

## Oiled Wildlife Response Volunteers: A Hawai'i Example

by Linda Elliot <sup>1</sup>

### Abstract:

Oiled wildlife response is extremely labor intensive and requires many hours of coordinated team work. Volunteers are an integral part of an oiled wildlife response team. With appropriate experience, training, guidance and supervision, volunteers have been utilized in almost every area of collection and rehabilitation programs. The Hawai'i oiled wildlife response for the Tesoro Single Point Mooring Hose Spill of August 1998 is an example of volunteers providing valuable assistance.

### Overview of Oiled Wildlife Response Activities:

An oiled wildlife response is a complicated and multifaceted emergency undertaking. A coordinated response includes the party responsible for the spill; federal and State natural resource trustees, which include the State Dept. of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), and the State Department of Health (DOH); the US Coast Guard (USCG) and the wildlife response organization in accordance with the federal Oil Spill Protection Act of 1990 (OPA 90) and State laws. Oiled wildlife response is a very specialized field and requires an experienced team of professionals. Specialized treatments have been and continue to be developed to provide for the best achievable care of oiled wildlife to maximize their survival and return to the wild populations. A common misconception is that oiled wildlife just need to be cleaned and released. Petroleum products are highly toxic and affect ani-

mals in multiple ways (Demarest and Elliott 1997; Leighton 1995). These life threatening effects are external and internal and must be properly diagnosed and treated (Tseng 1993).

Specifically, oiled birds are often extremely exhausted, hypothermic or hyperthermic, and may have external and/or internal burns resulting from highly volatile petroleum products. Additionally, the affected birds are almost always ex-

Once the birds have met established physiologic and behavioral release criteria, they are banded and released at pre-approved sites. Post release studies may also be implemented. These post release studies provide valuable information on the survival of the treated wildlife and can lead to improvements in the response process (Goldsworthy *et al.* 1997, Williams 1997).

The elements of a successful oiled wildlife response are: preplanning; a coordinated response effort involving all relevant parties; qualified oiled wildlife response personnel; timely evaluation of wildlife impact; search, collection, and stabilization of affected wildlife; and appropriate response facilities, equipment, supplies and volunteers (Mazet *et al.* 1999). Given the proper training and supervision, volunteers can potentially assist with multiple aspects of the response. This might include evaluating wildlife impact; hazing of wild-

life to prevent their accidental exposure to released oil; search and collection of affected oiled wildlife; stabilization, cleaning, rehabilitation, medical treatment, release, or post release study of oiled wildlife.

### A Hawaii Response:

An estimated 5,000 gallons of Bunker C (No. 6) fuel oil was spilled at the Tesoro off shore mooring at Barbers Point off the south shoreline of the island of O'ahu, Hawai'i August 24, 1998 (Hurley 1998; Wright 1998). A total of 54 seabirds were collected, 20 dead and 34 alive, during this oiled wildlife response. Oiled seabirds were sighted and collected on the islands of Lana'i, O'ahu, Kaua'i

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Red-footed Booby

remely dehydrated and may be nutritionally deprived, anemic or have other internal problems. Every bird must be stabilized, diagnosed and treated for the above listed effects prior to attempting cleaning procedures. Post cleaning care involves the continued rehabilitation and monitoring of the bird. The rehabilitation process is involved and complex and is tailored to the requirements of each species. This process includes design of suitable holding pens and pools to ensure each bird can re-establish proper waterproofing, has appropriate perching area, and enough space to be sufficiently mobile. Proper nutrition and the monitoring of the birds progress both behaviorally and physically are equally important.

and the northwest Hawaiian islands during this event. There were seven species of seabirds documented as collected during this response: Red-footed Boobies (*Sula sula rubripes*), Brown Boobies (*Sula leucogaster plotus*), Masked Boobies (*Sula dactylatra personata*) Bulwer's Petrel (*Bulweria bulwerii*), White-tailed Tropicbirds (*Phaethon lepturus dorotheae*), and Christmas Shearwaters (*Puffinus nativitatis*). Additionally, there were reports of oiled endangered Hawaiian Monk Seals (*Monachus schauinslandi*) and threatened Green Sea Turtles (*Chelonia mydas*). While evaluating Booby colonies on O'ahu and Kaua'i, additional oiled birds were sighted (Viernes, pers. comm.) but due to logistical reasons, these birds could not be captured.

