



State of the Society 2006

by Elizabeth Kumabe, President

MISSION STATEMENT: To foster community values that result in the protection and restoration of native ecosystems and conservation of natural resources through education, science and advocacy in Hawai'i and the Pacific.

The Hawaii Audubon Society (HAS) was founded in 1939 as an independent, nonprofit membership association dedicated to the protection of Hawaii's native wildlife and habitats through education, science and advocacy. HAS has a membership of approximately 1,800 individuals and operates in accordance with a constitution and by-laws under the supervision of a Board of Directors elected by the members. In 1978 HAS became a certified chapter of the National Audubon Society, but continues to function independently in all fiscal, policy and programmatic matters. An office manager, an aquatics programs director, and several independent contractors provide administrative and professional services for HAS, but many necessary tasks and responsibilities are accomplished through the efforts of dedicated volunteers statewide. HAS publishes the *'Elepaio*, a peer-reviewed journal, and operates two websites: www.hawaii-audubon.com and www.pacfish.org.

Board of Directors: In 2006, HAS Board of Directors consisted of President Elizabeth Kumabe, First Vice President Ron Walker, Second Vice President Wendy Johnson, and Directors Phil Bruner, Arlene Buchholz, John Harrison, and Christine Volinski.

Committees: HAS oversees the operation of committees on Conservation, Education, *'Elepaio*, Field Trips, Fundraising, Grants & Scholarships, Membership, Programs, Publications, and Website. HAS members are welcome to participate as members or chairs of any of these committees.

Educational Outreach: (see also the Pacific Fisheries Coalition report, page 13): The *'Elepaio* is an important component of HAS's education and outreach efforts. HAS published nine issues of the journal *'Elepaio* in 2006. This publication is mailed to all HAS members, subscribers such as libraries, and a number of complimentary recipients such as exchange institutions and other conservation organizations. Distribution of the *'Elepaio* spans across the continental U.S. and internationally. The journal features updates on the status of native species and their habitats in Hawai'i and the Pacific region, activities and actions relevant to their conservation, and occasionally features peer-reviewed articles on current research in these fields. The *'Elepaio* also includes news about activities of interest to members and the general public.

A variety of reports, publications, brochures, posters, and curriculum materials on marine resources in Hawai'i and the Pacific have been created by HAS's Pacific Fisheries Coalition (PFC)

program. They are distributed to the general public, students, fishermen, resource managers and policy makers throughout the continental U.S and internationally.

HAS's website, www.hawaii-audubon.com, is a comprehensive source for up-to-date information relating to HAS and its mission. It provides access to electronic versions of the *'Elepaio*, field trip and program meeting announcements, grant and scholarship application guidelines and deadline reminders, information on HAS's projects and activities, HAS membership information, an online store of HAS products, extensive information on birding in Hawai'i, a gallery of beautiful bird photos, and links to a number of related organizations and issues.

The PFC project's website, www.pacfish.org, provides news and updates on the status of marine resources in Hawai'i and the Pacific and conservation efforts underway to protect them, as well as reports, white papers and links to other marine conservation sites.

Conservation and Advocacy (see also the Pacific Fisheries coalition report, page 13): Members represented HAS at conferences, workshops, hearings, and on several steering committees, teams, and task forces. In addition to their roles as HAS Directors, board members serve on the boards of Ahahui Mālama i ka Lōkahi, the Hawai'i Botanical Society, The Wildlife Society Hawai'i Chapter, the Waimea Valley Audubon Center Stewardship Board, and the Endangered Species Recovery Committee. HAS is an active member of a number of partnerships, coalitions, boards, advisory groups, and committees working to protect, conserve and restore Hawaii's resources, including the Ho'olaulima Kawai Nui, the Alien Aquatic Organism Task Force, the multi-partner Marine Debris Cleanup Group, the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council, the Hawai'i Conservation Alliance steering committee, and the Marine Fish Conservation Network Advisory Board. HAS volunteers tracked proposed bills and draft rules and provided expert testimony on behalf of the conservation of Hawaii's native wildlife, habitat, and marine resources. HAS's Conservation Committee, working to prevent threats to native wildlife and habitats, reviewed and submitted comments on a variety of proposed projects and activities statewide.

