**Amami woodcock / *Scolopax mira* / Amami yamashigi / アマミヤマシギ**

The Amami woodcock is a member of the sandpiper family of birds that use their long beaks to probe the ground; they feel for food with the sensitive tips of their beaks. This medium-sized (38-centimeter-long) bird is endemic and only breeds on Amami-Oshima and Tokunoshima. It is a terrestrial bird—one that mainly stays on the ground to catch earthworms. The complex coloring of its stout torso—varied shades of brown with bands of color and bright and dark spots—is a perfect camouflage against the floor of a broadleaf forest. It is generally active at night, and if disturbed will either run on its short legs or fly to safety nearby. It lays its eggs in a nest on the ground, where it also raises its young.