



# 'ELEPAIO

Journal of the  
Hawaii Audubon Society

For the Protection of  
Hawaii's Native Wildlife

VOLUME 64, NUMBER 2

MARCH 2004

## State of the Society for 2003 by Wendy Johnson, Past 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 was founded in 1939 as an independent, non-profit membership association with specific aims pertaining to the protection of Hawai'i's native wildlife and habitats through education, research and advocacy. The Society has a membership of approximately 1,500 individuals and operates in accordance with a constitution and by-laws under the supervision of a Board of Directors elected by the members. The Society became a certified chapter of the National Audubon Society in 1978, but continues to function independently in all fiscal, policy and programmatic matters. Several part-time employees and independent contractors provide administrative and professional services for the Society and for specific programs, but many necessary tasks and responsibilities are accomplished through the efforts of dedicated volunteers statewide. The Hawaii Audubon Society publishes the 'Elepaio, a peer reviewed journal, nine times per year, and operates a website at [www.hawaii.audubon.com](http://www.hawaii.audubon.com).

**Education (see also the Pacific Fisheries Coalition report):** A variety of informational posters, publications and curriculum materials promoting the protection of marine resources were created and distributed by the Society's Pacific Fisheries Coalition program. The educational products and presentations target students and the general public as well as fishermen, lawmakers and resource managers.

In a start-up effort to inform the public about the need to eliminate cat predation on Hawai'i's birds, a fact sheet, downloadable web page and other educational materials are being created for distribution by Hawaii Audubon Society in conjunction with the "Cats Indoors" campaign of the American Bird Conservancy. Hawaii Audubon Society members joined with other interested parties to establish a working group for the development of an interpretive center in Kawai Nui Marsh. This on-going, cooperative effort involves all aspects of the proposed project, including site selection and fundraising, along with determination of educational priorities and opportunities.

At the 46th Hawai'i State Science and Engineering Fair, the Society awarded two prizes for outstanding student research relating to Hawai'i's natural history. Tiffany Kutsunai, a seventh-grade student at Kealakehe Intermediate in Kailua-Kona, received the HAS Junior Division award for her project: "Got Shrimp? Got 'Opa'e Ula." The Society's Outstanding Research Award for the Senior Division went to two students from Waipahu High School who did extensive field studies for their project entitled "Determining Available Food Supply for the Hawaiian Stilt at Pouhala Marsh."

'Elepaio, the journal of the Hawaii Audubon Society, regularly provides important information regarding wildlife and

habitat conservation matters in Hawai'i and the tropical Pacific. The Society's office continues to serve as an educational resource and networking point for local, national and international contacts.

**Conservation and Advocacy (see also the Pacific Fisheries coalition report):** The Society's legislative analyst tracked bills and provided testimony on behalf of Hawai'i's native wildlife and habitat, as did several Society volunteers.

Adopt-a-Plover donations were accepted by Hawaii Audubon Society and used to purchase tiny radio transmitters for tracking individual Kolea (Pacific Golden Plover) on their spring migration back to breeding grounds in Alaska. Dr. Wally Johnson, a researcher at Montana State University, and local associates along with Hawaii Audubon Society volunteers, have tagged 55 Kolea over the past three years and important findings were published in the February, 2004 issue of the 'Elepaio.

The Pacific Fisheries Coalition project personnel continued to work to promote the protection of coral reefs, fisheries, and nearshore resources, including tropical fish which are targets of the aquarium trade. Participation in workshops and Task force meetings in Hawai'i and the Pacific was enhanced by the wide variety of informational materials that have been produced in support of these important conservation issues.

The third State Aquatics Conference, sponsored and coordinated by Hawaii Audubon Society, was held on Maui in November. Participants from diverse groups, from fishermen to community leaders and scientists, agreed that good progress was made towards incorporating traditional management approaches and methods into current marine and freshwater management initiatives.

The Society continues to be an active participant in the O'ahu Invasive Species Committee and similar activities on Maui and Hawai'i islands. This voluntary partnership of government agencies and non-profit groups and individuals is committed to eliminating the threat which alien invasive species pose to Hawai'i's native ecosystems. Society representatives continued to work with the Kawai Nui Heritage Foundation and Ahahui Malama I ka Lokahi to promote the need for conservation and cultural education programs based at Kawai Nui Marsh. The Society'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.

