

Mississippi Lakes Loon Survey 2020

Conducted by the Mississippi Lakes Association boat drivers and family observers.

<u>Loon Count Numbers</u>	<u>2007</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
Max number of adults	24	35	35	39	40	43	35	37	78	43	39
Max number mated prs.	10	12	11	12	13	12	17	18	28	20	21
Max number young								9	14	10	8
Large young survival	8	7	5	8	8		7	6	8	6	4

Summary Report

- Early in the spring, Birds Studies Canada suspended the Loon Surveys due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- The Mississippi Lakes Association was willing to continue with the survey while following Provincial guidelines with observers being part of family units.
- As restrictions eased in June, Bird Studies Canada decided to allow Loon Surveys to continue if Provincial guidelines were followed.
- An orientation meeting was not held due to the pandemic.
- Four teams conducted the surveys on their sections of the lake. Each team conducted surveys at the end of the months of June, July and August.
- In July, in the Lower Lake 5 adults and 1 chick were observed,
In the Middle Lake 5 adults and 2 chicks were observed
In the Narrows 8 adults and 1 chick were observed
In the Big Lake 20 adults and 4 chicks were observed.
- In August, only 4 large young were observed. This count indicates the survival rate is at the national average of approximately 10%. This is below the survival rate normally seen in Mississippi Lake.
- The combined monthly Loon counts were 35 adults and 3 chicks in June,
38 adults and 8 chicks in July
20 adults and 4 large young in August.

MVFN thanks the MLA boat drivers and their families for conducting this year's survey.
MLA thanks MVFN for their continued financial support.

If all goes well, next year will return to normal and interested observers will once again be able to take part in the Loon Survey on Mississippi Lake.

Report submitted by Nick de Boer – stats compiler