Journal of the Hawaii Audubon Society

For the Protection of Hawaii's Native Wildlife

**VOLUME 56, NUMBER 9** 

DECEMBER 1996 / JANUARY 1997

# **Cooper Ornithological Society Meeting:**

#### You Are Invited

by Steven C. Hess

The 67th annual meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Society will be held from Wednesday, April 30 through Sunday, May 4, 1997 at the Hawai'i Naniloa Hotel in Hilo, Hawai'i. The meeting is hosted by the Pacific Island Ecosystems Research Center (U.S.G.S. Biological Resources Division) the University of Hawaii, and the Hawaii Audubon Society. In addition to presentations on a wide variety of ornithological topics, there will be symposia on the unique avifauna, biology and urgent conservation issues of Pacific and Hawaiian Island birds. Field trips are scheduled to selected areas on the islands of Hawai'i, Kaua'i and O'ahu.

#### Lodging

Persons attending the COS meeting wishing to receive reduced room rates should make reservations directly with the Hawai'i Naniloa (ph: 800-367-5360) indicating that they are attending the COS meeting.

#### Special Symposia

"Ecology and Evolution of Hawaiian Birds" will be a symposium on ecology, evolutionary biology, and systematics of Hawaiian birds. There has been much work done recently on the genetic relationships and evolutionary biology of this unique group of birds.

"Conservation and Management of Pacific Landbirds and Endangered Ecosystems" will be a symposium on terrestrial conservation and management issues of the Pacific and Hawaiian Islands not limited to birds alone, but including ecosystem, landscape and habitat issues and interactions between groups of organisms affecting Pacific Island landbirds.

"Tropical Pacific Seabirds" will entertain all issues of importance to tropical Pacific seabird biology.

#### Other Events

There will be a special video presentation session during the regular concurrent paper sessions and fund-raising events including vendors, athletic events, museum displays, and an art display and contest during the meeting.

#### HAS sponsored field trips

In conjunction with the COS meeting in Hilo, the Hawaii Audubon Society (HAS) is sponsoring a number of field trips on the islands of Hawai'i, O'ahu, and Kaua'i to provide attendees and their guests with an opportunity to experience Hawaiian ecosystems and see native biota. Spaces on these trips are limited and will be filled on a first-come-first-served basis. Please indicate your first and second choice of field trips on the registration form (see page 68) and include full payment for your first selection with your meeting registration to confirm space. Box lunches can be ordered from the Naniloa Hotel one day prior to the trip for an additional cost.

May 1 (Thurs.) Lava viewing in Hawai'i Volcanos National Park (pending current eruption conditions); led by Dr. Maile Kjargaard.

Transportation is provided from the Naniloa Hotel leaving at 4:30 p.m. and returning by 9:30 p.m. Bring hiking boots, water and food. Flashlights will be provided. Cost: \$15 per person. Limited to twelve people.

May 4 (Sun.) Kona waterbirds. Visit Aimakapa and Koloko fish ponds and anchialine pools on the Kona side. Led by Dr. Marie Morin. See native, endangered water birds (Hawaiian stilt and Hawaiian coot are guaranteed). 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Provide your own transportation to Kona (3 hour drive from Hilo). Bring binoculars,

water, snack, sunscreen, hat, and good walking shoes. Beaches and snorkeling are nearby after the hike. Cost: \$15 per person. Limited to fifteen people.

May 4 (Sun.) Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge. This 33,000 acre refuge was established in 1985 to preserve five endangered forest birds and rain forest habitat including thirty species of rare plants. Bring binoculars, lunch, seed-free rain boots or hiking boots, and rain gear. Wildlife biologist Jack Jeffrey will lead a moderately strenuous 5-6 hour hike beginning at about 6000 ft, elevation and follow a 4wheel-drive road that descends into the oldgrowth ohi'a-koa forest. Group leaves 6 a.m. from the Naniloa Hotel (transportation is provided) and returns between 5 - 6 p.m. Cost: \$35 per person. Limited to twentyfive people.

May 4 (Sun.) Saddle Road Kipukas. Kipukas are islands of forest isolated by lava flows. This field trip led by Dr. Thane and Linda Pratt explores a mosaic of habitats and rare biota. Birds (including endangered species) same as Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge. A trip for people who can hike a ten mile circuit at 5000 ft. elevation. Transportation is provided leaving the Naniloa at 7:00 a.m. returning 5 p.m. Bring clean hiking boots, rain gear, binoculars, water, and lunch. Cost: \$35 per person. Limited to fifteen people.

