

LUCY

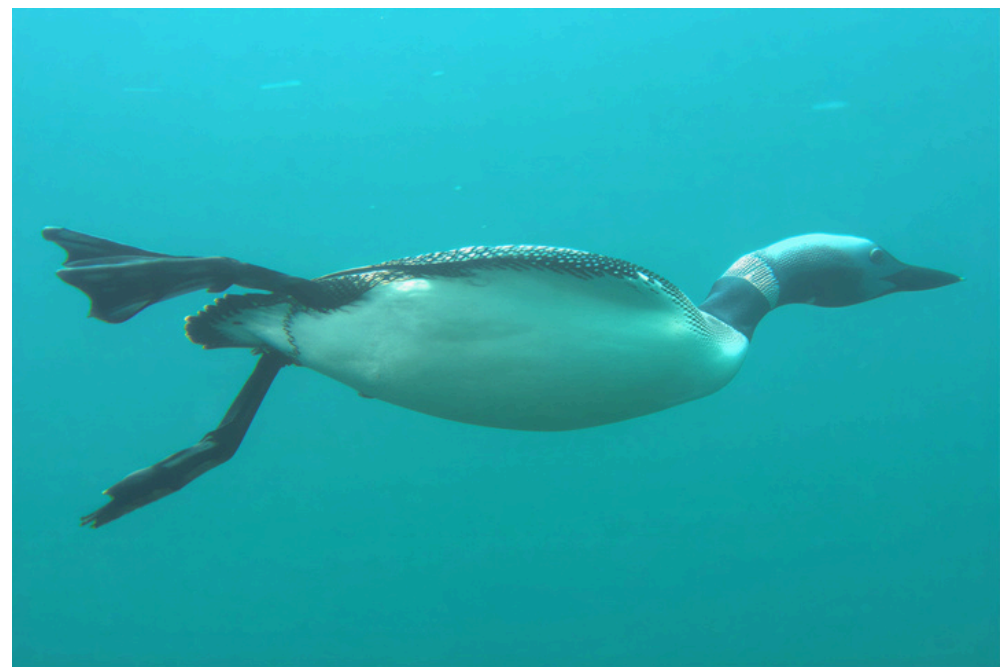
Carver: Clifton "Jack" Barrette
Plattsburgh, NY

Sponsor: Connie Weatherup

Lucy is one of the most popular animals on the carousel. Visitors always want pictures with Lucy. Locals already have pictures with Lucy. She makes for the classic Adirondack vacation photo.



The loon can stay underwater for up to five minutes, its signature red eyes helping it locate prey while submerged.



COMMON LOON

Loons are large water birds with long bodies and short necks. Their feet are set way back under their tails. This helps to make them excellent swimmers but it is also why Loons can't walk on land like ducks do. They have streamlined bodies that help them swim fast. The Loon's body is heavy and its bones are solid, which makes it less buoyant and able to submerge quickly. Loons nest very near the shore so they can slide down the bank into the water. They are very agile under water. Steering with their feet they are able to turn 180 degrees in a fraction of a second.

Loons can only take off from water. Because they are heavy birds, they need a long runway area of water to get into the air. Babies are called Loonlets and can swim almost immediately after birth. You will see them riding on the backs of their parents to rest, and to avoid predators.