



U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Awards Hawai'i \$2.4 Million to Conserve Coastal Wetlands

On January 19, 2007, Deputy Secretary of the Interior Lynn Scarlett awarded \$18.8 million in U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service grants to 14 states to help conserve, restore and protect coastal wetlands. Hawai'i will receive \$2.4 million for projects on the islands of Kaua'i, O'ahu and Maui under the National Coastal Wetlands Grant Program.

The grants provide funding for 3 projects in Hawai'i and will be supplemented with more than \$3.3 million from partners including the state government, private landowners and conservation groups. The grants are used to acquire, restore or enhance coastal wetlands for long-term conservation benefits to wildlife and habitat.

"This grant program supports many of the priorities in the U.S. Ocean Action Plan and is one of the most cost-effective conservation programs in the nation," Scarlett said. "A multi-faceted partnership is the key to success." The three projects funded in Hawai'i are:

Restoration of Mānā Plain Coastal Wetlands: The Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) will restore and enhance 141 acres of native wetland, sand dune, and coastal strand ecosystems on the Mānā Plain on the island of Kaua'i. Wetland restoration on Kaua'i is a high priority for the recovery of endangered water birds because of the abundant water supply, lack of predators (mongoose), and resident populations of koloa or native Hawaiian ducks. Increased availability of nesting and foraging habitats will contribute to the recovery of four species of endemic and endangered water birds observed at the restoration site. This project will result in a 45 percent increase in the area of existing wetland and aquatic habitats to native wildlife in the Mānā Unit.

Partners: HI Division of Forestry and Wildlife, PAHIO Resorts, Ducks Unlimited, Wetland Management and Education Services, HI Division of State Parks, USFWS Pacific Islands Coastal Program.

Coastal grant request: \$1,000,000

Partner share: \$486,372

Total cost: \$1,500,000

Pouhala Marsh Restoration: Hawai'i DLNR will restore 40 acres of degraded estuarine wetlands to benefit four endangered waterbirds. The Recovery Plan for Hawaiian Waterbirds identifies Pouhala Marsh, O'ahu as a core wetland of critical importance for the recovery of the birds. Water bird habitat at Pouhala is threatened by the spread of introduced mangrove trees and other invasive species. Restoration of the wetland habitat, increased boundary fencing, and trapping for introduced predators will also benefit Hawaiian waterbirds, shorebirds, and waterfowl. At 70 acres, Pouhala is the largest remnant of what was once an

extensive system of wetlands in Pearl Harbor.

Partners: HI DLNR, USFWS Pacific Islands Coastal Program, Ducks Unlimited.

Coastal grant request: \$400,000

Partner share: \$221,000

Total cost: \$621,000

Nu'u Coastal Wetland Refuge: Hawai'i DLNR will help to fund the acquisition of the 78-acre Nu'u Makai Wetland Reserve on Maui to preserve and facilitate restoration of the island's best remaining coastal wetland. The Reserve hosts the most significant remaining wetland complex on the southeast shore of Maui and includes over 5,000 feet of coastline. The project area will provide habitat necessary for recovery of three endangered waterbirds, including the Hawaiian coot, Hawaiian stilt, and Hawaiian duck. The Reserve will also provide reintroduction sites for four other listed waterbirds and several plant species. Protection and enhancement of the wetlands will also benefit the adjacent marine near shore environment, a rich fishing area and haul out site for the endangered Hawaiian monk seal.

Partners: HI Division of Forestry and Wildlife, HI Land Conservation Fund, Maui Open Space Preservation Fund, Landowners (bargain sale).

Coastal grant request: \$1,000,000

Partner share: \$1,500,000

Other Federal: \$1,000,000

Total cost: \$3,500,000

The Fish and Wildlife Service awards the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation grants to states through a competitive process. The program is funded under provisions of the 1990 Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act, with money generated from excise taxes on fishing equipment and motorboat and small engine fuels. Including the 2007 grants, the Service has awarded more than \$182 million to states and insular areas since the program began in 1992; when the 2007 projects are complete, they will have protected, restored or enhanced more than 39,000 acres of coastal habitat. A total of more than 235,000 acres will have been protected or restored since the grant program's inception.

