



# Loon Count Data Form

## Third Saturday in July

### 7:00 a.m. to 7:30 a.m.

*Thank you for volunteering your time for this important project! Please record your loon observations on this form during the count and return it to your coordinator along with a map marked with your observations. If you have any questions, please visit the loon project page at <https://www.maineaudubon.org/projects/loons/> or contact project staff at [conserve@maineaudubon.org](mailto:conserve@maineaudubon.org); (207) 781-2330 ext. 216.*

Region #: \_\_\_\_\_ Lake Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Lake Section Number (if identified on lake map): \_\_\_\_\_ Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Counter Name: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  Year-round  
 Summer

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**1) OBSERVATIONS**

*The **FIRST** time you observe a single loon or a group of loons together (parent(s) with chicks or multiple adults foraging together in a raft (within 30' of each other), enter all data for that observation on one line. Single loons more than 30' apart from each other or clearly not part of a group should be entered on separate lines. Mark each observation and your travel route on your lake map.*

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Start time: \_\_\_\_\_ End Time: \_\_\_\_\_

Obs	Time	#Adults	Parent? <sup>1</sup>	#Chicks	Distance <sup>2</sup> (1-3)	Water <sup>3</sup>	Comments
A							
B							
C							
D							
E							
F							
G							
H							
I							
J							
<b>TOTAL</b>							

<sup>1</sup> Parent?	Check (✓) if suspected breeder (part of pair with or without chicks)
<sup>2</sup> Distance	1 Close, can see details of neck/eye (with naked eye), less than 20' away
	2 Intermediate, can make out black/white checks on back but details fuzzy, 20'-50' away
	3 Distant: Dark outline of bird in the distance, more than 50' away
<sup>3</sup> Water Surface	1 Generally smooth, little or no wind, waves, chop
	2 Slightly rough, some chop, wind/ wave action
	3 Very rough surface; lots of waves interfering with observations

<b>Weather:</b> (Circle all that apply during your loon survey)	1	Sunny or mostly sunny
	2	Partly to mostly cloudy
	3	Complete cloud cover
	4	Light Rain
	5	Heavy Rain
	6	Light fog
	7	Dense fog

*CONTINUED ON REVERSE*

**2) COUNT DETAILS**

**Check one:** Counting from:  Shore  Canoe/kayak  Motor boat  Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Total # Observers** (including yourself): \_\_\_\_\_

**Complete Count?** Check YES if you surveyed the entire lake (or section of the lake) assigned to you.  
 YES  NO If NO, estimate the % of your lake/section searched: \_\_\_\_\_ %

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**3) NESTING**

**On this date, how many known nests are being used?**

# Natural nests? \_\_\_\_\_ # Artificial nests? \_\_\_\_\_ # Artificial nests NOT in use? \_\_\_\_\_

**Mark known, used nests on the map.** Do not search for new nests.

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**4) MAP**

On a printed map of your lake, please mark the location of each observation you recorded (A, B, C, etc.) in the table on the first page. Observations should be placed where the loons were located rather than where you observed them from. Mark your travel route with a dotted line.

**Additional comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

*What year did you start counting loons? \_\_\_\_\_ Do you have a great loon counting memory to share? Write it here or email [conserve@maineaudubon.org](mailto:conserve@maineaudubon.org). We'd love to hear from you!*

**Please return your count form and map to your coordinator by August 1. Thanks for your help!**