

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

Date: 2023-02-07

### 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	01/17/2023 data	01/26/2023 data	01/30/2023 data	02/07/2023 data
Habitat Conditions Rating	Good	Good	Good	Good
Acres of wetlands flooded	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
Percentage of Wetlands Frozen	05%	98%	99%	35%

### Waterfowl Species Summary:

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 01/17/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 01/26/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 01/30/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 02/07/2023
Greater White-fronted Goose	350	0	0	8,720
Snow Goose	47,700	5	10	403,000
Ross's Goose	450	0	0	4,050
Canada Goose	3,710	1,159	450	9,762
Trumpeter Swan	3,155	2,223	764	2,535
Tundra Swan	0	0	0	1
Wood Duck	0	0	0	0
Gadwall	0	0	0	25
American Wigeon	5	0	0	15
American Black Duck	0	0	0	0
Mallard	10,455	10,230	1,430	27,185
Blue-winged Teal	0	0	0	0
Cinnamon Teal	0	0	0	0
Northern Shoveler	0	0	5	10

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 01/17/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 01/26/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 01/30/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 02/07/2023
Northern Pintail	0	5	25	1,030
Green-winged Teal	0	0	0	0
Canvasback	0	0	0	0
Redhead	0	0	0	0
Ring-necked Duck	0	0	10	10
Scaup	0	0	0	0
Bufflehead	0	0	0	0
Common Goldeneye	275	0	0	178
Hooded Merganser	3	0	0	3
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	0

Species Group Summary:

Species Group	Total number of birds observed week of 01/17/2023	Total number of birds observed week of 01/26/2023	Total number of birds observed week of 01/30/2023	Total number of birds observed week of 02/07/2023
Geese	52,210	1,164	460	425,532
Dabblers	10,460	10,235	1,460	28,265
Divers	278	0	10	191
All Ducks	10,738	10,235	1,470	28,456
Shorebirds	0	0	0	0

Eagles Summary:

Bald Eagles	Total number of birds observed 01/17/2023	Total number of birds observed 01/26/2023	Total number of birds observed 01/30/2023	Total number of birds observed 02/07/2023
Immature	8	13	2	3
Adult	18	28	9	8
All Eagles	26	41	11	11