

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Hutton Lake

## *National Wildlife Refuge*

### *Visitor Information and Wildlife List*

Hutton Lake National Wildlife Refuge  
c/o Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge  
953 Jackson County Road 32  
Walden, CO 80480  
970 / 723 8202  
arapaho@fws.gov  
[http://www.fws.gov/refuge/hutton\\_lake](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/hutton_lake)

For State Relay Service  
TTY / Voice: 711

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
<http://www.fws.gov>

For Refuge Information  
1 800 / 344 WILD

August 2019



#### **Accessibility Information**

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Rush Lake  
Rhonda Foley / USFWS





*An oasis in the Laramie Plains of Wyoming, the lakes and marshes of Hutton Lake National Wildlife Refuge provide a place for migrating waterfowl to rest and refuel. If you investigate beyond the waterfowl found on the Refuge, you will find many other birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, and plants.*

## Welcome to Hutton Lake National Wildlife Refuge



*This blue goose, designed by J.N. "Ding" Darling, is the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System.*

Hutton Lake National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is situated in the southern part of the Laramie Plains in Wyoming, a high-elevation, dry grassland surrounded by mountains. The 1,968-acre Refuge is at an elevation of 7,150 feet and has five small lakes – Hutton, Creighton, George, Rush, and Hoge. Hutton Lake NWR also includes mixed-grass uplands and wetland habitats.

Arranged in a half-moon shape, the five lakes on the Refuge were originally just low areas that naturally collected some water. As time went on, people enhanced the size of the lakes for private and wildlife benefit. Today, these lakes provide welcome resting and feeding areas for migrating waterfowl, especially in the springtime.

Established in 1932, the purpose of the Refuge is to provide resting and breeding habitat for migratory birds and other native wildlife. Hutton Lake NWR is one of over 566 refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System – a network of lands set aside specifically for wildlife. Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Refuge System is a living heritage, preserving wildlife and habitat for people today and for generations to come.

## Enjoying Your Visit

Recreational activities such as wildlife observation, photography, and hiking on established roads can all be enjoyed on the Refuge. Please refer to the Hutton Lake NWR Hunting Regulations publication for more information on Refuge hunting activities. Note that both the condition and closure of roads are subject to seasonal and weather-related factors.

- The Refuge is open from one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset.
- All pets must be leashed.
- Please pack out any trash.

## Birding Opportunities

Birding opportunities are best in the spring and fall when migration is underway. Spring waterfowl flights are particularly rewarding to watch in April when populations occasionally reach 10,000-15,000 ducks. Fall waterfowl visitation is sporadic, but it presents an excellent opportunity to observe young of the year and adults in their fall plumage.

## Refuge Regulations

To ensure your safety, the safety of other visitors, and the protection of the Refuge's natural resources, Refuge visitors must abide by the following regulations.

### *Motor Vehicles*

Motor vehicles are permitted on existing Refuge roads only. Vehicles are not permitted on roads marked "Authorized Vehicles Only" or roads closed by gates. Parking is permitted along the side of existing roads. Please do not park in a manner restricting the access of other visitors. Off-road vehicles may not be used on any portion of the Refuge.

### *Prohibited Activities*

- Hunting, fishing, fires, and overnight camping are not permitted on the Refuge.
- Molesting, injuring, disturbing, or destroying any animal or plant is prohibited, as is the removal of animals, plants, or parts thereof.
- Artifacts and historic items are protected on refuge lands by federal law. It is unlawful to search for or remove these objects from refuge lands.

### *Firearms*

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuge System lands must comply with all provisions of State and local law. Persons may only use (discharge) firearms in accordance with refuge regulations (50 CFR 27.42 and specific refuge regulations in 50 CFR Part 32).

**Directions to Hutton NWR**

From Laramie, take Wyoming Highway 230E for 12 miles (near mile marker 12). Turn left onto Brubaker Lane (Albany County 37), and continue on Brubaker Lane for 6.7 miles. You will arrive at a T-intersection, which is Sand Creek Road. Turn left onto Sand Creek Road and continue for 4.5 miles. Then, turn left onto Hutton Lakes Road. Continue for 0.5 miles to the Refuge entrance sign.

