

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

Date: 2022-05-10

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	04/06/2022 data	04/13/2022 data	05/03/2022 data	05/10/2022 data
Habitat Conditions Rating	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair
Acres of wetlands flooded	3,550	3,500	3,140	3,020
Percentage of Wetlands Frozen	0%	0%	0%	0%

Waterfowl Species Summary:

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 04/06/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 04/13/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 05/03/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 05/10/2022
Greater White-fronted Goose	250	60	0	0
Snow Goose	515	105	70	75
Ross's Goose	1	2	1	2
Canada Goose	116	97	62	90
Trumpeter Swan	22	25	2	4
Tundra Swan	0	0	0	0
Wood Duck	65	70	45	45
Gadwall	3,895	4,540	2,915	525
American Wigeon	20	30	30	5
American Black Duck	0	0	0	0
Mallard	2,470	865	170	95
Blue-winged Teal	1,970	7,155	10,305	2,380
Cinnamon Teal	0	0	0	0
Northern Shoveler	11,230	10,660	1,895	630

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 04/06/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 04/13/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 05/03/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 05/10/2022
Northern Pintail	90	90	45	0
Green-winged Teal	850	900	270	15
Canvasback	0	0	0	0
Redhead	0	0	0	0
Ring-necked Duck	3,340	400	75	10
Scaup	75	45	35	0
Bufflehead	60	35	0	0
Common Goldeneye	0	0	0	0
Hooded Merganser	68	62	28	12
Common Merganser	0	0	0	0
Red-breasted Merganser	0	0	0	0
Ruddy Duck	10	0	5	0
Pied-billed Grebe	18	33	37	8
Horned Grebe	0	0	0	0
Eared Grebe	0	0	0	0
American Coot	6,345	13,745	6,975	800

Species Group Summary:

Species Group	Total number of birds observed week of 04/06/2022	Total number of birds observed week of 04/13/2022	Total number of birds observed week of 05/03/2022	Total number of birds observed week of 05/10/2022
Geese	882	264	133	167
Dabblers	20,590	24,310	15,675	3,695
Divers	3,553	542	143	22
All Ducks	24,143	24,852	15,818	3,717
Shorebirds	156	264	1,377	3,674

Eagles Summary:

Bald Eagles	Total number of birds observed 04/06/2022	Total number of birds observed 04/13/2022	Total number of birds observed 05/03/2022	Total number of birds observed 05/10/2022
Immature	38	11	5	3
Adult	7	5	6	6
All Eagles	45	16	11	9