

BLUE THROATED MACAW

Ara glaucogularis



This is one of the rarest birds in the world with only around 250 individuals left in the wilds of Northern Bolivia, with numbers still decreasing.



Blue-throated Macaw chicks hatched September 2009 at Linton Zoo, pictured 3 weeks old.

Pet trade and habitat destruction plays a major role in their decline and, being a smaller bird, they find it hard to compete with the larger macaws for nesting sites.

With so few birds left in the wild there are fears that inbreeding within an increasingly fragmented population is resulting in reduced fertility of wild birds, so breeding programmes in zoos could be the key their future survival.



FACTS & FIGURES	
Where found	North Bolivia in South America
Habitat	Savannah nesting in 'forest islands'
Diet	Seeds, fruits, nuts, leaf buds
Average length	85cm
Average weight	1-1.5kg
Number of eggs	1-3
Incubation	23-27 days

Due to land clearance for cattle ranching the islands of Palm trees where the macaws usually nest are becoming few and far between leaving the Blue-throats competing for nest sites with Blue and Gold macaws, Toucans and large Woodpeckers.

International Union for Conservation of Nature RED LIST
for the Blue Throated Macaw



THE RISK OF EXTINCTION FOR THIS SPECIES HAS CURRENTLY BEEN ASSESSED AS *CRITICALLY ENDANGERED* IUCN RED LIST