2021 Loon Observations on Jack Lake



Summary Prepared by Steven Kerr

Jack Lake Association

December 2021

Suggested Citation: Kerr, S. J. 2021. 2021 Loon Observations on Jack Lake. Jack Lake Association. Apsley, Ontario. 3 p + appendices

Cover photo: Google

**Introduction**

The Canada Lakes Loon Survey (CLLS) was initiated in 1981. Over the past forty years more than 4,000 volunteers have monitored common loons on over 4,500 inland lakes across southern Canada (Bianchini et al. 2021).

This report summarizes loon observations on Jack Lake during the 2021 season and represents a contribution to the Canada Lakes Loon Survey. Information presented represents individual observations as well as observations recorded during four lakewide surveys.

**2021 Loon Observations**

The first loons reported in the spring of 2021 occurred during the first week of April (Table 1). It is believed that, of eight pairs of adult loons, six pairs actually nested. Nesting occurred during the month of June with observed hatching dates occurring in late June. Based on observations recorded during lakewide surveys (Table 2), eight young-of-year successfully hatched. No mortality of adults or young-of-year was recorded in 2021.

Table 1. A summary of key loon observations from Jack Lake in 2021.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Parameter** | **Observation(s)** |
| Arrival date(s) | April 6 |
| Number of successful nesting pairs | 6 |
| Reproductive success | 8 young-of-year |
| Abandoned nests | None observed |
| Observed hatching date(s) | Late June |
| Loon mortality | None observed |
| Adult flocking (pre migration) dates | Mid August |
| Juvenile migration dates | Not recorded |

Table 2. Results of 2021 lakewide loon surveys on Jack Lake.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Survey Date** | **# of Adult Pairs** | **# of Young-of-Year** | **# Single Adults** |
| June 20 | 6 | 0 | 9 |
| July 18 | 8 | 6 | 7 |
| August 22 | 7 | 6 | 5 |
| September 19 | 5 | 8 | 10 |

1.

**Comparison with Earlier Surveys**

Jack Lake volunteers have participated in the Canada Lakes Loon Survey since 1982 (Table 3). Results have varied considerably over the years. During years when the entire lake was surveyed, the number of nesting pairs has ranged from one to eight while the number of large young-of-year in any season has ranged from 0 to 9 loons.

Table 3. Comparison of 2021 loon observations on Jack Lake with previous years.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Year** | **% of Lake Surveyed** | **Number of Breeding Pairs** | **Number of Large Young** |
| 1982 | 55% | 5 | 1 |
| 1983 | Unknown | 8 | 3 |
| 1984 | 0% | - | - |
| 1985 | 0% | - | - |
| 1986 | 25% | 5 | 4 |
| 1987 | 10% | 1 | 1 |
| 1988 | 100% | 1 | 0 |
| 1989 | 80% | 2 | 2 |
| 1990 | 100% | 10 | 0 |
| 1991 | 10% | 1 | 2 |
| 1992 | 100% | 1 | 0 |
| 1993 | 100% | Unknown | 3 |
| 1994 | 20% | 4 | 5 |
| 1995 | 40% | 4 | 4 |
| 1996 | 55% | 4 | 3 |
| 1997 | 37% | Unknown | 1 |
| 1998 | 15% | Unknown | 3 |
| 1999 | 60% | Unknown | 5 |
| 2000 | 20% | Unknown | 3 |
| 2001 | 25% | 2 | 3 |
| 2002 | 25% | 2 | 3 |
| 2003 | 30% | 2 | 3 |
| 2004 | 0% | - | - |
| 2005 | 10% | 1 | Unknown |
| 2006 | 30% | 2 | Unknown |
| 2007 | 60% | 3 | Unknown |
| 2008 | 40% | 3 | 3 |
| 2009 | 60% | 3 | 1 |
| 2010 | 40% | 2 | 2 |
| 2011 | 40% | 4 | 2 |
| 2012 | 40% | 3 | 3 |
| 2013 | 100% | 5 | 3 |
| 2014 | 100% | 3 | 4 |
| 2015 | 100% | 6 | 4 |
| 2016 | 100% | 4 | 4 |
| 2017 | 100% | 4 | 8 |
| 2018 | 100% | 7 | 6 |
| 2019 | 100% | 7 | 9 |
| 2020 | 100% | 5-8 | 3 |
| 2021 | 100% | 6 | 8 |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

2.

