



TRUMPETINGS

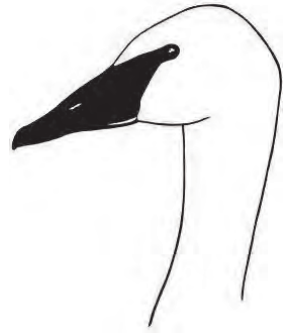
Voice of The Trumpeter Swan Society

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Since 1968: Assuring the vitality and welfare of wild Trumpeter Swans

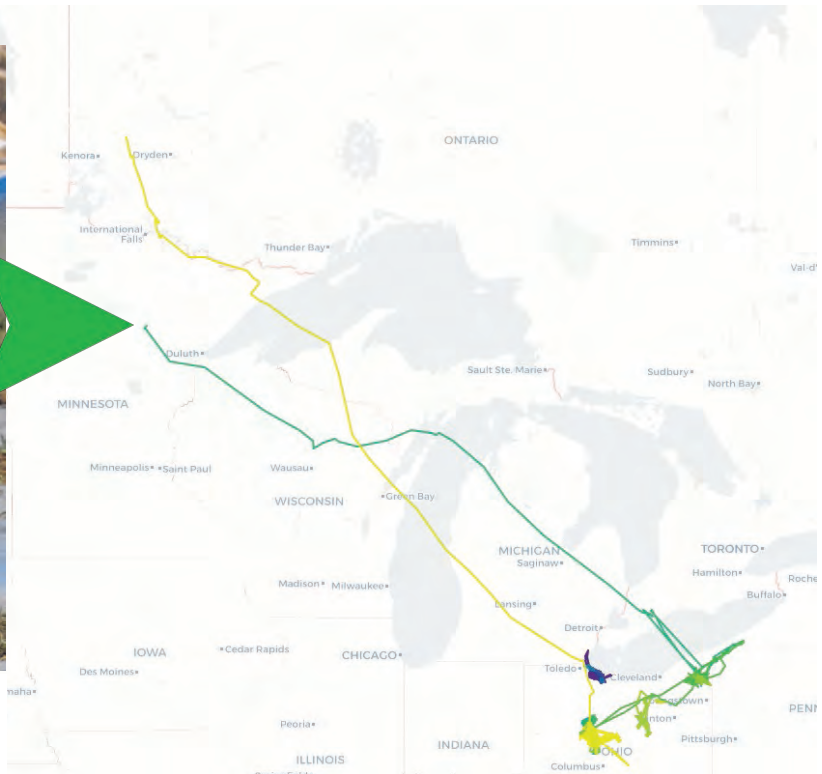
VOL. 32 No. 2

SEPTEMBER 2022

You tracked swans in new places. Thank you!



Your support of Trumpeter Watch documented Ohio GPS/GSM female swan 6M, a long distance traveler!
Photo by Greg Snowden



Thanks to you, Trumpeter Watch reports kept swan managers and researchers updated about trumpeter swan locations, nesting success, behaviors, and in some cases, health issues.

Since January, nearly 600 Trumpeter Watch reports from 31 states and 6 provinces have been reviewed and shared where needed most. This includes Trumpeter Watch reports of Midwest swans with GPS/GSM collars. Reports are visually documenting trumpeter swans in this important research project.

Above: Twenty Ohio swans received GPS/GSM collars in 2020-2021. Their movements through the year are on the public website hosted by the University of Minnesota. Ohio GPS/GSM female swan 6M was reported and photographed by Greg Snowden in February near her capture location in Ohio. She traveled to western Pennsylvania in spring. By late summer 2022, the GPS/GSM tracking collar documented 6M in northern Minnesota (green arrow). The green line on the map documents 6M's surprising long distance movements.

You tracked Midwest swans in new places!



You made it possible to be a partner in this project! Thank you!

Through your support of Trumpeter Watch, reports, photos and stories of 61 swans in the GPS/GSM project were shared with the researchers and team leaders in participating states and Manitoba!

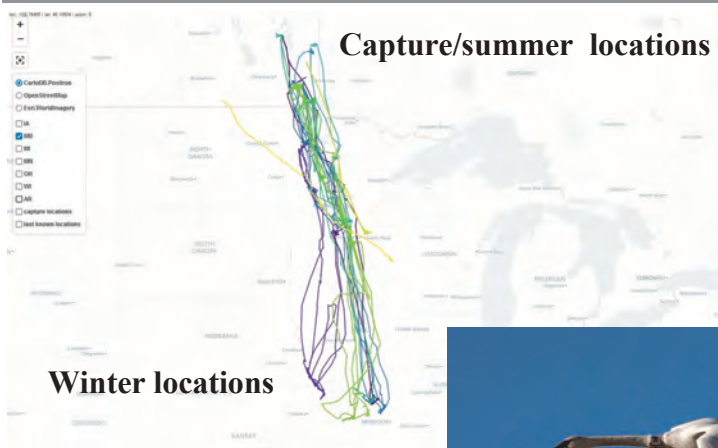
Half of the swans in the project were seen and reported through Trumpeter Watch, thanks to you!

