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For the Better Protection
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HONOLULU CHRISTMAS COUNT December 29, 1968

	AREAS									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	TOTAL
Blue-faced Booby	2	2
Brown Booby	.	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	127	132
Red-footed Booby	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1700	1700
Great Frigatebird	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	270	270
Cattle Egret	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	87	.	87
Black-crowned Night Heron	.	.	.	1	1	7	.	8	6	23
Koloa	.	.	.	.	3	2	.	.	.	5
Shoveler	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	14	.	15
Scaup (sp?)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7	.	7
Common Gallinule	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	6	.	7
American Coot	.	7	.	.	.	1	1	22	.	31
American Golden Plover	.	103	72	40	48	173	14	34	90	574
Ruddy Turnstone	.	165	.	.	.	17	.	.	33	215
Wandering Tattler	.	8	.	.	.	4	.	.	6	18
Sanderling	.	18	.	.	.	16	9	.	.	43
Black-necked Stilt	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	24	25
Pomarine Jaeger	.	5	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5
Glaucous-winged Gull	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
Herring Gull	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
Unidentified Gull	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
Brown Noddy (Common)	.	6	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	6
Black Noddy (Hawaiian)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5	5
Spotted Dove	2	41	27	88	263	139	6	66	4	636
Barred Dove	15	41	130	264	386	269	39	54	9	1207
Red-whiskered Bulbul	.	7	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7
Red-vented Bulbul	.	2	.	.	.	.	7	.	.	9
Mockingbird	2	.	2	.	1	7	.	.	.	12
Red-billed Leiothrix	4	5	3	6	.	.	.	.	.	18
Shama Thrush	2	1	9	5	.	.	.	1	.	18
'Elepaio	12	.	4	3	.	1	.	.	.	20
Common Mynah	.	44	913	1200	763	373	100	853	19	4265
Indian Hill Mynah	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	2
Japanese White-eye	25	22	71	47	10	104	2	19	.	300
'Amakihi	17	.	9	14	.	.	.	.	.	40
Hawaiian Creeper	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
'Apapane	4	.	5	10	.	.	.	.	.	19
Ricebird	1	11	2	14	2	43	.	91	32	196
Weaver (Bishop or Napoleon)	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	2
House Sparrow	.	55	63	120	57	233	18	37	9	592

Honolulu Christmas Count, December 29, 1968 - Continued

	AREAS									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	TOTAL
Cardinal	8	14	7	30	4	35	6	20	4	128
Brazilian Cardinal	.	13	4	7	55	34	2	7	.	122
House Finch	18	7	11	81	9	9	.	4	1	140
Gray Singing Finch	.	.	.	.	12	6	.	.	.	18
Green Singing Finch	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	2
Saffron Finch	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1
Common Waxbill	.	.	.	.	17	12	.	.	.	29
Cordon Bleu	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	2
African Firefinch	.	.	.	.	8	.	.	.	.	8
Lavender Finch	.	.	.	.	23	.	.	.	.	23
Orange-cheeked Waxbill	.	.	.	.	26	6	.	.	.	32
No. of Individual Birds	112	585	1332	1932	1696	1491	205	1330	2341	11,024
No. of Species	13	24*	16	17	23	21	12	17	17	49*

*Unidentified Gull excluded.

Total hours on foot: 63
Total miles on foot: 41

Total hours by car: 23
Total miles by car: 192

Count taken in a circle, 15 miles in diameter, centered 2/5 mile ENE of Nuuanu Pali (21°22'N, 157°48'W) as in past years since 1954, to include Ulupau Head, Paiko Lagoon and Sand Island. Ocean, lagoons, ponds, swamp 20%; parks and residential areas 45%; valley forests 7%; ridge trails 28%.

Weather conditions: Partly cloudy, no showers.

Temperature: 62-80°F.

Wind direction and velocity: NE, 10 m.p.h.

