

51-10. CAREY LAKE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (WMA/IBA)

Boundaries and ownership:

Boundaries: Bordered to the West, North, and East by the edge of the town of Carey; South/East–lava fields; North-Highway 20

Ownership: Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Focal species using the site and timing of use:

Primarily waterfowl, with dense spring populations of Mallard, Gadwall, Northern Pintail, American Wigeon, Cinnamon Teal, Green-Winged Teal, Blue-winged Teal, Redhead, Canvasback, Ruddy, and nesting Canada Geese. Other waterbirds (Sandhill Crane, Great Blue Heron, American Bittern, Virginia Rail, Sora, Pied-billed Grebe) and shorebirds (American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Wilson’s Phalarope, Semipalmated Plover, Long-billed Curlew, Willet, Lesser and Greater Yellowlegs) are seen regularly at this location, whereas American White Pelican, Caspian Tern, Hooded Merganser, and American Pipit are seen occasionally. Avocets, stilts, curlews, willets, cranes present during summer.

Colonies: Eared Grebe, Black Tern

Location of type 1 and 2 habitat within the site:

Functional Group	Type 1 Habitat	Type 2 Habitat
waterbirds	open water & emergent vegetation	none
large waders	emergent vegetation	rest of shoreline
secretive marshbirds	water's edge	none
waterfowl	open water, edges during breeding season	none
shorebirds	exposed mudflats during spring/fall migration	rest of shoreline
terns	breeding colonies, all areas	none

Access to the type 1 and 2 habitat and visibility of the birds:

Area is completely accessible to the public, and best surveyed by canoe. Some observations can be done from the shoreline with binoculars, but small islands in the reservoir will make visibility difficult for some portions of the reservoir. By canoe, birds are quite visible throughout the area.

Conservation issues:

- Drought
- Predation

Conservation measures taken, in progress, or proposed:

Water rights in Little Wood Reservoir are used to maintain water levels in Carey Lake
There is an on-going predator trapping program

Past and current surveys:

Canada Goose nesting surveys
Intermittent waterfowl brood surveys

Potential survey methods

Description:

- a. Nest searches for grebes and other waterbirds nesting in the emergent vegetation in small colonies. Canoe is necessary for access.
- b. Colony counts for nesting Black Terns (Note: location of nesting terns is currently unknown).

- c. Census for waterfowl and other waterbirds on the open water from shore, using binoculars or scope, and/or from a canoe.
- d. Area searches for migrating shorebirds from observation points near Type 1 habitat.
- e. Systematic sampling, probably including the use of playback calls, for secretive marshbirds using a canoe to access marshes
- f. Census for gulls and terns during waterfowl counts

Selection bias: N/A

Measurement error and bias: N/A

Needed pilot studies: None may be needed, with the exception of determining the nesting location(s) of Black Terns.

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