THE ELEPAIO

Journal of the Hawaii Audubon Society

For the Better Protection of Wildlife in Hawaii

VOLUME 26, NUMBER 5 NOVEMBER 1965

HAWAIIAN BIRD SURVEY

By Walt Donaghho

Oahu, August 31 - September 22, 1965

Waialae-iki Ridge, August 31: I found the small, two-mile wide band of native forest largely silent with only the 'elepaio among the native forest species in fair numbers. One 'amakihi and two 'apapane were the only other native forest birds seen, and on the return trip one immature bird was seen and one was heard singing.

I was surprised to see an 'elepaio in a large grove of eucalyptus, Australian koa, silver oak and waiawi about a mile below the nearest native forest. In fact, the area above the grove, just above the junction of the East and West roads up the ridge, is largely open and grassy, with scattered groves of waiawi and Formosan koa.

Woodlawn Ridge - East Manoa Ridge, September 8: The numbers of native birds seemed normal, as I had found them in 1947. Twenty-five 'elepaio, 13 'amakihi, and 5 'apapane were counted. The latter bird may have been just a bit more common in 1947, but it has always been the least common of the three native forest birds that I have seen on this ridge.

Why the increased numbers of 'amakihi, when I saw only one on the Waialae-iki Ridge on August 31? The forest there seemed O.K., but was it really? What was lacking in the habitat that the birds required, that is evidently present on the Manoa Ridge?

The large, solid stands of palm grass that have invaded the Manoa Ridge have drawn ricebirds well into the forest after their seeds. The grass seems to be crowding out the uluhe fern in spots.

Mt. Kaala. Schofield Trail, September 11: Tim and I couldn't find the start of the trail, because it was so chewed up by shelling, and since I valued my two legs and was not prepared to lose them yet to the occasional dud that we might find if we had proceeded up through the heavily shot-up area of the trail's start, we abandoned the attempt to go up the mountain. The list was confined to a two hour's hike along the firebreak trail from the Kole Kole road to the Kalena Ridge. But what surprises on that list! First, we found the 'elepaio in every glen, which along this trail is a forest of albizzia, silver oak, guava, Christmas berry, and some kukui. This leads me to believe that one could expect to see the 'elepaio in nearly every glen along the firebreak trail from here to Palehua, signifying that this bird has become well adapted to forests comprised mostly of exotic plants. Of greater surprise were two 'apapane in an albizzia grove, busily gleaning insects and other food from the foliage, in company with flocks of white-eyes. We didn't see them pausing at any blossoms, but I have little doubt that they sip the nectar. I had seen 'amakihi down in the guava of the Haleauau Valley twenty years ago and expected to see some today, but none showed. They traveled with white-eyes then, too.

Any future hikes on this side of Kaala may have to be made from the top. Kalena is forbidden because of the danger of duds, and judging from the appearance of the trail's start, I would guess that the Kaala trail might also be. The firebreak road is covered with grass around the bend of the ridge, so we didn't go down it for fear of stepping on duds we couldn't see.

Opaeula Trail, September 13: We hiked about two miles in from the end of the road in the Military area above the Scout camp. The only comment I'll make on present conditions is to give the number of birds seen, which is 21, eight of which were 'elepaio. Number of species seen, five. Need I say any more, other than this WAS one of Oahu's best areas for birds twenty years ago.

Palehua - Palikea, September 22: The first noticeable thing about Palehua is that the native koa forest is now practically a thing of the past. The planted eucalyptus-ironwood-wattle-silver oak-Formosan koa forest has just about crowded out the koa, and the koa is now recessive to the others. The only native bird I observed in this area was the 'elepaio, which has seemed to have adapted itself quite well to this exotic habitat, as it has done elsewhere on Oahu. No 'amakihi were found. Later, on the north side of Mauna Kapu, as soon as I got into the native forest, here a scrub Ohia, 10 'amakihi were observed, and on up the ridge to the summit of Palikea. But no 'apapane. Only one immature bird was seen on the north side of Mauna Kapu; none in the small bits of cloud forest on and near the top of Palikea, as formerly. Exotics are liberally sprinkled throughout the forests of Palikea, and in ten years or so may very well take over, thus wiping out the habitat of at least the 'apapane, if not the 'amakihi.