Shortcut link to map:

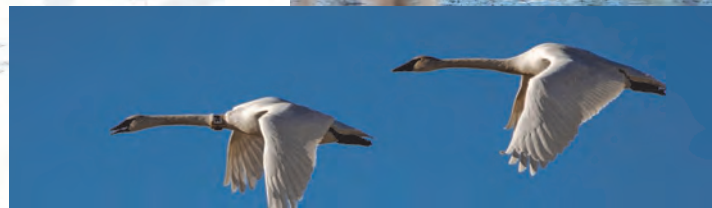
https://bit.ly/SwanTracking_last_7days

You helped Midwest swan research

Since 2019, 123 swans received tracking collars. Two swans received second collars, with 13 collars re-deployed after swan deaths. Approximately one-third of the collars are transmitting data for public tracking as of mid-September 2022. **Here are the remarkable travels of the swans by province and state since 2019!**



Left: Manitoba male swan 5H in his summer location in eastern Manitoba north of Winnipeg. He spent the winter in Missouri. Photo by Michelle Porter

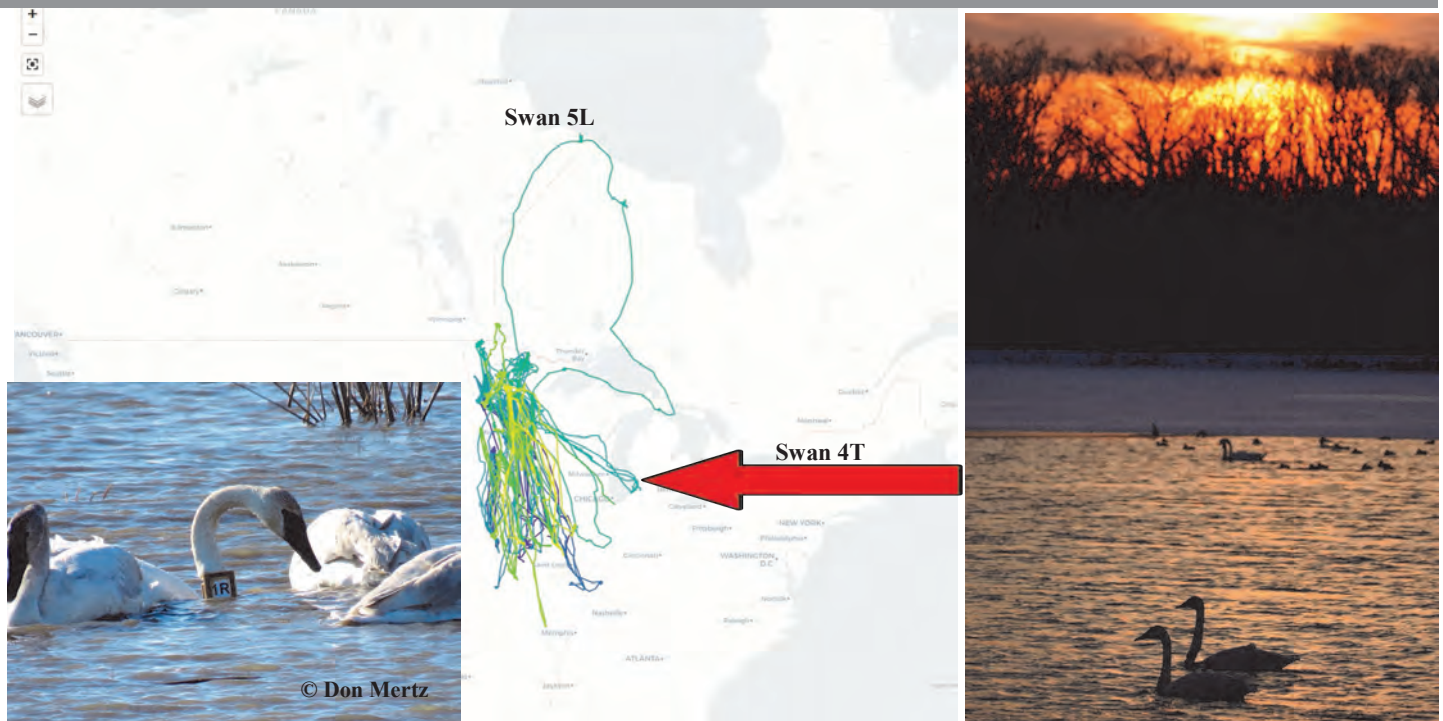


Left: Manitoba female swan 3H returned through Iowa. Photo by Mike Clapper

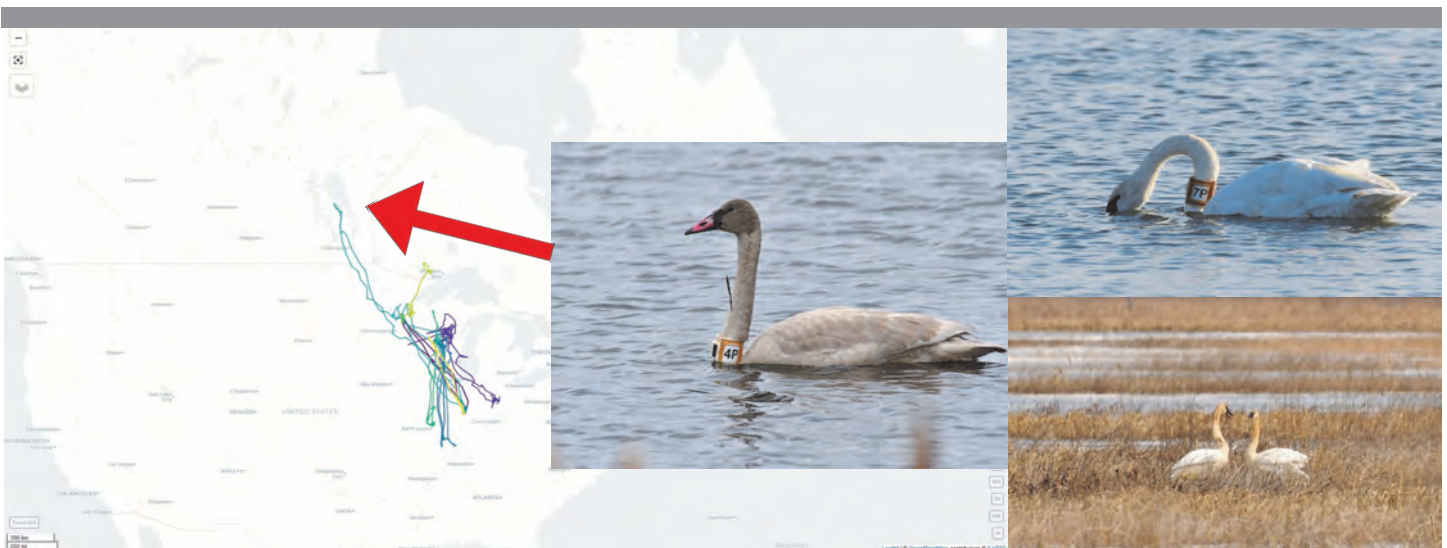


Manitoba: Ten swans received tracking collars (one swan received a second collar). **All Manitoba collared swans left the province to winter elsewhere.** Four swans spent the winters in Missouri including male swan 1H (left). He was reported and photographed at Loess Bluffs National Wildlife Refuge in Missouri by Craig Hensley.

You tracked Midwest swans in new places!

