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MAUI NOTES

By Robert W. Carpenter
Park Naturalist

Here are some notes I promised you on bird observations in Haleakala Crater. Just to give an idea what birds may be seen on a two-day trip in the crater, Park Naturalist and Mrs. Dunmire, from the Kilauea Section of Hawaii National Park, and I saw or heard the following on April 14 and 15: 25 chuckar partridge, 29 pheasants, 19 golden plover, 7 skylarks, 8 white-eyes, 6 Japanese hill robins, 2 amakihi, 2 apapane, and 1 white-tailed tropic bird.

From February through April, flocks of 10 to 30 golden plover are commonly seen. Chuckar partridge are also seen in large coveys up until the nesting season when they remain concealed more of the time. Chuckar chicks were seen in the crater by the trail crew in the middle of May.

On May 13 Sol Cushman and I saw a flock of at least 50 linnets feeding on seeds of evening primrose which were still blossoming profusely at the time.

Black-rumped petrels have been heard at night in the cliffs in back of Holua Cabin. They make noises that sound variously like puppy dogs crying, red squirrels chattering and stomach rumblings. On the night of May 26 Sol Cushman and I heard two birds screeching over our heads after we had surprised them near the base of a cliff a short distance from Holua Cabin. We presumed them to be petrels. Dr. George Ruhle, former Park Naturalist, saw a black-rumped petrel flying near the Leleiwi Overlook at dusk on March 10.

As on all the islands, goats are a nuisance here in the crater and have to be controlled or else they would have all the vegetation eaten. Worst of all, they nibble on the rare silversword plants when they have a chance. But, with all the damage they do, they are interesting to watch and may be seen most anywhere in the crater, and especially on the cliffs, in herds of from 3 or 4 to 30 or 40.

FIELD OBSERVATIONS OF BIRDS ON MAUI
By S. F. Cushman, Nov. 1958 to April 1959

Bryan's No.	Name & sequence on Hawaii Audubon Society Field Card	Locality (by number, see list below) and date						
		1958	1959					
		Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Other
		.	.	.	(B)	.	.	.
137	Pueo (Short-eared owl)	.	.	.	.	.	.	4
190	Alauwahio (Creeper)	3	.	.	.	4,14,16	17,14	.
174	Apapane	2,3,4	.	.	.	4,14,16	.	.
20	Aukuu (Blk-cr night heron)	.	.	.	8	.	.	.
36	Koloa Mapu (Pintail)	.	.	.	5,8	.	.	.
38	Koloa Moha (Shoveller)	.	5	5	5	.	5	.
80	Alae Keokeo (Coot)	.	5	8,5	.	.	5	.
82	Kolea (Golden plover) (I)	1,3	5	8	.	4,14,15	5	.
81	Black-bellied plover	.	.	.	.	15	5	9,13
86	Ulili (Wandering tattler)	.	.	.	8	.	.	10
87	Akekeke (Ruddy turnstone)	.	.	5	8	.	5	10
89	Hunakai (Sanderling)	.	.	5	8	.	5	.
92	Aeo (Stilt)	.	5	5	5,8	.	5	.
52	California quail	.	.	.	.	.	.	15,21
55	Chukar partridge	1,3	.	.	.	.	.	(G)
64	Ring-necked pheasant (H)	1,3	.	.	.	(F)4,14, 14	.	.
		.	.	.	.	15	.	.
69	Pea fowl	.	.	.	.	.	.	18
112	Rock dove	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
115	Chinese spotted dove	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
116	Barred dove	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
140	Skylark	3	.	.	.	4	.	6,9,13, 15
144	Chinese thrush	.	.	.	.	9 (E)	.	.
147	Red-billed leiothrix	4	.	.	.	.	.	9,19
148	Mockingbird	.	.	.	.	.	.	7,9
167	Mynah	.	.	.	.	.	.	5,9,15
168	White-eye	1,3	.	.	.	10,14	.	9
220	Ricebird	.	6	.	7	10	.	9
222	English sparrow	.	.	.	.	.	17	.
225	North American cardinal	.	.	.	.	.	.	9,20
231	House finch	4	.	.	7	.	.	9
6	Uau (Dark-rumped petrel)	.	.	.	.	(C)	.	.
12	Koae (Wh-tailed tropic bird)	.	.	.	.	(D)11,13, 16	.	1
	