May 4 (Sun.) Palila and Silverswords of Mauna Kea. The mamane-naio dry forest of Mauna Kea is home to the endangered Palila. This high elevation trip, led by Dr. Doug Pratt and wildlife biologist Steven Hess, will require hiking at 10,000 ft. elevation, travel over bumpy, dusty 4 x 4 roads (not recommended for those with respira-

(Continued on page 70)

# **Help! Donors Needed**

by Sylvianne Yee

Due to the tight economic situation in Hawaii, it is becoming increasingly difficult to obtain financial contributions to support Paradise Pursuits. Your kokua is greatly appreciated in giving or obtaining any monetary donations. Any amount would be appreciated. Those organizations or individuals giving \$200 or more will be recognized in a special section of the television credits while all others will appear in the regular credits.

Help to keep a unique environmental program developed by the Hawaii Audubon Society for Hawaii's students viable and growing. Call Sylvianne Yee at 373–3062.

# Hawaii Audubon Society

1088 Bishop Street, Suite 808 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Telephone (808) 528–1432 FAX (808) 537–5294

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## **'ELEPAIO**

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# Waikalua Loko Field Trip Report

by Mary Gaber

Waikalua Loko fishpond in Kane ohe was the site of the October field trip. We were greeted by Herb Lee, Jr., who is the head of the Waikalua Loko Fishpond Preservation Society, the purpose of which is to preserve, stabilize, and beautify the fishpond, educate the public about ancient and modern fishpond practices, and provide educational resources.

Clyde Tamara, Sea Grant aquaculturist, gave a slide presentation which included aerial views of fishponds on O'ahu and elsewhere. Floyd McCoy, professor of Oceanography at Windward Community College also spoke about the importance of fishponds to island ecosystems.

Then we were all invited to participate in hands-on activities: a hike around the pond, picking up rubbish along the way; helping to pull up some of the aggressive, encroaching mangroves; and wading out beyond the pond to "herd in" some fish through the gates and into the pond to see what we could catch in the net which had been placed in the pond. We managed to stir up several species of fish, two crab species, and a native shrimp, all of which Dr. Tamara identified for us. While wading in the pond we also disturbed a large, colorful, and very toothy moray eel, which was netted, exclaimed over, and returned to his territory.

### Reserve Now for Kanepu'u Preserve Trip in February

by Mary Gaber

Kanepu'u Preserve on Lana'i is an area of extremely rare Hawaiian dryland forest plants, including the largest remnants of olopua (*Nestegis sandwicensis*) and lama (*Diospyros sandwicensis*) trees. The Preserve is managed by The Nature Conservancy of Hawaii (TNCH). One of TNCH's docents will be leading our field trip there, a two-hour hike on Saturday, February 15, 1997.

The Preserve is home to 49 plant species found only in Hawai'i. Some of these are on the federal endangered species list. For information, including costs and reservations, call Mary Gaber at 247-0104 not later than January 15, 1997.

# Conservation Report

by Dan Sailer, Conservation Chairperson

With the end of the year approaching, this report is the belated start of regular updates of HAS conservation activities. The activities described below highlight the most recent HAS activities. If you are interested in a hard or electronic copy of more detailed monthly reports, or would like to review any of our comment letters, please contact me at 455-2311 or e-mail me a note at Dnsailer@aol.com. Our next committee meeting is scheduled for 5 p.m., December 2 at the HAS office. We would be happy to have you share your mana'o and kokua at that time. The annual conservation committee report detailing activities over the past year will appear in the February 'Elepaio.

· Kaua'i: Phase I (18 acres) of the Manu Marsh improvements were recently completed by the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Phase II funding has been released with completion slated for 2005. Unfortunately, illegal stocking of the pond with tilapia has hampered waterbird recovery rates for the area. HAS will continue to monitor habitat improvements, including the possible use of a toxicant for tilapia control. Ongoing HAS and other public educational efforts will hopefully help prevent future alien species introductions to the marsh.

A professional faunal survey, which was requested by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, determined that the proposed radio tower on Koloa Ridge should present little risk to Newell's shearwaters and other seabirds, since no evidence of nesting sites were found, and the tower would presumably not be in their flight paths.

