2021 Vermont Loonwatch Data Form

Saturday, July 17  Lakes less than 300 acres: 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.  
Lakes greater than 300 acres: 6:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.

(Pond/Lake Name:________________________

** If you cannot survey your lake during the designated time or the make-up dates
(a) Saturday anytime, (b) Fri. or Sun,
contact Eric Hanson ASAP (802) 586-8065

Name: ________________________________
Address: ______________________________________

Telephone (home):____________________  Total number of observers:_____

Email: ________________________________  Observation Time: beginning_______ end _______

Example:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th># Adults</th>
<th># Chicks</th>
<th># Subadults</th>
<th>Location/Direction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:17</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td>(immatures)</td>
<td>Swimming north on eastern shore</td>
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<td>1)</td>
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<td>5)</td>
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</tbody>
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Comments:

TOTALS:                   Adults: ________  Chicks: ________  Subadults (1-2 yr. old, white throat, gray back): ________

Notes/Instructions:
1) Record only the first sighting of each loon. Keep track of where the loon is moving. Do not count a loon twice.
2) Observe for a minimum of 30 minutes for small lakes (< 50 acres) and up to several hours for larger lakes. For shoreline observers, observe for at least 10 minutes from each vantage point. A diving loon can move a long way and may surface for only a few seconds. Loons near shore are more difficult to pick out. It can take time for the loon to “appear”.
3) Remember, a report of zero loons is just as biologically important as a count of 10 loons.
4) TIP: if surveying by boat, stop every ¼ to ½ mile and scan w/ binoculars ahead of and behind you for a few minutes. Stay 200-300 feet from shore and either circle round-shaped lakes, or zig zag down narrow or wide elongated lakes.
5) For larger lakes and lakes with intermittent reporting in the past, there may be more than one volunteer assigned to the lake.

If more than 2 groups of loons observed and/or for lakes greater than 300 acres, give a verbal description of the location of each group in the “details box” of VT eBird. Example. Peacham Pond: north cove 2 adults 1 chick, Center of lake 4 adults, SW region 2 adults. If loons all over the place on a large lake, consider sketching a map on the backside and write down loon locations to make sure we don’t double count. Then mail in the map with your volunteer hours form.

SUBMITTING DATA: Please use VT ebird to enter your survey results online if you can.
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- VT ebird instructions available at the VCE website: http://vtecostudies.org/projects/lakes-ponds/common-loon-conservation/loonwatch/participate/
- Remember, ENTER ZERO COUNTS ON E BIRD. Otherwise we won’t know whether the lake was surveyed, and it’s important to know where loons are not.
- Send in your signed “loon volunteer hours form”: scan and email OR mail.
- You can also fill out this form and mail with volunteer hour form or email Eric Hanson ehanson@vtecostudies.org