**About this Checklist**

This leaflet lists the 146 bird species, 29 mammal species, and 6 amphibian and reptile species which have been found on the Refuge.

*Seasons*

Sp Spring (March – May)  
S Summer (June – August)  
F Fall (September – November)  
W Winter (December – February)

*Abundance*

The letters below designate species abundance on the Refuge. In the bird section of the wildlife list, abundance is listed according to season.

- a abundant – a common species which is numerous
- c common – certain to be seen in suitable habitat
- u uncommon – present, but not certain to be seen
- o occasional – a species seen only a few times during the season
- r rare – seen at intervals of 2 to 5 years
- ∅ not present – not seen on the Refuge

*Other Codes*

- birds known to nest on the Refuge

Common Bird Name	SP	S	F	W
<b>Ducks, Geese and Swans</b>				
Snow Goose	r	r	r	∅
Ross's Goose	r	r	r	∅
• Canada Goose	c	c	c	∅
Tundra Swan	r	r	r	∅
Wood Duck	r	r	r	∅
• Gadwall	a	a	a	∅
• American Wigeon	a	a	a	∅
• Mallard	a	a	a	∅
• Blue-winged Teal	c	c	c	∅
• Cinnamon Teal	a	a	a	∅
• Northern Shoveler	a	a	a	∅
• Northern Pintail	c	c	c	∅
• Green-winged Teal	a	a	a	∅
• Canvasback	c	c	c	∅
• Redhead	c	c	c	∅
Ring-necked Duck	c	o	c	∅
Greater Scaup	r	r	r	∅
• Lesser Scaup	a	a	a	∅
Bufflehead	c	o	c	∅
Common Goldeneye	o	o	o	∅
Barrow's Goldeneye	r	r	r	∅
Hooded Merganser	r	r	r	∅
Common Merganser	o	o	o	∅
• Ruddy Duck	a	a	a	∅
<b>Loons</b>				
Common Loon	r	r	r	∅
<b>Grebes</b>				
• Pied-billed Grebe	c	c	c	∅
Horned Grebe	r	r	r	∅
Red-necked Grebe	r	r	r	∅
• Eared Grebe	a	a	a	∅
Western Grebe	u	u	u	∅
Clark's Grebe	o	o	o	∅
<b>Cormorants</b>				
• Double-crested Cormorant	o	o	o	∅
<b>Pelicans</b>				
American White Pelican	c	c	c	∅

Common Bird Name	SP	S	F	W
<b>Bitterns, Herons and Egrets</b>				
Great Blue Heron	o	o	o	∅
• Snowy Egret	o	o	o	∅
• Cattle Egret	o	o	o	∅
Green Heron	r	r	r	∅
• Black-crowned Night-Heron	u	u	u	∅
<b>Ibises and Spoonbills</b>				
White-faced Ibis	c	c	c	∅
<b>New World Vultures</b>				
• Turkey Vulture	u	u	u	∅
<b>Hawks, Kites and Eagles</b>				
Bald Eagle	r	r	r	u
• Northern Harrier	c	c	c	∅
Sharp-shinned Hawk	u	u	u	∅
Northern Goshawk	u	u	u	∅
• Swainson's Hawk	c	c	c	∅
Red-tailed Hawk	c	c	c	∅
Ferruginous Hawk	u	u	u	∅
Rough-legged Hawk	r	r	r	c
Golden Eagle	c	c	c	u
<b>Rails, Gallinules and Coots</b>				
• Virginia Rail	o	o	o	∅
• Sora	o	o	o	∅
• American Coot	a	a	a	∅
<b>Cranes</b>				
Sandhill Crane	u	u	u	∅
<b>Stilts and Avocets</b>				
Black-necked Stilt	r	r	r	∅
• American Avocet	c	c	c	∅
<b>Plovers</b>				
Semipalmated Plover	r	r	r	∅
• Killdeer	c	c	c	∅
Mountain Plover	r	r	r	∅
<b>Sandpipers and Phalaropes</b>				
Spotted Sandpiper	o	r	o	∅
Solitary Sandpiper	o	r	o	∅
• Willet	u	u	u	∅
Lesser Yellowlegs	u	r	u	∅
Long-billed Curlew	r	r	r	∅
Marbled Godwit	r	r	r	∅
Stilt Sandpiper	r	r	r	∅
Baird's Sandpiper	o	r	o	∅

