

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOTAL
'Apapane	61	.	.	11	.	.	.	.	.	.	72
Yellow-fronted Canary	.	.	.	.	2	3	.	.	.	.	5
House Finch	72	30	6	48	21	17	2	16	8	11	231
Cordon-bleu (Common)	.	.	.	.	5	2	.	.	.	.	7
Blue-headed Cordon-bleu	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	1
Cordon-bleu (sp?)	.	.	.	.	.	5	.	.	.	.	5
Orange-cheeked Waxbill	.	.	.	.	20	13	.	.	.	.	33
Black-rumped Waxbill	.	.	.	.	40	8	.	.	.	.	48
Lavender Firefinch	.	.	.	.	23	11	.	.	.	.	34
Spotted Munia	15	26	44	22	6	22	1	66	64	82	348
Java Sparrow	.	6	5	.	34	.	.	.	.	.	45
House Sparrow	.	184	82	32	276	35	23	71	126	12	841
Pintailed Whydah	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1
Cardinal	14	11	58	42	8	18	13	21	18	13	216
Red-crested Cardinal	.	14	3	13	76	7	42	3	11	19	188
Saffron Finch	.	.	.	.	6	2	.	.	.	.	8
No. of Individual Birds:	413	1159	997	826	2695	451	443	962	3001	1061	12,008
No. of Species:	13	22	15	20	23	23*	25	19	31#	20	54

Excluded: Unidentified *Cordon-bleu, #Duck and gull

Sectors Covered

- 1 Aiea Trail: John Obata, Frank Howarth
- 2 Nuuanu, Kalihi, Ft. Shafter, Moanalua, Salt Lake, Sand Island: Walter Donaghho, Ken Ellingwood, Alice & John Mitchell, plus brief additional observations by F. Howarth & R. Pyle
- 3 Makiki, Tantalus, Punchbowl, Pensacola Cemetery: Bill Burke, Christi Morgan, Wesley Teraoka
- 4 Manoa Cliffs Trail, Manoa Road, Lyon Arboretum, University campus: Omer Bussen, Erik Bitterbaum, Sheila Conant
St. Louis Heights, Wa'ahila Trail, Woodlawn Trail: Grant, Jean, Lani & Maili Stemmermann
- 5 Kapiolani Park, Ewa slope of Diamond Head: Jack & Janice Throp, Robert Pyle
- 6 Diamond Head Crater, Na La'au Arboretum: Sandra Guest, Hallie & Zelia Butler, Dave & Nancy Hatton
Paiko Lagoon: Maria Tseu
- 7 Bellows Field, Kaelepulu Pond, Maunawili: David & Ulalia Woodside, Rob Shallenberger
- 8 Kailua, Kawainui dyke: Don & Doris Huddleston, Heidi Snipes
Upper Lanikai, Mid-Pacific Country Club: Bill & Peggy Hodge, Keoni Hickok
Lanikai beach: Mary Grantham
Lanikai garden: Clare Murdoch
- 9 Kaneohe, Kawainui Quarry Road, Mokapu, Moku Manu: Ron Walker, Brian Marciel, Diane Carlstead, Carl Johnson
- 10 Kahaluu to Kaneohe, Haiku, Old Pali Road: Tim & Jonathan Burr, Allan Samuelson

Habitat Coverage: residential 40%, forests 25%, ocean/freshwater 15%, parkland 10%, scrubland 10%. Date: 21 December 1975 from 0615 to 1745 hours. Weather mostly clear. Temperature--64° to 82°F. Wind--calm to NE 10 mph.

Forty-three observers in 15 parties. Total party-hours, 84 (54 on foot, 30 by car)
Total party-miles, 215 (40 on foot, 175 by car)

The 1975 Honolulu Christmas Bird Count

By Robert L. Pyle, Compiler

The 32nd consecutive Honolulu Christmas Count was conducted this year on Sunday December 21. As in past years, all counting was done within a 15-mile diameter circle centered about two fifths of a mile ENE of Nuuanu Pali. The weather this year was ideal; virtually clear, warm, and with very light trade winds. Forty-three observers (one more than last year) working in 15 parties, found 12,008 birds of 54 species, one more species than the previous high of 53 recorded in 1969.

Factors contributing to the high count were the fine weather, a record number of participants, and coverage of some new areas within the circle this year. The sector on the

windward side from Kaneohe to Kahaluu, not covered in previous counts, was worked this year by Tim and Jonathan Burr. They found good numbers of Shammas, Melodious Laughing-thrushes and Japanese Bush Warblers, and the sector should produce even more in future years as we learn more about the area. Also on the windward side, the Lanikai area was covered far more thoroughly as a separate area this year by five observers ably organized by Bill and Peggy Hodge.

It was a good year, too, for native forest birds on Aiea Ridge (eucalyptus in good bloom) and Wa'ahila Ridge ('ohi'a in good bloom). The total of 103 'Amakihi was one more than the highest ever before counted, and the 72 'Apapane were the most since 1957. The (Oahu) Creeper was a great find by Frank Howarth and John Obata on Aiea Ridge, where it was last seen on the count in 1968 and 1961. Only the 'Elepaio was disappointingly scarce: only 14 this year compared to 20 or more in all but two of the past 15 years, and generally still higher counts prior to 1961.

Turning to waterbirds, Ron Walker's party found a Black Brant and two immature Franklin Gulls on the ponds at Mokapuu. Both were new species for the Count. They also found record numbers of Common Noddies there and near Kaneohe Beach Park, the latter also seen by the Burrs.

