



# GUACAMAYA

*Ara Macao*



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*Ara macao*, known as Scarlet Macaw in Mexico, Guatemala and other Central American countries. It is distributed from Mexico to Brazil. Even though it is one of the most widely distributed, it is endangered due to habitat loss and the pet trade (Vaughan et al 2008). Since this species has been eliminated from the Pacific slope and other areas of its historical distribution (Howell y Webb 1995), there are a lot of places that have a small number of individuals that keep safe from the external threats. One of these places is The Copan Ruins, in Honduras. This species is very important since it's a very nice tourist attraction, and is one of the birds of the Maya's history.





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I took my first photograph of a macaw working at FLAAR. The bird has big incredible feathers, with amazing colors. I think that is one of the reasons people like them. The combination of the red, blue and yellow color in their feathers makes them a living piece of art. Thanks to places like The Copan Ruins people are able to see these animals.



photo: Sofia Monzón



FLAAR

**HOWELL, Steve and Sophie WEBB**

1995 A guide of the birds of Mexico and Northern Central America. New York: Oxford University Press  
851 pages

**VAUGHAN, Christopher, BREMER, Mark and Fiona DEAR**

2008 Scarlet Macaw (*Ara macao*) (Psittaciformes: Psittacidae) Parental Nest Visitation in Costa Rica: Implications for Research and Conservation. *Revista de Biología Tropical*, Vol. 57 (1-2): 395-400

photo: Sofia Monzón





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photo: Nicholas Hellmuth



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