THE ELEPAIO

Journal of the Hawaii Audubon Society



For the Better Protection of Wildlife in Hawaii

VOLUME 36, NUMBER 3

SEPTEMBER 1975

THE WARBLING SILVERBILL, A NEW NESTING BIRD IN HAWAII* By Andrew J. Berger Professor of Zoology, University of Hawaii

Berger (1972) did not include the Warbling Silverbill (Lonchura malabarica) as an exotic species in Hawaii, and there are no published records of the release of this species on Hawaii. The birds must have been released some time ago, however, because this Silverbill is now well established and undoubtedly occurs over a much wider area than I had time to search. In fact, on 26 April 1974, Dr. P. Quentin Tomich sent to me for identification the akin of a bird that he had found dead in a water tank at an elevation of 2,200 feet in the Puuanahulu Game Management Area on 2 May 1972. This bird was an adult Warbling Silverbill (cantans). This suggests that the present widespread population may have been derived from birds released on the Puuwaawaa Ranch; however, there are no published records of the passerine birds released there.

Two races of the Warbling Silverbill (Lonchura malabarica cantans and L. m. orientalis) are native to Africa; cantans is found from Senegal to western and southern Sudan; orientalis occurs from southwestern Arabia, Somalia, and southern Ethiopia to the drier parts of Kenya and northern Tanzania (Traylor 1968). The male and female are alike in plumage. The Warbling Silverbill has been described as "a light coffee coloured bird with a noticeable bluish beak" (Bannerman 1949:239). The crown of the head is light brown with narrow, darker streaks; the back is a uniform grayish brown; the rump and tail feathers are "sepia brown, almost black." The outer webs of the primary flight feathers also are sepia brown. The chin and upper throat are sandy to rufous brown; the rest of the underparts are white, tinged with sandy buff, especially on the flanks; the under tail coverts are white. Bannerman said that the upper mandible is slate colored and that the lower mandible is light blue, but the bill was silver-blue in four specimens collected in Hawaii. The legs and feet vary: pale gray, pale blue, or silver-blue. The eye appears to vary from dark gray to black. According to Archer and Godman (1961:1492), the Arabian Silverbill (orientalis) has a brown eye, and the feet are "vincus red," with brown claws.

The third subspecies (<u>L.m. malabarica</u>) is native to Nepal, India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Ceylon, where it is called the White-throated Munia (Ali 1964). In this race, the rump and upper tail coverts are white. The legs and feet have been described by Baker (1926:90) as being "dark fleshy to reddish purple." This subspecies is called the Indian or Common Silverbill in the pet-store trade. Harrison (1964) considered the White-throated Munia to be a distinct species (<u>Lonchura malabarica</u>).

In both Asia and Africa, the Silverbills inhabit dry areas, often being "pre-eminently desert birds." Very little has been written about the breeding biology of these birds in their native habitat. The birds build a relatively large, domed nest of grasses with an entrance on one side. Archer and Godman (1961) described one nest as being "composed of the upper stems of seedling grass about six inches in length, with a bedding of multitudinous white flake-like seeds and a few white feathers." Feathers also were conspicuous in the nests I found. The eggs are immaculate white, and the usual clutch is said to number between four and six eggs.

I first saw Warbling Silverbills (L.m. cantans) near Kawaihae, Hawaii, on 22 March 1974.

*By special permission reprinted from PACIFIC SCIENCE (1975), Vol.29, No.1, pp.51-54.

During the next 5 days my field trips were conducted from sea level to about 3.5 miles up the slope of the Kohala Mountain in that area. Kawaihae is a desert region, having less than 7 inches of rain annually. The vegetation consists primarily of introduced plants; grasses, kiawe or mesquite (<u>Prosopis pallida</u>), and haole koa (<u>Leucaena leucocephala</u>) are the dominant plants. Much of the lower slope of the mountain is bare ground and lava rocks of various sizes, the only major plant life being grass tussocks and scattered kiawe trees, many of which are dead or dying. Rainfall increases with increasing elevation, and the kiawe and haole koa are much larger and more verdant beginning about 2.5 miles up the slope, especially in the numerous gulches. Cattle graze from this elevation up to the Waimea-Hawi highway.

I found the Warbling Silverbill to be generally distributed on these slopes from Puako to 2.5 miles north of Kawaihae, a distance of about 7 miles (I did not have time to search for the birds beyond this area). I saw a minimum of 75 birds during the 5 days. I visited the area again on 9 and 10 April. I found seven active nests of the Warbling Silverbill. 22 March: A nest with four white eggs and two small young estimated to be 2 to 3 days old. 23 March: A nest under construction; this nest held two eggs and one newly hatched nestling 9 April.

24 March: A nest with one egg; this nest had been destroyed before 9 April.

24 March: An inaccessible nest with two adult birds perched near it.

9 April: A nest with one egg and four small nestlings.

9 April: A nest under construction.

10 April: A nest with six eggs.

All but one of the nests were in kiawe trees; one nest was built in a tangle of hairy merremia (<u>Merremia aegyptia</u>), an introduced vine, covering the branches of a dead haole koa plant. The nests of most passerine birds are fairly well concealed among leaves but I found most of the Silverbill nests to be very conspicuous. A nest that was under construction on 9 April was being built in a dead kiawe tree with no leaves at all, and a nest containing one egg on 24 March was in a nearly leafless kiawe tree.

A number of bird species in Australia, Africa, and South America are noted for building their nests close to the nests of hymenopterous insects (primarily wasps and ants; rarely, bees). For example, Hindwood (1955) reported that the Banded Finch (<u>Poephila bichenovii</u>), Red-browed Finch (<u>Aegintha temporalis</u>), and the Ricebird (<u>Lonchura punctulata</u>) often nest near wasp nests in Australia. I have found a number of Ricebird nests on Oahu built close to the nests of the wasp <u>Polistes exclamans</u>, an introduced species to Hawaii. The nest of the Warbling Silverbill that I found under construction on 23 March was being built directly above an active wasp nest. I found on 9 April that the entrance hole to the Silverbill nest was located less than 3 inches from the wasp nest.

