

## The Black - Billed Parrot

The Black - Billed Parrot is smaller than the Yellow-billed parrot (10.5 to 11.5 inches in length) and less colourful. Has a black bill and a green body except for its black ear feathers and distinguishing red feathers on both wings. It is found in tall mountain trees where it nests, occurs mostly in the Blue Mountains, Cockpit Country and rural St. Catherine. It feeds on a wide variety of fruits, blossoms, nuts and berries. Corn is also a favourite food for parrots. This parrot is captured for the pet trade and it is also shot by farmers who consider it a nuisance. Apart from its beauty it is an important source for seed distribution.



Managing & protecting  
Jamaica's Land, Wood & Water

For more information on Jamaica's  
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## THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING AGENCY

### Jamaica's Protected species

*Animals that fly*



Giant Swallowtail Butterfly  
(*Papilio homerus*)

Yellow-billed Parrot  
(*Amazona collaria*)

The answers to your  
questions

## What do we mean when we say an animal is protected?

This means that Jamaica has passed a law to prevent any further depletion in the population so that the animal can survive. The Jamaican law is called the Wildlife Protection Act. It was passed in 1945 and last amended in 1998. When an animal is protected under this law, no one should have in his/her possession any protected animal, bird or fish or any part therefore. The maximum penalty for breaking this law is \$100,000.00 or 12 months imprisonment, depending on the discretion of the judge.

## Which of Jamaica's flying animals are protected?

All of Jamaica's birds except for game birds, which are protected outside of the shooting season. Some butterflies are also protected. These include the Giant Swallowtail Butterfly. In this brochure you can learn about the Yellow and Black billed parrot and the Giant Swallowtail Butterfly.



## The Giant Swallowtail Butterfly!



Immaculately black and gold (or dark brown) with gold patches from top centre of wings curving inwards. A series of dark blue circular spots decorate lower wings, which taper off into separate tail-like features. Wing span of adults - 15 cm or 6 inches in width. It is found mostly in the Cockpit Country and Blue & John Crow Mountains where it flies at high altitudes. Likes brilliant days where it can skip-hop from plant to plant sucking nectar. Hibiscus and Spanish Needle are among the many species of flowering plants from which it feeds. Habitat loss results from agriculture and predation by birds and lizards. These are its greatest threats. Lizards eat large numbers of third stage larvae. It flies at elevations between 150 and 550m making a vertical drop to feed, mate and lay eggs. The Jamaican Giant Swallowtail is a proud symbol of Jamaica's heritage and represents the beauty and distinction of our rain forest.

"It is the second largest butterfly in the world."

## The Parrots!!!

Parrots are one of the birds that are protected under the Wildlife Protection Act and two of these parrots are the Black and Yellow Billed Parrot.

## The Yellow - Billed Parrot

It has a yellow bill with a mostly green body and bluish crown with maroon neck and tail. It is found in tall mountain trees where it nests, occurring mostly in the Blue Mountains, Cockpit Country and rural St. Catherine. It feeds on a wide variety of fruits, blossoms, nuts and berries. Corn is also a favourite food. shot by farmers who consider it a nuisance. Apart from its beauty it is an important source for seed distribution.