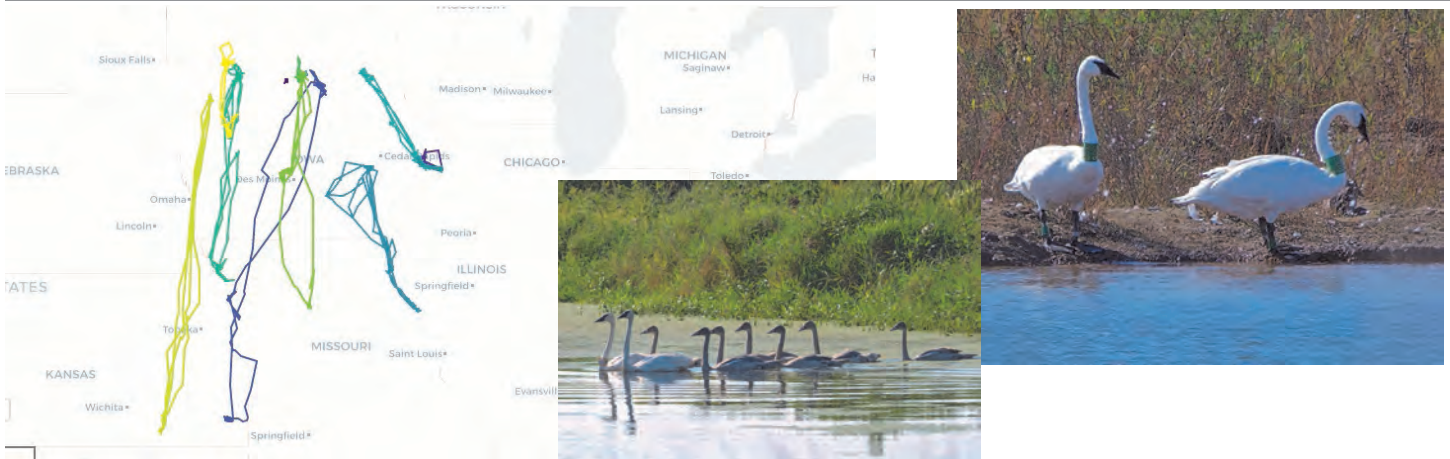


Minnesota: Fifty-six swans received tracking collars with nine as re-deployments from swans that died. About half the swans migrated from the state during the year to Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Missouri, Ontario, and Wisconsin. Female cygnet 5L spent her second summer near Hudson Bay. Female swan 4T (photo right by Melanie Martin) spent the winter in western Michigan and then migrated to northern Wisconsin and Minnesota (red arrow). Photo bottom left: Female swan 1R spent the winter in Missouri.



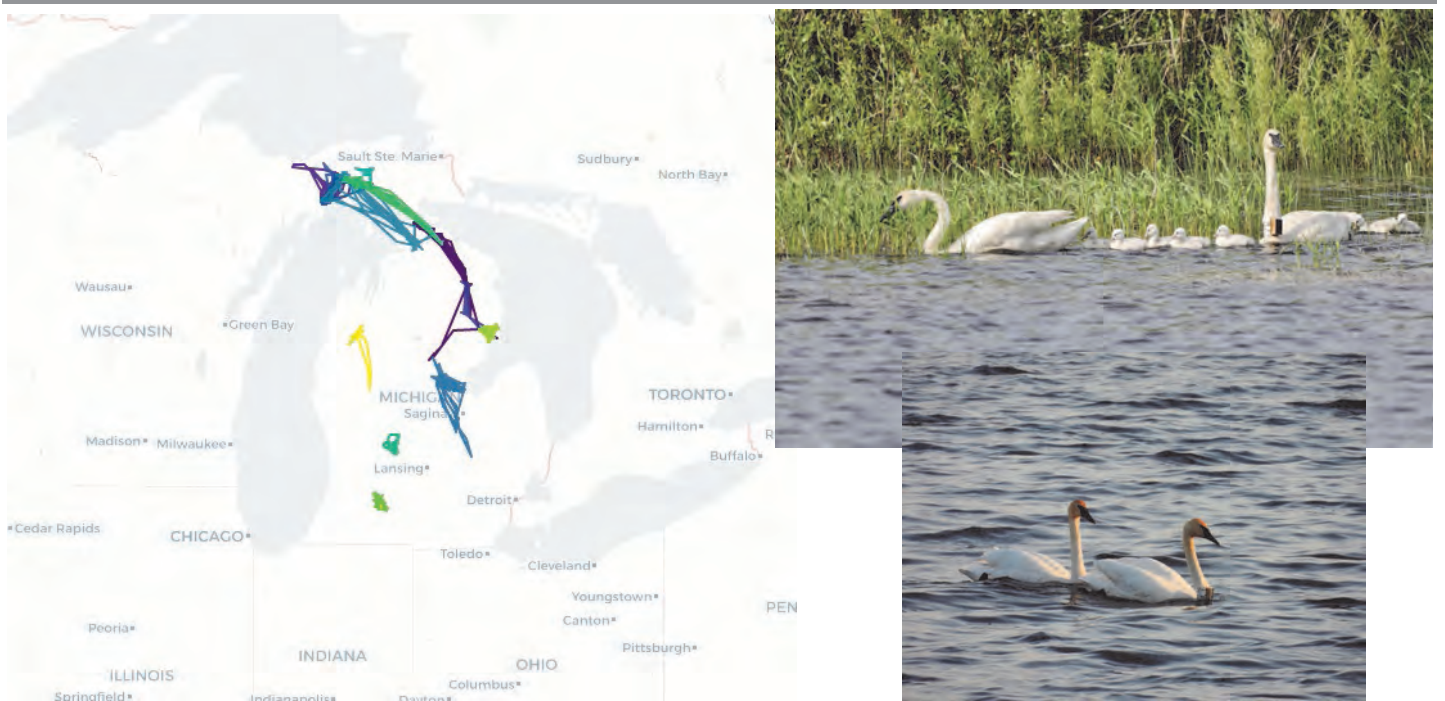
Wisconsin: Nine swans received tracking collars, including four cygnets. Wisconsin was the only state, besides Minnesota, to put GPS/GSM collars on cygnets. Wisconsin swans traveled to Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Manitoba, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio and western Ontario. Photos by Kathy Java: center: male cygnet 4P traveled north to Manitoba (red arrow) and south to Indiana. Right: Male swans 7P and 0P in northern Wisconsin.

