

2013-2014 Streaked Horned Lark Action Plan

	Ref. #	Task Synopsis	Rank	Status and Implementing Party (Options: Ongoing, In Progress, Planned, or No Action Yet)
1. Determine population status, current distribution and limiting factors	1.1	1. Identify threats to population viability		
	1.1.a	a. Determine factors limiting juvenile and adult survivorship in OR & WA (e.g. predation, airstrike). Does adult and juvenile survivorship limit population growth in OR (answered in WA)?	4	OSU
	1.1.b	b. Evaluate the role of disturbances (e.g., recreation, military activities, industrial uses, researchers, dredge material deposition) that may affect survival in all life stages (i.e. nests, juveniles, adults).	11	WDFW, OSU/ Randy does have some quantified mowing regime, so does CNLM/JBLM.
	1.1.c	c. Track current climate change science to inform the role of climate change to streaked horned lark conservation decision making, e.g. northward expansion of prairie habitat		WDFW, OSU, USFWS, CNLM
	1.1.d	d. Examine genetic variability and population structuring		WDFW, Smithsonian
	1.1.e	e. Determine factors limiting reproductive success in private working lands of the Willamette Valley		
	1.1.f	f. Evaluate effect of different crops and agricultural management techniques to larks		
	1.1.g	g. Evaluate effect of predator management		
	1.2	2. Finalize standardized survey and monitoring protocols range-wide that address occupancy, abundance, trends, use and spatial distribution.	6	Working Group* see notes re: implementation timing
	1.3	3. Develop and hold SHLA ID training and evaluate the need for a certification process	12	
1.4	4. Develop criteria to determine if habitat is suitable for all life history stages, how can I tell if I have habitat?	*		
1.4.a	a. Apply criteria to develop a range wide map of potential habitat			
1.5	5. Conduct annual monitoring at occupied breeding sites		WDFW, OSU, CNLM, JBLM, PDX, ODFW	
1.6	6. Survey new and historic sites. Potential examples: Rogue River valley, Roger's Washington townships, OR Coast, Cowlitz River, Port of Longview industrial area & coast, Regional airports		Portland Audubon, WDFW, CNLM, Metro, Port of Portland, ODFW	
1.7	7. Identify important habitat features			
1.7.a	a. Determine the effect of habitat parameters on nest success, especially on private working lands, synthesize OR & WA data.		OSU/Ongoing, collecting habitat variables on OR nests.	
2. Protect Existing Populations and Habitat	2.1	1. Seek opportunities to secure sites dedicated to lark conservation - lark preserves.	1	Working Group
	2.2	2. Secure protection commitment on core occupied sites, e.g. management plans, Safe Harbor, BA	2	
	2.2.a	a. Range-wide Airports - Corvallis, PDX, South Sound		IAE, OSU, City of Corvallis, FWS, CNLM
	2.2.b	b. Columbia River Islands - management plan with Army Corps, CCP at JBH complete		CNLM, USACE, FWS
	2.2.c	c. Willamette Valley NWRs - CCP complete, mgmt plan in process		USFWS NWR
	2.2.d	d. Joint Base Lewis-McChord - ESMP		JBLM, FWS
	2.2.e	e. Washington Coast - signed CCP at Willapa that includes larks, WA State Parks (Twin Harbors, Grayland Beach), Damon Point (DNR/WDFW)		FWS, WDFW, WSPRC, WDNR
	2.2.f	f. Rivergate		Port of Portland
	2.3	3. Define and identify core sites for recovery		
	2.4	4. Work with the regulatory community if/when conservation banks for larks is a potential		
2.5	5. Support land protection plans inclusive of measures to benefit streaked horned larks when opportunity available (e.g. Great American Outdoors Initiative, Willamette Wildlife Mitigation Program, SWAPs, legislatvie initiatives)		FWS, ODFW, WDFW, CNLM	
2.6	6. Identify mechanisms to establish long-term management funding for important sites (e.g. endowments)		Working Group	
2.7	7. Address identified threats range-wide: Initiate protection measures, reduce predator impacts, redirect recreation, airport disturbance		OSU, WDFW, FWS Refuges, CNLM, JBLM	