 O'ahu: In addition to opposing the project, HAS is continuing its efforts to change the permit conditions for the proposed Le Jardin School at the old Kailua Drive Inn site overlooking Kawai Nui Marsh. As community and City Council support for the proposed location is likely to continue, HAS has now concentrated its efforts on removing athletic field lights from the project to minimize seabird fallout and to ensure that the measures to alleviate polluted runoff from the site are in fact implemented and enforced. Please call your respective Council member (547-4000) and express your concerns regarding Bills 88, 100, and Resolution 96-276 or suggest that the permit conditions incorporate the above concerns.

- · Maui Nui (Maui/Lana'i/Moloka'i/ Kaho'olawe): HAS submitted comments on long-range management plans for the preserves managed by the Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i on Maui and Lana'i. In particular, we look forward to their plans to possibly reintroduce 'ua'u (dark-rumped petrels) to the Kanepu'u Preserve on Lana'i. HAS also continues to advocate the use of native species for reforestation efforts on West Maui and Moloka'i. We also hope to enter into discussions with the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission to improve seabird nesting habitats through predator control and to support their efforts to control overfishing.
- Big Island: In addition to our ongoing 'Alala lawsuit, HAS hopes to strengthen concerns for native wildlife in discussions on the proposed realignment of the Saddle Road.
- Statewide Issues: HAS submitted comments on a draft of the state's Natural Area Reserves Management Policies. We are encouraged by the proposed policy to oppose game animals on Natural Area Reserves and to reduce all nonnative plants and animals to their lowest possible levels in the reserves. We are also continuing our efforts to incorporate native species protection measures into proposed regulations governing commercial activities on state Na Ala Hele trails.

#### Moving?

Please allow four weeks for processing address changes. Because our records are kept in order by zip code, we need both old and new addresses.

# Spring Workshops to be Funded by EPA Grant

by Sylvianne Yee

In October of 1995 the Hawaii Audubon Society submitted a grant proposal to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to conduct teacher workshops on environmental issues and strategies. This summer we received word that HAS had been awarded \$4800, the total amount requested, for these workshops. Of 140 grant proposals submitted nationwide, only eighteen were selected, so this is indeed an honor for the Hawaii Audubon Society. The Department of Education's Environmental Education Branch has pledged in-kind support.

The workshops will be held in the spring of 1997 with the goals of: (1) training teachers in the use of processes and programs that will permit their students to utilize critical thinking and problem solving skills that address Hawaiian environmental issues, and (2) expanding teachers' environmental knowledge base so they will become more comfortable and competent in teaching about environmental issues. Participants will attain these goals through workshop sessions that include overviews of environmental education programs developed in Hawaii, speakers presenting varied viewpoints on Hawaiian environmental issues, and hands-on applications of introduced programs and processes. Field trips will be offered for experiential learning.

The Hawaii Audubon Society hopes that the strategies that teachers learn and develop in the workshops will be transferred to the classroom to empower students to learn more and better ways to deal with the many environmental issues they will encounter.

Editor's note: see "Hawaii Audubon Society Awarded \$4,800 Grant by EPA" in the November issue.

# Pre–Registration Form 67th Annual Meeting of the Cooper Ornithological Society Hawai'i Naniloa Hotel, Hilo, Hawai'i, April 30 — May 4, 1997

Please PRINT your name (and that of accompanying person) and institutional affiliation as you want them to appear on your name tags. Substantial savings may be made by making payment before 30 January 1997. Please complete this form and return with full payment to:

Cooper Ornithological Society Annual Meeting
U.S.G.S. Biological Resources Division
Pacific Island Ecosystems Research Center
Hawai'i Field Station
P.O. Box 44, Hawai'i National Park, HI 96718

Name MI	_ Accompanying Per	rson
Institutional Affiliation	_ Address: Box # or	Street #
	City	State
Indicate number of children to attend	_ Zip Code	Country
Arrival Date Time Airline & Flight	Return Date	Time Airline & Flight
Credit Card #Exp Date	Evening Tel#	Daytime Tel#
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Payment Enclosed For:		
Meeting Registration Fee		
\$85 per person (\$100 After 30 Jan)	#	\$
\$40 per student (\$45 After 30 Jan)		
(Must provide verification of student status)		
\$25 per banquet attendee	#	\$———
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# December Birding Opportunities on Every Island