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PAIKO LAGOON WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

By Margaret C. Johnson

Paiko Lagoon is situated between Niu Valley and Hawaii Kai, bounded on the mauka side by homes on Kalanianaole Highway and on the Makai side by Paiko Peninsula which stretches from Paiko Drive to Kuliouou Beach Park on Maunalua Bay. As you probably know Paiko Lagoon and Peninsula have been considered for a bird sanctuary for the last twenty years. It is a feeding ground for the disappearing Hawaiian Stilt and Black-crowned Night Heron as well as other shore and migratory birds. Originally the peninsula was supposed to have a special meaning for Hawaiians. More recently, part of the peninsula was privately owned by Mr. Stubenberg, but because some of it had been deliberately accreted, boundaries of State and private ownership were held up in the courts for many, many years. Several years ago, final settlement allowed approximately 3.1 acres for beachfront private property but retained the neck of the peninsula (access road), mauka protrusions, and the point for State ownership. Subsequently the privately owned parcel passed to a contractor and developer.

Succeeding efforts by the community and legislators to obtain funds to purchase this private section in the middle of State owned lands have been made to insure the natural state and privacy for a wildlife and marine refuge with access only for educational purposes.

Meanwhile, Kuapa pond nearby, which had been a nesting and feeding ground for stilts had been dredged and filled to build Hawaii Kai and had resulted in much silting into Paiko Lagoon. To improve circulation some \$60,000 was spent in the summer of 1972 to bulldoze the odorous silt, create a channel around the edge of the lagoon and build up islands free from rats, mongoose, cats, dogs and people to encourage more feeding and nesting. It is too early to evaluate the results. Although the stilt population has decreased during the last fifteen years, there are still stilts feeding except during nesting period February to June. The heron population is increasing and remains the year around.

Finally, in March 1974 the Division of Fish and Game, Department of Land and Natural Resources established the Paiko Lagoon Wildlife Sanctuary, issued regulations and posted signs forbidding access, fishing, dumping etc. Also, the 1974 Legislature appropriated \$400,000 to acquire all remaining privately owned property. Apparently the land had been acquired for \$250,000 but the owners were unwilling to sell for the amount appropriated. Several bills for additional money were introduced but failed in the 1975 Legislature, but the Appropriation Bill SB 535 included an appropriation of \$600,000 for "acquisition of 19,500 sq.ft.(error since 119,500 was intended) together with existing road right of way." This occurred in the closing hours of the session, unknown to most people concerned and as it turned out, inadequately checked out.

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ENDANGERED BIRDS OF PAIKO LAGOON WILDLIFE SANCTUARY

By Maria E. Tseu

For the last five years, as a resident of Paiko Lagoon, I have kept a log of the Hawaiian Stilt and the Black-crowned Night Heron. My count takes place from one vantage point at my front window. It is impossible to see the entire lagoon at once; therefore, the blind spots, as I observe from the south shore are major portions of the southern coves near the isthmus and behind the man made islands. The left corner is obscure, and a thin, blind strip down the middle from a tree. Therefore, there's the possibility of <u>more unseen</u> <u>birds.</u> ...I recorded mainly when I noticed stilts, and I was sure to look for them at least twice a month.

The herons were logged only in the presence of stilts, although they are here the year round, even when the stilts leave for their nesting. A neighbor reports their apparent roosting in the trees at the west end. She feels that they are nesting close by, due to the observance of at least three juveniles coming out from behind the trunks of coconut shoreline trees. This area is obscure to my line of sight, and I am employing her to keep a log on her end of the sanctuary.

Of course, there are other species of shorebirds that frequent Paiko Lagoon in larger numbers, such as the Pacific golden plover, ruddy turnstone, sanderling, and wandering tattler at low tides in their seasons.

The Hawaiian Stilt, endangered native shorebird of the lagoon, continues to feed and rest here, although they leave four to five months out of the year to nest. This graceful long-legged bird stands about 16 inches high with a white body, black wings and a black and white head. Its beak is longer than the width of its head, all giving it a very elegant appearance. When flying, their flesh-colored legs appear to be held straight out behind them. Their call is a high pitched "pip" sound. Hawaiians named it Ae'o, to signify "one standing high." They used to leave the lagoon at high tide, but in recent months they have stayed.

I personally favor this bird for study, since the Fish and Game are helping to establish nesting ground for them here, by the now completed offshore islands near the east end. The stilt count has dropped since the dredging to make these islands took place, but the biologists are hoping more return as the feeding grounds stabilize.

Since the dredging, they are favoring the eastern half and near the islands. I have

observed them roosting at high tide among the Batis or "Akuli" weeds on the thin fork of land leading north near the islands. This happened in July which was a rare experience, since they usually disappear at high tide! Today, August 5th, they are roosting at high tide! This should facilitate viewing from the shores of Kuliouou Park.

Since June, six stilts have just returned from their annual absence. Where else can one view such a rare treat so close to the city?

Sadly, however, this established sanctuary is being seriously threatened. In the attempt to secure the Paiko Peninsula for the State, private construction is being allowed from a possible error by our legislators or government agencies. The causeway leading to this construction will open a very considerable portion of the lagoon shoreline to more human and vehicular disturbances.