Although my survey is by no means done, I have, nevertheless, done trails covering a fair area of Oahu by now. The low numbers of drepanids seen leaves me anything but optimistic about their future. Something seems to be decimating their numbers. Disease, molesting of their habitat--what ever it is has cut down their numbers, so that no longer can I guarantee anyone native birds, other than the 'elepaio, on our trails today. It is risky to guarantee seeing more than two species (including the 'elepaio) anywhere, except, perhaps the Schofield side of Kaala, which I have yet to census. I have not yet seen the creeper. The 'amakihi has not shown up in some areas; likewise the 'apapane in others. And to blandly guarantee an 'i'iwi would make one a fool. I believe that birds were in this condition on Oahu during the twenties, and they made a comeback. All that I can remember during hikes anywhere in the mountains except Kaala, where I saw the 'i'iwi, is that the forests were largely silent. Only the 'elepaio was seen with any degree of regularity. Then the birds suddenly became evident, especially behind Honolulu. Will they overcome what ails them this time, and make another comeback? Let's hope so!

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HOPE FOR MAKALAWENA?
By Margaret Titcomb

In August, Norman K. Carlson, Forester for Bishop Estate on the island of Hawaii, kindly invited me to go to see a possible bird sanctuary for shore birds on the Kona coast of the island of Hawaii. It is an ideal spot: it is isolated, the birds are there and find plenty of food and quiet. We hope it may be made a sanctuary. All other areas are threatened.

The approach is difficult, and we hope that may be its further protection. The pond is near the shore, in a shore kipuka between two lava flows. It may be reached by jeep over a fair road until toward the end where the road is extremely rough, back-twisting, neck-twisting for driver and passengers. It is too far to walk pleasantly, for there is no protection from sun, hot sun. At the pond itself, a'a lava goes down to the water's edge and only thorny kiawe trees dare to grow along the shore. This makes circumnavigation difficult. The pond itself has many

little islets and coves and a fine sandspit that the stilt appreciate. Coot are there, one observed nesting on a tiny islet among the reeds. Heron are there, wandering tattler were seen and heard, plover and one turnstone. This was early in the season for returnees. When ducks come back for their winter visit, they come in numbers, according to Mr. Carlson, as do the other migratory birds.

The fact that little or nothing has been done to protect our shore birds, and that we have a pretty poor reputation among conservationists the world over, should stimulate all of us in the State of Hawaii to work hard to get this area safe-guarded. All the machinery of building and all the clever tricks of exploitation could easily wreck it, a spot as yet unspoiled? Some would say, "Let's get it!" I hope conservationists can be the most forceful in saying, "Let's get it--for the birds."

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BIRD OBSERVATION ON MAUI
By Eugene Kridler

Kanaha Pond, 1965:

Species	Dates Observed				
	Jan 12	Feb 5	Mar 5	Apr 28	Jul 21
Cattle Egret	.	.	1	1	.
Black-crowned Night Heron	15	13	12	14	4
Black Brant	1	1	1	1	.
Widgeon, American	1	3	3	1	.
B.W./C. Teal*	.	1	1	.	.
Shoveler	513	565	550	285	4
Pintail	44	37	2	.	.
Scaup, Lesser	5	5	.	.	.
Pheasant	.	.	4	2	.
Coot	32	22	38	49	28
Golden Plover	35	30	55	160	2
Ruddy Turnstone	22	2	33	200	26
Wandering Tattler	2	2	5	5	.
Sanderling	12	7	7	30	2
Least Sandpiper	2	.	.	1	.
Black-necked Stilt	150	117	144	217	156
Glaucous-winged Gull	.	.	1	1	.
Mockingbird	.	.	.	3	.
Cardinal	10	8	3	6	.

On July 22 I censused Kealia Pond in conjunction with the Kanaha Pond count and tallied 149 stilt, 76 night heron, 1 coot, and 4 turnstones. The total Maui count for stilt is 305 and 80 night heron. It is possible that a few were present on some of the irrigation reservoirs at this time.

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* The teal was a female; hence, I listed it as cinnamon or blue-winged. It definitely was one or the other. The blue-wing patch was prominent in flight. I suspect it to be a cinnamon because of this species being the most abundant of the two in the West, but since both occur in California, this is merely a guess.

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Field Notes: From Laura E. Walther, Fort Shafter, Honolulu, August, 1965.