**Acknowledgements**

Volunteers who participated in lakewide surveys as well as reporting miscellaneous observations during the 2021 season included (listed alphabetically): Beth Brooks, Karen Calberry, Paul Campbell, Dennis Davenport, Ruth Davenport, Mary Derks, Neil Freeman, Rebecca Gardiner, Amanda Gray, Ashley Herren, Dave Hoyle, Sheelagh Hysenaj, Mike Jensen, Steven Kerr, Neil Lanz, David Lean, Martha Lee, Debi Lehman, Gaye McDonald, Marlo McQuaker, Kristina Nicholl, Adam Pender, Patti Phillips, Constance Strange, Terry Walsh, Pat Ward, and Christina Welton..

**References**

Bianchini, K., D. C. Tozer, R. Alvo, S. P. Bhavsar, and M. L. Mallory. 2021. Canadian Lakes Loon Survey: Celebrating 40 years of conservation, research, and monitoring. Birds Studies Canada, Port Rowan, Ontario, Canada. 30 p.

3.

Appendix 1. Loon observations on Jack Lake in 2020.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Time of Day** | **Location** | **Observation** | **Observer(s)** | **Misc. Comments** |
| April 6 | Unknown | Not reported | One adult loon | Terry Walsh | - |
| April 7 | Unknown | Centre Bay | One adult loon | David Lean | - |
| April 9 | Unknown | Not reported | One pair of adult loons | Karen Calberry |  |
| April 10 | Unknown | Rathbun Bay | One adult loon | Ruth Davenport | - |
| April 11 | Unknown | Not reported | One adult loon | Mary Derks | Photos taken |
| April 14 | Unknown | Sheeps Island | One pair of adult loons. | Mary Derks | - |
| April 18 | Mid day | Brooks Bay | One pair of adult loons | Sheelagh Hysenaj | - |
| April 18 | Mid day | Bowers Bay | One pair of adult loons | Sheelagh Hysenaj | - |
| April 18 | Mid day | Hatton Bay | One pair of adult loons | Sheelagh Hysenaj | - |
| April 18 | Afternoon | Long Bay | One adult loon | Sheelagh Hysenaj | - |
| April 18 | Afternoon | Williams Bay | One adult loon | Sheelagh Hysenaj | - |
| April 18 | Evening | Hatton Bay | One pair of adult loons | Beth Brooks | - |
| April 22 | Mid day | Sharpe’s Bay | One pair of adult loons | Marlo McQuaker | - |
| April 24 | Unknown | Sheeps Bay | One adult loon | Paul Campbell | - |
| April 24 | Unknown | Rathbun Bay | One pair of adult loons | Ruth Davenport | - |
| April 26 | Afternoon | Callahan Bay | One pair of adult loons | Martha Lee | - |
| May 3 | Morning | Sheeps Bay | One pair of adult loons displaying mating behaviour | Paul Campbell | - |
| June 6 | Morning | Sharpe’s Bay | One pair of adult loons and one single adult loon | Patty Phillips | - |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Date** | **Time of Day** | **Location** | **Observation** | **Observer(s)** | **Misc. Comments** |
| June 20 | Morning | Entire Lake | Six pair of adult loons and nine single adult loons. | Several volunteers | Lakewide survey |
| June 21 | Unknown | Redmond Bay (east shore) | One pair of adults with two young-of-year | Jayrene Thompson | - |
| June 22 | Unknown | Brooks Bay | One pair of adults with one young-of-year | Sheelagh Hysenaj | - |
| June 24 | Afternoon | Rathbun Bay | One adult loon | Steven Kerr | Loon stayed in the bay all afternoon |
| June 26 | Unknown | Brooks Bay | Two young-of-year | Debi Lehman | - |
| June 27 | Unknown | Sheeps Bay | Two young-of-year | Rebecca Gardiner | - |
| July 5 | Unknown | Not reported | One adult and two young-of-year | Neil Freeman | - |
