



# ANSWER THE CALL

## WHAT IS THE NATIONAL LOON CENTER?

The National Loon Center facility will be a nationally significant loon and freshwater research and education center on three levels totaling 15,000 square feet. The interior of the center will include interpretive and interactive exhibits including virtual reality components, active scientific research, a media center, a community education wing, and a three-level design that will highlight the air, land and water environments associated with loons and freshwater ecosystems. The plan also includes a bird sanctuary on the adjacent point, five different outdoor exhibits and a floating classroom to provide opportunities to engage in citizen science and learn about loons/lakes.

## WHO ARE WE?

The National Loon Center Foundation (NLCF) was established in 2017 as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization with an elected Board of Directors (currently 11 members). As of January 2022, the NLC staff includes an Executive Director, Communications and Outreach Coordinator, and a Program Operations Associate. The National Loon Center (NLC) currently operates from a visitor center called The Nest in the Crosslake Town Square. The 15,000 square foot public facility will be built at the Cross Lake Recreation Area in Crosslake, Minnesota. It is scheduled to open in 2024 and will be dedicated to the conservation of loons and freshwater ecosystems.

## TIMELINE

**2021** The National Loon Center completed the installation of docks, boardwalks and some outdoor exhibits in the fall of 2021. It also completed a shoreline restoration project simultaneous to the dock installation. The work has been coordinated by the architectural and engineering firm Wisdeth.



**2024** Architectural design and plans for the building are happening now and will continue in earnest once we have secured a total of \$6 million in matching fundraising as required by the State of Minnesota. The grand opening for the building is anticipated in spring of 2024.

**DONATE**

National Loon Center  
P.O. Box 642  
Crosslake, MN 56442

*The National Loon Center restores and protects loon breeding habitats, enhances responsible recreation, and serves as a national leader in advancing loon and freshwater research and education.*