Detailed Log:	Symbols:			= low tide,	ht = hi	.gh tide			
		Number	c of					Number	
Date	Time S	tilt	Heron		Date		Time	Stilt	Heron
1 Jan 1971	1800	19	6		27 Feb	1973	0730	16	3
6	1230	18	3		14 Mar		0715	15	1
21	1730	14	4		16		1100	3	1
22	1730	12	1		28 Apr		1830	8	1
31	1800	3	1		8 May		1800	8	-
			1					0	2
5 Feb	0830	2	1		12		1000	-	4
15	1630	0	1		17		1200	2	-
27	0700	0	0		25		1800	7	-
16 Mar	0715	0	2		13 Jun		0830	2	3
Mar-Jun, no	stilt seen				10 Jul		lt	11	2
16 Jul	-	6	1		Aug	1973-Jan	1974,	no stilt se	en
6 Aug	-	18	2		15 Feb		1800	2	3
7 Sep	1200	10	1		16		1430	2	3
21	1100	11	1			& Apr, n			-
29	1800		-			on upr , u	1400	0	1
		13	-		11 Apr			-	and
7 Oct	1800	12	-		8 May		1600	Fly overh	egu-
12	0730	6	2		29		lt	2	-
13	0800	10	1		29 Jun		0700	1	-
13	1800	13	2		30		0100	Hear feedi	ng -
27 Nov	1600	8	-			&	: 2400		
30	1600	9	-		2 Jul		0800	1	-
3 Dec	-	15			4		-	Flock fly	ing-
21 Jan 1972	0800	2	-		21		2230	1(hea	rd)-
24 Feb	-	0	2			, no stil			14)-
	atilt mean	-	2			, 110 5011		7	
	stilt seen		0		18 Sep		0830	J Theory fooding	-
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29	1030	6	-		25		0700	3	2
30	1530	8	-		5 & 6 0	Oct	2200	Hear feedin	-
31 Jul	1000	12	-		9		1800	3	1
26 Aug	0915	13	1		22		1630	6	1
2 Sep	0830	7	-		25		1630	5	-
7	0730	10	-		29		1630	4	3
27 Oct	-	8			30		2000	Hear feedin	le
5 Nov	1700	19	-		8 Nov		-	4	2
7	0730	14			11		1000	i	1
					TT		1000		-
14	0700	19	-		10		1 700	High wind	-
15	0700	20	-		19		1300	3	1
28 Dec	0800	5	-		25		1800	3	4
12 Jan 1973	0730	10	-		27		-	3	1
Islands in,	visibility	less			11 Dec		1730	4	3
15 Jan	0730	14	-		4 Jan	1975	1600	3	1
23	-	13	-			-May, no		seen	
15 Feb	1800	6	1		21 Jun			stilts at nig	tht
26	0715	10	-		1 Jul			ditto	
	ts behind is				12		1100	1	2
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		Number of		Number of
Date	Time	Stilt Heron	Date Time	Stilt Heron
13 Jul 1975	1300	2 1	5 Aug 1975 (ht)1345	l(roosting)
19	1840	5 -	1410	2 "
20	0645	5 -	1845	1 1
	1600	5(roosting)	6 0700	5 2
21	0700	4 2	1045	7. 3.
	2400	Hear stilts	(ht) 1300	3(roosting)
22	0730	5 -	1445	5 "
	(ht) 1445	6(near islands) 1800	5 "
23	0815	3 3	7 0800	5 2
25	1700	2 -	1030	5 3
1 Aug	1800	3 -	(ht) 1300	7(roosting)
4	0800	1 3	During high tide stilt while herons roost in	s roost on the islands, nearby trees.

HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN, 7 August 1975, page A-14: Swamp Blaze Saddening to Lover of Birds by Helen Altonn

Dorothy Babineau, the "bird lady" of Kailua, didn't know until Tuesday night that fire Was raging across Kawainui Swamp, threatening the rare native waterbirds....

"Here I am with a fractured spine. All I wanted to do was save the little gallinules and ducks and eggs and whatever is there, and here I am on my back and I'm furious," she said yesterday. ...

She said she called the City's Office of Human Resources and the people there said they were doing what they could about the fire. Then, she said, she got through to Gov. George R. Ariyoshi and extracted a promise from him to get helicopter support in fighting the blaze. She noted that this was her first mission as a new member of the Mayor's Committee on Ecology and Environment.... She said that from her bedroom yesterday she could see "huge flames" sweeping across the swamp. "I'm having an absolute fit because I can't do anything...I'm a fanatic on saving the little creatures." ...

12 August 1975, page A-ll: Lots of Questions but Few Answers about Kawainui/Janos Gereben ...It was an unusual meeting, held at Kailua Library by the citizens' ad hoc committee on Kawainui. It was unusual both in its openness and candor, and, finally in its single-minded push for results. Kailua residents, alarmed by last week's fire in the swamp and its possible consequences, banded together for the meeting, invited government officials and scientists and went through a whole slew of questions as: l.Could a big rain result in sweeping the residue of the fire into the ocean? 2.What flood control measures should be taken? 3.How long will the swamp's "burned look" persist? 4.What happened to wildlife? 5.What measures are to be taken and what they would cost? 6.How to maintain the area? 7.What to do about still-smoldering landfill?

Scientists and government officials were honest about the lack of knowledge about the swamp. Many of the questions were answered with "rough guesses" only.

The results of the meeting, however, include: 1.An agreement by all participants that the desirable and feasible thing to do is to run a quick photographic survey on the swamp, to provide material for future studies. 2.An arrangement by which the City's Department of Parks and Recreation will coordinate survey and study efforts for the swamp. 3.State Health Department reassurance for quick action on the apparently spreading appearance of mosquitos in the area. Pat Nakagawa of the department said that there will be survey results within a week on the effect of the fire on mosquito fish and, if necessary, a restocking of the swamp with the fish that control the mosquito population. 4.A statement by Bill Sager of the Department of Land and Natural Resources' forestry division that the dry fern and bullrush that caught fire last week would take years to accumulate again and therefore the likelihood of another major fire in the near future is practically nil. 5.Assurances by scientists that chances of water or air pollution as the aftermath of the fire are relatively small. ...

"We could have done things differently," Sager said, "but nobody had the experience in Hawaii of fighting a fire in a swamp."

Ibid. Fire Retardant Didn't Work at Kawainui by Mary Adamski: One of the firefighting

tools tried against the stubborn fire at Kawainui Swamp last week was ammonium polyphosphate, a fire retardant chemical used to fight large forest fires on the Mainland. The chemical has been used here occasionally in fighting brush fires, said Honolulu Fire Chief Boniface Aiu. But it is not an all-purpose magic way to instantly put out fires as has been suggested by some critics of the length of time it took--five days--to extinguish the Kawainui fire.

"We dropped it from the helicopter at Kawainui but it wasn't effective in this particular fire," said Aiu. The use of the chemical was discontinued after one day. ...