| July 5 | Unknown | Williams Bay | Two young-of-year | Mike Jensen | - |
| July 6 | Afternoon | Narrows | Three adult loons | Steven Kerr | - |
| July 10 | Unknown | Sheeps Bay | Two adult loons and two young-of-year | Paul Campbell | - |
| July 11 | Unknown | Brooks Bay | Two adult loons and two young-of-year | Constance Strange | - |
| July 11 | All day | Sheeps Bay | Two adult loons and two young-of-year | Mary Derks | - |
| July 12 | Morning | Jackson Bay | Two adult loons and one young-of-year | Kristina Nicoll | - |
| July 17 | Afternoon | Redmond Bay  (south end) | One adult loon | Steven Kerr | - |
| July 17 | Afternoon | Brooks Bay | One adult loon and two young-of-year | Steven Kerr | - |
| July 17 | Afternoon | Robbins Bay | Two adult loons | Steven Kerr | - |
| July 18 | Morning | Entire lake | Eight pair of adult loons, seven single adults and five young-of-year | Several volunteers | - |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Date** | **Time of Day** | **Location** | **Observation** | **Observer(s)** | **Misc. Comments** |
| July 23 | Afternoon | Sheeps Bay | Two adult loons | Steven Kerr | - |
| July 23 | Afternoon | Sheeps Bay | One single adult loon | Steven Kerr | - |
| July 23 | Afternoon | Centre (Bass) Bay | One pair of adult loons | Steven Kerr | - |
| July 23 | Afternoon | Centre (Bass) Bay | One single adult loon | Steven Kerr | - |
| July 23 | Afternoon | Rathbun Bay | One single adult loon | Steven Kerr | - |
| July 24 | Afternoon | Robbins Bay | One pair of adult loons | Steven Kerr | - |
| July 24 | Afternoon | Rathbun Bay | One pair of adult loons | Steven Kerr | - |
| July 24 | Unknown | Sheeps Bay | Two loon young-of-year | Neill Lanz | - |
| July 25 | Unknown | Narrows | One large adult loon | Neill Lanz | - |
| July 30 | Afternoon | Centre Bay | Three single adult loons | Steven Kerr |  |
| July 30 | Afternoon | East Bay | One single adult | Steven Kerr | - |
| July 31 | Morning | Rathbun Bay | Three single adult loons | Steven Kerr | - |
| July 31 | Afternoon | East Bay | One pair of adult loons | Steven Kerr | - |
| August 7 | Afternoon | Rathbun Bay | One single adult | Ruth Davenport | - |
| August 8 | Morning | Rathbun Bay | One single adult | Steven Kerr | - |
| August 8 | Morning | Robbins Bay | One pair of adult loons | Dave Hoyle |  |
| August 8 | Morning | Sharpe’s Bay  (north end) | One pair of adults and one young-of-year | Christina Welton | Photo taken |
| August 14 | Afternoon | Rathbun Bay | One adult loon | Steven Kerr | - |
| August 15 | Morning | Rathbun Bay | One adult loon | Steven Kerr | - |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Date** | **Time of Day** | **Location** | **Observation** | **Observer(s)** | **Misc. Comments** |
| August 15 | Evening | Sheeps Bay | One pair of adults with two young-of-year | Adam Pender | Photo taken |
| August 16 | Afternoon | Sheeps Bay | One adult loon | Steven Kerr | - |
| August 16 | Afternoon | Rathbun Bay | One pair of adults | Steven Kerr | - |
| August 16 | Afternoon | Williams Bay | Two adults and one large young-of-year | Steven Kerr | - |
| August 16 | Afternoon | Rathbun Bay | Four adult loons | Ruth Davenport | - |
| August 16 | Afternoon | Sheeps Bay | Two adults and two young-of-year | Ruth Davenport | - |
| August 16 | Afternoon | Brooks Bay | One adult and two young-of-year | Ruth Davenport | - |