**Programs and Membership:** Five bi-monthly membership meetings were scheduled by the Society in 2003. These meetings are open at no cost to all Society members and the general public, and include informational presentations on a wide variety of topics. Programs offered in conjunction with membership meetings included the following: O'ahu Invasive Species Com-

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## Reminder: Due Date for Applications for Research Grants in Hawaiian or Pacific Natural History is April 1, 2004

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. 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.com) the HAS office.

## Reminder: Deadline to Apply for UH Undergraduate Scholarship is May 1, 2004

Through a trust set up in memory of Rose Schuster Taylor, Hawaii Audubon Society offers a full tuition scholarship to an undergraduate student in the University of Hawai'i system each 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.com) the HAS office. Completed applications must be received by May 1, 2004.

### 'ELEPAIO

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Managing Editor: Linda Shapin

850 Richards Street, Suite 505  
Honolulu, HI 96813

Tel: (808) 528-1432 Fax: (808) 537-5294

E-mail: hiaudsoc@pixi.com

Website: www.hawaiiudubon.com

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## Field Trips for 2004

All trips with an \* are still in the process of being planned. Details will be provided as the scheduled dates get closer. A donation of \$2 per participant on all field trips is appreciated. Field Trip information is also available on the HAS office answering machine (528-1432) and on our website, <www.hawaiiudubon.com>

**Saturday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 8:30 am Kahuku Dunes shoreline walk with Dr. Phil Bruner.** A half day or all day trip depending on each individuals available time. We will meet at 8:30am at the parking lot of Kahuku Golf Course and hike from there along the shoreline to Turtle Bay Resort. We will take the city bus back to Kahuku at the conclusion of the trip (bring \$2 bus fare). On the hike we will see and talk about seabirds, migratory shorebirds, dune formation, coastal plants and their unique adaptations. We will also observe the conservaion concerns in this environment. People should bring plenty of water, a lunch, sunscreen, hat and binoculars. Copies of Hawaii's Birds by Hawaii Audubon Society and Hawaiian Coastal Plants by Mark Merlin are suggested to bring along. This hike is in one of the few remaining undeveloped coastal lands on O'ahu. Call the HAS office for starting location and to register - 528-1432.

**Saturdays, April 3<sup>rd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>, both 7:30am Shorebird Farewell at Paiko Lagoon.** A chance to bid our shorebirds (Pacific Golden Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Sanderling, etc.) goodbye, as they will be leaving for Alaska shortly. Wear old tennis shoes or reefwalkers, and bring sunscreen, water, and lunch. We will meet at Paiko Lagoon. Call Alice to register, 538-3255.

**Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 10:30am Ka'ena Point hike.** See Laysan Albatross chicks and other seabirds, lots of wild beauty, and Native coastal plants. Wear shoes appropriate for hiking and bring binoculars, sunscreen, lots of water, and lunch. We will meet at the parking lot at the end of the road on the Mokuieia side. Remember not to leave anything valuable in your car or trunk. Call the HAS office to register - 528-1432.

## Remains of a Rainbow touring photo exhibit

On exhibit at Bishop Museum through April 11, 2004, Remains of a Rainbow is a traveling photo exhibit by renowned wildlife photographers David Liittschwager and Susan Middleton. The exhibit features photos of rare and endangered plants and animals of Hawai'i, and is well worth seeing.

## Fifth Annual Kookua at Kailua Beach Clean-Up Day

Organized by Representative David Pendleton, this has become a yearly event. The clean-up will take place on Sunday, April 18 at Kailua Beach from 10:00am until noon.

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# Pacific Fisheries Coalition Annual Report 2003

by Linda Paul, Executive Director of the Pacific Fisheries Coalition (PFC)

The Hawaii Audubon Society received grants from the Homeland Foundation, the Pew Charitable Trusts, the David & Lucile Packard Foundation, and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund to support the collaborative marine conservation education and policy effort begun in 1998. Considerable progress was made on the project's objectives in Hawai'i and the Central and Western Pacific in 2003.

