

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

Date: 2024-10-08

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	09/18/2024 data	09/24/2024 data	10/01/2024 data	10/08/2024 data
Habitat Conditions Rating	Good	Good	Good	Good
Acres of wetlands flooded	2,463	2,558	2,620	2,670
Percentage of Wetlands Frozen	0%	0%	0%	0%

Waterfowl Species Summary:

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 09/18/2024	Number of Birds observed week of 09/24/2024	Number of Birds observed week of 10/01/2024	Number of Birds observed week of 10/08/2024
Greater White-fronted Goose	0	0	0	0
Snow Goose	0	0	0	0
Ross's Goose	0	0	0	0
Canada Goose	5	4	77	39
Trumpeter Swan	0	0	0	0
Tundra Swan	0	0	0	0
Wood Duck	38	42	45	51
Gadwall	0	0	0	10
American Wigeon	0	0	0	20
American Black Duck	0	0	0	0
Mallard	5	10	0	0
Blue-winged Teal	2,101	3,640	11,897	2,064
Cinnamon Teal	0	0	0	0
Northern Shoveler	0	0	10	10

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 09/18/2024	Number of Birds observed week of 09/24/2024	Number of Birds observed week of 10/01/2024	Number of Birds observed week of 10/08/2024
Northern Pintail	0	80	920	3,902
Green-winged Teal	30	520	1,970	2,132
Canvasback	0	0	0	0
Redhead	0	0	0	0
Ring-necked Duck	0	0	0	0
Scaup	0	0	0	0
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	0
Pied-billed Grebe	12	26	95	48
Horned Grebe	0	0	0	0
Eared Grebe	0	0	0	0
American Coot	0	75	242	1,000

Species Group Summary:

Species Group	Total number of birds observed week of 09/18/2024	Total number of birds observed week of 09/24/2024	Total number of birds observed week of 10/01/2024	Total number of birds observed week of 10/08/2024
Geese	5	4	77	39
Dabblers	2,169	4,292	14,322	8,189
Divers	0	0	0	0
All Ducks	2,169	4,292	14,322	8,189
Shorebirds	15	16	19	52

Eagles Summary:

Bald Eagles	Total number of birds observed 09/18/2024	Total number of birds observed 09/24/2024	Total number of birds observed 10/01/2024	Total number of birds observed 10/08/2024
Adult				
Immature				
All Eagles	Present	Present	Present	Present