#### by Lynn Carey, Christmas Count Chairperson

Join our Christmas Bird Counts, December 21-29. No matter where you live or what your birding experience level, you can take part in this important annual bird survey. During a two week period at the end of each year, bird lovers from every state in the U.S., the Pacific and even Costa Rica take part in the National Audubon Society's Annual Christmas Bird Count. The purpose is to get a count of the numbers of different species as well as the numbers for each species in a given area. Each year birders return to the same areas, called count circles. The information gathered helps reveal changes in bird species populations and locations, new species arrival, and other trends.

Christmas Bird Counts in Hawaii have been a long-standing tradition and a favorite field and social event for members and guests of Hawaii Audubon Society. We are looking forward to even more participants this year. Bird Counts take place in mountains, forests, sea cliffs, beaches, wetlands, grasslands and even suburban environments. Some counts are in restricted areas that the public does not generally have permission to visit. Participants are teamed up with expert birders and are asked to help identify, count, and record birds as part of a team. There may be several teams covering different areas within the count circles listed below.

If you want to do something good for birds and meet other "bird people," call one of the coordinators to sign up. There is a \$5.00/person charge to support compiling and publication of the nationwide results. NOTE: Special information is needed by the coordinator of the popular "Kulani Prison" count, so call the Big Island Volcano coordinator by December 6th to ensure your spot.

#### · Kaua'i

Waimea	Saturday, 12/28
Kate Reinard	(808) 335-9975 (w)
Kapa'a	Friday, 12/27
Barbara Stuart	(808) 826-9233 (h)

#### · Oʻahu

Saturday, 12/21
(808) 973-9786 (w)
Sunday, 12/29
(808) 623-7613 (h)

#### · Maui

Pu'u O Kaka'e	Saturday,	12/21
Renate Gassmann	-Duvall	

(808) 572-1584 (h)

#### · Moloka'i

Kualapu'u	Saturday, 12/28
Lynn Carey	(808) 262-0254 (h)

#### · Hawai'i Island

North Kona	Saturday, 12/21
Reginald David	(808) 329-9141 (w)
Volcano	Saturday, 12/28
Larry Katahira	(808) 967-8226 (w)

# Birding for Beginners

#### by Lynnea Overholt

Be prepared for the Christmas Bird Count! Learn bird identification and observation techniques in a workshop for novice birders at the Honolulu Zoo. Topics will include optics, field guides and other gear. Common species will be emphasized.

Come prepared to take notes and bring binoculars if you have them. Limit twenty people per workshop. To register, leave name and telephone number for Lynnea Overholt at 528-1432. Donation requested: \$2 members, \$4 nonmembers. Workshops held on Saturday, December 7 and December 14, 2–4 p.m. at Hale Kula (by the Children's Zoo) at the Honolulu Zoo. Assemble at the service gate on Kapahulu Ave., across from Jefferson School, by 1:45 p.m. to be admitted.

# Thirty-four Schools Taking the "Paradise Pursuits Challenge"

by Sylvianne Yee

A total of twenty-five public and nine private schools statewide have entered teams in the 1996-1997 Paradise Pursuits Environmental Quiz Program.

The program has grown from ten teams since its inception in 1991 to more than triple that number this school year. This means that approximately 60% of all of the larger high schools in Hawaii are participating - a great percentage considering the number of other programs that schools are inundated with. In addition to the "returnees" (Baldwin, Farrington, Hana, Hanalani, Iolani, Kahaku, Kaimuki, Kaiser, Kalani, Kamehameha, Kapaa, King Kekaulike, Konawaena, La Pietra, Lahainaluna, Leilehua, Maui, McKinley, Moanalua, Pahoa, Parker, Pearl City, St. Anthony, St. Francis, St. Joseph, St. Louis, Waianae, Waimea, Waipahu) we have five new high schools - Campbell, Hilo, Kailua, Kalaheo, and Waialua. Welcome aboard to all of them.

