

GULLS

- Gulls or popularly known as sea gulls are of many species and most of them are found near the sea shore, cities near the sea shore, and coastal wetlands.
- Sea gulls feed on fishes and are very intelligent, for example, they drop shells from heights to break open shells.
- They exhibit parental care by protecting their chicks fiercely. They have adapted to surviving in cities by scavenging, and following fishing boats.

DESCRIPTION

Length: Range in size from the Little Gull (30 cm) to the Great Black-backed Gull (76 cm)

Habitat: Freshwater, brackish water, and marine

Distribution: Found in across the globe

Diet: Fishes, molluscs, and crustaceans

Photo: Shutterstock



IMPORTANCE

- Gulls are extremely adaptable species group that can live in varied habitats.
- Their changing diet from fishes to processed foods is a reflection of increasing fishing pressures.

FUN FACT

Water water everywhere, not a drop to drink!

Gulls have a special gland that filters salt making them able to drink sea water!

INFORMATION

The most commonly seen species of gulls in India are the brown-headed gull and the black-headed gull.

THREATS

Unregulated fishing leading to prey base depletion, improper waste management leading to scavenging on garbage, and climate crisis

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