Nebraska’s Rainwater Basin

Each spring, the Rainwater Basin and Platte River host one of the world’s largest concentrations of migrating birds. Partners of the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture cooperate to protect and restore the wetlands and grasslands that provide important migration habitat in this region.

Wetland Driving Tour

Sites on the driving tour include Waterfowl Production Areas (WPAs), managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and State Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) managed by the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. All WPAs and WMAs listed here are open to public use; please be considerate of cattle owners and neighboring farmers, and of hunters during legal hunting seasons. Privately-owned wetlands are not open to the public. Regulations for use of the Ducks Unlimited Verona Complex are posted on the property.

Observation blinds are at: Funk WPA, Massie WPA, and the Verona Complex.

Prairie dog towns are at Hultine WPA, Moger WPA, and Prairie Dog WPA.

When birds are nearby, please remain in your car to avoid disturbing them. If whooping cranes are present, observe from a distance of at least one-quarter mile.

Funding partner

The Nebraska Environmental Trust

Western Driving Tour Key

1. Northeast Sacramento WMA
2. Gleason WPA
3. Bluestem WPA
4. Lindau WPA
5. Clark WPA
6. Frerichs WPA
7. Kildeer WPA
8. Prairie Dog WPA
9. Jacobson Wetland (DU)
10. Funk WPA
11. Johnson WPA

Additional Wetlands

A.B.D.: Private Wetlands
C. Nebr. Dept. of Roads Wetland
E. Mosaic Wetland
F. Sacramento-Wilcox WMA