Educational Programs: Five bi-monthly program meetings were hosted by HAS in 2006. They were held at UH Mānoa's St. John

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Botany building. These meetings are open to all HAS members and the general public at no cost and include informational presentations on a wide variety of topics related to the mission of HAS. Presenters and subjects covered in 2006 included the following: Dr. Sheila Conant of the Department of Zoology at UH Mānoa spoke on the ecology of seabirds in Hawai'i and the threats that they face; Dr. Thierry Work of the National Wildlife Health Center spoke of his work with Laysan ducks and other native wildlife, as well as plans for avian influenza surveillance; Dr. Tom Dove exhibited a stunning slideshow of his photographs of the birds of Hawai'i, Alaska, and Palau, and answered questions on bird photography; Linda Elliott, Director of the Hawai'i Wildlife Center (HWC), gave a progress report on efforts to establish a wildlife rehabilitation center on the Big Island, and spoke of her experience with oiled wildlife response; and an annual membership meeting was held along with a bird identification lecture by HAS First Vice President Ron Walker in preparation for the Christmas Bird Count in December.

HAS also held its bi-annual State Aquatics Conference in Kailua-Kona in November (See PFC Report on page 13.)

Field Excursions and Service Activities: HAS Directors and volunteers led members and other interested adventurers on twelve field excursions throughout O'ahu in 2006, including the Makapu'u lighthouse bird and whale watching trip; a whale watch cruise off the south shore of O'ahu; a visit to Ka'ena Point Laysan albatross nesting sites; four trips to Paikō Lagoon for reef and mudflat explorations and to observe migratory shorebirds; a Lyon Arboretum hike; a Hilton Hawaiian Village tour of the varied bird exhibits; a guided tour of rare exotic and native bird exhibits at the Honolulu Zoo; an 'Aiea Loop Trail hike; and viewing of many species of migratory and wetland birds at James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge.

In December, the annual Christmas Bird Counts were held at Honolulu and Waipi'o on O'ahu, Waimea and Kapa'a on Kaua'i, 'Āo Valley and Pu'u o Kāka'e on Maui, Kalaupapa and Kualapu'u on Moloka'i, and Volcano and North Kona on the Big Island. HAS volunteers served as organizers and team leaders of the counts which operated in conjunction with Christmas

Bird Counts at thousands of locations in the U.S. and around the world.

HAS also promoted participation in the Great Backyard Bird Count, which is held each February as a joint project of the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Both bird counts serve to monitor changes in the size and health of bird populations.

Volunteer Activities: HAS members were active as volunteers with Ahahui Mālama i ka Lōkahi (which works to restore the natural and cultural features of Kawai Nui Marsh), Ka'elepulu Wetland Bird Preserve, Hawai'i Division of Forestry and Wildlife, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Friends of He'eia State Park, Waimea Valley Audubon Center, Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve, Na Ala Hele Trail and Access Program, Hawai'i Nature Center, O'ahu Invasive Species Committee, Sierra Club service trips, the National Marine Sanctuary Program, Hawai'i Conservation Alliance, Hawaiian Humane Society, Wild Bird Rehab Haven, Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden, Chevron U.S.A., Ho'olaulima Kawai Nui, Hawai'i State Parks Division, the Waikalua Loko Preservation Society, and The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i.

Awards: At the 49th Hawai'i State Science and Engineering Fair, HAS awarded two prizes for outstanding student research relating to Hawaii's natural history. Shanoa Miller, a junior at King Kekaulike High School on Maui, received the HAS Senior Division Research award for her project entitled "A Search for the Red Imported Fire Ant and the Little Red Fire Ant: A Second Year Study." Laura Anderson, a junior at Hualalai Academy on the Big Island, received the HAS Junior Division Research award for her project entitled "Ghost Crabs and Cigarette Butts."

The George C. Munro Environmental Law Award is given to the top environmental law student at the W.H. Richardson School of Law for the preceding school year.

