Bird of the Month - May

Savannah Sparrow

IDENTIFICATION
- Small sparrow with streaky breast and yellow stripe over the eye
- Males and Females are similar
- Their song is a high pitched, insect-like song

FOOD
- Feeds mostly on insects and seeds gathered in grassy areas

PREDATORS
- Adults are killed by raptors, feral cats, snakes and magpies. Juveniles can be eaten by raptors, herons, magpies, snakes and nest raiders like racoons and skunks.

BEHAVIORS AND FUN FACTS
- Habitat - widespread in open areas from short grasses to tundra
- Most winter in the southern US and Mexico but a few winter here at the Wetlands
- In summer, males perch up and sing on fences near open pastures. The rest of the year, they spend much of their time on the ground hidden from view
- Their overall population has declined 50% since 1966
- The first specimen described by science was in Savannah, Georgia - Hence the name