

The Harlequin Duck - 60-Second – Captioned for the Visually Impaired

MUSIC: "HINTERLAND WHO'S WHO" THEME

ANNOUNCER: (V.O.):

Harlequin ducks are one of the most distinctive of Canada's sea ducks. They go by many names, including lords and ladies, rock ducks, and sea mice.

[Harlequin ducks swimming]

They are found on both east and west coasts. The eastern population is endangered, and there is growing concern about the western harlequins.

[Harlequin duck on a rock]

The adult male is a striking bird. The female and immature birds are more drab. This small diving duck is an expert underwater forager.

Their breeding patterns have been compared to those of salmon. In the early spring, harlequins nest near fast-flowing inland fresh water streams.

[Harlequin duck and younglings swimming]

They return to salt water coastal areas in the fall and winter.

For more information on the harlequin duck, write to the Canadian Wildlife Service in Ottawa, K1A 0H3.