For more information, contact the National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203, or Division of Federal Assistance, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 4401 North Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203, or visit the program's home page at <http://www.fws.gov/coastal/CoastalGrants/>.

Source: USFWS News Release dated January 19, 2007

Contact: Ken Foote, (808) 792-9535 or (808) 282-9442

Hawai'i Wildlife Center Progress Report

Contributed by Linda Elliott, HWC President

Progress was made during 2006 toward the establishment of the Hawai'i Wildlife Center (HWC), the state's first ever wildlife recovery and conservation center for salvaging and rehabilitating sick, injured, and orphaned native wildlife, especially threatened and endangered species (see "Hawaii's New Wildlife Center and the Challenge of Oiled Wildlife Rescue," October 2006 *'Elepaio*). Educational programs at the center will include training in wildlife conservation, research procedures, and cultural awareness. The new facility, to be located in Kohala on the Big Island, will include a wildlife care and response unit, a public interpretative courtyard, and an education pavilion. At present, HWC works out of a temporary office space donated by the New Moon Foundation.

HWC was busy and productive during 2006, having given almost two-dozen presentations at community and statewide events, provided a couple dozen media releases and interviews, produced two displays, and distributed over 500 flyers. More than three-dozen people have signed up to volunteer with the project.

Educational work by HWC includes participation in the Kahana No'eau Mentor program for teaching conservation science using GIS/GPS technology, Brown University Leadership programs, Cornell University graduate program, UH Hilo RET teachers program, and the UC Berkeley MARE program.

HWC assisted State and Federal agencies with six wildlife projects in 2006: the endangered Laysan duck relocation program, the Laysan albatross translocation and endangered short-tailed albatross project, the wedge-tailed shearwater chick rescue and raising project, the Taiwanese Laysan albatross rescue, and banding of nēnē at Pu'u Wa'a Wa'a. Additionally, HWC continues to work with DOFAW, the Big Island Country Club, RET teachers and students, and the Waikoloa Community to expand the endangered nēnē flock in West Hawai'i.



For More Information

Contact HWC at (808) 889-5180 or hawaiiwildlifecenter@mac.com. Contributions of any amount are greatly appreciated and may be sent to P.O. Box 551752, Kapa'au, HI 96755.

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An Account of the 2006 Hawai'i Aquatics Conference

Fish for the Future: How Do We Get There?

By Ellyn Tong, Pacific Fisheries Coalition Educational Outreach Coordinator

The Hawai'i Aquatics Conferences are sponsored by the Hawaii Audubon Society at two-year intervals in order to provide a regular forum for managers, fishermen, educators, conservationists, policy makers, and the general public to share information and ideas on how to better manage integrated aquatic systems. The conference was originally inspired by a realization that aquatics research, management, education, and policy planning consist of many individual and generally uncoordinated efforts by people who rarely interact with one another. Past conferences have been held in Kāne'ohe, Wai'anae, and on Maui; each one focused on a different region. The conference asks how aquatics resource management based on traditional Hawaiian moku and ahupua'a (community-based) management approaches can be meshed with western-style management methods to restore and sustainably manage Hawaii's aquatic resources. Gateway Center, a meeting room at the Natural Energy Lab of Hawai'i at Keāhole Point in North Kona served as the meeting place for the November 4-5, 2006 conference, which was attended by about 100 people.

Waterman Danny Akaka Jr. opened the conference with a beautiful pule. The first speaking panel included kūpuna from Kona who talked about traditional use of marine resources and described their knowledge in managing aquatic resources. There were also several presentations that described the actions of the West Hawai'i Fisheries Council (WHFC), and how areas closed to aquarium fish collection, which the WHFC proposed, have improved the abundance of fish in those and surrounding areas. Annette Tagawa described the Ulua Tagging Project, which started in Kona. Species of special concern for the Kona area include parrotfish, aquarium fish, and manta rays. Their status and possible future management strategies were discussed.

