



Common loon

General Description: Minnesota's state bird is a large diving water bird that is larger than a mallard but smaller than a goose

Color: Black bill and head, red eyes, black-and-white spotted back, and a white breast.

Length: 26 -35 inches.

Weight: 8-12 pounds.

Habitat: Lakes across Minnesota.

Food: Mainly fish but also frogs, crayfish, and salamanders.

Fun Fact: While most birds have hollow bones loons have solid bones.

-The extra weight helps them to dive up to 250 feet.

-They need 100- 600 feet on water surface to take off from a lake.

Photos and information courtesy of: <https://www.dnr.state.mn.us/>