

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

Date: 2023-03-28

## 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	03/06/2023 data	03/13/2023 data	03/20/2023 data	03/28/2023 data
Habitat Conditions Rating	Good	Good	Good	Good
Acres of wetlands flooded	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
Percentage of Wetlands Frozen	0%	15%	5%	0%

## Waterfowl Species Summary:

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 03/06/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 03/13/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 03/20/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 03/28/2023
Greater White-fronted Goose	305	0	760	110
Snow Goose	405,655	229,810	59,160	2,270
Ross's Goose	4,101	2,305	1,210	70
Canada Goose	163	82	151	182
Trumpeter Swan	1,445	1,788	1,231	537
Tundra Swan	0	0	0	0
Wood Duck	35	45	145	671
Gadwall	13,930	22,615	6,600	11,315
American Wigeon	65	50	10	45
American Black Duck	0	2	0	0
Mallard	9,330	41,055	8,705	2,510
Blue-winged Teal	20	10	15	635
Cinnamon Teal	0	0	0	0
Northern Shoveler	5,320	7,485	12,255	13,725

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 03/06/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 03/13/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 03/20/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 03/28/2023
Northern Pintail	6,175	37,325	2,825	295
Green-winged Teal	3,010	7,710	1,450	3,220
Canvasback	10	0	0	0
Redhead	70	90	570	115
Ring-necked Duck	21,810	42,175	26,730	17,458
Scaup	560	575	720	1,185
Bufflehead	225	340	420	475
Common Goldeneye	335	75	60	55
Hooded Merganser	119	94	102	125
Common Merganser	0	5	0	0
Red-breasted Merganser	0	0	0	0
Ruddy Duck	25	110	155	1,185
Pied-billed Grebe	0	2	1	9
Horned Grebe	0	0	0	0
Eared Grebe	0	0	0	0
American Coot	3,490	5,445	5,490	9,980

Species Group Summary:

Species Group	Total number of birds observed week of 03/06/2023	Total number of birds observed week of 03/13/2023	Total number of birds observed week of 03/20/2023	Total number of birds observed week of 03/28/2023
Geese	410,224	232,197	61,281	2,632
Dabblers	37,885	116,297	32,005	32,416
Divers	23,154	43,464	28,757	20,598
All Ducks	61,039	159,761	60,762	53,014
Shorebirds	0	43	29	61

Eagles Summary:

Bald Eagles	Total number of birds observed 03/06/2023	Total number of birds observed 03/13/2023	Total number of birds observed 03/20/2023	Total number of birds observed 03/28/2023
Immature	3	4	14	4
Adult	3	5	9	4
All Eagles	6	9	23	8