

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

Date: 2022-05-16

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	04/13/2022 data	05/03/2022 data	05/10/2022 data	05/16/2022 data
Habitat Conditions Rating	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair
Acres of wetlands flooded	3,500	3,140	3,020	2,700
Percentage of Wetlands Frozen	0%	0%	0%	0%

Waterfowl Species Summary:

Species	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	Number of Birds observed week of 05/16/2022
Greater White-fronted Goose	60	0	0	0
Snow Goose	105	70	75	55
Ross's Goose	2	1	2	1
Canada Goose	97	62	90	138
Trumpeter Swan	25	2	4	1
Tundra Swan	0	0	0	0
Wood Duck	70	45	45	30
Gadwall	4,540	2,915	525	140
American Wigeon	30	30	5	5
American Black Duck	0	0	0	0
Mallard	865	170	95	105
Blue-winged Teal	7,155	10,305	2,380	915
Cinnamon Teal	0	0	0	0
Northern Shoveler	10,660	1,895	630	185

Species	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	Number of Birds observed week of 05/16/2022
Northern Pintail	90	45	0	5
Green-winged Teal	900	270	15	10
Canvasback	0	0	0	0
Redhead	0	0	0	0
Ring-necked Duck	400	75	10	0
Scaup	45	35	0	0
Bufflehead	35	0	0	0
Common Goldeneye	0	0	0	0
Hooded Merganser	62	28	12	10
Common Merganser	0	0	0	0
Red-breasted Merganser	0	0	0	0
Ruddy Duck	0	5	0	0
Pied-billed Grebe	33	37	8	9
Horned Grebe	0	0	0	0
Eared Grebe	0	0	0	0
American Coot	13,745	6,975	800	310

Species Group Summary:

Species Group	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	Total number of birds observed week of 05/16/2022
Geese	264	133	167	194
Dabblers	24,310	15,675	3,695	1,395
Divers	542	143	22	10
All Ducks	24,852	15,818	3,717	1,405
Shorebirds	264	1,377	3,674	1,212

Eagles Summary:

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