

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

Date: 2024-10-16

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	09/24/2024 data	10/01/2024 data	10/08/2024 data	10/16/2024 data
Habitat Conditions Rating	Good	Good	Good	Good
Acres of wetlands flooded	2,558	2,620	2,670	2,670
Percentage of Wetlands Frozen	0%	0%	0%	0%

Waterfowl Species Summary:

Species	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	Number of Birds observed week of 10/16/2024
Greater White-fronted Goose	0	0	0	0
Snow Goose	0	0	0	0
Ross's Goose	0	0	0	0
Canada Goose	4	77	39	12
Trumpeter Swan	0	0	0	0
Tundra Swan	0	0	0	0
Wood Duck	42	45	51	110
Gadwall	0	0	10	200
American Wigeon	0	0	20	30
American Black Duck	0	0	0	0
Mallard	10	0	0	5
Blue-winged Teal	3,640	11,897	2,064	0
Cinnamon Teal	0	0	0	0
Northern Shoveler	0	10	10	25

Species	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	Number of Birds observed week of 10/16/2024
Northern Pintail	80	920	3,902	20,415
Green-winged Teal	520	1,970	1,962	3,270
Canvasback	0	0	0	0
Redhead	0	0	0	0
Ring-necked Duck	0	0	0	1,325
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	26	95	48	24
Horned Grebe	0	0	0	0
Eared Grebe	0	0	0	0
American Coot	75	242	1,000	2,095

Species Group Summary:

Species Group	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	Total number of birds observed week of 10/16/2024
Geese	4	77	39	12
Dabblers	4,292	14,322	8,019	24,055
Divers	0	0	0	1,325
All Ducks	4,292	14,322	8,019	25,380
Shorebirds	16	19	52	55

Eagles Summary:

Bald Eagles	Total number of birds observed 09/24/2024	Total number of birds observed 10/01/2024	Total number of birds observed 10/08/2024	Total number of birds observed 10/16/2024
Adult				
Immature				
All Eagles	Present	Present	Present	Present