

# 'ELEPAIO

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## SOUTH AMERICAN CARDINAL POPULATIONS ON THE BIG ISLAND

By Mark S. Collins

On a field trip to Honokahou Pond on March 11th, my wife Marian and I observed several birds in the Kiawe thickets that we at first recognized as being Red-crested Cardinals. Upon closer inspection we realized that these birds were not Red-crested Cardinals but a similar species that was not described in any of our field guides. Later, conferring with Dr. Michael Scott of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, we determined that the birds were Yellow-billed Cardinals (*Paroaria capitata*) as described in the BIRDS OF SOUTH AMERICA by Rudolph Meyer De Schauensee, 1970. This reference states that the Yellow-billed Cardinal is native to central South America.

The following is a summation of my field notes taken during several trips to the North Kona Coast, dated March 11 through April 15, /1976/.

**Description:** The Yellow-billed Cardinal is approximately 7 inches in length. The sexes appear to be similar. Adult birds have a bright red head with no crest. There is an inverted triangular patch of charcoal on the throat. The breast and belly are white. The back and tail are charcoal which extends to the head by a narrow strip along the nape. The bill is an immaculate yellow orange, as are the legs. Immatures have a reddish gold head with a dull gold throat. The undersides are a dirty white. The back and tail are brown. The bill and legs are light brown.

**Distribution:** The Yellow-billed Cardinals were found to inhabit the thickets of Kiawe, Koa-haole, Beach Naupaka and Milo that occur intermittently along the coastal strand of the North Kona Coast.

The prevalent associate bird species were Myna, White-eyes, Cardinal, Barred Dove and Spotted Munia. The Yellow-billed Cardinals were most abundant at Honokahou. I estimated the population adjacent to Honokahou to be 12 birds based on two complete traverses through the Kiawe. The northernmost range of the Yellow-billed Cardinal appears to be near Kiholo Bay. Only two birds were observed in this area. Surveys further north of Kiholo turned up no Yellow-billed Cardinals. Yellow-billed Cardinals were observed as far south as the town of Kailua, Kona. Two birds were observed along Alii Drive in a vacant lot. It is possible that the Yellow-billed Cardinal exists south of Kailua but this area was not surveyed. The species could also exist mauka from the coast although on a two hour survey at an elevation of approximately 1,500 feet no Yellow-billed Cardinals were recorded.

**Food Habits:** The Yellow-billed Cardinals fed on moths and spiders; most of the foraging occurred in the Kiawe trees. Several Yellow-billed Cardinals were observed drinking from Opaepa Pond. This suggests that the distribution of Yellow-billed Cardinals may be limited by the availability of fresh water.

**Behavior:** Adult birds were observed to occur in pairs. I assumed that the adult pairs had territories established. This was based on the observation that the paired cardinals consistently occurred in the same area within a thicket previously surveyed. Juvenile birds often followed the adults in their foraging movements.

The Yellow-billed Cardinals were never heard singing. The only note recorded was a soft "int" which was sometimes repeated in rapid succession when a number of the birds congregated.

**Historical Perspective:** I spoke with an old Filipino man who said that he knew of



the birds I was studying. He accurately described the Yellow-billed Cardinal to me and then went on to say that he once owned three of the birds which were given to him by a friend. He related that his friend had captured the birds and had a pair of the cardinals in a cage hanging in the porch of his house. A cockfight at the friend's house was broken up by the policeman said that the cardinals were illegal to own, and the birds were set free. (police at which time the) My informant subsequently released his three birds. The man said that he remembers seeing the birds since the time he immigrated in 1930.

To make sure that there was no confusion as to the identity of the bird, I showed the man the illustration of the Red-crested Cardinal in the Peterson Field Guide. He said that this was not the bird because it had a crest and no black throat. He did say, however, that the bird illustrated could be found above Paauilo on the Hamakua Coast.

It was not too surprising then, when on May 7th my wife and I observed a solitary Red-crested Cardinal on the corner of Kinooie and 'Ōhi'a streets in Hilo. The bird was perched on a telephone wire and stayed in the area long enough for my wife and me to get a good look at it. In the future I hope to be able to report on the distribution of the Red-crested Cardinal on this island.

Editor's Note: The yellow-billed cardinal was first recorded in the 'ELEPAIO as seen by Brian A. Pelley, 24 November 1973 (Vol.34, No.8, Feb.1974, pp.95-96). For forty years this bird was known but not recorded. What happened? Is there any information as to its introduction or the niche it's occupying? Please share your experiences and information by writing to Kojima, 725-A 8th Avenue, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816. Mahalo.

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Testimony: Recommendations on the DRAFT PLAN FOR MAUNA KEA to Board of Land and Natural Resources by Mae E. Mull, 13 May 1976:

This public meeting on a plan for Mauna Kea takes place almost two years to the day since Governor Ariyoshi responded to an appeal from the Hawaii Audubon Society for a comprehensive master plan for Mauna Kea. The Governor wrote to the Society on May 16, 1974 saying in part: "I appreciate your concern for the future of Mauna Kea which is certainly one of Hawaii's most precious natural resources. Regarding the need for an integrated, long-term Mauna Kea Master Plan, I wholeheartedly support the development of such a plan before any further commitment by the State to astronomy facilities beyond what is presently committed. You are correct in stating that the protection of natural values as well as recreational and other values must be balanced against the scientific and economic values of Mauna Kea." (see 'ELEPAIO, Vol.35, No.3, Sep.1974, pp.26-27)

On November 1, 1974 the Governor gave specific directions on development of the master plan to the Chairman of the Board of Land and Natural Resources, with the final paragraph stating: "Finally, the promulgation of the Master Plan should include its adoption by the Board of Land and Natural Resources following public hearings, and should provide for both the enforcement of the Plan and procedures for its amendment."

It is disappointing that the Board did not wait two weeks longer and follow the procedures for an official public hearing as the Governor requested, where testimony given would be officially recorded as part of the public record.

As a member of the Mauna Kea Advisory Committee I attended every meeting, and along with other members who participated regularly, gave serious consideration to conflicts in land use and the long-term effects of different uses on the human environment. There were real but sincere differences in approach within the Committee. There was unanimous agreement in the Committee on only one major issue, limitation on the number of observations.<sup>7</sup>

There are substantial differences between the draft State DLMR plan and the majority and minority recommendations of the Advisory Committee. In light of these vital differences, we assume that the draft DLMR plan is open for amendment. We would like to know the process by which revisions will be considered and made before final adoption of the plan by the Board.

I understand that an environmental impact statement is underway for a Mauna Kea plan. Can you tell us who is preparing it and whether it is based only on the draft DLMR plan--to the exclusion of other alternatives?

