

COMMON POCHARD

Aythya ferina

non-breeding visitor, vagrant

monotypic

The Common Pochard breeds in Iceland and across n. Eurasia and winters S to n. Africa, India, and Japan (Dement'ev and Gladkov 1952, Cramp and Simmons 1977, AOU 1998). In the Pacific, vagrants have reached w. Micronesia (Wiles et al. 2004), as well as *Midway* in the *Northwestern Hawaiian Islands*, where there are two substantiated records. Grant and Petit (1981) observed and photographed a first-fall individual or female 22 Nov-10 Dec 1979 ([HRBP](#) 0112-0114 published *E* 41:83 and Engilis et al. 2004). Although considered an unidentified *Aythya* duck at the time, it was subsequently confirmed as a Common Pochard by ornithologists viewing the photographs (Engilis et al. 2004). The second record is of 3 males present 4-18 May 1995. Descriptions eliminate the similar [Canvasback](#) and [Redhead](#), and the May date is consistent with the later timing of migration of Common Pochard, which can arrive on Siberian breeding grounds as late as the end of May (Dement'ev and Gladkov 1952) in contrast to March-April arrivals (and departures from Hawaii) for Canvasback and Redhead. There are also two unsubstantiated records of individuals at Paiola Pond, Moloka'i 11 Nov 1994 and Aimakapa Pond, Hawai'i 28 Feb 1985 (see Engilis et al. 2004).

[Acronyms and Abbreviations](#)

[Literature cited](#)

Citation: Pyle, R.L., and P. Pyle. 2009. The Birds of the Hawaiian Islands: Occurrence, History, Distribution, and Status. B.P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, HI, U.S.A. Version 1 (31 December 2009) <http://hbs.bishopmuseum.org/birds/rlp-monograph/>