



2017-2018
BIANNUAL REPORT



ADIRONDACK CENTER
for LOON
CONSERVATION

WELCOME FROM CHANDLER RALPH, BOARD CHAIR

When Dr. Nina Schoch, the preeminent loon researcher in the Adirondacks, contacted me two years ago to join the Board of the newly formed Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation, I did not hesitate. How could I possibly say no to a mission that is dedicated to the conservation of the Common Loon in the Adirondacks? The eerie call of the loon has been a steady companion to me throughout my life. From camp at Raquette Lake as a child to hearing the call almost every summer morning on my way to work at Adirondack Health, I could always count on the yodel uplifting my spirits.

It has been two years since our organization became an independent nonprofit entity in April 2017, and much has been accomplished, thanks to the dedication of Dr. Schoch, our staff, and a committed group of volunteer Board members. The mission of education, research, and conservation is a noble one and the enthusiasm of our donors and supporters continues to confirm we are on the right path. We are fortunate as a community to have a dedicated group of folks who love the loon and strive toward the ongoing conservation of this iconic bird so representative of the Adirondack wilderness. We could not have achieved what we have without the strong and dedicated support of our donors and supporters, and we are most grateful.

We are looking forward to the continued growth of the Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation. As someone once said, there is nothing common about the Common Loon.

*-Ms. Chandler M. Ralph, Board Chair
Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation*



~ 2018 MEMBERS OF THE BOARD ~

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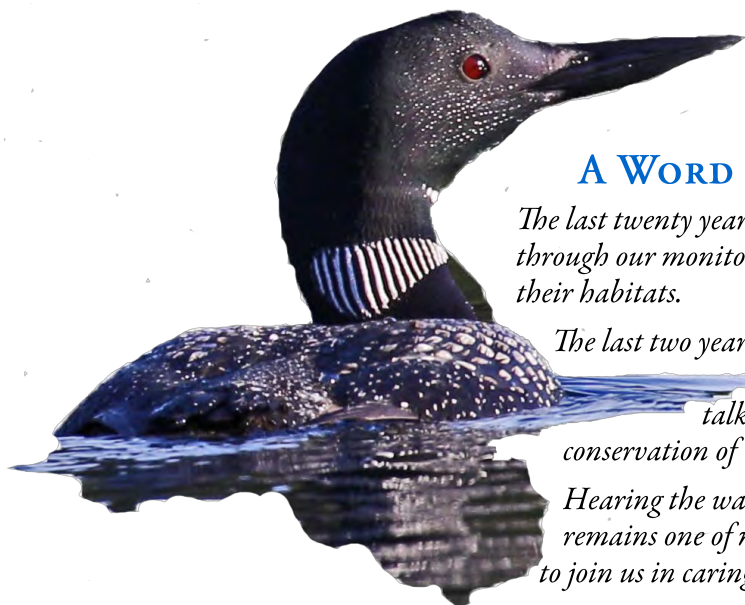
A WORD FROM DR. NINA SCHOCH, FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The last twenty years have been an incredible experience—it's been fantastic to learn so much about Adirondack loons through our monitoring and banding efforts, as well as to inspire others to become more involved in protecting wildlife and their habitats.

The last two years, especially, have been very fulfilling, as we fledged into an independent nonprofit entity, and have been building on our past accomplishments ever since. From rescuing debilitated loons to talking with the thousands of visitors at the Adirondack Loon Center, our work has led to expanding the conservation of Common Loons in the Adirondacks.

Hearing the wail of these striking birds echo and resonate across Adirondack hillsides as I drift with them on the water remains one of my absolute favorite experiences. I am thrilled to be able to share such times with others and invite them to join us in caring for these beautiful birds and the lakes where they live.