Specific recommendations: Māmane/Maio Forest Ecosystem Management Area—The Hawaii Audubon Society fully supports the DLMR staff recommendation that this area be managed primarily to maintain and improve the native Hawaiian ecosystem, and that uses be limited to those appropriate to this overall concept. For many years biologists and foresters



have been reporting the continuing decline of the Mauna Kea forest due to the destructive effects of grazing and browsing sheep and goats. The Hawaiians didn't know these animals. The Mauna Kea forest flourished in Hawaiian times. The Polynesians who came here were an island people. They had respect for the land and its resources. They used the basalt rock, the plants and the birds of Mauna Kea in their economy, culture and life style, but they didn't use them up! They didn't deplete the natural resources upon which they depended for survival. The Hawaiians were practical conservationists before continental man reached these islands, and their practical lessons on land use are valuable to us today.

It is almost 200 years since early explorers released domestic sheep and goats into the wild on the Big Island and those feral mammals began to eat their way through the defenseless Mauna Kea forest. The devastation has been great but the soil, watershed, māmane forest, native birds and insects, and other component parts of that ecosystem can be renewed and flourish again if feral sheep and goats are removed from the mountain.

The State cannot continue to allow that mountain forest to degenerate. The State has clear responsibilities under the Federal and State Endangered Species Acts to insure that actions carried out by government agencies do not jeopardize the continued existence of endangered species. There are a number of endangered bird and plant species with Mauna Kea habitat. The Palila and Hawaii Forest Bird Recovery Teams, under the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, have defined the whole māmane forest on Mauna Kea as critical habitat that is essential to the recovery of endangered bird species.

Management efforts for the recovery of the whole forest are useless in the presence of sheep and goats. Māmane seedlings, young trees, the lower branches of mature trees, and native understory plants are all ice cream plants to sheep and goats. The decline in precipitation on Mauna Kea is sometimes mentioned. Relate this to the much smaller number of trees there is now to capture and hold the moisture from clouds passing over the open forest. There is less moisture to penetrate the watershed, the soil dries out, the land becomes barren and susceptible to rapid erosion. There are several fenced exclosures on the mountain from which sheep and goats have been kept out for ten years. Inside the exclosures there is dramatic recovery of māmane trees, ground plants and grasses protecting the soil. The whole mountain would make a similar recovery in the absence of sheep & goats.

Hunting--The Society gives strong support to the DLNR staff recommendation that game animals will not be maintained at levels which adversely impact on the māmane/naio ecosystem. We agree that feral sheep and goats are incompatible with the ecosystem at any level that would sustain a meaningful hunting program. The Society recommends that there be a gradual reduction of the herds through longer hunting seasons over a period of five years. Immediate elimination is impractical, unwise and inefficient. The present lottery system should be used to control the number of hunters and mammals taken, except that Big Island hunters should have a greater share of the hunting tags. Pig hunting and game bird hunting on Mauna Kea would continue as at present. Further study probably will show that mouflon sheep are incompatible with the forest as well.

It is important to note here that both sheep and goat hunting would continue in other areas on the Big Island. Sheep are managed now for hunting on large acreages of State land at Puu Anahulu and the Pohakuloa flats. We urge the Board to acquire access to under-utilized sheep hunting areas on Hualalai and in the saddle between Hualalai and Mauna Loa.

Only four members of the Advisory Committee voted in favor of a plan to fence 25% of the māmane forest to exclude game mammals and maintain sustained yield hunting on the other 75% of the forest; Dr. Quentin Tomich and I voted against it. The Society had tested a fencing proposal as a political compromise over a year and a half ago when there was no biological solution in sight. The idea of fencing got no support from biologists on the State or Federal level. The biological solution is clearly to get the destructive mammals completely off the mountain. The professional integrity of biologists and foresters demands that they make sound biological recommendations, not political ones. The time is ripe for a biological solution to the problem and the DLNR staff presents it rightly.

Mauna Kea Summit Area--The Society wholly supports the unanimous Advisory Committee recommendation that the number of observatories at the summit be limited to the six already approved by the Board for the five-year life of the master plan. This breathing period would give time for the approved construction to catch up and for the effects of all six to be carefully assessed when all of them are in operation.

The two minor and four major telescopes that have been approved would seem to meet the known educational and research needs in astronomy for the University of Hawaii. Additional



telescopes at this time may well be for other purposes than meeting the needs and functions of the University. More observatories in the next five years could preclude other scientific uses of the summit and surely would further degrade the landscape and scenic profile of Mauna Kea.

We urge the Board to reject the draft proposal that the number of observatories be "flexible," because in effect this means unlimited. Isn't it reasonable to slow down on observatory construction when you consider the consequences of increasing degradation of the summit area by massive man-made structures and the greater demand for urban support facilities downslope?

Power for the Summit--To meet power needs, the Advisory Committee makes the sound recommendation that on-site generators be used to supply electrical power for the observatories and limited support facility. Diesel or propane generators with emission-control devices are feasible for the six approved telescopes. Construction of overhead power lines from the Saddle Road to 13,000 feet elevation with a transformer station at mid-elevation is unnecessary if there is no expansion in telescopes. On the other hand, having unlimited power available from HELCO power lines would speed urbanization of the mountain. The State should postpone this major investment for five years when the summit needs will be reevaluated.

Hale Pohaku--The Board should know that two Advisory Committee members voted against the motion to site the mid-level facility for astronomers at Hale Pohaku--Earl Pacheco and myself. It is our strong position that no amount of State Park land at Hale Pohaku should be permanently transferred to the Institute of Astronomy for their exclusive use. Even now the public is denied the use of Hale Pohaku because it has been loaned for years to astronomers and construction crews. It is wrong to turn the State Park into a Science City. Now, with elitist arrogance, the Institute demands permanent residential facilities, two apartment for each major telescope approved--making a total of eight apartments now--in addition to sleeping accommodations for fifty persons. Contrast this with the total absence of any overnight primitive facilities at Hale Pohaku for the public!

In addition, no unbiased evidence has been presented yet that demonstrates the need for an acclimation site at that particular elevation (9,200 feet) for some astronomers.

We ask the Board to consider these comments and recommendations in drawing up a final master plan for Mauna Kea that will conserve the unique natural values of that special mountain.

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HONOLULU ADVERTISER, 8 October 1975, page A-12: Mauna Kea Scope Fight Seems Lost by Bruce Benson, Advertiser Staff Writer, Waimea-Kamuela

"I think that mountain is just going to go down the drain," said Mae E. Mull, the Big Island conservationist who apparently has failed to stop the construction of two more large telescopes atop Mauna Kea.

Mrs. Mull and others tried to require a full-scale environmental impact statement before the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) started building what will be the world's largest infra-red telescope, a \$7 million, 120-inch facility, at the summit.