In October, HAS's thirteenth Annual Awards Dinner was held at Treetops Restaurant at Paradise Park in Mānoa. Five awards were presented to distinguished members of the conservation community: Ed Case, member of the U.S. House of Representatives, received the President's Award for his work in Congress to protect Hawaii's environment; Larry Abbott

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'Elepaio

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Scientific Editor: Ron Walker

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Pacific Fisheries Coalition (PFC) (a project of HAS)

Tel: (808) 548-FISH Website: www.pacfish.org

Board Roster:

Liz Kumabe, President

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Wendy Johnson, 2nd Vice President

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Arlene Buchholz, Director

Norma Bustos, Director

John Harrison, Director

Christine Volinski, Director

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Linda Paul, Executive Director for Aquatics

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Conservation: Norma Bustos

Education: Wendy Johnson

'Elepaio: Ron Walker

Field Trips: vacant

Fundraising: vacant

Grants & Scholarships: Phil Bruner

Membership: vacant

Program: Arlene Buchholz

Publications: Linda Paul

Website: Lydi Morgan

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received the Conservation Award for his ongoing dedication to the protection of endangered plants and water birds on O'ahu; Annette Kaohelauii received the Volunteer Service Award for her incredible commitment of time and energy to a variety of environmental causes in the state; Pono Pacific received the Environmental Education Award for successfully introducing thousands of Hawaii's youth to environmental issues through the Hawai'i Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) program; and Paul Koberstein, editor of the *Cascadia Times* of Portland, Oregon, received the Environmental Journalism Award for his newspaper's coverage of the need to protect the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. HAS's first ever silent auction was also held at the Awards Dinner and featured a collection of bird books donated to HAS by former board member, Chad Castle.

Grants and Scholarships: HAS's 2006 summer/fall research grant was awarded to Andrea Bruner in support of her research on egg recognition in four species of Hawai'i's migratory shorebirds. Michelle Elmore was awarded the 2006 winter/spring research grant to assist her study on the pollination biology of Hawaiian *Scaevola* (naupaka). No one applied for the Rose Schuster Taylor full tuition scholarship to the University of Hawai'i for the 2006-2007 school year.

Other HAS Activities: In 2006, HAS launched the "Events Email List" through which members and other interested individuals receive HAS announcements via email. In addition to receiving timely information on field trips, program meetings, volunteer opportunities, and other announcements, participants can become a part of HAS's new "Birder's Network" which connects local and visiting birders, giving them the opportunity to arrange excursions outside of HAS's scheduled field activities.

HAS promoted participation in the annual Federal Junior Duck Stamp Contest, a project of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. HAS leaders and volunteers staffed informational booths at the Hawai'i Conservation Conference and the Ulupō Heiau Ho'olaule'a in 2006.

Products: Educational products produced by HAS include the following: *Hawaii's Birds*, a definitive, full color, soft cover field guide now in its sixth edition; a companion cassette set *Voices of Hawaii's Birds*; current checklists of the Birds of Hawai'i, Micronesia, and the Mariana Islands; the *Hidden Treasures of O'ahu* map featuring locations and detailed information on sites for exploring nature and ancient Hawaiian culture; and *The Edge of Forever* poster, an art-quality, limited edition print featuring two endangered nēnē. HAS also offers several T-shirt designs, an embroidered patch featuring the 'elepaio, and new in 2006, polo shirts embroidered with HAS's logo. The proceeds go to support HAS's efforts to protect and conserve native species and habitats in Hawai'i and the Pacific.

HAS Board Members and other leaders gathered in January 2006 for the Annual Chapter Leaders' Retreat in order to discuss the state of HAS and how best to move the organization forward. HAS looks forward to another productive year in 2007, and many more to come.

HAS Research Grant Awarded

Hawaii Audubon Society is pleased to announce that Michelle Elmore has been awarded the 2006 winter/spring HAS research grant to assist her study on Pollination Biology of Hawaiian *Scaevola* (Goodeniaceae, naupaka). Few pollination investigations have been conducted in Hawai'i. The role that native and alien pollinators may have on extant species of *Scaevola* is extremely important to document. We look forward to her report of findings in an upcoming issue of the *'Elepaio*.

