



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge
Brigham City, UT
Waterbird/Raptor Survey
September 15-16, 2014

A waterbird/raptor survey was conducted September 15-16, 2014 by Refuge Biologist Howard Browers and volunteers Frank and Josee Kee with 47 species recorded. Water conditions were mostly good across the refuge. Some drying has occurred in some units during the past 2 weeks as the weather has gotten warmer and the Bear River water level has dropped. The refuge is holding significant numbers of waterfowl, though overall waterfowl numbers are slightly below average for mid-September. Cinnamon teal, Black-necked stilt, American avocet, Franklin's gull, and white-faced ibis numbers were much reduced from August as birds have started migrating away from the refuge. Marbled godwit numbers were surprisingly low for mid-September. Highlights from the survey included red-necked phalaropes, a Wilson's snipe, a sharp-shinned hawk, and a great horned owl, all of which are uncommon on the refuge.

Canada goose	6,959	Killdeer	73
Mallard	6,789	Black-necked stilt	1,811
Northern pintail	52,060	American avocet	9,826
American green-winged teal	28,622	Spotted sandpiper	3
Cinnamon teal	3,986	Greater yellowlegs	62
Northern shoveler	18,251	Lesser yellowlegs	17
Gadwall	13,831	Long-billed curlew	4
American wigeon	4,170	Marbled godwit	31
Canvasback	140	Long-billed dowitcher	75
Redhead	141	Wilson's snipe	1
Bufflehead	2	Red-necked phalarope	154
Ruddy duck	1,426	Wilson's phalarope	11
Unknown ducks	2,800	Franklin's gull	3,903
Pied-billed grebe	7	Ring-billed gull	3,195
Eared grebe	407	California gull	1
Western grebe	261	Forster's tern	9
Clark's grebe	126	American coot	13,191
American white pelican	1,086	Sandhill crane	10
Double-crested cormorant	196	Turkey vulture	1
Great blue heron	61	Northern harrier	5
Great egret	22	Sharp-shinned hawk	1
Snowy egret	153	American kestrel	2
Black-crowned night heron	10	Peregrine falcon	1
White-faced ibis	3,931	Great horned owl	1

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