

OVERVIEW OF FERRUGINOUS DUCK IN TURKEY

KIRAZ ERIYAS

Background Information

Turkey holds both breeding and wintering Ferruginous Ducks. The species is chiefly migratory, although some breeding birds are thought to be resident. The Ferruginous Duck is very rare in the south-east, and locally distributed in western Turkey and Anatolia. During migration and in cold years, birds prefer places like Mogan Golu, Uluabat Golu and Milas Tuzla in the south. Ferruginous Duck prefer fairly shallow expanses of water, rich in submerged and floating vegetation, fringed by dense stands of emergent plants, such as reeds. Saline, brackish or alkaline wetlands are commonly utilised for breeding.

Conservation Status for Ferruginous Duck in Turkey

The Ferruginous Duck is fully protected

from hunting in Turkey under Terrestrial Hunting Law No. 3167.

Distribution and Population

Some 600-700 pairs of Ferruginous Duck breed in Turkey, and 1 000-1 500 individuals winter. The species occurs on 18 IBAs, six of which have no protection (Table 1).

Threats

The Ferruginous Duck faces the following threats in Turkey:

- ✓ Habitat loss/habitat degradation: dam and barrage construction, reed-cutting, illegal tree felling, sand extraction from dune complexes, abstraction of water for irrigation, conversion of mudflats into arable land.
- ✓ Hunting: Illegal hunting, out of season hunting, accidental shooting.

● Breeding areas ● Wintering areas

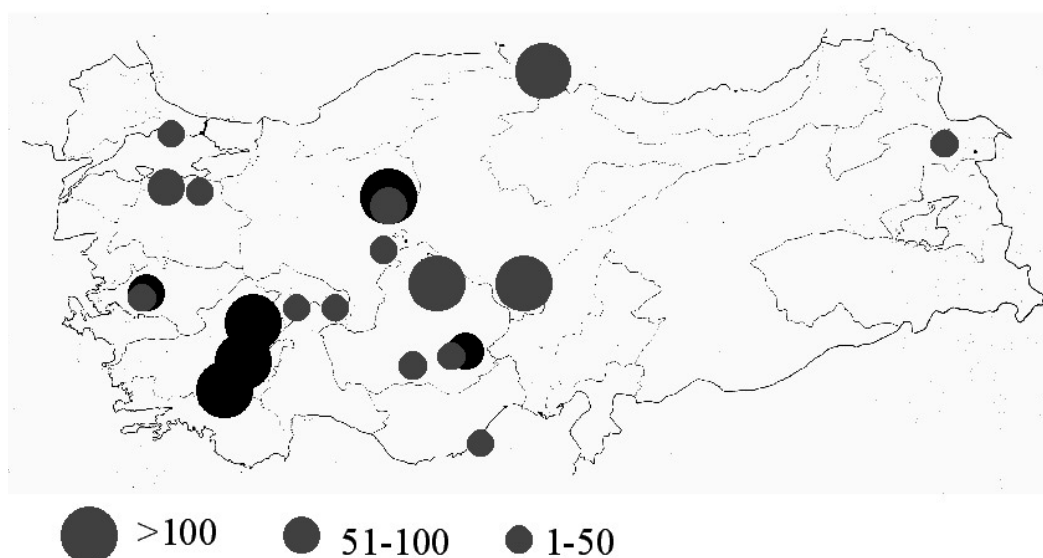


Fig. 1: Ferruginous Duck Distribution in Turkey

Table 1. Key sites for Ferruginous Duck in Turkey. Key: BP - breeding pairs; P - passage, W - winter.

Area	Criteria	Conservation Status
Kulu Golu	>100 P	Declared an SYT in 1992
Uluabat Golu	15 W	None
Kocacay Delta	70-100 BP	None
Marmara Golu	25 BP, >100 W	None
Ysikli Golu	>97 W	None
Corak Golu	100 W	None
Salda Golu	Max. 400 W	Declared an SYT in 1989, but this was modified in 1992 to allow limited construction activities
Karamik Sazligi	10 BP	Declared an SYT in 1993
Aksehir-Eber Golu	>20 BP	Aksehir and Eber Lakes were declared an SYT in 1992
Mogan Golu	>100 P, >100W	Declared a Specially Protected Area in 1990
Uyuz Golu	10 BP	Declared an SYT in 1992
Sultansazligi	100 P, 40 BP	Declared a Permanent Wildlife Reserve in 1971, Nature Reserve in 1988, SYT in 1993 and designated as one of Turkey's first five Ramsar sites in 1994
Kizilirmak Delta	150-200BP, >20W	Cernek Golu and its surroundings were declared a Permanent Wildlife Reserve in 1979. In 1994, most of the eastern half of the delta was declared an SYT. A management plan for the delta was completed and enforced by the Ministry of Public Works in 1996
Buyukcekmece Golu	Breeds	The lake has Drinking Water Reservoir status which theoretically offers basin-wide protection
Eregli Sazligi	10 BP	Declared an SYT in 1992, and a Nature Reserve in 1995
Hotamys Sazligi	89 W	Northern half declared an SYT in 1992
Goksu Delta	30 BP	In 1989 the main wetland areas were declared a Permanent Wildlife Reserve. The whole delta was declared a Specially Protected Area in 1990 and ultimate planning control therefore lies with the Authority for the Protection of Special Areas. Declared a Ramsar site in 1994 and an SYT in 1996.
Dogubeyazit Sazligi	10 BP	None

- √ Human disturbance: Construction of holiday homes and tourist facilities (e.g. at Salda Golu), pollution, untreated sewage entering lakes.
- √ Climate change.
- √ Lack of strict implementation of management plans .
- √ Lack of long-term conservation strategies.
- √ Lack of knowledge.

Conservation Priorities

- √ Promote the full protection of the Ferruginous Duck and its habitat.
- √ Promote adequate protection and management of key sites
- √ Locate and assess the status of key areas.
- √ Monitor adequately the remaining population.