



www.ultimaarcadenoe.com.br

Documented record of American Coot *Fulica americana* Gmelin, 1789, (Birds, RALLIDAE) in Aruba, Caribbean.

Documented record of American Coot *Fulica americana* Gmelin, 1789, (Birds, RALLIDAE) in Aruba, Caribbean.

Antonio Silveira R. dos Santos
Environmental Program: The Last Noah's Ark
www.ultimaarcadenoe.com.br

Abstract. The author present record of *Fulica americana*, or American Coot in wetland of Aruba, Caribbean 18.11.2012. A rare video and photo record of this species in this region.

The American Coot (*Fulica americana*) is a bird of Rallidae family which large range from Canada, several places in United States, Central America, north of South America and many islands of Caribbean (TAYLOR,1998).

More specifically in Anguilla; Antigua and Barbuda; Aruba; Bahamas; Barbados; Belize; Bermuda; Bolivia, Plurinational States of; Bonaire, Sint Eustatius and Saba; Canada; Cayman Islands; Colombia; Costa Rica; Cuba; Curaçao; Dominica; Dominican Republic; El Salvador; Guatemala; Haiti; Honduras; Jamaica; Martinique; Mexico; Montserrat; Nicaragua; Panama; Puerto Rico; Saint Kitts and Nevis; Saint Lucia; Saint Pierre and Miquelon; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; Sint Maarten (Dutch part); Turks and Caicos Islands; United States; Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of; Virgin Islands, British; Virgin Islands, U.S. (IUCN 2013). Is a migratory species.

Fulica americana lives near water like lakes, lagoons, ponds and open marshes and wetlands. This species prefer freshwater but in winter it is forced to shift temporarily to saltwater (TAYLOR,1998).

As a result of studies and surveys conducted on the Aruba island, from November 2010 (PROGRAM AMBIENTAL: A ÚLTIMA ARCA DE NOÉ, 2013), on 17 and 18 November, 2012, in the morning, the author observed, and recorded by photo (below) and video (YOUTUBE) an individual *Fulica americana* swimming and feeding on the lagoon of Bubali Bird Sanctuary (12°33 '41.56 " S/70°02'54.09"W).



www.ultimaarcadenoe.com.br

Documented record of American Coot *Fulica americana* Gmelin, 1789, (Birds, RALLIDAE) in Aruba, Caribbean.

Despite its large range it seems that *Fulica americana* had not yet been registered with documents (photos, videos) in the wetlands of Aruba, hence our resolution disclose records in this simple note with the main purpose of helping in the knowledge of this species and its protection.

References

BIRDLIFE INTERNATIONAL 2013. *Fulica americana*. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species. Version 2013. <www.iucnredlist.org>. <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/22692923/0> Downloaded on 04 December 2013.

PROGRAMA AMBIENTAL: A ÚLTIMA ARCA DE NOÉ. 2011. *Birds of Aruba* . in <<http://www.ultimaarcadenoe.com.br/birds-of-aruba/> > Downloaded on 04 December 2013.

TAYLOR,B. 1998. *Rails. A guide to the rails, crokes, gallinules and coots of the world*. Yale University Press.London.

YOUTUBE. <<http://youtu.be/FBgzOtnXGtg> >. Downloaded on 04 December 2013.

Photo by author:



Bubali Bird Sanctuary, Aruba, Caribbean, 18.11.2013.