She objected to what she called the "arrogant tactic of attempting to rush the project through by labeling the impact of the NASA facility as lacking environmental significance."

Mrs. Mull and other environmentalists also insisted that approval of a major \$3 million telescope by the United Kingdom should await the final preparation of a master plan for Mauna Kea.

On both positions, however, the environmentalists were defeated recently when the State Board of Land and Natural Resources okayed the construction of each instrument.

The decision apparently will not be appealed. Mrs. Mull, Big Island representative of the Hawaii Audubon Society, said attorneys believe there are grounds to bring suit, "but we're reluctant and probably won't do so, given the judicial climate in which a suit would be heard. The tremendous blow was the Land Board's approval for the United Kingdom scope in addition to the NASA scope, although the Governor had said that anything more should await the master plan. It's a very discouraging situation."

Completion of a master plan for Mauna Kea still is some time away. The mountain is the largest insular volcano in the world. Its summit is 13,780 feet above sea level and, when measured from the sea floor, the mountain is the highest in the world.

In petitions that she says went mostly unanswered, Mrs. Mull and the Audubon Society challenged the findings of the University of Hawaii and NASA that the infrared scope will



not have a significant impact on the summit environment.

Besides the two new projects, Canada, France and Hawaii have teamed up to start building a \$25 million, 144-inch scope. The University Institute for Astronomy believes that a dozen or more telescopes with apertures of 100 inches or more could appear at Mauna Kea in the next 20 years, making it a leading astronomy center.

Citing present projects, Mrs. Mull said in her unsuccessful petition to the Council on Environmental Quality and the State Office of Environmental Quality: "All of these installations and support facilities add up to a conspicuous cumulative impact on the unique natural environment of that prized mountain....Further, an environmental impact statement is necessary to meet (national) guidelines for a 'rigorous exploration and objective evaluation of the environmental impacts of all reasonable alternative actions.' The negative declaration merely lists the five best sites, including Mauna Kea. An evaluation of the specific alternative sites outside of Mauna Kea is clearly called for, along with comparison data for the Mauna Kea site. Another example of the deficiency of the negative declaration lies in its inaccurate and misleading treatment of the impact on the visual and aesthetic qualities of Mauna Kea. The facts are that the summit and slopes are clearly visible from Hilo 200 days of the year. The summit region can be seen also from the southern communities...and is notably visible to the north. The impact of NASA actions on the magnificent scenic profile of that spectacular mountain cannot be dismissed as 'minor' and 'subjective.'"

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Without our asking, Representative Patsy T. Mink urged NASA to prepare an EIS. Later she sent us the replies she received from NASA and CEQ. In effect, the replies said that a Negative Declaration constitutes a decision not to prepare an EIS. The only way to challenge that decision is to take the issue to a federal court for a timely judicial review. We are very grateful for Rep. Mink's concern with not only Mauna Kea but also the entire ecosystem. MAHALO NUI LOA!

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HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN, 14 May 1976, page A-16: State Plan for Mauna Kea Raises Citizen Opposition by Dave Shapiro, Big Island Bureau Chief, Hilo

A proposal by the State Department of Land and Natural Resources to remove wild sheep from Mauna Kea and to place no limits on the number of telescopes to be built at the mountain's summit drew strong community opposition last night at a public meeting conducted by the State land board. Also unpopular was the department's recommendation that power lines be strung up Mauna Kea's slopes to bring electricity to the summit.

More than 100 people crowded into a small State building conference room for the three-hour meeting, which was held to air differences between the department and the County-dominated Mauna Kea Advisory Committee on a proposed five-year master plan for the mountain.

In one of the major areas of conflict, the department has recommended that wild sheep and goats be eradicated to protect Mauna Kea's mid-level Mamane-Naio Forest. Houflon sheep, pigs and birds would be maintained for hunting. The advisory committee, representing local government agencies and citizen groups, recommended that one-fourth of the forest be fenced off to keep out the sheep and goats. The animals would be allowed to remain on the remainder of the mountain for hunting.

The department also differed with the advisory committee's recommendation that telescope at the summit be limited to the six already built or committed during the five-year life of the master plan. The department has adopted the University of Hawaii Institute of Astronomy position that telescope proposals should be considered individually, with no limits.

On power lines, the department supports overhead lines from the Saddle Road while the advisory committee has recommended pollution-free generators at the summit.

The land board will allow citizens 30 days to submit written comments on the department's draft recommendations, then begin work on writing a final master plan for Mauna Kea.

Several spokesmen for hunters' organizations opposed the sheep-eradicating program, saying it would eliminate the main source of game for local hunters. ...Earl Pacheco, spokesman for the Hawaii Island Fish and Game Association,...urged a multiple-use policy for the mountain, saying eradication of sheep would be discriminatory against many groups with an interest in the mountain. Helen Baldwin, spokesman for the Hawaii Island Conservation Council, supported the advisory committee's plan to fence off 25 per cent of the



Mamane Forest. She said eradication of sheep would be the ideal solution, but is "not a practical solution...which the public would be willing to accept and respect." The main support for eradication of sheep came from Mae Mull, representative of the Hawaii Audubon Society. "The State cannot continue to let that mountain forest degenerate," she said. "The biological solution is to get the destructive animals off the mountain."

Speakers were overwhelmingly in favor of limiting the number of telescopes at the mountain's summit. Mull said that was the only issue agreed upon unanimously by the advisory committee.

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#### RECENT OBSERVATIONS OF BIRDS ON OAHU--JULY 1975 TO APRIL 1976

By Robert L. Pyle

All observations are by the author (RLP) unless credited to Walter R. Donaghho (WRD), Hawaii Audubon Society field trip (HAS) or to others as indicated.

Black-footed Albatross--Single birds seen from SEAFILITE off southern Oahu Nov 29 and Jan 2. None were seen this winter by RLP or WRD on numerous visits to Sand Island, although they were found here regularly a decade ago (7 on 1966 Christmas Count).

Brown Booby--Up to 10 individuals seen regularly off Sand Island December through March, flying with the jaegers or sitting on buoys. Single birds foraging at sea east of Mokapu Peninsula (between Kaluapuhi Pond and Mokolea Rock) on Jan 6 and Feb 15 (WRD).

Black-crowned Night Heron--Appears to be increasing around Nuupia and Kaluapuhi Ponds on Mokapu Peninsula. A disturbance flushed 40 into the air at one time from the stilt nesting area north of Nuupia Pond Jan 27 (WRD), and at least 20 were in the same area Apr 4 (RLP). Six to twelve can usually be found at Kaluapuhi Pond. These herons are known to prey on sooty tern chicks at Manana Island, so the possibility of their preying on stilt eggs and chicks should be investigated.

