



**Okinawa Woodpecker** (*Dendrocopos noguchii*)

**Size:** Body length, approx. 23 cm; wingspan, approx. 15 cm **Weight:** Approx. 110 g

**Habitat:** Endemic to Okinawa Island, where it is found solely in the Yanbaru forests

**Surviving number:** Estimated at fewer than 100 breeding pairs



Photographed by Shawn Miller

# WILDLIFE AS CANON SEES IT

The few get fewer. One of the world's rarest woodpeckers, the Okinawa woodpecker can be found only in dense, undisturbed forest in the north of its namesake island. Searching out very rotten wood, it excavates deep to uncover wood-boring insects. Females stick primarily to the trees to forage, while males also go to the ground to feast on other insects, berries and seeds.

But venturing down brings the woodpecker into the path of feral cats and mongooses. Facing such deadly predators and deforestation as well, this rare bird is becoming rarer still.

As Canon sees it, images have the power to raise awareness of the threats facing endangered species and the natural environment, helping us make the world a better place.

