



SOUTHEAST GAP ANALYSIS PROJECT



Species Modeling Report

Brown-headed Cowbird

Molothrus ater

Taxa: Avian

Order: Passeriformes

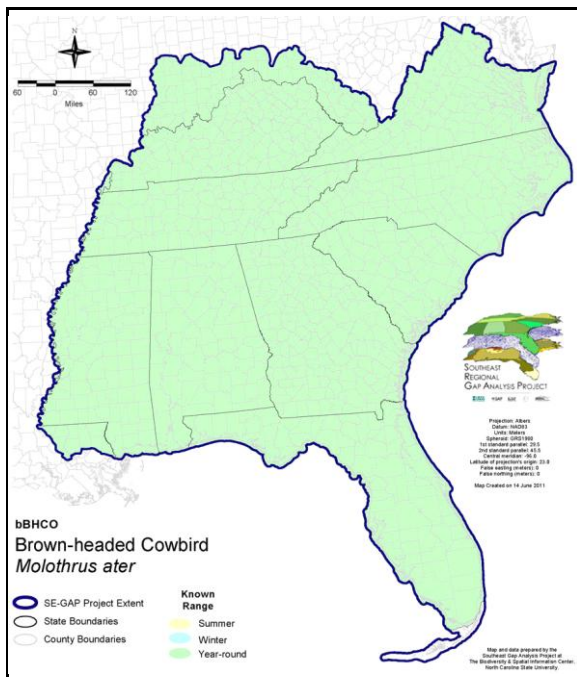
Family: Icteridae

SE-GAP Spp Code: **bBHCO**

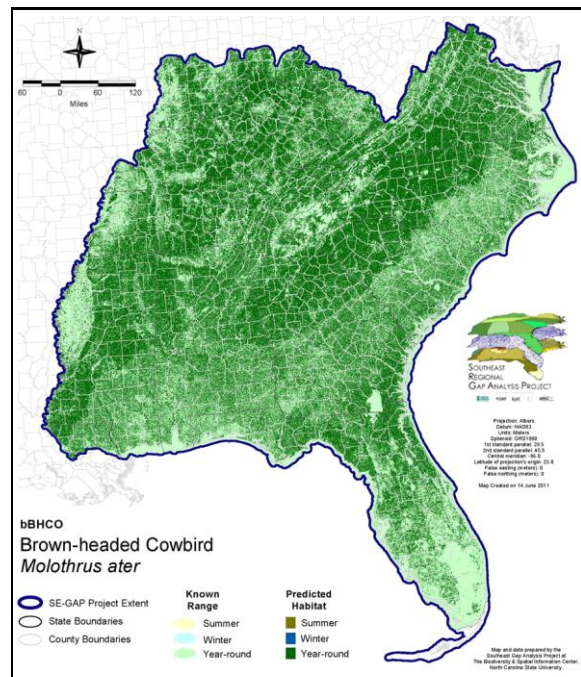
ITIS Species Code: 179112

NatureServe Element Code: ABPBXB7030

KNOWN RANGE:



PREDICTED HABITAT:



Range Map Link: http://www.basic.ncsu.edu/segap/datazip/maps/SE_Range_bBHCO.pdf

Predicted Habitat Map Link: http://www.basic.ncsu.edu/segap/datazip/maps/SE_Dist_bBHCO.pdf

GAP Online Tool Link: <http://www.gapservice.ncsu.edu/segap/segap/index2.php?species=bBHCO>

Data Download: http://www.basic.ncsu.edu/segap/datazip/region/vert/bBHCO_se00.zip

PROTECTION STATUS:

Reported on March 14, 2011

Federal Status: ---

State Status: ID (P), ID (P), KY (N), NJ (INC/S), NV (YES), NY (PB), RI (Not Listed), UT (None), BC (4 (2005)), QC (Non suivie)