Canada Goose--One cackling goose, a small subspecies of Canada goose, was well seen standing and in flight at the Waipio settling basins on the HAS field trip Oct 12. Stubby bill was noted, as was the small size in comparison with pintails and shorebirds near by. Two cackling geese were seen at Waipio Pond Dec 30 (WRD), Jan 24 (R.Shallenberger, S.Conant), and again on HAS field trips Mar 14 and Apr 11, but were missed on Feb 15 (WRD).

Black Brant--One bird wintered on Nuupia and Kaluapuhi Ponds, Mokapu Peninsula. It was first reported Dec 14 off Kailua Beach, 200 ft from shore, flying low toward Mokapu Peninsula (Lew Pyle). It was found on Nuupia Pond on the Christmas Count Dec 21 (Ron Walker, et al), and frequently in January (RLP, WRD), on the HAS trip Mar 14 (T.Burr, D. Hattan), and on Apr 4 (RLP). This bird was in excellent plumage; the broad, prominent white neck band with black markings extended completely across the throat without a break. The dark sooty brown on the breast extended from the black neck to the legs, and up almost to the folded wing. It was watched swimming, flying and standing in an inch or two of water, affording excellent views of its markings.

Ducks--The filtration reservoir on the Kuilima Hotel grounds at the north end of Oahu was a major concentration point for ducks and coots during late fall. Visits on November 2, 9, 16 and 23 yielded the following counts: mallard-6,0,3,1; pintail-25,35,40,45; green-winged teal-1,0,4,4; American wigeon-10,10,8,4 minimal counts; and northern shoveler-100, 50,55,65. See below for counts of diving ducks and coots. Numbers dropped off through December and January, and by March 9 were down to 5 pintail, 4 Am. wigeon, and 27 n. shovelers. Some of the original Kuilima population may have moved to the south end of Punamano Pond, 1½ miles to the east, where, on the statewide waterfowl count Jan 15 RLP and WRD found 75 pintails, 3 green-winged teal, 5 Am. wigeon and 28 n. shovelers (these are minimal counts, since some parts of the pond were inaccessible). No other reports are available on the total wintering population of Punamano Pond. One male green-winged teal was seen from the north end of Punamano Pond Nov 2, and two Am. wigeon were there Nov 9. More than 300 ducks were at Waipio Pond along the west shore of Waipio Peninsula Oct 12 (HAS--'ELEPAIO, Dec 1975, p.68), but numbers had dropped in half by Mar 14 (HAS--'ELEPAIO, May 1976, p.138).

European Wigeon--A fine-plumaged male at Waipio Pond Feb 15 (WRD) and Mar 14 ('ELEPAIO, Apr 1976, p.129 and May 1976, p.138).

Ring-necked Duck--Two males and three females were present regularly from November to early January at Kuilima Reservoir. When first seen Nov 2 the males were just beginning to come into breeding plumage, one somewhat more advanced than the other. The bill markings were clear and distinct (generally bluish, with black tip bordered by white line,



and white line across base of the bill). By Jan 15, when the birds had moved to Punamano Pond, Kahuku, the males had achieved full breeding plumage with black back and wings and white mark at the water line in front of the folded wing. The females showed a large whitish area at base of the bill, merging diffusely into the brown cheeks and crown (not sharply demarked as in a female scaup). Each had an eye ring and narrow pale streak back of the eye. One female, apparently a sixth bird, was at the north end of Punamano Pond Nov 2.

Canvasback--One bird at Kuilima Reservoir Nov 2, 9, and 16, and at Punamano Pond Jan 15 (RLP, WRD). The drab color pattern was more like a female than an eclipse-plumaged male. The plumage did not change discernibly between November and January.

Lesser Scaup--Four at Kuilima Reservoir Nov 23 in close comparison with the ring-necked ducks. Possibly all were eclipse-plumaged males, as none showed the white face patch of the female. Identified as lesser scaup by the slightly pointed, pinched-in shape of the head. Also, one male Mar 14 at the large pond at Honouliuli, 300 yards north of the shrimp ponds (RLP, HAS).

Osprey--One bird observed twice on Jan 6, each time for about 30 seconds, flying about 200 yards from us, over Middle Loch east of Waipio Peninsula. Head pattern was distinct; wings seemed mottled above.

Ring-necked Pheasant--One male at Waipio Peninsula Oct 12; one female at Kuilima Reservoir Nov 16 and a bird heard there Nov 23.

Hawaiian Coot--At Kuilima Reservoir, counts on Nov 2, 9, 16, and 23 were 92, 94, 89, and 88 birds respectively. These dwindled to 62 on Dec 22, to 30 on Jan 15, and to one on Mar 9. Twenty-four were at the south end of Punamano Pond Jan 15. The HAS trip to Honouliuli shrimp ponds Nov 16 found 4 adults, one with 2 downy chicks about 2 weeks old. Four months later, the HAS trip to Honouliuli found two nearly full grown juvenile birds, and an adult with 2 downy chicks about the same size as those seen in November.

In November, at least 5 coots at Kuilima Reservoir and one or two at Honouliuli showed a narrow, dark incomplete ring around the bill near the tip, and a dark reddish black frontal shield above the bill. Typical birds of the Hawaiian subspecies have unmarked bills and pure white frontal shields. The dark markings are said to be characteristic of the Mainland subspecies when breeding. The birds seen here raise the question of whether some Mainland coots may be coming to Hawaii, perhaps accompanying flocks of ducks. Rob Shallenberger would like to have information on any additional observations of these dark markings on coots here in Hawaii.

Hawaiian Gallinule--The most consistent spots seem to be the Honouliuli shrimp ponds and the nearby large pond (total of 5 on the HAS trip Nov 16, but none found on some subsequent trips), and the lotus ponds at Haleiwa (3 on Jan 15, and regular there according to WRD).

Semipalmated Plover--One seen well at Waipio Peninsula Nov 16 (HAS).

Killdeer--One at the south end of Punamano Pond, Kahuku, Jan 15 (RLP, WRD). First seen standing at 40 yards distance, showing the two breast bands. When flushed, it circled overhead several times giving its characteristic call and then flew off with a golden plover.

Golden Plover--Two seen resting on the gravel roof of an 8-story apartment building on the beach at the south end of Kalakaua Avenue, on Aug 9. One or two were seen on the roof several times through the fall and into January. A pre-migration gathering of over 300 (counted) golden plover was scattered over about 2 acres of dried mudflat on the north side of Nuupia Pond, Mokapu Peninsula, Mar 14 (RLP, HAS). Nearly all of these showed at least some dark smudges on the breast. About one in 40 had virtually complete black underparts. Many additional golden plovers were seen elsewhere on Mokapu Peninsula that day.