"The manpower to beat out flames and shovel dirt is still the key to the use of the fire retardant," he said. ... If the fire line is not approachable by men on foot---which was the case in much of the five-day Kawainui fire---the chemical won't do any long range good.

HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN, 9 August 1975, page A-6: Wildlife at Fire-Ravaged Kawainui Believed Safe

Two wildlife officials looked over fire-ravaged Kawainui Swamp and were relieved that damage to its rare and endangered wildlife "was not as bad as it could have been."

"We saw gallinule and coot in the primary area of the swamp used by the birds--in the open water pond in the middle of the swamp," Ronald L. Walker, wildlife chief at the State Fish and Game Division, said yesterday. "They apparently were unharmed...," he said.

Walker surveyed the area with Eugene Kridler, endangered species coordinator for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

"Apparently quite a bit of the habitat has been lost and it would be very difficult to determine how many birds have been lost, if any," Walker said. "But I am personally relieved. The situation is not as bad as it could have been."

He said the Hawaiian coot nests this month but the peak of nesting is over. "It could be that some coot eggs and young were lost, and possibly young gallinule, which have an erratic breeding pattern. But I doubt if any adults were lost because they could move ahead of the fire," he said.

Walker said the fire in most cases left about 10 yards of vegetation around the pond, which the birds favor, "so I'm not too concerned." He said the long-range effect of the fire on the habitat is another question. "It could be harmful, or it could be beneficial. If the burned material rots and sinks to create open water, which the birds like-especially the coot-it could almost have a beneficial effect. ...," he said. If the grass grows up again through the burned material it won't benefit the habitat, he said. "But even before the fire, the swamp was not as great a habitat for these species as it might be if there were more open water," he said.

A statewide census of waterbirds was conducted last Friday. The biologists saw 12 coots, five herons, three gallinules, 215 egrets and five Koloa ducks at Kawainui Swamp.

The coots, gallinules and Koloa are endangered species. A fourth one in the swamp is the Hawaiian stilt. Walker said he saw one Tuesday at the Kailua Channel entrance.

On August 1 last year seven coots and five herons were recorded at the swamp--no gallinule and no Koloa. But Walker pointed out the count is misleading because the swamp is so overgrown that it is difficult to see all the birds.

He plans to set up a photo station to take pictures of the swamp periodically over the next few years to study its rate of recovery.

OBSERVATIONS OF BLACK-FOOTED & LAYSAN ALBATROSSES BETWEEN SEATTLE & GUAM By William P. Dunbar

Ten round trips (March 1974-March 1975) on USNS Furman. Positions nearest whole degrees are for noon. Observations generally reflect high count for the day. In a few instances more than one observation made from a position. Symbols: BF = Black-footed, L = Laysan, - = No record, S = Several-less than 10, M = Many-more than 10.

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8	28'23"	166'32"	1	-	(Booby)	16	21'56"	154'25"	_	_	
9	-	-	12		(17	26'12"	160'02"	_	_	
10	34'27"	180'00"	S	1		18	30'24"	166'03"	-	- (s	wift)
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12	41'30"	155'30"W	6	S 4		20	39'37"	171'47"	2		hear- waters)
13	43'30"	146'40"	4	4		21	41'49"	163'17"	5	-	
14	45'30"	139'40"	4	4 2		22	42'53"	153'55"		- Fo	g
15	47 ' 30"	129'20"	4			23	45'19"	145'14"	2	- Fo	g
16	Arrive S	eattle				24	47'12"	136'02"	-	- Fo	g
		3, May-June	1974			25	-	-	-	-	
22	Depart S	eattle				26	Arrive S	Seattle			
23	-	-	-		Fog		Trip No.	5, August-S	eptemb	er 19	74
24	39'36"	132'20"W	1	-	Fog	4	Depart S				
25	36'27"	139'40"	10	-	Fog	5	47'05"	126'12"W	S	-	
26	-	-	6	-		6	42'12"	135'45"	4	-	
27	31'31"	154'47"	S	-		7	38'33"	143'40"	S	-	
28	27'57"	161'28"	S	-		8	35'14"	151'35"	2	-	
29	25'05"	168'40"	18 S	-	(Booby 3	9	33'01"	159'16"	-	-(Ja	eger?)
30	23'44"	176'18"	S	3	(Booby 3 tropicpird) sooty tern	10	31'00"	167'03"	-	-	
	180th me					11	29'52"	174'45"	-	1(\$0	iry terns)
1 2 3	22'35"	170'50"E	1	-	(Booby)		180th me				
2	-	-	-	-	("&sooty)	13	28'12"	177'30"E	-	-(So	booby)
	19'40"	162'51"	-	-		14	26'10"	170'08"	-	- 00	000097
4	17'47"	156'37"	-			15	23'56"	163'35"	-	-	