## Marine Reserves in State and Federal Waters in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands

At the federal level PFC members on the NWHI Coral Reef Reserve Advisory Council (RAC) helped complete a draft Reserve Operations Plan and began work towards establishing a NWHI National Marine Sanctuary. PFC members Linda Paul, William Aila, and Rick Gaffney are members of the RAC and Linda and William were elected officers in 2003. A Science Workshop was held in May 2003 to determine research priorities for the NWHI Reserve and future Sanctuary. L Paul was on the Science Workshop Steering Committee. The RAC is currently working on draft goals, management principles and objectives as well as fishing and zoning alternatives for the NWHI. Meanwhile, the proposed rules for a refuge in state waters in the NWHI were redrafted and scheduled to go out for another round of public hearings in 2004. The PFC has been working since 1999 to get state waters in the NWHI set aside as a marine reserve. Upon hearing that the draft rules would still permit fishing around the island of Nehoa, the PFC decided that we needed to try again to get protection for this area established by the legislature and a bill was drafted for introduction in the 2004 legislative session. The PFC is also working on getting the NWHI designated as a World Heritage Site. Our report has been completed and work on the application is proceeding.

## Restoration of Coral Reef Fish Populations in the Main Hawaiian Islands

In 2003 the PFC continued its efforts to get a permanent statewide ban on lay gillnets banned from inshore waters. Lay gillnets have decimated reef fish populations around the main Hawaiian Islands and account for about 50% of the inshore green turtle take. Following the first round of public meetings held by the state in 2002 where a complete ban was not presented as an option, the PFC joined forces with people from Hawai'i Fishing News, the University of Hawai'i and the community to form SHORE (Save Hawai'i's Ocean Resources & Environment). Ellyn created a bus poster and articles were published in the Honolulu Advertiser, the Honolulu Weekly, Hawai'i Fishing News and 'Elepaio. A meeting with the Chair of DLNR resulted in a second round of public meetings in 2003 and early 2004 with a complete ban added as an alternative. The PFC placed a half page ad in the paper to advertise these meetings and educate the public on the destructiveness of this fishing method. A lay gillnet rule must now be drafted and public hearings held. We are working on a PSA to educate the public in preparation for the hearings.

Since 1999 the Hawaii Audubon Society has sponsored state aquatics conferences every two years in Kane'ohe, in Wai'anae in 2001, and on Maui in 2003, which have been made possible with grants from the Hawai'i Community Foundation. Each time the goal of the conference has been to continue exploring how aquatics resource management based on the traditional Hawaiian management approaches can be meshed with western-style management methods to restore and sustainably manage Hawai'i's aquatic resources. It has been conclusively demonstrated that effective implementation of traditional fishing practices can maintain the same breeding stock as fully protected marine reserves. At the 2003 Aquatics Conference Dr. Angel Alcala spoke about how communities in the Philippines had restored local fish populations by setting up marine reserves in their areas. Conference participants concluded that the best way to mesh traditional Hawaiian and western management methods is through a community-based marine co-management program. Following the conference we took Dr. Alcala on a speaking tour to the islands of Hawai'i, Kaua'i, and O'ahu. A bill will be introduced in the 2004 legislature that sets up a framework of support for communities that are ready to take active stewardship roles in the management of their coastal areas.

We continued to distribute the PFC booklet "The Importance of Refuges for Reef Fish Replenishment in Hawai'i" to communities in Hawai'i and around the Pacific. We video taped two sessions on marine reserves with Dr. Callum Roberts for broadcasting on 'Olelo community television, and video taped Dr. Joeli Veitayaki and others on their work with the locally managed marine areas in Fiji. The video tapes, along with other footage, is being compiled in a marine reserve network educational video. Other educational efforts included producing a marine reserves bus poster, a four-color marine reserves poster, a revised Fun Fish Facts kids' brochure and a comprehensive briefing booklet on marine reserves, lay gillnets, the aquarium trade, etc. to distribute to the media as well as the legislature. PFC articles on fish replenishment areas were published in the Honolulu Weekly and Hawai'i Fishing News.

Ellyn Tong, PFC Outreach Coordinator, gave presentations on the status of coral reef management policy development in Hawai'i at the U.S. Coral Reef Task Force (USCRTF) in Washington, D. C. in February 2003 and in Saipan and Guam in October 2003, where she also gave some presentations at schools and distributed our educational materials. L Paul served on the 2003 USCRTF Hawai'i Coral Reef Fisheries Management Workshop planning committee and is a member of the Seafood WATCH Hawai'i Working Group. In November 2003 we published the proceedings of the 2001 AFS Symposium, the Status of Hawai'i's Coastal Fisheries in the New Millennium and distributed them at the USCRTF Workshop.