HAS Research Grant Available Applications Due April 1, 2007

Hawaii Audubon Society offers two grants per year for research in Hawaiian or Pacific natural history. Awards are oriented toward small-scale projects and generally do not exceed \$500. Grants are reviewed semiannually. Deadlines are April 1 for summer/fall grants and October 1 for winter/spring grants. Application guidelines are available at www.hawaii-audubon.com under "chapter news", or by contacting the HAS office.

HAS Undergraduate Tuition Scholarship Available for the 2007-2008 School Year Applications Due May 1, 2007

Through a trust set up by Yao Shen in memory of Rose Schuster Taylor, the Hawaii Audubon Society annually awards a full tuition scholarship to an undergraduate student in the University of Hawai'i system. Applicants must be majoring in a field related to Hawaiian or Pacific natural history. Applications for the 2007-2008 school year are due on May 1, 2007. Application guidelines are available at www.hawaii-audubon.com under "chapter news", or by contacting the HAS office.

Volunteers Needed

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is seeking volunteers to help in the Avian Influenza sampling effort for the Hawaiian Islands. Participation will involve observing target species of migratory birds and collecting their droppings in a vial. No catching and handling of birds is required. This is a great opportunity to gain practical experience in taking samples from birds for disease studies, and to contribute to an important conservation effort for Hawai'i's birds. Volunteers will receive training from USGS and USFWS staff in environmental sampling and appropriate field equipment, and will be able to work on their own schedule. Sampling will continue through April 2007. If you are interested please contact Joshua Fisher at (808) 792-9452.

HAS Field Trips

Contact the HAS Office at: (808) 528-1432, hiaudsoc@pixi.com

Saturday, March 3

Whale Watch Cruise with John Harrison

We will cruise off of Honolulu for two hours aboard the Star of Honolulu's "Starlet", checking out whales, seabirds, and other wildlife that we encounter. Bring a warm jacket, water, snacks, and binoculars. Kama'aina rates are \$19.60 each for adults and children. The boat will leave from Kewalo Basin (D-1) at 1:30 p.m. Check in is at 12:45 p.m. at Kewalo. Please make your reservations and payment at least one week in advance by calling Star of Honolulu at (808) 983-7890; ask for a reservation on the Starlet for Saturday, March 3. Please also call the HAS office to let us know you are coming. Our group will meet at Kewalo D-1 at 12:30 p.m. on March 3. (HAS was previously informed that the Starlet would be leaving from Aloha Tower Pier 8. Please meet at Kewalo instead. However, there will be a free shuttle leaving Aloha Tower Pier 8 at 1:15 p.m. and heading to Kewalo, in case there is any confusion). Call John at (808) 780-1223 or Lydi at (808) 295-3375 that day if you are lost!

Saturday, March 17

Service trip to Ka'ena Point with Betsy Gagne and Arlene Buchholz

Volunteers will work to remove invasive plants in this NARS preserve. We'll also be able to observe Laysan albatross and maybe a black-footed albatross that has been spotted recently there. Monk seals and humpback whales may also be seen along the coast, and there are many native coastal plants in the reserve. THIS SERVICE TRIP IS LIMITED TO 12 PEOPLE. You must call the HAS office to sign up and receive directions and meeting time; leave your name and number. HAS will likely hold another trip to Ka'ena point in April for those that don't get to participate in this trip. Stay tuned for more information.

Sunday, March 25

Waimea Valley South Ridge Loop Trail Hike with Bruce Casler

9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

For **experienced hikers only**, this **strenuous** hike connects the southern valley to the northern valley of Waimea on O'ahu's north shore. This hike will involve steep climbs and shallow, slippery stream crossings. Enjoy stunning views of Ka'ena Point, Kaiwiko'e Stream, and Waimea Falls. Approx. 7 miles. Bring

lunch, sunscreen, hat, sturdy shoes, and plenty of water. This trip is for HAS and NAS members only, **LIMIT 20 PEOPLE**. You must sign up by calling the HAS office; leave your name and phone number.