The exotic finches in the Kapiolani Park and Diamond Head area, counted for the 11th year, seem to be generally holding their own. Counting at a key feeder area, and additional coverage of the crater area including the grounds of Hawaii School for Girls at La Pietra, helped swell the totals over the past two years. Red-vented Bulbuls continue to increase explosively in the Count area, with this year's total (212) nearly four times the previous high. Shama Thrushes (well over twice the previous high), Java Sparrows and perhaps Japanese Bush Warblers seem to be definitely on the increase.

The meticulous care and organization of Erika Wilson was greatly missed in the Count this year. However, her fine records and her list of standardized names of Hawaii's birds made the job of preparing for and compiling the count much easier for me and for Sheila Conant, the co-compiler.

Notes on Less Common Species

Masked Booby: Five seen through scope on Moku Manu Island, sixth flying off Mokapu Peninsula. (R. Walker party)

Black Brant: Resting on Nuupia Pond, Mokapu Peninsula. Watched through scope and binoculars at 150 yards distance. All field marks noted, including dusky sides of breast extending above water line but not completely to the dark upperparts. Bird still present January 6th. (R. Walker party)

Hawaiian Duck: Five at Kawainui Marsh (Walker and Huddleston parties) and two at Bellows Field (Woodside party). Walker and Woodside are State Fish and Game biologists very familiar with the species.

Franklin Gull: Two immatures watched for 20 minutes, through binoculars and scope, standing on sandbars and in flight to a close as 20 yards, at Kaluapuhi Pond, Mokapu Peninsula. Black tail band, generally white head with large dusky smudge behind eyes and across back of head. Mantle uniform dark brownish black, noticeably darker on primaries toward tip. (R. Walker party) Adult and immature Franklin Gulls have been observed numerous times in Hawaii in winter, but Laughing Gull is very rarely seen.

Gull, sp.: Two other gulls at same pond with Franklins, seen only at a distance, were larger, white-winged, probably glaucous or glaucous-winged. (R. Walker)

Pomarine Jaeger: Six together foraging back and forth, some 250 yards off Sand Island. Observed continuously for 20 minutes, looking into sun. Size and flight distinctive in direct comparison with occasional boobies flying by. (R. Pyle) Observed there again in better light three days after Count, and up to 37 present January 6th.

Barn Owl: One heard late evening, at head of Ahuimanu Road, Kahaluu. (A. Samuelson) Two birds seen and heard in this area almost nightly for several months, and by other observers during count period.

(Oahu) Creeper: On Aiea Ridge Trail, about one-half mile beyond head of the Loop Trail. Watched by F. Howarth through binoculars for several minutes as close as 25 feet. Identified primarily by creeping behavior, working up a tree trunk and a large limb. Straight bill, notched tail and wingbars noted. J. Obata, in same place at same time, noticed two other questionable creepers, both adults. One was a hasty glimpse against the sun; the other only seen for one second. Both through binoculars at 20 to 25 feet. First one displayed all the creeper habits, but could not confirm other characteristics because of

the glare. May have been a family group. Creepers found on the Count in this same area in 1968 and 1961.

New high counts this year (with prior high and year in parentheses): Common Noddy 149 (56, 1972); Spotted Dove 1072 (678, 1969); Red-vented Bulbul 212 (56, 1972, none before 1968); Shama Thrush 161 (66, 1973); Japanese Bush Warbler 63 (10, 1973, none before 1971); Japanese White-eye 1099 (561, 1972); (Oahu) 'Amakihi 103 (102, 1955); Orange-cheeked Waxbill 33 (32, 1968); Black-rumped Waxbill 48 (29, 1968); Java Sparrow 45 (42, 1974); and Cardinal 216 (212, 1955).

Nuuanu, Kalihi, Ft. Shafter, Moanalua, Salt Lake, and Sand Island: The Mitchells, Ken Ellingwood and I set off at 8:00 up Nuuanu Valley. Four Red-vented Bulebuls were in the Nuuanu Cemetery. Ten Coot were in the upper reservoir, and the Shama Thrush sang from hau thickets from the lower reservoir all the way to the freeway. There was one at the last house in Kalihi Valley and several in Moanalua Valley, within a 100 yards of the gate.

Four Java Sparrows were on the telephone wires by the roadside on Alewa Heights.

There were 3 Brown Boobies perched on two buoys off the new reef runway, off Sand Island--6 in all. Golden Plover and Ruddy Turnstones frequented the coral flats makai of Mokauea Islet, exposed at low tide.

Six Stilt were on mud flats on Salt Lake on the northwest side of the remnant remaining. Also a dozen Black-crowned Night Herons, several Coots, as well as Golden Plover, Turnstones and a Wandering Tattler.

Walter R. Donagho

Makiki, Tantalus, Punchbowl, and Pensacola Cemetery: We arrived well before sunrise at the Makiki Pumping Station and began our count of the Makiki/Tantalus area there at 6:30 A.M. The Cardinal was the first species to begin singing. The area surveyed, with the exception of the Makiki Valley Trail, is entirely residential in nature. The whole count area is characterized by predominantly introduced vegetation. Consequently, with these factors considered, it is not surprising that the count does not include any native birds, but consists totally of introduced avian species plus the migratory Pacific Golden Plover.

A few interesting variations from last year's count in this area are noticeable. Three endemic species ('Elepaio, 'Apapane, and 'Amakihi) were counted in last year's survey. However, the latter two were found on the Manoa Cliffs trail which was not included in this year's survey of the Tantalus area, but was done as a separate count. Although 'Elepaio were heard on the Makiki Valley Trail last year, none were recorded in this count.

The migratory Pacific Golden Plover showed a slight increase from forty to fifty-two.

Among the introduced species, Common Mynahs remained relatively constant and, again, a single Mockingbird was seen in Punchbowl (the same individual making its annual Christmas Count guest appearance?). Red-crested Cardinals and House Finches occur in small numbers, but there were even slightly less this year. There were one-third less House Sparrows and the Java Sparrow's count dropped from nineteen to five.

