

# Reddish Egret

*Egretta rufescens*

A medium to large heron of shallow salt water, the Reddish Egret comes in a dark and a white form. It is a very active forager, often seen running, jumping, and spinning in its pursuit of fish.

## Keys to Identification

### Adult Description

- Medium to large heron.
- Bill pink at base, black at tip.
- Dark phase all dark gray with a reddish neck.
- White form all white with two-toned bill and dark gray legs.

### Immature Description

Similar to adult, but dark phase paler and more washed out.

## Conservation

There is little information on Reddish Egret population trends or numbers, but the species appears to be declining. The North American Waterbird Conservation Plan estimates a continental population of 6,000-10,000 breeding birds, rates the species about a 15 out of 20 on the Continental Concern Score, and lists it as a Species of Moderate Concern. Reddish Egret is on the 2014 State of the Birds Watch List, which lists bird species that are at risk of becoming threatened or endangered without conservation action.

## Measurements

### Both Sexes

- Length - 27.6 - 31.5 inches
- Weight - 24.7 - 30 ounces

