

THE ELEPAIO

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Hawaii Audubon Society



For the Better Protection
of Wildlife in Hawaii

VOLUME 30, NUMBER 8

FEBRUARY 1970

HONOLULU CHRISTMAS COUNT December 28, 1969

	AREAS									TOTAL
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Blue-faced Booby	13	13
Brown Booby	.	23	.	.	.	1	.	.	36	60
Red-footed Booby	2380	2380
Great Frigatebird	14	.	.	363	377
Cattle Egret	150	1	151
Black-crowned Night Heron	2	.	7	40	49
Canada Goose	1	.	1
Koloa	6	.	.	9	.	15
Pintail	.	18	.	.	3	.	.	27	6	54
Shoveler	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	9	5	18
Scaup (sp?)	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
Lesser Scaup	3	.	3
Duck (sp?)	10	.	10
Common Gallinule	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	2
American Coot	.	75	.	.	.	.	1	75	.	151
Semipalmated Plover	1	1
American Golden Plover	1	180	25	150	53	153	19	14	42	637
Ruddy Turnstone	.	86	.	.	.	60	.	.	14	160
Common Snipe (Wilson's)	1	.	1
Wandering Tattler	.	9	.	.	.	6	.	.	8	23
Sanderling	.	7	.	.	.	30	.	.	2	39
Black-necked Stilt	.	22	.	.	.	30	10	.	39	101
Sooty Tern	2	2
Brown Noddy (Common)	26	26
Spotted Dove	1	38	42	183	189	116	2	105	2	678
Barred Dove	4	84	48	747	275	406	23	100	7	1694
Red-vented Bulbul	7	.	.	7
Mockingbird	.	2	.	1	.	1	.	.	.	4
Shama Thrush	.	3	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	7
Chinese Thrush	3	.	3
'Elepaio	8	3	.	10	.	.	.	1	.	22
Common Mynah	.	324	708	1653	857	335	7	373	10	4267
Indian Hill Mynah	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1
Japanese White-eye	11	34	.	74	14	70	5	17	2	227
'Amakihi	4	.	.	40	.	.	.	.	.	44
'Apapane	2	.	.	15	.	.	.	.	.	17
Ricebird	1	22	2	66	.	101	6	32	8	238
Bishop Weaver	6	3	.	.	.	9
Napoleon Weaver	2	.	.	.	.	2
House Sparrow	.	230	26	373	87	499	11	63	5	1294

Honolulu Christmas Count, December 28, 1969 - Continued

	AREAS									TOTAL
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Java Sparrow	4	.	.	.	.	4
Cardinal	3	16	1	11	7	35	7	13	1	94
Brazilian Cardinal	.	13	7	33	68	22	4	6	5	158
House Finch	.	2	1	81	16	10	.	.	.	110
Gray Singing Finch	6	.	.	.	.	6
Green Singing Finch	1	.	.	.	.	1
Saffron Finch	3	.	.	.	.	3
Common Waxbill	12	.	.	.	.	12
Cordon Bleu	4	.	.	.	.	4
Blue-headed Cordon Bleu	12	.	.	.	.	12
African Firefinch	4	.	.	.	.	4
Lavender Finch	6	.	.	.	.	6
Orange-checked Waxbill	24	.	.	.	.	24
Pintailed Whydah	7	.	.	.	.	7
Senegal Combassou	1	.	.	.	.	1
No. of Individual Birds:	35	1198	860	3442	1667	1894	102	1020	3018	13,236
No. of Species:	9	23	9	16	25	19	12	22	24	53*

*Unidentified scaup and duck excluded.

Total hours on foot: 52
Total miles on foot: 29

Total hours by car: 21
Total miles by car: 231

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, intermittent heavy rain.
Temperature: 62-80°F.

