

# Fulvous Whistling-Duck

*Dendrocygna bicolor*

One of the most widespread species of waterfowl in the world, the Fulvous Whistling-Duck has a limited distribution in the southern United States. Its mostly seed-based diet makes it fond of rice-growing areas.

## Keys to Identification

### Adult Description

- A medium-sized duck with long neck and legs.
- Head, neck, chest and belly buffy to tawny-cinnamon.

### Immature Description

- Juvenile similar to adult.

## Cool Facts

- In some ways, whistling-ducks act more like swans than ducks. The male helps to take care of the offspring and a mated pair stays bonded for many years.
- Unlike many other ducks which have elaborate courtship displays, whistling-ducks appear to have none.
- The Fulvous Whistling-Duck is a frequent nest parasite, laying eggs in other Fulvous Whistling-Duck nests, as well as the nests of other duck species. These other duck species often lay their eggs in Fulvous Whistling-Duck nests as well.

## Measurements

### Both Sexes

- Length - 17.3 - 20.1 inches
- Weight - 21 - 34 ounces