The following areas were covered in this year's count:

- 1 Aiea Trail
- 2 Sand Island, Keehi Lagoon (offshore and bay through telescope), Salt Lake, Moanalua Gardens, Nuuanu Valley, Pacific Heights (2 parties)
- 3 Tantalus, Makiki Valley, Punchbowl (2 parties)
- 4 Downtown, University campus, Manoa Valley trail, St. Louis Ridge (3 parties)
- 5 Kapiolani Park, ewa slope of Diamond Head
- 6 Diamond Head Crater to Paiko Lagoon
- 7 Bellows Field, Saddle City, Kaelepulu Pond
- 8 Kawainui Swamp, quarry road and Kailua dump (3 parties)
- 9 Kaneohe Marine Air Station, including Moku Manu and Mokolea Rock through telescope

Twenty-five observers in 13 parties:

Michael Conant	Unoyo Kojima	David Taira
Patrick Conant	Thomas McGuire	Jack Throp
Walter Donaghho	Gary Parker	Margaret Titcomb
Jane Eliason	Gerald Pimental	Charlotte Walker
Bruce Huddleston	William Prange	Ronald Walker
Colin Huddleston	Peter Pyle	Harry Whitten
Don Huddleston	Robert Pyle	Mrs. John Wicks
Doris Huddleston	Gerald Swedberg	David Woodside
		Henry Yuen

Also assisting:

David Cox, Adrienne Kaeppler, Richard Moyle, Judy Reed, Hedi St. Denis, Lydia Whittaker

HONOLULU CHRISTMAS COUNTS
1959 - 1968

	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
Black-footed Albatross	2	.	1	.	1	5	7	7	4	.
Red-tailed Tropicbird	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.
White-tailed Tropicbird	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	.
Blue-faced Booby	1	.	.	.	.	.	5	1	.	2
Brown Booby	50	53	150	51	60	51	68	46	51	132
Red-footed Booby	1013	1315	500	600	739	580	240	430	1750	1700
Great Frigatebird	120	827	452	250	219	408	117	164	952	270
Cattle Egret	.	.	.	.	.	.	15	.	34	87
Black-crowned Night Heron	2	7	14	21	15	51	31	19	18	23
Canada Goose	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Mallard	.	4	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Koloa	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5
Pintail	148	43	51	.	25	.	38	29	77	.
Green-winged Teal	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
American Widgeon	17	45	.	7	.	.	.	.	4	.
Shoveler	43	14	.	12	195	62	3	30	13	15
Ring-necked Duck	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
Scaup (sp?)	.	.	.	.	.	2	2	.	1	7
Lesser Scaup	.	.	1	4	.	.	.	1	.	.
Bufflehead	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
Ring-necked Pheasant	.	7	2	.	.	.	1	.	.	.
Common Gallinule	1	.	3	3	6	14	8	5	1	7
American Coot	1133	780	47	178	101	61	33	47	19	31
Semipalmated Plover	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
American Golden Plover	118	146	433	239	314	225	591	590	1093	574
Ruddy Turnstone	2	62	160	92	65	97	226	93	347	215
Wilson's Snipe	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
Wandering Tattler	14	17	43	22	15	18	39	11	26	18
Greater Yellowlegs	.	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Long-billed Dowitcher	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Bar-tailed Godwit	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.
Sanderling	16	2	117	25	62	150	85	132	35	43
Black-necked Stilt	124	104	187	174	201	123	115	189	90	25
Pomarine Jaeger	2	4	16	11	23	12	6	31	37	5
Glaucous Gull	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Glaucous-winged Gull	.	2	2	1	.	.	.	.	2	2
Herring Gull	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
Ring-billed Gull	.	.	.	3	1	.	.	2	.	.
Laughing Gull	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
Bonaparte's Gull	.	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Unidentified Gull	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
Sooty Tern	.	.	.	.	5000	1600	4500+	.	6000	.
Brown Noddy (Common)	.	.	.	.	1	1	2	.	.	6
Black Noddy (Hawaiian)	.	.	.	2	.	2	.	.	27	5
Spotted Dove	106	55	130	71	40	259	245	477	506	636
Barred Dove	176	135	261	208	157	1371	1028	1802	2184	1207
Short-eared Owl	.	.	1	1	.	1	2	2	3	.
Skylark	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
Varied Tit	.	3	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Red-whiskered Bulbul	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	7
Red-vented Bulbul	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	9
Mockingbird	1	2	8	4	5	11	22	7	9	12
Chinese Thrush	2	.	.	2	1	.	2	.	1	.
Red-billed Leiothrix	76	115	114	106	81	91	98	98	130	18
Shama Thrush	3	8	8	5	11	7	5	12	22	18