The oiled wildlife response for Tesoro Hawai'i Corporation was managed by the International Bird Rescue Research Center (IBRRC). IBRRC is a nonprofit [501 (c) (3)] organization committed to mitigating the effects of oil on wildlife

through immediate response, state of the art rehabilitation techniques, crisis management, pre-planning and personnel training. IBRRC is currently the world's leading oiled wildlife response organization. Established in 1971, IBRRC has responded to more than 100 marine and inland spills nationally and internationally with an emergency team of experts ready to assess, haze, capture, rehabilitate, and release wildlife following an oil spill. The combined IBRRC staff hours for this recent Hawai'i spill totaled greater than 1,400 hours.

Due to the lack of a pre-existing oiled wildlife response center in Hawai'i, multiple oiled seabird rehabilitation facilities were set up during this response. Two response facilities were set up on the island of Maui. The initial site was located at the Hawai'i Division of Forestry and Wildlife, Maui Veterinary Services Office (MVSO). Because the MVSO is located at the high elevation of 3,800 feet (1,386 meters) and experiences cool ambient temperatures, it was necessary to move some activities to sea level at the Kealia Ponds National Wild-

life Refuge. Birds that had completed the stabilization and cleaning phases became chilled when moved into outside recovery pens and pools at the MVSO. The relocation to Kealia was greatly facilitated by the FWS Kealia Ponds refuge staff. At the mid point of this response, the facilities were moved to the island of Kaua'i at the Kaua'i Lagoons resort. During the transition birds were initially housed at the Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge visitor center classroom. The Kilauea refuge personnel were very helpful and graciously accommodated the capture and stabilization activities taking place at the refuge. At the conclusion of the response, 34 birds had been admitted to rehabilitation facilities, 19 were FWS banded and released, 1 continues to be held in captivity, 1 was euthanized and 13 died.

**Hawaii Volunteers:**

The 1998 oiled wildlife response lasted 46 days, from September 8 to October 24. During that response period over forty volunteers were utilized at the MVSO and Kealia Pond National Wildlife

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## Hawaii Audubon Society

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Refuge facilities and for Kaua'i search and collection efforts. All volunteers were supervised by IBRRC personnel or Greg Massey, DVM (Oiled Wildlife Coordinator for the State of Hawai'i). The Haleakala National Park Resources Management Division provided three wildlife biologists on a regular basis at the MVSO and Kealia operations. The total amount of volunteer time provided by the Haleakala staff is estimated at 140 hours. Additionally, the Hawai'i Division of Forestry and Wildlife, Maui Forest Bird Group provided skilled staff both for the Maui response facilities and for the Kaua'i search and collection effort. These additional staffing sources greatly enhanced the quality and consistency of care.

An average of 4 to 5 volunteers worked per day on Maui, providing over 500 hours of service to the response effort. Six of the volunteers had undergone specialized oiled wildlife training that was held 4 years earlier on O'ahu. The rest of the volunteers were provided on site orientation and training by IBRRC personnel. These volunteers responded to requests for assistance broadcast through the local media, calls placed to trained volunteers and wildlife professionals and also word of mouth. All volunteers were informed in advance of the variety of duties that were needed, allowing them to understand where their particular skills could be best used. There was a good response to the calls for help and many dedicated individuals gave of their time. They provided invaluable assistance with collection of oiled birds, set up and maintenance of response facilities, errand running, food preparation, laundry, office work, the handling, feeding, cleaning and rehabilitation and release of the wildlife in care. The vast majority of work performed by the volunteers was logistical support for the development and maintenance of the facility and the rehabilitation process. Most of these volunteers had no prior related wildlife handling and care experience. The variety of work in a response allows for volunteers from differing backgrounds and experience to provide needed support assistance even if they do not actually handle the birds.

