

EASTERN KINGBIRD  
BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR HABITAT IN BIRD CONSERVATION  
REGION 14

### Introduction

The Eastern kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) is relatively common in BCR 14. It prefers open areas with scattered trees to perch in or feeding. It is listed as a “Species of Greatest Conservation Concern in the wildlife Action Plan of at least one State in BCR14.

### Habitat Needs

This bird frequents open areas with scattered trees or tall shrubs to perch in while hunting for insects or defending its territory. It will use shrubby wetlands associated with but not limited to soils in the IIB Important Forest Soil group such as; Bemis, Binghamville, Brayton, Cabot, Grange, Kinsman, Leicester, Leicester cool, Leicester variant, Lyme, Mashpee, Monarda, Monarda variant, Moosilauke, Naumburg, Pemi, Pillsbury, Pillsbury variant, Raynham, Raynham cool, Raypol, Ridgebury, Roundabout, Scantic, Scitico, Shaker, Squamscott, Stissing, Swanton, Wareham, Walpole. Other habitats include old fields, hay fields, hedgerows or other similar situations as long as there are perches available.

Its territory size is five acres or less.

### Habitat Management Practices

The habitat management objective for this species would be to maintain openings of suitable size, at least five acre, with scattered trees or tall shrubs throughout.

The openings can be maintained by a variety of farming practices such as haying or grazing, as long as the perches are retained. Maintenance of these areas can also be accomplished through periodic brush hogging. A maintenance schedule for brush hogging can be set up so that a third of the total area in this open condition is treated annually.