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PRESS RELEASE

SamoaPost
Your Mail Solution

The Many-coloured Fruit Dove

Ptilinopus perousii

In conjunction with WWF, Samoa Post is proud to release this stamp issue.

The Many-coloured Fruit – Dove *Ptilinopus perousii*, also known in Samoa as Manulua, is a small multi-coloured dove growing up to 250mm in length. Primarily a bird of large mature forest, the male dove is a pale yellow-white colour with a red-crimson crown and bar across its back. The female is mostly green and grey on the head and breast. She also has a red-crimson crown and undertail area known as coverts. This undertail colour differs in the birds of Fiji and Tonga where the coverts are yellow.



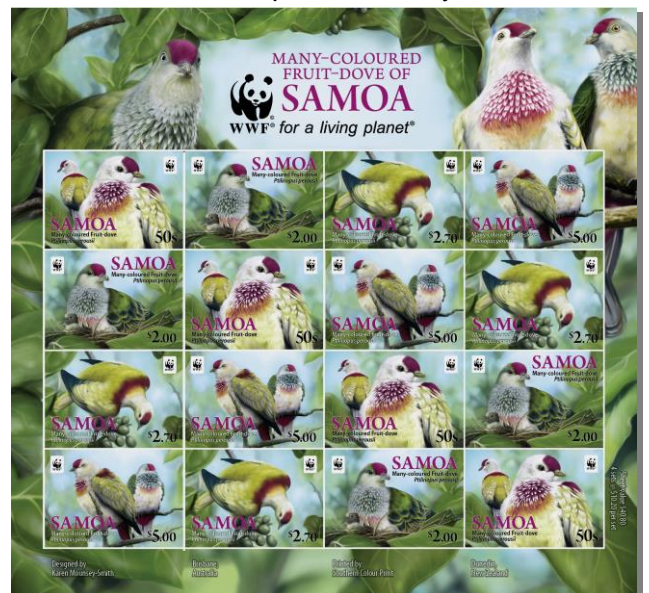
Distribution is the south-western Pacific – Samoa, Fiji and Tonga, where lowland tropical and sub-tropical forests provide a natural habitat. The dove feeds predominantly on fruit and berries found in the high canopy and is partial to figs and also the fruit of the banyan tree. They are very protective of their feeding areas. It is in the canopy where a small platform of twigs is fashioned into a nest, a single egg is laid and the young nurtured. Despite the fact that the population trend appears to be decreasing due to habitat reduction, the decline is not believed to be sufficiently rapid to approach the thresholds for vulnerable under conservation criteria.

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Sheetlet



First Day Cover

Collectors Notes:

Designer:	Karen Mounsey-Smith, Brisbane, Australia
Printer:	Southern Colour Print, Dunedin, New Zealand
Process:	Offset Litho
Stamp Size:	42.90mm x 30.00mm
Mini Sheet Size:	200 mm x 140mm, 2 x sets horizontal stamps
Sheetlet Size:	189mm x 180mm, 4 sets horizontal stamps
Perforation Gauge:	13.2 x 13.2
Denominations:	50s, 2.00, 2.70 and 5.00 tala
Paper:	114 Tullis Russell litho gummed stamp paper
Period of Sale:	25 April 2011 for a period of 2 years.

For further information please contact:

CEO
Samoa Post
Tel. + 685 27640,
Fax + 685 27643
Email:
tupe.ualolo@samoapost.ws