Saturday, March 31

Makapu'u Lighthouse with Christine Volinski

8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

We will meet in the new parking lot and walk together to the head of the trail. Attendees will experience great views of Windward O'ahu with the mountains to one side and the beautiful seascape on the other. We'll be on the lookout for humpback whales and a variety of seabirds such as tropicbirds, terns, 'iwa birds, and many more. Bring your binoculars, sunscreen, good hiking shoes or comfortable sneakers and plenty of water. The hike is a paved one but expect some weathering of the road. Bring a lunch if you want to stick around after the hike to enjoy a scenic picnic and talk story with new friends. Anyone interested in joining the hike can contact Christine at (808) 254-2736.

Saturday, April 14

Birding Tour at Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden with Ron Walker

7:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

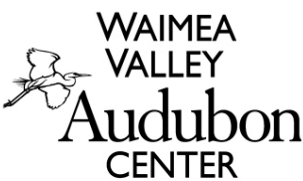
Ron will lead you in the viewing of wetland and urban birds within the gardens. Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden is in Kane'ohe at the end of Luluku Rd. off of Kamehameha Hwy. Bring water, sunscreen, sturdy footwear, binoculars, raincoat, camera, insect repellent, bird ID book. Contact the Garden at (808) 522-7064, or Ron Walker at (808) 375-8611 for more information.

Sunday, April 15

Paiko Lagoon with Alice Roberts

7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

A chance to bid our migratory shorebirds goodbye, and to explore many other fascinating creatures along the shoreline. This is a wonderful treat of a field trip, and one that keiki will particularly enjoy! Wear old tennis shoes or reefwalkers, and bring binoculars, water, sunscreen, and a hat. Call Alice to register, (808) 864-8122.

	<p>Free Admission Free Parking</p> <p>Chapter members always receive a 10% Discount in the Nature Store</p> <p>Non-transferable</p>
<p>Hawaii Audubon Society member and one guest</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>June 30, 2007</p> <p>Exp. Date _____</p>	
<p>DAY PASS</p>	

All Hawaii Audubon Society members are invited to enjoy a complimentary visit to the Waimea Valley Audubon Center on O'ahu's North Shore! Please present this Day Pass at the ticket booth when you enter the valley. The Center is open seven days a week, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (closed Christmas and New Years Day). Please call (808) 638-9199 with questions, or visit www.audubon.org for information on weekly and special events.

Pacific Fisheries Coalition Annual Report 2006

by Linda Paul, Executive Director for Aquatics

The Pacific Fisheries Coalition (PFC), a project of the Hawaii Audubon Society, is a unique coalition of conservationists and fishermen who promote the protection and responsible use of marine resources in Hawai'i and the Pacific. The project is directed by Linda Paul, the outreach coordinator is Ellyn Tong, and Naomi Arcand worked as the PFC intern. The Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) Network, a coalition of conservation organizations working to build widespread public support for conservation of that special area, was coordinated by Keiko Bonk.

In 2006 Linda and PFC members William Aila and Rick Gaffney continued to serve on the NWHI Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve Advisory Council (RAC), with Linda serving as vice chair, William as secretary, and Rick as the recreational fishing representative. From January through the middle of June RAC efforts were focused on establishment of the NWHI as a national marine sanctuary. In February the NWHI Network hosted a forum in Hilo on state and federal initiatives to protect the NWHI, and a video tape of the forum was aired on 'Ōlelo Community Television. In April we presented Governor Lingle with a framed copy of an ad thanking her for her support for protection of the NWHI and a copy of our newly published 4-color illustrated report *Northwest Hawaiian Islands – A World Treasure*, which was signed by representatives of 28 nonprofit organizations that are supporting the nomination. In May Ellyn met with the National Park Service in Washington D.C. about the NWHI World Heritage Site nomination, which was initiated by this project, and presented them with our new report. In June Linda had the honor of being named the National Marine Sanctuary Foundation Volunteer of the Year for the United States for her work in behalf of protecting the NWHI. On June 15 George Bush signed a proclamation setting aside the NWHI as the nation's first marine national monument. Linda was at the White House for the signing.

Work to protect the NWHI did not end then, however. Ellyn went to the NWHI in late June on the NOAA research vessel *Hi'ialakai* and conducted reef surveys on Kure Atoll and French Frigate Shoals, managed the data collected and reported the findings. Naomi produced a one hour video on the NWHI, which was broadcast multiple times in the fall on 'Ōlelo. Ellyn produced two shorter videos on the NWHI, one for community outreach and one for UNESCO on the natural and cultural heritage of the area.

