

summer with the Mallards. A Common Loon in basic plumage once summered here. Gale Street Inn, Redwood's, and El Barrio's on Diamond Lake Road are fine eateries if you're done with the birding loop and come back to this location.

Loch Lomond

From Diamond Lake Road go north on Route 45 to Route 176 (Maple Ave.); Turn west to Beach Place. Drive north until the road dead-ends on Lomond Drive. Scan the lake from the park (You may have to look through the fence if the park is closed) for loons, puddle ducks and all three species of mergansers in the spring. This lake often holds good groups of waterbirds both early and late in

spring. Common Loons, Canvasbacks, and Buffleheads have been observed on this private lake. Access is generally not easy at this lake.

Butler Lake

From Loch Lomond return east to Route 45 and go north to Winchester Road. Turn east, then south on Butterfield Road to Lake Street. Drive east to the Butler Lake park and parking area on the north side of the lake. Park in the lot overlooking the lake and scan for waterfowl here. Good numbers of puddle ducks, coots, Canvasback, and Redheads often stop here, as well as mergansers and Ruddy Ducks. Unusual waterbirds recorded include Tundra Swan and Snow (Blue) Goose.

Gages Lake

From Butler Lake return west on Lake Street to Butterfield Road. Turn north to Route 127, then west to Route 145. Drive north past Route 120 to Sears Boulevard. Turn east to Pebble Beach. You can get a western view of the lake here or at Rule Park just down the road by the Wildwood Park District offices. A nice covered observation platform here at Rule Park provides perhaps a great view of the lake. Loons, Canvasback, Redheads, and other ducks are often seen on this lake as well as mergansers and coots. In winter, rarities have included Glaucous Gull and Bald Eagle. Another southerly viewing point for Gages Lake is at Willow Point Beach and Warren Sheldon Park. To get there,

