

Birds, Birds, Birds!

Background information:

Pyric herbivory and mixed grazing are effective practices for promoting biodiversity and reducing the risks of woody plant encroachment and wildfires. Following a rangeland fire, plants begin to reappear. As the plants reemerge, wildlife, including birds, occupy the area. If the rangeland goes untreated after the fire, the rangeland composition begins to change. As the rangeland plants change, the types of birds change as well.

Procedure:

Research the rangeland birds (pictured below) to help determine the state of the rangeland. Label each bird with one of the following conservation ratings:

Low concern
Declining
Steep declining

Rangeland Birds

1. Killdeer



2. Eastern Meadowlark



3. Grasshopper Sparrow



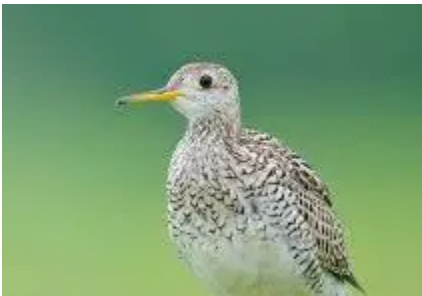
4. Lark Sparrow



5. Henslow' Sparrow



6. Upland Sandpiper



Questions:

1. Which birds indicated a low concern for the rangeland?
2. What types of plants might be found in this area?
3. Which birds indicated a declining rangeland?
4. What types of plants might be found in this area?
5. Which birds indicated a steep declining rangeland?
6. What types of plants might be found in this area?

7. Your neighbor is trying to decide whether or not to use pyric herbivory on their land. How could you convince them to use it?