



## 2022 Annual Lakes Monitoring Form

Please read the enclosed instructions!

Remember to use only **one form per lake**. Please mail this form and the lake map to LoonWatch by **Nov 15, 2022**.

LoonWatch • Northland College • 1411 Ellis Ave. • Ashland, WI 54806 • 715.682.1220 • [loonwatch@northland.edu](mailto:loonwatch@northland.edu)

☐ Check here to participate in enhanced monitoring: **collect 6 or more observations between May 15 and July 15 -- as well as 2 observations of chicks in August, (if any are hatched).**

### Contact Information

Name: Mark Zich

Email Address: markzich@rocketmail.com

#### Permanent Mailing Address:

Street Address: 7276N Sandy Point Rd

City/State/Zip: Couderay, WI 54828

Phone #: 715-214-5020

#### Summer Address (if different):

Street Address: N/A

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

How many years have you volunteered for this program? 8

### Information About Your Lake

Lake Map, Acreage and WBIC # can be found at:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/lakes/maps/>

Lake Name: Lake Chippewa (Chippewa Flowage) County Name: Sawyer County

Town Name: Town of Hunter & Lake Size (Acres) 14,593 WBIC # 2399700

Town of Hayward

1. Does your lake have an association? ☒ Yes ☐ No

2. Date you started monitoring: April 15, 2022

3. Date you stopped monitoring: November 15, 2022

4. Did you survey the entire lake? ☒ Yes ☐ No (Except Zone 4 and 6 lacked observations.)

• If you surveyed only a portion of the lake, please indicate the surveyed area on your map.

## Loon Observations and Migration Information

5. Circle only one statement. Please read instructions to help you select your answer.

- a. No loons were seen on this lake.
- b. Loons visit this lake but do not stay for the summer.
- c. Loons stayed on this lake all summer but there were no signs of nesting or territorial behavior.

*(Usually, these loons are not in pairs.)*

- ☒ d. There were one or more territorial pairs present on this lake.

*(Routinely observed a loon pair(s) on this lake who were not aggressive with each other.)*

- e. Both c. and d.

ice out 4/15/2022 on W Fork of Chippewa River.

6. Ice-out date? (month/day) 04 / 29 2022

Ice out on Chippewa Flowage varies but main lake out April 25 and bays partially ice covered until April 29 th.

7. When did loons first arrive on the lake in spring? (month/day) 04/20 depart in fall? 11/8

8. Did loons use your lake as a stop-over during spring (March 1 – April 15) or fall (October 15 – December 15) migration? ☒ Yes ☐ No

What was the largest number seen? 11

9. If yes, please indicate during which migration the loons used your lake, and approximately how many birds were involved:

Spring Migration: 11 # individual loons

Fall Migration: N/A # individual loons

## Weekly Loon Survey Log

Please indicate the weekly observation date, the type of residency and number of loons using your lake.  
Use one row for each week.

[illegible]

## Loon Territory Summary

Identify each loon territory by its name or unique location on your lake, and outline this area on your lake map. For example, if you do not have a territory name, you may name them by a unique geographic reference, such as North Bay and South Bay territories. **IF YOU HAVE MORE THAN 2 TERRITORIES, MAKE A COPY OF THIS PAGE, fill out and return**

**Total Territories on Lake: \_\_\_\_\_ # Territories**

**(See attached spreadsheet for Territory summaries)**

Loon Territory Description: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Were you able to locate the nesting site? Yes No

If yes, please indicate the type of nesting site used:

Island On/near mainland shore Artificial Nesting Platform Different Lake Other: \_\_\_\_\_

2. What type of ownership is the land where the nest is located?

Public Private Unknown

3. Did the eggs in the nest fail to hatch? Yes No

If yes, how was the nest lost?

\*Predation by: \_\_\_\_\_ Water level change Other: \_\_\_\_\_ Unknown

- 3a. Was there a 2<sup>nd</sup> nesting attempt? (Yes /No) A 3<sup>rd</sup> nesting attempt (Yes/No)

If yes, did the nest fail to hatch? [2<sup>nd</sup> attempt (Yes/No); 3<sup>rd</sup> attempt (Yes/No)]

Did loons re-nest at the same location? [2<sup>nd</sup> attempt (Yes/No); 3<sup>rd</sup> attempt (Yes/No)]

If no, provide new location on map and label "2<sup>nd</sup> Attempt" and "3<sup>rd</sup> Attempt".