									24
Day	Lat N	Long E W	BF	F	Day	Lat N	Long E W	BF	L
16,1	7,18-	-	-	-	7	25'20"	167'38"	-	-
19	Arrive	Guam			8	22'42"	160'45"	-	
22	Depart				9	19'24"	154'26"		
23	18'13"	150'35"						-	-
			-	-	10	16'01"	148'33"	-	-Sooty terns
24	21'58"	156'06"	-	-	11	Arrive	Guam		
25	25'34"	162'00"	-	-	14	Depart			
26	29'18"	169'08"	-	-	15	16'12"	147'39"	-	-Petrel, Leach?
27	32'32"	171'41"	1	-	16	20'12"	152'04"	-	-
28	35'28"	178'09"W	9	1	17	24'29"	157'30"	_	
28	37'41"	170'45"	11	1				-	-
29	40'10"			5	18	27'40"	162'01"	-	-
		162'29"	9	2	19	30'52"	166'48"	1	-
30	42'30"	154'45"	11	-	20	34'08"	172'52"	7	-
31	44'51"	146'10"	6	-	21	37'19"	179'49"W	14	1
1	46'50"	137'34"	4	-	21	39'33"	172'05"	6	2 (juv.)
2	Noon, 15	Omi.C.Flatt	erv 2	-Petrels. 3	22	41'31"	163'06"	4	4Kittiwakes/
		6, Sep-Oct		-Petrels, 3 2 sparrows aboard	23	42'55"	154'39"		
9	Depart		-514					1	3Glaucous wing
10	45'27"		20		24	45'07"	146'02"	1	
		129'14"W	20	-	25	47'07"	136'56"	1	1
11	40'40"	136'14"	20	1	26	48'10"	128'03"	1	-Murres; fulmar
12	36'21"	143'39"	4	-	27	Arrive	Seattle		(lt. phase)
13	33'07"	151'07"	4	-			8, Dec 1974-	Jan 19	
14	31'27"	158'49"	-	-	2		Seattle		
15	29'44"	166'54"	-	-Shearwaters				7	0
16	27'40"	174'29"			3	48' 33"	129'08"W	3	2
TO			-	-Tropicbird	4	46'10"	135'28"	3	1
		eridian			5	41'09"	140'34"	3	1
18	25'30"	178'03"E	-	-	6	37'10"	144 '49"	5	-
19	23'17"	170'45"	-	-	7	32'36"	148'53"	24	4
20	20'54"	163'26"	-	-	8	31'12"	156'03"	7	_
21	18'29"	156'28"	-	-	9	29'52"	163'15"	5	-
22	15'46"	149'28"	-	-					
23	Arrive				10	28'18"	170'33"	7	1
		Guam			11	26'52"	177'27"	12	1
25	Depart						neridian		
26	16'19"	148'25"	-	-Tropicbirds	13	25'00"	-	-	-
27	20'18"	154'16"	-	-Spoty terns,	14	22'36"	-	-	-
28	23'32"	159'35"	-	-Suearwarers	15	20'15"	162'00"E		-
29	26'49"	-	-	-	16	18'22"	155'19"		
30	29'58"	171'58"	-	_	17	10 22	T)) T)	_	
1	31'37"	178'47"		-Shearwaters			-	-	-
			-	-DIIGST-MS CETS	18	Arrive	Guam		
T	35'09"	174'22"W	2	-	20	Depart			
2	38'32"	168'11"	9	-	21	15'26"	147'28"	-	-
1 2 3 4 5 6	41'47"	160'54"	8	-Phalaropes	22	18'41"	152'53"		-
4	44'06"	153'17"	6	-Petrels fork	23	21'46"	158'41"	-	-
5	46'27"	144'22"	4	- carreat	24	24'45"		-	-
6	47'56"	135'09"	4	-	25	27'21"	171'22"	2	
7		of St.Juan			26	29'35"	177'47"	10	2
		7, Oct-Nov							
77			1914		26	31'22"	174'52"W	7	-
27		Seattle	-		27	34'38"	168'23"	9	1
28	45'52"	127'03"W	6	1	28	38'31"	160'59"	15	2
29	40'40"	131'52"	6	1	29	42'03"	153'25"	8	4
30	38'07"	138'55"	10	-	30	44'51"	145'05"	5	2
31	35'36"	145'38"	19	1	31	-	-	-	-
1	34'04"	154'39"	10		1	Noon 1	20mi.from lan	d 4	2
2	32'23"	162'15"	5	-	2			4	-
3	31'20"			- Thomis abi mi	2		Seattle	075	
		169'55"	4	-Tropicbird			9, Jan-Feb 1	915	
		n noted; pa			10		Seattle		
		h meridian;	skippe	d a day	11	44'05"	127'50"W	-	-
	ier than				12	38'06"	132'19"	3	-
5	29'37"	179'53"	6	-	13	33'46"		-	- tail /
6	27'38"	174'38"E	2	-	14	30'14"	145'02"	7	White spot- ismail petrel
					-1	10 14	-15 02		The start

70	T 1. 3T	T	TOTO	-	D	T 1 37	T	TT	
<u>Day</u> 15	Lat N	Long E W	BF 4	L	<u>Day</u> 16	Lat N	Long E W	BF 3	
	27'51"	152'15"		-		41'03"	131'18"	3	1
16	26'21"	159'44"	5	-	17	37'24"	138'03	-	-
17	24'35"	166'45"	5	1	18	34'28"	144'33"	1	-
18	23'51"	173'40"	-	-	19	31'40"		16	1
19	22'52"	178'50"E	-	-	20	30'20"		16	-
		eridian			21	29'07"		10	-
21	21'38"	171'37"	-	-	22	27 52"	172'02"	15	2
22	19'53"	164'29"	-	-	23	26'38"	179'08"	7	-
23	17'53"	157'17"	-	-		180th n	neridian		
24	15'45"	150'42"	-	-	25	25'00"	174'41"E	5	1
25	Arrive	Guam. Immati	are gul	ll Apra Hbr.	26	22'44"	167'46"	6	1
27	Depart				27	20 1 40"		2	-
28	15'28"	147'49"		-	28	18'02"	155'01"	-	-
29	18'50"	153'15"	-	-	1	15'29"		-	-Sooty terns
30	21'59"	159'08"	-	-	2			gull	similar to Bona-
31	24'51"	165'48"	1	1					cheek spot & /
1	29'15"	171'29"	7	2	5	Depart			tail band
2	33' 30"	177'14"	9	3	6	17'21"	149'46"	-	-
2334	35'47"	176'06"W	16	7	7	20'44"	155'08		-
3	37'58"	168'52"	2	4Kittiwakes	8	24'36"	161'11"	1	-
4	39'20"	160'22"	2	2	9	28'04"		16	1
5	42'36"	155'20"	6	lKittiwakes	10	30'47"		33	3
56	46'14"	148'59"	-	-Glaucous-wg	11	33'19"	178'50"W	8	4
7	47 ' 47"	142'04"	-		11	35'42"		10	2 gull?
8	48'14"	134'58"	_	-& glaucous	12	37'43"		30	6GI aucous /
9	48'34"	127 '53"	l	_	13	39 42"	154'26"	20	6Glaucous / 4 puffins,
	10 27		-		14	41'27"		5	4 puirino 4
10	Arrivo	Seattle							
10	Arrive Trip No.		1975						
	Trip No.	10, Feb-Mar	1975		15	43'48"	137 '43"	9	6 Gulls
10 14 15	Trip No.		1975 3	1		43'48" 46'58"			