Preliminary competitions have been scheduled for all islands in the spring of 1997. KITV-4 will once again be producing the three semifinal and final games. Question writer Tina Xavier is busily engaged in writing the 500+ questions needed for all of the games. We can look forward to another exciting Paradise Pursuits year for students, coaches, and everyone else involved with the program!



tory or heart conditions). We also will travel above treeline to see the endemic Mauna Kea silversword (Asteraceae). Bring binoculars, water, lunch, sunscreen, hat, and sturdy hiking boots. Transportation is provided: leaving the Naniloa at 7 a.m. returning at 4:30 p.m. Cost: \$35 per person. Limited to twenty—five people.

May 5 (Mon.) Pelagic seabirds trip. Led by Reggie David. On your way back through O'ahu attend this 1/2 day pelagic birding trip during the peak of seabird migration in the central-North Pacific. Expect 12-16 seabird species and possibly marine mammals. The boat leaves at 6:30 a.m. from Ala Moana Harbor. Bring binoculars, lunch, water, and sunscreen. Cost: \$65 per person. Limited to eighteen people.

May 5 (Mon.) Forest Birds of the Alakai Swamp, Kaua'i. Sample the spectacular views of Kalalau Valley and the forest birds of the Alaka'i Wilderness. Trip is led by Kaua'i field biologists Tom Snetsinger and Christina Herrmann. You must provide your own transportation; an interisland flight to Kaua'i, plus a two-hour drive from Lihue to Kokee State Park. We recommend that participants make arrangements to spend the prior night in Kokee area. Bring clean hiking boots, rain gear, binoculars, water, and lunch. Hike begins at 7:30 am. Cost: \$15 per person. Limited to fifteen people.

#### **Ecotours**

Special rates are available for three ecotours: McCandless Ranch and `Alala, Snorkeling/Sailing in South Kona, Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge.

For further information on field trips and ecotours, contact Michelle Reynolds (E-mail:michelle\_reynolds@nbs.gov; fax: 808 967-8568; phone: 808 967-7396; Hawai'i Field Station, P.O. Box 44, Hawai'i National Park, HI 96718).

For additional information on registration, logistics, or general questions regarding this meeting contact Jim Jacobi (E-mail: jim\_jacobi@nbs.gov; ph: 808 967-7396; fax: 808 967-8568; or mail: Hawai`i Field Station, P.O. Box 44, Hawai`i National Park, HI 96718). Questions regarding the scientific program should be directed to Steven C. Hess (E-mail: steve\_hess@nbs.gov; phone, fax, and address same as above).

## **T-shirts for Sale**

The Hawaii Audubon Society has a stock of T-shirts designed to spread the Audubon message. Not only are they attractive personal apparel, but they make excellent presents as well.

T-shirts bearing the Society's 'Elepaio logo are available in blue spruce and mountain rose with a black design. We also have a few in ash (gray). In addition, the "hot" Kolea (Pacific Golden Plover) T-shirts are also available. This T-shirt is white with a three-color design of the Kolea and native hibiscus. Proceeds from the Kolea T-shirt sales support research on the kolea.

# Dolphins Under Attack Once Again

by Sharon Young

Dolphins are under attack once again. Prior to 1990, tens of thousands of dolphins died each year in nets set to catch tuna.

In 1990 alone, approximately 52,000 dolphins were killed. Since the passage of protective legislation in 1991, tuna that is labeled "dolphin safe" must be obtained in a way that does not allow encircling dolphins in nets. Thanks to this important legislation, it is estimated that at this time, approximately 4,000 dolphins are incidentally killed per year. A terrible tragedy—but a significant reduction considering that seven million dolphins have perished in the Eastern Pacific between 1970-1992 in tuna nets.

Now, the US Congress is currently considering legislation that would undermine the meaning of "dolphin safe" and result in increased dolphin deaths.

In July, five conservation groups met behind closed doors with tuna fishery representatives and Latin American countries with huge tuna fishing industries and developed an agreement which is generally referred to as the "Panama Declaration." These groups agreed to allow dolphins to be

# Finally, We <u>Are</u> Moving

by Susan Elliott Miller

Negotiations for a **NEW NEST** for the Society have been completed and the lease was signed in November. We will be in the new quarters at: 850 Richards Street, Suite 505 (ewa-makai corner of Richards and Merchant Streets) by the latter part of December. I suggest you call (528-1432..no change) ahead for the latest scoop if you are planning to come down to the office—it will be in our codaphone message.

chased, harassed, encircled and caught in tuna nets once again. The agreement sets a limit of 5,000 observed dolphin deaths per year. This ignores the fact that fewer dolphins are currently being killed. It ignores the reality of stressed and injured dolphins, released alive from nets, that may later die out of sight and uncounted. While proponents of the Panama Declaration state that the agreement provides adequate protection for dolphins, and promotes fishing in an environmentally safe manner, it does not. Most conservation and animals protection groups oppose the agreement.

