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Section: Arts & Life

Penguin facts

Penguins, native to the Southern Hemisphere, are found in South America, Africa, Australia and Antarctica.

Only one of the 17 species of penguins, the Galapagos, is listed as endangered by the U.S. Endangered Species Act. The nonprofit Center of Biological Diversity, however, last week asked the U.S. government to add 12 more penguin species to the endangered list.

Contrary to the movie "Happy Feet," overfishing is not the biggest environmental threat to penguins; global warming is, according to scientists. Increasing ocean temperatures have altered the swimming patterns of krill, a shrimplike animal that make up the bulk of most penguins' diet.