighthawk	1	0	Least Flycatcher	52	57	Tree Swallow	21	13
American Robin	50	34	Common Yellowthroat	33	73	Magnolia Warbler	1	0	Turkey Vulture	3	11
American White Pelican	30	0	Connecticut Warbler	0	1	Mallard	15	20	Upland Sandpiper	7	6
Bald Eagle	1	4	Cooper's Hawk	1	1	Mourning Dove	111	118	Vesper Sparrow	0	2
Baltimore Oriole	14	7	Dickcissel	0	2	Mourning Warbler	1	0	Warbling Vireo	9	20
Bank Swallow	84	87	Downy Woodpecker	8	2	Northern Bobwhite	0	2	Western Kingbird	4	19
Barn Swallow	33	6	Eastern Bluebird	5	15	Northern Flicker	20	17	Western Meadowlark	111	130
Belted Kingfisher	1	0	Eastern Kingbird	15	32	Northern Harrier	3	2	Western Wood-Pewee	1	0
Black-and-white Warbler	0	4	Eastern Wood-Pewee	2	6	Northern Pintail	1	0	White-breasted Nuthatch	8	6
Black-billed Magpie	12	9	Eurasian Collared-Dove	0	2	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	1	7	Wild Turkey	5	8
Black-capped Chickadee	16	8	European Starling	15	19	Orchard Oriole	1	10	Willow Flycatcher	0	3
Black-headed Grosbeak	25	15	Field Sparrow	17	36	Ovenbird	4	0	Wilson's Snipe	0	4
Blackpoll Warbler	1	0	Gadwall	8	2	Red-bellied Woodpecker	1	0	Wood Duck	9	5
Blue Jay	8	3	Grasshopper Sparrow	59	41	Red-eyed Vireo	12	24	Yellow Warbler	145	106
Blue-winged Teal	1	5	Gray Catbird	16	17	Red-headed Woodpecker	7	9	Yellow-breasted Chat	0	4
Bobolink	220	232	Great Blue Heron	3	0	Red-tailed Hawk	4	2	Yellow-headed Blackbird	1	1
Brewer's Blackbird	3	5	Great Horned Owl	2	3	Red-winged Blackbird	79	50	Yellow-rumped Warbler	2	0
Broad-winged Hawk	1	0	Green-winged Teal	1	0	Ring-necked Pheasant	74	121	Yellow-throated Vireo	1	5
Brown Thrasher	9	4	Hairy Woodpecker	8	9	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	0	1			
Brown-headed Cowbird	93	100	Hooded Merganser	0	1	Savannah Sparrow	8	11			
California Gull	7	1	Horned Lark	0	1	Say's Phoebe	0	1			
Canada Goose	142	48	House Wren	81	106	Sedge Wren	13	20			
Cedar Waxwing	55	21	Indigo Bunting	7	0	Sharp-tailed Grouse	7	2			
Chimney Swift	1	1	Killdeer	10	5	Song Sparrow	28	29			

* New Species for Park

* Species of Importance: Determined by Partners in Flight priority species list and State of North Dakota priority list.

*Rocky Mountain Bird Observatory. 2014. The Rocky Mountain Avian Data Center. { web app}. Brighton, CO. <http://adc.rmbo.org>. (Accessed December 4, 2014).

