

CLARK'S GREBE
(*AECHMOPHORUS CLARKII*)

Navajo/Federal Statuses: NESL G4 / MBTA; not listed under the ESA.

Distribution: Breeding range includes most of western U.S. and Canada, east to Great Lakes; winters along Pacific Coast of US and northern Mexico, and inland on open waters from CA east to southern TX. Only documented from Morgan Lake, but potential on open waters throughout Navajo Nation.

Habitat: Nests on fresh-water lakes and marshes with extensive areas of open water bordered by emergent vegetation; uses lakes and occasionally small ponds during migration.

Similar Species: Western Grebe has yellow-green bill and black crown extending below eyes; Pied-billed and Eared Grebes are smaller (30-35 cm vs. 64 cm in length).

Phenology:

- l.APR-m.MAY: arrival to breeding area, courtship
- l.MAY-m.AUG: egg-laying and incubation (24 days)
 - l.JUN-l.AUG: hatching (young travel on adult's back post-hatching)
 - e.AUG-l.SEP: independence of young (40-50 days)
 - m.SEP: migration

Survey Method: ≥ 1 pedestrian survey with high-power optics during 15 MAY-1 JUL.

Avoidance: Within nesting habitat, no surface disturbance year-round within 60 m of lake-side vegetation or within 100-yr floodplain, whichever is greater; no activity within 0.2 km (1/8 mi) of active nest during 1 MAY-31 JUL; buffer may be less depending on activity type and duration, but not less than 0.1 km.

References:

Storer, R.W. and G.L. Nuechterlein. 1992. Western and Clark's Grebe. *In* The Birds of North America, No.26 (A.Poole, P.Stettenheim, and F.Gill, eds.). The Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, and The American Ornithologists' Union, Washington, D.C. (description p.2)