NS Global Rank: G5

NS State Rank: AK (S3B), AK (S3B), AL (S5), AR (S5), AZ (S5), CA (SNRB,SNRN), CO (S5), CT (S5B), CT (S5B), DC (S4), DE (S5), FL (SNR), GA (S5), IA (S5B,S5N), ID (S5B), ID (S5B), IL (S5), IN (S4S5), KS (S5), KY (S5B,S4N), LA (S5), MA (S5), MD (S5), ME (S4N,S4S5B), MI (S5), MN (SNRB), MO (SNR), MS (S5B,S5N), MT (S5B), MT (S5B), NC (S5B,S5N), ND (SNRB), NE (S5), NH (S5B), NJ (S5B,S5N), NM (S5B,S5N), NV (S5B), NY (S5), OH (S5), OK (S5), OR (S5), PA (S5B,S5N), RI (S5B), SC (SNR), SD (S5B), SD (S5B), TN (S5), TX (S5B), UT (S5B,S3N), VA (S5), VT (S5B,S5N), WA (S4N,S5B), WI (S5B), WI (S5B), WV (S4N,S5B), WY (S5B,S5N), AB (S5), BC (S5B), LB (SNA), MB (S5B), MB (S5B), NB (S4B), NF (S1S2B), NS (S4B), NT (SNRB), ON (S4B), PE (S4B), QC (S4B), SK (S5B), YT (S4B)

SUMMARY OF PREDICTED HABITAT BY MANAGMENT AND GAP PROTECTION STATUS:

	US FWS		US Forest Service		Tenn. Valley Author.		US DOD/ACOE	
	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%
Status 1	75,951.6	< 1	11,974.7	< 1	0.0	0	0.0	0
Status 2	126,173.3	< 1	141,573.2	< 1	0.0	0	4,661.9	< 1
Status 3	2,535.9	< 1	1,172,609.3	2	68,276.2	< 1	449,961.8	< 1
Status 4	98.7	< 1	< 0.1	< 1	0.0	0	101.4	< 1
Total	204,759.5	< 1	1,326,157.2	2	68,276.2	< 1	454,725.1	< 1
	US Dept. of Energy		US Nat. Park Service		NOAA		Other Federal Lands	
	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%
Status 1	0.0	0	67,532.4	< 1	30.7	< 1	9,505.2	< 1
Status 2	0.0	0	9,156.2	< 1	6,107.7	< 1	24.4	< 1
Status 3	45,518.9	< 1	178,951.6	< 1	0.0	0	3,430.1	< 1
Status 4	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	0
Total	45,518.9	< 1	255,640.2	< 1	6,138.4	< 1	12,959.6	< 1
	Native Am. Reserv.		State Park/Hist. Park		State WMA/Gameland		State Forest	
	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%
Status 1	0.0	0	945.9	< 1	59.0	< 1	0.0	0
Status 2	0.0	0	6,295.2	< 1	488,931.1	< 1	572.1	< 1
Status 3	16,047.6	< 1	395,972.2	< 1	157,268.7	< 1	241,787.3	< 1
Status 4	0.0	0	< 0.1	< 1	80,635.9	< 1	15.8	< 1
Total	16,047.6	< 1	403,213.4	< 1	726,894.6	1	242,375.1	< 1
	State Coastal Reserve		ST Nat.Area/Preserve		Other State Lands		Private Cons. Easemt.	
	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%
Status 1	0.0	0	6,859.1	< 1	0.0	0	0.0	0
Status 2	8,613.9	< 1	51,935.1	< 1	6.8	< 1	2,220.0	< 1
Status 3	0.0	0	15,306.9	< 1	27,238.9	< 1	108,400.9	< 1
Status 4	0.0	0	0.3	< 1	3,815.6	< 1	< 0.1	< 1
Total	8,613.9	< 1	74,101.4	< 1	31,061.3	< 1	110,621.0	< 1
	Private Land - No Res.		Water		Overall Total			
	ha	%	ha	%	ha	%		
Status 1	0.0	0	0.0	0	172,858.5	< 1		
Status 2	0.0	0	0.0	0	846,271.0	1		
Status 3	819.1	< 1	0.0	0	2,884,125.2	6		
Status 4	60,999,718.2	92	47,747.1	< 1	61,212,670.3	92		
Total	61,000,537.3	92	47,747.1	< 1	65,115,924.9	100		

GAP Status 1: An area having permanent protection from conversion of natural land cover and a mandated management plan in operation to maintain a natural state within which disturbance events (of natural type, frequency, and intensity) are allowed to proceed without interference or are mimicked through management.