The second day's speakers discussed freshwater issues, water quality, seafood toxins, and traditional Native Hawaiian fishing



Species of special concern, such as this juvenile threadfin butterfly fish (caught in the aquarium fish trade), were discussed at the 2006 Hawai'i Aquatics Conference. Photo by Paulo Maurin

practices. John Kaneko gave an interesting presentation on seafood toxins, and William Ailā gave an animated narrative of native practices of catching octopus and talked about the connection between use of and responsibility for marine resources. Charles Birkeland and Brett Schumacher described ta'ape and roi affects on native Hawaiian fish populations. The conference ended with an interactive talk about an 800-foot marina proposed for Honokōhau Bay. David Tarnas, Neil Isaacs, and William Ailā Jr. discussed whether the proposed project would have an impact on fishing resources, adjacent ecosystems, and the community.

The conference was sponsored by Pacific Fisheries Coalition (a project of Hawaii Audubon Society), the Regional Marine Conservation Project, the State Division of Aquatic Resources, University of Hawai'i Sea Grant, and the Hawai'i Fishing and Boating Association.

The conference was filmed by Hawaii Audubon Society and edited at 'Ōlelo Community Television's Pālolo Media Center. An initial series of conference presentations will be aired on 'Ōlelo Community Television during April and May (refer to the following table for details); each presentation is 12-25 minutes long.

Title	Speaker	Date	Time	Channel
"Why is it important for spearfishers to leave some big fish?"	Dr. Charles Birkeland	April 5, 2007, Thursday	4:00 p.m.	52
"Twenty year retrospective study of fish populations at Hōnaunau, South Kona, Hawai'i"	Dr. Bill Walsh	May 3, 2007, Thursday	9:30 p.m.	52
		May 10, 2007, Thursday	9:30 p.m.	52
"West Hawai'i Fisheries Council"	Sara Peck and Glennon Gingo	May 17, 2007, Thursday	9:30 p.m.	52
		May 24, 2007, Thursday	9:30 p.m.	52

Legislative Session 2007

Hawaii Audubon Society has hired member George Massengale as a Legislative Analyst for the 2007 Session. George has been working with Linda Paul and John Harrison to support the Society's positions on bills affecting native wildlife and habitat. His experience as a policy and advocacy director for the Coalition for a Tobacco Free Hawai'i has facilitated his ability to extract matters of concern to the Society from the thousands of bills that are introduced each year, and to provide effective testimony on these matters. In particular, George worked with John on SB 642,

now at SD2, relating to Environmental Impact Statements. On the contentious issue of EIS expiration dates, George stepped up to the plate by suggesting a population baseline trigger drawn from his prior experience working in Alaska on census matters. He has done a great job of supporting the Society's position and networking with Jeff Mikulina of the Sierra Club and others to build a strong environmental awareness. A summary of the session's proceedings will be published following the close of this year's session, which ends on May 3, 2007.

The Hawaiian Monk Seal

Notes from a lecture by Brenda Becker

By Lydi Morgan



A weaned Hawaiian monk seal pup. Photograph Courtesy of NOAA Fisheries, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center taken under Marine Mammal Permit #848-1695. Photo by Brenda Becker.

On February 26, 2007 Brenda Becker spoke to a large and captivated audience at a program meeting sponsored by Hawaii Audubon Society and the UH Biology Department. Brenda, a wildlife biologist with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), has been working with the Hawaiian Monk Seal Research Program for 20 years. She has spent 16 seasons living and working in mostly primitive, remote field conditions in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI) conducting field research on monk seals.

Hawaiian monk seals (*Monachus schauinslandi*), or 'ilio-holoikauaua (translated as "dog running in the rough sea") are pinnipeds (meaning "fin-footed"). The scientific order Pinnipedia consists of three families: true seals (including the Hawaiian monk seal), eared seals, and walrus. The name "monk" refers to the seal's appearance (bald-headed), as well as its largely solitary nature. The Hawaiian monk seal was listed as endangered in 1976; at present, less than 1,300 individuals remain, making this species the most endangered marine mammal in the United States. Two other monk seal species were known to exist: one in the Mediterranean, and the other in the Caribbean, which is believed extinct due to interactions with fishermen (sometimes killed or disturbed by fishermen).