*~Nina Schoch, Founder and Executive Director
Adirondack Center for Loon Conservation*



~ EDUCATION AND OUTREACH ~

2017-2018: ~3700 People Reached Through:

- 42 Presentations & Displays
- 2 Field trips
- 4 Conferences

8 Interviews & Articles: Adirondack Life, Adirondack Explorer, Mountain Lake PBS, Lab of Ornithology's Living Bird magazine, Adirondack Almanack, Adirondack Daily Enterprise, and the Post Star

2018 Art Shows at the View Arts Center in Old Forge and the Paul Smith's College VIC: Featuring the stunning work of dozens of award-winning artists and photographers to highlight information about loon ecology and conservation.

Interns: Our 2017 and 2018 interns included students from Colgate University's Colgate University's Upstate Institute Field School, the Paul Smith's Adirondack Watershed Institute, SUNY ESF's Adirondack Ecological Center, and Calvin College. They obtained essential skills and experience in wildlife research, educational programming, exhibit design, or retail management, which will prove valuable in their future careers.

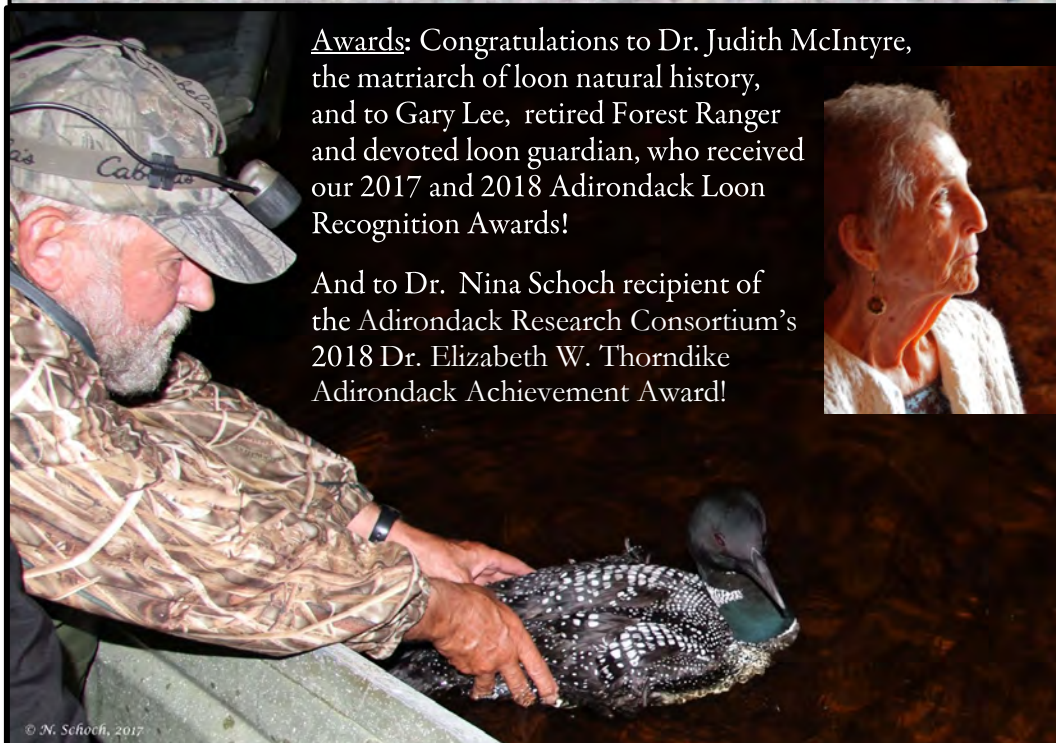
2018 Loon Celebration!

- Sunday, Oct. 7, 2018 at the Paul Smith's College VIC
- "Unveiling the Secret Lives of Nesting Adirondack Loons" presentation
 - "Conservation Through the Lives of Adirondack Loons" Art Show
 - Music by Celia Evans
 - Food by Green Goddess
 - Silent auction, raffle, children's activities
 - Field trip to visit with the pre-migratory loon gathering on Lake Clear

Join us on Sunday, October 13, 2019, for the
Annual Loon Celebration!

Awards: Congratulations to Dr. Judith McIntyre, the matriarch of loon natural history, and to Gary Lee, retired Forest Ranger and devoted loon guardian, who received our 2017 and 2018 Adirondack Loon Recognition Awards!

