4. Extreme Abilities

Shoebill (Balaeniceps rex)

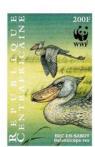
Ability - Standing motionless in excess of half an hour

EXTREME BIRDS 4.9 Most patient feeder Geographical Distribution - Central Africa



Balaenicepsex Means "whale-head king," evidently a reference to its bill shape resembling the head of a baleen whale (as well as shoe)

Other names for the Shoebill include the boat-bill, bog-bird, lesser lechwe-eater (referring to the shoebill's alleged taste for lechwe, or aquatic antelope), and abu markub, or "father of a slipper"









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A Composite Imperf Deluxe proof With a Se-tenant strip of 4, WWF Issue of 1996

Shoebill is also known as Whalehead or Shoe-billed Stork. This beautiful bird can be found only in eastern parts of Africa, all the way from Sudan to Zambia. Shoebill prefers life in tropical dense marshes, swamps and wetlands. Shoebill is listed as vulnerable species, with no more than 8000 birds left in the wild.

Maximum Card Issued by The Royal Belgian Institute for Natural Sciences for Protected Birds in Belgian Congo. Commercially used

Shoebill can win staring contest. It poops on itself, as it practices

urohydrosis,

the effective-if revoltinghabit of defecating on their legs to lower their body temperature. In fact, this characteristic confused taxonomists.