Wind direction and velocity: N-NE, 20-30 m.p.h. with gusts to 50 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
- 3 Tantalus, Makiki Valley, Punchbowl
- 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 Kawaimui Swamp, Quarry Road and Kailua dump (3 parties)
- 9 Kaneohe Marine Air Station, including Moku Manu and Mokolea Rock through telescope

Twenty-nine observers in 13 parties:

Erin Casey	Doris Huddleston	William Prange
Tonnie Casey	Christine Jones	Mark Schroeder
Michael Conant	Charles G. Kaigler	David Taira
Patrick Conant	Hildegard Kaigler	Jack L. Throp
Marvin Devereux	Unoyo Kojima	Janet Turner
Walter H. Donaghho	Mae Hull	Charlotte Walker
Barbara Edmonson	William P. Hull	Ronald L. Walker
Norma Gorst	David Olsen	David Woodside
Colin Huddleston	Thelma Parker	Henry Yuen
Don Huddleston	Gerald Pimental	

HONOLULU CHRISTMAS COUNTS
1960 - 1969

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Black-footed Albatross	.	1	.	1	5	7	7	4	.	.
Red-tailed Tropicbird	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.	.
White-tailed Tropicbird	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	.	.	.
Blue-faced Booby	.	.	.	.	.	5	1	.	2	13
Brown Booby	53	150	51	60	51	68	46	51	132	60
Red-footed Booby	1315	500	600	739	580	240	430	1750	1700	2380
Great Frigatebird	827	452	250	219	408	117	164	952	270	377
Cattle Egret	.	.	.	.	.	15	.	34	87	151
Black-crowned Night Heron	7	14	21	15	51	31	19	18	23	49
Canada Goose	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
Mallard	4	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Koloa	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5	15
Pintail	43	51	.	25	.	38	29	77	.	54
Green-winged Teal	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
American Widgeon	45	.	7	.	.	.	.	4	.	.
Shoveler	14	.	12	195	62	3	30	13	15	18
Ring-necked Duck	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.
Lesser Scaup	.	1	4	.	.	.	1	.	.	3
Scaup (sp?)	.	.	.	.	2	2	.	1	7	2
Bufflehead	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.
Duck (sp?)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	10
Ring-necked Pheasant	7	2	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.
Common Gallinule	.	3	3	6	14	8	5	1	7	2
American Coot	780	47	178	101	61	33	47	19	31	151
Semipalmated Plover	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
American Golden Plover	146	433	239	314	225	591	590	1093	574	637
Ruddy Turnstone	62	160	92	65	97	226	93	347	215	160
Common Snipe (Wilson's)	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1
Wandering Tattler	17	43	22	15	18	39	11	26	18	23
Greater Yellowlegs	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Long-billed Dowitcher	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Bar-tailed Godwit	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
Sanderling	2	117	25	62	150	85	132	35	43	39
Black-necked Stilt	104	187	174	201	123	115	189	90	25	101
Pomarine Jaeger	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	.	2
Brown Noddy (Common)	.	.	.	1	1	2	.	.	6	26
Black Noddy (Hawaiian)	.	.	2	.	2	.	.	27	5	.
Spotted Dove	55	130	71	40	259	245	477	506	636	678
Barred Dove	135	261	208	157	1371	1028	1802	2184	1207	1694
Short-eared Owl	.	1	1	.	1	2	2	3	.	.
Skylark	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Varied Tit	3	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Red-whiskered Bulbul	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	7	.
Red-vented Bulbul	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	9	7
Mockingbird	2	8	4	5	11	22	7	9	12	4
Chinese Thrush	.	.	2	1	.	2	.	1	.	3

HONOLULU CHRISTMAS COUNTS, 1960 - 1969 - Continued

	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Red-billed Leiothrix	115	114	106	81	91	98	98	130	18	.
Shama Thrush	8	8	5	11	7	5	12	22	18	7
'Elepaio	46	54	32	42	27	24	39	36	20	22
Common Mynah	192	381	462	177	2871	2449	5825	6447	4265	4267
Indian Hill Mynah	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	7	2	1
Japanese White-eye	109	231	85	107	298	222	235	260	300	227
'Amakihi	24	42	34	41	35	43	29	46	40	44
Hawaiian Creeper (Oahu)	.	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	2	.
'Apapane	64	57	13	26	57	32	42	26	19	17
'I'iwi	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Ricebird	252	156	65	49	289	333	551	647	196	238
Bishop Weaver	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	2	.	9
Napoleon Weaver	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	2
Weaver (Bishop or Napoleon)	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	2	.
House Sparrow	109	125	119	71	1089	670	1111	1128	592	1294
Java Sparrow	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	4
Cardinal	53	103	36	53	59	100	96	79	128	94
Brazilian Cardinal	28	44	10	12	85	210	246	274	122	158
House Finch	26	47	16	46	127	107	89	152	140	110
Strawberry Finch	.	.	.	.	.	.	4	.	.	.
Diamond Firetail Finch	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.
Gray Singing Finch	.	.	.	.	.	5	22	37	18	6
Green Singing Finch	.	.	.	.	.	17	6	2	2	1
Saffron Finch	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	3
Common Waxbill	.	.	.	.	.	6	2	7	29	12
Cordon Bleu	.	.	.	.	.	3	7	4	2	4
Blue-headed Cordon Bleu	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	12
African Firefinch	.	.	.	.	.	30	6	5	8	4
Lavender Finch	.	.	.	.	.	4	2	17	23	6
Orange-cheeked Waxbill	.	.	.	.	.	30	6	23	32	24
Pintailed Whydah	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	7
Senegal Combassou	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1
No. of Individual Birds:	4656	3954	2969	7963	10,139	11,820+	12,557	22,641	11,024	13,236
No. of Species:	34	39	39	35	34	46	51	51	49*	53#

