

## A survey on water birds fauna in Dez Protected area in Khuzestan province

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### Abstract

In this study, water birds fauna of Dez Protected Area in Khuzestan province was investigated in 1392. This study is one of the most initial studies in this area. 33 species of birds that concerned to 6 orders and 13 families identified 10 water birds and 23 shore birds were estimated that was including %6.5 of total species, %17.5 of total families and %21 of total orders of declared species in Iran. In this survey, observed species dedicated to %21 species, %54 of families and %85 of orders into Iran water birds. In studied study area 9 endemic species, 23 migratory species, 3 semi migratory species and 2 crossing migratory species was identified 9 endemic. Also 15 species were seen in all seasons and just 4 species for one season. Observation of bird fauna in Iran showed that species richness was enough high in the study area. In spring 26 taxa, summer and winter 25 taxa and autumn 21 taxa were attended. The most frequency of bird's observation was in winter and the least frequency was in summer. Based on results, Dez protected area supported abundant species during a year. To observation of rare and world endangered species like as Marbled teal (Marmaronetta angustirostris), Ferruginous Duck (Aythya nyroca) and Socotra Cormorant (Phalacrocorax nigrogularis) and also species that are faced to declining of population like Pygmy Cormorant (Phalacrocorax pygmeus) and other species implicated to importance of this habitat and locating on world important birds migration routes more studies shall be done. So that the present survey is a primary study about Dez protected area's bird fauna and because of equality of species richness in the year of study, it suggests to do detailed study in order to birds monitoring during 4 seasons of year.

**Keywords:** Water birds, Wintering migratory birds, Dez Protected Area, Charadriiformes.