Some introduced species showed an increase over last year. Red-vented Bulebuls, which do not occur in large numbers on the count, did show an increase from two to seven. For other species, the increase was more dramatic. There were sixty percent more Shama Thrushes than last year (48 vs. 30), over twice as many Barred and Spotted Doves (102 and 47 vs. 49 and 20), three times as many Cardinals (58 vs. 19), and twelve times as many Japanese Bush Warblers (24 vs. 2). There were no Spotted Munia on last year's count, but forty-four this year. Japanese White-eyes, which normally comprise the largest share of this area's count in recent years, were more than three times as numerous as last year (434 vs. 120). While making the White-eye count, those of us in the group were frequently concerned that we were underestimating at times.

While these numbers may not be statistically significant (based on one sample per year and frequently involving small numbers), they can serve to indicate possible trends in the avian populations in Hawaii.

An interesting and humorous experience occurred while surveying Punchbowl. It may serve as an example of the need for careful observation and a warning against hasty judgements. While we were surveying a section of Punchbowl on foot, Wesley Teraoka and Christi Morgan observed a bird flying into the foliage of a banyan tree. The bird was small and appeared to have a long tail that flapped in the wind as the bird made an undulating flight to the tree. Wesley cried out, "A Pin-tailed Whydah," having observed this species in Kapiolani

Park. Christi thought the tail looked green. A new species perhaps! The Green-tailed, Pin-tailed Whydah!! We ran to the tree and walked about it waiting for the bird to make another appearance. No luck. All we observed was a Mockingbird fly to the tree (our sole recorded individual for this species) and a Spotted Munia leaving its nest in the tree. The little Spotted Munia, having flown approximately 100 feet to a grassy area, returned with a twig for its nest while we continued our search for the mysterious green-tailed Whydah. Suddenly, we saw the Spotted Munia leave the tree once again and this time return carrying a long blade of grass in its beak that stretched out behind the little bird as it flew. The mystery was solved. No Green-tailed, Pin-tailed Whydah; just an industrious Spotted Munia. We stayed for a few more minutes and observed the bird perform the same act several times. Birders beware! That 'O'o you thought you rediscovered may turn out to be a dirty rock dove!!

William F. Burke

St. Louis Heights, Wa'ahila Trail and Woodlawn Trail: Our group of four began counting at 0645. The weather conditions were excellent: starting off cool and clear, becoming partly cloudy later in the day. After parking a car at the base of the Woodlawn Trail, we drove through Manoa Valley and up St. Louis Heights to Wa'ahila Ridge. Barred and spotted doves and mynahs were quite common both in the residential districts and in the parking lot at the head of the trail. Other introduced species which were especially common at the lower part of the trail were house finches, sparrows, and spotted munias. One red-billed leiothrix was seen, and another one may have been heard, but because of its peculiar song, none of us was sure enough of its identity to record it. Kentucky cardinals were also present.

At the Woodlawn cutoff, two of us continued on up the ridge trail, reaching the summit at about 1215. Native birds were particularly abundant on the upper part of the trail. 'Elepaio were seen in the understory, and 'apapane and 'amakihi were present all the way up to the summit. The high point of the day occurred a short distance after the Woodlawn cutoff, when we saw our third 'apapane. There were a few yellow 'ohi'a blooming, and our 'apapane was seen feeding at one of the flowers: a crimson bird perfectly framed by the bright yellow of the flower. These days, it's enough of a treat to see an 'apapane on Oahu, but seeing one amongst the yellow 'ohi'a is a double blessing! Predominant introduced species in this half of the trail were shama thrushes and white-eyes. As the vegetation became less dense, the shama thrushes disappeared, but the white-eyes were seen over the whole trail.

After eating lunch at the summit, we descended via the Woodlawn Trail. Before the steep drop into Manoa Valley, white-eyes and 'amakihi were present in large numbers. While we were passing through the dense growth of introduced strawberry guava and Java plum, another leiothrix was heard; Japanese bush warblers were also present. Two more 'elepaio were seen and two more heard before we reached Alani Drive at 1630.

The increase in number of native birds counted in this area this year was partly due to the excellent weather conditions and to the coverage of the upper portion of Wa'ahila Ridge. All but one of the ten 'apapane as well as over half of the 'amakihi were counted after we passed the Woodlawn Trail cutoff. Continued coverage of this area of the ridge in future counts would be well worth the effort.

Maili Stemmermann

Diamond Head Crater and Na La'au Arboretum: One species was listed as unidentified. These were three large birds that were briefly observed flying at the bottom of Poni Moi Road. They disappeared in a stand of palm trees before positive identification could be made. However, one observer said that they looked green. They may have been the three rose-ringed parakeets seen by Jack Throp's party in nearby Kapiolani Park.

Most of the exotic finches were observed either on the campus of Hawaii School for Girls at La Pietra or in the Arboretum above the school. One flock of several species was observed feeding in some tall grass. In past years I have observed them in the crater, but none were observed this year.

