

## The Extraordinary Common Murre



- **Stands erect - about 1 foot tall and 1 Kg in weight**
- **Walks like a penguin**
- **10 - 15 % have a white spectacle and eye line [centre murre above]**
- **Long-lived - 20 - 30 years or more**
- **Largest colony of the species is on flat ground on Funk Island**
- **Generally mate monogamously for life**
- **Lays a single large pyriform egg**
- **Egg is incubated on rock [no nest] for about 1 month**
- **Highest wing-loading [weight/area] of any bird that flies**
- **Deepest diving bird of any bird that flies - maximum depth = 200 meters**
- **Only penguins dive deeper**
- **Flies under water to capture fish**
- **Primary food is capelin - both parents carry 1 fish at a time to their chick**
- **When ~3 weeks old the chick goes to sea with the male; female remains at the colony**
- **After about 2 months the fledgling is independent**