HONOLULU CHRISTMAS COUNTS, 1959 - 1968 - Continued

	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968
'Elepaio	46	46	54	32	42	27	24	39	36	20
Common Mynah	391	192	381	462	177	2871	2449	5825	6447	4265
Indian Hill Mynah	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	7	2
Japanese White-eye	89	109	231	85	107	298	222	235	260	300
'Amakihi	56	24	42	34	41	35	43	29	46	40
Hawaiian Creeper (Oahu)	1	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
'Apapane	23	64	57	13	26	57	32	42	26	19
'I'iwi	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.
Ricebird	179	252	156	65	49	289	333	551	647	196
Bishop Weaver	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	2	.
Napoleon Weaver	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
Weaver (Bishop or Napoleon)	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	2
House Sparrow	68	109	125	119	71	1089	670	1111	1128	592
Cardinal	32	53	103	36	53	59	100	96	79	128
Brazilian Cardinal	18	28	44	10	12	85	210	246	274	122
House Finch	3	26	47	16	46	127	107	89	152	140
Strawberry Finch	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	.	.
Diamond Firetail Finch	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
Gray Singing Finch	.	.	.	.	.	.	5	22	37	18
Green Singing Finch	.	.	.	.	.	.	17	6	2	2
Saffron Finch	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Common Waxbill	.	.	.	.	.	.	6	2	7	29
Cordon Bleu	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	7	4	2
African Firefinch	.	.	.	.	.	.	30	6	5	8
Lavender Finch	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	2	17	23
Orange-cheeked Waxbill	.	.	.	.	.	.	30	6	23	32
No. of Individual Birds:	4076	4656	3954	2969	7963	10,139	11,820+	12,557	22,641	11,024
No. of Species:	34	34	39	39	35	34	46	51	51	49*

*Unidentified Gull excluded.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1968 CHRISTMAS COUNT

Despite almost ideal weather conditions and more party hours spent in the field, this year's Christmas Count produced fewer species than last year's (49 compared to 51) and fewer individual birds (11,024 compared to 22,641). Totals for most of the common landbird species were lower, and fewer of the casual waterbird species were found.

Yearly fluctuations in numbers recorded result from many factors. Differences in weather, in areas covered, in number of participants, their skill and time spent afield, and even in the particular manner in which they cover a given area all affect the number of birds recorded. These unavoidable variations must be carefully analysed before inferring any real changes in actual bird populations around Honolulu. The Table above gives individual counts for 9 areas, most of which are covered in the same general way each year. Further, most parties keep separate lists for each locality visited to show how the area totals are made up. This year, most party leaders also included a brief description of itinerary and methods to serve as a guide in trying to achieve similar comparable coverage in future years. With this information on file, the raw count totals can be interpreted a bit more meaningfully as indicators of longer period trends.

Major highlight of the 1968 Count was the recording of two native Hawaiian species that had been absent from the Count for a number of years. Unoyo Kojima's party found two Hawaiian Creepers on Aiea trail (see narrative account page 69) in the same general area where they were last seen on the 1961 Count. And the Koloea, or Hawaiian Duck, was

found by two parties in the Diamond Head area. Koloa brought from Kauai are now breeding successfully in the Honolulu Zoo. This is a project of the Hawaii State Fish and Game Division and the Zoo, supported by the World Wildlife Fund, to attempt reintroduction of a native species to Oahu by providing a carefully protected home breeding area at the Zoo. They are allowed to roam freely, and there have been numerous sightings outside the Zoo. On Count day, two were found in Diamond Head Crater and 3 in Kapiolani Park. Although these birds must be derived from Zoo stock, their occurrence outside the Zoo is very significant. They are included in the Count in the hope that this and future Counts will document the reestablishment of this native species on Oahu.