Sandra Guest

Kaneohe, Kawainui Quarry Road, Mokapu and Moku Manu: To summarize, the count was successful and enjoyable in terms of weather, total birds seen, uncommon species noted, and fellowship among birders. It started out with an unbelievable sighting of eight mallards flying over the leader's house in Kaneohe! They were located a few moments later in a back yard in Haiku Gardens being herded down a road by the owner's vehicle. Although they seemed normal in

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
Mallard	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
Hawaiian Duck (Koloa)	.	.	5	15	11	3	2	.	.	7
Pintail	29	77	.	54	111	18	71	7	.	47
American Widgeon	.	4	.	.	.	.	5	.	.	.
Northern Shoveler	30	13	15	18	7	8	89	14	.	8
Ring-necked Duck	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Lesser Scaup	1	.	.	3	2	12	2	.	.	.
scaup (sp?)	.	1	7	2	.	.	.	2	.	.
Bufflehead	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
duck (sp?)	.	.	.	10	.	.	.	1	.	12
Ring-necked Pheasant	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.
(Haw) Common Gallinule	5	1	7	2	6	5	6	3	2	6
(Haw) American Coot	47	19	31	151	92	73	116	31	35	47
Semipalmated Plover	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
(Pacific) Golden Plover	590	1093	574	637	599	483	683	407	647	928
Ruddy Turnstone	93	347	215	160	125	60	139	39	121	109
Common Snipe (Wilson)	1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Wandering Tattler	11	26	18	23	23	20	18	14	25	21
Bar-tailed Godwit	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Willet	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.
Sanderling	132	35	43	39	35	83	33	9	9	23
(Haw) Blk-necked Stilt	189	90	25	101	128	177	141	14	99	97
Pomarine Jaeger	31	37	5	.	24	8	10	.	.	6
Glaucous Gull	.	.	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.
Glaucous-winged Gull	.	2	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Herring Gull	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Ring-billed Gull	2	.	.	.	.	4	.	.	.	.
Laughing Gull	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Franklin Gull	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
gull (sp?)	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	2	.	2
Sooty Tern	.	6000	.	2	.	200	.	.	.	.
Common Noddy (Brown)	.	.	6	26	.	.	56	.	1	149
White-capped Noddy (Black)	.	27	5	.	1	.	.	.	.	3
White Tern (Fairy)	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.
Rock Dove	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	8	25	468
Spotted Dove	477	506	636	678	534	619	627	578	573	1072
Barred Dove	1802	2184	1207	1694	1298	1275	1809	1438	1519	1557
Salmon-crested Cockatoo	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.
Red-crowned Parrot	.	.	.	.	.	4	2	9	3	1
Eclectus Parrot	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.
Rose-ringed Parakeet	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	2	3	3
Shell Parakeet	.	.	.	.	3	.	.	2	.	.
Black-hooded Parakeet	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	1	.
Barn Owl	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1
Short-eared Owl (Pueo)	2	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.
Melodious Laughing-thrush (Chinese Thrush)	.	1	.	3	.	.	1	4	.	7
Red-billed Leiothrix	98	130	18	.	.	1	1	.	.	2
Red-whiskered Bulbul	.	2	7	.	.	4	.	.	2	5
Red-vented Bulbul	.	.	9	7	7	26	56	14	50	212
Mockingbird	7	9	12	4	2	7	13	10	7	7
Shama Thrush	12	22	18	7	9	55	36	66	63	161
Japanese Bush Warbler	.	.	.	.	.	8	4	10	3	63
(Oahu) 'Elepaio	39	36	20	22	4	27	21	12	21	14
Common Mynah	5825	6447	4265	4267	2981	2659	2427	2295	2473	2211
Indian Hill Mynah	2	7	2	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Japanese White-eye	235	260	300	227	287	487	561	419	497	1099
(Oahu) 'Amakihi	29	46	40	44	22	98	34	22	32	103
(Oahu) Creeper	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	1

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
'Apapane	42	26	19	17	9	59	11	24	70	72
Yellow-fronted Canary	6	2	2	1	5	4	3	2	4	5
Gray Singing Finch	22	37	18	6	9	3	.	.	.	.
House Finch	89	152	140	110	107	187	156	184	242	231
Cordon-bleu (Common)	7	4	2	4	6	3	17	1	2	7
Blue-headed Cordon-bleu	.	.	.	12	8	.	.	.	.	1
corden-bleu (sp?)	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	5
Orange-cheeked Waxbill	6	23	32	24	27	14	15	5	.	33
Black-rumped Waxbill (Red-eared or Common)	2	7	29	12	13	13	19	7	.	48
Lavender Firefinch	2	17	23	6	7	14	40	1	4	34
African Firefinch	6	5	8	4	2	.	.	.	.	.
Red Munia (Strawberry Finch)	4	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Diamond Firetail Finch	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Spotted Munia (Ricebird)	551	647	196	238	451	438	369	172	665	348
House Sparrow	1111	1128	592	1294	1222	1459	2538	778	868	841
Java Sparrow	.	.	.	4	11	4	24	38	42	45
Orange Weaver (Bishop)	3	2	.	9	6	4	3	1	.	.
Yellow Weaver (Napoleon)	1	.	.	2	1	.	1	.	.	.
Weaver (Orange or Yellow)	.	.	2	.	.	.	.	.	.	.
Senegal Combassou	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.
Pintailed Whydah	.	.	.	7	5	1	1	1	18	1
Cardinal	96	79	128	94	74	152	204	108	131	216
Red-crested Cardinal	246	274	122	158	202	186	298	139	246	188
Saffron Finch	.	1	1	3	13	5	24	.	7	8
No. of Individ. Birds:	12,557	22,641	11,024	13,236	10,454	13,218	14,559	9,574	10,263	12,008
No. of Species:	51	51	49*	53*	51	50	52	48/	44	54#

Excluded: Unidentified *gull, *scaup and duck, /duck, and #duck, gull and cordon-bleu.

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SEAFLITE CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

By Robert L. Pyle

A Christmas bird count was taken January 2, 1976 along the route of the SEAFLITE hydrofoil KUHIO from the mouth of Honolulu Harbor across Molokai Channel, west and south of Lanai through Kealaikahiki Channel to Maalaea on Maui, thence through Alalakeiki Channel, across Alenuihaha Channel to Kailua-Kona on Hawaii.

