

GET TO KNOW YOUR BIRD NEIGHBORS IN SAGEBRUSH



Sage Grouse

Sage Grouse are among the most iconic and high conservation-priority birds in western North America. During the summer, they can be seen in elaborate breeding displays puffing their chests, and raising tail feathers.



Sagebrush Sparrow

Another high priority species dependent on sagebrush habitat. This handsome sparrow can be told by gray hood and distinct white eye-ring. You may see it run along the ground, or perched on top of shrubs singing a warbling trill.



Brewer's Sparrow

This little sparrow is plain in appearance, with a brown-gray coloration and white facial streaks. However, it makes up for it with a loud personality, giving a lengthy descending song of bubbly trills and whistles.



Sage Thrasher

A unique songbird of the sagebrush, larger than sparrows and told by streaked belly, yellow eye, and long bill. Sage Thrasher is a persistent singer, giving a long, warbling, whistling like song.

Did you know?



- *Sagebrush habitats make up nearly 50% of U.S. western rangelands*
- *Sagebrush is important habitat for birds, pollinators, and mammals like pronghorn and deer*
- *Some sagebrush shrubs can live to be > 100 years old!*





Learn about Bird Conservancy's stewardship on private lands



SAVING THE SAGEBRUSH: MANAGEMENT TIPS

Habitat loss ↘

Over 1 million acres of sagebrush habitat is lost each year!



Are easements right for your land?

The best thing you can do for sagebrush songbirds is protect their habitat! Sagebrush is a high-priority habitat, and many NGO and government entities may offer easement programs to keep it intact. In easement agreements, you receive rental payments to maintain your land in sagebrush. Contact your local land trust to learn about options.



Protect wet meadows

Wet meadows occur within sagebrush areas, and they are especially important. They act as fire breaks, increase plant and insect productivity, and provide breeding habitat for Sage Grouse. Protect them by installing simple rock structures to slow erosion and restore hydrology, and by reducing grazing to maintain adequate cover for nesting grouse.



Control cheatgrass invasion

Cheatgrass is a problematic invasive in many habitats throughout the west. Invasion reduces diversity, outcompetes native vegetation, and creates fine fuels that increase risk and severity of wildfires. Protect your land and sage-dependent species by monitoring the occurrence of cheatgrass, and consider herbicide application to control it.