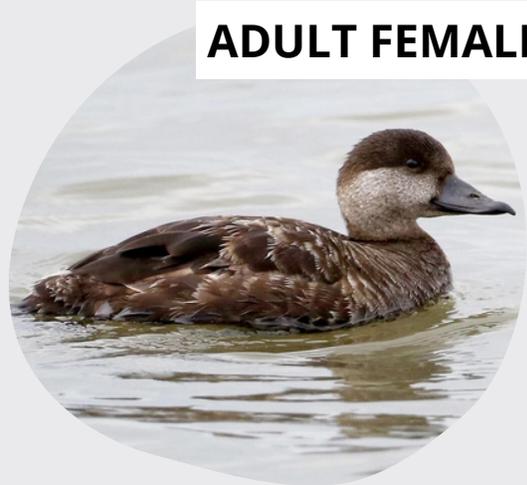


ADULT MALE



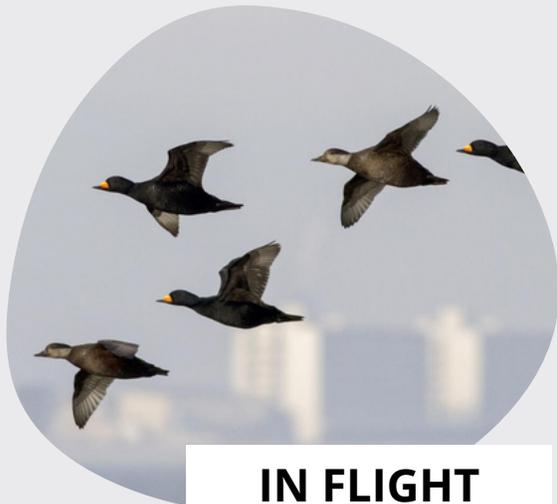
ADULT FEMALE



IN FLIGHT



IN FLIGHT



2027 ART COMPETITION SPECIES:

BLACK SCOTER

(MELANITTA AMERICANA)

FAMILY

Anatidae

ABOUT

The Black Scoter is a stocky, medium-sized sea duck that can be found on both the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of Canada, breeding on lakes in the northern Boreal forest. Both males and females have a short tail and rounded head. Breeding males are black with a orange knob at the base of their bill. Females are brown with a brown cap with contrasting patterned pale cheeks.

Black Scoters are commonly found in flocks. Males perform an elaborate mating display, and females, once interested, join in the dance.

During breeding season, Black Scoters feed primarily on insects and small crustaceans, while in winter they dive for crustaceans and shellfish.

HABITAT

Black Scoters are ground nesting birds that nest near the edges of shallow, small lakes with emerging vegetation and rocky bottoms. They nest in the Boreal Forest in the far North, both in the Western and Eastern parts of North America. The Western population breeds in Alaska and Northern Yukon, and winters along the Pacific Coast. The Atlantic population breeds in the Northwest Territories, and the northern regions of Manitoba, Ontario, and Quebec, as well as Newfoundland and Labrador. This population winters along the Atlantic Coast, as well as the Great Lakes.

CONSERVATION STATUS

The official IUCN conservation status of the Black Scoter is Near Threatened. The Canadian breeding population is estimated at 700,000, with a global population estimated at 900,000. Because of their remote breeding locations, their populations are not well known.

References

- https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black_Scoter/overview
- https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black_Scoter/lifehistory
- https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black_Scoter/id
- <https://naturecounts.ca/nc/socb-epoc/species.jsp?sp=blksco2>

Photo Credits (from top to bottom)

- 1: https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black_Scoter/photo-gallery/63901791
- 2: https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black_Scoter/photo-gallery/63901791
- 3: https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black_Scoter/photo-gallery/63901791
- 4: https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Black_Scoter/photo-gallery/63901791

2027 ART COMPETITION SPECIES:
BLACK SCOTER
(MELANITTA AMERICANA)

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