Four gulls were found by Ron Walker in the Keehi Lagoon area. Two, seen together, were immature Glaucous-wingeds, and one was an apparently adult Herring Gull. The fourth was not seen well enough for identification. All were viewed at considerable distance through a telescope.

Two species of bulbuls are evidently well-established on Oahu and are spreading (see ELEPAIO, September 1967, vol. 28, pp 23-25). The Red-whiskered Bulbuls in Pacific Heights, found on a Count for the first time last year, have been regular visitors all year to yards and feeders there, where Tom McGuire found 7 for this year's Count. The Red-vented Bulbul has been established and breeding for several years near Waipahu, well outside the Count circle. It has been observed recently in the Moanalua-Fort Shafter area, and on the windward coast from Waimanalo to Lanikai and southern Kailua. On Count day this year they were found in both areas.

The exotic finches around Diamond Head were counted in the same systematic way for the fourth consecutive year. The cumulative Table above shows that the lineup of species has remained remarkably steady, with some species consistently present in good numbers, and others apparently not yet so successful.

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AIEA TRAIL: Aiea trail was unusually quiet but finally, after anxiously waiting since 1961 we are able to happily report two creepers. Unbelievable! But unmistakably creepers!

Aiea has changed. There's a caretaker's home across from Keaiwa Heiau and the gate is locked from 7 pm to 7 am. When we reached the entrance to the park at 0645 am there were already two car-loads of people waiting to get in.

We parked our car temporarily and walked in. Dawn is a wonderful time of the day. Unknown! Enchanting! And surprising! Today, the first caller was the shama thrush instead of the usual cardinal. The shama not only filled the lower picnic area with its melodious song but also gracefully presented itself with its tail up in the air. Instead of the cardinals singing from the top of the Norfolk pines, the house finches were chattering and busily flitting from one treetop to the other, but on the ground there was no dove nor mynah. Too many people--no room for the birds. The overcast and the semi-darkness of dawn offered a delicately lacy effect to the silhouetted eucalyptus leaves contrasted against the background of the sturdy Norfolk pines. Our hearts danced to the enchanting music of the dawn until the gate was opened, when we moved the car into the park and started on the business of the day to count birds.

As usual the ubiquitous white-eyes confused the identification by being among 'amakihi and house finches. Fortunately, 'amakihi was very actively calling. Several times the call sounded so much like the tit's that we got excited hoping for a glimpse of a tit, which was last reported in 1962, but every time the caller turned out to be a handsome yellow male 'amakihi. The house finches were at home at their usual feeding area among the ironwood trees.

The absence of leiiothrix (only four counted) left an unusually mysterious haunted feeling. Somehow we expected to hear a sudden burst of melodious chorus, but unfortunately not even an alarm note. We heard only a faint calling from way deep in the valley. What happened? If any of you know the answer, please let us know.

Also, what happened to the 'apapane? Only four! In 1956 we counted over 400 of them, but in 1966 only 6 and none last year. Somehow I expected to see more this year, because there were some eucalyptus blossoms, and the weather was ideal for nectar feeding, but we heard the beautifully gentle and tender call only four times and saw that handsome bird only once. We had a very close but swift look at this bird. It dashed across our path, and we felt the strong wing beat and saw a flash of red and black; then it was gone.

As we were commenting on the unusually few birds, we suddenly saw two large birds among the white-eyes. We instinctively called, "mockingbird", but not believing our identification we began the process of elimination--spotted dove? No. Shama thrush? No. It's mockingbird! Yes, mockingbird! These two birds quietly came and quietly left us standing in awe.

