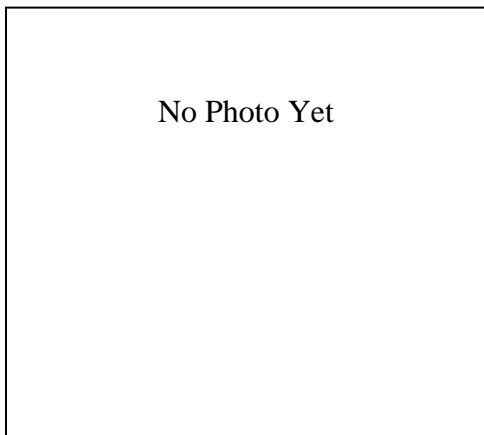


Common Poorwill

Phalaenoptilus nuttallii

Conservation Profile



| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Priority Status | Stewardship Target |
| Reasons for Priority Status | High stewardship responsibility Possible declines |
| Other Rankings | Continental PIF: None Audubon Watchlist: None Natural Heritage: S5B USFWS: Migratory Bird BLM: None NDOW: None |
| Trends | Historical: No information Recent: Data inadequate to determine, but BBS suggests possible declines [i1, p1] |
| Population Size Estimates | Nevada (PIF): 700,000 Global: 3,000,000 [p5] Percent of Global: 23% |
| Population Objective | TBD |
| Monitoring Coverage | Survey coverage is absent or inadequate across Nevada |
| Key Conservation Areas | Unknown |

