

## Common Name West Indian whistling duck

Scientific Name Dendrocygna arborea

FAMILY: Anatidae ORDER: Anseriformes

AZA MANEGMENT: Provisional SSP

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	GLO	GILA		NAI	GL

EUROPE	Cuba, Bahamas
ASIA	
NORTH AMERICA	
X NEOTROPICAL	
AFRICA	
AUSTRALIA	
OTHER	

## **A**HABITAT

	DESERT
	GRASSLAND
X	COASTAL
	RIVERINE

**MONTANE** 

OTHER

**FOREST** 

## → CIRCADIAN CYCLE

		DIURNAL
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FIB	9.7
447	100

## **TEMPERATURE TOLERANCE**



From <u>30° F</u> to <u>110° F</u>

<b>Ď</b> DIET	
FRUGIVORE	NECTIVORE
CARNIVORE	OMNIVORE
PISCIVORE	FOLIVORE
INSECTIVORE	XOTHER
	owl breeder, greens, insects
Wild: grasses, fruits, ber	ries, seeds and grains

## **O** LIFE EXPECTANCY

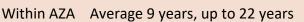
Median Life Expectancy

Maximum Longevity

Within AZA Average 9 years, up to 22 years



In the Wild Unknown







Χ	CREPUSCULAR
X	NOCTURNAL
	OTHER

#### **BREEDING INFORMATION**



Unknown

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#### **AGE AT SEXUAL MATURITY**

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1 year

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2 years

Incubation period: 30 days

Fledgling Period: 24-48 hours



#### **NEST SITE DESCRIPTION**

Leaf-lined depressions on ground, no down lining



## CLUTCH SIZE, & EGG DESCRIPTION



6-10 eggs



#### **CHICK DEVELOPMENT**

Typical duckling development



#### **PARENTAL CARE**

Both parents protect the young

# CAPTIVE HABITAT INFORMATION



#### **SOCIAL STRUCTURE**

In the Wild: Whistling ducks are assumed to be monogamous, but this has not been well documented. They may stay with the same mate from one year to the next. Offspring may stay with parents up to a year in the wild, but the parents do not tolerate their older offspring as well during nesting.

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#### **MIXED SPECIES EXHIBITS**

Compatible in mixed species exhibits?

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NO

**Comments:** Can be housed with flamingos, waterfowl, ibis, shorebirds, small mammals and more!



#### **OPTIMAL HABITAT SIZE**

For two birds: freshwater pond at least 12 inches deep and water surface of 25 square feet. Varied substrate including some of the following: soil, sand, vegetation, mulch, concrete. Exhibit space of at least 225 square feet

In Captivity: Unknown

**Minimum Group Size: 2** 

Maximum Group Size: As many as your pond

and habitat will allow

## **MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES**

Birds can be more dominant during introductions with other species, but usually settle in peaceably once an understanding has been reached with the other species. Be vigilant with older or compromised animals. Assertive displacement usually only lasts a few days

#### ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

As with most whistling ducks, this species spends more time on land that other typical duck species. During chick-rearing, they will spend much more time on the water

#### **Q** REFERENCES

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Gwen Harris Date: 11/1/2017