The most rewarding surprise was finding the creepers. Of course, birders are optimists, but when our prayers are answered, we are surprised. So, after calling "another white-eye, another 'amakihi" for the last ten minutes, then suddenly we said, "Wait---they are creeping! The bill? STRAIGHT! A C*R*E*E*P*E*R! Two of them!" We looked at each other and silently thank God for this moment.

Unfortunate for the Christmas census, but fortunate for our spirits, because the trail was quiet except for the occasional chirping of the crickets and the call of birds, the rustling of the koa bean pods sounded like castanets and the swaying of the eucalyptus branches seemed like Spanish dancers, then suddenly a rainbow appeared to confirm the reality of the beauty. We were intoxicated with the fragrance of the eucalyptus and naupaka, but the scene before us was not an apparition but real. There was before us a huge dead koa tree with young eucalyptus and fern taking root in one of the rotted holes in the branches to soften the brutality of nature's force. For its background was the intense warmth of the sun, gold tinting the edges of the ever-changing fast-moving rain clouds. What a picture!

Some how all this beauty had a sad note--Why so few birds? Fortunately, the 'elepaio is still there to perform for us. Twice we had a wonderfully close look (only a few feet away) at both the immature and mature 'elepaio. How much longer will this be possible? Will the day come when even the adaptable 'elepaio will become scarce? How much longer can the trail take from the humans the deep scars of erosion from unauthorized trails, motorcycles, and horses?

It is possible to stop the abuses on the trail by vigilance by all hikers. Aiea is an ideal location for a trail-side museum, where ecology can become meaningful to all of us. Let's keep forever this beauty spot for the future generations.

Field Notes from Mr. & Mrs. Joseph E. McNatt, December 29, 1968: Kanaha Pond, Maui

...We have been birding on Maui and here is the list of birds observed here on Census Day. We do not know about the Stilts that were orange colored. Could you explain that? They were just like the other Stilts but rusty orange on breast and flanks where the others are white. We were very pleased with the three Ring-billed Gulls at Kanaha Pond. The Stilts tried to chase them, but the Gulls were fishing and did get a fish before leaving the area. 8x40 and 7x35 binoculars

4 Cattle Egret	Many Black-necked Stilt
3 Black-crowned Night Heron	3 Black-necked Stilt (orange breast & sides)
1 Pintail	3 Ring-billed Gull
2 Blue-winged Teal	- Spotted Dove
Many Shoveler	- Barred Dove
Several American Coot	4 Mockingbird
Many American Golden Plover	Many Mynah
Several Ruddy Turnstone	Several White-eye
4 Wandering Tattler	Several Ricebird
6 Sanderling	- English Sparrow

Our day was clear and bright all day. We enjoyed the pond in the morning watching the Stilt and others. When the Gulls flew in the Stilt were quite disturbed. But the Gulls appeared to only be fishing; they did not bother the Stilt.

Several times the Stilt chased the Gulls, obviously aware that they could be nest robbers. We did not know if the Stilt were nesting at this time here.

The small land birds chattered in nearby foliage and Mockingbirds were obvious at various singing posts. We noted that the Mockers were not as aggressive as our Mainland species.

The afternoon was spent enjoying the scenic views of the Island of Maui....

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HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN, November 28, 1968, page E-10: Special Yellow Birds.

"If a flashing bright yellow stilt flew into your kitchen window recently, it shouldn't be any cause for alarm.

"It would be just one of 49 Hawaiian stilts banded and dyed by the U.S. Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife on Maui....The 49 Maui birds were trapped, banded and dyed last week by Federal and State wildlife biologists.

"The biologists plan to repeat the similar banding and dying process, using harmless color dyes, on stilt from three other islands--Oahu, red; Kauai, green; and Hawaii, black or brown....With this study, biologists hope to determine the degree and extent of the fowl's interisland movement."