*Unidentified gull excluded. #Unidentified scaup and duck excluded.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1969 CHRISTMAS COUNT

The Hawaii Audubon Society participated in the annual Christmas bird count conducted by the national association and despite the unfavorable weather on December 28 had a fairly good day.

Twenty-nine members and guests participated in thirteen parties and covered a fifteen-mile circle that encompassed downtown Honolulu, Manoa, Tantalus, Pacific Heights, St. Louis Heights, Diamond Head to Paiko Lagoon, Sand Island, Keehi Lagoon, Nuuanu Pali, Kaneohe, Moku Manu, Kailua and Waimanalo.

They found a total of fifty-three species and counted a total of 13,236 individual birds. Outstanding finds were a Canada goose, a common (Wilson's) snipe, a semipalmated plover and several new exotic finches that had either escaped or been released on the slopes of Diamond Head. There were at least fourteen species of these exotics now living there. Naturally the mynahs led the list of the usual finds, followed by the red-footed boobies of Moku Manu and the barred doves and house sparrows. Missing from the count for the first time were the red-billed leiothrix. Undoubtedly the high wind and intermittent rains which made covering the mountain trails difficult

had something to do with missing the leiothrix, but it has been apparent to many observers that the number has been declining over the past few years. The reason is as yet unknown.

Notes on Unusual Species

Canada Goose: H_os been reported before on a Christmas count but not since 1961. Unusual at any time. Observed at close range through binoculars by two members of the party who are quite familiar with Mainland birds. The Hawaiian Islands experienced a gale on the day preceeding the count which might account for the presence of the goose. The aftermath of the gale certainly affected the count, particularly on the trails, as many were almost unpassable and the high winds made sightings difficult and identification by voice almost impossible.

Koloa: Interesting to note that 9 of the 15 birds seen were in the Kawainui Swamp area rather than in the area adjacent to the Honolulu Zoo where the remainder were observed. Koloa were released in the swamp in 1968 and are evidently becoming established.

Common (Wilson's) Snipe: An occasional migrant to Hawaii, last sighting on a Christmas count was in 1966. David Olsen, of the US Fish and Wildlife Service made the sighting at 15 feet, in good light, through binoculars. He is quite familiar with snipe from his service in the Dakotas and Minnesota.

Exotic Finches: There are four additions to our count this year, the Blue-headed Cordon Bleu (Uraeginthus cyanocephalus), Senegal Combassou (Hypochera chalybeata), Pintailed Whydah (Vidua inacroura), and the Java Sparrow (Padda aryzivora) also called the Java Ricebird. (See March 1969 THE ELEPAIO, Vol.29 #9, pp 80-81 on Java Sparrow) This count was conducted as usual by Jack Throp, Director of the Honolulu Zoo, who is an expert on exotic birds and who checks the populations throughout the year.

Charles G. Kaigler

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AIEA TRAIL:

Thirty-five individual birds, the lowest count of the fifteen years of Christmas bird counting at Aiea. I am hoping that the strong wind and heavy rain caused the poor count and not the ecological disturbances.

We reached the picnic area at 7:20 a.m. in a pouring rain, so we stayed in the car and strained our ears for at least a chirp, but the only sound everywhere was the breaking of the tender young shoots. No birds in trees nor on the ground. Somehow the Norfolk pines looked violent and empty. Then, suddenly a beautiful sight, an unusual find for the day and our first bird--a plover standing in the soggy grass. The plover was a challenge, so despite the rain and wind we headed for the trail to look for the creeper. Alas, not only the creeper but also the house finch, leiothrix, and shama thrush were not seen nor heard. Of course, no tit--last reported in 1962.

