

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

Date: 2023-10-24

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	10/03/2023 data	10/12/2023 data	10/17/2023 data	10/24/2023 data
Habitat Conditions Rating	Good	Good	Good	Good
Acres of wetlands flooded	1,500	1,760	1,780	1,900
Percentage of Wetlands Frozen	0%	0%	0%	0%

Waterfowl Species Summary:

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 10/03/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 10/12/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 10/17/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 10/24/2023
Greater White-fronted Goose	0	0	20	750
Snow Goose	0	0	10	25
Ross's Goose	0	0	0	0
Canada Goose	27	137	180	220
Trumpeter Swan	0	0	0	2
Tundra Swan	0	0	0	0
Wood Duck	30	30	30	100
Gadwall	0	15	5	750
American Wigeon	0	0	0	35
American Black Duck	0	0	0	0
Mallard	0	10	20	1,855
Blue-winged Teal	2,145	355	550	2,920
Cinnamon Teal	0	0	0	0
Northern Shoveler	5	5	5	265

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 10/03/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 10/12/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 10/17/2023	Number of Birds observed week of 10/24/2023
Northern Pintail	2,400	15	5	7,245
Green-winged Teal	750	270	140	13,465
Canvasback	0	0	0	0
Redhead	0	0	0	0
Ring-necked Duck	0	90	305	755
Scaup	0	0	0	5
Bufflehead	0	0	0	0
Common Goldeneye	0	0	0	0
Hooded Merganser	0	0	0	0
Common Merganser	0	0	0	0
Red-breasted Merganser	0	0	0	0
Ruddy Duck	0	0	0	15
Pied-billed Grebe	33	30	41	19
Horned Grebe	0	0	0	0
Eared Grebe	0	0	0	0
American Coot	15	625	455	1,205

Species Group Summary:

Species Group	Total number of birds observed week of 10/03/2023	Total number of birds observed week of 10/12/2023	Total number of birds observed week of 10/17/2023	Total number of birds observed week of 10/24/2023
Geese	27	137	210	995
Dabblers	5,330	700	760	26,635
Divers	0	90	305	775
All Ducks	5,330	790	1,065	27,410
Shorebirds	38	18	23	12

Eagles Summary:

Bald Eagles	Total number of birds observed 10/03/2023	Total number of birds observed 10/12/2023	Total number of birds observed 10/17/2023	Total number of birds observed 10/24/2023
Adult				
Immature				
All Eagles	Present	Present	Present	Present