The PFC project also actively worked to protect coral reef ecosystems in other areas. Lay gillnets are still decimating inshore reef fish populations in Hawai'i and the PFC continued to work to get rid of this destructive method of fishing. In August we produced a 30 second public service announcement (PSA) and a 3 minute education DVD on the proposed lay gillnet rules. The PSA was broadcast multiple times on two major network channels. A letter to the editor on the need for restricting lay gillnets was also published in the Honolulu Advertiser. In August draft rules proposing areas closed to the practice and regulating the use overall went out for public hearings. In October a young female endangered Hawaiian monk seal was found drowned in a lay gillnet off windward O'ahu, and on November 17 the Board of Natural Resources approved the draft rules. They are now awaiting the Governor's signature.

The PFC also worked on pelagic fisheries issues. Rick is a member of the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (WESPAC) and worked from the inside to make that organization a better steward of the stocks it manages. Linda

monitored the meetings of the Bottomfish, Pelagic, and Coral Reef Plan Teams, the SSC and the Council as an observer. She also continued to represent conservation interests on the U.S. delegation to the Western & Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) and attending meetings of the Northern Committee, the Technical & Compliance Committee, and the Commission. At the December Commission meeting copies of our illustrated report *Investigation of the Cultural Importance of Sharks to the Indigenous People of the U.S. Flag Areas in the Central and Western Pacific* were distributed. In the last hour of the last day of the meeting the Commission finally passed a resolution mandating the full utilization of shark catches and specifying the ratio of fin weight to shark weight allowed onboard vessels. A resolution requiring longline vessels to use at least two seabird by-catch mitigation measures also was passed.

In addition to WESPAC and the WCPFC we also worked on the issue of shark finning in the context of the Convention on Trade in Endangered Species (CITES). In the Spring Linda drafted a CITES shark finning proposal and discussed it with National Marine Fisheries Service officials in Washington D.C. In July Naomi attended the CITES Animals Committee meeting to follow up and succeeded in getting some of our language in the Shark Working Group recommendations to the Conference of Parties to CITES, which will be meeting in June 2007 where it will consider listing additional species of sharks threatened by the fin trade. Linda continued to represent the PFC on the Marine Fish Conservation Network Board of Advisors, which succeeded in getting improved conservation measures included in the Magnuson Stevens Fishery Conservation & Management Act reauthorization bill. The bill passed at the end of the year.

PFC also coordinated and sponsored the 2006 State Aquatics Conference, "Fish For The Future – How Do We Get There?", which was held at the Gateway Center, Hawai'i Natural Energy Lab in Kailua-Kona in November. The conference began with a panel of kūpuna who spoke about the use of traditional Native Hawaiian knowledge to manage aquatic resources. Other presentations included a 20 year retrospective study of fish populations in Hōnaunau, the ulua and pāpio tagging project, management options such as marine protected areas (MPA), bag limits for herbivores and parrot fish, and seasonal closures. There were presentations on species of special concern, including manta rays, aquarium species, and parrotfishes and their habitat requirements and ecological roles on reefs. There was an overview of resource enforcement in Hawai'i, updates on stream protection and management, and water quality and monitoring in West Hawai'i, presentations on seafood toxins, and the impact of non native fish species on native fish populations, and discussions on the catch records of the Kona sport fishery over time and whether the time has come for recreational marine fishing licenses in Hawai'i. Approximately 100 people attended the conference, which will be broadcast statewide by 'Ōlelo in 2007.

Extensive outreach by PFC continued in 2006. In March Linda was on a 1.5 hour KCC TV program discussing marine environmental issues. In September Ellyn gave a talk at Hanauma Bay on NWHI biodiversity and endemism, and briefings about the draft lay gillnet rules for the Surfrider Foundation and the Kāne'ohe Marine Corps Air Station conservation officers. We attended and spoke at the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force meetings in Washington D.C. in May and the U.S. Virgin Islands in October. In December our MPA bus poster was displayed on buses throughout the State.

