

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

Date: 2024-11-20

## 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	10/29/2024 data	11/05/2024 data	11/12/2024 data	11/20/2024 data
Habitat Conditions Rating	Good	Good	Good	Good
Acres of wetlands flooded	3,080	3,260	3,300	3,300
Percentage of Wetlands Frozen	0%	0%	0%	0%

## Waterfowl Species Summary:

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 10/29/2024	Number of Birds observed week of 11/05/2024	Number of Birds observed week of 11/12/2024	Number of Birds observed week of 11/20/2024
Greater White-fronted Goose	245	405	690	10,430
Snow Goose	0	0	700	3,800
Ross's Goose	0	0	0	Present
Canada Goose	327	258	725	1,614
Trumpeter Swan	0	0	64	144
Tundra Swan	0	0	0	2
Wood Duck	310	830	670	500
Gadwall	1,355	1,715	3,700	6,446
American Wigeon	140	25	15	85
American Black Duck	0	0	0	0
Mallard	430	18,250	32,570	85,365
Blue-winged Teal	75	50	15	5
Cinnamon Teal	0	0	0	0
Northern Shoveler	210	295	290	500

Species	Number of Birds observed week of 10/29/2024	Number of Birds observed week of 11/05/2024	Number of Birds observed week of 11/12/2024	Number of Birds observed week of 11/20/2024
Northern Pintail	19,530	58,200	31,845	42,030
Green-winged Teal	20,325	38,185	95,510	120,705
Canvasback	0	3	0	43
Redhead	0	0	60	215
Ring-necked Duck	3,205	2,180	7,145	16,000
Scaup	0	15	40	220
Bufflehead	1	0	0	2
Common Goldeneye	0	0	0	0
Hooded Merganser	1	0	3	4
Common Merganser	0	0	0	0
Red-breasted Merganser	0	0	0	0
Ruddy Duck	0	0	0	15
Pied-billed Grebe	23	75	13	9
Horned Grebe	0	0	0	0
Eared Grebe	0	0	0	0
American Coot	3,530	6,535	4,960	1,450

Species Group Summary:

Species Group	Total number of birds observed week of 10/29/2024	Total number of birds observed week of 11/05/2024	Total number of birds observed week of 11/12/2024	Total number of birds observed week of 11/20/2024
Geese	572	663	2,115	15,844
Dabblers	42,375	117,550	164,615	255,636
Divers	3,207	2,198	7,248	16,499
All Ducks	45,582	119,748	171,863	272,135
Shorebirds	20	1	0	0

Eagles Summary:

Bald Eagles	Total number of birds observed 10/29/2024	Total number of birds observed 11/05/2024	Total number of birds observed 11/12/2024	Total number of birds observed 11/20/2024
Adult				7
Immature				11
All Eagles	Present	Present	Present	18