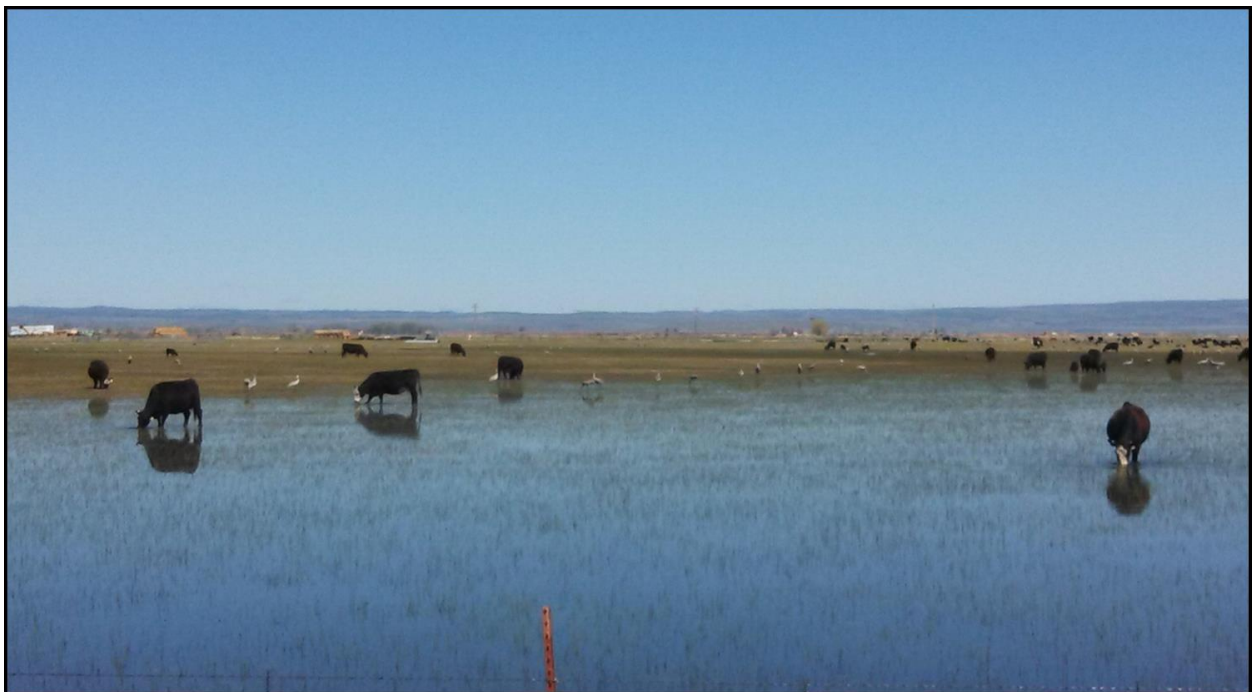


## Closed Lake Basins

Closed Lake Basin wetlands are ecologically unique high desert wetlands that provide critical habitat for numerous migratory and resident bird species. The wetlands also support native fish species such as Warner and Modoc sucker fish, tui chub, and redband trout.

Lake County lies in an area known as the Southern Oregon-Northeastern California (SONEC) region. This region is of continental significance for waterfowl, serving as a major fall and spring staging “hub” during migration. Flood irrigation in Lake County largely mimics the natural flooding cycle and continues to provide many historical wetland benefits for many bird species. An estimated 70 percent of migratory birds annually pass through the SONEC region, which includes the Oregon Closed Lake Basin.

Threats to this habitat include loss and degradation of wetlands, seasonal water availability, transition from flood irrigation to sprinkler irrigation, dilapidation of flood irrigation systems, invasive fish species, invasive plant species, and invasive macroinvertebrate species.



Flood irrigated pastures naturally mimic historic wetlands, in which migratory birds depend on for forage during migration.