

Long-billed Dowitcher

Limnodromus scolopaceus



Photo by Larry Neel

Habitat Use Profile

Main Habitats Used in Nevada	Marsh Open Water
Key Habitat Use Parameters	Use freshwater or semi-saline lakes, flooded playas, marshes with short emergent vegetation, or wet fields Forage in water up to 16 cm deep [p1] Forage in open areas or areas with low vegetation [p1]
Minimum Patch Size	Not determined

Conservation Profile

Priority Status	Conservation Target
Reasons for Priority Status	Possible threats Possible declines Important stopover habitat
Other Rankings	Continental PIF: None Audubon Watchlist: None Natural Heritage: S4N USFWS: Migratory Bird BLM: None NDOW: Conservation Priority IM West Shorebird: Critically Important
Trends	Historical: Substantial declines [p1] Recent: Stable (Morrison et al 2006)
Population Size Estimates	Nevada: 14,000 [NDOW, Andres], with substantial annual variation Global: 500,000 [WHSRN] Percent of Global: ~ 3 % most years, but higher in peak years [p3]
Population Objective	Increase 10-year average number of migrants to 18,000
Monitoring Coverage	Source: NDOW Lahontan Valley migration counts, refuge counts, Aquatic Bird Count, Nevada Bird Count (for spring migrants only) Coverage and Adequacy: Very Good for Lahontan Valley and refuges, Fair elsewhere
Key Conservation Areas	Lahontan Valley, including Carson Lake, Humboldt Sink, Stillwater NWR [p1] Ruby Valley Sleeper Mine [?]

Natural History Profile

Seasonal Presence in Nevada	Fall migration (September peak) Spring migration (late April to mid-May peak)
Known Breeding Dates in Nevada	N/A
Nesting Habits	N/A
Food Requirements	Insects, worms, small burrowing crustaceans [p1] Forage in shallow water, mudflats, wet meadows [p1]

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MAP INCOMPLETE

NOTE TO REVIEWERS: There was almost no group feedback on this bird during the threats and strategies sessions. Determination of conservation threats and strategies for Nevada will require further inquiries and literature review.

OVERVIEW

- TBD
- Wintering birds have occasionally been observed in Lahontan Valley during Christmas Bird Counts [p1]

ABUNDANCE AND OCCUPANCY BY HABITAT

- Lahontan Valley likely accounts for ~ 90% of Nevada's stopover migrants, with the rest occurring at other scattered sites
- Peak migratory population of 100,000 observed in Lahontan Valley in 1990 (Neel and Henry 1996)

NEVADA-SPECIFIC STUDIES AND ANALYSES

- TBD

MAIN THREATS AND CHALLENGES

- TBD

CONSERVATION STRATEGIES

Habitat Strategies

- General Marsh conservation strategy
- Key migratory stopover wetlands should have sufficient water during spring and fall migration periods
- Other strategies TBD

PRIORITY SPECIES WITH SIMILAR CONSERVATION STRATEGIES

- TBD

FURTHER READING

- Shuford et al 2002

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- Neel and Henry 1997
- Oring and Reed 1996

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