

## TUFTED DUCK

*Aythya fuligula*

non-breeding visitor, occasional winterer

monotypic

Tufted Ducks breed across the n. Palearctic and winter S to n. Africa, India, and the Philippine Is (Dement'ev and Gladkov 1952, Cramp and Simmons 1977). They are regular vagrants to N America (AOU 1998, CBRC 2007) and rare winter visitors to the Hawaiian Islands, with records rather equally distributed between the Northwestern and Southeastern Islands. Records also occur from throughout Micronesia E to the Marshall Is (Clapp 1990), and possibly Wake Atoll (Rauzon et al. 2008). In contrast to the two scaup species and Ring-necked Duck, there is no evidence that individual Tufted Ducks return to Hawaii for consecutive winters.

Most records of Tufted Ducks from the *Northwestern Hawaiian Islands* are from *Midway*, where 10 specimens were collected between 1959 and 1980 (USNM; Fisher 1960, Clapp and Woodward 1968, Engilis et al. 2004) and 8 additional birds were observed in 1963-2002 (e.g., Fisher 1965; [HRBP](#) 0345, 1262-1264). At least 7 present during the winter of 1963 (Clapp and Woodward 1968) represents the high count. Other records from the Northwest Islands are from *Kure* (3, 1963-1977; e.g., USNM 493448, 497908) and *French Frigate* (1, 17-19 Nov 1984; [HRBP](#) 0572-0574, 0792). The earliest fall arrival was recorded 25 Oct (1965, Midway) and of several that wintered on Midway in 1995-2002, the latest individual remained until early Apr (2000).

There are records for 34 individual Tufted Ducks from the *Southeastern Hawaiian Islands*, from *Kaua'i* (4, 1988-1998), *O'ahu* (16, 1975-2005; e.g., [HRBP](#) 0521-0525), *Moloka'i* (1 record reported by Engilis et al. 2004), *Maui* (4, 1978-1995; e.g., *E* 40:15), and *Hawai'i* (9, 1977-2008; e.g., *E* 38:7, [HRBP](#) 5048, 5503, published *NAB* 62:322). Most individuals have been with other *Aythya* ducks, particularly at Waipi'o and the Punamano Unit of JCNWR, O'ahu; Kealia Pond NWR, Maui; and Aimakapa and Loko Waka ponds, Hawai'i. Three together at Waipi'o 5-18 Dec 1982 ([HRBP](#) 0524) with scaup is the high count for the Southeastern Islands; as many as five were reported at this time but we consider this many unsubstantiated. The earliest fall arrival occurred 23 Oct (1994, Kailua, O'ahu) and the latest spring record was for 1 Apr (1985, Punamano). There are no records of over-summering birds in the Hawaiian Islands.

### [Acronyms and Abbreviations](#)

### [Literature cited](#)

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