An estimated eighty to ninety percent of the Hawaiian monk seal population exists in the NWHI, where six breeding populations occur. In 2006, twelve pups were born in the Main Hawaiian Islands (MHI). Tragically, one of the two born on O'ahu last year drowned in a lay gill net. The first pup to be born on O'ahu was recorded in 1990.

Hawaiian monk seal adults are 7 to 8 feet in length, and typically weigh between 400 and 600 pounds. Females are slightly larger than males. Sexes can be determined only by observing a seal's underside; females have four teats with a piko in the middle, males have a "penal aperture." Seals can live to be 25 to 30 years old.

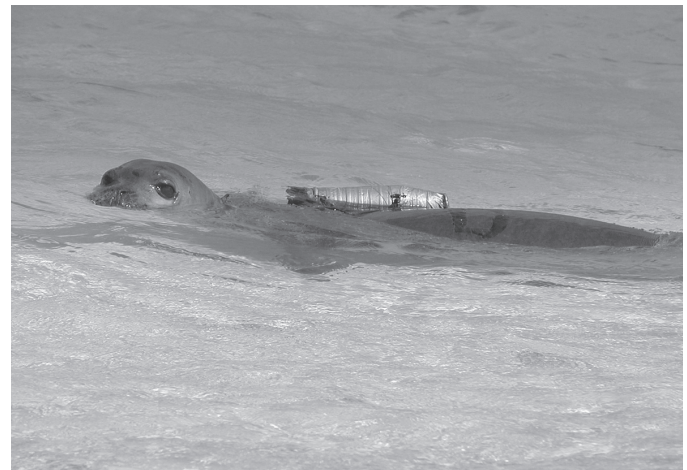
For research purposes, seals are marked with human hair bleach and/or with cattle ear tags attached to their flippers; a red

tag means the seal was born in the MHI. Females first give birth at 5 to 10 years of age. Pups may be born at any time of year but are usually born in the spring and summer. The mother seal fasts for 5 to 6 weeks until her pup is weaned. Hawaiian monk seals sometimes have difficulty telling the pups apart, and moms will sometimes switch pups. The seals undergo a "catastrophic" molt once a year.

Hawaiian monk seals can stay under water for up to twenty minutes and dive to a depth of about 1,600 feet (about 1/3 mile).

Threats to the endangered Hawaiian monk seal include:

- Loss of habitat (destruction or disturbance)
- Starvation (some pups in the NWHI appear to be suffering from starvation, possibly linked to changes in ocean productivity due to changes in currents)
- Humans and dogs (even diseases in feces)
- Fishing hooks, marine debris
- Sharks (their only natural predator)
- Male aggression (Females may suffer massive and sometimes fatal wounds caused by aggressive mating attempts by numerous males. Pups are occasionally drowned by males attempting to mate.)



This three-year old has a Crittercam camera on its back. Photograph Courtesy of NOAA Fisheries, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center taken under Marine Mammal Permit #848-1335. Photo by Brenda Becker.

Research

Brenda and colleagues study the seal's diet by collecting data on scats (feces) and spews (regurgitate) (interestingly, every fish species has a unique ear bone that can be used to determine elements of the seal's diet), and by using time-depth recorders, satellite tags, and the Crittercam (a joint project with National Geographic). Blubber cores are also used (each prey species has a different fatty acid signature that can be derived from the blubber sample). The Hawaiian monk seal diet consists of lizardfish,

continued on page 21



Hawaiian monk seals spend much of their foraging time near the ocean floor. Photograph Courtesy of NOAA Fisheries, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center taken under Marine Mammal Permit #848-1335. Photo by Ray Boland.

hawkfish, flatfish, octopus, squid, crustaceans, razor wrasses, and eels (conger and moray). The level of importance of the lobster in their diet remains unclear.

Audience members at the February program meeting enjoyed a viewing of video footage captured by the Crittercam. The Crittercam program began in 1992. A video camera is attached to a seal's back using epoxy adhesive and records the animal's underwater activities. The program has revealed the surprising discovery that Hawaiian monk seals are bottom feeders, often overturning rocks and coral in search of a meal.

