

## GADWALL

*Anas strepera*

**non-breeding visitor, vagrant**

*A.s. strepera*

The Gadwall is found fairly commonly in N. America and Eurasia, breeding in subarctic and temperate latitudes and wintering to Mexico and the Caribbean (Dement'ev and Gladkov 1952, Cramp and Simmons 1977, AOU 1998). It occurs less commonly in the Pacific than the other widespread holarctic duck species, having occurred only occasionally in w. Micronesia (Wiles 2005) and visiting the Hawaiian Islands (primarily the Southeastern Group) rarely in winter. Lack of genetic infusion may have led to the evolution of a small subspecies (*A.s. couesi*, now extinct) reported from Washington I., 1795 km S of Honolulu (Streets 1876, 1877a); remaining populations are of the nominate subspecies.

There are records for just 6 Gadwalls from the *Northwestern Hawaiian Islands*. On Sand I., *Midway*, 1 male was collected 3 Dec 1963 (Fisher 1965; whereabouts of specimen unknown), 1 male and 2 females were observed 28 Nov 1979-13 Mar 1980 (Grant and Pettit 1981, [HRBP](#) 0117-0118), and 1 female was observed in Dec 2010-Jan 2011 ([HRBP](#) 5996). A "possible" Gadwall was also reported from Midway 2-6 Dec 1971 (*E* 32:78). At Tern I., *French Frigate*, a male was found dead and badly decomposed 7 Dec 1967 (Amerson 1971). In the *Southeastern Hawaiian Islands* Gadwalls have appeared occasionally in winter on ponds at a few favored localities on the larger islands. The first confirmed record for Hawaii was of a specimen (BPBM 7066, first-fall male) collected at Pala'au, Moloka'i 3 Nov 1902 (BPBM 7066; Munro 1944), although Perkins (1903) reported that sportsmen had previously noticed it as a rare migrant to O'ahu. Recent records on *O'ahu* have included a [minimum](#) of 21 individuals recorded in 1967-2011 (e.g., *E* 28:6, 29:73, 38:102; [HRBP](#) 5994; published *NAB* 64:341). Minimum numbers of individuals recorded on the other Southeastern Islands include *Moloka'i* (10, 1985-2014; e.g., [HRBP](#) 5260), *Maui* (4, 1988-2014), and *Hawai'i* (15, 1986-2015; e.g., [HRBP](#) 5619, 5995, *NAB* 61:530), and *Kaua'i* (5, 1992-2013). The high counts were of 5 birds in Pearl Harbor, O'ahu 16 Dec 1989 and at various locations on Moloka'i 11 Dec 2007-17 Feb 2008. There are no records of over-summering individuals; the earliest fall record is for 23 Sep (2013, Kaua'i Lagoons, Kaua'i) and the latest spring record is for 20 Apr (2007, Hilo, Hawai'i). Many individuals have been recorded returning to the same location for up to five consecutive winters.

### [Acronyms and Abbreviations](#)

### [Literature cited](#)

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