Notes: 1. Rota is an island about 30 miles north of Guam and is usually the first land we saw when approaching Guam. Did not record the latitude and longitude, so wrote "off Rota." 2. Besides the albatrosses other birds were observed, and when possible species and numbers were noted. The shearwaters were too far away to identify, were probably sooties, as there were small flocks visible most of the time and generally flying southerly. Several years ago I made an estimate of numbers of shearwaters flying by and came up with a very large number, something like a quarter million. How I arrived at such a number was by recording the number of birds I could count during a minute and repeated every five minutes or so over several hours during two or three days. The boobies were blue-faced and brown. 3. At noon we were about 150 miles from Cape Flattery, and two sparrows came aboard but were not identified. It is quite common for land birds to come aboard ships at sea. I have seen many ranging from starlings and doves to an owl and a heron.

Field Trip by Erika Wilson: Manana

Forty-four persons visited Manana on May 11, 1975--one group in the morning, the other in the afternoon. Dr. Robert Shallenberger spoke to each group about the life cycles and habits of the birds which breed on Manana.

Sooty Terns were by far the most numerous birds on the island. Adults were actively defending territories, incubating eggs, and feeding young chicks. A few chicks were sporting juvenile feathers, but most were still in their spotted down.

Small colonies of Common Noddies were also present, but the adults' activities seemed centered around maintaining a territory. An occasional Wedge-tailed Shearwater flew around the crater's interior, as did a Black-crowned Night Heron. Offshore we saw a few Red-tailed Tropicbirds, Great Frigatebirds, a Brown Booby, and several Red-footed Boobies. On the rocky tidal shelves some Wandering Tattlers were observed; one of which was in full breeding plumage, its white breast finely barred with grey.

High swells at the beach made the boat landings quite tricky, but no one seemed to mind the dunking or the slippery coral.

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Field Trip by Sheila Conant: Waahila Ridge, 13 July 1975

Members and guests turned out for the hike up Waahila ridge on an overcast, warm morning that started off with a short, brisk downpour in the parking lot at the trail head. Intermittent, light rain followed throughout the hike. A few 'ohi'a trees were in bloom, and most of the koa trees along the ridge were in fruit.

Two Shama Thrushes were observed: one along the state park road and one, which sang for several minutes, along the ridge. White-eyes, Spotted Munias, and House Finches were common. We also observed two Spotted Doves and three Cardinals, one of which was singing, and heard three Japanese Bush Warblers.

The group heard one 'Apapane singing, and Tim Burr, walking ahead of the rest of the party, saw three more just before the Woodlawn Trail cutoff. We were very fortunate to get good looks at three different 'Amakihi. These birds were gleaning insects from the phyllodes and branches of koa trees, stopping occasionally to call. One bird preened for several minutes in full view of the hikers. Two of the 'Amakihi we saw were bright yellow birds, presumably males, and one was dull gray-green, a female or immature bird.

We heard only two 'Elepaio on the ridge trail, although Tim Burr saw one in the same spot he observed the 'Apapane. I continued down the Woodlawn Trail after the rest of the group turned back. After descending into the valley I heard a pair of 'Elepaio calling and singing. House Finches were particularly numerous in the stands of <u>Eucalyptus</u> that I walked through.

Field Notes from Omer Bussen: Bush Warbler

On June 29, about 9AM, I was climbing "Piliwale Ridge" in Maunawili when a pair of Japanese bush warblers started making quite a commotion in some 'ohi'a trees directly in front of me on the trail. When I pushed my way through, they had moved to a Christmasberry tree about 10 m off the trail. For some time they continued to scold me, one with a repeated musical note (male?) and the other with a harsh chatter (female?). I caught a brief glimpse of a third bird lower in the tree-perhaps a fledgling, which might explain their behavior.

To my color deficient eyes, the two birds seemed a uniform gray, whitish below. A dark stripe through the eye was very noticeable.

A month or more earlier, in about the same location, I had been surprised to see a bush warbler singing in the top of a very exposed dead tree branch.

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From Sheila Conant: Cattle Egret

On the morning of June 23, 1975, at about 0700 I was stopping by a neighbor's house on Alani Drive at the back side of Manoa Valley (Woodlawn area). I looked up by chance and saw what, at first glance, I thought to be a flock of pigeons. Closer examination revealed that this was a flock of 16 Cattle Egrets flying about 100 feet over my head straight toward the back of the valley directly into the heavy cloud layer that hung low over the back walls of the valley. Presumably these birds were on their way across the Koolau Mountains to the windward side of the island. I have never seen these birds in Manoa Valley, and it was surprising to see them flying so low and into a thick cloud bank. It would be interesting to know where these birds were coming from at this early hour, and where they were going.

Koolau Summit by way of the Poamoho Trail

On July 18 and 19, 1975, Omer Bussen and I made an overnight trip to the Koolau Summit by way of the Poamoho Trail. We started out at about 0930, reaching the summit at about 1500 after a leisurely hike up. The weather that day was warm, clear, and sunny, with brisk trades.

An 'Amakihi sang once just as we left the trail head at the end of the road. We heard and saw over a dozen 'Apapane, which were calling and singing intermittently all along the ridge. Most of the 'Apapame we saw were immature birds in brown plumage with an occasional patch of the crimson feathers characteristic of adult plumage.

The other species observed the first day include numerous White-eyes, Spotted Munias and House Finches and occasional Cardinals and Spotted Doves. The Spotted Munias and Spotted Doves were characteristically on the trail itself, feeding on the seeds of grasses that border the edges of the path. Bush Warblers were calling occasionally, but their long melodious song was much less common than it was on the Aiea Trail in June or on the Laie Trail last March. The Bush Warblers became more common as we approached the summit area.