At least the 'elepaio was still the same. We saw eight of them. They were calling andchasing each other. Also, fortunately, we were able to see an 'apapane feeding on the eucalyptus blossoms.

Though birds were few, beauty was everywhere. The violence of nature gave an added softness to the swaying branches and strength to the mottled eucalyptus barks. Yes, we also witnessed a complete rainbow over the swaying golden pili grass and the sparkling gray-green kului trees. The most beautiful sight was to see a flash of blue among the white clouds as the sun struggled to come through the ominous dark storm clouds.

Kojima

MOANALUA GARDENS:

Arrived 7:05 a.m. Parked car on highway on Koko Head side of the entrance gate, which was barricaded. Windy with light rain. Remained in car for 5-10 minutes, listening to mynah calls and chatter in large trees nearest to car. Then left car

and circled park area counterclockwise on foot, stopping frequently to listen and observe (through 10x50 binoculars). Mynahs much in evidence throughout park area in all large trees and flying in small groups (2-6) between the trees. Accurate mynah count impossible under circumstances; after counting up to 65 certainly different individuals, had to give up, because of uncertainty of recounting same individuals flying back and forth between trees. Estimated at least 200 mynahs in park area. The area is clearly a regular mynah roost. Departed 8:10 a.m. in intermittent rain and reduced wind.

SALT LAKE:

Arrived 8:15 a.m. Entered dirt road at north end of housing area, and drove out onto dirt-filled area that projects into lake in westerly direction at north end of lake. Observed water and shore areas on both sides of fill through 10x50 and 20x50 binoculars and through 20x scope. Weather cloudy and windy with intermittent rain. Departed 9:30 a.m. Returned at 5:45 p.m. Followed same procedures and departed at 6:05 p.m., amid clouds, wind, light rain, and failing light. Second visit netted improved counts of shoveler and plover only.

KEEHI LAGOON:

Arrived 9:35 a.m. at southeast end of dirt road that runs along west side. Observed water areas of lagoon and shore areas of inlet and park through 10x50 binoculars and scope, then drove back to lagoon road; entered park area and drove to parking area at east end of park. Walked about 100 yards to shore of lagoon, observing large lawn area of park, brushy area beyond edge of park and water and shore areas of lagoon. Weather cloudy with reduced wind and only occasional wisps of light rain. Visibility good. Departed 11:05 a.m. Returned at 5:05 p.m. Made quick survey of same areas (including end of runway-complex across lagoon drive) under cloudy conditions with reduced wind and no rain, and departed at 5:40 p.m. Second visit netted increased counts of house sparrow (150+ vs 117), Brazilian cardinal 3 vs 2) and mynah (133 vs 12). Buildup of mynahs in late afternoon indicates this is a roosting area.

SAND ISLAND:

Arrived 11:20 a.m. and drove to southwest corner of island, where we observed sea areas and buoys through binoculars and 20x scope, then proceeded north along shore to reviewing stand, where we observed sea area, buoys, offshore island (mudflat) sand bar. Also, walked through and among adjacent brush areas toward center of island. Weather cloudy, windy, rainy. Departed 12:45 p.m. Returned 3:45 p.m. Surveyed same areas and departed 4:55 p.m. amid clouds, wind and intermittent rain. Second visit netted improved H.A. cardinal and brown booby counts, and following species not observed during morning visit: stilt (on mudflat not exposed during higher morningtide), spotted dove, Brazilian cardinal, mynah, and mockingbird. Increased glare made seaward observations much more difficult during second visit. Much bird movement on most-distant mudflats not certainly identifiable, even through 20x scope.
Tides: High water 6:54 a.m. (1.0) 8:00 p.m. (0.7); low water 2:30 p.m. (0.2)

NUUANU RESERVOIRS AND JUDD TRAIL:

Arrived at upper small reservoir on old Nuuanu Pali Drive at 2:15 p.m. Observed water and bank areas through 10x50 binocular and 20x scope. Walked down road toward lower reservoir at Judd Trail entrance. Cut down to Judd Trail enroute and squeaked up forest birds, at close range with naked eyes. Returned to road and continued to lower reservoir. Weather windy, cloudy and intermittent rain throughout. Departed 3:25 p.m. Upper large reservoir on Pali Highway not visited because of previous experience of no accessible observation points.