Counting began at 8:15 a.m. off Honolulu Harbor, and continued until arrival off Kailua-Kona at 2:00 p.m., with a break from 10:45 to 12:00 while in port at Maalaea. During this time the hydrofoil covered approximately 167 miles. Although land-based Christmas Counts are limited to a circle of 15 miles diameter, this restriction does not apply to overwater counts made from a boat along a linear route.

The weather was mostly clear, providing excellent visibility for observation. Northeast tradewinds were generally 15 to 20 knots, occasionally higher in the exposed channels. Seas were generally 1 to 3 feet in the lee of islands (60% of the trip) and 6 to 8 feet while crossing channels exposed to the northeast wind (40% of the trip).

For pelagic birding, the SEAFLITE hydrofoils are much better platforms than the open fishing boats normally used on Mainland coasts. They are very steady as they skim above the waves at 40 to 50 miles per hour, so that binoculars can be held steady and there are no seasickness effects. Large picture windows provide excellent visibility, and binoculars do not get sprayed. We had special permission for the Count to go outside on the aft deck in the company of a crew member, and to watch from the cockpit up front. One doesn't want to be out on the front deck while cruising at 50 mph. We are grateful to Mr. Larry Kelly of SEAFLITE Operations office for making these arrangements and to the KUHIO crew Chris Rose, Bob Jackson, Art Lee and Darrel for their help and interest during the Count.

Birds recorded on the Count: Black-footed Albatross-1, glimpsed briefly off Honolulu Harbor; Wedge-tailed Shearwater-1, west of Lanai; Red-tailed Tropicbird-1, west of Upolu Point, Hawaii; Masked Booby-2, with a flock of Red-footed Boobies in Molokai Channel;

Brown Booby-9, five seen off Honolulu Harbor, single birds west of Molokai and west and south of Lanai; Red-footed Booby-32, feeding flocks of 11 and 6, and others in smaller groups totaling 28 in Molokai Channel, 4 northwest of Lanai; Great Frigatebird-1, a female west of Kawaihae, Hawaii. We were surprised not to see more of these. Pomarine Jaeger-30, 17 off Sand Island, Honolulu, and 2 in Molokai Channel, rest were scattered west and south of Lanai, including 3 while crossing the channel toward Maalaea; Common Noddy-65, flocks of 20, 25 and 20 around the group of fishing boats strung out along an underwater bar northwest of Kailua-Kona, Hawaii; White Tern-1, off Diamond Head, right where it would be expected from the frequent observations last August of White Terns coming into shore near Diamond Head enroute to Kapiolani Park. Total: 143 individuals, 10 species.

Observers: Robert L. Pyle and Peter Pyle.

Beside the noddies, only two birds were seen between Maalaea and Kailua-Kona, while 76 were seen between Honolulu and Maalaea. Repetition of this count, at least the Honolulu-Maalaea portion, in future years would provide interesting comparisons. At least two observers are needed to provide continuous watch on each side of the boat.

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KAPAA, KAUAI, CHRISTMAS COUNT
27 December 1975

Areas:	1*	2	3*	4	5	6	TOTAL
White-tailed Tropicbird	5	.	.	.	3	.	8
Brown Booby	13	.	.	.	.	.	13
Red-footed Booby	570	.	.	.	.	.	570
Great Frigatebird	7	6	.	.	.	.	13
Cattle Egret	546	173	.	20	.	15	754
Black-crowned Night Heron	3	24	.	2	1	.	30
Koloa	12	20	.	.	2	.	34
Pintail	2	397	.	.	.	.	399
Green-winged Teal	.	8	.	.	.	.	8
American Widgeon	.	1	.	.	.	.	1
Northern Shoveler	.	2	.	.	.	.	2
Lesser Scaup	1	2	.	.	.	.	3
Peregrine Falcon	1	.	.	.	.	.	1
Common (Japanese) Quail	.	1	.	.	.	.	1
Red Junglefowl	.	4	.	14	.	.	18
Ring-necked Pheasant	.	4	.	2	.	.	6
Erkel Francolin	.	1	.	.	.	.	1
Hawaiian Gallinule	7	46	.	1	.	.	54
Hawaiian Coot	70	270	.	1	.	3	344
Am(Pac)Golden Plover	85	184	.	51	.	34	354
Ruddy Turnstone	.	1	.	18	.	.	19
Wandering Tattler	2	8	.	.	.	.	10
Long-billed Dowitcher	.	3	.	.	.	.	3
Hawaiian Stilt	.	105	.	.	.	.	105
Spotted Dove	31	139	.	26	9	9	214
Barred Dove	198	344	.	94	20	86	742
Barn Owl	1	.	.	.	.	.	1
Short-eared Owl	1	.	.	.	.	.	1
Mockingbird	2	1	.	.	.	.	3
Melodious Laughing-thrush	24	11	.	21	.	.	56
Shama Thrush	6	4	.	21	3	1	35
Common Mynah	120	109	.	176	5	79	489
Japanese White-eye	133	86	.	142	.	35	396
Spotted Munia	60	596	.	145	6	89	896
House Sparrow	15	.	.	86	.	.	101
Western Meadowlark	18	37	.	27	1	49	132
House Finch	72	99	.	39	9	.	219
Cardinal	18	5	.	40	5	5	73
Red-crested Cardinal	.	.	.	.	10	2	12

*Areas 1 and 3 combined (one party covered both; records not kept separately)

	1 & 3	2	4	5	6	100 TOTAL
No. of Individual Birds:	2023	2691	926	74	407	6121
No. of Species:	28	31	19	12	12	39

Also seen count week, but not count day: Rock Dove.

Areas Covered

- 1 Hanalei Town to Kilauea Stream, makai of Highway 56.
- 2 Waipa Stream to Ka Loko Reservoir, mauka of Highway 56.
- 3 Kilauea Stream to Anahola.
- 4 Anahola to Waipouli.
- 5 Waipouli to Wailua River, mauka to Sleeping Giant.
- 6 Wailua Homesteads, mauka of Sleeping Giant.