After unloading our packs at the summit shelter we sat on the ridge in front of the shelter, which faces east over the cane fields toward Schofield. Here we watched 'Apapane feeding on the few 'ohi'a that were in bloom, and saw a female Cardinal as well as numerous White-eyes. A Bush Warbler inscribed a large circle around the shelter, as if advertising territorial boundaries, while giving its characteristic three-noted call: a long, low whistle followed by two short whistled notes. Although we caught an occasional glimpse of gray as the bird moved from one low, dense patch of shrubs to another, we never really had a clear view of the bird. We neither saw nor heard any 'Elepaio this first day.

We awoke to Bush Warbler calls at 0600 on July 19, having slept through a night of intermittent showers. The sky was overcast and heavy mist covered the summit area. By 0645 Cardinals were calling, and the mist lifted somewhat by 0730. However, we were thoroughly drenched minutes after starting back down the trail. On the way back, immature 'Apapane were fairly frequent, and we also saw four birds in adult plumage. About half way back to the trail head we stopped to watch a White-eye, only to find that this bird and its mate were completing construction of a nest. One of the birds sat on the nest for about two minutes, but we could not see if the nest contained any eggs. We heard two 'Elepaio calling on the return hike, but were never able to see the birds.

At about 1300 we stopped to observe a small, dull-green bird with white wing bars gleaning insects from the branches of pelea, koa and 'ohi'a trees. To our great disappointment the bird turned out to be an immature 'Amakihi rather than the Oahu Creeper, which we were anxious to see.

We arrived back at the car by about 1500 after a late morning and full afternoon of hot, clear weather.

'Alala (Hawaiian Crow) at Kipuka Puaulu (Bird Park) in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park

Last month Mr. Glenn Bauer, graduate student in geological sciences at the University of Hawaii, reported an interesting observation to me that he and Mr. Lorin Gill made on January 11, 1975. They were lunching at the picnic area on the south edge of Kipuka Puaulu in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park when they saw an 'Alala in the 'ohi'a trees near the picnic area. After several futile attempts to get close enough to the bird to photograph it (without a telephoto lens) Mr. Bauer gave up and enjoyed watching the bird until it flew away several minutes later.

Plover Watching from Sheila Conant: I heard my first plover of post-breeding season 1975 on August 1, 1975, at 0800 near St. John Hall on the University of Hawaii Campus.

These notes are very important, so please share your experiences by writing to Kojima, 725-A 8th Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816. MAHALO.

Tim

HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN, 1 August 1975, page A-11: Birds Get Bums' Rush in Waikiki, by/Toner Guess who's coming to dinner.

It won't be birds anymore if the Moana-Surfrider and Kaimana Beach hotels, the Ocean Manor condominium, and the Rosalei Apartments are successful in a program to "scare them away" by feeding uninvited birds nonlethal poisoned corn. The birds being "scared" include feral pigeons, house sparrows, Brazilian cardinals and one species of dove.

Ralph Saito, a biologist with the State Fish and Game division which issued permits to Xtermco for the program, said bird mites and droppings have been found in rooms and lanais. He said the birds have survived partly by being pampered by people at the hotels. "They think it's cute to feed them," he said. ...

An Xtermco spokesman said the poisoned feed--not harmful to humans--is spread on building ledges and is designed to "scare away" birds through adverse digestive reactions. He said only gluttonous birds could die from eating the corn. Waikiki beachgoers reported finding several birds apparently killed by the feed yesterday. ...

Killing of "gluttonous birds" would be unnecessary if men were able to live harmoniously within the ecosystem. We would have stopped feeding instead of continuing the pleasure of having the birds around until the pleasure became a problem and resorting to the quick chemical control instead of the long, economically unprofitable but humane natural control--stop feeding. Let's always remember the Schweitzer legacy--The deeper we look into nature the more profoundly we know that we are united with all life. Man can no longer live for himself alone.--If you have any suggestions to facilitate the harmonious living with the fellow travelers who were "caught with ourselves in the net of life and time" experiencing the "splendour and travail of the earth", please write to Kojima,725-A 8th Ave,Hon,HI 96816.

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AUDUBON, July 1975, Vol.77, No.4, pp.91-95: An unwarranted struggle: environment vs. economy, by Russell W. Peterson

Page 94: ...It is provocative, I think, that the words <u>economics</u> and <u>ecology</u> come from the same Greek root: <u>oikos</u>, meaning house. But the emphases of the two words are quite different: ecology means "the study of the house," and economics means "the management of the house." Economics views the house--our Earth--as a trove of natural resources to be managed for the benefit of man. Ecology views the house as a single, interrelated system of which man is not the master but a <u>member</u>. Economics says, "Let us use the resources of our house to make it a better place to live." Ecology answers, "Fine, but be careful; for whatever we do to our house, we do to ourselves." And as ecologists and all of us are finding out, the inter-connections between man and nature are often hidden, surprising, and highly sensitive--and many of them have quantifiable, economic consequences.

There are countless illustrations of this, ranging from the primitive to the sophisticated. In east and central Africa, large numbers of hippopotamuses have been killed off because they were destroying crops; that seemed a simple solution to a simple problem of predator control. But with the elimination of the hippopotamus, the native soon noted, came a quick reduction in the local catch of a fish known as <u>Tilapia</u>, a vital source of protein for those who live along the lakeshores and riverbanks. The ecological connection between the two was hippo excretion; deposited in the water, it fertilized tiny algae on which <u>Tilapia</u> feed. ...

Economics has given us the concept of the invisible hand--and it is a useful, productive concept. But ecology reminds us that the invisible hand is connected to an invisible foot--and that, while one is capable of directing us, the other is capable of kicking us. The invisible foot has already demonstrated its power many times--and its potential for greater, even irreversible damage grows daily with the increasing pace and scale of man's activities. ...We must be able to demonstrate to our critics that our concern for the environment is every bit as pradtical--even more so, in fact--than their concern for the economy. ...

Instead of emphasizing economics or ecology why not LIFE, where both are inseparable? Compassionate communication is required to make this a better Hawaii and world. Please send in comments to Kojima, 725-4 8th Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96816.

