

Species: Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*)
Global Rank: G5
State Rank: S5B
State Wildlife Action Plan: Responsibility Species
Climate Change Vulnerability Index: Not Vulnerable/Increase Likely
Confidence: Very High

Habitat:

Wood thrush is a fairly common breeder in Pennsylvania. In the breeding season, the species prefers moist woodlands but will also use a variety of habitats, including dry hillsides, parks, orchards, and woodlots in suburbs (McWilliams and Brauning 2000). It prefers larger forested areas to smaller woodlots. During migration, wood thrushes are found in mixed woodlands and brushy edges (McWilliams and Brauning 2000).

Current Threats:

Although breeding bird data in eastern North America shows a slight population decline, wood thrushes are still abundant and occupy a large breeding range in eastern North America. The species is threatened by forest fragmentation and the resulting increases in nest predation (NatureServe 2010).

Main Factors Contributing to Vulnerability Rank:

Although wood thrushes may be sensitive to certain climate change related factors addressed in the CCVI, the CCVI rank is Not Vulnerable/Increase Likely. Available evidence suggests that abundance and/or range extent within Pennsylvania is likely to increase by 2050. However, additional stressors that may affect the species are not considered in the CCVI and should also be evaluated when planning conservation related actions.

References:

- 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.