And to Dr. Nina Schoch recipient of the Adirondack Research Consortium's 2018 Dr. Elizabeth W. Thorndike Adirondack Achievement Award!



Stay Informed!

Thousands of people stay updated throughout the year about our loon conservation, research, and education programs in the Park.

In 2017-2018, we reached:

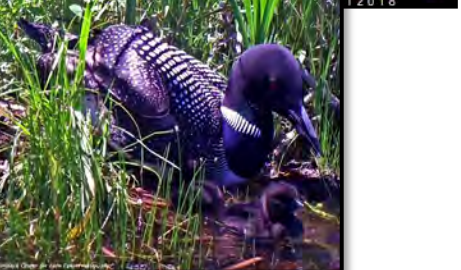
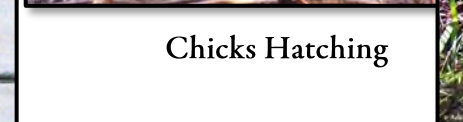
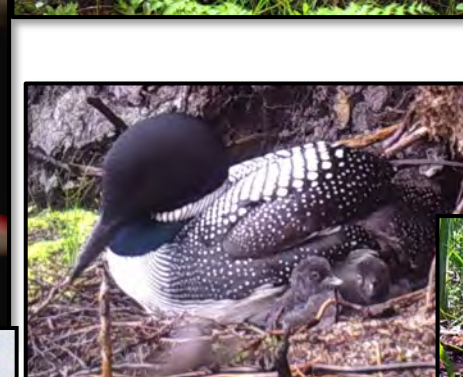
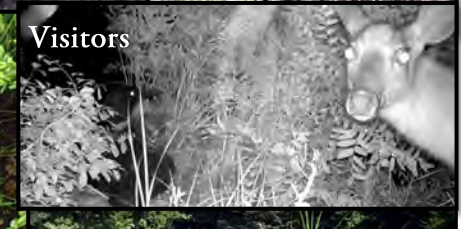
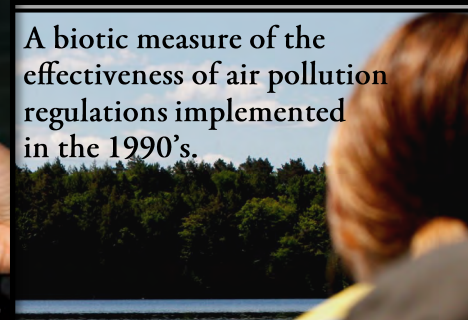
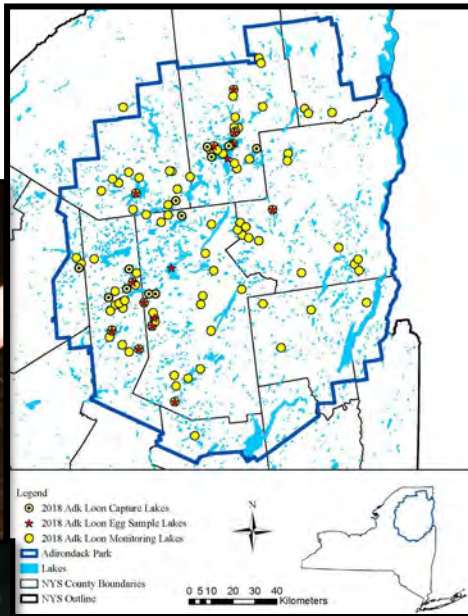
- *The Adirondack Tremolo* newsletter: >9000 people
- www.facebook.com/adkloon: >2500 friends
- www.twitter.com/adkloon: ~100 followers
- www.instagram.com/adkloon: ~500 followers