Common Bird Name	SP	S	F	W
Least Sandpiper	o	r	o	∅
Semipalmated Sandpiper	o	r	o	∅
Western Sandpiper	o	r	o	∅
Long-billed Dowitcher	c	r	c	∅
• Wilson's Snipe	o	o	o	∅
• Wilson's Phalarope	a	a	a	∅
Red-necked Phalarope	r	r	r	∅
<b>Gulls, Terns and Skimmers</b>				
Bonaparte's Gull	r	r	r	∅
Franklin's Gull	u	u	u	∅
Ring-billed Gull	u	u	u	∅
• California Gull	a	a	a	∅
Herring Gull	r	r	r	∅
Caspian Tern	r	r	r	∅
• Black Tern	o	o	o	∅
• Forster's Tern	o	o	o	∅
<b>Pigeons and Doves</b>				
Eurasian Collared-Dove ( <i>introduced</i> )	o	o	o	∅
• Mourning Dove	o	o	o	∅
<b>Typical Owls</b>				
Great Horned Owl	o	o	o	∅
Burrowing Owl	r	r	r	∅
Short-eared Owl	r	r	r	∅
<b>Nighthawks and Nightjars</b>				
• Common Nighthawk	o	o	o	∅
<b>Hummingbirds</b>				
Rufous Hummingbird	r	o	o	∅
Broad-billed Hummingbird	o	o	o	∅
<b>Woodpeckers</b>				
Northern Flicker	o	o	o	∅
<b>Caracaras and Falcons</b>				
• American Kestrel	u	u	u	∅
Peregrine Falcon	r	r	r	∅
Prairie Falcon	o	o	o	∅
<b>Tyrant Flycatchers</b>				
Say's Phoebe	o	o	o	∅
• Western Kingbird	u	u	u	∅
Eastern Kingbird	u	u	u	∅
<b>Shrikes</b>				
Loggerhead Shrike	o	o	o	∅

Common Bird Name	SP	S	F	W
<b>Jays, Magpies and Crows</b>				
• Black-billed Magpie	u	u	u	u
American Crow	u	u	u	u
Common Raven	u	u	u	u
<b>Larks</b>				
• Horned Lark	c	c	c	∅
<b>Swallows</b>				
• Tree Swallow	u	u	u	∅
• Violet-green Swallow	c	c	c	∅
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	u	u	u	∅
• Bank Swallow	u	u	u	∅
• Cliff Swallow	u	u	u	∅
• Barn Swallow	u	u	u	∅
<b>Chickadees and Titmice</b>				
Black-capped Chickadee	r	r	r	∅
<b>Wrens</b>				
Rock Wren	r	r	r	∅
House Wren	r	r	r	∅
• Marsh Wren	a	a	a	∅
<b>Thrushes</b>				
• Mountain Bluebird	u	u	u	∅
Hermit Thrush	o	o	o	∅
• American Robin	o	o	o	∅
<b>Mimic Thrushes</b>				
Brown Thrasher	r	r	r	∅
• Sage Thrasher	c	c	c	∅
<b>Starlings</b>				
• European Starling	c	c	c	∅
<b>Waxwings</b>				
Bohemian Waxwing	r	r	r	r
Cedar Waxwing	r	r	r	r
<b>Longspurs and Buntings</b>				
Chestnut-collared Longspur	r	r	r	∅
McCown's Longspur	u	u	u	∅
Snow Bunting	r	r	r	r

