



Oregon Coordinated Aquatic Bird Monitoring:
Description of Important Aquatic Bird Site

William L. Finley NWR

BCS number: 47-39

Site description author(s)

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Primary contact for this site

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Site location (UTM)

Datum: NAD83, Zone: 10, Easting: 474451, Northing: 4917125

General description

“William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge is situated along the foothills of the Coast Range at the western edge of the fertile Willamette Valley of northwestern Oregon. A second unit on the east side of the river, Snag Boat Bend, has been added to the Refuge. The Refuge encompasses a diverse assortment of habitats including riparian forest, upland forest, upland prairie, wet prairie, wetlands and farm fields. Elevations range from 185 to 414 feet msl.” (USFWS 2010b)

Boundaries and ownership

Boundaries:

William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge is located in Benton County, Oregon in southern Corvallis, approximately 5 miles north of Monroe. The refuge lies between the eastern boundary of Hwy 99, the western boundary of Bellfountain Rd., and the majority of the refuge lies between the northern boundary of Finley Rd. and the southern boundary of Bruce Rd. Gray Creek runs into the refuge at the southwestern corner and the Muddy Creek runs through the refuge from north to south.

Ownership:

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Water levels

Briefly outline historical water levels, since being managed. What causes water level fluctuations? How does water level fluctuate throughout the year?

Unknown

Focal species use and timing

Focal Group/Species	Wintering	Breeding	Migration
Secretive Marsh Bird Group	Present	Present	Present
Colonial Nesting Bird Group	Present	Present	Present
Migrating Shorebird Group	Uncommon	Present	Present
Ground-based Waterbird Group	Present	Present	Present
American Bittern*	Unknown	Present	Present
American White Pelican	Absent	Absent	Absent
Barrow's Goldeneye	Absent	Absent	Absent
Black Tern	Unknown	Uncommon	Uncommon
Black-crowned Night Heron	Unknown	Present	Present
Black-necked Stilt	Unknown	Present	Present (Spring)
Bufflehead	Present	Unknown	Present
California Gull	Present	Present	Uncommon
Caspian Tern	Absent	Rare	Rare
Clark's Grebe	Absent	Absent	Absent
Common Loon	Accidental	Accidental	Accidental
Dusky Canada Goose	Present	Unknown	Unknown
Eared Grebe	Rare	Absent	Present
Forster's Tern	Rare	Absent	Rare
Franklin's Gull	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Great Blue Heron*	Present	Present	Present
Greater Sandhill Crane +	Rare	Rare	Rare
Green Heron	Present	Present	Present
Least Bittern	Accidental	Accidental	Accidental
Lesser Sandhill Crane +	Rare	Rare	Rare
Long-billed Curlew	Absent	Rare	Present (Spring)
Pied-billed Grebe*	Present	Present	Present
Red-necked Grebe	Absent	Absent	Absent
Snowy Egret	Accidental	Accidental	Accidental
Sora*	Rare	Uncommon	Present
Upland Sandpiper	Absent	Absent	Absent
Virginia Rail*	Occasional	Uncommon	Present
Western Grebe	Occasional	Present	Present
Western Snowy Plover	Absent	Absent	Absent
White-faced Ibis	Accidental	Accidental	Accidental
Yellow Rail	Absent	Absent	Absent

* Indicates species known to be nesting at refuge.

+ Sandhill crane is present but rare in all seasons, subspecies unknown.

Focal species information adapted from Seasonal Checklist of Birds of the Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuge Complex (USFWS 2010b).

Location of Type 1 and 2 habitat within the site

Functional Group	Type 1 Habitat	Type 2 Habitat
Ground Based Aquatic Birds	Wet Prairie	Unknown
Secretive Marsh Birds	Wet Prairie	Unknown
Colonial Nesters	Wet Prairie	Unknown
Migrating Shorebirds	Wet Prairie	Unknown

Access to Type 1 and Type 2 habitats

Briefly describe challenging aspects of accessing bird habitat., e.g. the road to aspen lake has not been graded for many years, 4WD is recommended. Or access by boat only
Unknown

Audibility/visibility of focal species

Describe any issues that would diminish the detectability of birds. e.g secretive marsh birds are difficult to detect due to hwy noise
Unknown

