

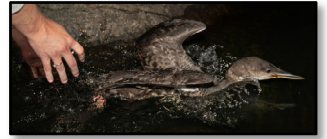


## ADIRONDACK CENTER *for* LOON CONSERVATION

### 2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- **Adirondack Loon Research:** This year, we continued our long-term studies on the impacts of climate change and environmental pollutants on Adirondack loons, as well as on factors impacting loon nesting success. We also continued monitoring the status and trends in the population through the NY Loon Census. Our dedicated team of 18 field staff, volunteers, and interns monitored loon reproductive success on over 100 lakes, we sampled 15 loons from 10 lakes to assess their health and mercury exposure, and placed nest cameras at over a dozen loon nest sites. Additionally, hundreds of observers across New York participated in our 2021 NY Loon Census on July 17<sup>th</sup> – *Many Thanks!* The results will be posted on our website later this winter.

- **Loon Rescues:** We rescued three iced-in loons in February, four fishing tackle/line entangled loons, and two other loons who landed on a road. Additionally, we responded to numerous reports about loons possibly in distress, but were actually exhibiting normal behavior. *Read about our loon rescues on our blog, [www.adkloon.org/adk-loon-blog](http://www.adkloon.org/adk-loon-blog)*



- **Staff Additions:** We are very pleased to have added Jennifer Denny as our new Communications-Education Coordinator, Jackie Miller, as our Sales Associate, and Cody Sears as our Wildlife Technician this summer. They have all been wonderful to work with, and we hope you enjoy getting to know them when you visit the Loon Center, attend one of our educational programs, or participate in one of our loon conservation or research projects.



- **Migration of the Adirondack Loon Center:** In July, the Loon Center “migrated” to 75 Main Street in Saranac Lake! This excellent location provides us much-needed space to expand our exhibits and gift shop, as well as offices for our staff. We are VERY grateful to all who helped make this move possible, including Main Street Saranac Development, our landlord; artist Peter Seward; Inside Out Builders; Young Lyon; Rice Furniture; our invaluable interns, volunteers, and staff; and many, many others – *Thank You!*



- **Oil Spill Restoration Projects:** We are one of six recipients in a natural resource damages settlement from the 2003 Bouchard Barge B-120 oil spill that occurred in Buzzard's Bay, MA. We will use the settlement funds over the next five years to restore New York's Common Loon population through activities to help increase loon reproductive success and reduce loon morbidity and mortality, including:

- **Expanding our Loon-Friendly Lake Certification Program:** Sixteen lake associations participated in this program in 2021, receiving training in loon ecology and behavior, and conducting activities to reduce impacts on loons, their nests, and chicks. This program enhances public involvement in loon conservation.
- **Lead-Tackle Buy-Back Program:** Eight tackle outfitters participated this summer, redeeming 83 vouchers from Adirondack anglers and collecting almost 1900 pieces and 18 pounds of lead tackle! This project greatly helps reduce the exposure of loons and other wildlife to toxic lead fishing tackle in Adirondack waters.
- **Loon Nest Site Protection:** We will place signage, float-lines, and buoys at loon nest sites which are vulnerable to human disturbance. Sites will be evaluated to determine if a nest raft would benefit loon reproductive success.
- **Loon Rescue and Rehabilitation:** We will train several teams across the Adirondacks to rescue distressed loons, and develop a loon rehabilitation center in collaboration with SUNY ESF's Adirondack Ecological Center.

- **Education and Outreach:** Thousands of people learned about loon behavior and ecology through our presentations, “Loon Zooms”, field trips, Loon Celebration, and visiting with us at the Adirondack Loon Center – *Thank You!*

- **Summer Interns:** We are most grateful to our student interns this summer for their wonderful assistance in numerous projects, including Kelly Glenn from Colgate Univ., Emryn Hogue from SUNY ESF, Dan Laddison of Paul Smith's College, Sara Rose-McCandlish from Vassar College, and Jacob Nachamie from Putnam Valley High School. They also greatly appreciated acquiring first-hand experience in wildlife research and conservation.

*Follow our updates all year at [www.adkloon.org](http://www.adkloon.org), on Facebook, [www.facebook.com/adkloon](https://www.facebook.com/adkloon), Instagram, [www.instagram.com/adkloon](https://www.instagram.com/adkloon), and Twitter, [www.twitter.com/adkloon](https://www.twitter.com/adkloon) - Enjoy!*