

Grassland Conservation Activity Pages





Short-eared Owl

New York State

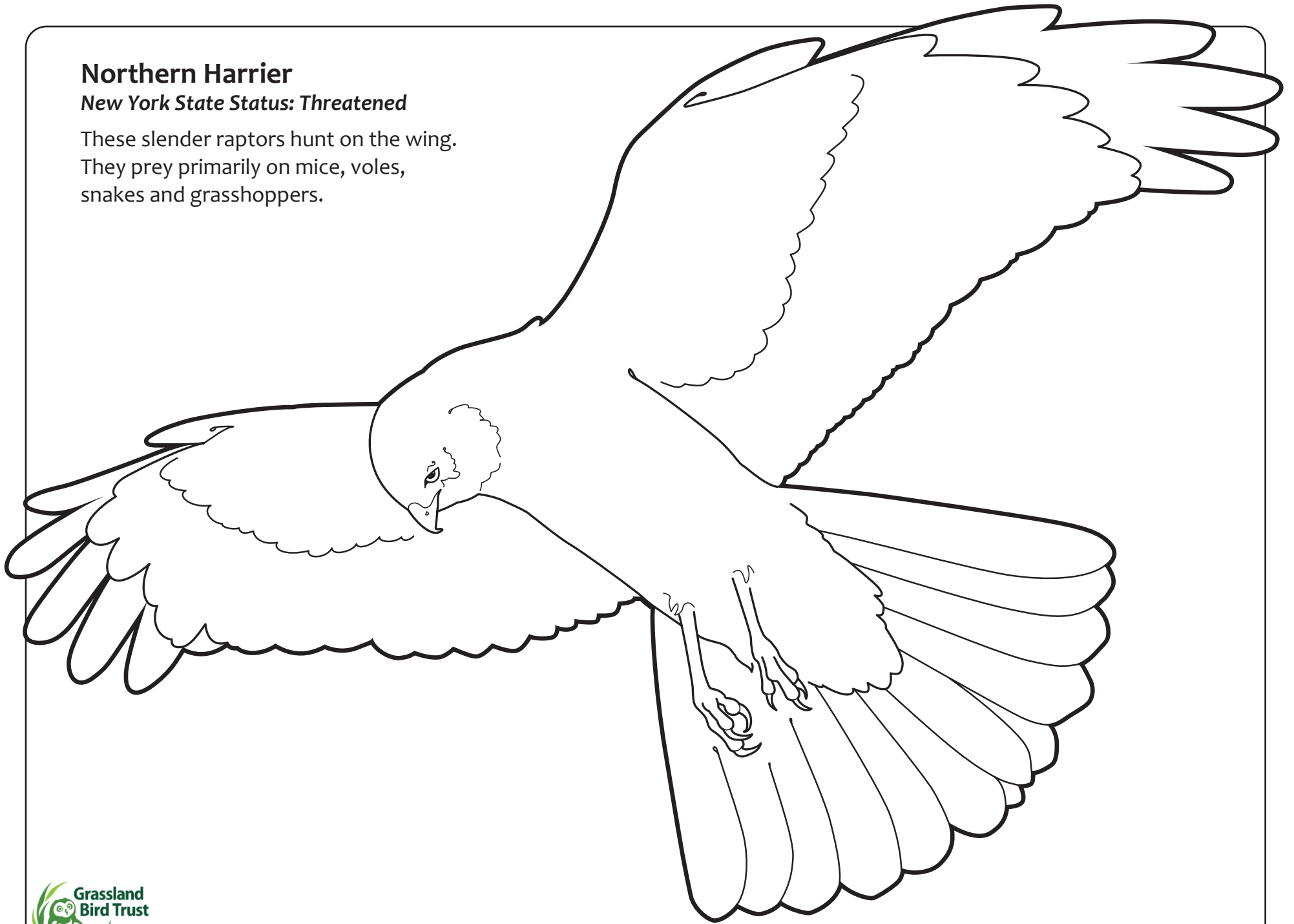
Status: Endangered

Once one of New York's most common owls, now there are less than 100 left in the wild in New York State.