As in most instances, the initial phase of this response required the greatest amount of hands on work and therefore more volunteer time was needed at the

start. The small number of birds under care at any single point in time during this event meant that only a few volunteers were needed on a daily basis. A small core group of volunteers repeatedly offered their assistance which resulted in a low turnover rate and also kept the total number of volunteers low. Additionally, staff and volunteers at Sea Life Park received and provided initial care for several of the oiled birds collected on windward O'ahu. Once facilities were available at the MVSO, these birds were transported to Maui to complete the rehabilitation process.

#### **Training for Volunteers:**

There have been several oiled wildlife response volunteer training classes given in Hawai'i over the last decade. Approximately 500 individuals have taken advantage of the training which has been offered. One of the initial training sessions with IBRRC was given at Sea Life park on O'ahu in the early 1990's to a small group of interested people. Logistical assistance and financial support were provided by the petroleum industry through the Clean Islands Council. Then, in 1993, this was followed by a state-wide general oiled wildlife response volunteer training series which covered four islands and was attended by 400 members of the public. This state-wide general volunteer training was sponsored by IBRRC, The National Audubon Society, the Clean Islands Council and Hyatt Resort Hawai'i. In 1995, the Clean Islands Council sponsored an IBRRC two day training course for 25 experienced wildlife professionals. This was held at the Marine Spill Response Center on O'ahu. Although these multiple training sessions have targeted different groups of people, their common purpose has been to develop a volunteer base that can be utilized during an emergency response. Past experience has shown that the attrition rate of generally trained volunteers is high and training programs should be repeated frequently to keep pace with this loss. Volunteer attrition can be attributed to the length of time between spill events, availability at the time of the spill and also due to a transient population in certain locals such as Hawai'i.

In all phases of an oil spill response, human safety is of paramount importance. Therefore proper training and supervision of all workers - especially vol-

unteers - is an essential component of the process. For volunteers dealing with wildlife, this training includes proper handling of animals, personal hygiene, information on zoonotic diseases, and hazardous substance training. Volunteer applicants are initially screened and those with medical concerns are requested to obtain a physician's approval. Additionally, legal requirements stipulate that all volunteers must be at least 18 years of age.

#### **The Challenges and Rewards:**

Oiled wildlife response volunteer work can be an edifying and rewarding experience. Assisting in the recovery of injured wildlife is an important way for members of the public to participate in the response. This may also provide a means to alleviate the personal distress often experienced over the impact to wildlife created by an oil or chemical spill. The work can be challenging both physically and emotionally. Volunteers make many sacrifices and set aside family and work routines to help in the whirlwind effort. The experience can be intense and usually ends as quickly as it began, but the team work required to carry out a response also allows for the development of enriching working relationships and friendships.

Search and collection efforts can involve working in locations of difficult terrain or on the water. Working in emergency and unfamiliar conditions can be draining and stressful. The sight of oiled animals both dead and alive can produce differing and strong emotional responses in each person. Wildlife being cared for during an emergency response most often will be sick, injured, debilitated and frightened. They do not recognize the human efforts to help them and are under stress while in captive care. They can be dangerous to the handlers or they can become injured if handled improperly. Some will die during the care process and there may be a need to euthanize those that are terminally ill and suffering. These are important factors to keep in mind when volunteering for this type of effort. However, seeing the response from the challenging initial efforts to the final release of the rehabilitated wildlife can be a very gratifying experience to all who participate.

#### **Conclusions:**

This was Hawai'i's first oiled wildlife response for a known spill where

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facilities were set up and a program was coordinated. The volunteer turnout was ample for the number of wildlife recovered. Past training courses were valuable in this effort with a notable response from members of the training class held 4 years ago. Additionally, dozens more people received first hand experience and can be added to the trained pool of future volunteers. The hard-working individuals that participated in the recent oiled wildlife response deserve recognition and gratitude for their dedicated help. They provided a much needed service and were vital to the success of the rehabilitation effort. Should the need arise again we look forward to these volunteers returning to help, and we encourage the participation of all that are interested in coming to the aid of affected wildlife. There are

no new training classes scheduled at this time, but announcements of future training opportunities will be provided to the Hawaii Audubon Society membership.

