

# Ruddy duck in Germany - update 2024

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**Bern Convention:** Expert meeting on the implementation of the Action Plan for the Eradication of the Ruddy duck in the Western Palaerctic, 2021-2025

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## Status in the wild 2023-2024

- Sources:
  - Records from ornitho.de
  - Records from GBIF (different citizen science platforms for Germany included)
  - Information from the federal states
- Sightings cannot be attributed to specific individuals
- Records from citizen science platforms are partly unchecked
- Sightings may not be recorded or not be made publicly available

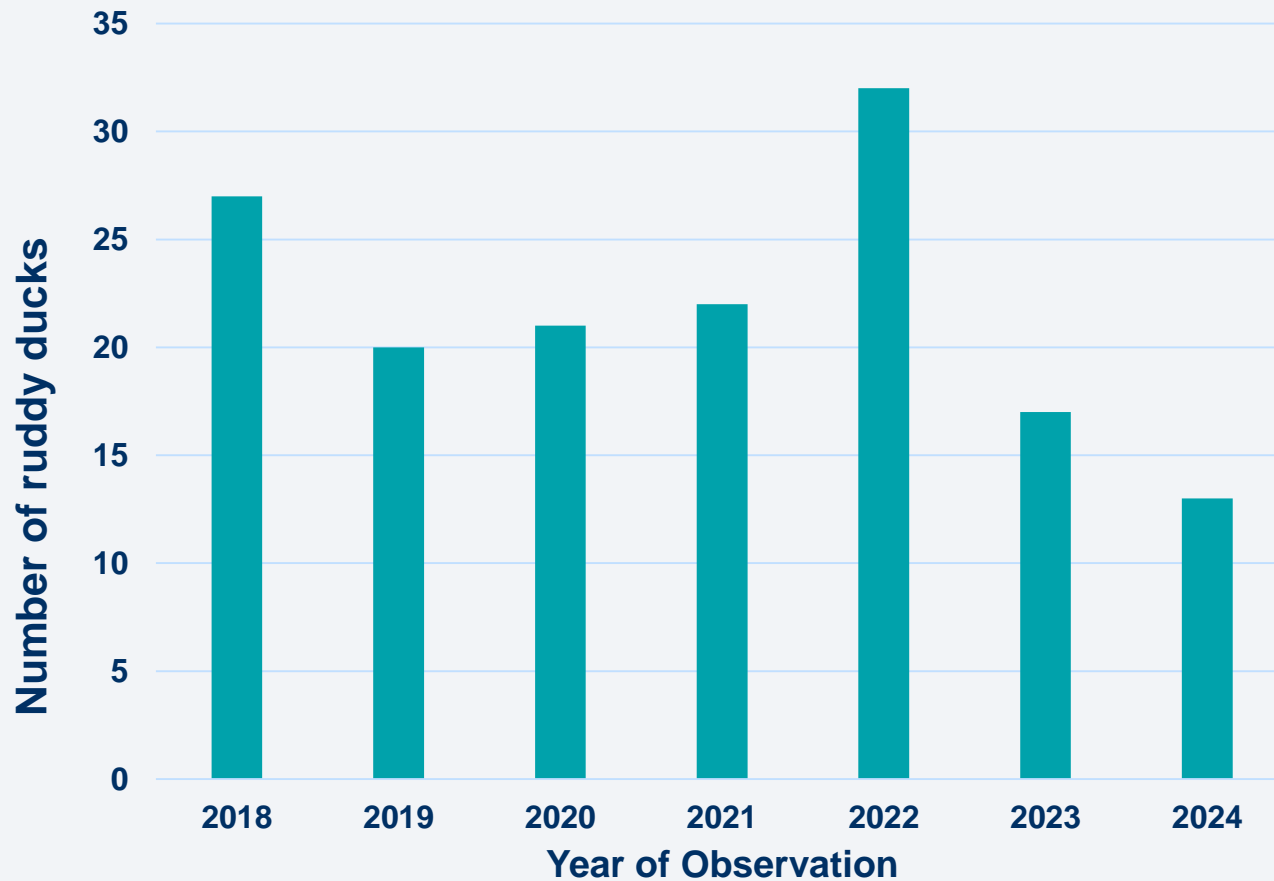
## Wild ruddy ducks in Germany

	Indiv. 2022	Indiv. 2023	Indiv. 2024
<b>Baden-Württemberg</b>	1	1	0
<b>Bavaria</b>	2	3	1
<b>Berlin</b>	0	0	0
<b>Brandenburg</b>	6	0	1
<b>Bremen</b>	1	0	0
<b>Hamburg</b>	0	0	0
<b>Hesse</b>	1	1	0
<b>Mecklenburg-Vorpommern</b>	2	0	0
<b>Lower Saxony</b>	8	2	3
<b>North Rhine-Westphalia</b>	1	0	1
<b>Rhineland-Palatinate</b>	0	0	0
<b>Saarland</b>	0	1	0
<b>Saxony</b>	0	0	0
<b>Saxony-Anhalt</b>	0	0	0
<b>Schleswig-Holstein</b>	9	7	6
<b>Thuringia</b>	1	2	1

## Wild ruddy ducks in Germany

peak wintering numbers 2023/2024: 14  
number of sites with wintering birds: 15  
peak summering birds 2024: 11 (sites: 8)  
no breeding birds.  
Bird controlled 2023/2024: 2

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- Main occurrence is still in the northwest federal states
- A large number of the birds are only observed sporadically
- Only two areas with continuous sightings of 1-2 birds each (SH, NI)
- It's difficult to determine the true number of birds in Germany
- Number of birds seems to be declining

## Wild ruddy ducks in Germany

- There seems to be a very small stable population in Germany with additional (new) birds that are only sporadically being observed
- Mainly single individuals are reported
- No indication of breeding

## Eradication measures in Germany

- Eradication has proven difficult, 2 birds were taken in 23/24
- Sites with sporadic sightings offer no realistic chance of effective measures
- Sites with regular sightings are the focus of eradication
- Shooting is often difficult:
  - Ruddy duck in flocks with other ducks
  - Sites are often not remote
- Ongoing efforts:
  - Increase hunting effort (e.g. use active attraction measure)
  - Life-trapping with a cage is considered for certain sites

# Acknowledgements

Dachverband Deutscher Avifaunisten (DDA): provided data from *ornitho.de* and gave permission for use

Colleagues from other federal states provided various kinds of information