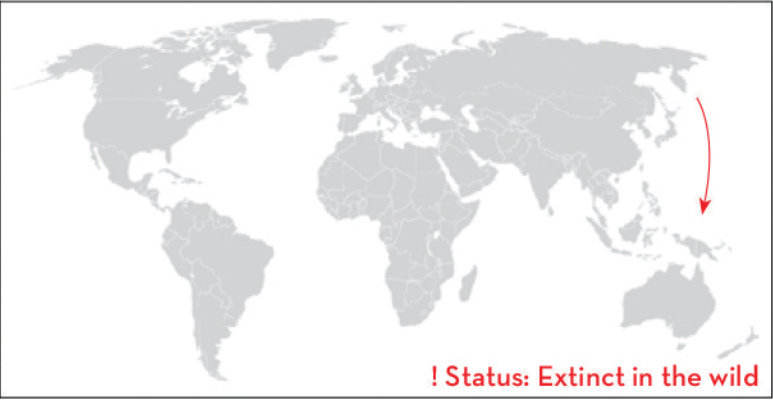
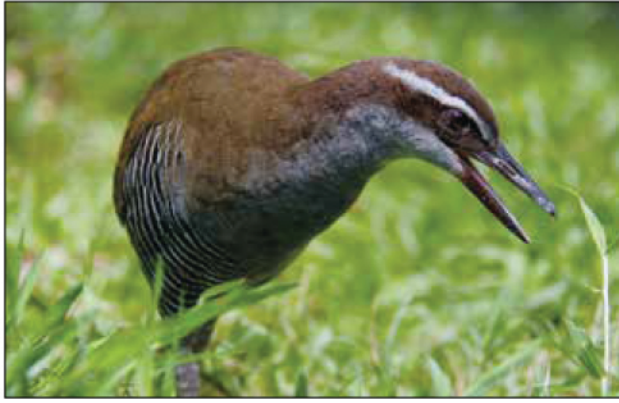


GUAM RAIL

updated March 2017



Range	Guam; they are extinct in the wild
Habitat	Forests, grassland, mixed woodland and scrub, and fern thickets
Diet (wild)	Omnivores but appear to prefer animals over vegetable foods. They will eat gastropods, skinks, geckos, insects, seeds and palm leaves.
Diet (captivity)	
Description	Length: 11 inches. The body is elongated and laterally compressed, particularly in the neck and breast regions, allowing the birds to move rapidly through dense vegetation. The head and back are brown with a gray eye stripe and throat; the breast has black and white barring. The legs and beak are dark brown. Males can often be distinguished by their larger size.
Lifespan	Females: 5 ½ years; males: 9 years
Reproduction	Females lay 1–4 eggs that hatch within 24 hours. Guam rails nest year-round. Since they are essentially flightless, Guam rails nest on the ground. Both parents help to build a shallow nest of grass and leaves, making sure that it is well-hidden in the dense grass.
Behavior	Not much is known about the Guam rail because they are extinct in the wild. They are a flightless species of bird that is secretive and territorial. They are very good at walking, and evening running, without making any noise, no matter what the terrain. Guam rails seldom vocalize, but will produce a loud, piercing whistle in response to other rails, loud noises and other disturbances.
Our animals	1 female, 1 male. Born: 07/19/2004 (female); 08/18/2006 (male)
Cool stuff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were an estimated 70,000 Guam rails on the island before 1960; however, their population drastically declined with the introduction of the brown tree snake (it's believed that the brown tree snake was transported from its native home, probably as a stowaway in military ship cargo.) The rail was seen in the wild in 1987. • In their native Guam, they are called ko'ko'. • Guam rails can fly only about 3 to 10 feet (1 to 3 meters) at a time. • Rails (Family Rallidae) are a large family of small- to medium-sized ground-living birds. The family exhibits considerable diversity and includes the crakes, coots, and gallinules. Many species are associated with wetlands, although the family is found in every terrestrial habitat except dry deserts, polar regions, and alpine areas above the snow line. Members of the Rallidae occur on every continent except Antarctica. There are numerous island species. The most common rail habitats are marshland or dense forest and they are especially fond of dense vegetation.

Phylum
ChordataClass
AvesOrder
GruiformesFamily
RallidaeGenus
Gallirallusspecies
G. owstoni