Black-bellied Plover--Four in one settling basin on Waipio Peninsula Nov 16, and 2 in the same basin Jan 6. On both occasions, the birds were with golden plovers and many smaller shorebirds for close comparison.

Common Snipe--One flushed twice at Waipio Peninsula Jan 6 (RLP, WRD). Two at south end of Punamano Pond Jan 15 (WRD).

Greater Yellowlegs--One at Kaluapuhi Pond, Mokapu Peninsula, Jan 17. Slightly upturned bill, 3 to 4 noted call, larger than golden plover in flight.

Common Sandpiper or Spotted Sandpiper--One bird watched for several minutes in a settling basin at Waipio Peninsula Jan 6 (RLP, WRD), and again in an adjacent basin Mar 14 (RLP, HAS--'ELEPAIO, May 1976, p.138). It was uniform warm brown above, with no streakings or mottling, and white below with mark extending up in front of the folded wing. Legs were



yellow. In flight it showed a distinct pale wing stripe on upper and lower sides of wings, and dingy white edges along the full length of the tail. It flew with stiff, rapid wingbeats, pausing momentarily at the bottom of each stroke, characteristic of spotted sandpiper flight. While flying it gave a high 3-syllable call: pee-wee-wee, rather rapid, heard several times. It always fed on exposed mud, never in the water. It teetered once or twice while feeding. Common and spotted sandpipers are almost identical in winter plumage. This bird seemed richer, warmer brown than typical winter-plumaged spotted sandpipers, and the legs seemed brighter yellow. Thus, I would lean toward it being a common sandpiper, Actitis hypoleucos of Asia, rather than the spotted sandpiper, Actitis macularia of North America.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper--Six at Waipio settling basins Oct 12 (RLP,HAS--'ELEPAIO, Dec 1975, p.69 for notes); six again in the same basins Nov 16.

Pectoral Sandpiper--Two at Waipio settling basin Oct 12, distinguished from the sharp-tailed sandpipers by their heavier streakings below, sharply divided from the white underparts, and absence of reddish crown.

Dunlin--One at Waipio settling basin Nov 16; flock of at least 10 at Waipio Pond Jan 6 (RLP,WRD). Single bird at Kaluapuhi Pond, Mokapu Peninsula, Jan 17.

Dowitcher (sp?)--Twelve in drab plumage at Waipio Pond Dec 30 (WRD), and again on Jan 6 (RLP,WRD).

Hudsonian Godwit or Black-tailed Godwit--At Kuilima Reservoir Nov 16, we were suddenly aware of a large shorebird flying across the water, about 50 yards distant. It had a white tail with prominent, broad black tip, a generally grayish buffy back with a broad bright white wing stripe. It lit at the far edge of the water and we could not find it immediately. About 30 minutes later we spotted the bird feeding at the edge of the water where it had previously lit. Through the scope, we could see the long bill with slight upturn, pinkish on the basal half, dark on the outer half. The bird towered over the turnstones close by, and was noticeably larger than the golden plover. Once when it ruffled its wings, the white tail with black tip could be seen again. The bird flushed again, showing its tail and back pattern clearly, then flew to the far end and was not seen again. There appear to be no previous records of either Hudsonian or black-tailed godwit in Hawaii. (W.Burke, S.Conant, J.Edam, R.Shallenberger, RLP, WRD).

Pomarine Jaeger--From the outer point of Sand Island, these birds can be seen 200 to 500 yards offshore foraging back and forth over the sewer outfall area. Counts this year were 6 on Dec 21, 4 on Dec 24, 37 on Jan 6, 34 on Jan 31 (WRD), and 23 on Mar 14. All counts are number in sight at one time, and thus may underestimate the actual population. The majority appear to be light phase, though some dark phase birds were present. On the nearest birds, in good light, the white underparts and white wing flashes show well, and occasionally the broad elongated central tail feathers can be seen. They flap continuously with deep strokes, occasionally dipping down to the water. In contrast, the brown boobies passing by fly with more rapid, shallower strokes and glide 20 to 30% of the time.

Laughing Gull or Franklin Gull--Two to four identical immature gulls were observed at Kaluapuhi Pond, Mokapu Peninsula, from late December through January. Two were found there first on Dec 21 for the Honolulu Christmas Count by Ron Walker, and identified by him as Franklin gulls because of their similarity to others he had seen in prior years at Keehi Lagoon, where he had also seen wintering adult Franklin gulls on other occasions. RLP found 3 there on Jan 6, and 4 were together there on Jan 17, Jan 22 (WRD), and Jan 27 (WRD). The mantle was dark olive brown, merging to near black on the wing tips. Trailing edge of wings, underparts and tail were white, the latter with a pronounced black band near the tip. Head was white with a dark smudge extending from the eyes to the back of the head, but separated from the dark back. Bill, legs and feet were black. One year old laughing gulls are said to be indistinguishable in the field from immature Franklins. However, the birds at Kaluapuhi had very noticeably large and heavy bills typical of laughing gulls, as distinct from the much smaller, shorter bill of a Franklin gull. For this reason, it seems more likely that they were laughing gulls. Both species nest in temperate North America and migrate in winter to both coasts of Central America and northern South America.

Least Tern--One immature at Waipio Pond Oct 12; watched for nearly a minute as it foraged within 20 yards and dove once. It showed dark outer primaries, and dusky head and bill.

White Tern--Two to five of these were seen almost daily in late June and in August coming in from the sea near Diamond Head and circling over the south end of Kapiolani Park.



Highest counts were 4 on June 27 and 5 on Aug 10. Frequently they were seen to land in the tops of tall ironwood trees near the center of the park. Opportunities for observation were fewer after August, but they were seen occasionally in late winter including two on Mar 24. D. Dowker reported 3 in Kapiolani Park Feb 6. See 'ELEPAIO, May 1976, p.139 for further reports of white terns nesting in Kapiolani Park.

Rock Dove--Six white rock doves were noted flying in and out of the cliffs at the outermost point on the south side of the mouth of Hanauma Bay, on Dec 7.

Rose-ringed Parakeet--In the early morning of Aug 15, a noisy flock of 6 flew into tall trees at the south end of Kapiolani Park for a few moments, and then departed. Three were found in the same area on the Christmas Count Dec 21. See 'ELEPAIO, May 1976, p.139 for additional report of parakeets.

Red-crowned Parrot--Two found on the Christmas Count at Waikiki Aquarium Dec 21, in the same area later in December (WRD), near the Waikiki Shell in January (WRD), and in the same general area again Feb 6 (D.Dowker).