| August 16 | Afternoon | Callahan Bay | One adult loon which appeared to be in distress. | Ashley Herren | Video taken |
| August 16 | Evening | Hurricane Pont | Seven adult loons in a flock. | Dennis and Ruth Davenport | - |
| August 16 | Unknown | Centre Bay | Five adult loons in a flock | Pat Ward | - |
| August 18 | Afternoon | Rathbun Bay | One adult loon | Steven Kerr | - |
| August 20 | Unknown | Brooks Bay | Two loons  (age unknown) | Amanda Gray | - |
| August 21 | Unknown | Rathbun Bay | One adult loon | Steven Kerr | - |
| August 21 | Unknown | Brooks Bay | One young-of-the-year loon | Steven Kerr | - |
| August 21 | Unknown | Centre Bay | One adult loon | Steven Kerr | - |
| August 22 | Morning | Entire lake | Seven pair of adults, eight single adults and seven young-of-the-year | Several volunteers | - |
| August 22 | Unknown | Rathbun Bay | One pair of adult loons | Steven Kerr | - |
| August 23 | Morning | Rathbun Bay | One adult loon | Steven Kerr | - |
| August 30 | Afternoon | Rathbun Bay | One adult loon | Steven Kerr | - |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Date** | **Time of Day** | **Location** | **Observation** | **Observer(s)** | **Misc. Comments** |
| September 1 | Morning | Rathbun Bay | One pair of adult loons | Steven Kerr | - |
| September 3 | Afternoon | Brooks Bay | One large young-of-the-year | Steven Kerr | - |
| September 3 | Afternoon | Robbins Bay | One pair of adult loons | Steven Kerr | - |
| September 4 | Morning | Rathbun Bay | One pair of adult loons | Steven Kerr | - |
| September 11 | Morning | Rathbun Bay | One single adult loon | Steven Kerr | - |
| September 11 | Afternoon | Rathbun Bay | One pair of adult loons | Steven Kerr | - |
| September 17 | Afternoon | Rathbun Bay | One single adult loon. | Steven Kerr | - |
| September 17 | Afternoon | South end of narrows | One single adult loon | Steven Kerr | - |
| September 18 | Morning | Rathbun Bay | One pair of adult loons | Steven Kerr | - |
| September 18 | Morning | Brooks Bay | One single juvenile loon. | Steven Kerr | - |
| September 19 | Morning | Entire lake | Five pairs of adults, ten single adults and eight young-of the-year. | Several volunteers | - |
| September 24 | Afternoon | Rathbun Bay | One adult and one juvenile loon | Ruth Davenport | - |
| September 25 | Afternoon | Centre Bay | One adult and one juvenile loon | Steven Kerr | - |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| September 25 | Afternoon | Centre Bay | One adult loon | Steven Kerr | - |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| September 25 | Afternoon | Brooks Bay | One adult and one juvenile loon | Steven Kerr |  |
| September 25 | Afternoon | Robbins Bay | Four adult loons | Steven Kerr | - |
| September 25 | Evening | Rathbun Bay | One adult loon | Steven Kerr | - |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Date** | **Time of Day** | **Location** | **Observation** | **Observer(s)** | **Misc. Comments** |
| October 13-14 | All Day | East Bay and Rathbun Bay | Two loons | Gaye McDonald | There are two loons in and around Robbins and East Bay. One of them has been emitting a low and steady call every twenty seconds all day today and some of yesterday. |
| October 25 | Unknown | West end of Sheeps Bay | One adult and one young-of-year | Paul Campbell | - |