

Species: Northern Bobwhite (*Colinus virginianus*)
Global Rank: G5
State Rank: S1
State Wildlife Action Plan Priority: Immediate Concern Species
CCVI Rank: Not Vulnerable/Presumed Stable
Confidence: Very High

Habitat:

Typical habitat in Pennsylvania includes farmland, hedgerows, abandoned fields, and woodland margins (Brauning 1992). They require a mixture of grass, croplands, abandoned fields, and brushy woodland margins for cover (McWilliams and Brauning 2000).

Current Threats:

The greatest threats to Northern Bobwhites are habitat loss and fragmentation associated with farmland conversion, changes in farm practices (i.e. more intensified farming, more frequent mowing schedules, and single crop production), fire suppression, replacement of native grasses, and overgrazing by cattle (NatureServe 2010).

Main Factors Contributing to Vulnerability Rank:

Although Northern Bobwhites may be sensitive to certain climate change related factors addressed in the CCVI, such as predicted land use impacts designed to mitigate against climate change and mostly nonmigratory or limited migratory populations, the CCVI rank is not vulnerable/presumed stable. Available evidence does not suggest that abundance and/or range extent within Pennsylvania will change (increase/decrease) substantially by 2050. However, actual range boundaries may change.

Literature Cited:

Brauning, D.W. 1992. Atlas of Breeding Birds in Pennsylvania. University of Pittsburgh Press. Pittsburgh, PA, 484pp.

McWilliams, G.M. and D.W. Brauning. 2000. The Birds of Pennsylvania. Comstock Publ. Assoc., Cornell Univ. Press, Ithaca, NY.

NatureServe. 2010. NatureServe Central Databases. Arlington, Virginia. USA.