

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

Date: 2022-05-03

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	03/30/2022 data	04/06/2022 data	04/13/2022 data	05/03/2022 data
Habitat Conditions Rating	Fair	Fair	Fair	Fair
Acres of wetlands flooded	3,600	3,550	3,500	3,140
Percentage of Wetlands Frozen	0%	0%	0%	0%

Waterfowl Species Summary:

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 03/30/2022	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
Greater White-fronted Goose	5	250	60	0
Snow Goose	145	515	105	70
Ross's Goose	1	1	2	1
Canada Goose	94	116	97	62
Trumpeter Swan	144	22	25	2
Tundra Swan	0	0	0	0
Wood Duck	90	65	70	45
Gadwall	4,025	3,895	4,540	2,915
American Wigeon	0	20	30	30
American Black Duck	0	0	0	0
Mallard	2,540	2,470	865	170
Blue-winged Teal	1,110	1,970	7,155	10,305
Cinnamon Teal	0	0	0	0
Northern Shoveler	14,475	11,230	10,660	1,895

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 03/30/2022	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
Northern Pintail	15	90	90	45
Green-winged Teal	1,340	850	900	270
Canvasback	0	0	0	0
Redhead	10	0	0	0
Ring-necked Duck	10,740	3,340	400	75
Scaup	235	75	45	35
Bufflehead	130	60	35	0
Common Goldeneye	0	0	0	0
Hooded Merganser	193	68	62	28
Common Merganser	0	0	0	0
Red-breasted Merganser	0	0	0	0
Ruddy Duck	165	10	0	5
Pied-billed Grebe	18	18	33	37
Horned Grebe	0	0	0	0
Eared Grebe	0	0	0	0
American Coot	17,830	6,345	13,745	6,975

Species Group Summary:

Species Group	Total number of birds observed week of 03/30/2022	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
Geese	245	882	264	133
Dabblers	23,595	20,590	24,310	15,675
Divers	11,473	3,553	542	143
All Ducks	35,068	24,143	24,852	15,818
Shorebirds	80	156	264	1,377

Eagles Summary:

Bald Eagles	Total number of birds observed 03/30/2022	Total number of birds observed 04/06/2022	Total number of birds observed 04/13/2022	Total number of birds observed 05/03/2022
Immature	92	38	11	5
Adult	8	7	5	6
All Eagles	100	45	16	11