CREATURE ATLAS

Animal Fact Sheet

Name: _____ Date: _____



Sword-billed Hummingbird

Ensifera ensifera

The sword-billed hummingbird (Ensifera ensifera) of the high Andes is the only bird in the world whose bill is longer than the rest of its body, excluding the tail. The bill can reach 11 centimetres …

Quick facts

Classification: Bird
Family: Trochilidae
Habitat: Cloud forest and montane forest
Diet: Nectarivore
Conservation status: Least Concern
Lifespan: 5-8 years
Weight: 10-15 grams
Scientific name: Ensifera ensifera

Did you know?

- Sword-billed Hummingbirds must perch with their heads tilted upward because the sheer length of their bills makes it difficult to balance otherwise.
- It is the only bird whose bill is longer than its body. Because it cannot reach its own feathers with its bill, it is the only hummingbird known to p…

What I learned

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