



## MIGRATION ROUTES AND WINTER AREAS OF LESSER SANDHILL CRANES FROM HOMER, ALASKA

After leaving Homer, the cranes migrated north to the upper Kenai Peninsula. They traveled east to Prince William Sound, then southeast along the Alaska coast until reaching Cape Spencer (# 11). Here, they headed east and then southeast through the Alaska panhandle, then inland to British Columbia. They flew southeast to Washington, then south through the eastern part of Washington and Oregon. They entered northeast California and traveled southwest to arrive at their winter areas south of Sacramento. The most time spent at staging (resting) areas was in Alaska, British Columbia, and Washington, with Othello, Washington, the most important site (#23). Their trip from Homer averaged about a month to travel up to 2,400 miles.

The primary winter site was the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (#33), followed by the Merced and Modesto areas. Beginning in late February, they began migrating north using a similar route as fall, but more time was spent in California, Oregon, and Washington. Othello was again the most used site during migration. By late April, they were arriving back in Homer, taking about two months for spring migration.

|                                      |   |                               |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------|---|
| Primary fall staging area            | ★ | Secondary fall staging area   | ● |
| Primary spring staging area          | ☆ | Secondary spring staging area | ○ |
| Primary fall and spring staging area | ★ | Winter area                   | ● |
| Migration path based on all data     | — |                               |   |

| Site # | Site                        | Site # | Site                      |
|--------|-----------------------------|--------|---------------------------|
| 1      | Chickaloon Bay, AK          | 19     | Kamloops, BC              |
| 2      | Portage Valley, AK          | 20     | Clinton, BC               |
| 3      | Prince William Sound, AK    | 21     | Oroville, WA              |
| 4      | Copper River Delta, AK      | 22     | Bridgeport, WA            |
| 5      | Bering Glacier Lowlands, AK | 23     | Othello, WA               |
| 6      | Cape Suckling, AK           | 24     | Burns, OR                 |
| 7      | Cape Yakataga, AK           | 25     | Chewaucan Marsh, OR       |
| 8      | Icy Bay, AK                 | 26     | Catlow Valley, OR         |
| 9      | Yakutat Forelands, AK       | 27     | Warner Basin, OR          |
| 10     | Lituya Bay, AK              | 28     | Langell Valley, OR        |
| 11     | Cape Spencer, AK            | 29     | Alturas, CA               |
| 12     | Gustavus, AK                | 30     | Surprise Valley, CA       |
| 13     | Stikine River Delta, AK     | 31     | Sierra Valley, CA         |
| 14     | Ketchikan, AK               | 32     | Esquon, CA                |
| 15     | Smithers, BC                | 33     | Sac-San Joaquin Delta, CA |
| 16     | Burns Lake, BC              | 34     | Modesto, CA               |
| 17     | Fraser Plateau, BC          | 35     | Merced, CA                |
| 18     | Williams Lake, BC           | 36     | Mendota, CA               |

### WINTER AREA DETAIL