Habitat Coverage: valleys and ridges 40%, sugar cane and pineapple fields 25%, pasture 15%, ocean front, rivers, streams and reservoirs 15%, towns 5%.

Hours: 7:15 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Weather: A.M. mostly clear, P.M. partly cloudy. Temperature 68° to 78°F. Wind SW-SSE, 6-9 m.p.h.

Twelve observers in five parties (areas in parentheses): Diana Brown (2), Zelia Butler (1&3), E.K. Dalton (6), H.C. Dalton (6), Delano Kawahara (4), Nina Maciolek (2), Jerry Pierce (1&3), David Sollner (5), William Villanueva, Jr. (4), Grace Yoder (5), Fred Zeillemaker (2), Melly Zeillemaker (1&3).

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The 1975 Kapaa, Kauai, Christmas Bird Count

By C. Fred Zeillemaker, Compiler

Area 1: The red-footed booby colony at Kilauea Point and Crater Hill was less than half the size found last year. Evidently many birds remain at sea during the more pleasant nights of winter. A cattle egret colony has formed during the year at Crater Hill. Birds from the entire east and north portions of Kauai gather there to roost. The team from Area 2 assisted the Area 1 team, so birds arriving from west and east could be counted as they joined the boobies at the coastal colony. Birds found during the day elsewhere in the count circle were subtracted from the total 754 counted coming to roost to avoid duplication. About 25 active nests containing chicks were also noted. The female peregrine falcon has been present at Kilauea Point since at least November 1. It has been observed by several visitors, December 5, 9, 30 and January 1, 2 and 3, 1976.

Area 2: The 24 night herons, 20 koloa, 54 pintails, 8 green-winged teal, 1 northern shoveler, 46 gallinules, 270 coots, 8 tattlers, 3 dowitchers and 105 stilts were found on the taro farms of Hanalei National Wildlife Refuge and nearby areas. At least two full plumage males were among the teal at the refuge. The species had been observed there October 8 and November 10 also. The dowitchers arrived at the refuge October 15, and were also observed November 3, 10, 13, 17, 26 and December 6 and 19. All details, including voice studies, were conducted prior to count day. An unexpected 343 pintail and the female plumaged American widgeon were on Kalihiwai Reservoir. One of the shovelers was also there. Two lesser scaup (1 male) were at Ka Loko Reservoir. The Erkel francolin was along a jeep trail above Ka Loko. The Hawaiian coot and Hawaiian stilt counts (primarily at Hanalei Refuge) were unusually high. Most birds normally move out of the count circle in November presumably on their annual trek to the natural marshes of Niihau.

Area 3: The count's only short-eared owl or pueo was at the abandoned pineapple fields near Anahola. The species regularly hunts there.

Area 4: The flock of 18 ruddy turnstones was on the beach at Waipouli.

Area 5: The red-crested cardinal has only recently (about March 1975) invaded the Wailua River valley. On count day 10 birds were found in the Wailua House Lots area.

Area 6: Red-crested cardinals are also further up the valley as two were found in the Wailua Homesteads area on count day.

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WAI MEA, KAUAI, CHRISTMAS COUNT

20 December 1975

Areas Covered

- 1 Main Highway 55 route Kekaha to Kokee and all lowland areas trails
- 2 Waimea Canyon Road, Waimea to Highway 55 (Kekaha Road) junction, Kokee trails & jeep /

WAIMEA, KAUAI, CHRISTMAS COUNT, 20 December 1975

Areas: 1 2 TOTAL			1 2 TOTAL		
White-tailed Tropicbird	9	1	10	Melodious Laughing-thrush	4 10 14
Great Frigatebird	3	.	3	Mockingbird	1 8 9
Cattle Egret	6	30	36	Shama Thrush	. 1 1
Black-crowned Night Heron	5	.	5	Kauai 'Elepaio	6 19 25
Red Junglefowl	33	11	44	Common Mynah	32 27 59
Ring-necked Pheasant	2	3	5	Japanese White-eye	9 120 129
Erkel Francolin	.	3	3	Kauai 'Amakihi	17 55 72
Hawaiian Gallinule	3	.	3	'Anianiau	3 11 14
Hawaiian Coot	1	.	1	Kauai 'Akepa	4 . 4
Am (Pac) Golden Plover	55	4	59	'Apapane	151 91 242
Wandering Tattler	1	.	1	'I'iwi	7 54 61
Sanderling	3	.	3	House Finch	5 4 9
Rock Dove	.	1	1	Spotted Munia	13 5 18
Spotted Dove	24	21	45	House Sparrow	23 4 27
Barred Dove	303	26	329	Cardinal	14 26 40
Short-eared Owl	1	.	1	No. of Individual Birds:	738 535 1273
				No. of Species:	28 23 31

Also seen count week but not count day: Kauai Creeper.

Habitat Coverage: valleys and ridges 60%, sugar cane fields 20%, pasture 5%, ocean front, streams, ponds and ditches 10%, towns 5%.

Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Weather: Clear all day. Temperature 55° to 80°F. Wind ENE, 9-14 m.p.h.

Seven observers in two parties (areas in parentheses): Sister Mary Arthur (1), David Boynton (1), Takeshi Fujita (1), Jan Okinishi (1), Jerry Pierce (1), Fred Zeillemaker (2), Melly Zeillemaker (2).

David Boynton, Compiler (submitted by C.F. Zeillemak/

Field notes from Peggy Hodge: Green Sea Turtle

Dr. Rensis Likert on beach-front at Lanikai reported seeing numerous green sea turtles close to shore during October-December 1975. An encouraging sight after they had practically disappeared for the last 16 years in Lanikai Bay after once being prevalent.