## The Aquarium Trade

Large numbers of marine aquarium fish and invertebrates are exported from Hawai'i to collectors on the U.S. mainland and in

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Europe. Exporters report about 430,000 reef fish leave Hawai'i for the aquarium trade, but field biologists estimate that this is only 20% of what is actually being harvested and exported. PFC staff, at DAR request, drafted inspection rules that will set up a monitoring program at the Kailua-Kona and Honolulu airports to determine actual exports.

In order to implement the rules, however, additional statutory authority is needed and a bill has been drafted that will be introduced in the 2004 legislative session. To help this effort the PFC worked to get seahorses listed on Appendix II of CITES at the last conference of the parties in November 2002. As a result of the listing of all 32 seahorse species, the U.S. and Hawai'i, which exports seahorses, will now have to implement an aquarium trade export certification and monitoring program.

To sensitize home aquarium enthusiasts regarding the damage their hobby is doing to marine ecosystems in Hawai'i, we are working on a consumer awareness campaign. A PFC white paper on the aquarium trade is posted on our website and is included in the PFC media briefing book, an article was published in 'Elepaio, fact sheets in English, French and Spanish were distributed to CITES delegates at COP12 support the listing in Appendix II of aquarium trade species (seahorses), presentations on the aquarium trade were given at the Third State Aquatics Conference, a comprehensive, color illustrated PFC report on the Marine Aquarium Trade in the Western Hemisphere and the Indo-Pacific Region has been published, our aquarium trade video is nearing completion, and our aquarium trade awareness poster will be mailed all over the United States.

#### Intentional and Unintentional Introductions of Non-native Aquatic Species in Hawai'i

The PFC has been working since 1998 to prevent intentional and unintentional introductions of invasive alien aquatic species into Hawai'i. L. Paul is a member of the Alien Aquatic Organism Task Force on Unintentional Introductions, which completed the ballast water draft rules and is now working on the hull fouling rules. The Task Force is an outgrowth of 1999 legislation that PFC members helped to get passed. In 2003 we focused on intentional introductions. Kim Moffie, as a member of the state's Alien Aquatic Nuisance Steering Committee, drafted the legal section of the Hawai'i Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan. In addition alien aquatic species resolutions (HR 123, SR 115) passed both the House and Senate that requested DOA and DLNR to develop a joint procedure whereby no potentially invasive alien aquatic species can be imported into the State without approval of both departments. Their reports are due in 2004. Educational efforts include presentations at the Third State Aquatics Conference in 2003 and a PFC report on the alien aquatic species problem in Hawai'i, which can be found on our website, pacfish.org.

#### Other Fish Conservation Activities

The Preparatory Committee met in Fiji and the Cook Islands in 2003 and continued to work towards the implementation of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Convention, which will come into force in 2004. L. Paul is on the U.S. delegation participating in these meetings. Before each meeting, in a non-

transparent process, the draft rules have been amended by the Interim Secretariat in a way that would make NGO participation in the deliberations of the future Commission and its subsidiary bodies difficult if not impossible, despite the transparency provisions of Article 21 of the Convention. Each time we have been able to get the Committee to modify the changes, which then pop up again in their old form at the next meeting. By Fall of 2003 this problem appeared to have been resolved; however, other conservation issues that are only beginning to be addressed include overcapacity, IUU fishing and bycatch.

PFC members continue to monitor the Western Pacific Regional Fisheries Management Council and its committees. L. Paul, as a member of the national Marine Fish Conservation Network (MFCN) Advisory Board, also worked on preventing the Sustainable Fisheries Act from being gutted from the Magnuson-Stevens Act and the implementation of some of the Pew Commission recommendations. L. Paul and K. Moffie attended the Regional Marine Conservation Advocacy meeting in April 2003 in Washington D.C. and gave a status report on pelagic fishing in the Central and Western Pacific. PFC members attended the MFCN annual meetings in DC in June 2003 and visited members of Congress.

