

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

Date: 2025-02-11

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	01/08/2025 data	01/14/2025 data	02/07/2025 data	02/11/2025 data
Habitat Conditions Rating	Good	Good	Good	Good
Acres of wetlands flooded	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
Percentage of Wetlands Frozen	99%	99%	99%	99%

Waterfowl Species Summary:

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 01/08/2025	Number of Birds observed week of 01/14/2025	Number of Birds observed week of 02/07/2025	Number of Birds observed week of 02/11/2025
Greater White-fronted Goose	37	0	550	0
Snow Goose	145	3	34,152	26,930
Ross's Goose	0	0	Present	2
Canada Goose	106	5	420	170
Trumpeter Swan	959	78	459	804
Tundra Swan	1	0	2	0
Wood Duck	0	0	0	0
Gadwall	0	0	0	0
American Wigeon	0	0	0	0
American Black Duck	0	0	0	0
Mallard	664	267	1,465	720
Blue-winged Teal	0	0	0	0
Cinnamon Teal	0	0	0	0
Northern Shoveler	5	7	5	5

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 01/08/2025	Number of Birds observed week of 01/14/2025	Number of Birds observed week of 02/07/2025	Number of Birds observed week of 02/11/2025
Northern Pintail	0	0	310	310
Green-winged Teal	0	1	1	0
Canvasback	0	0	0	0
Redhead	0	0	0	0
Ring-necked Duck	0	2	60	90
Scaup	0	0	0	0
Bufflehead	0	0	0	0
Common Goldeneye	0	0	6	3
Hooded Merganser	0	0	1	0
Common Merganser	0	0	0	0
Red-breasted Merganser	0	0	0	0
Ruddy Duck	0	0	0	0
Pied-billed Grebe	0	0	0	0
Horned Grebe	0	0	0	0
Eared Grebe	0	0	0	0
American Coot	1	0	5	0

Species Group Summary:

Species Group	Total number of birds observed week of 01/08/2025	Total number of birds observed week of 01/14/2025	Total number of birds observed week of 02/07/2025	Total number of birds observed week of 02/11/2025
Geese	288	8	35,122	27,102
Dabblers	669	275	1,781	1,035
Divers	0	2	67	93
All Ducks	669	277	1,848	1,128
Shorebirds	0	0	0	0

Eagles Summary:

Bald Eagles	Total number of birds observed 01/08/2025	Total number of birds observed 01/14/2025	Total number of birds observed 02/07/2025	Total number of birds observed 02/11/2025
Adult	122	24	75	104
Immature	176	44	67	84
All Eagles	298	68	142	188