

BIRDS IN THE SAGINAW BAY AREA

JUNE 1, 1999 THRU JULY 31, 1999

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Summary:

The weather this summer was seasonal with sufficient rain to maintain unwatered lawns green and provide adequate berry crops. Heavy rain was usually localized. Streams and inland lakes were at normal levels but Lake Huron remained well below recent levels.

A total of 181 species were reported for the summer season, not bad for the number of observers. Number of species were improved by a respectable shorebird migration and coverage of the AuSable River Valley for summering warblers. New SBA peak counts were not noted but 1350 **Bank Swallows** is noteworthy.

Always notable in the SBA were the following species: **American White Pelican, Tricolored Heron, American Avocet, Red-shouldered Hawk, Carolina Wren, Clay-colored Sparrow, and Orchard Oriole**. Interestingly, many of these same species were highlighted in Summer 1998. Piping Plovers were present throughout the summer. This is reported to be the first summering anywhere on L. Huron in "modern times" (fide GN). **Upland Sandpipers** and **Great Horned Owls** went unreported. **Whip-poor-Wills** and **Common Nighthawks** had few observations.

The usual disclaimer that this is a compilation of records as sent in by a number of observers applies. No attempt to validate any sightings was made by compilers.

COMMON LOON

2	6/19	Tawas Pt., Io	BB	No reports of nesting this year
1	7/11	Tawas L., Io	BB	

PIED-BILLED GREBE

4	6/3	SNWR, Sa	DP
2	Ju/Ju	Tuttle Marsh, Io	BB
10	7/31	Nayanquing Pt, Ba	GZ

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN

1	6/21	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS, DP	Still present 6/25
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DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT

11	7/11	Tawas Pt., Io	BB
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AMERICAN BITTERN

1-2	6/3&16	SNWR, Sa	GZ, DP
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LEAST BITTERN

1	7/29	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	MSWBS
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TRI-COLOURED HERON

1	7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	Adult in Cattails. Documentation attached
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GREAT BLUE HERON

19	7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	Also Io, Mi, Sa
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GREAT EGRET

62	7/18	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	JS, GS	Also various dates Tuttle Marsh, Io (BB)
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GREEN HERON

1-2	TP	Sa, Io, Mi, Ba,	mo
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BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON

2	TP	Auburn, Ba	RA
14	7/30	SNWR, Sa	DP
4	7/31	Karn Plt., Ba	JS

MUTE SWAN

1	6/3	SNWR, Sa	GZ
13	7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ

TUNDRA SWAN

1-2	6/16-7/7	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS, DP
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CANADA GOOSE

CTP

Peak 79 on 6/3 SNWR (GZ)

WOOD DUCK

42	7/7	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS, DP	
10	7/7	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	Numerous broods Tuttle Marsh, Io (BB)

GREEN-WINGED TEAL

2	7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ
4	TP	SNWR, Sa	DP
4	7/10	Tuttle Marsh, Io	BB

AMERICAN BLACK DUCK

1	TP	SNWR, Sa	DP	
8	7/12	Tawas, Io	JHS	also 6/19 Tuttle Marsh, Io BB

MALLARD

TP SBA

BLUE-WINGED TEAL

11	6/1	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS
1	6/17	Tuttle Rd, Io	BB
2	7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ

NORTHERN SHOVELLER

2	6/1	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS	Also 7/14 (DP)
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GADWALL