## Black-footed Albatross Sightings



photo by Ptom Captis

Two Black-footed Albatrosses have been sighted on about 5 occasions at Ka'ena Point in the last 5 weeks. This is an unusual sighting, as they are usually seen offshore, if at all, in the Main Hawaiian Islands. They breed mainly in the North-western Hawaiian Islands beginning in November, and are less common than the Laysan Albatross.

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## Massive Albatross Nest Count Completed at Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge *Results may aid understanding of albatross population trends*

A team of 21 volunteers worked throughout the holidays to complete a massive undertaking – a physical count of nearly half a million nesting pairs of Laysan and Black-footed Albatrosses at Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge. The total number of active Laysan Albatross nests counted was 441,178, and the total for the Black-footed Albatross was 20,393.

The complete, direct nest count of Midway's Laysan Albatrosses is only the fourth such effort in the past eight years, with previous efforts undertaken in 1996, 2000, and 2001. The results of the 2003 count reflect a 53.9 percent increase in nesting effort since 2001. Black-footed Albatrosses, a species of particular concern, also were counted in 1991 and annually from 1994-2001. Numbers of nesting pairs of this species have not changed significantly during this period; their nesting effort since 2001 is up by only 7.2 percent.

Beginning on December 14, 2003, teams of four or five people each worked their way through assigned plots on all three islands armed with a mechanical counter and a can of spray paint to mark each counted nest. Dodging the underground burrows of other seabirds and struggling through alien vegetation, the volunteers worked at least 10-hour days and completed their task a full week earlier than expected.

Since the male and female albatrosses take turns incubating their eggs, all active nests are counted and the census is stated in terms of the number of breeding pairs. Nonbreeding individual birds are much more difficult to count and are not included, so actual albatross numbers on Midway are far higher than reported.

According to biologists, these counts provide only one piece of the puzzle for assessing long-term population trends. Albatrosses are long-lived species (up to more than 50 years) that produce an average of only one egg every two years. Sexual maturity typically occurs at 8-10 years of age, therefore this year's high breeding effort could reflect a Laysan Albatross "baby boom" from the early to mid 1990s, enhanced by habitat improvements at Midway, favorable oceanographic conditions, or other environmental factors. The high numbers of Laysan Albatross nests in 2003 also may reflect a much higher number of experienced breeders returning to Midway than in 2001.

"The results of the 2003 albatross count, when compared with the results of previous counts, suggest a complex and mysterious biological story," said Beth Flint, wildlife biologist with the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Honolulu. "We are pleased to see strong increases in numbers of nesting pairs of Laysan Albatrosses this year because overall declines had been observed over the last ten years or so."

Biologists caution that breeding can vary from year to year for a variety of reasons. "We just don't know enough yet about albatross population dynamics to conclude that their total numbers are increasing," explained Flint. "It could be that numbers have been down in recent years because of climate conditions, lack of available food, human impacts, or any number of other reasons." Another unanswered question is why Laysan Albatrosses had a greater increase in nesting effort this year than Black-footed Albatrosses.

"Mortality of albatrosses from collision with buildings, antennae, and other structures has declined since the Navy's

extensive clean-up and restoration efforts at Midway," said Tim Bodeen, Midway Atoll Refuge Manager. "Midway became an 'overlay' refuge in 1988, while still under the primary jurisdiction of the Navy. After the closure of Naval Air Facility Midway Island in 1993, many changes occurred to reduce albatross mortality and create habitat for seabirds, monk seals, sea turtles, and other native species." Since the Service assumed management of Midway, most arrivals and departures of aircraft take place at night, further reducing albatross mortality.

Albatross census information from other sites in the neighboring Hawaiian Islands National Wildlife Refuge will provide important context for analyzing the factors that may have played an important role in the increases. Those counts should be available within the next few weeks.

The 2003 count was carried out by a varied group of volunteers who hailed from California, Fiji, Hawai'i, Oregon, and Tennessee. The volunteers included people with diverse backgrounds and professions, including among others an architecture student, a retired banker, fruit farmers, professional bird rehabilitators, a university accounting instructor, and an executive from an international conservation organization. Chugach McKinley, Inc., the Fish and Wildlife Service's contractor on Midway Atoll, provided significant support for the volunteers.