Sometime during the first week of August two Java Sparrows were in the grassy area near our parking lot at Fort Shafter. I saw them only that one time and they stayed then only about 5-10 minutes after I parked. I looked them up in the bird book but there was very little information. Whether they are rare or quite usual I don't know. This is an area where we scatter wild bird seed and put out sunflower

seed in a container on a sign, so quite a variety of birds are attracted.

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Editor's Note: See THE ELEPAIO, Vol. 25, No. 4, Oct. 1964, page 25, Gray Java Ricebird by Margaret Titcomb. "Java ricebird or Java sparrow, Munia oryzivora (Linnaeus) is sufficiently rare to have escaped our guide to birds of Hawaii."

If any of you have seen this bird, please share your experience with other members by writing to Kojima, 725-A 8th Ave, Honolulu, 96816.

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From Eugene Kridler, dated September 23, 1965.

While investigating stilt habitat for potential refuge areas on the island of Hawaii, Ernie Kosaka and I tabulated the following on September 9-10:

	Honokahau	Makalawena	Kiholo	Kaloko
Stilt	20	17	.	.
Tattler	2	4	1	1
Turnstone	7	.	.	.
Golden Plover	4	12	.	.
Shoveler	.	1	.	.
Coot	82	20	.	.

In addition, at Honokahau there were Kentucky cardinals and ricebirds in the kiawe and other trees and shrubs bordering the pond, but we made no effort to count them, although they were common. At Makalawena we saw 20 ricebirds and 2 house finches around the pond. The shoveler was a male coming out of its eclipse plumage and 3 of the coots were gray plumaged immatures.

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NEW ARRIVAL AT THE BIRD FEEDER

By Faye Henry*

Recently we have become host to a most beautiful little bird whose identity was unknown to us. He flew out from our plumeria tree at six o'clock one morning to join our other Island birds at the feeders. He has been a constant "customer" ever since enjoying the regular wild bird seed.

His appearance was striking even in comparison with the red cardinal. Short and stocky, he has a brilliant orange tail, black body and head with the same brilliant orange cape, which extends down over the breast. When he is excited he can raise this cape into a ruff around his head.

Not in the least flighty, he evidenced no fear of the other larger birds who were around him in great numbers. Also we noted that he was treated with respect by them. He comes to eat three or four times each day.

Unable to identify our new guest in our bird books I called on Mr. Bryan at the Bishop Museum thinking he might be a newcomer from our mountains. Mr. Bryan, not recognizing the species, referred me to Mr. William Look at the Plant Quarantine Station, who after some research identified the bird as the male Orange Weaver (Pyromelana franciscana) who originates from Africa. Entry is restricted to the male, for the Weaver, as the name implies, weaves the leaves of the sugar cane and is destructive to the crop.

We have had him for a week and are thrilled each time he appears. As yet he has not sung a note, but we are waiting to see if that may be the next performance. At any rate he has added greatly to our joy by his gay appearance.

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*Mrs. Paul G. Henry, 1010-B Wanaka Street, Aliamanu, Honolulu, Oahu.
Received September 25, 1965.

FOR JUNIOR MEMBERS:

November's bird is superlative--tallest, rarest, most watched, and most beautiful North American crane. Look at your calendar and see the graceful flight of a family of WHOOPING CRANE. The smaller rusty bird is calling and trailing behind the adult birds. The outstretched white necks of the two adult birds emphasize the brilliance of the red faces; whereas, the outstretched black legs delicately balance the black primary wing feathers. Roger Tory Peterson in A FIELD GUIDE TO WESTERN BIRDS, page 92, says the voice is "a shrill bugle-like trumpeting, ker-loo! ker-lee-oo!" Have you ever heard a whooping crane? If you have, please share your experiences with us.

Will we be fortunate enough to save this stately bird? Let's hope that Oliver L. Austin's prediction in BIRDS OF THE WORLD, page 105, will never come true. He says, "Biologically everything about the cranes points to their being a very old group, barely able to maintain themselves, and probably on their way out....The sad history of the magnificent Whooping Crane in North America is well known. Conservationists sparked by the Audubon Society have been fighting hard to save the last remnants of its former extensive population which was down to a low of 23 birds in 1941. In 1960 the Whooping Crane census reported 42 living birds, the highest count in years, 36 in the wild, 6 in captivity. Three of the captive birds were hatched and reared in the New Orleans Zoo.

"cranes tame fairly easily and most of them breed well in captivity. Perhaps their only future in a world with an expanding human population is as exotic zoo captives. They are so magnificent in the wild, this seems criminal."

