CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Blue-footed Booby

Sula nebouxii

The blue feet are a live, continuously updated health certificate. Their colour comes from carotenoid pigments the bird can only get from fresh fish, and it fades fast: in experiments where males wer…

Quick facts

Classification: Bird
Family: Sulidae
Habitat: Coastal islands and rocky shores in the eastern Pacific Ocean
Diet: Carnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 15-20 years
Weight: 1.3–1.8 kg
Scientific name: Sula nebouxii

Did you know?

- The blue coloration of their feet comes from carotenoid pigments obtained from their fish diet, and brighter feet indicate a healthier bird.
- The name comes from the Spanish "bobo", meaning fool or clown — sailors found the birds absurdly tame and easy to catch on land. Boobies often dive i…

What I learned

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