William P. Hull

DIAMOND HEAD CRATER:

Three orange weavers and many ricebirds on Guinea grass. Pond very small-- no coot nor koloa.

KUAPA POND & PAIKO LAGOON:

Brown booby was seen off Koko Head. We can bid Aloha to the Kuapa Pond habitat. It is pau--finished!

Paiko Lagoon: 60 turnstone, 54 golden plover, 30 sanderling and 30 stilt, 6 wandering tattler, and 2 night heron.

Walter R. Donaghho

KAPIOLANI PARK AND WEST & SOUTH SLOPES OF DIAMOND HEAD:

A breeding pair of white-crested laughing jay thrush is reported in this area, but they were not seen during the count.

Jack L. Throp

The following descriptions are from FINCHES & SOFT-BILLED BIRDS by Bates & Busenbark, pages 251-252: White-crested Laughing Jay Thrush (Garrulax leucolophus)

Easily the most showy of all readily available Laughing Jay Thrushes, the hardy White-crested Laughing Jay Thrush from India and nearby areas is a constant source of admiration among large softbills. Active, amusing, and ever curious, this bird with its catcalling laughing sounds is easily managed in aviculture....

The heavy bodied size is eleven and a half inches including the tail of four and a half inches and the crest. The entire head and fulsome crest back to the beginning of the nape and including a large circular bib protruding down into the chest are white. A tinge of gray on the back of the crest becomes more concentrated at the back of the crown. The forehead, throat, and chest are brighter white. The eyes are reddish-brown and the beak is black. A sprightly black mask starts from the beak, includes the lores, surrounds the eyes, and encloses part of the cheek area.

The rest of the bird is dull brown with a brighter shade adjoining the white areas. The feet and legs are grayish. All of the feathers other than the tail and flights are soft and abundantly long to give a luxurious texture. The handsome crest of very fine feathers is especially bushy. In the female, the crest is slightly smaller and has more of a grayish extent.

Page 167: Combassous, genus Hypochera

The Combassous, also called Indigo Finches and Steel Finches are classed with the Whydah family because of similarities in nuptial dress and a parasitic habit practiced by several whydahs. The main difference from other parasitic whydahs is the lack of elongated tail feathers. When they are out of color, Combassous resemble Paradise Whydahs in miniature. Combassous are frequently described as Whydahs without long tails.

The question of the parasitic nature of the Combassou has long been more of a supposition by ornithologists rather than a recorded fact. Aviculturists who have been successful in rearing young report that Combassous prefer to be parasitic but also will actually take over a disused nest and rear their own young. The main question still to be answered is the comparison of percentages of young reared by parasitic means with those reared by their natural parents.

Theorists may come up with some interesting suppositions once these percentages are established. One theory may perhaps go along these lines: that the Combassou is less advanced in its evolution than other parasitic whydahs since the parasitic habit is not fully entrenched, that in time it will become fully parasitic, and that eventually it may come to have a long tail.

There are several species and subspecies of Combassous scattered over very wide ranges in Africa. Variations on many are so slight that confusion and frequent disagreement cannot help but exist. Females of most species are practically indistinguishable.

Page 168: Senegal Combassou (Hypochera chalybeata)

The Senegal Combassou, measuring three and three-fourth inches, is usually called the Combassou or Steel Finch. The popular name of Indigo Finch is not widely used in an avicultural sense.

The male in color has pale horn-colored beak, feet, and legs. All the other coloring is a shiny metallic black showing reflections of purples and blues.... Fortunately the male is usually in color nearly eight months, but the changeover times are not always consistent....

When completely out of color the male resembles the female who in turn is quite like nothing else except a miniature and somewhat duller female Paradise Whydah. The head is somewhat smaller and the neck slightly shorter in a comparison between the two. The only possible sex distinction during the out of color phase is a sharper contrast in the males showing alternating paler and darker head streaks....

The pattern of the head is dominated by two broad brown stripes extending from the nostrils to the back of the crown and separated and flanked by pale buffish stripes. A black line extending backwards from the eye fades out near the back of the head.

As in most whydahs, the brown back, wings, and tail are cluttered with some pale markings on the edges of the feathers and darker markings in the centers. The entire effect is muddied with sparrowlike drabness.