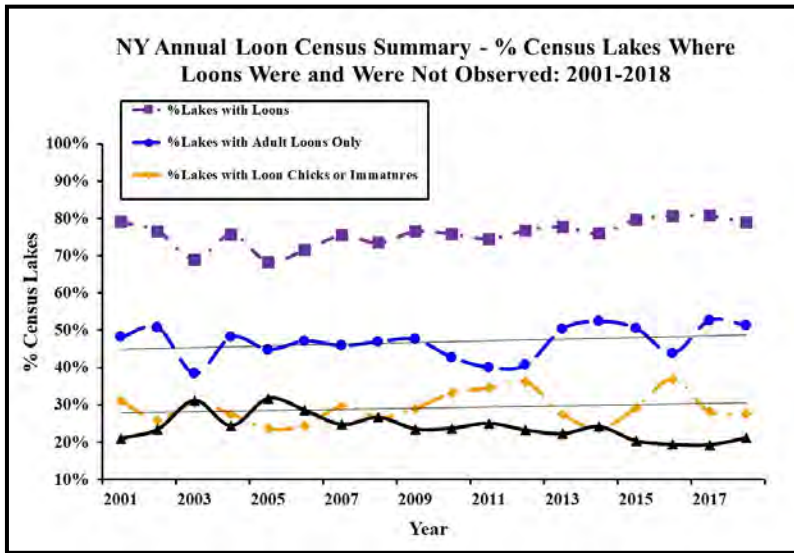
Visit us at www.adkloon.org to learn about loon behavior and ecology, our research and conservation projects, and upcoming events!



~ ENHANCING SCIENTIFIC UNDERSTANDING OF ADIRONDACK LOONS ~

Common Loons —
Indicators of the Impact of
Environmental Pollutants
to Adirondack Aquatic Ecosystems





New York Annual Loon Census

Citizen Science: Third Saturday in July from 8-9am.

- 500+ Observers
- ~200 New York lakes & rivers
- >600 loons

New York Loon Population Status and Trends:
 >> ~2000 adult loons summering in NY

We are most grateful to the many people and organizations who have helped coordinate and participated in the Census, including the Wildlife Conservation Society's former Adirondack Program, Thousand Islands Land Trust, Lake George Association, Cranberry and Upper Saranac Lake Associations, and many hundreds more—*Thank You!*

Scientific Publications

As part of the New York Mercury Synthesis Project led by Biodiversity Research Institute (BRI) and supported by NYSERDA, we partnered with Yang Yang and Dr. Ruth Yanai of SUNY ESF, Dr. Charley Driscoll of Syracuse University, and Dr. David Evers of BRI to analyze our loon mercury and reproductive success data to produce three articles for a special issue of the journal *Ecotoxicology*, including:

- Spatial patterns and temporal trends in mercury concentrations in common loons (*Gavia immer*) from 1998 to 2016 in New York's Adirondack Park: Has this top predator benefitted from mercury emission controls?
- Determining optimal sampling strategies for monitoring mercury and reproductive success in common loons in the Adirondacks of New York.
- The influence of biotic and abiotic factors on banded common loon (*Gavia immer*) reproductive success in a remote, mountainous region of the northeastern United States.

These articles will be available on our website, www.adkloon.org, following their publication.

~ MAKING A DIFFERENCE ~ ONE LOON AT A TIME

Rescues

© Z. George, 2016

© B. Driscoll, 2017

Nest Site Protection

LOON CENTER OPEN TODAY!



~ THE ADIRONDACK LOON CENTER ~ LOON EXHIBITS, ART, GIFTS, AND MORE!

15 BROADWAY, SARANAC LAKE

Filling a unique niche in the Village

A thriving educational, tourist, and shopping destination for loon-lovers of all ages

The primary resource for loon conservation, science, and outreach in the Adirondacks and a vital hub to promote the public's essential role in protecting Adirondack wildlife and the Park's environmental quality



Contributing to tourism and the local economy

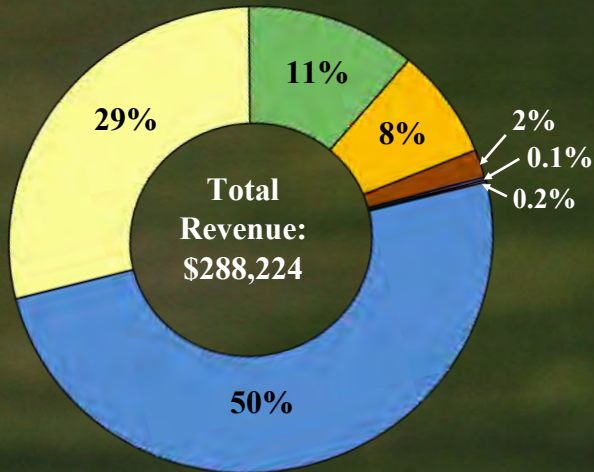


Thank You for Your Patronage!
We greatly enjoy meeting and talking with you!