Fortunately, I am able to pass on the following good news from the NATIONAL WILDLIFE, April-May, 1965, page 18, "Wildlife Omnibus, Good Year for Whooping Cranes:"

There are now 42 wild whooping cranes in the world, more than there have been in the last quarter century, thanks to an unbelievably successful 1964 breeding season. Last spring, 32 whooping cranes left the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas for their breeding grounds in Wood Buffalo National Park in the Canadian Northwest Territories. Twenty-five of these were mature birds, meaning that the maximum number of breeding pairs was 12. Last fall, 11 young birds were counted, including one which was crippled in Canada and flown to the Monte Vista Refuge in Colorado. Eleven of 12 possible nestings may have been successful, and almost unheard-of nesting success ratio among wild birds, although some pairs may have brought off two young.

The July-August, 1965, issue of the AUDUBON magazine on pages 231-233 tells about the rescue of the crippled whooping crane in the wild muskegs of Northern Canada by N.S. Novakowski, Biologist with the Canadian Wildlife Service. The article has not only a map and apicture of the wilderness habitat of nesting whooping crane but also pictures of the rescue mission andof Canus taking a stroll at Monte Vista Research Station at Colorado. The following are some interesting excerpts from the article:

If the injured bird survives, the world's whooping crane population will be a grand total of 50, of which 42 are in the wild.

The rescued bird has been officially named Canus--a blend of Canada and the U.S., and a appropriate symbol of the many years of cooperation to save the whooping crane from extinction.

In the swamps and muskegs flanking the Sass River area is the only known nesting area of this bird. It was here that Robert P. Allen, research director of the National Audubon Society, and Ray Stewart of the Canadian Wildlife Service and Forestry, finally broke through to the whooping crane nesting area in June of 1955. Their grueling, five-week expedition culminated a decade of air and land search that had begun in 1945. The nesting area had first been spotted from the air on June 30, 1954, by G.M. Wilson, Canada's superintendent of forestry, and pilot Don Landells.

Except for cautious observation flights by the Canadian Wildlife Service, no intrusion whatsoever is allowed in the nesting grounds of the whooping crane.

The birds build their nests of rushes and sedges in the center of the more shallow areas of the marsh. Here they are protected from predatory animals by the muddy banks and treacherous muskegs. The number of birds observed nesting here has never exceeded five pairs.

The rest of the cranes that come north from the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Southern Texas presumably nest elsewhere in the vast lowlands of the Mackenzie basin. These birds often join the Sass River families in the fall, however, preparatory to migration. In some years almost the entire migrating population can be observed in the Sass River area.

The spring and summer of 1964 appeared to be an exceptionally good nesting season right from the start. Thirty-two birds had come north. Of four breeding pairs that we observed in the Sass marshes in May, three pairs had built nests and laid eggs. By June, one pair had produced a single young, and two pairs had produced twins. For the rest of the summer we made only occasional survey flights, allowing the nestlings to grow without disturbance.

In September we set out to make a thorough survey by helicopter. We found that one set of twins had only one survivor, a bird with an apparently injured wing. We could see that the young bird had no control over its right wing and tripped over the dangling primary feathers every few steps....All three of us quickly pursued the young whooper through the tangle of stunted black spruce, dwarf birch and Labrador tea that covered the ground. It was a short chase. The crane soon tripped on its trailing wing, and we caught it easily. The bird was surprisingly unresistant.

To avoid further damage to the wing, we wrapped the crane in sacking and placed it in a cage tied to the helicopter rack for the flight to Fort Smith.... At the veterinary clinic X-rays showed a partial dislocation of the wing at the shoulder. A two-inch splinter of charred wood was found in the subcutaneous tissue at the base of the bird's neck. The splinter was removed, and some superficial tears in the skin were sutured. Then the wing was tied up to prevent movement during the long air trip to Colorado....They were surprised at the tameness of the bird and its readiness to partake of the minced egg and mealworms that were its first food since leaving the wild. The whooper topped off these delicacies with a healthy portion of ground beef and fresh smelts and was then declared fit for the air journey to its new home.

Evidence indicated that the bird had been injured in attempting to fly while still very unsure of itself in the air. Possibly the adult pair and their young had been frightened by some predatory animal, and in attempting to escape, one young bird had been injured and the other killed.