Common Bird Name	SP	S	F	W
<b>Wood Warblers</b>				
Common Yellowthroat	u	u	u	∅
• Yellow Warbler	u	u	u	∅
Yellow-rumped Warbler	u	u	u	∅
Black-throated Gray Warbler	r	r	r	∅
<b>Sparrows and Towhees</b>				
Green-tailed Towhee	o	o	o	∅
Chipping Sparrow	o	o	o	∅
• Brewer's Sparrow	c	c	c	∅
• Vesper Sparrow	c	c	c	∅
• Lark Sparrow	u	u	u	∅
• Lark Bunting	u	u	u	∅
• Savannah Sparrow	u	u	u	∅
Song Sparrow	u	u	u	∅
White-crowned Sparrow	u	u	u	∅
<b>Blackbirds and Orioles</b>				
• Red-winged Blackbird	a	a	a	∅
• Western Meadowlark	c	c	c	∅
• Yellow-headed Blackbird	a	a	a	∅
• Brewer's Blackbird	c	c	c	∅
• Brown-headed Cowbird	a	a	a	∅
<b>Finches</b>				
Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch	o	o	o	o
Black Rosy-Finch	r	r	r	r
Brown-capped Rosy-Finch	r	r	r	r
Pine Siskin	u	u	u	∅
American Goldfinch	u	u	u	∅
Evening Grosbeak	r	r	r	∅
<b>Old World Sparrows</b>				
• House Sparrow	u	u	u	∅

Reference: American Ornithologists' Union. 1998.  
 Check-list of North American Birds. 7th edition.  
 American Ornithologists' Union, Washington, DC.  
<http://checklist.aou.org/>

Common Mammal Name	Abundance
<b>Hares and Rabbits</b>	
White-tailed Jackrabbit	c
Mountain Cottontail	c
<b>Shrews</b>	
Cinereus or Masked Shrew	u
<b>Vesper Bats</b>	
Western Small-footed Myotis	u
Little Brown Myotis	u
<b>Skunks</b>	
Striped Skunk	o
<b>Weasels and Badgers</b>	
Long-tailed Weasel	o
American Mink	r
American Badger	u
<b>Raccoons</b>	
Northern Raccoon	o
<b>Pronghorn</b>	
Pronghorn	a
<b>Deer</b>	
Elk or Western Red Deer	r
Mule and Black-tailed Deer	r
White-tailed Deer	r
<b>New World Mice, Rats and Voles</b>	
Montane Vole	u
Meadow Vole	u
Common Muskrat	c
Northern Grasshopper Mouse	u
Piñon Deermouse	u
Western Harvest Mouse	u
<b>Jumping Mice</b>	
Meadow Jumping Mouse	u
Western Jumping Mouse	r
<b>Pocket Gophers</b>	
Northern Pocket Gopher	u
<b>Kangaroo Rats</b>	
Ord's Kangaroo Rat	u

Common Mammal Name	Abundance
<b>Squirrels</b>	
White-tailed Prairie Dog	a
Thirteen-lined Ground Squirrel	u
Least Chipmunk	c
Wyoming Ground Squirrel	a

*Reference: Revised Checklist of North American Mammals North of Mexico, 2014 as published in Occasional Papers, Museum of Texas Tech University, Number 327, 02 October 2014.*

<http://www.nsrll.ttu.edu/publications/opapers/ops/OP327.pdf>

Common Amphibian Name	Abundance
<b>American Water Frogs</b>	
Northern Leopard Frog	u
<b>Chorus Frogs</b>	
Boreal Chorus Frog	u

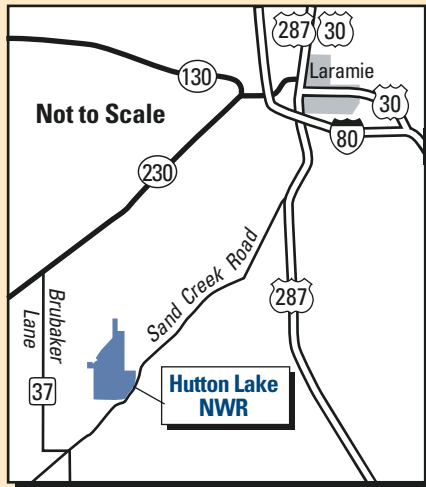
Common Reptile Name	Abundance
<b>Rattlesnakes</b>	
Prairie Rattlesnake	u
<b>Bullsnake</b>	
Bullsnake	u
<b>North American Gartersnakes</b>	
Wandering Gartersnake	u

*Reference: Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles Herpetological Circular No. 39, published 2012*  
[https://ssarherps.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/HC\\_39\\_7thEd.pdf](https://ssarherps.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/HC_39_7thEd.pdf)



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Pronghorn



## Hutton Lake

*National Wildlife Refuge*

- Refuge boundary
- Refuge road
- Nature trail
- Lake
- Wetland
- Parking
- Wildlife observation deck