Conservation issues

“William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge was created to provide vital wintering habitat for Dusky Canada Geese. Unlike other Canada Geese, Duskie have limited summer and winter ranges. They nest on Alaska's Copper River Delta, and winter almost exclusively in the Willamette Valley.
Habitat loss, predation, and hunting have caused a decrease in population. Located in the Willamette Valley, the refuge protects many of the valley's historic habitats, including the largest remaining tract of native Willamette Valley wet prairie. Fields of wildlife food crops are interspersed with Oregon white oak savannah, meandering creeks with bottomland Oregon ash forest, old growth big-leaf maple, and native prairie.
Other management goals are to preserve native species and enhance biodiversity. Endangered and threatened species such as Peregrine Falcons, Bald Eagles, Oregon chub, and Bradshaw's desert parsley find protection and sanctuary on the refuge. A herd of Roosevelt elk can be found in the bottomland forests or farm fields on the refuge.” (State Parks n.d.)

Conservation measures taken, in progress, or proposed

Unknown

Past and current surveys

Briefly describe past and or current surveys, and how completed. Refer to certain protocols/other documents or persons (list contact info) if survey specifics are unknown
Unknown

Potential survey methods

Description: (describe survey methods that are appropriate for your site and recommend the best means in which to complete them considering the limitations and history above. Include information on suggested standardized or specialized protocols)
Unknown

Selection bias: (Discuss the potential for selection bias when designing a survey in the future, especially when sub-sample of the site will be studied. Point out how bias could be introduced and recommend ways to prevent this)

Unknown

Measurement error and bias:

Unknown

Potential pilot studies

Unknown

Literature cited

- Google, Inc. 2010. William L. Finley NWR. Google Earth (Version 5.1.3533.1731) [Software]. Available from <http://earth.google.com>. Accessed February 22, 2010.
- Google Map. 2010. Map of William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge, Oregon. <http://maps.google.com/>. Accessed February 22, 2010.
- State Parks. n.d. Finley National Wildlife Refuge. <http://www.stateparks.com/finley.html>. Accessed February 23, 2010.
- U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2010a. National Wetlands Inventory website. U.S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. <http://www.fws.gov/wetlands/>. Accessed February 22, 2010.
- U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2010b. William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge. U. S. Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. <http://www.fws.gov/willamettevalley/finley/index.html>. Accessed February 22, 2010.

Figure 1: USFWS (2010b) William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge Map.