Northern Harrier

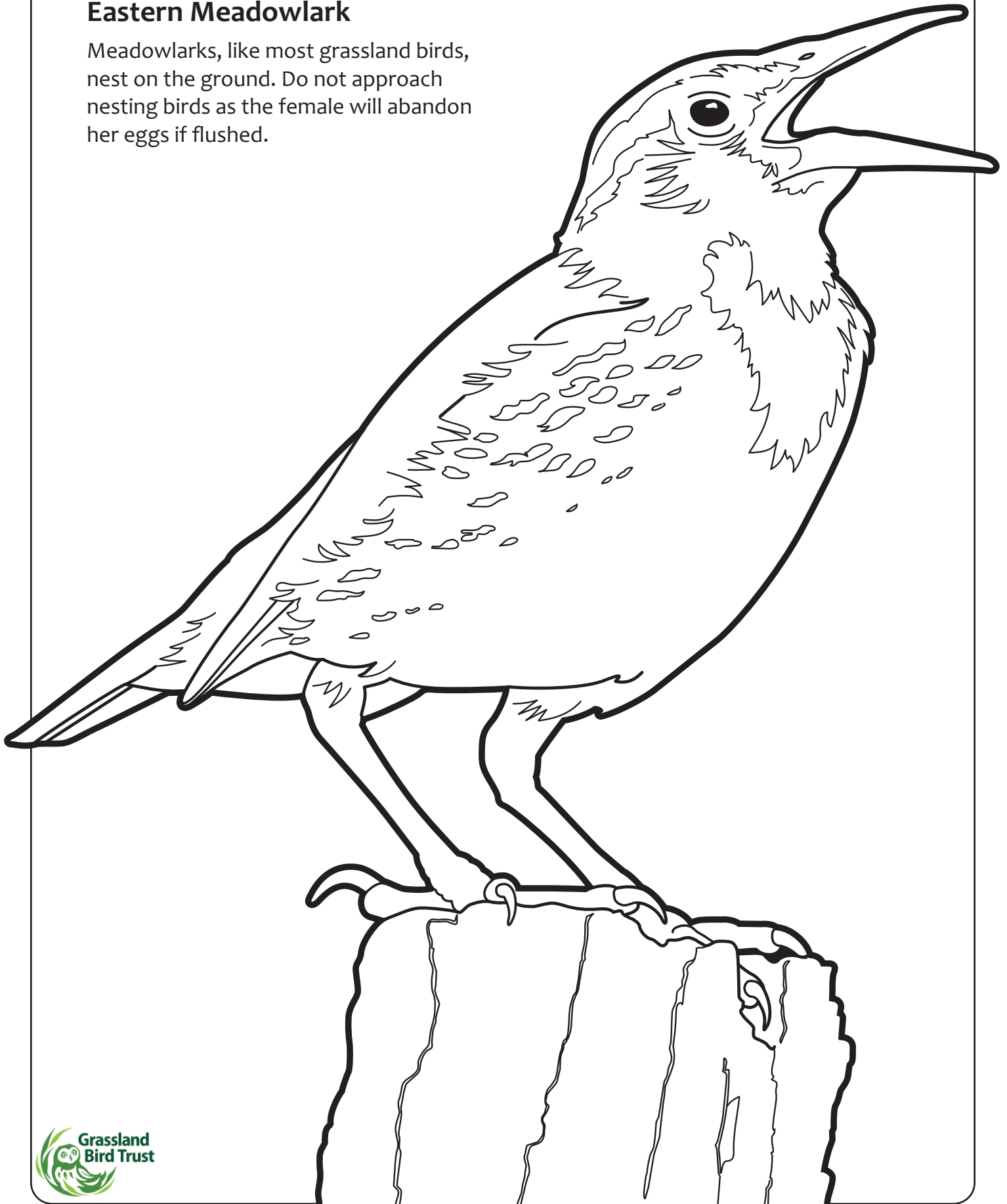
New York State Status: *Threatened*

These slender raptors hunt on the wing.
They prey primarily on mice, voles,
snakes and grasshoppers.