2007 Hawai'i Conservation Conference Call For Papers, Posters, Symposia, and Forums

The annual Hawai'i Conservation Conference, sponsored by the Hawai'i Conservation Alliance (HCA), is the largest gathering of people actively involved in the protection and management of Hawaii's natural environment. The purpose of the conference is to facilitate information transfer and interaction among natural resource managers and the scientific community.

This year's conference will take place July 25-27 at the Hawai'i Convention Center; the theme will be *Conservation Strategies: Matching Science and Management*. The conference committee is now soliciting abstracts for presentations and posters that demonstrate Applied Science. HCA would like to see paired presentations that first introduce the science and then demonstrate how the science is being used in conservation management. Presentations covering other conservation issues are also welcome.

You can contribute papers, posters, symposia, forums, and fieldtrips. Further details can be found at <http://www.hawaii-conservation.org/hcc07>.

DEADLINE: All proposals and abstracts must be received no later than **March 30, 2007**.

For further information please contact Dr. Christopher F. Puttock (808) 586-0916, Mariza Silva (808) 587-0061, or email hcastaff@hawaii.edu.

**Attention: Middle School Students
(Grades 6 to 8)**

"My Hawai'i" Story Project

What makes Hawaii's environment special to you? Join the "My Hawai'i" writing contest by sharing your feelings about our environment and telling us about your Hawai'i. Stories should be typed, no longer than 1,000 words. Poems should be 150 words or less. Submit your story or poem online at www.hawaii-conservation.org/myhawaii.

DEADLINE: Your story or poem must be received by **5 p.m. Tuesday, May 17th, 2007**.

Twenty-five winners will be publicly announced on July 1, 2007. Awards will be presented at the Hawai'i Conservation Conference on July 25, 2007. A free writers' workshop and other awards will be offered to the winners, and the top 25 stories will be compiled into a book and published on websites, crediting you and your school. These books will be on display at the 15th Annual Hawai'i Conservation Conference from July 25-27, 2007 at the Hawai'i Convention Center. This writing contest is sponsored by the Hawai'i Conservation Alliance and the Pacific Writers' Connection. For details visit www.hawaii-conservation.org/myhawaii or call HCA's Education Outreach Officer, Kendall McCreary, at (808) 586-0922.

Membership in Hawaii Audubon Society

Hawaii Resident: newsletter via bulk mail	\$ 20.00	Foreign Membership (Airmail)	
Mainland Resident: via first class mail.....	\$26.00	Mexico.....	\$ 26.00
Junior Members (18 and under):.....	\$ 15.00	Canada.....	\$ 28.00
Supporting Member:	\$100.00	All other countries.....	\$ 33.00

These are annual membership dues, valid January 1 through December 31.

Donations are tax deductible and gratefully accepted.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Country, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Membership \$ _____ + Donation \$ _____ = Total \$ _____

New Membership ☐ Renewal ☐

Please make checks payable to Hawaii Audubon Society and mail to us at 850 Richards St., #505, Honolulu, HI 96813.

PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOUR ADDRESS CHANGES.

Members Invited to Join HAS Committees

Are you interested in helping to guide present and future operations of the Hawaii Audubon Society? You can do so by volunteering to be a part of one of HAS's standing committees. Committee membership is open to any member of the Hawaii Audubon Society. Contact the Committee Chair (names and contact info listed below) to learn about getting involved.

Conservation: The Conservation Committee helps to direct conservation policy for the Society and stays informed on local, state and national governmental policies and actions affecting Hawaii's natural environment and the conservation of native Hawaiian wildlife. Contact: Norma Bustos, bustos_norma@yahoo.com

Education: The Education Committee oversees new and existing educational programs of the Society. Contact: Wendy Johnson, johnsonw002@hawaii.rr.com

'Elepaio: Members of the 'Elepaio Committee provide input on the content of the Society's journal, and potentially serve as peer-reviewers of scientific articles. Contact: Co-Chairs Ron Walker (808) 375-8611 and Lydi Morgan (808) 528-1432

Programs: The Program Committee makes arrangements for lectures, discussions, and other events that promote interest in and appreciation of conservation, ecology and natural history. Contact: Arlene Buchholz, (808) 779-5200, snovakz@juno.com

Publications: The Publications Committee oversees the development, production, revision, printing, and distribution of the Society's educational publications. Contact: Linda Paul, (808) 262-6859.