Few predators roam the nesting area because travel there for any land mammal is difficult. Occasionally, however, bears and wolves have been seen threading through the heavy brush and shallow lakes, although not in the immediate vicinity of a nesting site. Aerial surveillance has never been close enough or frequent enough to protect the birds from an occasional predator; the remoteness of the nesting area precludes the possibility of eliminating all such hazards....

No sooner had the bird arrived in its new quarters than it caught its right foot in the bsndages. In an attempt to regain its balance it thrashed around, and before attendants could get to it, the bird broke its injured wing.

The wing was set and bound up again, but recovery was so slow that in January, 1965, the bird was finally taken to the College of Veterinary Medicine at Fort Collins. There the doctors reset the wing and inserted a stainless-steel pin in the damaged humerus.

Back at Monte Vista the crane recuperated rapidly, and in April it was returned to the clinic to establish whether there had been any permanent nerve damage to the wing and whether the wing could be given therapy to return it to full use. The examination showed Canus to be well on the road to recovery. Full use of his wing is important--and not just for flying. The courtship of cranes, with its great display of leaping, flapping and posturing, can place severe demands on the wings of the participants.

If Canus is to be the founder of a long dynasty of cranes, as is expected of him, he will need unrestricted use of both wings for his mating displays.

GOOD LUCK to Canus, and we hope the day will come when the flights as pictured on the calendar will be a common sight.

For the last ten months we have been studying the rare and endangered birds on the calendar, so the following news release from the office of Senator Karl E. Mundt, Republican, South Dakota, dated June 14 and August 26, 1965, is very valuable:

The Senate-House Conference Committee approved Senator Mundt's proposal to establish a special research project to save from extinction rare and endangered species of American wildlife such as the whooping crane. His proposal was a $350,000 amendment to the Department of Interior appropriations bill for fiscal 1966. The funds will establish the research program and center at the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Patuxent Wildlife Research Center in Maryland.

A topographic survey crew at the Patuxent center is presently developing contour maps essential to preparation of a plot plan for the propagation buildings, pens, ponds, and a water supply system. Preliminary biological plans also have been drawn up for a propagation building, service building, enclosures and other structures, and specific construction sites have been selected. They hope that construction of "critical portions" of the propagation facility will be sufficiently advanced by midwinter to move stock now housed at the Monte Vista Station in Colorado to Patuxent, because it is important that the birds be moved sufficiently in advance of the next breeding season to allow time for adjustment to their new surroundings before production begins.

Senator Mundt said a biologist, Winston E. Banko, has been chosen to study endangered wildlife problems in Hawaii. He said Mr. Banko's qualifications "are of the highest order" and noted Mr. Gottschalk's report which stated Mr. Banko authored a book entitled, THE TRUMPETER SWAN, following about eight years of study of this rare species in western Montana. The trumpeter swan has been successfully transplanted to the Lacreek Refuge in South Dakota. For several years, Mr. Banko was chief of the Section of Wildlife Management in the Division of Wildlife Refuges in the Bureau and during the past two years he has been with the Smithsonian Institution on ornithological research in the Pacific Islands.

Three other field biologist will be assigned to the following problems and locations: California condor studies in the Los Padres National Forest and vicinity in southern California; black-footed ferret ecological investigations in western South Dakota; and life history studies of various species such as the ivory-billed woodpecker, Florida everglades kite, and eastern brown pelican in the southeastern States.

Also preliminary contacts are being made in South America prior to obtaining stock of the South American condor and the snail hawk for propagation experiments designed to yeild information which may be used with American species. Pen facilities at Patuxent will be developed for this purpose.

Stock of native vulture and black vulture will also be used in production and transplanting studies to seek information and methods which may be adapted for propagation of endangered species.

Senator Mundt said, "Favorable action on my amendment opens an entirely new vista of unexplored opportunity to insure the preservation of many forms of wildlife now in immediate danger of extinction. This new program offers a solidly scientific research base for obtaining vitally needed new information on the characteristics and limiting factors of jeopardized wildlife. At the same time it includes in the program a practical installation where these disappearing species may be mass-produced in captivity and successfully released to restore self-sustaining populations in the wild. The project will also assure the perpetuation of many species which otherwise would be lost and will also preserve their wildness and other characteristics essential to survival after their release.