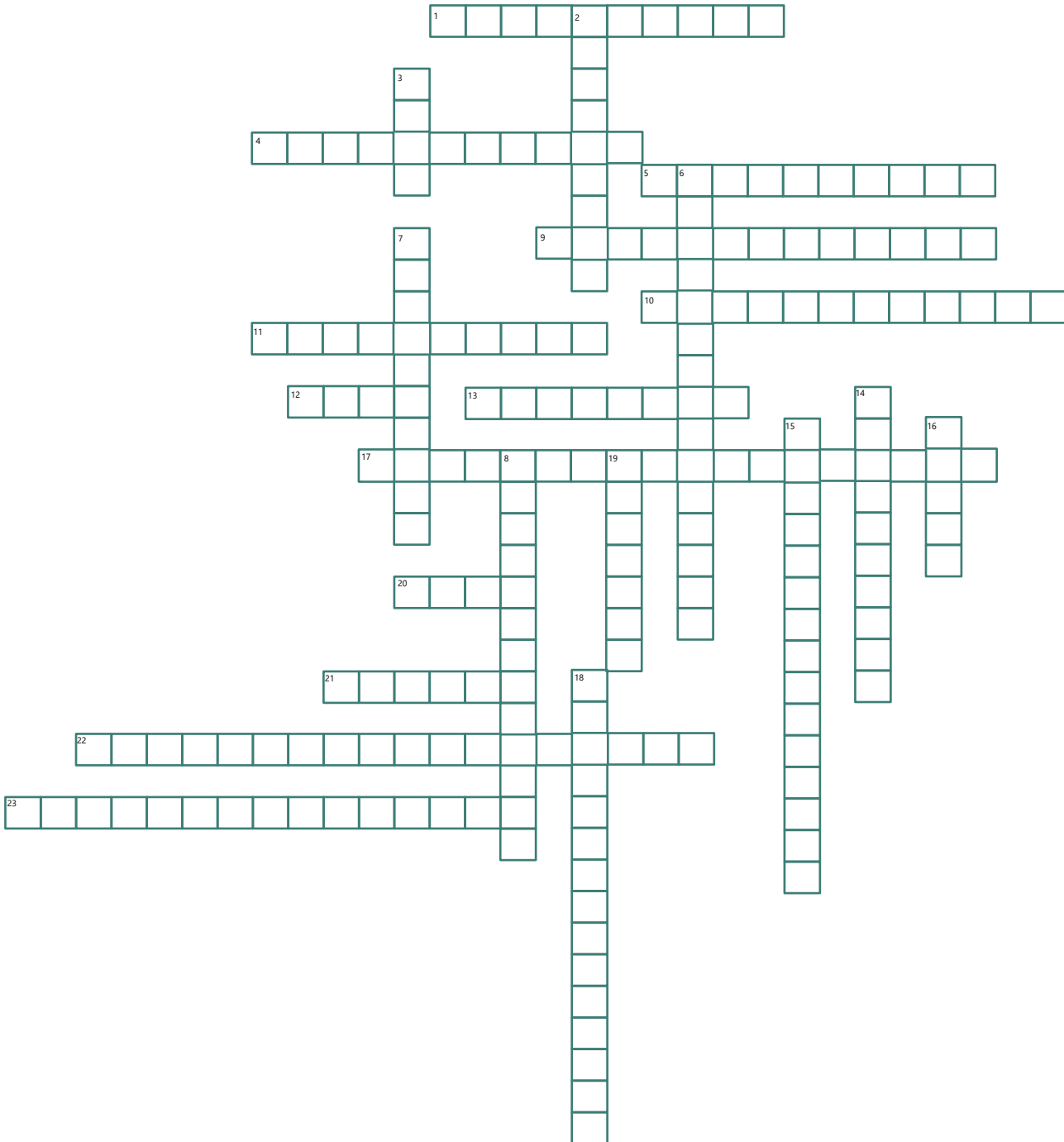


Eastern Meadowlark

Meadowlarks, like most grassland birds, nest on the ground. Do not approach nesting birds as the female will abandon her eggs if flushed.



