



Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge
Brigham City, UT
Waterbird/Raptor Survey
November 4-5, 2015

A waterbird/raptor survey was conducted on November 4-5, 2015 by Refuge Biologist Howard Browers and Student Conservation Association Intern Sara Prussing recording 42 species. Water conditions on the refuge were generally good with most units being full or nearly full. Waterfowl numbers were somewhat low overall compared to past surveys for early November. However, the refuge and adjacent lands are holding fairly large numbers of tundra swans as would be typical of early November. Canvasback numbers were high and approaching a record count for the refuge for November. Numbers recorded for Western and Clark’s grebes, double-crested cormorant, American kestrel, and loggerhead shrike were record highs for the month of November for this survey. One lone black-necked stilt was still hanging around. The vast majority of stilts have left the refuge by late September, while a few can linger into October. A November sighting of any black-necked stilt is quite uncommon.

Tundra swan	5,287		
Canada goose	2,948	Great blue heron	59
Mallard	7,907	Black-crowned night heron	1
Northern pintail	26,092	White-faced ibis	4
American green-winged teal	16,185	Killdeer	1
Cinnamon teal	1	Black-necked stilt	1
Northern shoveler	6,924	American avocet	350
Gadwall	12,361	Greater yellowlegs	35
American wigeon	5,901	Yellowlegs spp.	4
Canvasback	21,067	Long-billed curlew	1
Redhead	2,561	Marbled godwit	217
Bufflehead	464	Long-billed dowitcher	2,500
Common merganser	80	Bonaparte’s gull	227
Red-breasted merganser	382	Ring-billed gull	1,341
Ruddy duck	12,915	Herring gull	5
Unknown ducks	277	Virginia rail	1
Pied-billed grebe	21	American coot	20,875
Eared grebe	39	Bald eagle	1
Western grebe	245	Northern harrier	37
Clark’s grebe	65	Rough-legged hawk	4
American white pelican	230	American kestrel	4
Double-crested cormorant	391	Loggerhead shrike	3