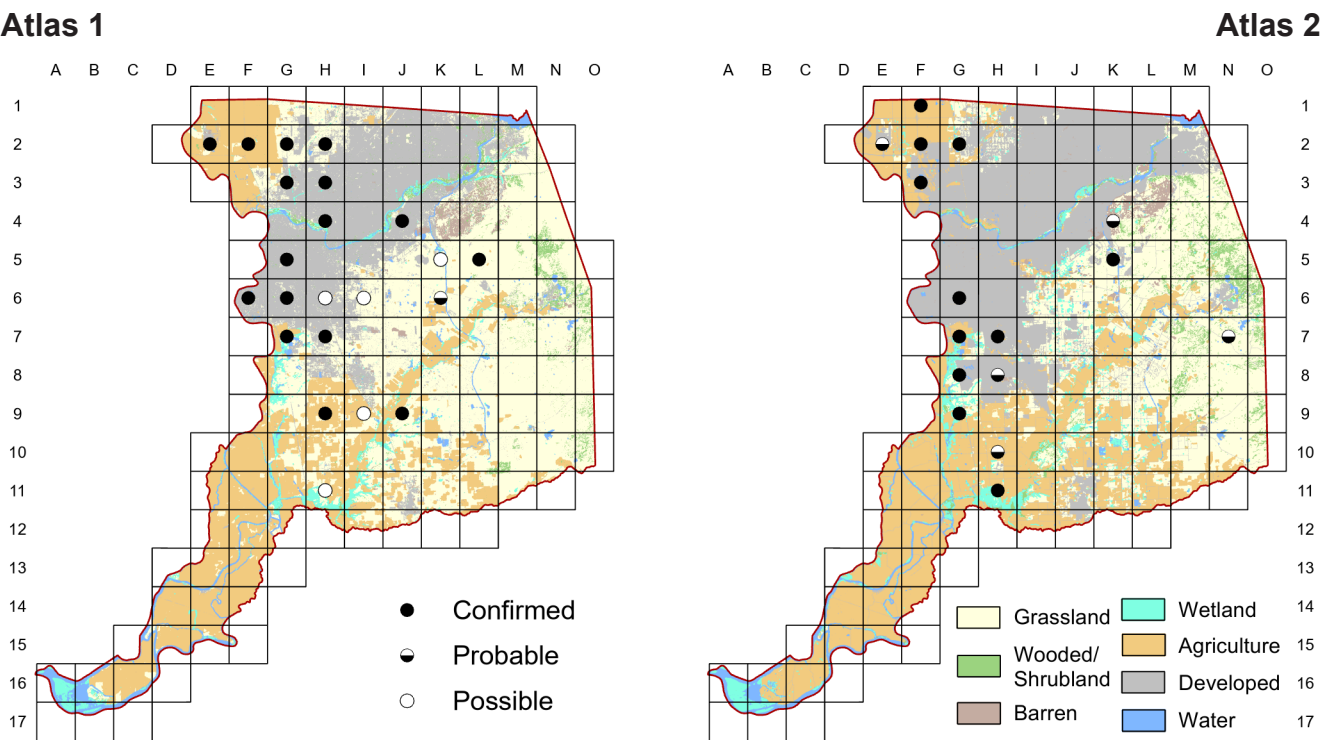


Burrowing Owl

Athene cunicularia



A fairly sharp decline in the total number of breeding Burrowing Owls is partially masked by the intensive effort to search for this charismatic species. The total number of pairs within confirmed blocks has declined in the past decade. There is an influx of wintering owls in fall, but a decreasing number stay to breed, likely dependent on local conditions that may vary year to year, such as vegetation height, disturbance, prey availability, and timing of rain.

Breeding Bird Survey Trend (1966–2019)

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| California | Rangewide ¹ |
| –1.88% / year ⁿ | –0.73% / year ⁿ |

¹North America; ⁿnonsignificant; Source: Sauer et al. 2020

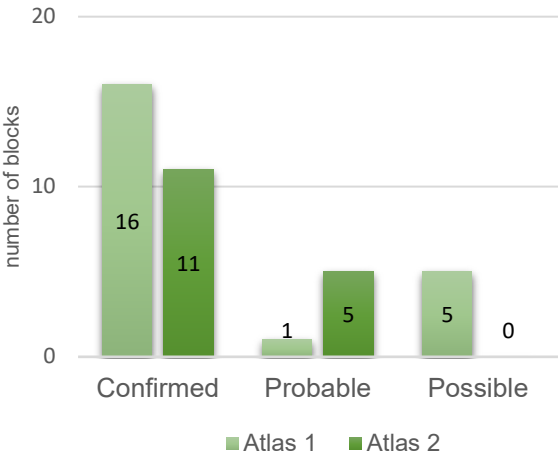
Breeding Habitat

Open areas with short grass, roadsides, levees

Nest Type

Burrow (usually ground squirrel) or human-made

Comparison of Atlas Results



28 May 2015

Block G-6

Two nearly adult-sized juveniles were together. An adult flew in with a small food item. Both juveniles ran to the adult and one came away with what appeared to be a large insect.