



Wisconsin NatureMapping Newsletter

www.wisnatmap.org



March 2009
Volume 4, Issue 10

Wisconsin NatureMapping Data From February 2009

- 106** Total NatureMapping Observations
(compared to 210 in January)
- 4.0** Observations/day
(compared to 6.8 in January)
- 1001** Animals observed
(during 111 total NM observations)

Top 5 Animals

Animal	# observed
Pine Siskin	257
Common Redpoll	140
Bald Eagle	114
Dark-eyed Junco	107
Blue Jay	93

NOTE: Enter your observations on the website regularly so they are included in monthly calculations!

March and Aldo Leopold



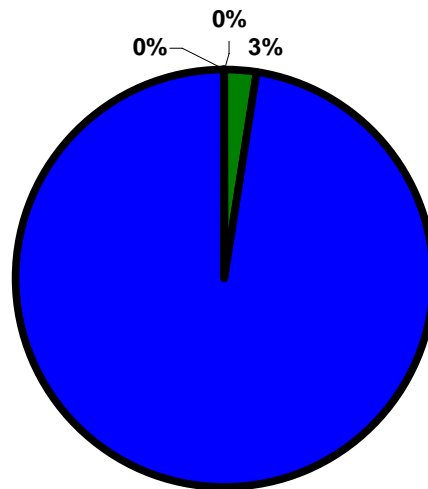
Image courtesy of
WDNR EEK! website.

In honor of Aldo Leopold Weekend, the first weekend in March, we'll take his advice and look south for Canada geese. After all, as Aldo Leopold writes, "One swallow does not make a summer, but one skein of geese, cleaving the murk of a March thaw, is the spring." Though most Canada geese only pass through Wisconsin on their way farther north into Canada, many nest in this state. In March, watch for honking geese flying overhead or even geese that have settled near local lakes and ponds. Most geese will build nests from grasses in the spring and lay clutches of 4-6 eggs that hatch in about 26 days. You can look for these nests, but watch out for the protective gander and be careful not to disturb the goose or the eggs!

Phenology from EEK!

The weather is warming up and so are the birds and their vocal chords. You can listen for chickadees singing "fee-bee" over and over. Cardinals sing "what a cheer" to try to attract a mate, see if you can spot their bright red feathers in the trees. Or, listen for tufted titmice as they sing "peter, peter, peter." Phenology information is from the EEK!- Environmental Education for Kids, www.dnr.wi.gov/eeek/, Wisconsin DNR.

Animals Observed by Category for February 2008



Birds – 97%

Mammals – 3%

Amphibians – 0 %

Reptiles – 0 %

What's Being Observed in Wisconsin?

- 975** Birds
- 26** Mammals
- 0** Amphibians
- 0** Reptiles