18	Iwa (Frigate-bird)	.	.	.	.	.	.	6
110	Noio (Hawaiian noddy)	.	6?	.	.	12,13	.	.

LOCALITIES

1. On the Halemauu Trail, Hawaii National Park, Haleakala Section.
2. At the foot of Hanakauhi on trail between Waikau cabin and the Bottomless Pit, Hawaii National Park (within the "crater" of Haleakala).
3. Kapalaoa, Paliku, Holua cabins and trails connecting them, including all of the Halemauu Trail, Hawaii National Park.
4. Poli-poli Park and entrance road.
5. Kanaha Wildlife Refuge, Kahului.
6. From the road around West Maui, between Waihee and Honokowai.
7. Old Kula Road and Pulehu Road.
8. Kealia Pond, Kihei.

LOCALITIES (Cont'd)

9. In the vicinity of my property near the top of Upper Kimo Drive.
10. Hana Road between Hana and Haiku.
11. Sea cliff near Wailua Falls, Hana.
12. Near Waianapanapa Cave, Hana.
13. Piilani Highway between Ulupalakua Ranch and Kaupo Village.
14. In the gulch due east of Hosmer Grove, Hawaii National Park.
15. Territorial Road No. 378 between Pukalani Junction and Hawaii National Park.
16. Vicinity of Kaulalewelewe above Honokowai.
17. Kula Pipeline Trail west of Olinda.
18. Kanaio.
19. Satellite Tracking Station near Kolekole.
20. Kihei Road.
21. Near Kula Lodge.

NOTES

The place names and localities are all taken from the U.S. Geological Survey maps, scale 1:24,000.

No notes were taken on weather conditions; nor, with few exceptions, of the quantity of each species present.

- A. About 500 counted at this time.
- B. Sighted 4 - 6 birds appearing to be gulls, but not positively identified.
- C. Cry of the dark-rumped petrel was heard after dark the evening of 7 March 1959 at Holua cabin, H.N.P.
- D. Nesting on the cliff apparently.
- E. Heard only. This bird is apparently a resident at this location as it is now frequently heard early in the morning, occasionally at evening twilight and was once seen in full daylight.
- F. Also one hybrid pheasant with head striped horizontally black and white, black-edged gold feathers on neck, nondescript grey and brown on remainder of body. Melodic clucking when disturbed, but not at all shy - did not take flight.
- G. A covey of perhaps 15-20 lives between 8500 and 9000 feet elevation in the vicinity of the H.N.P. Road. Some members can be seen almost regularly by the road. They are also irregular visitors at location 20.
- H. None of these are pure Chinese ring-necked, being mixed with green.
- I. Cannot distinguish between the two plover without the spring plumage, hence some of those reported in the fall and winter may be black-bellied.
- J. Cannot distinguish between the doves. Various species can be seen in localities 6, 7, 10, 13, 15, and especially 20.

FIELD NOTES:

Field Trip, May 24, 1959, Wahiawa Trail.

It was one of the largest Audubon field parties of the year - 12 members and 12 visitors - that met this Sunday morning for the hike on the trail leading into the Koolau behind Wahiawa. Unfortunately one of the visitors slipped, probably spraining an ankle, and was not able to complete the trip, but those who continued on the trail enjoyed a very fine day.

To reach the start of the trail we passed through a military reservation where soldiers are trained in jungle fighting. The cliff scaling apparatus, booby traps, and other paraphernalia seemed a little obsolete in this age of missiles and atomic

warfare. One advantage of all of this, however, was that the road was greatly improved since our last visit to the area.

The start of the trail is now under several feet of loose fill so it was not easily located. The trail itself is quite passable but very narrow in places and becoming overgrown with staghorn fern in others. Most of us stopped after about 2 miles, ate lunch, and turned back. Three of the group, however, went on to the summit, which was another 3 miles, at least. The trail passes through a wild and beautiful ohia and koa forest, very similar to Poamoho, but the views were even grander - if that is possible.

