

ENDANGERED MARINE BIRDS

CURRENT SITUATION

- large decrease in numbers
- fewer than 40,000 mature individuals
- population declining at an alarming rate
- listed as an endangered species on the IUCN red list
- facing many natural and human threats
- prey for other species i.e. mongoose, gennets, jackals, cape fur seals and kelp gulls
- marine pollution
- deplete food sources from overfishing
- loss of breeding sites and nesting habitats

CONSERVATION EFFORTS

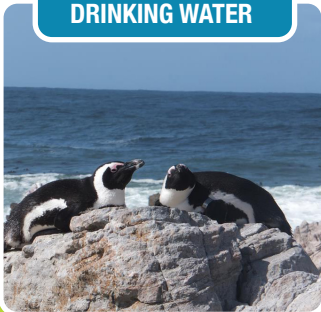
- national legislation protection of breeding
- prohibiting the collection of guano and eggs
- monitoring programme
- ongoing research to monitor population trends in relation to prey availability and disease outbreaks
- established marine protected areas where fishing is prohibited

WHAT CAN STILL BE DONE

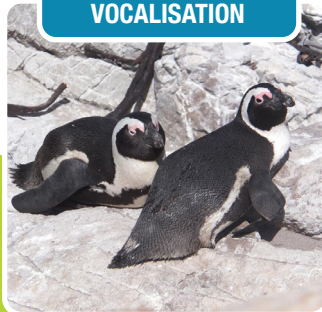
- manage domestic animals roaming around colonies
- join events like African Penguin Awareness day
- stop ocean plastic pollution
- reduce your carbon-footprint and act against climate change as regularly as possible

INTERESTING FACTS

PENGUINS DRINK SALTWATER AND CONVERT IT TO DRINKING WATER



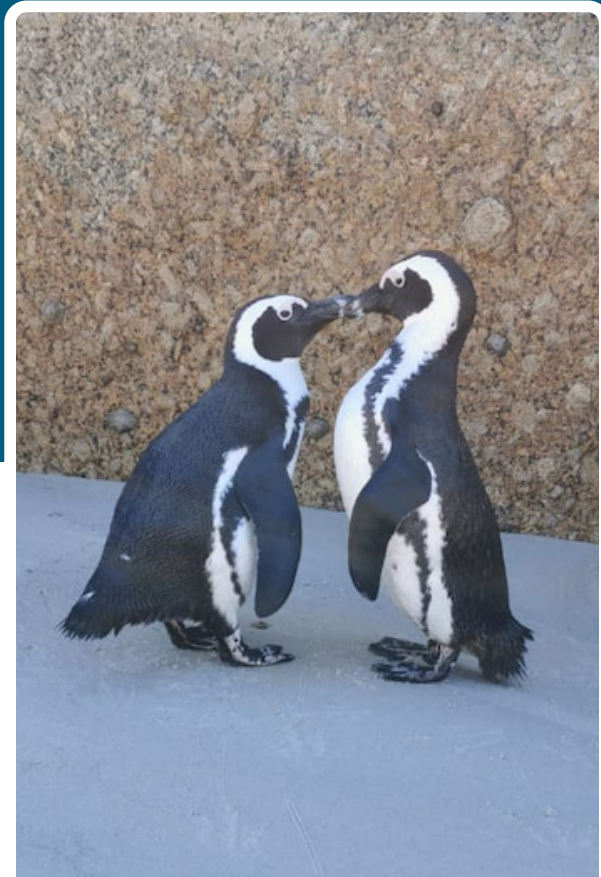
PENGUINS COMMUNICATE THROUGH BODY LANGUAGE AND VOCALISATION



PENGUINS ABANDON THEIR EGGS IF CONDITIONS AREN'T FAVOURABLE AND LAY EGGS LATER



CONSERVATIONISTS PROVIDE ARTIFICIAL NESTS DUE TO THE LACK OF NATURAL GUANA FOR NESTING



AFRICAN PENGUIN
Speniscus demerus

“The main causes of population decline is disturbance and loss of the penguin’s breeding ground and natural nesting habitat.”

INSTAGRAM & FACEBOOK (with # hashstags)

Did you know these facts about the endangered African penguin?

- they drink saltwater and convert it to drinking water
- they communicate with each other through body language
- they abandon their eggs if conditions aren't favourable and lay eggs later
- conservationists provide artificial nests due to the lack of natural guana for nesting
- Penguins mate for life!

Photos © Cape Nature, Nicole Horn and Jakobus Smit

#CapeNature
#AfricanPenguin
#endangered
#EndangeredSpecies
#ThreatenedMarineBirds
#MateForLife
#ArtificialNests
#PenguinWaddle
#ExtinctionTheFacts



TWITTER & PULL QUOTES

African penguins mate for life. They return annually to the same site to breed, nest two eggs and share incubation duties to keep eggs warm and safe



Penguins can drink salt water. They have special glands around their eyes extract excess salt which is excreted as salty fluid through nasal passages



Penguins use vocal and visual displays to communicate nesting territory, mating rites, finding partners or chicks, nest routines and predator warnings



Penguins abandon their eggs if conditions aren't favourable. This can be due to extreme heat, malnutrition of the nest incubator or due to predators



The harvesting of guano threatened the natural nesting habitat of penguins. Artificial nesting structures is a successful conservation intervention.