"For the first time we shall have a Federal facility and staff dedicated solely

to the problems of rare and endangered wildlife. Here, also, will be studied those species which are dwindling in numbers but have not yet reached the endangered list.

"In carrying out its program the new endangered wildlife research station will contribute to the overall knowledge that is essential to effective wildlife management in this country. It may even kindle more interest in trying to save forms of endangered native wildlife on other continents."

He considered the new program a major break through in the vital work of preserving and enhancing valuable wildlife populations as part of our great conservation and nature heritage, and he said the new station at Patuxent has a potential for becoming a leading national and international facility in the effort being conducted by private and public groups to save endangered wildlife species from extinction.

HONOLULU ADVERTISER, September 9, 1965, page A-7: Expert Due for Study of Isle Birds. (Janet Bell's contribution)

Winston Banko of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will be sent to Hawaii under President Johnson's plan to study birds threatened with extinction.

He will study 18 birds in danger of becoming extinct in Hawaii. Some of the 18 birds are migratory, but most made their homes here. Included are several sea birds, song birds such as the honey creeper and marsh birds, of which the Hawaiian duck is an example.

He will attempt to recreate the life history of the birds and find out why they are becoming extinct. A State Fish and Wildlife Service official estimated it would take Banko 10 years to complete the study.

The official said Banko would try to find the major area where the various birds live, and that the State would then try to buy the property to preserve the birds' natural habitat. The Federal government is expected to take part in the cost of the property.

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Field trip: Sand Island, Waipahu Dump, Waipio Peninsula, and Aiea Trail, Sept. 12, 1965.

On our field trip this month we looked for shore birds. Of the eighteen people who went with us eight were members. The trip started from the downtown Library to Sand Island, and there we saw the following birds:

2 brown boobies 3 Pomarine jaegers 1 wandering tattler

It was a sunny day, and there were a fair number of people, so not many birds were around.

The next stop was at the Squatters Island. There we saw:

80 golden plover 5 wandering tattler
36 ruddy turnstone 3 to 4 dozen stilt
13 sanderling

During the brief stop at the water-cress farm four cattle egrets were seen.

The Waipahu Dump was next in line. That place was the hottest thing you could imagine! But, the birding there was good.

2 cattle egret 37 golden plover
17 stilt 35 ruddy turnstone
9 black-crowned night heron 3 sanderling
1 blue heron???

Erin Casey

No wonder the bird walk ended with less than half (seven out of the eighteen) watchers at Waipio Peninsula. September 12 was the hottest day on record in Honolulu. Not only were the sugar cane plants young and offered no shade but also the temperature soared to 93 degrees. Despite the glaring hot sun six of us walked to the only remaining semblance of a mud flat. On our way to the pond, we saw numerous

linnets, ricebirds, mynahs, barred and Chinese doves and also plover. The plover were calling from the cane field. Since the plants were still young, the plover were able to feed around the plants. As we were about to stalk the shore birds at the pond, we suddenly saw about six black-headed mannikins feeding on the grass seeds. They were busily working the grass, expertly balancing at the very tip of the grass blade as though they were floating in the air.

As we happily watched the buoyant mannikins gracefully flit from one blade of grass to another, we hopefully strained our ears for a skylark, but unfortunately not a sound was heard. Where is the skylark? Is it gone for good? Let's hope it has found another area where it can raise a family to gladden the spirits of a hiker who happens to hear that ethereal song way way up in the blue yonder.

We tried not to scare the birds, so we slowly approached the pond, but the birds saw us and took flight before we were able to determine what they were. Among the 25 turnstones there were a couple of sandpipers, but unfortunately they left before we were able to identify them.

The most beautiful sight was to see a flock of about 68 cattle egrets feeding at one end of the pond, then suddenly all of the birds took to the air only for a second, but it was an impressive second. The birds were moving in unison, as though they were performing a ballet--a rhythm very difficult to ignore. These handsome birds stole the show, but before we left this area, we were happy to count 16 stilt, 15 plover and a pheasant.

It was only 11:30 a.m. when we reached our cars, so four of us decided to go to Aiea Trail to study forest birds. On our way to Aiea, we counted 26 cattle egrets and three Brazilian cardinals at Sumida Water-cress Farm.

At the picnic area near the Keaiwa Heiau we saw our first 'elepaio. The 'elepaio was on the Java plum tree, and it is beginning to feed at lower elevation. How much lower will it come down? Will it come to feeding trays? Is this change for survival? Is the 'elepaio able to cope with humah ways? What lures the birds to this level? Evidently, food! But, why?