Grassland Birds Crossword Puzzle



New York State has listed eleven grassland birds of greatest conservation need. Can you figure out which ones those are and what they depend on for survival?

Hint: check out our website for clues!

<https://www.grasslandbirdtrust.org/conservation/grassland-birds-at-risk/>

Down:

- 2. This small bird has white/yellow round belly. Keep your ears peeled for the male song at night!
- 3. A safe place where a bird can incubate its eggs and raise its young.
- 6. This bird prefers to nest in dead tree cavities near the edges of open fields. They will nest in abandoned barns, sheds and nest boxes if they cannot find a suitable tree. However, their populations continue to decline, primarily due to pesticide poisoning.
- 7. The conservation status of a species that is very likely to become extinct in the near future.
- 8. The Grassland Bird Trust mascot. Hint: check out our logo!
- 14. This bird has small, yet distinctive hornlike feathers that sometimes stick straight up on the head.
- 15. Large, ground-nesting songbirds that forage in shorter grasses for beetles, grasshoppers and other insects but prefer to nest in taller grasses. Their call is a loud "wolf whistle."
- 16. Rodent that falls prey to owls, hawks, cats, dogs, skunks and snakes.
- 18. This male raptor has a beautiful grey plumage and mostly white underside, in contrast to the heavily streaked brown female of the same species. He is nicknamed the "Grey Ghost."
- 19. A bird's feathers. Patterns and colors vary.

Across:

- 1. Area in which the vegetation is dominated by a nearly continuous cover of grasses.
- 4. Insect with long legs, antennae, and wings.
- 5. Birds _____ themselves to hide from potential predators or prey.
- 9. You can see this bird's white outer tail feathers when flying. It also has a narrow white eye ring.
- 10. The variety of life in a particular habitat or ecosystem.
- 11. The conservation status of a species that is vulnerable to endangerment in the near future.
- 12. A songbird can _____ beautifully.
- 13. Distinct breeding male plumage - black chest and yellow patch on back of head.

17. This bird's song is two short notes followed by a high insect-like trill. Hint: a common type of insect is in the bird's common name!

20. What birds do to get food.

21. Sedge wrens forage for these arthropods with eight legs.

22. A 501(c)(3) nonprofit land trust conserving critical habitat for endangered, threatened and rapidly declining grassland birds.

23. A small, flat-headed sparrow with a dark spot behind the eye and dark strips on the side of its crown. Olive colored.

Grasslands & Climate Change Word Search

We are currently experiencing the impact of global climate change all over the world. By conserving grasslands, Grassland Bird Trust is working to do its part to mitigate climate change. Learn more on our website!

<https://www.grasslandbirdtrust.org/conservation/climate-change/>

N	M	T	M	O	T	C	M	G	L	O	B	A	L
O	T	O	C	A	U	O	L	I	P	U	C	O	O
I	C	O	L	L	A	B	O	R	A	T	I	O	N
T	F	D	I	S	T	O	O	R	D	U	O	M	O
A	O	R	M	E	R	E	H	P	S	O	M	T	A
G	S	O	A	S	R	T	W	E	A	T	H	E	R
I	S	U	T	E	A	R	T	H	Q	U	A	K	E
T	I	G	E	T	K	S	D	O	O	L	F	C	L
I	L	H	C	O	O	L	R	H	T	A	S	A	M
M	F	T	H	E	H	Q	O	E	R	R	T	R	T
M	U	I	A	D	S	L	P	L	D	A	E	B	E
I	E	T	N	W	O	T	O	I	A	U	O	O	S
W	L	W	G	P	I	S	T	O	L	E	C	N	L
N	E	L	E	A	L	N	S	Q	S	E	D	E	E

