

# Hoiho- world's rarest penguin

The yellow-eyed penguin, the world's rarest, is in danger of becoming even rarer still because its habitat is being destroyed along the south-east coast of the South Island. This highly unusual penguin is found only in New Zealand — either on the mainland or a few southern offshore islands — with a significant breeding population found on the Tautuku Peninsula. Its numbers are estimated at between 1200 and 1800 pairs. Photographer and Southland schoolteacher Dean Schneider has over the last few years captured the birds in many moods; here are just a few of them.

The Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society needs financial help to mount a Yellow-eyed Penguin Conservation Programme. In co-operation with Government agencies and the World Wildlife Fund it would:

- foster understanding and concern through public education and research
- conserve the penguin's coastal breeding habitat through land purchase, conservation covenants, fencing programmes and restoration by revegetation.

Estimated cost of the programme is \$50,000. Donations are tax deductible and welcomed from concerned businesses and individuals.

Send your donations to: Save the Yellow-eyed Penguin  
Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society  
P O Box 631, Wellington.  
Further information available on request.



After coaxing the two-week-old chick with a gentle nudge, the parent puts its open bill over the head of the chick and the regurgitated food pours into the chick's mouth.

Penguins form a ballet of constantly changing shapes as they preen and waterproof their plumage.

