

50-13. WESTMOND LAKE (IBA)

Boundaries and ownership:

Boundaries: South – Dufort rd., West – Westmond road. Shorelines of the lake plus adjacent wetlands.

Ownership: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, private

Focal species using the site and timing of use:

Nesting waterfowl (Mallard, Wood Duck, Canada Goose, Cinnamon Teal, Green-winged Teal), Wilson's Phalaropes, and Black Terns. Soras, Virginia Rails, and Great Blue Herons also present. Migration site for waterfowl (>200 individuals, mostly Northern Pintail) and shorebirds, (>100 in late summer; Western Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, Greater Yellowlegs, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper).

Colonies: Black Tern (>30 individuals)

Location of type 1 and 2 habitat within the site:

Functional Group	Type 1 Habitat	Type 2 Habitat
secretive marshbirds	water's edge	none
waterfowl	open water, adjacent flooded wetlands (April-July)	none
shorebirds	exposed mudflats in late summer	rest of shoreline
terns	breeding colonies, all areas	none

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

Pond is accessible by foot, and visibility of birds is variable. Emergent vegetation will be a problem, and the area may be best surveyed by flush counts.

Conservation issues:

- Site is currently drained by a functioning drainage system
- Potential for new residential homes

Conservation measures taken, in progress, or proposed:

- Covered by the Pend Oreille WMA long-range management plan
- Albeni Falls mitigation program is being funded by BPA

Past and current surveys:

- Waterfowl breeding pair and brood surveys
- Triennial point counts planned as part of BPA monitoring obligation

Potential survey methods

Description

- a. Colony counts for nesting Black Terns.
- b. Census for waterfowl on the open water from shoreline and temporarily-flooded (April – July) wetlands adjacent to pond by foot. Little use of the area during late summer or winter. Survey with one transect through center of area (between pond and adjacent wetlands)
- c. Area searches for migrating shorebirds from observation points near Type 1 habitat.
- d. Conduct playback surveys for secretive marshbirds from one point along shoreline. Area is too small for more than one survey point.

Selection bias: N/A

Measurement error and bias: N/A

Needed pilot studies: None needed.

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