

Montana Loon Survey Form

Visit Details

Name: _____ Email Address: _____
Observer ID: _____ (First, middle, last initial, plus last 4 digits of phone number. Ex: ABC1234) # of Participants: _____ # of Staff: _____
Area of State (Select One): Glacier NP Blackfeet Other _____ Lake Surveyed: _____
Date: _____ Day Start Time: _____ Day End Time: _____ Survey Start Time: _____ Survey End Time: _____
Temperature: _____ Sky Condition (Select One): Clear Partly cloudy Cloudy Fog or smoke Drizzle Snow Showers
Wind (Select One): <1 mph 1-3 mph 4-7 mph 8-12 mph 13-18 mph 19-24 mph 25-30 mph 31-40 mph >40 mph
Survey Conditions (e.g. visibility, waves, etc.): _____
Survey Method (Select One): Foot (on shoreline) Boat; boat type: _____ Other _____
General Survey Comments: _____

Bird Details

of Pairs: _____ # of Singles: _____ Total Adults: _____ # of Subadults: _____ # of Chicks/Juveniles: _____ Total Birds: _____

Chick Stage (Select One):

- 1) Small w/ black down feathers and white belly (Approx. 7-10 days old). Only stage to ride on adults' back.
- 2) Feathers replaced w/ brownish- or reddish- gray downy feathers (Approx. 2-4 weeks old).
- 3) Smoother contour brownish- or reddish- gray feathers (4 weeks old). By 9 weeks, feathers replaced w/ gray contour feathers.
- 4) Juvenile plumage is complete and flight feathers have erupted at approx. 10-11 weeks. Chicks can fly when they are 11-13 weeks old.



Photos provided by Ginger and Dan Poleschook

Were you able to clearly view whether birds were banded? Yes No If so, which individuals were checked? (e.g., A1, C1): _____

Individuals with bands: _____ Left leg Right leg

Individuals without bands: _____ Color of band closest to body: _____ Color of band closest to body: _____

Color of band closest to foot: _____ Color of band closest to foot: _____

Disturbances

of People on shore (including observer): _____

of Boats in water (including observer): _____

Type: Tour boat Motorboat Canoe Stand up Paddle Kayak Sailboat Other _____

Bald Eagles: _____ Location and Activity: _____

Ravens: _____ Location and Activity: _____

Return form within one week of observation to:

Loon area coordinator for the area in which your lake is located.

Visit <https://montanaloons.org/report-loon-sightings/> for more info.

Behavior and Significant Observations

Nest Status (Select One): Incubating Abandoned Hatched/Chicks Present No Nesting Detected/Unknown

On lake map, please mark all the following behaviors that apply. If no loons or signs of nesting were observed, please still mark your observation point.

<u>General</u>	<u>Courtship</u>	<u>Nesting</u>
GLL – General Loon Location	C1 – Mutual bill dipping/diving	N1 – Nest Building
OP – Observation Point	C2 – Ashore nest testing	N2 – Nest Incubation
Other – Please mark on map and describe in the space provided	C3 – Copulation	N3 – Left Nest
		N4 – Nest Location

<u>Chick Rearing</u>	<u>Territorial</u>	
R1 – Chick riding on adult	T1 – Yodel	T6 – Penguin dance
R2 – Adult/chick diving or feeding itself	T2 – Tremolo	T7 – Surface rush
R3 – Adult diving/feeding a chick	T3 – Approach	T8 – Chasing/attacks
	T4 – Raised Neck	T9 – Harassment diving
	T5 – Circling, bill dipping, diving	

End of Survey Information

Percent of lake observed from all observation points (Select One): 0-25% 26-50% 51-75% 76-100%

If outside of Glacier National Park AND nesting and/or chicks present:

Shore Signage present?	Yes	No	Location of Shore Signage: _____
Floating Signs present?	Yes	No	
Artificial Nest Platform present?	Yes	No	
Nest Platform used?	Yes	No	

Any additional comments, descriptions, sketches, etc.