

# Common Name Atlantic puffin

Scientific Name: Fratercula arctica

FAMILY: Alcidae

ORDER: Charadriiformes
AZA MANAGEMENT: Studbook

<b>♥</b> GEOGRAPHIC RAN

X EUROPE

ASIA

x NORTH AMERICA

NEOTROPICAL

AFRICA

AUSTRALIA

OTHER

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# TEMPERATURE TOLERANCE



From <u>°40 F</u> to <u>°60 F</u>

<b>Ď</b> DIET	
<del></del>	
FRUGIVORE	NECTIVORE
CARNIVORE	OMNIVORE
X PISCIVORE	FOLIVORE
INSECTIVORE	OTHER
Captive Dietary Needs: Capelin	n, Smelt, Silversides, Krill, Herring

# **A**HABITAT

FOREST

And Atlantic waters

"North Atlantic": Maine, to high Arctic in eastern

northern Russia, south to

Canada and east to

northern France.

DESERT

GRASSLAND

x COASTAL

RIVERINE

MONTANE

OTHER

# CIRCADIAN CYCLE

x DIURNAL

CREPUSCULAR

NOCTURNAL

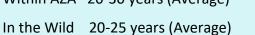
OTHER

# **Use EXPECTANCY**

Median Life Expectancy

Maximum Longevity

Within AZA 20-30 years (Average)



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Within AZA 20-30 years (Average)



In the Wild 20-25 years (Average)

### **BREEDING INFORMATION**



### **AGE AT SEXUAL MATURITY**



Males 3-5 Years



Females 3-5 years

Incubation period: Both sexes incubate; 39-45

Fledgling Period: 43-52 days

# **CLUTCH SIZE, & EGG DESCRIPTION**



Pairs typically lay one egg, a second may be laid if the first is lost early in incuabtion

# **COURTSHIP DISPLAYS**

Courtship displays occur on water and land. (Most successful copulations occur on water.) Males will perform sexual nodding; rapid head jerks, like a hiccup, raising their bill vertically, accompanied by soft vocalizations. Billing also occurs between mates. Mates will lower their heads, point their bills downward, and touch their closed bills together.

### **NEST SITE DESCRIPTION**

Rock crevice or burrow

### CHICK DEVELOPMENT

Chicks remain in the nest until fledging and are completely independent when they leave the nest. Typically they leave the nest at night, to avoid predation. In captivity, chicks can be pulled before fledging, to be introduced back to the exhibit after fledging.



### PARENTAL CARE

Both parents feed from hatch to fledging. One parent remains in the nest with the chick at all times, the other then forages

# CAPTIVE HABITAT **INFORMATION**



### **SOCIAL STRUCTURE**

In the wild: Colonial

In Captivity: Colonial

**Minimum Group Size: 1.1** 

Maximum Group Size: Limited by exhibit size

### **MIXED SPECIES EXHIBITS**

Compatible in mixed species exhibits?

x YES

**Comments:** Other alcids and waterfowl primarily. Hybridization is possible with Horned puffins.



### OPTIMAL HABITAT SIZE

There are not currently any published exhibit standards at this time. With that, pool/water space should be ample to allow the entire collection to utilize it comfortably at the same time. The land space should be the same, with some sort of burrows, or access to burrows built into the exhibit.



### MANAGEMENT CHALLENGES

Life support to maintain chilled water and air are the main challenges.

# **ADDITIONAL COMMENTS**

Species photo credit: Mike Aguilera, SeaWorld photographer

# **Q** REFERENCES

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Johnsgard, Paul A. (1987). Diving Birds of North America. University of Nebraska Press

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http://projectpuffin.audubon.org/atlantic-puffin-3

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