Barn Owl--Two birds heard and seen at the head of Ahuimanu Road back of Kahaluu on Dec 26 (RLP, T.Burr, A.Samuelson). They were seen first at dusk, appearing pale while flying high against the dark cliffs. During the next hour they were seen and heard frequently, sometimes as close as 50 yards. Birds in flight gave a rapid clicking call, and also an occasional loud one syllable screeching call. Al Samuelson reports hearing and occasionally seeing these owls regularly in the evening around his home here for the past three years.

Common Skylark--At Waipio Peninsula, 2 on the ground Jan 6, and 2 in the air singing near Walker Bay Mar 14.

Red-whiskered Bulbul--Three in lower Nuuanu Valley (F.Howarth) and 2 on the University campus at Manoa (S.Conant), both for the Christmas Count Dec 21. One found Dec 25 on Iolani Street above Dole Park (WRD).

Red-vented Bulbul--This species continues to increase and spread throughout southern Oahu. The published records to early 1975 are summarized by Berger ('ELEPAIO, Aug 1975, p.17). The total of 212 on the 1975 Honolulu Christmas Count (recorded in every sector except Aiea trail) compares with previous highs of 56 and 50 in 1972 and 1974. On the windward side, they were first noted at the head of Ahuimanu Road back of Kahaluu in the fall of 1975 (A.Samuelson). On Jan 15 four were seen on Johnson Road in Kualoa/Waikane, close to the beach (RLP, WRD). Three were noted at the upper end of Maunawili, mauka of Kailua, on Mar 13. On the leeward side, I have seen them since August 1975 near Na La'au Hawaii Arboretum, and at Kapiolani Park, Bishop Museum grounds, Honolulu Airport (frequently) and at Waipahu. At higher elevation, Mrs. Lester Marks has reported seeing them repeatedly since March of this year at her home on Old Pali Road in Nuuanu Valley. To document their further spread, watch for these conspicuous birds northward and westward of the above areas and report any sightings to the 'ELEPAIO.

Common Myna--A partially albinistic bird, showing large white areas on the body and wings, was seen on the grounds of Iolani Palace in Honolulu Nov 14 (WRD) and again on Nov 16 (HAS).

Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu--One male watched singing in Na La'au Hawaii Arboretum near the stone lookout platform on Aug 3 and Aug 10.

Red-eared Waxbill--This species has recently appeared around Kuilima Reservoir, near Kahuku at the north end of Oahu. Four (possibly five) were seen there with spotted munias on Dec 22 (RLP), 2 on Jan 12 (WRD), and one on Jan 15 (RLP, WRD). This is the first report of any of the "Diamond Head exotics" more than a mile or so from Diamond Head. Since these were with spotted munias, it would be well to examine flocks of the latter for these or possibly other related species travelling with them.

Java Sparrow--A small flock noted on the grass along King Street near Punchbowl Street Nov 16. On the Christmas Count they were found at Alewa Heights and in the Makiki-Punchbowl sector. They still are found most regularly, however, at Kapiolani Park.

Pin-tailed Noddy--One male in good plumage was seen on Jul 5 feeding on grass seeds on a lawn at Honolulu Zoo. Only one bird, an individual in tailless plumage at a feeder, was found on the 1975 Christmas Count compared to 18 the previous year.

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HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN, 2 June 1976, page B-8: Aquarium Releases 7 Turtles by Helen Altom

The Waikiki Aquarium released seven adult green sea turtles off Barbers Point yesterday to help build up the declining turtle population in Hawaiian waters.

Aquarium Director Leighton Taylor said..., "We have a few too many sea turtles for our



current exhibit space." ...He said the new turtle display at the aquarium will have a little sandy beach built into it so the turtles will be able to nest--"we hope."

The only remaining green turtle nesting site in the Hawaiian Archipelago is French Frigate Shoals, 480 miles northwest of Honolulu.

Green sea turtles have been released before by the aquarium.... Taylor said 10 green sea turtles were released from the beach in front of the aquarium in January 1973 and in March that year 11 were released off the north coast of Niihau. Three turtles from the first group were recovered in 1975 at Maui, Oahu and Molokai.

"The most comforting thing was that one of the second group released off Niihau was recovered in June 1974 at French Frigate Shoals and was nesting," Taylor said. "The reason that's comforting is that it indicates these turtles held in captivity for some time are able to return to nature and become part of the natural population." Taylor said a turtle released from Sea Life Park in 1973 also was recovered in January this year from French Frigate Shoals. ...

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Excerpts of letters concerning the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program on the Big Island from Mae E. Mull to Governor George R. Ariyoshi, 6 April 1976: ...I want to thank you for your swift action in expediting Hawaii's application to the Department of the Interior for the 1976 Youth Conservation Program on the Big Island before the April 4 deadline. The Society was pleased to hear indirectly from your office on April 1 that the State's share of matching funds are available....

After learning from Rep. Patsy T. Mink that the State's application had not yet been submitted, I sent you a telegram on March 29 urging that Hawaii participate in this extremely valuable program for young people and forest protection at small cost to the State. ...

William Mull and I will be glad to serve as resource persons again this year in the YCC program. ...

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His reply, 19 April: Thank you for your telegram of March 29, 1976 and letter of April 6, 1976 regarding the State's participation in the 1976 Youth Conservation Corps program.

The State has submitted its proposal and is now awaiting approval of the YCC project. We are pleased to be able to offer the opportunity for meaningful outdoor experience for high school students on Hawaii. ...

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To Rep. Patsy T. Mink, 6 April: ...Thank you very much for letting me know of the April 4 deadline for submission of the Hawaii application to the Department of the Interior for participation in the Youth Conservation Corps program for 1976.

After receiving your letter on March 29, I immediately sent a telegram to Governor Ariyoshi urging that the State meet the April 4 deadline for the YCC on the Big Island with 80% federal funding because this is an extremely valuable program for young people and forest protection with small cost to the State.

Your appeal to the Governor (and perhaps ours) was effective because we heard indirectly from the Governor's office on April 1 that the State's share of matching funds is available and that the papers are being processed. ...

William Mull and I were glad to serve as resource persons for one day at the YCC camp at Pohakuloa last summer and we look forward to a similar invitation this year. The rewards of the program were evident in the enthusiasm and cooperative spirit of these young people as they worked in fence building and repair, noxious plant control, and trail cutting and maintenance. Their keen interest was sustained on the job, day-by-day, by an integrated learning process. They understood the purpose of each project, became familiar with native plants, birds and insects, witnessed the destructive effects of introduced mammals, and learned to value the unique ecosystems of their home island. ...

Her reply, 17 May: ...Because of your efforts, Hawaii is scheduled to receive \$56,000 under the YCC state grant program which is the amount requested in Hawaii's application. Hawaii will also receive \$113,000 under the YCC Federal grant program. The combined programs will provide meaningful experiences in conservation projects for approximately 87 young people....