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Field notes from Wesley Teraoka: Ricebird or Spotted Munia

During the Christmas Bird Count on December 21, 1975, Bill Burke, Christi Morgan, and I observed a unique occurrence. In Punchbowl Crater, we got a fleeting glimpse of a small bird with an extremely long ribbon-like tail. We guessed that perhaps it was a pintailed whydah (Vidua macroura) as the male of the species carries a long black tail during the breeding season. However, we did not see a black tail. Christi thought she saw a white tail and I thought it was a green tail.

The bird flew into a banyan tree so we checked its branches for a nest. All we found, however, was the nest of a ricebird (Lonchura punctulata). We waited patiently under the banyan tree for our mysterious bird to reappear again. The mystery was solved a few moments later as we watched the ricebird lining its nest with grasses. It appears that the ricebird was our mysterious bird, and what we actually saw was a ricebird carrying in its bill a long leaf blade of Guinea grass (Panicum maximum). While in flight, the blade of grass trailing behind the bird's body gave the appearance of a long ribbon-like tail.

We watched this occurrence a few times; the bird would fly to a patch of grass at the rim of the crater and return with a piece of grass in its bill. The ricebird also seemed to alternate the grass parts brought back to the nest, first a leaf blade, then a seed stalk.

Although it was not a "new" species, it was a very interesting and rewarding observation nonetheless.

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Field notes from Charles M. Dunn, 29 December 1975: Plover

Mr. Dunn reported a plover feeding on a centipede at Punchbowl National Memorial Cemetery/

SURPRISE! In the past W. Patrick Dunbar had sent many spectacular color pictures of sea birds, but on 31 December 1975 he sent five wonderful action color snaps of a hummingbird

from California. For your enjoyment they'll be displayed at the general meeting.

'EXTINCT' PLANTS REFOUND by Harry Whitten, HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN, 27 December 1975, A-11:

John Obata appeared at a recent meeting /15 December 1975/ of the Hawaii Audubon Society carrying in a pot a thriving plant with small white blossoms.

"This plant is not extinct," he said proudly.

The plant, Tetramolopium filiforme, was one of the 273 Hawaiian plants that F.R. Fosberg and Derral Herbst, in their survey for the Smithsonian Institution, listed as possibly already extinct. It had first been collected in the last century by Dr. William Hillebrand, a physician who was one of the first serious students of Hawaiian plants.

Obata and Herbst were delighted to find it still growing a few months ago on Ohikilolo Ridge in the Waianae Mountains. The plant shown at the Audubon meeting was grown by Obata from seed he collected on his hike with Herbst.

On the same trip they also found another plant on the "extinct" list, Lobelia niihauensis, variety meridia, a species of Raillardia that had not been discovered before, and a rare morning glory, Bonamia memziesii. ...

Fosberg and Herbst listed 1,765 species and varieties of Hawaiian plants as rare, endangered and extinct, of which 1,088 were included in the Smithsonian's report to Congress. The State's proposed list contains 418 fewer entries in the endangered category and 70 fewer in the threatened category than the federal list.

...Hawaii has a great many endangered plants. Depending on which list is accepted, from one-fourth to one-half of its entire flora is in critical categories, compared to 10 percent in Mainland states. ...

Why should rare and endangered plants be preserved? The Smithsonian report states the case: "Many species of rare, endangered, and threatened plants grow in severe or unusual habitats and often possess qualities that make them particularly valuable to man: they help provide diversity and greater ecological stability, they stock unstable and unusual habitats, they are sources of medicines and other chemicals, they are bioindicators of minerals and metal ores, they possess potential value of food crops and horticultural use, and they provide man with sources of aesthetic value.

"Loss of any species of plant represents an irretrievable loss of unique genetic material or germ plasm that cannot be duplicated and narrows man's future options for his own use of the environment."

John Obata's comments: The so-called extinct species is Tetramolopium filiforme, of the daisy family. The seeds were collected half way up the ridge to Ohikilolo, Makua-Keau Ridge, Waianae Range, Oahu, on 25 May 1975. The seeds were planted on 26 May 1975. Of the twelve germinated seedlings, only one survived to maturity. This plant bloomed in seventeen weeks. Flowers shown at the Audubon Society's meeting were three days old and past their prime.

This species was listed as extinct by the Federal Register of Endangered and Threatened Flora. It was last collected by Dr. W.F. Hillebrand about a hundred years ago. There exists a large population of this plant in one restricted area.

IMPORTANT NOTICES: The public is invited to hear an important speech by Director Lynn Greenwalt of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service from Washington, D.C. on the subject of endangered plants and animals on February 2nd at 2:00 p.m. in the Gold Room of Hilton Hawaiian Village as a part of the National Association of Conservation Districts Convention. His speech is followed by Tom Tagawa's, State Forester, on the subject of Endangered Species of Hawaii--Effect on Other Resource Management.

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"SAVE OUR WETLANDS" will be the theme for the 39th annual National Wildlife Week, 14-20 March 1976. This is a challenging theme for Hawaii. Here's your chance to find out about your ecosystem and your relationship to it. What have you done to spread the message of the importance of the wetlands and the necessary actions to be taken to save them?