1	6/3	SNWR, Sa	DP
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1	7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	
AMERICAN WIGEON				
2	TP	SNWR, Sa	DP	
4	7/11	Tawas, Io	BB	
REDHEAD				
1	6/16	SNWR, Sa	DP	
RING-NECKED DUCK				
1	TP	SNWR, Sa	DP	
LESSER SCAUP				
3	6/16	SNWR, Sa	DP	
COMMON GOLDENEYE				
1	7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	Unusual for season
HOODED MERGANSER				
50	7/24	SNWR, Sa	DP	High summer number
COMMON MERGANSER				
1	7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	
RED-BREASTED MERGANSER				
1	6/28	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	Female on beach
TURKEY VULTURE				
2	Scattered dates/locations Io		JS, JHS	Only reports
OSPREY				
1	7/5	N. Mi	JD	
1	7/24	SNWR, Sa	DP	
BALD EAGLE				
1	7/7	Fish Pt., Tu	GZ	
1	7/31	Oak Grove, Ba	JS, GS	Imm.
NORTHERN HARRIER				
1	TP	SNWR, Sa	DP	
1+	7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	Observed drowning an adult duck
1	7/7	Fish Pt., Tu	GZ	
SHARP-SHINNED HAWK				
1	7/22	Frankenmuth, Sa	JHS	
COOPER'S HAWK				
1	7/19	Midland, Mi	NMB	
RED-SHOULDERED HAWK				
1	6/18	7MiSwamp, Io	BB	
1	7/27	Murphy L., Tu	MW	
BROAD WING HAWK				
1	7/10	Powerline Rd., Io	BB	
RED-TAILED HAWK				
4	Hampton Twp. Ba		JS, GS	Present TP
AMERICAN KESTREL				
2	TP	Hampton Twp. Ba	JS, GS	Also Sa. Mi, Io
RING-NECKED PHEASANT				
Scattered sightings Ba, Sa, Mi Brood of 12 reported in Sa by JHS				
RUFFED GROUSE				
1	7/3	Kawkawlin Flooding, MI	GZ	
WILD TURKEY				
TP				
VIRGINIA RAIL				
1	6/21	SNWR, Sa	DP	
COMMON MOORHEN				
2	7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	
AMERICAN COOT				

23	7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	Also at SNWR, Sa
SANDHILL CRANE				
1	6/3	SNWR, Sa	DP	
AMERICAN GOLDEN PLOVER				
1	7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	
SEMIPALMATED PLOVER				
1	6/11	SNWR, Sa	DP	
1	6/19	Tawas Pt., Io	BB	Also 6/7 (GN)
12	7/18	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	JS, GS	
PIPING PLOVER				
2	6/19, 7/17	Tawas Pt., Io	BB, GN	GN indicates first summer residence on L.Huron in recent memory. No nesting observed.
KILLDEER				
✕ 165	7/14	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS	Present TP in Mi, Ba
GREATER YELLOWLEGS				
3	7/2	SNWR, Sa	DP	
36	7/13	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS	One flock
3	7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	
LESSER YELLOWLEGS				
15	6/15	SNWR, Sa	DP	
21	6/28	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	
13	7/7	Tawas Pt., Io	GN	Early Fall migrants (?)
176	7/16	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS	also Ba
SOLITARY SANDPIPER				
2	7/2	SNWR, Sa	DP	also Tawas 7/11 (BB)
4	7/18	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	JS, GS	
SPOTTED SANDPIPER				
23	7/23	SNWR, Sa	DP	also Ba, Io
RUDDY TURNSTONE				
2	6/7	Tawas Pt., Io	GN	
SANDERLING				
29	6/7	Tawas Pt., Io	GN	
SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER				
3	6/4	SNWR, Sa	DP	Last?, Peak 126 on 7/30
1	7/11	Tawas Pt., Io	BB	
LEAST SANDPIPER				
25	7/2	SNWR, Sa	DP	Peak 126 on 7/24
50	7/18	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	JS, GS	
WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER				
1	7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	
BAIRD'S SANDPIPER				
1	7/18	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	JS, GS	
PECTORAL SANDPIPER				
1	7/16	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS	Peak 16 on 7/30 (DP)
5	7/18	Nayanquing Pt. Ba	JS, GS	
DUNLIN				
1	6/7	Tawas Pt., Io	GN	
4	7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	
STILT SANDPIPER				
3	7/7	SNWR, Sa	DP	
4	7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	
SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER				
11	7/7	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS; DP	