Senators Ted Stevens of Alaska and John Breaux of Louisiana have sponsored a bill that would enact the Panama Declaration. Furthermore, their bill would repeal the US market prohibition on the sale of dolphin unsafe tuna as long as the importing country joins and "participates" in the Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission. Additionally, two depleted populations of dolphins would have protection removed entirely, with no further protection granted until at least 2001.

This bill is clearly a disaster for dolphins. Better legislation has been filed by Senators Barbara Boxer of California and Joseph Biden of Delaware. Their proposed legislation would preserve the current definition of "dolphin safe" and prohibit the use of any other type of dolphin labeling on canned tuna sold in the US. It requires further reduction of the killing of dolphins and requires enforceable regulations to protect dolphins.

Source: The International Wildlife Coalition http:// www.webcom.com/iwcwww/ whalewatch\_feb96/attack.html

# 75 Hawaiian Plants Added to Endangered Species List

by Barbara Maxfield

Hawaii's native plants and animals continue their struggle to survive, often on the steep valley walls, inaccessible summit ridges, or remote islands and atolls containing the last remaining vestiges of the unique ecosystems that have evolved in this isolated archipelago. Perhaps nothing underscores that struggle as well as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's recent announcement that an additional seventy–five Hawaiian plant species are being added to the list of threatened and endangered species for protection under the Endangered Species Act.

"Hawaii may be paradise for visitors, but its native plants and animals are having a difficult time surviving," explains Robert P. Smith, Pacific Islands Ecoregion Manager for the Fish and Wildlife Service. "Not only is their habitat disappearing, but competition from alien plants and animals is overwhelming them in their last remaining strongholds."

Many of the plant species listed are represented in the wild by only remnant populations of one to ten individual plants. Two of the species, known in Hawaii as hau kuahiwi, have completely disappeared from the wild and exist only in private gardens or as cultivated individuals planted back into their original habitat.

Another, Delissea undulata — a palmlike tree in the bellflower family — was last seen in 1971 and was thought to be extinct until 1992, when a state wildlife biologist discovered one plant at Pu'u Wa'awa'a on the Big Island. The plant is located on state land leased to a cattle rancher and has since been fenced to protect it.

Fortunately, this single plant produced abundant seeds in the last two years, according to Fish and Wildlife Service biologists. The Lyon Arboretum of the University of Hawaii is propagating these seeds and has more than 400 seedlings growing. Approximately fifty plants were provided to the State's Department of Land and Natural Resources for experimental outplanting in the Pu'u Wa'awa'a area. The plants are doing well, and such replanting efforts could play a major role in recovering this endangered species.

The seventy-five newly listed plant species are or were scattered across several of the islands in the Hawaiian archipelago, including Kure, Midway, Laysan, Niihau, Kaua'i, O'ahu, Moloka'i, Lana'i, Maui, and Hawai'i. Although they are found at varying elevations and in different vegetation and climate zones, they share many of the same threats to their existence. Fish and Wildlife Service studies show that competition from introduced plant species, habitat destruction by feral and domestic animals; agricultural, military, and residential development; and predation by cattle, goats, insects, and rats have all contributed to bringing these plants close to extinction.

Because they had little exposure to fire during their evolution, Hawaiian plants also are very threatened by fire. Introduced plants, in particular some grasses, are often better adapted to fire and rapidly reestablish themselves after a burn, resulting in less habitat for native species. In addition, the small numbers of populations and individuals of most of these species increase the potential for extinction. The limited gene pool may depress reproductive vigor, or a single human—caused or natural environmental disturbance could destroy a significant percentage of the individuals or the only known population.

The newly listed plant species are found on lands owned by various private parties, the State of Hawaii, the Department of Defense, the National Park Service, and the Fish and Wildlife Service. Federal listing protects plants on federal lands and requires that consultation with the Fish and Wildlife Service when federally authorized, funded, or permitted projects on non-federal lands may affect the species.

