

# COMMON LOON CONCENTRATIONS

WALTER LYSACK, Fisheries Branch, Box 40, 1495 St. James Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba. R3H 0W9

Despite several previous large concentrations of common Loons observed within 82 km (50 mi.) of Flin Flon, the reason for this behaviour still is unknown. Unusual numbers of loons have been recorded in this region of Manitoba and Saskatchewan since 1943. One previous report is for August; all others are for June and July.<sup>1 2 3</sup>

On 13 September 1984 I observed about 127 loons about 5 km (3 mi.) west of Baker's Narrows on Lake

Athapapuskow, Manitoba (see map). They were floating on the water and covered an area of about 3000 m<sup>2</sup>. I watched them between 0730 and 1000 h. None of them were seen feeding or flying nor did they move any appreciable distance during this time.

The map was kindly prepared by Horst Schell.

<sup>1</sup>NERO, R.W. 1972. Further records of summer flocking of Common Loon. Blue Jay 30: 85-86.

<sup>2</sup>NERO, R.W. 1974. Summer flocks of Common Loons in Manitoba. Blue Jay 32: 113-114.

<sup>3</sup>PREDY, R.G. 1972. Another summer concentration of Common Loons. Blue Jay 30: 221.

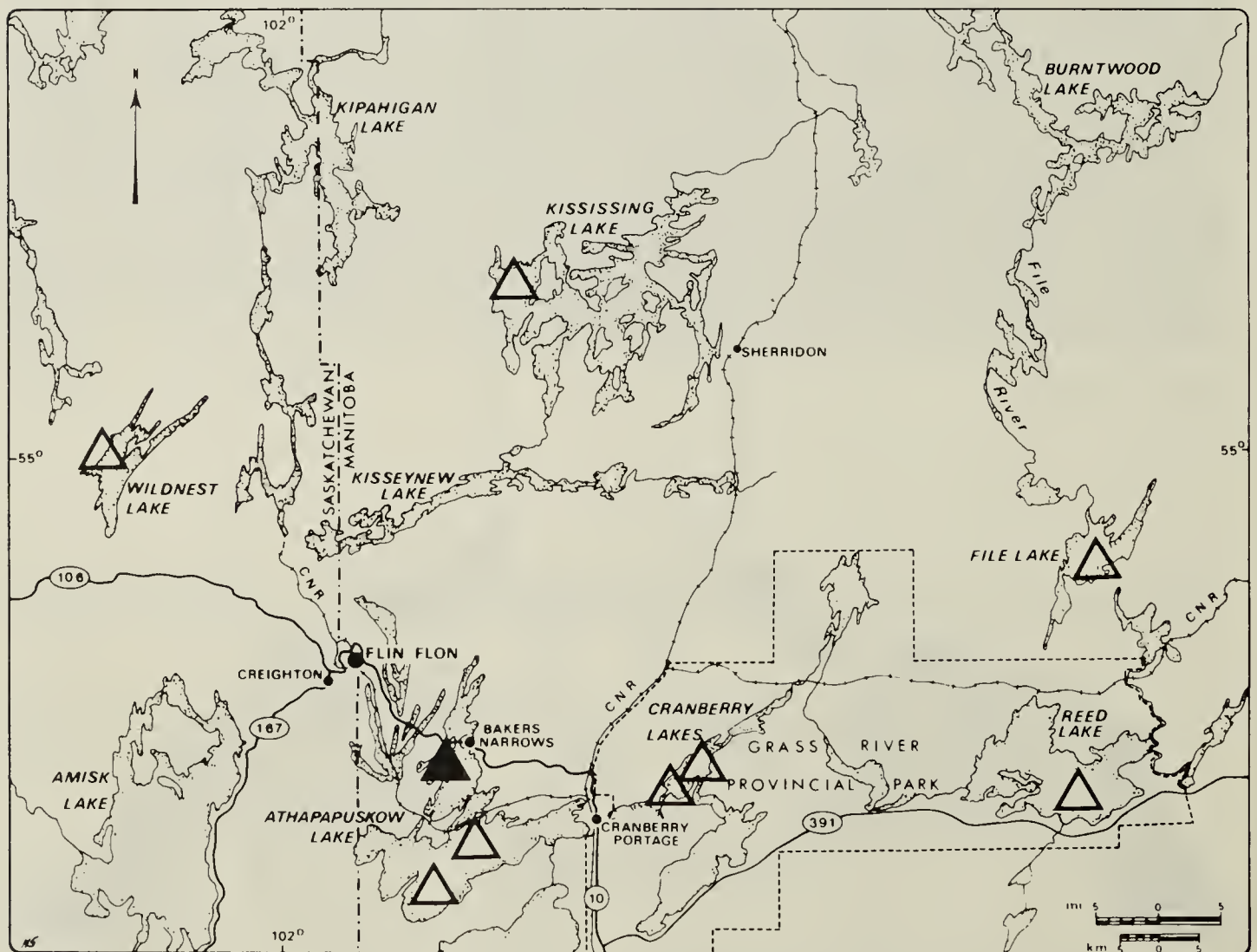


Figure 1. Map showing locations of loon concentrations mentioned in the text. Dark triangle is site of present observation.