CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Oilbird

Steatornis caripensis

Steatornis caripensis is the only nocturnal flying fruit-eating bird in the world, and one of the only birds that echolocates. It roosts by day in deep caves in northern South America and Trinidad, i…

Quick facts

Classification: Bird
Family: Steatornithidae
Habitat: Caves within tropical forests
Diet: Frugivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 12-15 years
Weight: 350-450 grams
Scientific name: Steatornis caripensis

Did you know?

- Oilbirds have some of the most sensitive night vision of any terrestrial animal, allowing them to see in conditions nearly as dark as a moonless nigh…
- The oilbird's retina has the highest density of rod cells recorded in any vertebrate — around a million rods per square millimetre, stacked in banks …

What I learned

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