Website: The Website Committee manages the content and design of HAS's website, www.hawaiiaudubon.com. Contact: Lydi Morgan, (808) 528-1432, hiaudsoc@pixi.com

Christmas Bird Count: The CBC Committee coordinates the annual Christmas Bird Counts which take place each December. Members help to recruit leaders and volunteers, and plan dates

and locations for the CBC. Contact: Arlene Buchholz, (808) 779-5200, snovakz@juno.com

The following committees have vacant chair positions. Contact the HAS office at (808) 528-1432 if you are interested in filling these vacancies either as Chair or committee member. (Note: Appointment as Chair requires Board approval.)

Field Activities: The Field Activities Committee schedules regular field trips as a means of exposing members and the general public to, and educating them about, Hawaii's native flora, fauna, and ecosystems, and to provide outdoor recreation and access to otherwise inaccessible areas, and opportunities to meet with conservation experts. The Committee also schedules regular service trips to foster an ethic of stewardship for Hawaii's natural resources.

Fundraising: The Fundraising Committee will direct fundraising campaigns and events for the Society.

Membership: The Membership Committee will conduct membership campaigns to enroll new members and endeavor to retain those members who have become delinquent in the payment of their dues.

The Society thrives with the dedication of volunteers, enabling HAS to play an effective role as advocate and educator for the protection of Hawaii's native wildlife and ecosystems. Please consider how you can contribute to the success of the Hawaii Audubon Society.

HAS Program Meetings

Program Meetings are held at UH Mānoa's St. John lab building (Botany Building), in room 011 in the ground floor auditorium. The address is 3190 Maile Way. Attendance is free and open to the public.

March 12, Monday, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

National Tropical Botanical Garden with CEO and Director, Chipper Wichman

Located on the island of Kaua'i, the National Tropical Botanical Garden (NTBG) is dedicated to preserving tropical plant diversity and stemming the tide of extinction through plant exploration, propagation, habitat restoration, scientific research, and education. Chipper Wichman, CEO and Director of NTBG, comes to O'ahu to share the story of this national resource. Few people realize the incredible effort and dedication that went into obtaining the 1964 Congressional Charter for the National Tropical Botanical Garden or the international significance of the remarkable work that is being done at NTBG today. The story of NTBG is truly that of a dream fulfilled. Mr. Wichman will also discuss NTBG's overall efforts to preserve native Hawaiian plants.

April 16, Monday, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Speaker and topic to be announced.

HAS Welcomes a New Board Member

According to the Hawaii Audubon Society By-Laws, the Board of Directors may elect individuals to fill vacancies on the Board (a maximum of 15 Directors are allowed). Norma Bustos was elected to HAS's Board of Directors at the January 21, 2007 Board meeting. Norma currently works as the Wildlife Program Specialist for the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Forestry assisting with inter-agency efforts to implement recovery plans for endangered and threatened Hawaiian bird species statewide. Born and raised in Hawai'i, Norma is an avid outdoors enthusiast and a strong proponent for the conservation of Hawaii's native wildlife. Her experience and enthusiasm will surely be of great value to the Board and the Society.



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Calendar of Events

Saturday, March 3
Whale Watch Cruise with John Harrison *See page 12*

Monday, March 12
Program Meeting
NTBG with Director and CEO Chipper Wichman *See page 15*

Thursday, March 15
Federal Junior Duck Stamp Contest Entries Due

Saturday, March 17
Ka'ena Point Service Trip *See page 12*

Sunday, March 25
Waimea Valley Hike with Bruce Casler *See page 12*

Friday, March 30
Hawai'i Conservation Conference Proposals Due *See page 14*

Saturday, March 31
Makapu'u Lighthouse Hike with Christine Volinski *See page 12*

Saturday, March 31
Humpback Whale Sanctuary Ocean Count #2

Sunday, April 1
HAS Research Grant Applications Due *See page 11*

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