

A Summary of 2019 Loon Observations on Jack Lake, Peterborough County



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Cover Photo – Google photo

Introduction

The Canada Lakes Loon Survey was initiated in 1981. It is a volunteer-based program, coordinated by Bird Studies Canada, designed to collect information in order to monitor the status of the common loon (*Gavia immer*) across Canada.

Jack Lake volunteers have been involved in the Canadian Lakes Loon Survey since 1982 (Kerr et al. 2016). On Jack Lake, loon information is collected in two ways:

- (i) Volunteers submit individual observations throughout the open water period; and
- (ii) Two person teams are assigned a lake sector (see map below) and collectively do lakewide surveys during a specified time and date during the months of June, July, August and September.



Figure 1. Designated sectors for lakewide loon surveys on Jack Lake.

At the end of the season, these data are collated and a final report is submitted to Bird Studies Canada.

2019 Loon Observations

Four lakewide loon surveys were conducted in 2019 (Table 1).

Table 1. Results of 2019 lakewide loon surveys on Jack Lake.

Survey Date	# of Adult Pairs	# of Young-of-Year	# Single Adults
June 16	6	0	6
July 21	7	4	5
August 25	6	6	12
September 22	4	9	10

The first loon observed on Jack Lake was recorded on April 21 one week before the lake was totally ice-free (April 28). It was estimated that there were seven pair of nesting loons which produced nine young-of-year in 2019 (Table 2). Observed hatching dates occurred in late June. Flocking behaviour was observed on August 20 (11 loons in Williams Bay), September 5 (13 loons in Williams Bay) and September 14 (8 loons in Williams Bay).

Table 2. A summary of key loon observations from Jack Lake in 2019.

Parameter	Observation(s)
Arrival date(s)	Late April
Number of nesting pairs	7
Reproductive success	9 young-of-year
Abandoned nests	None observed
Observed hatching date(s)	June 19-30
Loon mortality	None observed
Flocking (pre migration) dates	August 20-September 14
Migration dates	Late November

2019 Loon Survey Volunteer Participants

The 2019 loon survey could not have been completed without the participation of many volunteers. Individuals who participated in lakewide loon counts included (listed alphabetically) Tim Cork, Dennis Davenport, Gladys Donnan, Dawn and Bill DuBois, Marcine and Bob DuBois, Lisa and Bill Fischer, Sheelagh Hysenaj, Bill Johnston, Karen and Steven Kerr, Eileen and Doug Moulton, Jean and Jim Perun, Pat Phillips, Susan and Alan Quarry, the Robertson family, Eunice and Guy Speed, Chris and Hugh Spence, and Pat and Victor Ward. Additional loon observations were reported by Frank Cirrina, Brian Currie, Ruth Davenport, Mary Derks, Terry Halcovitch, Todd Hill, Allan Kerr, Ryan Kluake, Mark Kozicki, Denyze Martial, Mario Loeb-McQuaker, Stephanie Tuer, Judy Wager-Kiffer and Christina Welton.

Literature Cited

Kerr, S. J., D. Tower-DuBois and S. Hynenaj. 2016. Review of observations of common loons (*Gavia immer*) on Jack Lake, 1982-2016. Jack Lake Association. Apsley, Ontario. 11 p.

Appendix 1. Jack Lake Loon Survey observations recorded during 2019.

Year - 2019

Survey Dates – April 21 – November 6

Number of Participants – 43

Date	Time of Day	Location	Loon Observations	Observer(s)
April 21	Not reported	Center Bay	Several adult loons observed. Photos were taken. Some ice still on the lake	Tim Cork
April 22	Not reported	Brooks Bay	Ice still on lake	Sheelagh Hysenaj
May 3	Morning	Williams Bay	One pair of adults was observed	Stephanie Tuer
May 4-5	Not reported	Rathbun Bay	One single adult was observed	Ruth Davenport
May 11	Afternoon	Sheeps Bay	One single adult was observed	Mary Derks
May 11	Afternoon	Sheeps Bay (School Teachers Island)	One pair of adults was observed.	Mary Derks
May 11	Not reported	Jackson Bay (northwest corner of Sharpe's Bay)	One pair of adults was observed.	Ryan Klauke
May 17	Afternoon	Rathbun Bay	One pair of adults was observed	Allan Kerr
May 19	Not reported	Brooks Bay (northwest)	Pair of adults was observed	Sheelagh Hysenaj
May 20	Not reported	Rathbun Bay	Three adult loons were observed.	Steven Kerr
June 1-2	Not reported	Brooks Bay (northwest end)	Pair of nesting loons was observed.	Sheelagh Hysenaj
June 5	Not reported	Rathbun Bay	One adult loon was observed.	Steven Kerr
June 8	Not reported	Rathbun Bay	Single adult was observed	Karen Burleigh-Kerr
June 15	Not reported	Redmond Bay (south)	One pair of adults was observed	Steven Kerr and Neil Lanz
June 16	Not reported	Center Bay (southeast side of island)	Adult loon observed on it's nest (photos were taken)	Marcine DuBois