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HONOLULU STAR-BULLETIN, 11 June 1976, page A-9: U.S. Adds 159 Animals to Endangered List

The Interior Department...is adding 159 animals to the official U.S. list of endangered species, assuring protection to animals of the world from virtually every continent. ... The Interior Department's action is the first time it has moved to enforce the Convention



of International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, which the United States initiated in 1973.

The international convention lists 216 species, but the Interior Department chose to take action on 159. Those species no longer can be traded in interstate commerce when the new list takes effect June 14. The 159 species to be protected include the Asian elephant, the clouded leopard, the marbled cat and all species of gibbons.

Significant omissions from the list--from the environmentalists' viewpoint--are the California sea otter, the Mexican beaver and the glacier bear. Those animals are included on the international convention list. In the case of the beaver and the sea otter, whose listing has been opposed by California abalone fishermen, the department says it must study both species further before determining whether they are really endangered or not. The department turned thumbs down on the glacier bear, saying that it is "only an uncommon color variety of the black bear."

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Field Trip to Ulupau Head by Barbara M. Stejskal:

On May 9th, twenty-three people including three children made the trip to visit Ulupau Head on the Kaneohe Marine Air Station--the annual pilgrimage to the Booby Colony. Those of us who have visited the Booby Colony in past years remarked that there seemed to be fewer nests this year and although no count was made, there seemed to be fewer birds. We saw no eggs, but all hatchlings seemed to be quite well developed, and many of them were sitting alone on the nests stretching their down wings and doing some gular throat fluttering as the day became hot. We saw a few immature grey boobies, last year's young; a number of brown boobies, and about ten or twelve circling frigatebirds.

Through the scope we had a good view of Moku Manu, the tiny offshore rocky island. We saw many sooty terns nesting on the rocky ground near the cave and a flock of common noddies on the little beach. We saw more brown boobies and frigates overhead and through the scope an unusual blue-faced or masked booby was identified on Moku Manu.

Two porpoises (at first thought to be small whales?) were seen surfacing offshore.

We proceeded to the ponds on Kaneohe Marine Station where we saw about thirty white cattle egrets, about ten stilt and a flock of about twenty ruddy turnstones on the mudflats with one lighter colored sanderling in their midst. Many white-capped noddies were seen and three black-crowned night herons. On another pond we saw more herons.

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Lanai Field Notes from Peter J. Connally: August 1975 to 25 March 1976

Almost daily sightings of the pueo, mostly in the Palawai Basin. Frequently more than one is sighted. Once five individuals were seen within a three mile run. Usually they are seen soaring over the pineapple fields, apparently hunting. All sightings have been in the afternoon or after dark. They seem to nest in the brush areas separating the pineapple fields. They are very wary and haven't let us approach closer than 100 yards in daylight. I have gotten closer at night in an automobile on the road to Manele. One bird actually forced me to stop, get out of my car, and scare him off the road before I could pass.

Plovers are everywhere on Lanai.

My wife spotted an 'auku'u at Manele Small Boat Harbor casually observing the results of a fishing tournament. It was reported that they have also been seen at Naha.

Lanai affords an excellent seabird habitat especially on the western cliffs called Kaholo. Undisturbed by man in their rocky cliffs, the birds have excellent fishing grounds close by. Also there is no mongoose on Lanai, although feral cats are common. The common noddy (noio-kōhā) is the most common, leading local fishermen to the aku schools. The brown booby is seen frequently in high solitary flight. The white tern or manu-o-Ku has been sighted a few times and I heard a fisherman call this bird the mahimahi bird. On 18 Feb. '76 while fishing off Kaapahu on West Lanai I sighted at least 6 red-tailed tropicbirds soaring close to the cliffs. They were circling each other and making lots of noise. Perhaps they were mating. Also I sighted 18 white-tailed tropicbirds in the same area behaving in the same manner. It was quite spectacular.

On East Lanai I have on several occasions seen the white-tailed tropicbird soaring high above the shore; sometimes alone, sometimes paired. They have also been seen flying in the back of Maunalei Gulch.

To my dismay no native mountain birds have been seen to date.

SUMMARY of Interview with Larry Hirai on 19 January 1976: Larry Hirai is from the University of Hawaii Department of Entomology on contract by the USDA Fruit Fly Laboratory



to do an impact study for one year. The purpose of the study is to determine the affect of a fruit fly eradication project on bird life. Larry spends most of his time gathering base line data. He sees his work as a good opportunity to make a current report on Lanai's birdlife. His immediate supervisor is Dr. A.J. Berger. Larry has sighted 'apapane in Lanaihale. While he suspects 'amakihi to be there also, none have been seen yet. The main problem of native mountain birds on Lanai is limited habitat. Hirai estimates only about 100 native mountain birds are left. He also feels that the native forest may last only till the end of this century. Larry has seen white-capped noddies nesting at Kaunolu.

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Letter from Chairman Helen S. Baldwin, Flora and Fauna Committee, Hawaii Island Conservation Council to members of Hawaii Audubon Society, 12 March 1975:

The enclosed request for the establishment of a native rare tree sanctuary on State lands leased to the Puuwaawaa Ranch, island of Hawaii, is self explanatory.

We feel urgency is necessary here as the trees are getting older; very few young trees are growing up now in the area under present conditions; and the current Ranch lease runs until the year 2000. The trees cannot wait till then for a redrawing of Ranch boundaries to provide for a sanctuary for this State and National treasure.

Much of the land where these rare trees are growing is very rough a-a lava and very inferior cattle pasture. We saw this for ourselves on our trip, and have been told the same is true for large areas of the Ranch land we did not see, according to persons familiar with the area.

We therefore feel that an arrangement can be made with Puuwaawaa Ranch to withdraw a reasonably large portion of such land, with proper consideration for the Ranch, for a rare native tree sanctuary.

We also feel that through proper maintenance the trees and lesser plants will prosper and young ones grow to replace those which naturally die. The experience of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park shows this can be done.

We therefore urge you to do all in your power to make this sanctuary a reality.

A Request for Establishing a Native Rare Tree Sanctuary in the Puuwaawaa Area, Island <sup>of</sup> Hawaii

The Hawaii Island Conservation Council, an affiliate with the National Wildlife Federation, earnestly requests that a sizeable portion of land on which rare native Hawaiian trees and other plants are still growing in the Puuwaawaa area be set aside for their preservation in their native state.

The Council took a field trip recently to the Puuwaawaa area to see these trees, some of which are found wild nowhere else in the world while others found nowhere outside of the State of Hawaii are now very rare elsewhere in the State.