#### Acknowledgments

A heartfelt thank you to all that assisted with the recent Hawai'i oiled seabird response. I would like to give a special Mahalo to Cathleen Hodges the staff at Haleakala National Park, Mark Collins and the Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) Maui forest bird staff, Glynnis Nakai and Kealia Refuge staff, Tom Alexander and the Kilauea Point Refuge staff and Kathleen Viernes, biologist on Kaua'i. And thank you to Sea Life Park for providing care of and a place for the public to bring oiled seabirds. I would also like to thank Marc Ratte, Maui Electric Company (MECO) and Ron Souza, Hawaiian Electric Com-

pany (HECO) for their volunteer time and facility development assistance. Dr. Greg Massey, DLNR took the lead in coordinating and directing the response and wore multiple hats in this effort and graciously provided his office as the first response facility. Additionally, this response would not have been possible without the team work and logistical support of the petroleum industry: Tesoro, the Clean Islands Council & PENCO. Finally, as in all coordinated responses, the oversight and facilitation by the State and Federal Natural Resource Trustees provided an integral response component. These trustees included the DLNR, FWS, NMFS, and the DOH.

1 International Bird Rescue Research Center Hawai'i/Pacific Islands Region Representative PO Box 506Hawi, HI 96719

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## Undergraduate Scholarships Available for 2000-01

Through a trust set up in memory of Rose Schuster Taylor, Hawaii Audubon Society is offering a full tuition scholarship to an undergraduate student in the University of Hawai'i system for the 2000-2001 school year.

Students must be or plan to be majoring in a field related to Hawaiian or Pacific natural history. Applications are available by calling (528-1432) faxing (537-5294) or emailing (hiaudsoc@pixi.net) the HAS office. Completed applications must be received by May 1, 2000.

Besides providing transcript(s) and three letters of recommendation, applicants are asked to respond to the following questions:

- How does your academic major relate

to Hawaiian or Pacific natural history?

- How do you plan to apply your academic degree to further study or work experience in Hawaiian or Pacific natural history (for example, graduate study, career plans)?
- How might your course of study enable you to contribute to the better protection of native Hawaiian or Pacific wildlife (a major purpose of the Rose Schuster Taylor Trust)?
- Have you already made contributions to the study of Hawaiian or Pacific natural history, especially anything that might contribute to the protection of native wildlife?

Scholarships will be administered through the University of Hawai'i Financial Aid offices.

## Announcing a Sale on "Voices of Hawai'i's Birds"

The two-tape audio companion to our book, *Hawaii's Birds*, is now being offered for sale at \$12.50 a set. Shipping (for one set) is \$3.20. Copies can also be picked up in person at our office (850 Richards St., Suite 505).

# Paradise Pursuits Needs Copies of New Atlas of Hawai'i

by **Suzan Harada, Paradise Pursuits Coordinator**

The new, award winning Atlas of Hawai'i has been a bounty for providing questions for The 2000 Paradise Pursuits. Besides an easy to read and concise text, the graphics are great. Robbie Ripp and his media interns will be looking at ways to incorporate more graphics and visuals into the question format for the play off and final games. An added twist this year will have Robbie and his interns working with the KITV staff to produce

the games. Robbie has cultivated an internship program that works well with producing Paradise Pursuits. This just adds another facet to how Paradise Pursuits exposes Hawai'i's young people to environment and ecology.

A mix of media students from Moanalua, Kaiser and Mid Pacific Institute under the direction of University of Hawai'i students will be culling through the graphics and a compilation of slides and photos preparing them for use by KITV. While they cull they will need to match questions and answers with the

visuals, learning the material as they go along.

There are still a few things we need help with, mostly donations of prizes for the teams. We've searched high and low in the corporate world. So far Hawaiian Dredging is the only corporate donor to come through (hurrah!). It would be great to give each member of the winning team a copy of the Atlas of Hawai'i. The Atlas retails for \$50.00, and we need 6 of them. If you would like to donate to this effort please contact Suzan at 732-4489 or e-mail at [environm@lava.net](mailto:environm@lava.net).

