SCARLET MACAW

The Scarlet Macaw is a Neotropical parrot and native to humid evergreen forests in Central and South America. This parrot is about 32 inches long with more than half being the pointed tail, and it weighs about 2.2 pounds. Scarlet Macaw's make a very loud, high and low pitched throaty squawks and screams in calling for their groups. They are often kept as pets and can live up to 75 years or more in captivity. Their prime food is bugs, snails, and foliage.

Today Scarlet Macaws are found worldwide in captivity and captive breeding is common, especially in Mexico. The pet trade and the value of the bird's plumes creates a viable market for the Scarlet Macaw.

Scarlet Macaws are monogamous birds with individuals remaining with one partner throughout their lives. In breeding, 2 or 3 eggs are laid in a tree cavity, and incubation is five weeks. It will be another 90 days before juveniles leave the nest. Young stay with their parents for about a year. Sexual maturity is reached in five years.

The Scarlet Macaw has been deliberately released or accidentally escaped in Florida. However there is no evidence that the population is breeding and will only continue with escapes.