125	7/18	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	JS, GS	
AMERICAN AVOCET				
1	6/17	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS, DP, MW, JK	Still present 6/25
COMMON SNIPE				
3	7/18	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	JS, GS	
2	7/30	SNWR, Sa	DP	
AMERICAN WOODCOCK				
1	7/18	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	JS, GS	
WILSON'S PHALAROPE				
2	7/30	SNWR, Sa	DP, JaD	
BONAPARTE'S GULL				
100	6/19	Tawas Pt., Io	BB	
1	6/24 & 7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	Neither in breeding plumage
RING-BILLED GULL				
CTP				
HERRING GULL				
TP				
GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL				
1	7/7	Fish Pt., Tu	GZ	Adult
8	7/24	Tawas Pt., Io	JS	Imm.
CASPIAN TERN				
July sightings in Io Ba, Sa				Max. 43 on 7/31 @ Nayanquing Pt., Ba
COMMON TERN				
2	6/6	CNC, Mi	RA	
12	7/24	Tawas Pt., Io	JS, JHS	Also at SNWR
FORSTER'S GULL				
14	7/31	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	
BLACK TERN				
2	6/24	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	Also present 7/31
1-6	July	Tawas Pt./Tuttle, Io	BB, JHS, JS	Also Kawkawlin Flooding Mi on 7/3
1	7/25	SNWR, Sa	CS	
ROCK DOVE				
CTP				
MOURNING DOVE				
CTP				
BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO				
2	6/17	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS	Also 7/8 per DP
YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO				
2	6/2,10	SNWR, Sa	DP	
2	6/17	Tuttle Marsh, Io	BB	also on 7/10
EASTERN SCREECH OWL				
1-2	TP	Midland, Mi	RA	
3	7/28	SNWR, Sa	CS	
COMMON NIGHTHAWK				
1	6/17	Fountain Rd., Io	BB	
2	7/12	Buck Cr. Pond, Io	GN	
WHIP-POOR-WILL				
5	6/18	Tuttle Marsh, Io	BB	
2	7/12	Buck Cr. Pond, Io	GN	
CHIMNEY SWIFT				
12	TP	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS	also Mi and Io
RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD				
1	TP	Midland, Mi	GZ	also Tuttle Marsh, Io (BB)
BELTED KINGFISHER				

TP	Sa, Io, Mi, Ba		
RED-HEADED WOODPECKER			
2	6/14, 18 Jose L. 7MiHill Swamp, Io	RA, BB	
1	7/11 St. Charles, Sa	DP	
RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER			
TP			
YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER			
1	6/18 7MiHill Swamp, Io	BB	
DOWNY WOODPECKER			
TP			
HAIRY WOODPECKER			
TP			
NORTHERN FLICKER			
TP			
PILEATED WOODPECKER			
1	6/29 SNWR, Sa	BG, CS	
OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER			
2	6/18 7MiHill Swamp, Io	BB	
EASTERN WOOD PEEWEE			
1-5	6/3&22 SNWR, Sa	GZ, BG, CS	
2	7/31 Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
1-2	Various dates/locations, Io	BB	
WILLOW FLYCATCHER			
1	6/3 SNWR, Sa	GZ	
3	7/-- Nayanquing Pt., Ba	JS, GS	
2	6/19&7/11 Tawas, Io	BB	
ACADIAN FLYCATCHER			
1	7/27 Murphy L., Tu	MW	
LEAST FLYCATCHER			
2	6/17 SNWR, Sa	BG, CS	
1	7/31 Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	
EASTERN PHOEBE			
4	7/31 Oak Grove, Ba	JS	
GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER			
Noted in Ba, Mi, Io, & Sa			Max. 8 on 6/22 @ SNWR, Sa (BG,CS)
EASTERN KINGBIRD			
TP			
HORNED LARK			
9	7/7 SNWR, Sa	DP	also in Ba
PURPLE MARTIN			
4	7/17 Hampton Twp, Ba	JS, GS	
2	7/10 Tawas, Io	BB	also Frankenmuth, Sa (DP)
TREE SWALLOW			
TP			
NORTHERN ROUGHWINGED SWALLOW			
13	7/31 Nayanquing Pt., Ba	GZ	also Io
BANK SWALLOW			
1350	7/31 Karn Plant, Ba	JS	Incredible migratory flock at end of Knight Rd. on power lines
CLIFF SWALLOW			
TP	Bridges in Bay City, Ba	JS,GS	Also nesting 'tridge' Midland, Mi
BARN SWALLOW			
CTP			
BLUEJAY			