## BlackPoint Cleanup on March 11

by **Dan Sailer, Chair, Conservation Committee**

On March 11, HAS will be conducting its annual Black Point Shoreline Cleanup from 9 am to noon. We will meet near the corner of Papu Circle and Kaiko'o Place. Look for orange flagging on Kahala Avenue for the turn onto Papu Circle.

Near Diamond Head, the Black Point area is one of only two active nesting areas on O'ahu for the 'ua'u kani or Wedge-tailed shearwaters. The majority of these seabirds nest in the Northwest Hawaiian Islands or the offshore islets of the main Hawaiian chain where they are largely free from the ravages of introduced predators. While neighborhood cats, mongooses, and rats have limited the birds' nesting success at Black Point in recent years, the 'ua'u kani continue to return every March with fledgelings departing in late fall.

Since the area is also a popular fishing and recreational swimming area, we will mostly be removing shoreline trash. If surf conditions permit, we will also be removing fishing line and tackle from the nearshore area. If you are an experienced snorkeler or diver please bring diving gear and a dive knife and mesh bag if available. Kayakers are also welcome to assist in hauling trash to shore. Good footwear, sunscreen, snacks and water are needed for the shoreline cleanup folks. Please join us to learn about and care for our native seabirds!

For more information and to sign up please call Dan Sailer at 455-2311 (evenings) or email: [dnsailer@aol.com](mailto:dnsailer@aol.com).

## Research Grants in Hawaiian or Pacific Natural History Available

The Hawaii Audubon Society offers grants for research in Hawaiian or Pacific natural history. Awards are oriented toward small-scale projects and generally do not exceed \$500.00. Special considerations are given to those applicants studying dryland forests or aeolian systems in Hawai'i. Applicants are encouraged to solicit grants from other organizations to fund research which cannot be funded entirely by the Society.

Grant recipients are expected to submit a 2-3 paragraph progress report suitable for publication in 'Elepaio within 6 months of the project termination date specified. Recipients are also encouraged to draft a more detailed 2-3 page report which would be considered for publication in 'Elepaio.

Grants are reviewed semiannually. Deadlines are April 1 for summer/fall grants and October 1 for winter/spring grants. Application guidelines are available by calling (528-1432) faxing (537-5294) or emailing ([hiaudsoc@pixi.net](mailto:hiaudsoc@pixi.net)) the HAS office.

## Results of 1999 Society Elections Announced

by **Wendy Johnson, President**

The following individuals were elected in December to serve as Hawaii Audubon Society directors and officers for one and two-year terms beginning January 2000. First Vice President Elizabeth Kumabe, Second Vice President Dan Sailer and Treasurer Larry Kimmel were elected for two year terms.

Incumbent Directors at Large elected for two year terms include Tonnie Casey and Kris Matsumoto. Two members new to the Board of Directors, Marlee Breese and Trae Menard, were elected as Directors at Large for one year terms.

Continuing officers and directors are President Wendy Johnson and Director Mary Gaber. In December, Former First Vice President John Harrison completed eight years as a valued member of the Board and was required to retire from the Board of Directors according to HAS Bylaws. Mr. Harrison's dedication and perseverance on behalf of the Society and its goals are greatly appreciated.

## Opps! A Correction

by **Linda Shapin**

In Table 1 of last month's lead article, the count for Honolulu was incomplete. I apologize for the error. The totals were correct, but entries should be added to the Honolulu count for the following 9 species:

O'ahu 'Amakihi	20	Common Waxbill	408
'Apapane	9	Red Avadavit	1
House Sparrow	455	Nutmeg Mannikin	82
Orange-cheeked Waxbill	408	Chestnut Mannikin	2
		Java Sparrow	1525

# Two Hawaiian Cave Animals Added to the Endangered Species List

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service today listed two small, blind Hawaiian cave animals - the Kaua'i cave wolf spider and the Kaua'i cave amphipod - as endangered under the Endangered Species Act. The two species exist in a predator-prey relationship in the inky blackness of moist lava tubes and adjacent crevices in the Koloa lava flows in southeastern Kaua'i.