MITIGATION
EARTHQUAKE
FLOODS
COLLABORATION

ROOTS
REDUCE
SOIL
CARBON

GLOBAL
ATMOSPHERE
FOSSIL FUEL

CLIMATE CHANGE
WEATHER
DROUGHT

Grassland Health & Management Word Search

How can we maintain the open, grassy conditions necessary for successful breeding and wintering by grassland birds? Learn more on our website!

<https://www.grasslandbirdtrust.org/conservation/land-management-practices/>

I	A	T	I	G	V	E	G	T	I	D	O	A	G
M	O	O	O	G	E	A	S	O	R	T	N	N	M
G	H	N	C	T	G	N	O	E	U	I	I	H	A
N	T	M	U	D	E	T	C	T	D	G	R	E	N
I	A	O	T	L	T	L	T	W	G	N	N	G	A
W	T	T	T	E	A	U	E	I	T	G	A	R	G
O	I	A	I	I	T	E	D	V	N	A	G	O	E
M	B	E	N	F	I	I	G	A	O	T	T	T	M
N	A	I	G	H	O	A	T	E	T	H	S	A	E
N	H	A	C	B	N	G	M	E	D	A	S	T	N
I	O	N	O	S	A	A	G	R	N	T	G	I	T
A	R	V	V	T	T	H	E	D	G	E	R	O	W
E	T	H	T	H	A	T	C	H	S	R	N	N	G
S	S	A	R	G	N	V	N	F	H	H	G	M	T

SHOVEL
HEDGEROW
VEGETATION

FIELD
THATCH
CUTTING

GRASS
HABITAT
MOWING

MANAGEMENT
ROTATION
DIGGING

BONUS
PAGE!



SNOWY OWL

CROSSWORD PUZZLE ANSWER KEY

Down:

- 2. Sedge Wren
- 3. Nest
- 6. American Kestrel
- 7. Endangered
- 8. Short Eared Owl
- 14. Horned Lark
- 15. Upland Sandpiper
- 16. Mouse
- 18. Northern Harrier
- 19. Plumage

Across:

- 1. Grasslands
- 4. Grasshopper
- 5. Camouflage
- 9. Vesper Sparrow
- 10. Biodiversity
- 11. Threatened
- 12. Sing
- 13. Bobolink
- 17. Grasshopper Sparrow
- 20. Hunt
- 21. Spider
- 22. Grassland Bird Trust
- 23. Henslows Sparrow

CLIMATE CHANGE ANSWER KEY

N	M	T	M	O	T	C	M	G	L	O	B	A	L
O	T	O	C	A	U	O	L	I	P	U	C	O	O
I	C	O	L	L	A	B	O	R	A	T	I	O	N
T	F	D	I	S	T	O	O	R	D	U	O	M	O
A	O	R	M	E	R	E	H	P	S	O	M	T	A
G	S	O	A	S	R	T	W	E	A	T	H	E	R
I	S	U	T	E	A	R	T	H	Q	U	A	K	E
T	I	G	E	T	K	S	D	O	O	L	F	C	L
I	L	H	C	O	O	L	R	H	T	A	S	A	M
M	F	T	H	E	H	Q	O	E	R	R	T	R	T
M	U	I	A	D	S	L	P	L	D	A	E	B	E
I	E	T	N	W	O	T	O	I	A	U	O	O	S
W	L	W	G	P	I	S	T	O	L	E	C	N	L
N	E	L	E	A	L	N	S	Q	S	E	D	E	E

HEALTH & MANAGEMENT ANSWER KEY