2.7.a	a. Redirect, adapt, or modify timing of incompatible aspects of land uses, e.g. airshows, police training, dog trials, model airplane use, ATVs, dredged material placement, airport management practices		OSU, WDFW, FWS Refuges, CNLM, JBLM	
2.7.b	b. Evaluate the use of modified nest enclosures limited to coordination with grass seed harvest schedule in WV		CNLM, JBLM, WDFW, ODFW, OSU	
3. Enhance viability of extant populations and habitats	3.1	1. Enhance existing habitat and increase amount of available habitat in the Willamette Valley		
	3.1.a	a. Update and implement management prescriptions to create breeding habitat and develop winter habitat prescription in agricultural matrix		OSU, USFWS, NWR, NRCS
	3.1.b	b. Implement habitat restoration activities on breeding and wintering grounds (WV)	3	NRCS, Private, Refuges, USFWS
	3.2	2. Conduct genetic rescue aiming at stabilizing South Sound population. Evaluate success after third year.	5	WDFW, ODFW, OSU, CNLM
	3.3	3. Evaluate appropriateness and feasibility of population augmentation, relocation or reintroduction (e.g., investigate lark colonization, captive rearing, hacking, cross fostering)	7	WDFW, OSU, Oregon Zoo, CNLM
	3.4	4. South Puget Sound habitat restoration		
	3.4.a	a. Implement habitat restoration activities on breeding ground using all available tools (e.g. herbicide, fire). Focus on invasives that change the structure of the habitat - ongoing	9	JBLM, CNLM, FWS, WDFW
	3.5	5. Columbia River and Coast habitat restoration		
	3.5.a	a. Implement habitat restoration activities on breeding and wintering grounds (e.g. Damon Point, Midway Beach)	10	FWS, WDFW, WSP, ACOE, CNLM, WDNR
	3.5.b	b. Implement and monitor effectiveness of created lark habitat by dredge material deposition and implementing complementary strategy to control structure-modifying vegetation.	*	ACOE, CNLM, Port of Portland, FWS
3.5.c	c. Implement habitat restoration activities on unoccupied sites within the breeding and wintering range (e.g. St. John's Landfill, Sauvie, Gov't island)	*	City of Portland, Port of Portland, Metro, OSU, USFWS, NRCS	
3.5.d	d. (Coast) Remove beach grass (use Leadbetter plover restoration HRA as demo project) -ongoing		FWS, WDFW, WSP	
3.6	6. Develop strategy for compatible airport and lark use, develop management guidelines specific for each airport.		CNLM, Ports, FAA, WDFW, ODFW, OSU	
3.6.a	a. Manage habitat to attract birds outside areas the airport identifies as high risk for airport safety		OSU, WDFW, JBLM, CNLM	
4. Education and outreach	4.1	1. Facilitate habitat restoration on private lands through incentive programs or other means	8	
	4.1.a	a. Disseminate lark information NRCS and SWCDs and brainstorm on how to implement programs (first)		
	4.2	2. Maintain range-wide working group and coordination	13	CNLM, FWS, Port of Portland, WDFW
	4.3	3. Hold larks and airports working group	*	CNLM, Port of Portland, FWS, WDFW, regional airports
	4.4	4. Work with NRCS and others to ensure larks are a priority for funding programs		
	4.5	5. Package existing habitat prescriptions specifically for producers		
	4.6	6. Communicate results with agricultural community		
	4.6.a	a. Provide information to the regulated community (e.g., consultation, BA guidance, Safe Harbor, Permit types, Survey guidelines)		
	4.7	7. Develop outreach and educational materials		
	4.7.a	a. Develop and update SHLA informational webpage		
4.7.b	b. Develop materials on habitat management and restoration for land managers - summarize existing data to develop habitat targets			
4.7.c	c. Develop outreach programs for additional partners, promoting regional recovery and habitat management (e.g. state partner on already conserved lands). (e.g. DNR aquatic lands, WA/OR State Parks, land trusts, mitigatin banks, OR Dept of State Lands)			
4.8	8. Encourage federal & state agencies to promote incentive programs		WDFW, FWS	
4.8	9. Address the need for consolidated database for lark data (e.g. Avian Knowledge NW, Data Basin, new one?)			