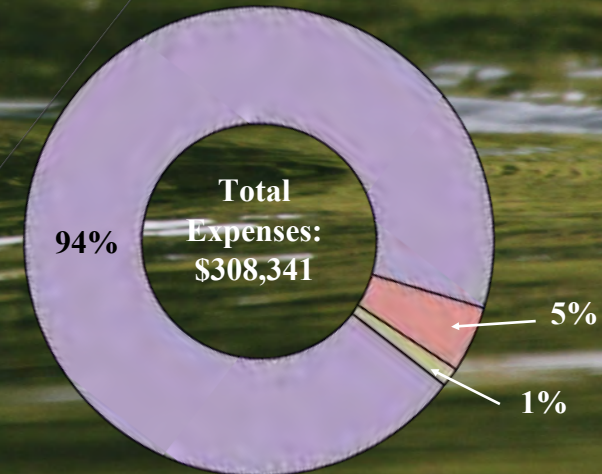
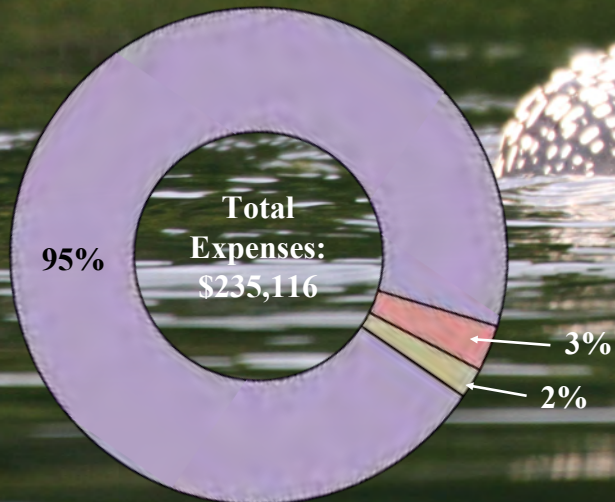
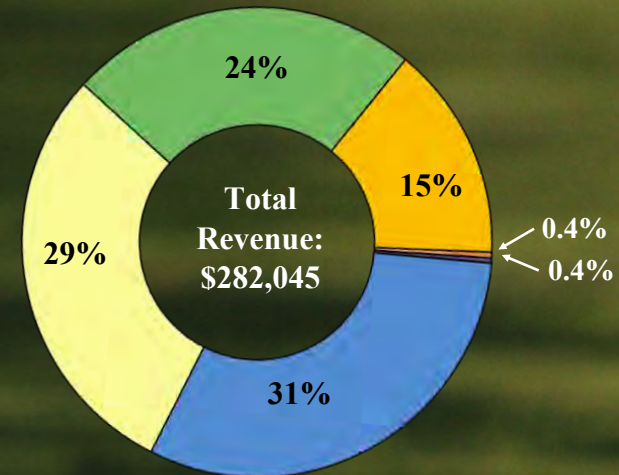
Proceeds support our research and conservation programs to help protect Adirondack loons

~ FINANCIALS ~

Fiscal Year 2017
April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2018



Fiscal Year 2018
April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019



Our 990 and Financial Statements are available at www.adkloon.org and www.charitiesnys.com

THANK YOU!

* = FY2017 Donor, † = FY2018 Donor, ^ = Adirondack Loon Legacy Society Member



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Joan Allen†



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* = FY2017 Donor, † = FY2018 Donor, ^ = Adirondack Loon Legacy Society Member

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