Protecting the Hawaiian Monk Seal

Humans should stay at least 150 feet away from seals. These wild animals should never be fed. Keep your dogs away, and pick up garbage. **Report all Hawaiian monk seal sightings to NMFS at (808) 220-7802 or pifsc.monksealsighting@noaa.gov.**

The National Marine Fisheries Service runs a volunteer program where people can respond to monk seals when they haul out on beaches in the Main Hawaiian Islands, including monitoring any pups during the nursing period. If interested, please contact NMFS at the above listed phone number or email address.

Hawaii Audubon Society would like to thank Brenda for her fascinating presentation, and for her work to protect this special species.

HAS Field Trips

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

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 Kāne'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

Paikō 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.

Monday, April 23

Monday, May 21

Bishop Museum Bird Collections Tour with Pumehana Igeta

9:15 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

Pumehana Igeta, Assistant to the Vertebrate Collections Manager, will lead participants on a 30 minute talk and tour of the Bishop Museum bird skins collection. **THIS TRIP IS LIMITED TO 10 PEOPLE PER VISIT.** You must call the HAS office to reserve your space; leave your name and number. Please be aware that special precautions must be taken in order to protect the collections: no cigarettes or cigarette products are allowed in the skin collection room in order to avoid the introduction of beetles, which are destructive to the skins. Also, participants will be asked to leave all purses and bags outside of the collection room, and to be sure that the soles of visitors shoes be free of obvious mud and debris.

Dr. Wally Johnson to give Kōlea Lecture at WCC

Dr. Oscar W. (Wally) Johnson will be continuing his research on the kōlea or Pacific Golden Plover during March and April. Plans are underway to band and track (with tiny radio transmitters) the spring migration movements of plovers from Samoa and the Hawai'i State Veterans Cemetery in Kāne'ohe.

Sierra Club, O'ahu Group and the Windward Community College will be sponsoring a lecture by kōlea expert Johnson on **Thursday, April 26, 2007 at 7:00 PM** at Windward Community College in Kāne'ohe. The presentation will take place in Hale 'Akoakoa Room 103/105. If the kōlea is one of your favorite

birds, you will want to know what the latest research reveals about the travels of this fascinating creature from its winter range in the Pacific to its breeding grounds in Alaska. You can find out how long kōlea live, where they go when they leave Hawai'i at the end of April, who builds the nest, how many chicks are born, how they get from Hawai'i or other places in the Pacific to Alaska and lots more. Learn how to spot banded kōlea - you might have one in your neighborhood! For more information on this program, contact Annette Kaohelaulii at (808) 235-5431 or go to www.annettesadventures.com/pacificgoldenplover.htm.

Earth Day 2007

HAS Program Meetings

Program Meetings are sponsored by HAS and the UH Biology Department, and 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.

April 16, Monday, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

Thoughts on Sustainability: Past, Present, and Future, with John Harrison

Although ubiquitous in news, commentary, and polemic discourse, the conceptual framework of environmental sustainability seldom is given the courtesy of a rigorous examination. This presentation offers both an historical perspective on issues of societal sustainability and a systematic examination of the particular case of global energy dynamics. Framed through the predictive projections of the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the case for energy sustainability is considered on a global scale, in a time frame extending to 2050. Using arithmetic extrapolations, an argument is advanced for long range, collaborative policy formulation and technological research to address expected energy needs. The presentation concludes with observations of individual choice options for addressing issues of local, regional and global energy sustainability.

The first official "Earth Day" was celebrated in 1970, and the following year an Earth Day Proclamation was signed. The proclamation states that "An international Earth Day each year can provide a special time to draw people together in appreciation of their mutual home, Planet Earth, and bring a global feeling of community through realization of our deepening desire for life, freedom and love, and our mutual dependence on each other." International Earth Day is celebrated each year on the Vernal Equinox, when night and day are equal throughout the Earth. The equinox falls on March 20-21 and is the first day of spring in the Northern Hemisphere. The United States' official Earth Day is celebrated on April 22.

Every day, of course, is Earth Day, but these celebrations give us a special opportunity to consider our impact on the planet and our personal responsibility to care for the environment.

