

Loess Bluffs National Wildlife Refuge Monthly Habitat, Waterfowl and Eagle Survey Report

Date: 2022-03-21

Document Purpose:

This document provides a summary of waterfowl and bald eagle use on Loess Bluffs NWR, updated weekly. Bird estimates are derived using Integrated Waterbird Management and Monitoring (IWMM) protocol using an area count (bird per acre), block or modified block count methods, for more information click on the following links for [IWMM Protocol](#) pages 18 – 21 and [U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's estimating flock size](#) website.

Habitat Conditions Summary:

Habitat conditions are rated based on ocular estimates of overall habitat condition, area (acres) of wetlands flooded and percentage of wetland frozen using [IWMM Protocol](#) pages 11 – 17.

Habitat Condition	02/28/2022 data	03/08/2022 data	03/14/2022 data	03/21/2022 data
Habitat Conditions Rating	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair
Acres of wetlands flooded	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600
Percentage of Wetlands Frozen	85%	25%	0%	0%

Waterfowl Species Summary:

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 02/28/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 03/08/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 03/14/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 03/21/2022
Greater White-fronted Goose	625	1,830	205	5
Snow Goose	839,550	1,068,070	841,555	24,090
Ross's Goose	Present	Present	Present	Present
Canada Goose	772	173	189	147
Trumpeter Swan	834	952	861	304
Tundra Swan	1	2	0	0
Wood Duck	0	40	55	75
Gadwall	90	7,105	7,400	8,595
American Wigeon	10	90	35	75
American Black Duck	0	0	0	0
Mallard	4,720	18,285	8,240	12,340
Blue-winged Teal	0	15	125	834
Cinnamon Teal	0	0	0	0
Northern Shoveler	30	975	1,565	11,240

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 02/28/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 03/08/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 03/14/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 03/21/2022
Northern Pintail	3,620	13,505	6,110	6,525
Green-winged Teal	15	5,095	2,580	7,945
Canvasback	0	2	0	0
Redhead	0	15	5	30
Ring-necked Duck	0	9,785	14,765	14,855
Scaup	0	405	485	85
Bufflehead	6	185	201	235
Common Goldeneye	5	100	205	15
Hooded Merganser	24	98	167	165
Common Merganser	0	0	0	0
Red-breasted Merganser	0	0	0	0
Ruddy Duck	0	55	0	120
Pied-billed Grebe	0	2	1	1
Horned Grebe	0	0	0	0
Eared Grebe	0	0	0	0
American Coot	5	4,310	6,600	16,815

Species Group Summary:

Species Group	Total number of birds observed week of 02/28/2022	Total number of birds observed week of 03/08/2022	Total number of birds observed week of 03/14/2022	Total number of birds observed week of 03/21/2022
Geese	840,947	1,070,073	841,949	24,242
Dabblers	8,485	45,110	26,110	47,629
Divers	35	10,645	15,828	15,505
All Ducks	8,520	55,755	41,938	63,134
Shorebirds	0	43	13	54

Eagles Summary:

Bald Eagles	Total number of birds observed 02/28/2022	Total number of birds observed 03/08/2022	Total number of birds observed 03/14/2022	Total number of birds observed 03/21/2022
Immature	23	30	92	91
Adult	22	9	34	17
All Eagles	45	39	126	108