Species are designated as endangered under the Endangered Species Act when they are in danger of becoming extinct through all or a significant portion of their range. The two species are found in only a handful of caves on the island.

The Kaua'i cave wolf spider is a small sightless hunting spider adapted to life in the lava tubes. Instead of building webs, it chases and grabs its prey. Unlike most wolf spiders, the Kaua'i cave wolf spider produces only 15 to 30 eggs per clutch. Newly hatched spiderlings are unusually large and are carried on the back of the female for only a few days. Only three populations of the Kaua'i wolf spider are known to exist.

The Kaua'i cave amphipod is a small, pale landhopper that resembles a shrimp. Like the cave wolf spider, the Kaua'i cave amphipod has no eyes. It feeds on the decaying roots of surface vegetation that reach into the cave system, as well as rotting sticks, branches, and other plant materials. This amphipod, which is believed to be the primary prey of the Kaua'i cave wolf spider, is known from only five populations.

"Both of these Kaua'i cave species

are fascinating examples of adaptation to their habitat," said Anne Badgley, the Service's regional director for the Pacific Region. "Both were discovered in 1971 in subterranean areas not originally expected to provide habitat for any cave animals. By working with others, includ-

recovery plan identifying steps to be taken to overcome these threats will be developed and implemented. Recovery strategies for these cave species will include working with landowners to protect remaining cave habitats by sealing cave entrances and planting native and other perennial vegetation on surface areas above the caves to restore a root system to the cave ecosystem. Restrictions on pesticide use around the caves and around the release of certain biocontrol agents may be required.

The Kaua'i cave wolf spider and amphipod are found only on private lands. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been working with the Kukui'ula Development Corporation since 1995 to help restore and protect two caves on the company's property that provide habitat for the two cave creatures.

The company has agreed to set aside the land area above these two caves as either a limited use park or reserve to further protect these species. The Service hopes to undertake similar partnerships with other pri-

ate landowners.

A proposal to list these species as endangered was published in the Federal Register on December 5, 1997. The final rule was published in the Federal Register on 01/14/00.

*source: US Fish and Wildlife Service news release dated 01/14/00*

*contact: Barbara Maxfield, 808-541-2749 or 342-5600*



*Kaua'i Cave Wolf Spider*

*USFWS photo*

ing private landowners, we hope to ensure their continued survival."

The two animals are threatened by the deterioration of their cave habitat caused by clearing, grading, filling, paving, and other activities associated with development and agriculture. They also are susceptible to the use of chemical and biological pest controls, which often are employed to control nonnative insects such as ants and cockroaches.

Under the Endangered Species Act, a

# Alternative Release Sites for Captive-Raised 'Alala Sought on Big Island

With a goal of reestablishing viable populations of 'alala or Hawaiian crows on the Island of Hawai'i, the State of Hawai'i's Department of Land and Natural Resources and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have released a draft environmental assessment outlining five potential new release sites for captive raised 'alala. Opportunities for the public to comment on the alternatives extend through February 14.

"With the assistance of our partners, we have been releasing young 'alala on private lands in South Kona since 1993," said Robert P. Smith, Pacific islands

manager for the Fish and Wildlife Service. "Although continuing to use this release site is part of each of the alternatives studied in the draft environmental assessment, we believe that by establishing multiple 'alala populations, we may accelerate the recovery of the species."

"We're looking for the public's input on which alternatives, if any, to implement," said Michael Buck, administrator for the State's Division of Forestry and Wildlife. "Any thoughts on priorities for release sites among the alternatives also would be helpful to us."

The draft environmental assessment

outlines five potential release sites on privately owned and publicly owned lands in North Kona, South Kona, Ka'u, and South Hilo. A sixth alternative, labelled the "no action" alternative, would allow for continued releases only at the current release site in South Kona.

source: US Fish and Wildlife Service News Release dated 01/13/00

Contacts: Barbara Maxfield, USFWS: 808-541-2749 or 342-5600

or Paul Conry, Hawai'i State Dept. of Forestry and Wildlife: 808-587-4176

## Log On and Be Counted for Great Backyard Bird Count 2000

Audubon and Cornell Need Families and Classrooms to Put Their Bird Sightings on the Map

The National Audubon Society and the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology urgently need the help of North Americans of all ages to count birds this winter. By participating in Great Backyard Bird Count 2000, February 18-21, bird watchers, regardless of skill level will help scientists document the status and health of our winter bird populations at the turn of the millennium at the start of spring migrations.

