

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

Date: 2023-02-22

### 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	01/26/2023 data	01/30/2023 data	02/07/2023 data	02/22/2023 data
Habitat Conditions Rating	Good	Good	Good	Good
Acres of wetlands flooded	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
Percentage of Wetlands Frozen	98%	99%	35%	0%

### Waterfowl Species Summary:

Species	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	Number of Birds observed week of 02/22/2023
Greater White-fronted Goose	0	0	8,720	16,520
Snow Goose	5	10	403,000	1,359,770
Ross's Goose	0	0	4,050	12,350
Canada Goose	1,159	450	9,762	2,278
Trumpeter Swan	2,223	764	2,535	3,354
Tundra Swan	0	0	1	0
Wood Duck	0	0	0	5
Gadwall	0	0	25	1,715
American Wigeon	0	0	15	40
American Black Duck	0	0	0	0
Mallard	10,230	1,430	27,185	29,510
Blue-winged Teal	0	0	0	0
Cinnamon Teal	0	0	0	0
Northern Shoveler	0	5	10	110

Species	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	Number of Birds observed week of 02/22/2023
Northern Pintail	5	25	1,030	25,925
Green-winged Teal	0	0	0	1,295
Canvasback	0	0	0	5
Redhead	0	0	0	20
Ring-necked Duck	0	10	10	3,680
Scaup	0	0	0	200
Bufflehead	0	0	0	35
Common Goldeneye	0	0	178	800
Hooded Merganser	0	0	3	52
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	20

Species Group Summary:

Species Group	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	Total number of birds observed week of 02/22/2023
Geese	1,164	460	425,532	1,390,918
Dabblers	10,235	1,460	28,265	58,600
Divers	0	10	191	4,792
All Ducks	10,235	1,470	28,456	63,392
Shorebirds	0	0	0	0

Eagles Summary:

Bald Eagles	Total number of birds observed 01/26/2023	Total number of birds observed 01/30/2023	Total number of birds observed 02/07/2023	Total number of birds observed 02/22/2023
Immature	13	2	3	7
Adult	28	9	8	10
All Eagles	41	11	11	17