

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

Date: 2022-02-28

## 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	02/07/2022 data	02/14/2022 data	02/23/2022 data	02/28/2022 data
Habitat Conditions Rating	Good	Good	Fair	Fair
Acres of wetlands flooded	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600
Percentage of Wetlands Frozen	99%	95%	99%	85%

## Waterfowl Species Summary:

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 02/07/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 02/14/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 02/23/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 02/28/2022
Greater White-fronted Goose	0	0	300	625
Snow Goose	0	46,010	73,015	839,550
Ross's Goose	0	200	Present	Present
Canada Goose	5	655	625	772
Trumpeter Swan	82	474	992	834
Tundra Swan	0	0	0	1
Wood Duck	0	0	0	0
Gadwall	0	0	55	90
American Wigeon	0	0	0	10
American Black Duck	0	0	0	0
Mallard	25	230	315	4,720
Blue-winged Teal	0	0	0	0
Cinnamon Teal	0	0	0	0
Northern Shoveler	0	0	15	30

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 02/07/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 02/14/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 02/23/2022	Number of Birds observed week of 02/28/2022
Northern Pintail	0	0	0	3,620
Green-winged Teal	0	0	0	15
Canvasback	0	0	0	0
Redhead	0	0	0	0
Ring-necked Duck	0	0	0	0
Scaup	0	0	0	0
Bufflehead	0	1	5	6
Common Goldeneye	0	20	0	5
Hooded Merganser	0	2	5	24
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	0	0	0	5

Species Group Summary:

Species Group	Total number of birds observed week of 02/07/2022	Total number of birds observed week of 02/14/2022	Total number of birds observed week of 02/23/2022	Total number of birds observed week of 02/28/2022
Geese	5	46,865	73,940	840,947
Dabblers	25	230	385	8,485
Divers	0	23	10	35
All Ducks	0	253	395	8,520
Shorebirds	0	0	0	0

Eagles Summary:

Bald Eagles	Total number of birds observed 02/07/2022	Total number of birds observed 02/14/2022	Total number of birds observed 02/23/2022	Total number of birds observed 02/28/2022
Immature	4	35	64	23
Adult	11	28	92	22
All Eagles	15	63	156	45