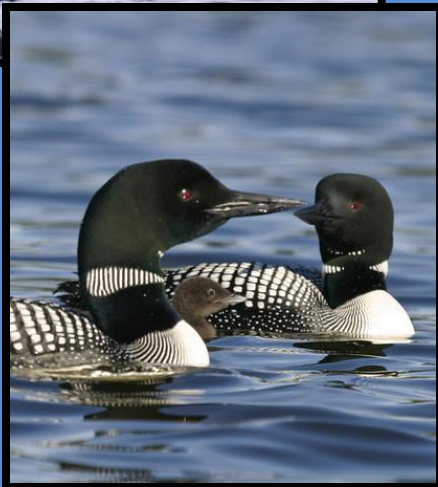
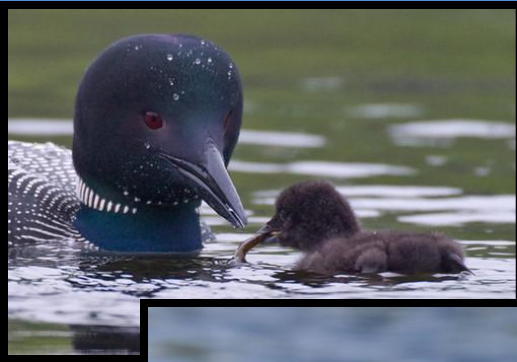


Loons - Our Most Welcomed Guests



At 6:45 AM on July 8th BayLakers Jon & Ruth Ann Wefald went out to perform their annual "loon count".
This article was prompted by their report.

Jon, who authored "The Most Magical Bird in the World: The Common Loons of North America", counted 33
adult loons and 5 young loons.....the highest number in his 8 years of counting!



We have hundreds of thousands of ducks and geese but only about 12,000 loons make their summer homes in Minnesota. Spread them out over 10,000 lakes and it's easy to see that BayLakers are blessed to have at least 38 of them as our guests.

Or, according to Alan Hutchinson's book "Just Loons: A Wildlife Watcher's Guide", loons have been on this earth for 20,000,000 years, so maybe we are the guests.



...When I asked myself why the Loon is the flagship of Minnesota the answer became obvious. What other bird has four calls that remind us of a long-forgotten pristine wilderness? What other bird is looked upon as both peaceful and mysterious and as both profound and enigmatic?

-Approximate quote from Jon Wefald



The pictures in this article are from NorthernImages.com. We sincerely thank Denny Ohara for allowing us to copy themand we urge all BayLakers to visit his site. You will be amazed!