TP			
AMERICAN CROW			
TP			
COMMON RAVEN			
1	7/10	2 Io Co. Sites	BB
BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE			
CTP			
TUFTED TITMOUSE			
TP			
RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH			
1	6/18	7MiHill swamp, Io	BB
1	6/19	Tawas, Io	BB
WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH			
TP			
BROWN CREEPER			
2	6/20	SNWR, Sa	DP, JaD
Pair with fledglings			
CAROLINA WREN			
1	7/5	Midland, Mi	GZ
At feeder, one night only			
HOUSE WREN			
10	6/17	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS
4	7/3	Kawkawlin Flooding	GZ
Family group, Also Io			
WINTER WREN			
2	6/18	7MiHill Swamp, Io	BB
1	7/10	Powerline Rd., Io	BB
SEDGE WREN			
2	7/18	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	JS, GS
16	~7/22	SNWR, Sa	BG
In one location possibly more			
MARSH WREN			
3	7/18	Nayanquing Pt., Ba	JS, GS
1	7/10	Tuttle Marsh, Io	BB
BLUE-GREY GNATCATCHER			
5	6/17	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS
1	7/11	Tawas Pt., Io	BB
EASTERN BLUEBIRD			
1	6/24	Neiner Rd., Mi	JD
5	6/18	7MiHill Swamp, Io	BB
also reported in Sa (CS)			
VEERY			
3	6/17	Eagle Run, Io	BB
1	7/3	Kawkawlin Flooding, Mi	GZ
HERMIT THRUSH			
1-3	TP	Numerous sites, Io	BB
WOOD THRUSH			
3	6/1	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS
also 7/14 (DP)			
2	6/17	Eagle Run, Io	BB
1	7/3	Kawkawlin Flooding, Mi	GZ
AMERICAN ROBIN			
CTP			
GRAY CATBIRD			
TP			
NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD			
6/3		AuSable, Io	FSM as reported to NMB. Pair successfully nested.
BROWN THRASHER			
5	7/12	Tawas, Io	JHS
1	7/31	Karn Plant, Ba	JS

AMERICAN PIPIT				
1	7/12	Tawas Pt., Io	JHS	No previous SBA summer records
CEDAR WAXWING				
6	TP	Hampton Twp. Ba	JS, GS	Also Io, Mi, Sa
EUROPEAN STARLING				
CTP				
YELLOW-THROATED VIREO				
1	TP	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS; DP	
WARBLING VIREO				
1-3	TP	Tawas, Io	BB	
9	6/1	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS	
RED-EYED VIREO				
1-6	TP	SNWR, Sa & Numerous sites Io		
NASHVILLE WARBLER				
6	6/17,18	Several sites Io	BB	
NORTHERN PARULA				
None				
YELLOW WARBLER				
CTP				
KIRTLAND WARBLER				
41 singing males		IOSCO Co.	According to Kirtland Breeding Survey	
CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER				
3	6/17	Eagle Run, Io	BB	
BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER				
2	6/17	Fountain Cr., Io	BB	
YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER				
1	7/10	Meade Rd., Io	BB	
BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER				
1	7/11	Tawas Lake, Io	BB	
BLACKBURIAN WARBLER				
1	7/10	Powerline Rd. Io	BB	
1	7/11	Tawas Pt., Io	BB	Migrant
PINE WARBLER				
1	6/17	Fountain Cr., Io	BB	
1	7/10	Powerline Rd, Io	BB	
BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER				
1	TP	Numerous Io locations	BB	
AMERICAN REDSTART				
1-4	TP	SNWR, Sa; Fish Pt., Tu; Various Io		
PROTHONOTARY WARBLER				
1	6/3	SNWR, Sa	GZ	
3	6/17	SNWR, Sa	BG, CS	
OVENBIRD				
20+	TP	Various Io sites	BB	
MOURNING WARBLER				
1+	June	Mayville, Tu	MW	territorial
COMMON YELLOWTHROAT				
TP Many locations				
CANADA WARBLER				
1	6/18	7Mi Hill Swamp, Io	BB	
SCARLET TANAGER				
1	6/17	Fountain Cr. Io	BB	also 7/10 in Io
3	6/22	SNWR, Sa	BG,CS, DP	
1	7/1	Edenville, Mi	JD	

