

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

Date: 2022-04-14

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	03/21/2022 data	03/30/2022 data	04/06/2022 data	04/14/2022 data
Habitat Conditions Rating	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair
Acres of wetlands flooded	3,600	3,600	3,550	3,500
Percentage of Wetlands Frozen	0%	0%	0%	0%

Waterfowl Species Summary:

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 03/21/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 03/30/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 04/06/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 04/14/2022
Greater White-fronted Goose	5	5	250	60
Snow Goose	24,090	145	515	105
Ross's Goose	Present	1	1	2
Canada Goose	147	94	116	97
Trumpeter Swan	304	144	22	25
Tundra Swan	0	0	0	0
Wood Duck	75	90	65	70
Gadwall	8,595	4,025	3,895	4,540
American Wigeon	75	0	20	30
American Black Duck	0	0	0	0
Mallard	12,340	2,540	2,470	865
Blue-winged Teal	834	1,110	1,970	7,155
Cinnamon Teal	0	0	0	0
Northern Shoveler	11,240	14,475	11,230	10,660

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 03/21/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 03/30/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 04/06/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 04/14/2022
Northern Pintail	6,525	15	90	90
Green-winged Teal	7,945	1,340	850	900
Canvasback	0	0	0	0
Redhead	30	10	0	0
Ring-necked Duck	14,855	10,740	3,340	400
Scaup	85	235	75	45
Bufflehead	235	130	60	35
Common Goldeneye	15	0	0	0
Hooded Merganser	165	193	68	62
Common Merganser	0	0	0	0
Red-breasted Merganser	0	0	0	0
Ruddy Duck	120	165	10	0
Pied-billed Grebe	1	18	18	33
Horned Grebe	0	0	0	0
Eared Grebe	0	0	0	0
American Coot	16,815	17,830	6,345	13,745

Species Group Summary:

Species Group	Total number of birds observed week of 03/21/2022	Total number of birds observed week of 03/30/2022	Total number of birds observed week of 04/06/2022	Total number of birds observed week of 04/14/2022
Geese	24,242	245	882	264
Dabblers	47,629	23,595	20,590	24,310
Divers	15,505	11,473	3,553	542
All Ducks	63,134	35,068	24,143	24,852
Shorebirds	54	80	156	264

Eagles Summary:

Bald Eagles	Total number of birds observed 03/21/2022	Total number of birds observed 03/30/2022	Total number of birds observed 04/06/2022	Total number of birds observed 04/14/2022
Immature	91	92	38	11
Adult	17	8	7	5
All Eagles	108	100	45	16