

**2015 Loon Update**  
**Kathy Garmes Taylor – Loon Ranger**



Spring is here and so are the loons! They have been back since April singing and fishing. While they did start nesting activities in Mud Bay, it appears that the nest was again attacked and the loons abandoned their nesting efforts.

Following is a chart from *Michigan Loonwatch*, the program that tracks loons throughout the state of Michigan. It includes 2013 data and

partial 2014 data (missing National Forests as well as other areas)

Year	# of Loon Paris	# of Chicks Hatched	# of 2 Week Chicks	# of 6 Week Chicks	# of Chicks Fledged	Nests This Year	Hatch per Pair	Fledge per Pair	Fledge per Hatch	# of Lakes Reported
2013	202	188	178	171	163	151	.931	.802	.862	275
2014	152	114	92	90	55	120	.757	.362	.482	135

In 2013, Ann Lake accounted for 2 of the chicks that hatched and flew away! 2014 was a tough year for the loons all over the state. The figures were lower than MLPA has seen in a long time; greatly due to natural causes. The increasing warming is having a bad effect on loons as well as other wildlife. While we haven't had recent luck with chicks, we should all be glad that the loons love our lake and return each year. So we need to return the love and give them the space they need to ensure another return next year. Remember, they are endangered, please keep 300 feet away. Jet skiers and boaters **be alert!**