Who Cares in Hawaii? by Jerome J. Pratt (By special permission, reprinted from ORYX, Vol.XII, No.5, November 1974, pages 582-583)

More than 95 per cent of Hawaii's original fauna and flora occurs nowhere else in the world. In 1965 the compiler of the Birds <u>Red Data Book</u>, Jack Vincent, listed 25 of Hawaii's original 69 bird species as extinct. With the discovery of a new not yet named Honeycreeper (<u>Drepanidiae</u>)/named Po'o uli (<u>Melamprosops phaeosoma</u>), OCCASIONAL PAPERS of Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Vol.24, No.12, 2 August 1974/ on Maui in 1973, by a National Science Foundation sponsored expedition and the re-discovery of the Maui nuku-pu'u (<u>Hemignathus lucidus</u> effinus /affinis/) in 1967, the count changed to 70 known species with 24 extinct. Of Hawaii's remaining 46 endemic birds 27 are threatened with extinction.

At the moment the extermination of several endangered birds is being accelerated by official indifference. If it had not been for Mr. Herbert Shipman of Hilo, Hawaii, the Hawaiian goose or nene (Branta sandvicensis) could have become extinct because of this attitude. In 1935, the entire flock of 42 nene in the hands of the Territorial Board of Agriculture and Forestry were given to various sugar and pineapple plantation managers and territorial senators, and by 1950 only one of those 42 was known to be alive--the gander of a pair given to the Honolulu Zoo. However, Mr. Shipman had maintained a few semi-wild nene on his ranch for many years: in 1949 his flock numbered eleven birds and it is from these eleven that, with time and talent furnished by aviculturists in the United States and in England (the Wildfowl Trust) the species has been perpetuated, and captive-reared birds have been returned to Hawaii and successfully established in the wild.

The Hawaiian stilt (<u>Himantopus himantopus knudseni</u>) has not been as lucky as the nene, and this beautiful bird is in extreme danger. Its habitat is being destroyed to expand facilities for tourism. The bird's most important habitat is Kanaha Pond, on the island of Maui, which, together with adjacent lands, is state-owned property under the jurisdiction of the Department of Transportation as part of the Kahului Airport. This area is not needed for airport enlargement and could become a permanent wildlife sanctuary.

To the dismay of conservationists, Kanaha Pond has been chosen as the site for a sewage disposal plant. There may not be more than 1000 Hawaiian stilts left in the entire island chain, and the loss of Kanaha Pond as a breeding area destroys this unique bird's main hope for survival. Moreover it has been suggested that the Fish and Game Division will monitor the area to ensure that the bird numbers do not increase, possibly by destroying nests.

Another stilt breeding area, the ponds on the Kaneohe Marine Air Station on Oahu, has been set aside by the military commander as a sanctuary for the stilts, but there is constant pressure to turn this federally owned land over to the State of Hawaii: this would quite likely mean the loss of this habitat.

If the present trend toward turning Hawaii into a massive tourist attraction is not halted there is little hope for any of the 26 bird species now threatened with extinction. It is also urgently necessary to eliminate the feral mammals that are rapidly destroying the native flora as well as those that prey directly on the endemic fauna. If the people of Hawaii become aware the world is observing the needless destruction of their paradise they may be able to change political attitudes before it is too late.

ALOHA to new members:

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Editorial Policy: Which is your choice? (1) THE ELEPAIO, THE 'ELEPAIO, KA 'ELEPAIO, or 'ELEPAIO. Why?' (2) For the better protection of wildlife in Hawaii, For the protection of Hawaii's native wildlife, or For the protection of Hawaii's wildlife. Why? Please send in your reason for the choice to Kojima, 725-A 8th Ave, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816.

REQUEST FOR MESTING INFORMATION: Audubon members can add a great deal to our records of the nesting activities of both introduced and native species if they will call when they find a nest. Dr. Berger has agreed to coordinate the nest-record program. If you find a nest, please call him at the Department of Zoology, University of Hawaii, telephone 948-8655 or 948-8617. MAHALO NUI LOA for your interest and KOKUA. *****

The poster "We Care About Hawaiian Wildlife Habitat" is available for a suggested donation of \$1.50 or more. Despite our frugal existence we are unable to give away this valuable educational poster to the general public. For information call Steve Montgomery, 941-4974. *****

HAWAII'S BIRDS, a field guide, is out of print. As soon as the new edition is out, we'll let you know. We'll do our best to keep the price as it is now, but no guaranty.

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SEPTEMBER ACTIVITIES:

8	September	-	Board meeting at Waikiki Aquarium Auditorium, 6:45 p.m. Members welcome. Field trip in HAWAII VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK to observe birds, plants,
13	September	-	Field trip in HAWAII VOLCANOES NATIONAL PARK to observe birds, plants,
			insects and ecological relationships. Meet at 8 A.M. at the parking lot
			of the Kilauea Visitor Center. Leader: Larry Katahira, 967-7416.
14	September	-	Field trip to Kanehoa to study forest birds. Bring lunch, water, and if possible, your car. Transportation cost, \$1.00, to be paid to the drivers.
			Vest at the State Library on Punchbowl Street at 8:00 a.m. Leader: Omer
			fleet at the State Library on Punchbowl Street at 8:00 a.m. Leader: Omer Bussen, 262-5506; Dr. Sheila Conant, 948-8044(work), 988-6522(home).
15	September	-	General meeting at Waikiki Acuarium Auditorium at 7:30 p.m.
			General meeting at Waikiki Aquarium Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Program: Photographing Wildlife in Hawaii by Robert Western (color slides)
	and the second second		****

HAWAII AUDUBON SOCIETY EXECUTIVE BOARD: President-Wayne C.Gagne; Vice Presidents-Dr. Sheila

Conant, William F. Burke; Secretary-Lani Stemmermann; Treasurer-Roxanne Sullivan; Board Members-Hilde K. Cherry, Dr. Francis G. Howarth Bepresentatives-Mae E.Mull. Big Island; James M. Bradley, Midway; Dr. Warren B.King, Wash., D.C. DUES: Recular-10,00 per annum; Junior; 18 years & under-11,00 per annum; Life-ST00.00 MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 5032, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

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