You tracked Midwest swans in new places!



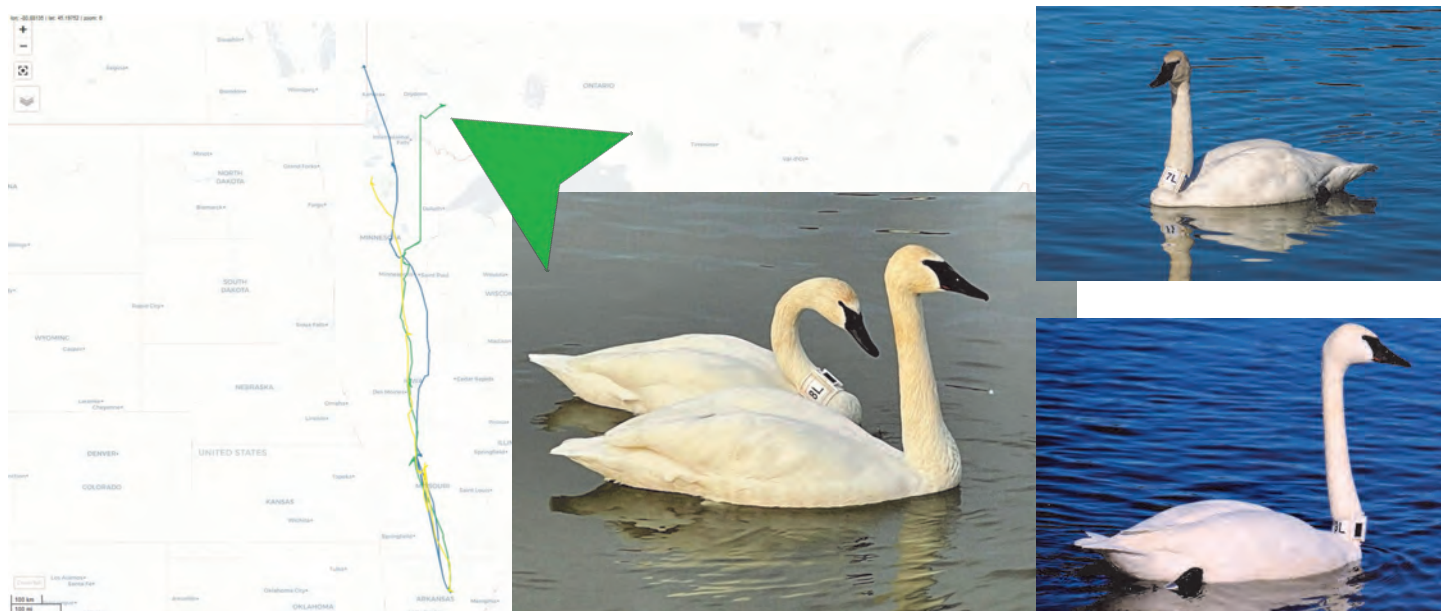
Iowa: Eleven swans received tracking collars. Iowa swans traveled to Missouri, Kansas and Minnesota. Iowa also put green, non-transmitting, identification collars on cygnets of some of the GPS/GSM swan pairs in 2020. This was for family tracking during the cygnets' first winter. Winter Trumpeter Watch reports documented a few cygnets traveled away from their parents before spring dispersal.

Top right: Photo of green, non-transmitting collared Iowa swans 8P6 and 8P7 by Jim Rose. Bottom center: Iowa male swan 4C was captured and collared near Cresco, Iowa and spent the winter 200 miles away at Princeton Wildlife Management Area on the Mississippi River. Photo by David Vote.