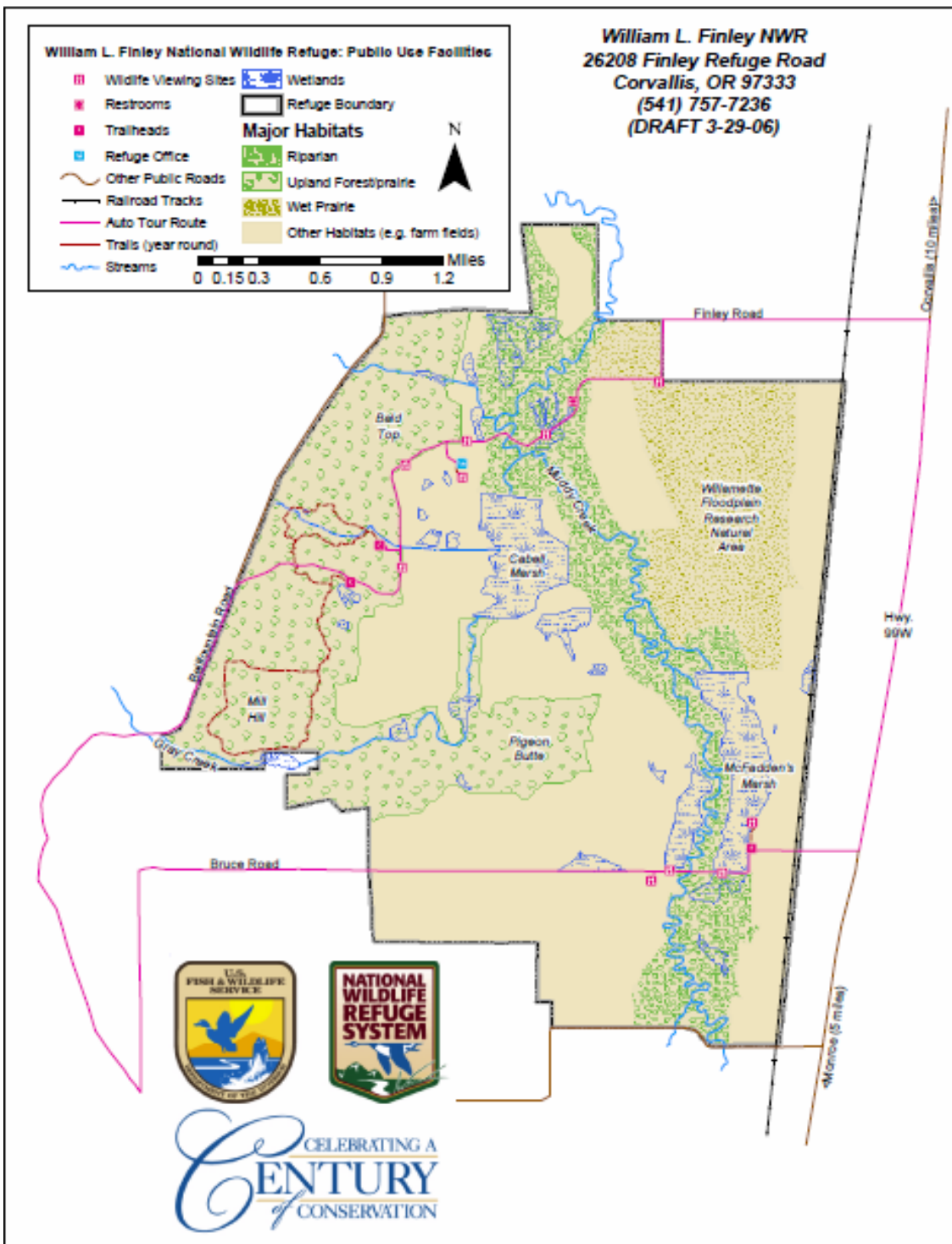


Figure 2: Google Earth (2010) map of William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge with the USFWS National Wetlands Inventory (2010a) layer.

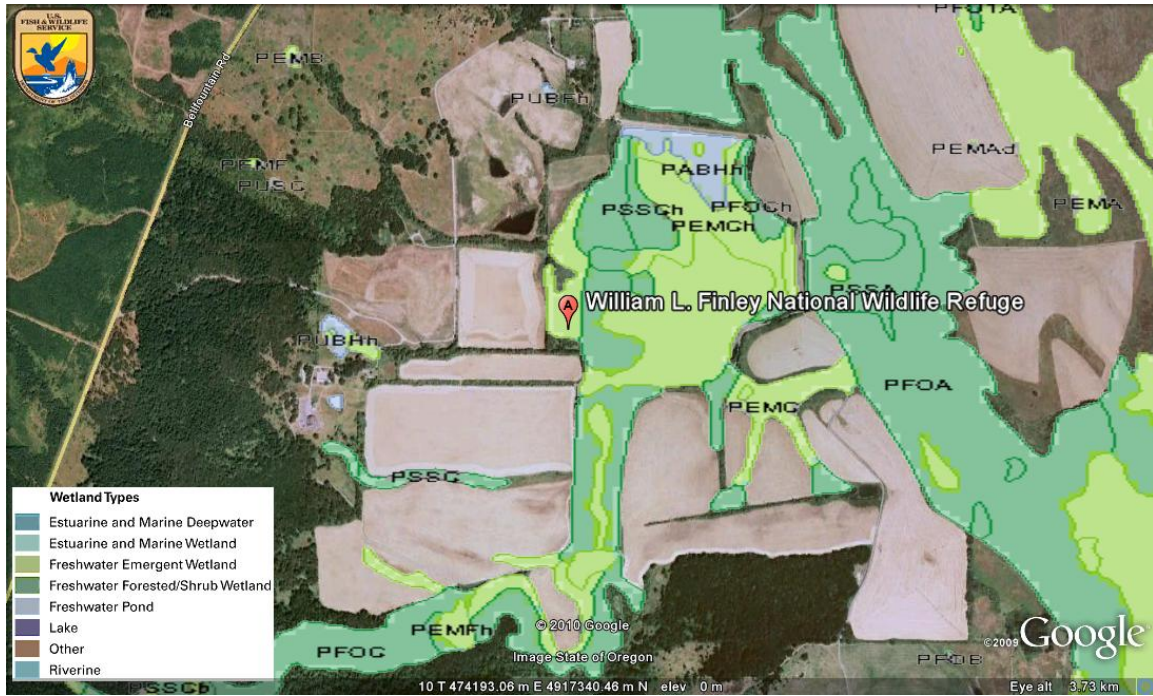


Figure 3: Google Map (2010) road view map of William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge.