ALOHA to new members:

- Junior: Keoni Hickok, 1060 Aalapapa Drive, Kailua, Oahu 96734
 Craig Inaba, 547 Halekauwila St, Honolulu, HI 96813
 Lewis Moore, 509 University Ave, #701, Honolulu, HI 96814
 Malia Nemechek, 920 Maunawili Circle, Kailua, Oahu 96734
 Douglas Swope, 2564 Sonoma Place, Honolulu, HI 96822
 Gale, Jason, & Karl Tseu, 201-B Paiko Drive, Honolulu, HI 96821
- Regular: David A. Bremer, 98-830A Iho Place, Aiea, Oahu 96701
 Dennis M. Burke, 49A Fairview St, Huntington, New York 11743
 Michael Angel Caceres, RR 1, Box 296A, Kapaa, Kauai 96746
 Diane L. Carlstead, 357 Iliaina St, Kailua, Oahu 96734
 Joyce A. & Marilyn Davis, 45-720 Lanipola Place, Kaneohe, Oahu 96744
 Linda Evans, 2440 Campus Road, #277, Honolulu, HI 96822
 Alan Hayashi, 547 Halekauwila St, Honolulu, HI 96813
 Don K. Huddleston, 865 N. Kalaeo Ave, Kailua, Oahu 96734 (Reinstated)
 Rodney K. Inaba, 547 Halekauwila St, Honolulu, HI 96813
 Harvey C. King, 735-C Aalapapa Drive, Kailua, Oahu 96734
 Kenneth K. Masuda, 1209 Palamea Lane, Honolulu, HI 96817
 Holly McEldowney, 1417 Waiianuenue Ave, Hilo, Hawaii 96720
 Barbara E. Mull, 1802 Keeaumoku St, Honolulu, HI 96822 (Reinstated)
 Linda May Mull, 112 Lakeview Ave, San Francisco, Calif. 94112 (Reinstated)

Lawrence Pinter, P.O. Box 29405, Honolulu, HI 96820
 Mr. & Mrs. G. Allan Samuelson, 47-795 Ahuimanu Road, Kaneohe, Oahu 96744
 Dr. Robert Shallenberger, 169 Kuulei Road, Kailua, Oahu 96734 (Reinstated)
 Joseph R. Siphron, 50 East 72d St, New York, New York 10021 (Reinstated)
 Mrs. Jean-Marie Spoelman, 4629 Diaz Drive, Fremont, Calif. 94536
 Mrs. Grant N. Stemmermann, 46-458 Haiku Plantation Drive, Kaneohe, Oahu 96744
 William M. Swope, 2564 Sonoma Place, Honolulu, HI 96822
 Jack Wilmoth, 108 Opihikao Way, Honolulu, HI 96825
 Keith R. Woolliams, 59-307 Pupukea Road, Haleiwa, Oahu 96712

CORRIGENDUM: Vol.36, No.7, January 1976, page 89, para.4, lines 1 & 2: varied tit should be unidentified birds. Varied tit last reported on Christmas bird count 23 Dec 1962 (Vol.23, No.8, Feb 1963:38&39); from Aiea Loop Trail 3 Feb 1963, tit-2, at the Waikiki end of the loop (Vol.23, No.9, Mar 1963:47); from Waimano Trail 3 Mar 1968, saw one (Vol.28, No.11, May 1968:100).

'ELEPAIO Expenses from 1 January through 31 December 1975:

279.67	Envelopes and stamps		
412.88	Paper		
42.36	Stencil		
101.38	Miscellaneous		
836.29	Total		
	Miscellaneous		
48.68	Addressograph plates		
12.16	Addressograph ribbon		
15.60	Binding 'ELEPAIO V.31-35		
1.04	Correction fluid		
18.80	Mimeo ink		
5.10	Twine		
	Mimeographing	Gratis (Bishop Museum)	
	Typing & Mailing	Gratis (Members)	

	Mailing list as of 31 December 1975;		
164	Honolulu	110	Mainland (30 States & DC)
43	Rural Oahu		
27	Hawaii	4	Australia
14	Kauai	6	Canada
3	Lanai	5	England
9	Maui	1	Fiji
4	Molokai	1	France
2	Guam	1	Germany
5	APO	3	New Zealand
1	FPO	1	Scotland
		404	Copies

Please send in suggestions to improve the quality of the publication to Kojima, 725-A 8th Ave, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816. Urgently needed are materials for junior members to realize the importance of maintaining a healthy dynamic ecosystem, because everything is interdependent on each other. Any volunteers to take over the editorship?

DONATIONS: MAHALO! Following members have generously included donations with their membership renewals: Mrs. Robert K. Kepner-\$2.00; Mrs. George-Ann Maxon-\$2.00; Dr. & Mrs. William A. Myers-\$4.00; Mrs. Clyde K. Stroborg-\$2.00; Lawrence J. Taylor-\$2.00; and Mrs. Helen Whorton not only contributed \$10.00 "for the work of the Society" but also made a gift subscription to a friend. MAHALO NUI LOA for your concern and KOKUA!

WONDERFUL NEWS: HAWAII'S BIRDS, a field guide, is available for \$3.00 postpaid. Send in orders to: Book Order Committee, Hawaii Audubon Society, PO Box 5032, Honolulu, HI 96814.

FEBRUARY ACTIVITIES:

- 8 February - Field trip to Aiea Ridge Trail 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 State Library on Punchbowl Street at 7:00 a.m. Leaders: Tim Burr, 235-4036 (evenings); Dr. Sheila Conant, 988-6522 (evenings).
 9 February - Board meeting at Waikiki Aquarium Auditorium, 7:00 p.m. Members welcome.
 16 February - General meeting at Waikiki Aquarium Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Program: Photo Safari of East Africa by Bill and Peggy Hodge (color slides)

HAWAII AUDUBON SOCIETY EXECUTIVE BOARD:

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MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. Box 5032, Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

DUES FOR 1976 ARE NOW PAYABLE: Regular-\$3.00 per annum, Junior (18 years and under)-\$1.00 per annum, Life-\$100.00 (may be paid in four annual installments)

Members whose dues have not been paid by February 28th will be dropped from the membership roll and the 'ELEPAIO mailing list.

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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.