The underparts are a drab, dull whitish shade with a preponderance of buffish-brown on the chest. The underside of the tail is brownish....

The Senegal Combassou is presumed to be parasitic upon Fire Finches in the wild state; but, in captivity, it has also placed its eggs in the nests of Corden Bleus....

Page 163: Pintailed Whydah (Vidua macroura)

The very attractive and hardy Pintailed Whydahs from Western Africa...are slender, well-proportioned birds; and adults always have red beaks whether they are in nuptial dress or in eclipse plumage. Youngsters have grayish-black beaks and closely resemble youngsters of St. Helena Waxbills who are the hosts of the parasitic Pintails.

The male in color has a black cap which extends through the eye and continues to the nape of the neck. There is also a little black patch under the chin. Black continues again on shoulders and primary coverts. The black of the shoulders extends in a broad bar down to the sides of the upper chest area. Most of the flights are black, but a broad white band extends across the primaries and scapulars. Except for the tail, the rest of the bird is white. The white undersides of flight and tail feathers are carefully shaded with grayish-black to give very soft accents. Four long slender tail feathers, usually nine inches in length, are black....The male does not come into color the first year. In the second year the tail seldom reaches a length beyond six inches....While out of color, the male...closely resembles the female. Sexes are nearly impossible to detect during eclipse plumage, but males have bolder head stripes than females. The beak is red, though somewhat less bright than during the in color phase; but the rest of the coloring is a haphazard and cluttered mixture of buffs, browns, and blacks in sparrowlike drabness. The total length is four and one-fourth inches including a tail of one and three-fourths inches. Two irregular and wide black stripes extending from the forehead to the back of the crown are flanked by tan stripes. An ill-defined black stripe extends backwards from the eye and fades out at the back of the head.

The back, wings, and tail are mostly black with a careless arrangement of pale brown marking the outer edges of most of the feathers. The underside starts with a pale buff on the throat and fades to a dull white extending from the lower end of the chest through the undertail coverts. Several blackish spots are sprinkled on the chest. The underside of the tail is grayish fading to whitish on the outer margins.

Pages 141-142: Blue-capped Cordon Bleu (Uraeginthus cyanocephalus)

...It is somewhat shyer than the Cordon Bleu....It has a narrow range in Eastern Africa; and, though it is not considered rare on a local basis, bird shipments are very infrequent from these areas.

The male is distinctive in that the entire head and neck are blue instead of having brown on top of the head and nape. The female is very much like the female Blue Waxbill but is paler and sometimes has blue on the forehead. Youngsters are paler than females and have dusky bills.

Editor's Note: Also called Blue-headed Cordon Bleu. This bird has been seen previously by Jack Throp but recorded for the first time for the 1969 Christmas count.

ST. LOUIS TRAIL:

'Amakihi is common; few 'elepaio; and two N.A. cardinals; not many white-eyes. Saw 'apapane towards the end of the trail but the finches at the beginning.

STAR MARKET BANYAN TREE AND ON ROAD:

Counted doves, sparrows, mynahs, and Brazilian cardinals.

Henry Yuen

KAWAINUI SWAMP:

Although Wilson's snipe may be considered common, or unusual, this was the first one I had observed in Hawaii. I thought a short note regarding this observation might be appropriate.

I was walking along the edge of the stream bank which flows through Kawainui Swamp and as I approached the mud flat where the Koloa were released, a shorebird about the size of a snipe flew up. Once in the air it sounded the distinctive nasal call of the Wilson's snipe. With the aid of 6x30 binoculars, I was able to see the orange on the tail and note the long bill, held in a downward position. The bird flew in a zig-zag like pattern about 30 feet above the marsh. I watched it till it flew out of sight.

The observation was made under good lighting conditions and the bird was first observed at a distance of approximately 15 feet.

David Olsen

DYKE BETWEEN KAILUA AND KAWAINUI SWAMP:

Start at end of Kainui Drive at 8:30 a.m. Water too high to go down into the swamp due to the heavy rains of the preceding days.

Egrets and herons were counted when they settled into or departed from the dyke side of the swamp.

Canada goose flew when we were several hundred feet away. Observed for about 15 seconds as he paralleled the dyke, then turned down the canal and flew toward Kaneohe ICAS.

Finished at Kailua Road 1030 a.m.