We were shocked at the damage being needlessly done to some of these trees on land leased from the State by Puuwaawaa Ranch for cattle pasture and the apparent indifference of the present Ranch management toward a majority of these rare species. ...

The late Dr. Joseph Rock, internationally known botanist, stated in his "Indigenous Trees of the Hawaiian Islands" that native vegetation "reaches its culminating point at Puuwaawaa, the richest floral section of any in the whole Territory" (of Hawaii). Another study made about ten years ago by Steve Montgomery and associates lists over 70 native plant species, many of them rare, on and around Puuwaawaa cone and Ranch area. Several attempts in the past to have some of this land set aside for native tree sanctuary use have been made by individuals and agencies of the Territorial and later the State governments but to date all have failed of fruition.

We therefore again urgently request that a large area of State land be withdrawn from Ranch use and made and maintained as a native rare tree and native plant sanctuary; such an area to be one which contains a considerable number of both species and individual rare native trees and plants. The exact size and location of such sanctuary to be determined on the basis of the above surveys, the advice of competent botanists familiar with the area, the State Division of Forestry, and the lessees of Puuwaawaa Ranch.

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Testimony: SR 397/SCR 140--Requesting the Establishment of a Native Rare Tree Sanctuary in the Puuwaawaa Area, Island of Hawaii, to Senator Jean King, Chairman, Committee on Ecology, Environment and Recreation, by Betsy H. Gagne for President Wayne C. Gayne, 7 April 1975:

Although the richness of the botanical treasure-trove that is Puuwaawaa has been recognized for almost 70 years, the area has been allowed to be degraded by cattle, feral goats and sheep, and exotic weeds. What is now left is in continual jeopardy because of the invasions of fountain grass which can and does fuel disastrous ground fires almost every summer. Unless something is done soon to halt these destructive forces and establish a sanctuary, a considerable number of native trees and shrubs will join the tragic list of extinct Hawaiian plants, which now number about 255 kinds, or over 10% of the entire native flora, according to a recent compilation of the Smithsonian Institution for the U.S. Congress.

Every effort must be made to preserve these trees in their habitat. Laudable efforts to propagate a few of these beleaguered plants in botanic gardens often fail because of their often specific requirements. Even when these efforts do succeed, the birds, land shells and other invertebrates dependent and adapted to these native plants and their ecosystem in toto, are lost and only a portion of the biota is saved.

Present land use practises at Puuwaawaa, if continued until the lease expires in 25 years will mean that the native forest will continue to be degraded and what the grazing animals leave will probably be obliterated by ground fires. In 25 years we may well have a pastoral scene such as that in the environs of Kamuela farther north where scarcely an iota of the original flora remains. At the cost of a remarkable flora which occurs no where else on earth we are ending up with a cow pasture, and a marginal one at that. This is too great a price to pay for something that could be irretrievably lost.



While there are destructive forces at work against the native flora that would seem to defy attempts at control, e.g. introduced rats; those destroying the Puuwaawaa dry forest could conceivably be easily offset if the wheels are set in motion soon. The price of a pasture lease seems paltry when we consider what we are losing. This is just downright misguided land planning. We can do much better and these resolutions are pointing in the right direction.

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Letters from Erika Wilson: Instead of throwing away her beautiful bird calendar, Erika has been sharing it with other members by sending a monthly note from England on its back.

For April she writes, "I have the pleasure of seeing this lovely bird here in England. Unfortunately, bullfinches can cause serious damage to fruit crops. Now that warmer weather is usual, the birding is most rewarding. Last weekend I saw and heard the first of the warbler migrants up from Africa. Later this month I will be giving a talk on Hawaii's birds to the London Natural History Society--going over the slides makes me long for a walk in Hawaii's mountains. ..."

For May on the back of a starling she says, "Here another month has passed quickly away. I am sorry to hear (from Sheila) that a house was built on Paiko Lagoon peninsula. I thought that piece of land was safe for the stilts. I gave my Hawaiian bird talk to the London Natural History Society on 25 May; about 60 people attended and enjoyed the slides, my imitations of the wedge-tailed shearwater, and comments on the problems of protecting the native birds. ..."

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Corrigenda: Vol.36, No.12, June 1976, page 154, 17 November 1975, lines 2 and 3: (1) change 920 ft. to 9,200 ft. (2) change Several native birds were seen, but no 'akepa or honeycreepers. to Hawaiian honeycreepers were observed both inside and outside exclosures during the trip, including 'i'iwi, 'apapane, 'amakihi, palila and 'akiapola'au, but no 'akepa. (For full report see 'ELEPAIO, Vol.36, No.7, Jan.1976, p.88: Field Trip to Mauna Kea, 8 Nov.1975 by Mae Mull and Larry Katahira)

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#### ALOHA to new members:

Junior: William Perreira, 2325 Round Top Drive, Honolulu, HI 96822  
 Regular: Richard L. Cunningham, 98 Grove Lane, Novato, California 94947  
 Florence S. Griffen, 1652 Kamole St, Honolulu, HI 96821  
 Capt. R.T. Larsen, 2588 Jaluit Place, Honolulu, HI 96818 Fla. 32611  
 Ronald Miller, Wildlife Ecology Lab, Bldg 825, Univ of Florida, Gainesville,  
 Robert C. Schuman, 5177 Honoapiilani Hwy, Lahaina, Maui 96761  
 Maui Community College Library, 310 Kaahumanu Ave, Kahului, Maui 96732

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Please report all bird sightings to field observation recorder, Dr. Robert L. Pyle, 741 N. Kalaheo Ave., Kailua, Oahu 96734, telephone 262-4046

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HAWAII'S BIRDS, a field guide, is now available. Price per copy: \$3.00 + postage & tax (sorry we can't continue to absorb). Postage: U.S. 21¢ book rate, 57¢ first class (airmail); foreign--variable, weight 5ozs; sales & mailing in Hawaii--add 12¢ sales tax. Send in orders to: Book Order Committee, Hawaii Audubon Society, PO Box 5032, Honolulu, HI 96814.

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#### JULY ACTIVITIES:

11 July - Field trip to Poamoho 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: Omer Bussen, 262-5506 & Tim Burr, 235-4936 (evenings).

PLEASE NOTE: No board nor general meetings for July and August.

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Field trip to Manana (Rabbit) Island, 15 August. Make reservations with Robert Pyle, 262-4046, by 31 July. First preference to members. Boat cost \$3/person, paid at dock-side; have exact amount. Meet at Makai Range Pier, 7:00 a.m. Limit of 24. Possibly 48, if second boat/pilot obtained. Swimming ability required; must climb in/out of boat in chest-deep swells. Protect equipment with plastic. Trip depends on availability of boat/pilot, Fish & Game permission, and weather condition. Alternate date: 29 August.

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