GAP Status 2: An area having permanent protection from conversion of natural land cover and a mandated management plan in operation to maintain a primarily natural state, but which may receive use or management practices that degrade the quality of existing natural communities.

GAP Status 3: An area having permanent protection from conversion of natural land cover for the majority of the area, but subject to extractive uses of either a broad, low-intensity type or localized intense type. It also confers protection to federally listed endangered and threatened species throughout the area.

GAP Status 4: Lack of irrevocable easement or mandate to prevent conversion of natural habitat types to anthropogenic habitat types. Allows for intensive use throughout the tract. Also includes those tracts for which the existence of such restrictions or sufficient information to establish a higher status is unknown.

PREDICTED HABITAT MODEL(S):

Year-round Model:

Habitat Description: Brown-headed cowbirds can be found during the breeding season in woodland, primarily deciduous forest edge, city parks, suburban gardens, farms, ranches. Before European settlement of the eastern U.S., cowbirds were apparently limited to the open grasslands of the United States, mostly west of the Mississippi River. However, because the cowbirds need suitable perches for searching for nests to parasitize, the species was probably limited in the breeding season to prairie riparian corridors (Mayfield 1965).

The main reason for cowbird expansion outside of the Great Plains appears to be the fragmentation of once unbroken forest tracts into small pieces of forest interspersed with fields, pastures, roads, and towns (Mayfield 1977b, Kerlinger and Doremus 1981). Cowbirds often are associated with forest-field edge habitat and clearings in forests.

Feedlots, pastures, and fields with livestock also attract cowbirds, especially in predominately forested areas. In the Sierra Nevada of California, cowbirds feed in horse corrals, meadows with herds of cattle, and at bird feeders in towns, and few cowbirds are found more than 10 km from these food sources (Verner and Ritter 1983). In this same area, the number of cowbirds in meadows decreases as the distance of the meadow from pack stations and horse corrals increases.

Quoted from Nature Serve - K. Cook - 5-27-05

Additional information:

Brown-headed cowbirds select ecotones between forest and open habitat for breeding, rather than using extensive open area and forest edge (Gates and Gysel 1978, Brittingham and Temple 1983, Johnson and Temple 1990). Curson et. Al (1999) found that females commute > 20 km from pasture lands into mixed coniferous forest and woodland to lay eggs. Brittingham and Temple (1983) found that cowbirds parasitized nests 300 m into the interior of forests from gaps > = 0.2 ha. Best (1978) and Johnson and Temple (1990) found that cowbirds parasitized nests in grassland habitat 100 m from forest edge into grasslands. K. Cook - 5-27-05

Elevation Mask: < 1066m

Mask of Forest/Open Ecotone: Include within 250m of ecotone edge.

Selected Map Units:

Functional Group	Map Unit Name
Anthropogenic	Deciduous Plantations
Anthropogenic	Developed Open Space
Anthropogenic	Evergreen Plantations
Anthropogenic	Low Intensity Developed
Anthropogenic	Pasture/Hay
Anthropogenic	Successional Grassland/Herbaceous
Anthropogenic	Successional Grassland/Herbaceous (Other)
Anthropogenic	Successional Grassland/Herbaceous (Utility Swath)
Anthropogenic	Successional Shrub/Scrub (Clear Cut)
Anthropogenic	Successional Shrub/Scrub (Other)
Anthropogenic	Successional Shrub/Scrub (Utility Swath)
Forest/Woodland	Alabama Ketona Glade and Woodland
Forest/Woodland	Allegheny-Cumberland Dry Oak Forest and Woodland
Forest/Woodland	Allegheny-Cumberland Dry Oak Forest and Woodland - Hardwood Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Appalachian Hemlock-Hardwood Forest
Forest/Woodland	Appalachian Serpentine Woodland
Forest/Woodland	Appalachian Shale Barrens
Forest/Woodland	Atlantic Coastal Plain Dry and Dry-Mesic Oak Forest
Forest/Woodland	Atlantic Coastal Plain Fall-line Sandhills Longleaf Pine Woodland - Offsite Hardwood Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Atlantic Coastal Plain Mesic Hardwood and Mixed Forest
Forest/Woodland	Atlantic Coastal Plain Northern Mixed Oak-Heath Forest
Forest/Woodland	Central Appalachian Alkaline Glade and Woodland
Forest/Woodland	Central Appalachian Oak and Pine Forest