Taking part is as easy as 1, 2, 3. The Cornell Lab <<http://birds.cornell.edu>> and the National Audubon Society <[www.audubon.org](http://www.audubon.org)>, ask everyone - kids, adults, seniors, families, classrooms, and community groups - to count birds they see at their backyard bird feeders, local parks and other areas. Participants then enter their reports online at BirdSource <<http://birdsource.org>>, a user-friendly, state-of-the-art

website developed by the Cornell Lab and Audubon. (note: some earlier ver-

sions of Netscape and Microsoft Explorer will not be able to find the website with-

out "www" in the address. If you experience this problem, please use the following web address instead: <http://www.birdsource.org>)

Those without internet access can enter their results at local libraries, schools and during a break at work.

To participate, go the Birdsource <<http://birdsource.org>> and click on Great Backyard Bird Count. Directions are provided at the site. Participation is free. No registration is necessary. For more information, prospective counters can call toll-free 1-800-843-BIRD (2473)

(Editor's note: I called to find out if Hawai'i counts were welcome - Hawai'i counts are ESPECIALLY ENCOURAGED!!)

JOIN  
NATIONAL AUDUBON SOCIETY & CORNELL LAB OF ORNITHOLOGY  
FOR THE

Great Backyard Bird Count  
February 18-21, 2000

FEBRUARY 18 - 21

- HELP SCIENTISTS TO DEFINE THE STATUS OF BIRDS FOR A NEW MILLENNIUM
- JOIN BACKYARD BIRDERS FROM NOME TO KEY WEST
- BECOME A CITIZEN SCIENTIST
- SPREAD THE WORD!

CORNELL CONTACT:  
Allison Wells  
amw25@cornell.edu

AUDUBON CONTACT  
Matthew McKown  
mmckown@audubon.org

Participate by visiting <http://birdsource.org/gbbc>



FEBRUARY 2000

# 'ELEPAIO

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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## Calendar of Events

### Thursdays, February 3 and March 2

**Education Committee** monthly meeting, 7 p.m. at BaLe Sandwich Shop in Manoa Marketplace (near Safeway). For more information, call chairperson Wendy Johnson, 261-5957.

**Mondays, February 14 and March 13 Conservation Committee** monthly meeting at the HAS office at 5:45 p.m. For more information, call chairperson Dan Sailer, 455-2311.

**Mondays, February 14 and March 13 HAS Board meeting**, always open to all members, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the HAS office.

**Monday, February 21 Program Meeting** Wildlife Biologist Sharon Reilly will speak on "The Evolution of a Wildlife Biologist, 15 Years of Birds." Sharon has travelled halfway around the world working in many areas of bird (and mammal) conservation. In Hawai'i she has worked primarily in captive propagation and fieldwork. Come hear about her adventures and see her slides! The meeting is from 7:30-9:30 p.m. at Bishop Museum, Paki Hall Conference Room. Refreshments provided. HAS publications, tapes, patches, T-shirts, our 60th anniversary poster, and our new map will be available for purchase. See you there!

**February 19-21** Our second annual **service trip** to Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge on Kaua'i will take place during the Presidents' Day weekend. Last February we helped to create a new trail at the Refuge. It was great fun, and the birds were busy courting and nest building. Facilities for sleeping and cooking meals are limited (10 cots available). Call Mary Gaber at 247-0104 if you want to go.

**Saturday, March 11 Annual Black Point Shoreline Cleanup** from 9 am to noon. We will meet near the corner of Papu Circle and Kaiko'o Place. Look for orange flagging on Kahala Avenue for the turn onto Papu Circle. See article on page 5. For more information and to sign up please call Dan Sailer at 455-2311 (evenings) or email: dnsailer@aol.com.

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