We observed the following birds:

Apapane - abundant. I recorded 26 and more were heard; some were in immature plumage.

Amakihi - 7; not as frequently heard and seen as might be expected for the area.

Elepaio - 8; observed at close range by everyone.

Red-billed Leiothrix - numerous; a few were seen but many more were heard singing in the gulches and along the mountainsides below the trail.

White-eye - numerous; I recorded 11, but I know we heard many more.

Ricebird - 1, sighted at the end of the trip.

I feel pretty certain that I heard an Iiwi, about 2 miles from the start of the trail, while we were eating lunch, but I didn't see the bird. Also I think I heard one call of a Japanese Bush Warbler.

Although only a few species were recorded, the number of birds that were heard and sighted in the area was high. This is a very interesting trail and I am all for making more use of it in the future. The weather was fine, a little warm for visitors perhaps, and with just enough clouds to make things difficult for the photographers.

Joseph E. King

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Field Trip, June 14, 1959, Judd Trail.

Twenty-one persons gathered at the Library of Hawaii at 2:00 p.m., to take the short trip on the Judd Trail. Of these, five were members, nine were residents of Honolulu, the rest recent arrivals, or tourists. Of these, only the leader had been on the trail previously; an indication that this interesting and pleasant walk needs more publicity.

Very few birds were expected, or were seen. White-eyes were heard; Leiothrix were heard frequently, and a very good view of one was secured, fortunately, for two out-of-state birders who were glad to be introduced. Common plants along the trail were brought to the attention of the group. As leader, I felt the trip had been worthwhile, if for no other reason than introducing the area to the local residents who were present.

Grenville Hatch

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June 17, 1959, Iolekaa Valley.

On a hike into Iolekaa Valley with the Hawaiian Trail & Mountain Club June 7th we heard a Shama Thrush in a hau thicket. Unoyo Kojima answered its call, which was repeated back and forth for some time. Hikers remarked that they couldn't tell which was the Shama and which was Unoyo. In fact, there could be some question as to who was imitating whom. To the best of our knowledge this is a new area for the Shama.

Iolekaa is the valley just kahuku of Haiku Valley. In it are to be found a heiau, several old house platforms, sites of taro patches and huge mango trees. There is a fast-flowing stream of good size. The trail ends at a 40-foot waterfall with a small pool.

Al Labrecque

"Bird Life on Christmas Island": A review.

The Hawaii Audubon Society has received from the Natural History Society of Christmas Island a fine eight page bulletin, entitled "Bird Life on Christmas Island", compiled by M.D. Gallagher, with sketches by D. Collins, typed by K.C. Rumfitt, produced and printed by the staff of "Mid-Pacific News".

Birds are arranged by orders. Each bird to be found on the island is clearly and briefly described with information on habits, where found, and voice. On the opposite page is the drawing, in black and white, showing the bird in flight, on the ground, and in most instances a third drawing shows details of plumage. The drawings are excellent, and are well reproduced.

Included are an introduction, the topography of a bird, and a map of Christmas Island, the latter forming the cover.

This should prove an indispensable aid to anyone visiting Christmas Island, being the first publication of the kind, so far as we know. The Natural History Society is to be congratulated on its excellence. The bulletin has been placed in our files for the use of members.

Grenville Hatch

NEW MEMBERS:

We welcome the following new members to our Society:

Carl C. Simms, 818 Kapiolani Blvd, Honolulu 13, Hawaii

Robert A. Kikendall, USS Radford (DDE-446), % Fleet Post Office, SF, Calif.

JULY ACTIVITIES:

FIELD TRIP: MARGARET TITCOMB WILL LEAD.

July 18 - Saturday. To Popoia to see and hear the Wedge-tailed Shearwaters. Bring picnic supper, sweater and flashlight. We will return from the island about 8:30 p.m. Meet at the Library of Hawaii at 4:00 p.m. The boatman will take us to the island at 5:00 p.m. Boat fare is \$1.00 per person.

This will be the only trip in July.

MEETING: July 20 - At the Honolulu Aquarium auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Eric Reppum, President of the Board of Agriculture and Forestry, will talk on the work of the Board.

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