

Hardhead

Hardhead

Female

Male

Conservation status

[Least Concern](#) (IUCN 3.1)^[1]

Scientific classification

[Edit this classification](#)

Domain: [Eukaryota](#)
Kingdom: [Animalia](#)
Phylum: [Chordata](#)
Class: [Aves](#)
Order: [Anseriformes](#)
Family: [Anatidae](#)
Genus: [Aythya](#)
Species: ***A. australis***

Binomial name

Aythya australis
([Eyton](#), 1838)

Subspecies

- *A. a. extima* ([Mayr](#), 1940)
(disputed)
- *A. a. australis* ([Eyton](#), 1838)

Synonyms

Nyroca australis [Eyton](#), 1838

The **hardhead** (*Aythya australis*), also known as the **white eyed duck**, is the only true [diving duck](#) found in [Australia](#). The common name "hardhead" has nothing to do with the hardness of the bird's [skull](#), instead referring to the difficulty encountered by early [taxidermists](#) in studying the head. Hardheads are found in wetter, coastal regions of Australia, particularly in the south-east, but are known to live as far as [New Guinea](#), [New Zealand](#), and the [Pacific Islands](#).

References

[[change](#) | [change source](#)]

1. [↑ BirdLife International](#) (2012). "*Aythya australis*". *IUCN Red List of Threatened Species*. **2012**. Retrieved 26 November 2013.

Retrieved from "<https://simple.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Hardhead&oldid=9773550>"