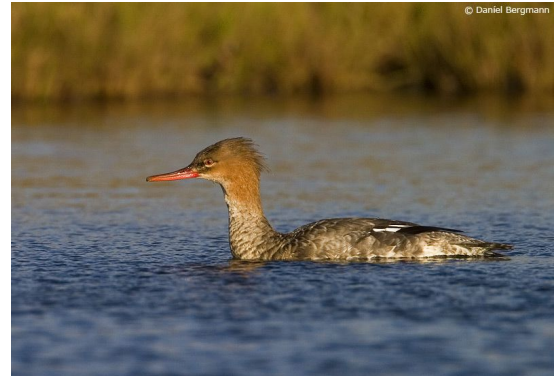


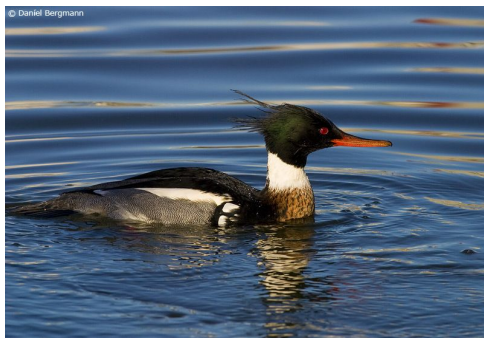
Red-breasted Merganser

Mergus serrator

The Red-breasted Merganser is Iceland's commonest sawbill. They are slender, long-necked and streamlined birds. They have a long narrow bill, and noticeably spiky crest on nape. Adults in breeding plumage have a metallic green head, dark back, grey flanks with a white stripe above, white neck



and brown-dappled breast. Females are largely greyish-brown, head is light reddish-brown with a wispy crest, neck of the same colour and light foreneck shading into the grey breast. Fly fast and low with strong wingbeats, often in small groups.



Nest by lakes, rivers and seashore, mainly in lowlands and rarely in highlands. In winter they go out to sea. Part of the Icelandic population winters in British Isles.

Jóhann Óli Hilmarsson. (2005). Icelandic bird guide. Reykjavík: Iðunn.

Images: Daníel Bergmann, taken from

<https://www.ni.is/biota/animalia/chordata/aves/anseriformes/toppond-mergus-serrator>

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