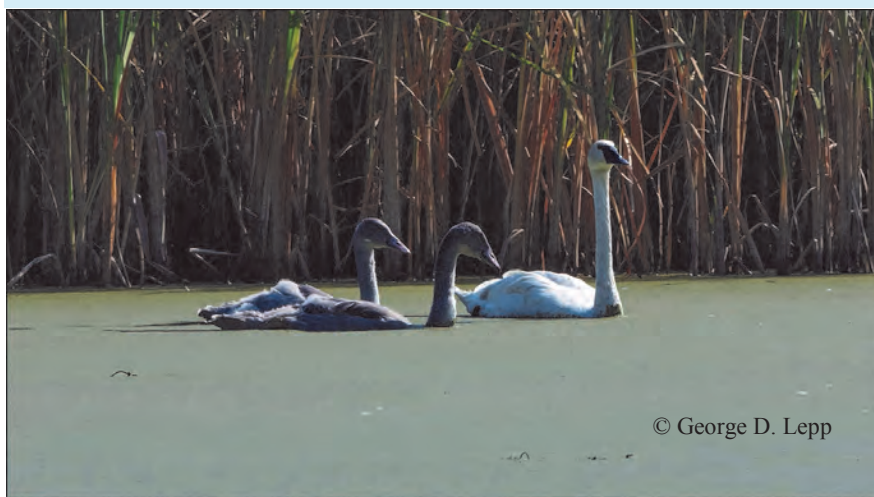
Michigan: Thirteen tracking collars were deployed. GPS data show that all swans have remained in Michigan since banding. Swans collared in northern Michigan traveled farther than those collared in the Lower Peninsula likely related to availability of shallow open water during winter. Photo top: Male swan 7K and family in 2022, photo by Andy House. Photo bottom: Female swan 3J and mate, by Elizabeth Myer.

You tracked Midwest swans in new places!



Arkansas: Four swans received tracking collars in December 2021 in Heber Springs. Three swans survived to migrate north in early 2022. Female swan 9L migrated to northern Minnesota; male swan 7L to eastern Manitoba; and female swan 8L to western Ontario (green arrow) Photo center: 8L after receiving her collar in Arkansas, photo by Kenny Nations. Top right: 7L photo by Sam Edge. Bottom right: 9L photo by Don Byram ♦

Your Oregon update



Summer setback for wild trumpeter swans

Summer heat and drought may be playing a role in poor nesting this season by wild swans in Oregon.

Only one wild pair near Summer Lake Wildlife Area was spotted nesting early in the season. However, the pair was unsuccessful, with no cygnets hatching.

Summer success for Sunriver Nature Center swans! Above: Two cygnets hatched in July to “Val and Gus”, the swan pair at Sunriver Nature Center. Photo by George D. Lepp of nine-week-old cygnets with swan mom, “Val”.

The adult pair is managed by the Trumpeter Swan Society in partnership with Sunriver Nature Center. The cygnets will be released next spring at Summer Lake Wildlife Area as part of the Oregon Restoration Project restoring trumpeter swans to the state. ♦

Your 2021 Annual Report

Thank you for your commitment to help Trumpeter Swans!

Your generous support made a big impact helping Trumpeter Swans in 2021

Thank you so much for your 2021 support. You are assuring the vitality and welfare of wild Trumpeter Swans.

Your support made these highlights happen in 2021

- ◆ Five yearling swans were released in the **Oregon Restoration Project**. The swans came from the Montana Waterfowl Foundation
- ◆ You made it possible to participate in **Flyway meetings and the Greater Yellowstone Working Group** where decisions about swan restoration and management are made
- ◆ **Swan research continued in 2021** including GPS/GSM swan tracking projects in the Midwest and west. Online citizen-science **Trumpeter Watch reports increased significantly** with reports of new wintering and nesting areas and migration stops
- ◆ **Quality governance and transparency** were recognized through the 2021 Guidestar Platinum Seal award

Here's how you made an impact in major program areas of Restoration and Management, Swan Health, Research, Outreach and Education, and Advocacy:

Restoration and Management

Oregon Restoration Project: This project is partnership between TTSS, the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service to restore swans to Oregon. As of the end of 2021, 133 swans have been released into the Project since 2009.

Five yearling swans were released at Oregon's Summer Lake Wildlife Area. A new female captive swan replaced 'Grace' at Sunriver Nature Center who had died from a predator attack in late 2020.

Three GPS/GSM collars were successfully deployed in February 2021 on swans, presumably Canadian, wintering at Oregon's Summer Lake Wildlife Area. All three were tracked to summer nesting areas in Alberta, Canada. Five wintering swans received green non-transmitting collars with three reported in Alberta in the spring and summer 2021, including 9@2 (photo right).



9@2 received its green collar in February 2021 in Oregon and was reported in Alberta in mid April by Lorie Inglis

The collars are part the Pacific Flyway goals to learn if swans wintering in Oregon belong to the Rocky Mountain Population (smaller Population) or the Pacific Coast Population (larger Population, nesting in Alaska and parts of the Yukon).