Because Hawaii law automatically includes federally listed species on the state threatened and endangered species list, and the state's endangered species law prohibits the destruction on imperiled plants on state and private lands, protection of listed plants also extends to non-federal lands in Hawaii.

Under the Endangered Species Act, recovery plans identifying steps to be taken to overcome these threats will be developed and implemented. Recovery strategies for listed plants often include habitat restoration and establishing new populations through propagation and transplantation.

The seventy–five new listings announced are included within six rules that were published in the *Federal Register* on October 10, 1996 and took effect 30 days later.

Source: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service — Pacific Region

# Your Bequest Can Help

A bequest to the Hawaii Audubon Society is an excellent way to help in our conservation efforts. For example, George C. Munro, enthusiastic and tireless field ornithologist and naturalist, provided for a fund to be used exclusively for the protection of native dry forests. Today, the George C. Munro Fund provides money for research projects on such forests.

Although an attorney should be consulted in the drafting of your will, a model clause for bequests is set forth below.

"I hereby give, devise, and bequeath to the Hawaii Audubon Society, Honolulu, Hawai'i, the sum of \_\_\_\_\_\_ dollars (or set forth a description of property), to be used for the general purpose of said organization."

For more information and assistance, contact the Hawaii Audubon Society, 1088 Bishop Street, Suite 808, Honolulu, HI 96813, (808) 528-1432.

# Holiday Gifts Available at "Open Offices"

On Saturday, December 7 & 14, 1996, the HAS office will be open at the 1088 Bishop Street, Suite 808 location from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. — come purchase *Hawaii's Birds*, *Voices of Hawaii's Birds* (tapes), and HAS T-shirts for family and friends. Suggested parking at Post Office lot or between Old Territorial Building and Ali'i'olani Hale (enter latter lot from Punchbowl).

## **Calendar of Events**

Mondays, December 2 & January 6

Regular first Monday of the month meeting of the Conservation Committee. Note: December 2, 5 p.m. at HAS office; January 6, meeting 6 p.m. at regular location (U.H. Environmental Center—Crawford Hall, Room 317, 2550 Campus Road). All are welcome. For more information, call chairperson Dan Sailer, 455-2311.

Mondays, December 2 & January 13 HAS Board meeting, always open to all members. 6:30 p.m. at the office. Note: January meeting at new office.

Thursdays, December 5 & January 9 Monthly meeting of the Education Committee, 7 p.m. at BaLe Sandwich Shop in Manoa Marketplace (near Safeway). All are welcome. For more information, call chairperson Wendy Johnson, 261-5957.

Saturdays, December 7 & 14 HAS office open from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. See article, page 71.

Saturdays, December 7 & 14 Birding for Beginners Workshops. See article, page 69.

Monday, December 9

Bring friends and join fellow HAS members for the Annual meeting and bimonthly program beginning 7:30 p.m. at Paki Hall Conference Room, Bishop Museum. Election results will be announced. The "Occurrence and Status of Birds in Hawai'i" project of the Bishop Museum Zoology Department is in part supported by HAS. Robert Pyle, past

HAS President and keeper of the "Sightings database" of the project will share slides and information about our avian residents. alien residents and migrants and tell us how we can contribute observations to the database. Refreshments provided; HAS books, tapes, and T-shirts available for purchase.

Sunday, December 15

Volunteers needed for Kaneohe Bird Sanctuary Service Project. Help restore bird habitat while you learn about their nesting requirements. Light work. Sponsored by O'ahu Sierra Club. Contact leader: Annette Kaohelaulii 235-5431 for information.

December 21-29

Christmas Bird Counts: See article, page 69.

Sunday, January 19

In case you missed this popular **field trip** in August, you may wish to join with us as we return to the Honolulu Zoo to visit the native forest bird propagation program. James Mejeur, curator of birds at the zoo, will lead the tour starting at 9 a.m. We will again have a chance to view the 'apapane, 'oma'o, i'iwi, 'amakihi and Laysan finches at close range. There is a limit of ten, but if more than ten people call in reservations, Mr. Mejeur will schedule two one-hour visits on that day. Reserve by calling Mary Gaber at 247-0104 by January 17th. Requested donation, \$2.00/person.

Saturday, February 15
Field trip to Kanepu'u Preserve on Lana'i.
See article on page 66 for details.

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