

## **Wildlife Resources**

### [Managing Land in the Piedmont of Virginia for the Benefit of Birds and Other Wildlife](#)

“Why should we care enough about bird population declines and habitat loss to devote our valuable time and resources to managing for wildlife? Birds are an integral part of our ecosystems and thus help maintain the dynamic balance of nature. They are some of our best pest control agents, helping to keep insect populations in check that might otherwise defoliate and damage timber and crops. Birds also serve as one of our most efficient seed dispersers, depositing them far from their place of origin and helping to maintain the vigor of our forests and grasslands.”

Source [VA Department Wildlife Resources](#)

### [Answering the Call: Virginia’s Quail Recovery Initiative – Movie](#)

“The distinctive “Bob-White!” call of the quail is becoming just a memory for many rural Virginians. Quail populations in Virginia have declined 80% over the last 40 years. Along with the quail, many songbirds and other animals have also disappeared, due to the loss of the early successional habitat these animals need for food, shelter, and raising their young.”

Source [VA Department Wildlife Resources](#)

### [Manage Your Mowing to Benefit Wildlife](#)

“Property owners mow their fields for different reasons. Whatever the reason, mowing can have both positive and negative effects on wildlife. By mimicking the natural successional growth that happens after wildfires, you can create habitat that is ideal for many birds and other animals. But if you mow too often or at the wrong time, you can end up hurting these species more than helping them.”

Source [Virginia Outdoors Foundation](#)

### [Habitat Buffers for Upland Game Birds – Conservation Reserve Program](#)

“The CP33 monitoring program affords a rare opportunity to evaluate populations of grassland avifauna at a large geographic scale, and has revealed that the addition of CP33 upland habitat buffers in an otherwise agricultural landscape provides critical habitat and invokes a positive and rapid response by populations of bobwhite and several priority songbird species. Presuming increases in abundance represent net population increases rather than redistribution of existing populations from the surrounding landscape, CP33 may have the capacity to affect large-scale population changes in many declining species.”

Source [Natural Resources Conservation Service](#)

### [Managing Working Lands for Northern Bobwhite](#)

“You will find clear, concise recommendations and the kind of conservation practices to use on your farm or recommend to others for quail restoration. Much of the bobwhite’s needs are supported by Farm Bill programs approved by Congress and administered by the NRCS.”

Source [USDA Service Center Agencies Online Services](#)

### [Area Sensitivity in North American Grassland Birds](#)

“Grassland birds have declined more than other bird groups in North America in the past 35 – 40 years, prompting a wide variety of research aimed at understanding these declines, as well as conservation programs trying to reverse the declines. Area sensitivity, whereby the pattern of a species’ occurrence and density increases with patch area has been invoked as an important issue in grassland-bird conservation, and understanding the process that drive area sensitivity in grassland birds is a major conservation need.”

Source [The American Ornithologists’ Union](#)

### [Case Study: Quail and Cottontail Management on Buck Range Farm, Maryland](#)

“Not unlike many properties located throughout the Northeast, Buck Range Farm is managed with several landowner objectives in mind. Originally a dairy farm, most of the fields and pastures were converted to row crops before the current landowner purchased the property in 1978 for its waterfowl hunting potential. In 1987, intensive upland habitat modifications for bobwhite quail were incorporated into the management scheme.”

Source [New Hampshire Fish and Game Department](#)

[Quail on the Cheap ... Or, A Tightwad’s Guide to Bobwhite Management](#) “You don’t have to be made of money to create quail habitat. A little bit can go a long way for species like quail, and even a relatively large project doesn’t have to break the bank. Here are some tips on ways to help quail that won’t hurt your wallet.”

Source [National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative](#)

### [An Affordable DIY Approach to Managing Land for Wild Bobwhite Quail](#)

“While 23% of our state land use is Open Land, very little of it is suitable for quail. Advancements in agricultural technology over the last several decades and meeting the demands of an ever-increasing human population has led to an increase in the intensity of agricultural practices. Continuously grazed “improved pastures,” clean crop fields, hay land, and an absence of fallow land have all contributed to the decline of quail. But YOU can help reverse the trend!”

Source [National Bobwhite Conservation Initiative](#)