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Sedge Wren

Cistothorus platensis ORDER: PASSERIFORMES FAMILY: TROGLODYTIDAE

LC IUCN Conservation Status: Least Concern

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A small, secretive wren that breeds in short grass and sedge marshes. Perhaps because of the highly transitory nature of its nesting habitats, the Sedge Wren moves around a great deal from year to year, not staying in one place for long.

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For complete information on this species, visit [The Birds of North America Online](#).

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Insects

•



Nesting

Shrub

•



Behavior

Ground Forager

•



Conservation

Least Concern

Cool Facts

- The Sedge Wren is one of the most nomadic territorial birds in North America. On a given area, it may be present in numbers in one year, and be completely absent the next.
- Many unconnected Sedge Wren populations occur throughout the Americas, from Canada to Tierra del Fuego.

Measurements

Both Sexes

Length

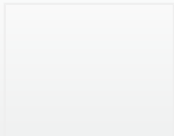
3.9–4.7 in

10–12 cm

Other Names

- Short-billed Marsh Wren (English)
- Troglodyte à bec court (French)
- Chivirín sabanero (Spanish)

Habitat



- Nests in dense tall sedges and grasses in wet meadows, hayfields, and marshes.

Sedge Wren

Cistothorus platensis



Project FeederWatch

Embrace the winter. Count feeder birds for science!





Marsh

- Avoids cattails.
- Winters in grassy marshes and dry grass fields.

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Food



Insects

Insects and spiders.

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Nesting

Nest Description

Round ball of grasses and sedges, with entrance on side.

Nest Placement



Shrub

Nesting Facts

Clutch Size

2–8 eggs

Egg Description

white

Condition at Hatching

Naked and helpless

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Behavior

Runs on ground to avoid predators. Usually flies only a short distance



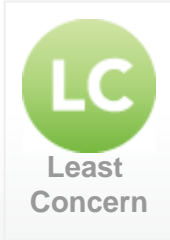
Ground Forager

before diving back into grass.

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Conservation

status via **IUCN**



The species is of management concern because of its dependence on vulnerable and restricted habitats.

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Credits

- Herkert, J. R., D. E. Kroodsma, and J. P. Gibbs. 2001. Sedge Wren (*Cistothorus platensis*). *In* The Birds of North America, No. 582 (A. Poole and F. Gill, eds.). The Birds of North America, Inc., Philadelphia, PA.

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