If you see any of these birds, please share your experiences with other members by writing to Kojima, 725-A 8th Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816.

Field Notes from Henry Yuen, 21 November 1968: Fairy Tern

August 13, another day, but this time I was climbing around Koko Head when I noticed an adult fairy tern among some leaves preening itself. This is unusual, because they normally take to the air when they see me approaching, unless this one didn't see me. So, naturally I kept quiet and watched. After a few minutes he finally flew away. There isn't much a person can do where I was, on a cliff with thorns, spiders and a big fall on both sides. In other words, it is a good excuse for patience. It was worth it, because half an hour later the adult returned into sight, preening itself only to fly away again. However, since I wasn't sure whether he flew out to sea or just to another tree, I started to climb around again. I didn't see one bird--I saw two birds! One of them a new fairy tern chick constantly moving around, while the adult tried to groom him. I guess anyone would be as excited as I was, as this chick was even younger than the other. There were no tail or feathers seen, just brown and beige down. If everything was still, the adult would brood the little one and after a half hour it would fly away again to preen itself, which explains what I was watching earlier, the lone adult preening itself.

Well, we mustn't let the older chick get jealous of the attention we're giving our little friend, so let's see what he is doing today. When I first saw him over three weeks ago, he would only lie flat as he could on the branch whenever I was around. Today he is sitting up for the first time with me there, and on a different part of the branch too.

Another event of the day was the two adults flying around me. Where I was, there is a canopy of thorny kiawe branches, but today these birds flew right through where they could and hovered in front of me darting at the same time. Since there is no breeze within the trees, the adults had to flap their wings furiously just to stay up, and it is exhausting, so the birds had to rest afterwards.

On August 18, the older chick was standing straight on his perch, and by August 25, he had most of his feathers except on his back. There was some question as to whether his feet were webbed yet or not, but there was no doubt as to what he did, as we watched him. He simply watched back. I think there were six of us humans that day watching him. He just patiently and quietly sat there and looked at us, once turning his head on one side, as if to get a better angle to look and ask, "six?"

Meanwhile the adults were flying around waiting for us to go away, so they could have their turn with the chick and feed him. As everyone says, they do carry fish

crosswise in their bills, and this time there were three.

Sooner or later the older chick would have to grow up, and that day came around August 30. Within the last five days, he must have fledged. An adult was seen preening himself. Climbing up closer would normally have frightened it away, but this one just continued preening. He looked up, of course, but almost seemed to ignore me. He must really trust me. May be this is the chick, and because he has seen me climbing around day after day, he has grown to accept me as harmless, then if this is the newly fledged chick, he has just matured into a beautiful adult. But then there is no proof. Just as I have even less idea as to what happened to the younger one. I never found him again. In fact, after classes resumed, I never had a chance to return.

From all that I know, out of eight adults seen, two chicks were found. Both about a month apart in ages. There is the chance that one chick may have survived, which means a 12% increase in population. May be if one is alive and does return next year to nest, we might find each other again.

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From Henry Yuen, January 4, 1969: Mynah

In my yard, we have a pair of mynahs nesting, and they have three fledglings. It is their first week on the ground, so they can't quite pick up their own food yet. Both parents are feeding the young; however, there seems to be something odd, at least to me, about one adult. It'll pick up a worm and will give it to the first chick it will meet. This seems normal. However, after it feeds its young, it will peck it or chase it away. The other parent doesn't. Now why would it do that? It will even go out of its way to find a chick to feed, then to chase it away. It is almost like human behavior.

Any idea or suggestions? Please share your experiences by writing to Kojima, 725-A 8th Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816.

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From Walter R. Donaghho: Shore bird observations on Oahu

October 24, 1968: Saw one bristled-thighed curlew at Mokapu, feeding on the wide grass strip on the main highway into the Marine Air Base. It was just before the turn, about fifty yards from the housing, and just at the end of the makai pond. It was feeding in the Haole Koa shrubbery at the edge of the strip and was quite tame. I came from the pond and sighted it, then slowly walked around it to the road and towards the main gate. It went on with its feeding, looking up once in awhile to check on my actions, and finding them not alarming it did not fly.