Your 2021 Annual Report

In a 2021 setback, no cygnets were produced in the wild in Oregon, most likely due to extreme heat and wildfires which may have caused nest abandonment. Our captive pairs did not produce any cygnets in 2021.

Flyway meeting participation: TTSS is a member of the swan committees on all four Flyway Councils. Thanks to your support, Executive Director Margaret Smith participated in the 2021 winter and summer Mississippi Flyway virtual meetings. Dr. Gary Ivey represented you at the Greater Yellowstone Working Group meeting. He gave updates about the Oregon swan program.

Research

Yellowstone National Park: This research study was concluded in 2021. Data suggests that the swan population trends outside the Park affected the number of swans observed within the Park, possibly through movement of trumpeter swans into the park. Data also suggests that annual releases of captive-raised cygnets are helping increase the number of areas where trumpeter swans are seen and are seen with young. Predators like grizzly bears and the high number of visitors to the Park may affect swan nesting, but there was no strong conclusion that they impacted the swan decline over the past several decades.

Swan GPS/GSM Tracking Research:

Midwest Trumpeter Swan Tracking Project: Your support made it possible to be a partner in this project with the University of Minnesota, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, United States Fish and Wildlife Service, and state and provincial agencies in Iowa, Manitoba, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin and Arkansas. Four GPS/GSM collars were deployed in Arkansas in December 2021. See more about this project on pages 1-5.

Western Swan Tracking: Swan tracking continued in 2021 on collars deployed at National Wildlife Refuges (NWR) including Idaho's Bear Lake NWR and Camas NWR, and Red Rock Lakes NWR in Montana.

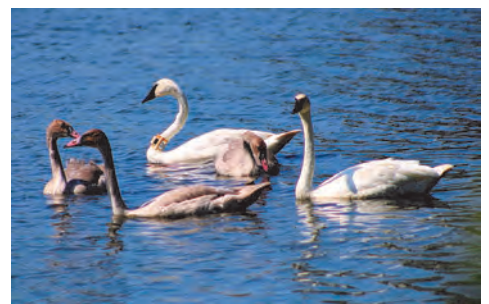
This is part of a larger western tracking study to determine the most important wetlands used by Rocky Mountain migratory birds. Your support identified specific areas used by swans in 2021 during migrations and winter for foraging and staging.



Swan Health

Above: You supported monitoring swan health in the Pacific Northwest: Of 490 swans collected and analyzed in winter 2020-2021, 53% of swan deaths were from suspected lead poisoning and 16% from powerline collisions. The remainder (31%) were from “other trauma” and “undetermined.”

Photo of swans flying near powerlines in Skagit, Washington. Photo by Eric Bell



Through your generosity, a Trumpeter Watch report documented Minnesota GPS male swan 3E successfully nested and raised a family in 2021 at Carver Park in Minneapolis. Photo by Dave Ches

Your 2021 Annual Report

Trumpeter Watch

980 Trumpeter Watch reports from 32 states and 5 provinces

Thanks to you, each report was reviewed. Reports of marked swans were shared with state and provincial coordinators



Photos page 8-10 by Richard Sonnen


Advocacy

In 2021, TTSS was your voice and weighed in on a number of issues affecting Trumpeter Swans:

- ◆ Continued opposition to changes to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act which would weaken bird protections. We also supported the proposed 2021 Biden rule to restore bird protections.
- ◆ Opposition to mandated hunting theme in the Federal Duck Stamp program.
- ◆ Written comments to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources opposing the survey sent to hunters only, rather than all interested parties, about interest in a swan hunt.
- ◆ Opposed expanding hunting opportunities on national refuges with trumpeter swans during some part of their annual cycle unless it included mandating non toxic ammunition.

Your 2021 Annual Report

Outreach & Education



Website: 110,000 visitors taking 168,400 actions. The most popular pages are Swan Identification, Swan Information and Swan Library Sections. Trumpeter Watch had 8,100 visitors

Facebook: 3,930 followers. Posts included news, events, fundraising needs, photos, and videos of swan behaviors

Trumpetings: 3 newsletters to share with you the impact your financial support made to assure the vitality and welfare of wild trumpeter swans

Enews: 23,600 emails sent. Thank you for opening and reading *Enewsletters!*

Operations and Governance

Operations:

Thanks to your generosity, critical programs remained strong in 2021 during the continuing pandemic. Thank you!