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If no, provide new location on map and label "2<sup>nd</sup> Attempt" and "3<sup>rd</sup> Attempt".



## Loon Season Summary

\*\*\* You must complete this table to have your data included in the report. If you do not see loons, write "0".

Number of Territorial Pairs present on this lake: Observed 26; Statistically corrected due to two areas lacking coverage = 33

Number of Territorial Pairs with 1 or more nest attempt: 2

Number of Territorial Pairs with successful hatch 17

Total Chicks Hatched on this lake: Observed 21; Statistically corrected due to two areas lacking observation coverage = 27.

Total Chicks Fledged (survived to 8 weeks): Observed 20; Statistically corrected due to two areas lacking observation coverage = 26

Number of Floaters present on this lake: Observed 26; Statistically corrected due to two areas lacking observation coverage = 33.

Number of Nest Locations Determined: Observed 5

Number of Known Nest Attempts: See attached TABLE for TP nesting details

Nest Location Name # of Nest Attempts

Weekly Loon Survey Log							
2022 Observations - Chippewa Flowage- Zone 1 thru Zone 8							
Please indicate the weekly observation date, the type of residency and number of loons using your lake.							
Use one row for each week.							
Date	# Floater Adult Loons	# Territorial Pairs	# Nests with Incubating Adults (found)	# Nests Not Found but chicks hatched in territory	# Chicks Hatched	# Chicks Post August	Loon Counts (TP's, Chicks Survived & Floaters)
Totals	26	30	5	16	21	20	105

\* Since Zones 4 & 6 were undercount each of the categories listed above are undercount for 2022.

Extrapolated average observations from 2021 and 2022 to compute likely loon numbers for under reported Zone 4, Zone 5 and Zone 6.

Date	# Floater Adult Loons	# Territorial Pairs	# Nests with Incubating Adults (found)	# Nests Not Found but chicks hatched in territory	# Chicks Hatched	# Chicks Post August	Total 2022 Loon Counts (TP's, Chicks Survived & Floaters)
Totals	33	38	NA	NA	27	26	135

Thank you for participating in the 2022 LoonWatch program. For 44 years LoonWatch has been gathering data from Loon Ranger volunteers, and currently we receive data from YOU and over 500 other Loon Rangers who monitor more than 400 lakes in Wisconsin. Thank you for this tremendous effort and for letting your friends, family, neighbors, and others know what they can do to protect our beautiful symbol of the North Woods!

## Comments

- 1) Due to loon ranger personal reasons and perhaps a lack of enough trained loon rangers we were not adequately staffed to collect observations in Zones 4, 5, 6 and 7. We are working on resolving those issues in 2023.
  - 2) The documents submit, as requested by LoonWatch, were completed based on actual observations. As such, those numbers reflect lower counts due to a lack of adequate observations. However, we statistically tried to compensate for the lack of observations and depict those estimates in a graph showing annual historic loon counts. The statistically arrived at counts in the graph reflect very little change in loon counts except a drop from 37 to 26 total chicks surviving through August. This 30% drop in surviving chicks is likely accurate; however, we do not possess the knowledge to ascertain as to why the number of hatched chicks and survived chicks declined significantly in 2022.
  - 3) In the past, the Chippewa Flowage has experienced fluctuating spring and early summer water levels which have flooded out nests. However, water levels in 2022 were at full 1313.0 pool at the end of April and remained full until draught caused a decline in July.
  - 4) One TP in Milwaukee Bay in Zone 2 that maintains a nest on an ANP in the bay has for two consecutive years laid eggs (1 in 2021 and 2 eggs in 2022) with none of the eggs hatching. This year, the TP sat on the eggs for approximately 45 days before abandoning the nest. Upon inspection of the nest two eggs remained unhatched.
  - 5) Late April reports of one loon from a TP observed in the West Fork of Chippewa River indicated one died. Further contact with WDNR due to possible "bird flu virus" the DNR decided the death was not current enough to send the loon in for a necropsy.
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