Forest/Woodland	Central Appalachian Pine-Oak Rocky Woodland
Forest/Woodland	Central Interior Highlands Calcareous Glade and Barrens
Forest/Woodland	Central Interior Highlands Dry Acidic Glade and Barrens
Forest/Woodland	Cumberland Sandstone Glade and Barrens
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Black Belt Calcareous Prairie and Woodland - Woodland Modifier
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Shortleaf Pine-Oak Forest - Hardwood Modifier
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Shortleaf Pine-Oak Forest - Mixed Modifier
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Upland Longleaf Pine Woodland - Offsite Hardwood Modifier
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Limestone Forest
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Northern Dry Upland Hardwood Forest
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Northern Dry Upland Hardwood Forest - Offsite Pine Modifier
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Northern Loess Bluff Forest
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Northern Loess Plain Oak-Hickory Upland - Hardwood Modifier
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Northern Mesic Hardwood Forest
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Southern Loess Bluff Forest
Forest/Woodland	East Gulf Coastal Plain Southern Mesic Slope Forest
Forest/Woodland	Florida Peninsula Inland Scrub
Forest/Woodland	Nashville Basin Limestone Glade
Forest/Woodland	Northeastern Interior Dry Oak Forest - Mixed Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Northeastern Interior Dry Oak Forest-Hardwood Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Northern Atlantic Coastal Plain Dry Hardwood Forest
Forest/Woodland	Ridge and Valley Calcareous Valley Bottom Glade and Woodland
Forest/Woodland	South-Central Interior Mesophytic Forest
Forest/Woodland	Southern and Central Appalachian Cove Forest
Forest/Woodland	Southern and Central Appalachian Mafic Glade and Barrens
Forest/Woodland	Southern and Central Appalachian Oak Forest
Forest/Woodland	Southern and Central Appalachian Oak Forest - Xeric
Forest/Woodland	Southern Coastal Plain Dry Upland Hardwood Forest
Forest/Woodland	Southern Coastal Plain Oak Dome and Hammock
Forest/Woodland	Southern Interior Low Plateau Dry-Mesic Oak Forest
Forest/Woodland	Southern Interior Low Plateau Dry-Mesic Oak Forest - Evergreen Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Dry Oak-(Pine) Forest - Hardwood Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Dry Oak-(Pine) Forest - Mixed Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Dry Oak-Heath Forest - Hardwood Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Dry Oak-Heath Forest - Mixed Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Dry Oak-Heath Forest - Virginia/Pitch Pine Modifier
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Glade and Barrens
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Mafic Hardpan Woodland
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Mesic Forest
Forest/Woodland	Southern Piedmont Northern Triassic Basin Dry Forest
Forest/Woodland	Southern Ridge and Valley Dry Calcareous Forest
Forest/Woodland	Southern Ridge and Valley Dry Calcareous Forest - Hardwood Modifier
Prairie	Bluegrass Basin Savanna and Woodland
Prairie	East Gulf Coastal Plain Black Belt Calcareous Prairie and Woodland
Prairie	East Gulf Coastal Plain Black Belt Calcareous Prairie and Woodland - Herbaceous Modifier
Prairie	East Gulf Coastal Plain Jackson Plain Prairie and Barrens
Prairie	East Gulf Coastal Plain Jackson Prairie and Woodland
Prairie	Eastern Highland Rim Prairie and Barrens
Prairie	Eastern Highland Rim Prairie and Barrens - Dry Modifier
Prairie	Florida Dry Prairie
Prairie	Panhandle Florida Limestone Glade
Prairie	Pennyroyal Karst Plain Prairie and Barrens
Prairie	Southern Ridge and Valley Patch Prairie
Prairie	Western Highland Rim Prairie and Barrens
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Blackwater Stream Floodplain Forest - Forest Modifier
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Blackwater Stream Floodplain Forest - Herbaceous Modifier

Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Brownwater Stream Floodplain Forest
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Clay-Based Carolina Bay Forested Wetland
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Clay-Based Carolina Bay Herbaceous Wetland
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Nonriverine Swamp and Wet Hardwood Forest - Taxodium/Nyssa Modifier
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Nonriverine Swamp and Wet Hardwood Forest - Oak Dominated Modifier
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Northern Basin Peat Swamp
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Northern Basin Swamp and Wet Hardwood Forest
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Peatland Pocosin
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Sandhill Seep
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Small Blackwater River Floodplain Forest
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Small Brownwater River Floodplain Forest
Wetlands	Atlantic Coastal Plain Streamhead Seepage Swamp, Pocosin, and Baygall
Wetlands	Central Appalachian Floodplain - Forest Modifier
Wetlands	Central Appalachian Floodplain - Herbaceous Modifier
Wetlands	Central Appalachian Riparian - Forest Modifier
Wetlands	Central Appalachian Riparian - Herbaceous Modifier
Wetlands	Central Interior Highlands and Appalachian Sinkhole and Depression Pond
Wetlands	East Gulf Coastal Plain Interior Shrub Bog
Wetlands	East Gulf Coastal Plain Jackson Plain Dry Flatwoods - Scrub/Shrub Understory Modifier
Wetlands	East Gulf Coastal Plain Large River Floodplain Forest - Forest Modifier
Wetlands	East Gulf Coastal Plain Large River Floodplain Forest - Herbaceous Modifier
Wetlands	East Gulf Coastal Plain Near-Coast Pine Flatwoods - Offsite Hardwood Modifier
Wetlands	East Gulf Coastal Plain Northern Seepage Swamp
Wetlands	East Gulf Coastal Plain Small Stream and River Floodplain Forest
Wetlands	Lower Mississippi River Bottomland and Floodplain Forest
Wetlands	Lower Mississippi River Bottomland Depressions - Forest Modifier
Wetlands	Lower Mississippi River Bottomland Depressions - Herbaceous Modifier
Wetlands	Mississippi River Low Floodplain (Bottomland) Forest
Wetlands	Mississippi River Riparian Forest
Wetlands	North-Central Appalachian Acidic Swamp
Wetlands	North-Central Appalachian Seepage Fen
Wetlands	North-Central Interior and Appalachian Rich Swamp
Wetlands	South Florida Bayhead Swamp
Wetlands	South Florida Cypress Dome
Wetlands	South Florida Hardwood Hammock
Wetlands	South Florida Willow Head
Wetlands	South-Central Interior Large Floodplain - Forest Modifier
Wetlands	South-Central Interior Large Floodplain - Herbaceous Modifier
Wetlands	South-Central Interior Small Stream and Riparian
Wetlands	Southern and Central Appalachian Bog and Fen
Wetlands	Southern Appalachian Seepage Wetland
Wetlands	Southern Coastal Plain Blackwater River Floodplain Forest
Wetlands	Southern Coastal Plain Hydric Hammock
Wetlands	Southern Coastal Plain Nonriverine Basin Swamp
Wetlands	Southern Coastal Plain Nonriverine Cypress Dome
Wetlands	Southern Coastal Plain Seepage Swamp and Baygall
Wetlands	Southern Piedmont Large Floodplain Forest - Forest Modifier
Wetlands	Southern Piedmont Large Floodplain Forest - Herbaceous Modifier
Wetlands	Southern Piedmont Seepage Wetland
Wetlands	Southern Piedmont Small Floodplain and Riparian Forest
Wetlands	Southern Piedmont/Ridge and Valley Upland Depression Swamp

CITATIONS: American Ornithologists' Union (AOU), Committee on Classification and Nomenclature. 1983. Check-list of North American Birds. Sixth Edition. American Ornithologists' Union, Allen Press, Inc., Lawrence, Kansas.

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