Date	Time of Day	Location	Loon Observations	Observer(s)
June 16	Morning	Entire Lake	A total of twelve adult loons (6 singles) and two nests were reported.	Numerous volunteers – first lakewide survey of the season.
June 19	Not reported	Sharpe's Bay	One pair of adults with a young-of-year (photo was taken).	Christina Welton
June 22	Not reported	Narrows (at Johnsons)	One single adult was observed	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr
June 22	Not reported	Williams Bay near dam)	One single adult was observed	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr
June 22	Not reported	Long Bay	One single adult was observed	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr
June 22	Not reported	Rathbun Bay	One single adult was observed	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr
June 30	Not reported	Williams Bay	Pair of adult loons with two young-of-year were (photo was taken).	Mark Kozicki
June 30	Not reported	Williams Bay (near dam)	Loon seen on nest near the dam	Ruth Davenport
July 1	Afternoon	Williams Bay (at dam)	One pair of adults with two young-of-year were observed	Tim Cork
July 1	Not reported	Brooks Bay	Pair of adult loons observed but no young-of-year.	Sheelagh Hysenaj
July 9	Not reported	Rathbun Bay	One single adult was observed	Steven Kerr
July 13	Not reported	Redmond Bay	One adult loon with one young-of-year was observed.	Frank Cirinna
July 15	Not reported	Center Bay (near Wagars)	One pair of adults with one young-of-year was observed.	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr

Date	Time of Day	Location	Loon Observations	Observer(s)
July 16	Not reported	Center Bay	One pair of adults with one young-of-year (YOY) was observed	Allan Kerr
July 17	Not reported	Wagers Point	Pair of adult loons with YOY chick on adult's back was observed.	Mary Derks
July 17	Not reported	Rathbun Bay	One single adult and one pair of adults (not together) were observed.	Arnold Tripp
July 21	Morning	Entire Lake	Five single adult loons, seven pair of adult loons and four young-of-year loons were observed.	Numerous volunteers – second lakewide survey of the season.
August 1	Not reported	Center Bay	Pair of adult loons with one large young-of-year were observed.	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr
August 11	Not reported	Redmond Bay	One adult loon with one young-of-year.	Frank Cirinna
August 14	Not reported	Williams Bay	One pair of adult loons and one young-of-year were observed.	Brian Currie
August 20	Morning	McCoy Bay	Eleven adult loons which appeared to move as a group were observed.	-
August 25	Morning	Entire Lake	Twelve single adult loons, six adult pairs and six young-of-year were observed.	Numerous volunteers – third lakewide survey of the season
September 4	Afternoon	Williams Bay	One pair of adult loons and one young-of-year were observed (photos were taken).	Mario Loeb McQuaker
September 5	Morning	Center Bay	Thirteen loons together in a flock were observed (photo was taken).	Judy Wagar Kiffer
September 14	Not reported	Williams Bay	Eight adult loons were observed in one group	Denyze Martial
September 14	Not reported	Brooks Bay	Two adult loons were observed	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr

Date	Time of Day	Location	Loon Observations	Observer(s)
September 14	Not reported	Rathbun Bay	One single adult was observed	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr
September 14	Not reported	East Bay	One single adult was observed	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr
September 16	Not reported	Narrows	One large young-of-year was observed	Steven Kerr
September 16	Not reported	Williams Bay	One pair of adults was observed.	Steven Kerr
September 16	Not reported	Sheeps Bay	One pair of adults was observed	Steven Kerr
September 16	Not reported	Williams Bay	One adult with one young-of-year were observed	Steven Kerr
September 20	Not reported	Callahan Bay	One pair of adult loons was observed.	Steven Kerr
September 20	Not reported	Sheeps Bay	One pair of adult loons was observed	Steven Kerr
September 20	Not reported	Centre Bay	One adult loon with one young-f-the-year	Steven Kerr
September 22	Morning	Entire Lake	10 single adults, four adult pairs and 9 young-of-year were observed	Numerous volunteers – fourth and final lakewide survey of season
September 27	Evening	Centre Bay	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr
September 28	Afternoon	Rathbun Bay	One pair of adult loons was observed.	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr
September 28	Afternoon	Brooks Bay	One single large young-of-year observed.	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr
September 28	Afternoon	Sheeps Bay	One pair of adults was observed.	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr
September 28	Afternoon	Redmond Bay (south end)	One single adult loon observed.	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr

Date	Time of Day	Location	Loon Observations	Observer(s)
September 28	Evening	Rathbun Bay	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Steven Kerr
October 4	Afternoon	Centre Bay	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Steven Kerr
October 11	Late Afternoon	Rathbun Bay	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr
October 11	Late Afternoon	Centre Bay	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr
October 11	Late Afternoon	Sharpe's Bay (northeast)	Two large young-of-year were observed	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr
October 12	Afternoon	Rathbun Bay	One single large young-of-year observed.	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr
October 12	Afternoon	Brooks Bay	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Steven Kerr and Karen Burleigh-Kerr
October 20	Afternoon	Robbins Bay	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Allan Kerr
October 20,	Afternoon	Sheeps Bay	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Allan Kerr
October 20	Afternoon	Brooks Bay	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Allan Kerr
October 28	Morning	Long Bay	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Steven Kerr and Dennis Davenport
October 28	Morning	Center Bay (Casement Island)	Three large young-of-year observed	Glady Donnan
October 28	Afternoon	Rathbun Bay	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Steven Kerr and Dennis Davenport
October 28	Afternoon	Robbins Bay	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Steven Kerr and Dennis Davenport
November 4	Not reported	Sheeps Bay	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Terry Halcovitch
November 6	Not reported	Robbins Bay	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Todd Hill

Date	Time of Day	Location	Loon Observations	Observer(s)
November 7	Nor reported	Redmond Bay	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Todd Hill
November 7	Not reported	Sharpes Bay (northwest)	One single large young-of-year was observed. Photo was taken.	Ryan Kluake
November 9	Not reported	Narrows	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Todd Hill
November 10	Nor reported	Sharpes Bay	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Pat Phillips
November 20	Morning	Sharpes Bay	One single large young-of-year was observed.	Christina Welton