The curlew was in exactly the same place two days later on the 26th.

A list of shore birds taken on the makai pond resulted in 62 golden plover, 32 turnstone, 12 stilt, 8 sanderling (one on the beach), and 3 night heron and 3 wandering tattler (one on the beach). There was only one Hawaiian tern.

October 27, 1968: Saw two sharp-tailed sandpiper feeding on the mudflats of the Ewa-makai basin in the Waipio Settlement basins.

October 26, 1968: The pond near the Radio Station at Kahuku had a great number of ducks on it this afternoon. Two large flocks of pintail and shoveler, numbering at least 500, estimated by me and Mr. Richard Tongg, who also observed them. The opposite shore of the pond was fairly black with them before we scared them up, and when they flew, their wing beats made quite a racket. Didn't notice anything other than shoveler and pintail.

The marshy fishpond in Kahana Valley just after rounding the curve beyond the Crouching Lion Inn had six gallinule in it.

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From Walter R. Donaghho, on Hawaii:

December 17, 1968: One female scaup was noted by Dr. Rae Hudspeth and me on the Keaukaha Pond.

A gull that we took to be an immature glaucous-winged flew in over the fishing

wharf on the Wailua River mouth and scavenged for fishy handouts thrown to it. Its mantle was a uniform light brown.

December 18: A female (or young) canvasback, a female scaup and two male scaup were noted on the Waiakea Pond.

December 19: Seven palila were seen along the dirt road running east of the cabin at Puu Laau. I also noted one 'akiapola'au.

On Oahu:

December 28: A female duck hawk was observed at Ulupau Head from the top of the cliff overlooking Moku Manu. It spent quite a while diving and soaring about on the air currents over the ocean, and once came up close to look us over (me and an explorer post).

Poamoho trail, July 19, 1968: The Oahu creeper was definitely recognized by Jerry Swedberg and me about two miles in from the end of the road. We saw a male and a female and heard others, possibly as many as six in the small flock, passing through the moss-hung branches of the 'ohi'a and other trees.

Opaaula trail, July 20: Creepers were heard but not seen along the Opaaula ridge about two or two and a half miles down from the Koolau Summit. Their distinctive "cips" were unmistakable.

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From Charles G. Kaigler:

24 November 1968, Poamoho trail: The most 'apapane I have ever seen at one time. Each Albizia moluccana (Siris, White Monkeypod) held from 15 to 25 'apapane busily feeding. Also saw 'amakihi, white-eye, elepaio, leiiothrix and ricebird along trail.

28 November 1968, 1300-1530, tide falling (Accompanied by Lance Pickett):

Waipahu dump: 93 stilt, 55 golden plover, 6 turnstone.

Waipio airstrip mudflats: About 30 shoveler, 12 coot, 50-75 golden plover, 25-30 turnstone, 2 tattler, 12 stilt, 4 night heron, and 6 lesser scaup (1 male and 5 female) which landed less than 50 yards from us and were observed through 30x scope for 20 minutes. The male mallard was still present and was now in the same general area as the shovelers but still seems to be keeping to himself.

8 December 1968, 1000-1200, tide falling (Accompanied by Lance Pickett and Hilde Kaigler)

Waipahu dump: 130 golden plover, 30 stilt, 2 dowitcher, 3 turnstone and one semi-palmated plover.

Waipio airstrip mudflats: 7 golden plover, 2 black-bellied plover, 5 turnstone, 1 tattler, 7 stilt, 3 shoveler, 2 pintail, 6 coot and 1 heron.

The settlement basin was almost dry and held only a few plover and turnstone. An adjoining pond held 18 duck, mostly shoveler with a few pintail (3-4) mixed in, and 5-8 stilt. Cattle egrets are still common in the area and the mannikins move about in large flocks of 40-60 birds.

