

African Spoonbill

Platalea alba



Range: Sub-Saharan Africa
Size: ♂: 90 cm (36 in)
♀: 90 cm (36 in)
Weight ♂: 1.3-2.1 kg (2.9-4.6 lb)
♀: 1.3-2.1 kg (2.9-4.6 lb)
Wing: 36.5-40.3 cm (14-15.9 in)
Habitat: marshes and swamp
Incubation: 28-30 days
Eggs: 3-5
Fledge: 3-4 weeks
Sexual maturity: 24-36 month
Nest: flat oval platform
Social: gregarious
Breeding: monogamous
Movement : Sedentary
Food: aquatic invertebrates
fish
IUCN: least concern
Subspecies : monotypic
Longevity: captive: 30 yrs
Wild:



Order: Ciconiiformes Family: Threskiornithidae

The African Spoonbill is unmistakable in its range as no other bird possesses its spatulate bill. The male and female are alike in both appearance and size.

This species is diurnal and feeds near the shore of shallow water. It feeds by wading into the water and moving its slightly open bill back and forth. If a prey item touches its highly sensitive bill it will close its bill quickly.

The population is both widespread and stable. It is listed as Least Concern. However it is protected under the

Agreement on the Conservation of African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbirds (AEWA).