

Places to go Winter-Spring: January, February, March, April

HWY 12 Along The Clearwater River

From Lewiston ID go upriver about 2 miles. Check the river for Great Blue Heron, Goldeneyes, Mergansers, and other Ducks.

Lewiston Levee Pond

Overview:

The pond behind the Lewiston levee is usually open (unfrozen) year round. Therefore, this pond in Lewiston attracts hundreds of ducks and geese. It is especially rewarding to birders in the winter and early spring.

How to Get There and What to Look for:

(DeLorme, Idaho Atlas & Gazetteer, page 54 coordinates A-1) From Moscow, head south on U.S. 95 to Lewiston. At the bottom of the Lewiston grade, U.S. 95 merges with U.S. 12. Follow U.S. 12 to Lewiston. Cross the bridge over the Clearwater River and stay in the right lane. After crossing the bridge, U.S. 12 makes a wide sweeping turn to the right, and you will soon reach the intersection of U.S. 12 and Eighteenth Street. Keeping in the right lane, turn right at this intersection onto the U.S. 12 bypass. From the intersection, follow the bypass for about a mile where you will see a railroad bridge ahead and a parking lot and pond on your right. Park in the lot and walk the 1/2-mile path that follows along the eastern shore of the pond. Check for Wood Ducks between the wooded island and path. On the main part of the pond, you should easily find ten species of ducks in the winter and early spring. Look for Ring-necked Duck, Scaup, Goldeneye, American and Eurasian Widgeon, Mergansers, Canvasback, Buffleheads, and Gadwalls. This is also a good place to check the gulls.

Turnbull National Wildlife Refuge

Turnbull is located about 4 miles South of Cheney Wa. on Cheney Plaza Rd. (DeLorme, Washington Atlas & Gazetteer page 72, coordinates A-4). The Wildlife Refuge is a wonderful year-round birding hotspot. In it there are varieties of habitats, wetland, aquatic and terrestrial types. There are many observation trails that are easily accessed from the parking lot. Also there is a short road loop for access to more of the refuge. Turnbull also has restricted areas that we should all respect by staying out. These restricted areas are clearly posted. Look for the signs.

During breeding season for water-fowl this area can offer great opportunity for observing a large number of species. Some water-fowl use this area for stopover during fall and spring migration. In winter when the ponds are frozen most water-fowl move out of the area but the terrestrial habitats contain resident birds and other wildlife for observation. In the winter this can also be a

good place to tour on X-country skis while birding. The ponds do freeze over during the cold spells of winter but ice can be very thin. It is best to stay off the ice.

Waste-water Ponds at Hidden Village

Overview:

The ponds at Hidden Village almost always have ducks on them.

How to Get There and What to Look for:

(DeLorme, Idaho Atlas & Gazetteer, page 58 coordinates A-1)

From Moscow, head south on U.S. 95. Travel 5.5 miles to Eid Road, which is the turnoff to Hidden Village. Take a left and check the three small waste-water ponds on the north side of the road for waterfowl. You should find Mallard, and perhaps Bufflehead, Shoveler, and Teal there.

Waste-water Pond at Genesee

From Moscow, go South 14.5 miles to the Genesee area. First you will come to the main side road to Genesee. Don't take that one! Continue southward on U.S. 95 another 0.6 mile and turn left (east) onto the road that passes the waste-water pond. This pond is about 0.4 mile east of U.S. 95. You should find several species of ducks on this pond.