CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Rufous Hornero

Furnarius rufus

Furnarius rufus builds the most conspicuous nest in South America: a domed oven of mud and straw, 20 to 30 cm across, weighing 3 to 5 kg, plastered onto a fence post, a lamppost, a branch or an elect…

Quick facts

Classification: Bird
Family: Furnariidae
Habitat: Open woodlands, savannas, grasslands, rural and urban areas
Diet: Omnivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 6-8 years
Weight: 31-58 grams
Scientific name: Furnarius rufus

Did you know?

- Although their impressive nests can weigh over 5 kilograms, Rufous Horneros often build them on human-made structures like telephone poles and roofto…
- Hornero mud only works within a window of moisture — the birds build after rain, and a dry spell will halt construction for days. The name hornero co…

What I learned

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