

# Snowy Egret: *Egretta thula*



**S**nowy Egrets feed on small fish, other small vertebrates and invertebrates. This species either stalks or uses its feet to stir up the mud to flush its prey out. The Snowy Egret, as with all egrets and herons, do not show sexual dimorphism (difference in form between the sexes).

This species is found around both freshwater and saltmarsh habitats, roosting or building nests in colonies in trees near water. The Snowy Egret is small, standing 20-27 in. high with a 38 in. wingspan. It has all-white plumage, a dark bill with yellow around the eyes and dark legs with yellow feet, setting it apart from the larger Great Egret.

The Snowy Egret was brought to the brink of extinction in the 19th century because of its fine plumage that was used to decorate hats. They are now protected in the United States, under the U.S. Migratory Bird Treaty Act and are no longer threatened.



Breeding plumage