April 14: Step It Up National Day of Climate Action (<http://www.stepitup2007.org/>).

April 20: Earth Day Fairs at UH Mānoa and UH Hilo (<http://hawaii.hawaii.edu/eday/>).

April 21: HAS will host a booth at the Earth Day Celebration at Pearl Harbor, which is open to DOD ID card holders and their guests.

Find events and volunteer opportunities through Mālama Hawai'i (www.malamahawaii.org).

Membership in Hawaii Audubon Society

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Excerpts from the Journal of George C. Munro December 1890 to August 1891

Contributed by Ron Walker

On December 13, 1890, George Campbell Munro arrived in Honolulu after a voyage aboard the steamship *Mariposa* which left Auckland, New Zealand on the 1st of December. He was to assist ornithologist, Henry C. Palmer in collecting birds in Hawai'i under the sponsorship of Lord Walter Rothschild for the museum collection in Tring, England. His small hand-written journal of 314 pages chronicling his ornithological and cultural experiences in Hawai'i was never published. Through the courtesy of the family of Richard C. Towill, the Hawaii Audubon Society was allowed to copy the journal and present it here in a series of excerpts in the *'Elepaio*. We acknowledge the assistance of Marti Steele, Steven Bunting, and Charlotte Walker in transcribing and editing the journal and Dr. Robert Pyle for coordinating the project with the Bishop Museum. Copies of the original journal and typed transcriptions are available at the Bishop Museum archives and the Hawaii Audubon Society office.



George C. Munro.
HAS archives

George C. Munro was born in Clevedon, New Zealand on May 10, 1866. His interest in Hawaiian natural history, especially birds, was fostered on the Island of Kaua'i at Waimea as he assisted H.C. Palmer. In 1891, he visited the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands and studied and collected specimens. In the late 1890s and early 1900s, he was a manager of Makaweli Ranch on Kaua'i, Moloka'i Ranch and the Lana'i Company ranch.

During the period 1935-1937, he started the first comprehensive survey of the birds of Hawai'i and, in 1939, he helped found the "Honolulu Audubon Society" which eventually became the Hawaii Audubon Society. In 1944 he wrote and published "Birds of Hawai'i" based on his studies of the Hawaiian avifauna. He died at age 97 on December 4, 1963 after 73 years of study and contributions to conservation in Hawai'i.

The following is the first in a series of excerpts from the "Journal kept by George C. Munro while studying and collecting natural history specimens in the Sandwich Islands".

Part 1.

December 1, 1890

"Left Auckland in the San Francisco Mail Steamship *Mariposa*. I am accompanying a man named H. Palmer as assistant in collecting & studying the habits of the birds of the Sandwich Islands. We left the Auckland wharf at the half past two P.M. & we had pretty well lost sight of land by dark. A number of Blackbacked Gulls followed us out as far as the Barrier, a Nelly joined them at Tiri but left before the Gulls, three Nellys joined us after passing the Little Barrier but did not follow far. The smaller petrel were among us while coming out & also some of the Procellaria. The wind has been ahead, a bit of breeze but not enough to raise much of a sea. The passengers are a great mixture of all nations, some of them celebrated characters Peter Jackson the colored pugilist, the Rev. Shirley Baker Ex-Premier of Tonga & Maggie Knight the actress being among the number."

"Arrived Honolulu on the 13th saw large gray and white tern with 2 frigate birds at least, also 2 petrel tropic birds on 12th, & the steamer anchoring close in the cargo is taken ashore in surfboats; we sighted a blackfish or a grampus rising & blowing about two miles from shore. Noticed several birds, some large ones white with black backs, one a gannet similar to the New Zealand bird, & another bird with a great spread of wing, black with white head. We have put up in a native house and as he has been painting up for Xmas the smell of fresh paint is very unpleasant to one after being seasick. Had a walk round the place & came across a little lagoon in the middle of the township & on the shore were what appeared in the moonlight to be a pair of curlew & the heron I mentioned before, they were very quiet & I went up within a few yards of them."

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 Hawaii'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 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.



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Calendar of Events

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