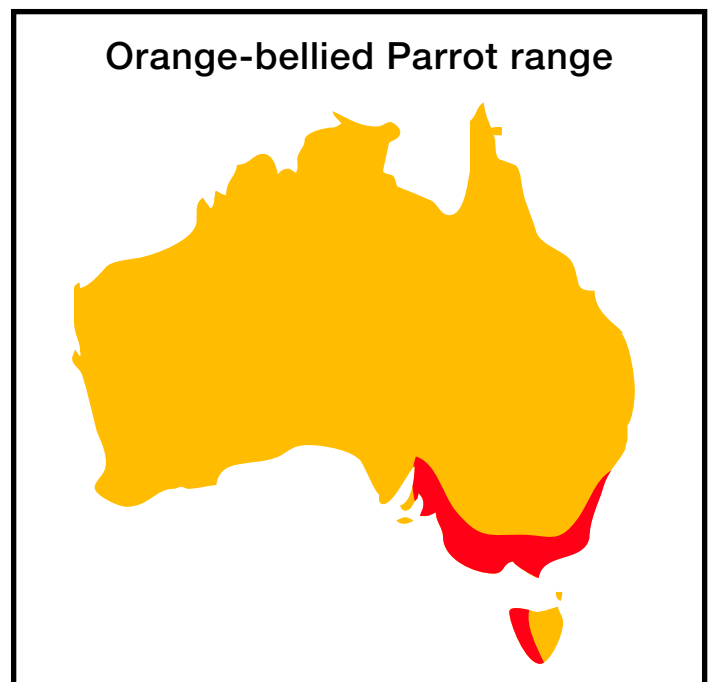




ENDANGERED WILDLIFE AROUND THE WORLD

Orange-bellied Parrot (*Neophema chrysogaster*)

- One of the world's rarest and most endangered species, this small parrot is on the brink of extinction.
- The bird is around 21 centimetres in length, a little larger than a budgerigar.
- Its plumage (feather coverage) is bright grass green above and light green to bright yellow below. It has a royal blue patch on its outer wing, a bright orange patch on its lower belly and a blue bar across its forehead above the nostrils.
- Orange-bellied Parrots feed almost only on seeds and fruits of sedges (grass-like plants), and coastal salt march plants. The Orange-bellied Parrot is a migratory bird that is native to southern Australia. It breeds only in coastal south-west Tasmania and spends winters in coastal Victoria and South Australia.
- The main current threat to the Orange-bellied Parrot is the loss and separation of its non-breeding saltmarsh habitat due to the construction of farmland, industrial sites and salt works. Feral predators such as cats and foxes also pose a threat.
- In autumn 2016, fewer than 50 birds were known to be alive in the wild.
- It is listed as Critically Endangered under the EPBC Act and on the IUCN Red List.





ENDANGERED WILDLIFE AROUND THE WORLD

What is being done?

The number of birds in zoos or captivity programs is around 340, held in the following places:

- Taroona (Tasmania)
- Healesville Sanctuary
- Adelaide Zoo
- Melbourne Zoo
- Moonlit Sanctuary Wildlife Conservation Park (Victoria)
- Priam Parrot Breeding Centre (New South Wales).

For the last three seasons, captive-bred birds have been released into the wild to assist in achieving a stable or increasing population in the wild within five years. This is an objective of the National Recovery Plan.

The Commonwealth Threatened Species Action Plan also aims to secure the status of the Orange-bellied parrot by 2020 through the implementation of emergency intervention measures.