Balance Sheet December 31, 2021

Assets:	
Current Assets	\$315,946
Other Assets	\$ 38,885
Total Assets	\$354,831

Liabilities & Equity	
Liabilities	\$ 0
Temp. Restricted Net Assets	\$119,390
Unrestricted Net Assets	\$235,441
Total Net Assets	\$354,831
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$354,831

Income Statement January 1-December 31, 2021

Revenue	
Contributions, gifts, grants	\$141,530
Other	\$ 143
Total	\$141,673

Expenses (functional)	
Program	\$ 70,622
Management	\$ 14,404
Fundraising	\$ 9,402
Total	\$ 94,428

Net Income \$ 47,245

Your 2021 Annual Report

Governance:

Platinum Seal from Guidestar: TTSS fulfilled the requirements to reach the 2021 Platinum Seal of Transparency level through Guidestar.

The Platinum Seal is Guidestar's highest level of transparency.

1% for the Planet: TTSS is a certified member of 1% for the Planet



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Thank you for your 2021 support! You are amazing and wonderful!

TTSS also thanks these foundations and organizations for their grants and donations supporting North American swan programs and activities: AAZK Greater Cleveland Chapter, Bertram C Raynes Revocable Trust, Fanwood Foundation, Felburn Foundation, Foley/Frischkorn Wildlife Conservation Fund, Friends of Kansas City Zoo, Friends of Malheur National Wildlife Refuge, Jake Fund of Horizons Foundation, Milwaukee County Zoo, Open Door Foundation. ♦



***A gift to TTSS in your will or estate plan helps Trumpeter Swans for generations to come
TTSS Federal Tax ID: 23-7220654***

Become a monthly 'Swan Sustainer'

You love trumpeter swans. Now you can make sure they have the help they need every day of the year.

Monthly giving is the most effective way you can make sure swan programs are working for swans every day of the year. It's convenient for you and easy on your budget.

You can have as little as \$5 per month automatically charged to your credit card or withdrawn from your bank account, so your membership is always current. It's easier for you - and a reliable source of monthly revenue for us so we can plan our budget more efficiently.

Your secure monthly gift will help swans through swan programs:

- ⇒ working with partners to restore and manage swans across North America
- ⇒ safeguarding swan health and protecting habitat swans use throughout the year
- ⇒ advocating on issues and threats affecting swans
- ⇒ funding Trumpeter Watch and research to help swans now and in the future



Photo by Ray Colby

Become a monthly 'Swan Sustainer' and receive this exclusive 'Swan Sustainer' magnet!

Send in the form below or sign up online at
www.TrumpeterSwanSociety.org>How to Help> Membership
(choose "Make this a Recurring donation")

Yes!

I want to help Trumpeter Swans!

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Mail to:
The Trumpeter Swan Society
12615 Rockford Rd.
Plymouth, MN 55441-1248

OR

Donate securely **online** through credit card or
ACH at **www.trumpeterswansociety.org**

Donate by check, credit card or ACH

One-Time or Monthly

(Your monthly 'Swan Sustainer' gift will make sure your swan programs always stay strong. Donate by credit card below; through your bank account use back page)

Your membership gift helps Trumpeter Swans

My Gift for swans \$ _____ [] **One time** [] **Monthly**

I prefer to give by:

___ Check, *payable to TTSS if one time or Void if for monthly*

___ Credit Card ___ Visa ___ MC ___ Discover ___ AmEx

Card # _____

Card Expiration date ____/____ Security Code _____

Name on Card _____

Signature _____



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In This Issue:

- You tracked Midwest swans in new places
- Your Oregon update
- Your 2021 Annual Report– How you helped Trumpeter Swans
- Become a monthly ‘Swan Sustainer’

Become a monthly ‘Swan Sustainer’ member!

‘Swan Sustainer’ Donation Authorization Form:

Yes, I want to be a monthly ‘Swan Sustainer’ member. Swans can count on my support all year.

I authorize the *Trumpeter Swan Society* to electronically debit my account monthly on the *18th* of each month as follows:

Checking account Savings account

at the financial institution named below.

Bank Name _____

Routing Number: _____

Account Number: _____

Monthly Gift Amount:

\$5 \$10 \$15 Other \$ _____

Your gift will be ongoing until you change or cancel it by contacting our organization directly.

Signature: _____

Making a donation using direct withdrawal via ACH from your checking or savings is fast, easy, and secure.

It’s simple, safe, and saves money. It reduces our costs so **you help swans even more!**

Platinum
Transparency
2022

Candid.

Thank You! (Or directly signup for monthly ACH withdrawals or credit card donations on our [How to Help >Membership page](#))

TRUMPETINGS EDITORS

John Cornely, Gary Ivey, Margaret Smith

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