NORTHERN CARDINAL

TP

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK

TP SBA

INDIGO BUNTING

TP SBA

EASTERN TOWHEE

3 6/18 7MiHill Swamp Io BB

CHIPPING SPARROW

1 6/11 Sanford, Mi JD

3 6/18 7MiHill Swamp, Io BB also Fountain Cr. Io (BB)

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW

1 6/18 7MiHill swamp, Io BB

FIELD SPARROW

2 6/18 7MiHill Swamp, Io BB

1 7/17 Hampton Twp, Ba JS

VESPER SPARROW

1 6/17 Fountain Cr., Io BB

4 6/18 7MiHill Swamp, Io BB

SAVANNAH SPARROW

TP

SONG SPARROW

CTP

LINCOLN'S SPARROW

None

SWAMP SPARROW

Scattered TP Tuttle marsh and Eagle Run, Io & Nayanquing Pt., Ba

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW

4 6/18 7MiHill swamp, Io BB

1 7/10 Tawas L., Io BB 2 same date Tuttle marsh, Io

DARK-EYED JUNCO

2 6/17 Fountain Cr., Io BB

BOBOLINK

3 6/17 Tuttle Rd, Io BB

14 7/29 SNWR, Sa DP

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD

TP

EASTERN MEADOWLARK

TP

YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD

2 TP Nayanquing Pt., Ba GZ

COMMON GRACKLE

peak 48 6/28 SNWR, Sa DP also noted Io, Mi

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD

TP

BALTIMORE ORIOLE

peak 14 6/1 SNWR, Sa BG, CS also noted TP Io, Mi, Ba

ORCHARD ORIOLE

1 6/19 Tawas Pt., Io BB

HOUSE FINCH

CTP

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH

CTP

HOUSE SPARROW

CTP

Total: 183 species

Exotics:

None

Additions from previous reports

MW notes 4 Trumpeter Swans from Saginaw Bay, Spring 99

Erratum from previous reports

Spring 99 reports of Herring gulls, Palm Warbler, and Pine Grosbeaks attributed to MW were in error.

Observer Key

RA	Ron Annelin	FSM	Fred S. McDonald
JS	Joe Soehnel	DP	Dave Peters
BB	Bob Bell	NMB	Northern Michigan Birding Web Page
JD	Janet Dennett	HJS	Heinz & Jane Schwarm
JaD	Janie Dinsmore	MSWSB	Michigan Statewide Weekly Bird summary
GS	Grant Soehnel	BG	Bob Grefe
MW	Myles Willard	CS	Carol Szaroletta
GZ	Gerald Ziarno	GN	Gary Nelkie

Sightings from other areas

Merlin 7/17 Detour, Chippewa Co. RA Female with fledged young

Abbreviations

Ar	Arenac Co.	SL	Sewage Lagoons
Ba	Bay Co.	SP	State park
CNC	Chippewa Nature Center	Tu	Tuscola Co.
Hu	Huron Co.	TP	through period
Io	Iosco Co.		
MCV Pond	Midland Cogeneration Venture Pond		
Mi	Midland Co.		
NC	Nature Center		
NWR	National Wildlife Refuge		
Sa	Saginaw Co.		
SBA	Saginaw Bay Area		

S