Don Huddleston

Christmas Count from Kauai

1968 Christmas Count by Dr. & Mrs. Frank P. Mathews, Waimea Clinic, Kauai, 26 Dec. 1968:
 White-tailed tropicbird 22, black-crowned night heron 4, Hawaiian duck 3, pintail 1, ring-necked pheasant 1, red jungle fowl 34, gallinule 1, coot 3, American golden plover 28, ruddy turnstone 7, wandering tattler 4, sanderling 12, black-necked stilt 4, spotted dove 107, barred dove 11, short-eared owl 1, Chinese thrush 5, mockingbird 5, shama thrush 4, 'elepaio 24, mynah 177, white-eye 21, 'amakihi 4, 'anianiau 3, Kauai creeper 3, 'akepa 2, 'apapane 19, 'i'iwi 3, ricebird 65, house sparrow 12, western meadowlark 8, cardinal 33, house finch 10. Total: 33 species. 641 individual birds.
 (Seen in area count period, but not on count day: Red-footed booby, cattle egret, glaucous-winged gull 4, barn owl, Brazilian cardinal)

1969 Christmas Count by Charlotte & Herman Altman, David & Winana Sears, 29 Dec. 1969:
Kalaheo, Kauai: 21°55'N, 159°26'W (all points within a 15 mile diameter circle, center Kalaheo, to include Koloa, Lawai, Eleele, Hanapepe, Port Allan, Kaunakami, fields & pastures 40%, swamp & marshes 2%--all drained day of count--farmyards,

orchards and gardens 18%, Hanapepe valley & canyon 10%, town 10%, beach & ocean 20%)

9-12 a.m. Sunny with intermittent showers. Temperature 68-80°. Winds NE trades, very strong in canyons. Three observers in two parties. Total hours on foot 2, total miles on foot 2, total hours by car 4, total miles by car 23.

White-tailed tropicbirds 2, jungle fowl 2, American golden plover 9, spotted dove 15, barred dove 54, mockingbird 1, house sparrow 35, cardinal 16, Brazilian cardinal 3, house finch 4, white-eye 61, mynah 85, ricebird 84.

Total: 13 species. 371 individual birds.

(Seen in area count period but not on count day: sanderlings, black-crowned night herons, Hawaiian stilts)

We were in the Kokee area about one hour in heavy rain and counted: white-tailed tropicbird 7, red jungle fowl 9, American golden plover 17, barred dove 1, cardinal 3, house finch 3, white-eye 22, mynah 22, ricebird 6, 'elepaio 7, 'amakihi 10, 'apapane 22, 'i'iwi 1, Hawaiian thrush 2.

Kapaa, Kauai: 22°3'N, 159°18'W (all points within a 15 mile diameter circle, center Wailua River mouth, to include Anahola, Lihue, Wailua Homesteads, & Kawaihau, fields and pastures 40%, rice & taro patches 3% farmyards, orchards & gardens 17%, towns 10%, beach & ocean 30%)

7-9 a.m. & 3:30-5 p.m. Some sun & cloudy with intermittent rain. Temperature 68-78. Winds NE trades, gusty up to and over 35 mph. Four observers in two parties. Total hours on foot 2, total miles on foot 4, total hours by car 5, total miles by car 15.

Pintail 1, common gallinule 2, American coot 3, American golden plover 17, ruddy turnstone 12, spotted dove 13, barred dove 38, barn owl 1, mockingbird 2, house sparrow 16, western meadowlark 10, cardinal 14, house finch 6, Chinese thrush 3, shama thrush 2, white-eye 10, mynah 77, ricebird 57, 'elepaio 1.

Total: 19 species. 285 individual birds. (seen in area count period but not on count day: black-crowned night heron, ring-necked pheasant, wandering tattler)

Winona Sears, Compiler

HAWAII'S BIRDS, a field guide, available for \$2.00. Send in your orders to: Book Order Committee, Hawaii Audubon Society, P.O. Box 5032, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814.

FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES:

- February 8 - Field trip to Aiea Loop Trail to study forest birds. Bring lunch, water, and if possible your car. Transportation cost (\$.50) 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 9 - Board meeting at the Zoo entrance bldg at 7:30 p.m. Members welcome.
- February 16 - General meeting at the Waikiki Aquarium Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.
Speaker: William P. Mull
Topic: Consider the Mushroom (Color slides)

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