Although the lehua was beginning to bloom, we counted only one 'apapane and three 'amakihi. 'Elepaio were very friendly, and Walter Donaghho was able to whistle two of them within a foot from the trail. We also watched a ricebird carrying grass to build a nest. Despite the heavy traffic of guava pickers, we counted 8 'elepaio, 2 mynah, 2 Brazilian cardinal, 1 N.A. cardinal, 10 white-eye, 5 leiothrix, and 4 ricebird.

On our way back to town, we stopped at the Nuuanu Reservoir and saw a pair of gallinule with three chicks, and a pair of coot with at least two young. It was very interesting to watch them run across the pond over the lily pads. At one instance a call was necessary to bring the gallinule family together. They chatted for a while, but nothing unusual happened. These family groups were a wonderful ALOHA to a perfect day.

Kojima

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As mentioned in Senator Mundt's news release the trumpeter swan is one of the rare birds, and it is our next bird, but there is another bird that we haven't studied yet--ivory-billed woodpecker, the first bird on the calendar, so if you have any information on these two rare birds, please share your information with other members.

Kojima, 725-A 8th Ave, Honolulu, 96816.

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The following articles are from the September, 1965, No. 1, issue of the PACIFIC BIRD OBSERVER, a bi-monthly newsletter published by the Division of Birds, Smithsonian Institute, in an effort to promote the understanding of birds and their relation to man in the Pacific: Page 1--SMITHSONIAN STUDIES PACIFIC BIRDS

As part of its Pacific Project, a biological survey of the Pacific, the Smithsonian Institution has engaged in a large scale scientific study of bird migration in the Pacific Ocean area. Although its purpose is primarily scientific, end results of the study will benefit many interests in the Pacific.

Scientists have long been puzzled by several questions regarding bird migration in the Pacific. What kinds or species of birds occur in different islands and areas at various seasons? Where do the birds come from? Where do they go? Do individual nesting birds always return to the same island to breed? Or do they go to another?

The scientific way to answer some of these questions is to capture and mark some of the birds in a distinctive way so that they can be identified later. Thus far over 400,000 birds of many species have been banded on islands in the Central Pacific by Smithsonian scientists. It is necessary to band so many, because the proportion of bands recovered is very small in relation to the number and kinds of birds banded.

In banding, a serially numbered tag of aluminum or plastic is attached to the leg of each bird and records are kept so that the place of banding may be traced if the band is eventually found. Colored marks and plastic streamers are also used, each color representing a different island of capture for a given species, so that the place of marking may be learned simply by noting the color rather than by the sometimes difficult process of recovering both bird and band.

After being banded, the birds are released to continue their normal life. In just a few days they may be thousands of miles away. No one knows where all species and populations habitually go, but chances are that some of the 400,000 banded birds will turn up sooner or later in all parts of the Pacific, for many of the banded species are famous for their long over-water navigational abilities.

Banding is not a short term affair. Since the bands are rustproof and the numbers deeply impressed, the time and place of banding may be traced even though the band is old and worn. Living birds captured by Smithsonian scientists in the Pacific have been found still wearing bands which were attached over 20 years ago! After noting the band number, scientists released the birds so that their further travels could be traced.

The entire program, which consists of the initial banding and later capture, recording of the number, and release of the bird, will enable scientists of the Pacific Project to move toward their goal of tracing the migrations of Pacific birds.

Page 2--WHY BAND MIGRATORY BIRDS?
Page 3--FRIGATEBIRDS OF THE PACIFIC
See the future issues of THE ELEPAIO for these two interesting articles.

Those who wish to cooperate with the Smithsonian study, write to Division of Birds, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. 20560 and ask to be placed on their free mailing list to receive the PACIFIC BIRD OBSERVER.

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NOVEMBER ACTIVITIES:

November 8 - Board meeting at the Honolulu Aquarium Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Members are always welcome.

November 14 - Field trip to tudy shore birds. Bring lunch, water, and if possible, your car. Transportation cost ($1.00) to be paid to the drivers. Meet at the Library of Hawaii at 8:00 a.m. Leader: Mike Ord, telephone: 256-320

November 15 - General meeting at the Honolulu Aquarium Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Program for the night: Mr. Walter Donaghho will show a film titled, "Cruising down the Nile."

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