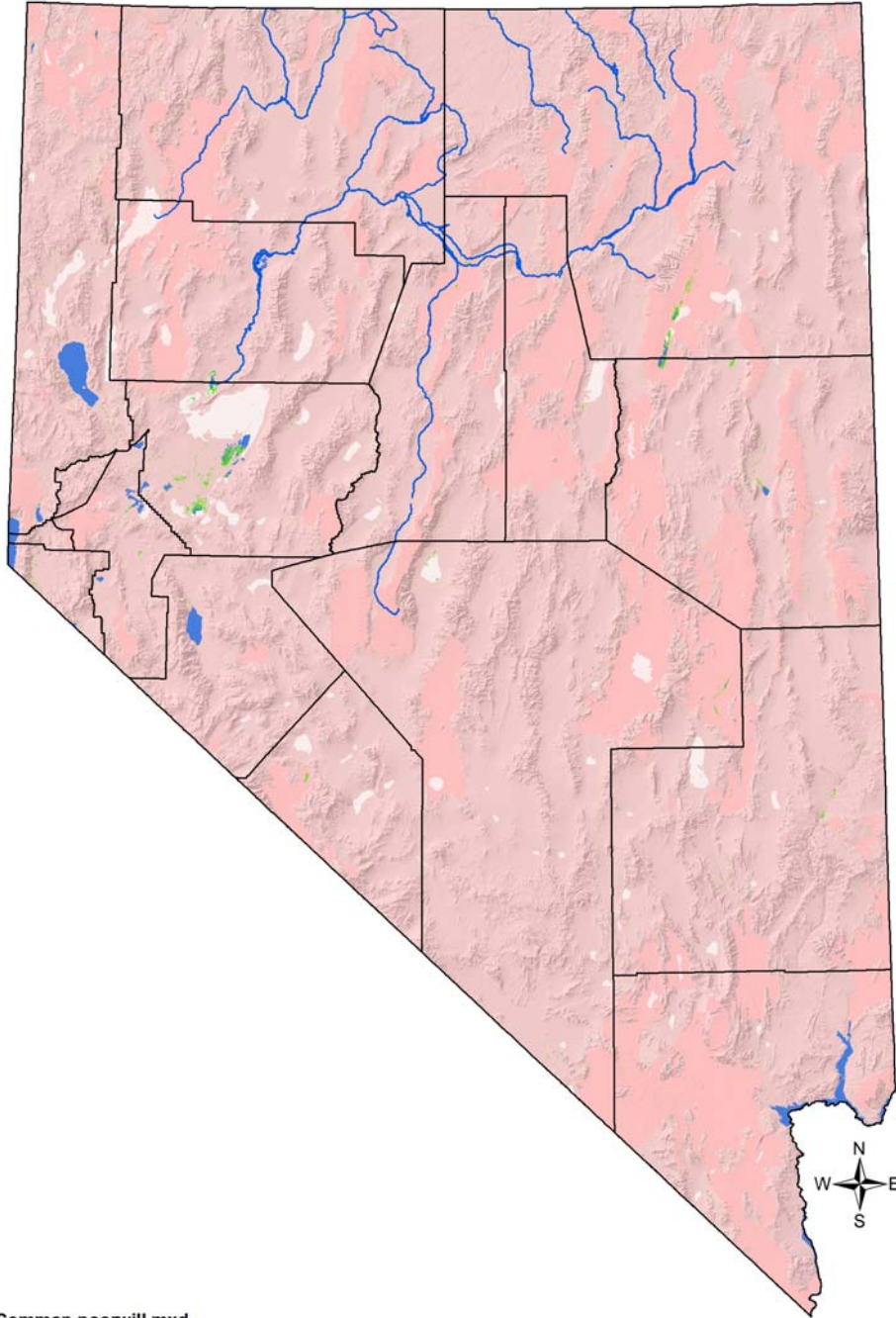
Habitat Use Profile

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Main Habitats Used in Nevada | Sagebrush Pinyon-Juniper Montane Shrubland Montane Sagebrush |
| Key Habitat Use Parameters | Poorly known, but observed in a variety of shrubland or open woodland habitats with significant coverage of bare ground and low vegetation [p1] |
| Minimum Patch Size | No good data; individuals thought to be spaced ~ 0.5 km apart in suitable habitat [p1] |

Natural History Profile

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Seasonal Presence in Nevada | Spring – summer Probably migratory throughout Nevada, but details unclear; southern birds could potentially remain year-round [p1] |
| Known Breeding Dates in Nevada | May (possibly earlier)– August [p1] |
| Nesting Habits | Nests on bare ground, often partially shaded by shrub overhead [p1] |
| Food Requirements | Aerially forages for nocturnal flying insects [p1] |

Common Poorwill
Phalaenoptilus nuttallii



File: Common poorwill.mxd

Common Poorwill

Phalaenoptilus nuttallii

Temporary Map Key

Pink: Breeding range

Hot pink / magenta: For some birds, breeding data was limited, and was supplemented by extrapolation to include likely breeding range. In these cases, hot pink represents known breeding range, and lighter pink the extrapolated breeding range.

Blue: Winter range

Yellow: Important migration stopover areas

Purple: Year-round range

Green: In some maps, wetlands mapped by SWReGAP are shown in green for interpretational purposes

Dot symbols: In cases where breeding records were isolated or very restricted in extent, they are represented by a pink dot symbol rather than a shaded area.

Arrows: Major migration routes. These are shown only for birds for which there are migration-associated conservation issues.

OVERVIEW

Because of its nocturnal habitats and extreme inconspicuousness during daylight hours, very little is known about the habitat use requirements and conservation issues for this species. Unlike most of the birds covered in this plan, there is little information, or even conjecture, about the status of populations in Nevada. It is apparent, though, that Nevada has a large portion of the global population of poorwills, despite representing only a small fraction of the bird's geographical range. Even their basic habitat use in Nevada has not yet been studied in any detail, although they are most commonly detected in open scrublands, such as sagebrush and salt desert. Because many of the species inhabiting Nevada's shrublands have suffered declines due to habitat loss and degradation, we need to learn more about the Common Poorwill's habitat requirements and conservation status.

ABUNDANCE AND OCCUPANCY BY HABITAT

- No data

NEVADA-SPECIFIC STUDIES AND ANALYSES

- None

MAIN THREATS AND CHALLENGES

- Little is known about threats or the impacts of typical land use issues in shrublands and Pinyon-Juniper woodland
- Habitat-destroying fire and invasion of exotic plants are likely to be detrimental, but no data exist

Common Poorwill

Phalaenoptilus nuttallii

CONSERVATION STRATEGIES

Research, Planning, and Monitoring

- Develop and implement a strategy to monitor Common Poorwill populations and trends, at least in a few “bellweather” locations
- Conduct additional research to better determine habitat requirements and potential threats

OTHER PRIORITY SPECIES WITH SIMILAR CONSERVATION STRATEGIES

- Unknown

FURTHER READING

- TBD

Temporary codes for standard references

[p1] Birds of N. America account for this species
[p2] NV Bird Conservation Plan ver. 1 (Neel 1999)
[p3] NV Wildlife Action Plan
[p4] Nevada Breeding Bird Atlas
[p5] PIF N. American Landbird Conservation Plan (Rich et al 2004) (NOTE:
[p6] Intermountain West Regional Shorebird Plan (Oring et al 2003)
[p7] Pacific Flyway reports
[p8] Shrubsteppe Landscapes in Jeopardy (Dobkin and Sauder 2004)
[p9] Birds in a Sagebrush Sea (Paige and Ritter 1999)
[s1] NBC-based population size estimates
[s2, s3] NBC-based habitat relationship analysis
[s4] Breeding Bird Atlas breeding phenology data
[i1] BBS trends analysis (Sauer et al 2005)
[i2] NV Upland Game Management Plan (Espinosa et al in prep.)
[i3] Western Quail Management Plan (Zornes et al 2008)
[i4] NDOW Shorebird and Waterbird monitoring data (Neel)
[i5] Brad Andres IMJV Shorebird / Waterbird data set
[i6] GBBO Technical Report 08-01 (2008)
[EO] Expert opinion from NVPIF group members
[IWWCP] Intermountain West Waterbird Conservation Plan
[NAWCP] North American Waterbird Conservation Plan
[LBCUSACP] Long-billed Curlew Status Assessment and Conservation Plan
[USSCP] U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan
[WHSRN] Western Hemispheric Shorebird Regional Network