1330, Kahuku: Driving rain prevented any good survey of the area but were fortunate in having 4 gadwall (1 male, 3 female) land in a pond next to where we parked. Enroute home via Kam Hwy near Sand Island, a large gull flew across the highway at the Keehi Lagoon drainage canal, up the canal and back and circled the area where we parked. Tentatively identified as a second-year herring gull. White, dusky gray mantle, dark wing tips, dark tail feathers.

11 December 1968, 0930, high tide:

Sand Island: Two immature gulls - light brown overall, black bills, flesh-colored legs, no darker coloring on wing tips or tail, observed at 20-30 feet at rest and in flight. Immature glaucous-winged? One was somewhat lighter than the other (possibly a first year and a second year) but not as white as the gull observed on 8 December. Also observed one mockingbird and well over 125 each of sanderling, golden plover and turnstone in one large grouping on the island itself.

Hickam Harbor held a good number of plover, turnstone, sanderling, a few stilt and two tattlers.

12 December 1968:

A golden plover in breeding plumage at Kaneohe Marine Base! Precocious?

Field Trip, January 12, 1969, for Shore Birds

On sunny January 12 a group of 10 members and guests viewed shore birds with Dr. Robert L. Pyle, leader, in the West Loch area of Pearl Harbor. Despite the billowing smoke from the Waipahu dump and the blaring motorcycle noises, many shore birds were seen following the trucks in the area. A flock of cattle egret, 150 plus, waddled and flew around the trucks; there were also numerous golden plover, four black-crowned night heron, a wandering tattler, six Hawaiian stilt, many Chinese and barred doves, mynahs, ricebirds, sparrows, cardinals, and several strawberry finches.

In the Waipio settlement basin we saw an osprey high in the kiae; 150 plus black-headed mannikin, strawberry finch, pintail duck, golden plover, ruddy turnstone and another 25 cattle egret.

In the Waipio airstrip area there were 30 plus golden plover, 23 shoveler, two with green plumage, two black-crowned night heron in excellent view, a wandering tattler, ruddy turnstone, sanderling, a Hawaiian stilt, a coot and a pueo.

Ending the trip at the head of West Loch 40 plus ae'o or stilt were seen in the mudflats in the distance, along with five night heron, and numerous golden plover.

Peggy Hodge

Field Note from Peggy Hodge, January 13, 1969: Red-vented Bulbul

A red-vented bulbul was heard vigorously whistling and singing in early and mid January in Lanikai along and below Kaiwa Ridge and seen eating brassaia berries in local gardens nearby. A few bulbul are thought to be nesting in a nearby hillside lot. The cocky bird with his full black velvety crest and bright red under rump is an exciting sight to those of us who have just discovered this escapee from Malaysia.

Letter from Mr. & Mrs. William V. Ward, Nelson, N.Z., December 25, 1968:

Our enjoyment of the country continues and grows. The NZ National Film Unit saw Bill's film of the Kermadec Islands, and asked if he would make bird movies for them to be shown on color TV in Europe and North America. He said he'd be glad to... So we've had interesting trips to out-of-the-way places which tourists seldom see.

Bill went to Kapiti Island off the North Island's southwest coast, and to the famous White Heron colony in Westland. He's just back from Motunau Island off Canterbury where he filmed penguins and seabirds at night with a Sun Gun powered by re-chargeable batteries. The Film Unit people encouraged him to take his sound gear and make as many bird tapes as he wishes, some of which they will put on the films. In January, we all go to Stewart Island for a fortnight during summer holidays and will help Bill film and tape birds there, especially Kiwis....

FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES:

- February 9 - Field trip to Palikea to study forest 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: Charles G. Kaigler, telephone 988-3195.
- February 10 - Board meeting at the Zoo entrance bldg. at 7:30 pm. Members welcome.
- February 17 - General meeting at the Waikiki Aquarium Auditorium at 7:30 pm. Speaker: E. H. Bryan, Jr. Topic: Sources of Information on Hawaiian Birds

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