

April 26, 2023

#### Refuge Conditions and Migration Report

Sand Lake Refuge has seen a significant amount of snowmelt and the last remaining ice is almost gone from the main lake. The snow geese migration pushed through in a hurry, and we did not have any large groups of geese utilizing the refuge. Most large groups utilized the various pockets of sheet water around the surrounding area. Currently we are starting to see a variety of bird species show up on the refuge. We have good mix of puddle and diving ducks as well as gulls, herons, pelicans and cormorants.

The road to the visitor center is open; however, the tour loop is closed and may remain closed for an extended period depending on flooding conditions. With near record snowfall totals in much of North Dakota we expect high water levels will arrive shortly. We anticipate very wet and muddy conditions on the Refuge this spring so please plan accordingly if you are planning a visit this spring.

The Visitor Center is open from 8 AM to 4:30 PM Central Monday to Friday with the exception of federal holidays.