Midway harbors the largest breeding population of Laysan Albatrosses in the world (approximately 75% of the global population), and about 35% of the world's population of Black-footed Albatrosses. Black-footed Albatrosses breed in Hawai'i and on islands off Japan. The core breeding range of this species occurs in the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, where more than 95% of the world population nests.

The Laysan Albatross, the most abundant North Pacific albatross, also has the core of its breeding range in the NWHI. Small colonies also occur in Japan, and two colonies were discovered in the mid 1980s in the Revillagigedo Islands off the Pacific coast of Mexico.

Black-footed Albatrosses currently breed at 12 sites and are estimated to have a world population of about 57,000 breeding pairs. Since 1998, at least 75 percent of the world's breeding population is counted each year by the Service in the NWHI. The remaining 25% of the population is counted less frequently, but all sites except one have been surveyed at least once since 1991. At Midway, Laysan Island, and French Frigate Shoals, the three sites where the Service conducts annual complete counts of nesting pairs, a 9.8 percent decline in the breeding population was recorded between 1996 and 2001.

Laysan Albatrosses currently breed at 16 sites, and have an estimated breeding population of about 590,000 pairs. The Service conducts complete counts of this species at Midway when possible, and counts of sample densities of nesting birds are taken at French Frigate Shoals and Laysan Island every year. Between 1992 and 2002, the number of breeding pairs at all three sites combined has declined at an average of 3.2 percent per year. This rate represented a cumulative decline in annual breeding attempts of 32 percent over a ten-year period.

Source: US Fish and Wildlife Service News Release dated 1/8/2004  
Contact: Barbara Masfield, 808-792-9531.

mittee representative Mike Leech, with a slide presentation depicting current threats—from Miconia to Coqui frogs—to the survival of Hawai'i's native ecosystems; Michael Furuya, a local nature artist who paints scenes of native plants and birds, showed samples of his work and discussed the relationship between art and nature; technical information and tips for successful Wild Bird Rehabilitation techniques were presented by Dr. Mark Caspers of the Feather and Fur animal clinic on O'ahu; Diana King of Waimea Valley Audubon Center gave us insights on the cultural and natural resources of Waimea Valley and National Audubon's plans for preservation and education there; and a presentation entitled "A Survey of Oahu's Free-Living Parrots" by Nick Kalodimos who is a graduate student at the University of Hawai'i.

**Field Excursions and Service Activities:** Field excursions in 2003 included several new destinations and many sites which have proved to be annual favorites for members and visitors. Groups guided by Society volunteers visited the following sites: 'Aiea Loop Trail to search for 'apapane, 'amakihī and the elusive O'ahu Creeper; two visits to Paiko Lagoon Wildlife Refuge for reef and mud explorations and viewing opportunities for migratory shorebirds; Seabird Rehabilitation facility at Sea Life Park to view convalescent and non-releasable seabirds including White Tern, Laysan Albatross, Red-Footed Booby, Wedge-tailed Shearwater and Sooty Tern; Lyon Arboretum in Manoa Valley to view native and introduced birds (and plants), including two species of cockatoo; James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge to observe many species of migratory and wetland birds in their natural habitat; Fort Kamehameha at Hickam Air Force Base to view endangered water birds in a unique coastal environment; Waimea Valley birding survey; Ala Moana Beach Park for an evening reef walk. In December, the annual Christmas Bird Counts were held at several locations on O'ahu, Kaua'i, Moloka'i, Maui and the Big Island. Society volunteers served as organizers and team leaders of the event which operates in conjunction with Christmas Bird Counts at thousands of locations in the U.S. and around the world.

**Volunteer Activities:** Hawaii Audubon Society volunteers continued monitoring seabird restoration efforts at Ka'ena Point in conjunction with efforts by the State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources and the National Audubon Society. Rare bird sightings by members and volunteers were registered with the database at Bishop Museum. Volunteers also participated in clean-ups and habitat restoration at several shoreline and wetland sites. Society members were also invited to join field trips and projects at Kawai Nui Marsh sponsored by 'Ahaui Malama I Ka Lokahi, and to participate in native forest restoration with the O'ahu Na Ala Hele Trails and Access program, and to work with the Sierra Club doing alien plant control and outplanting of native species at Manuka Natural Area Reserve on the Big Island. Members represented the Society at conferences and public hearings, and on several steering committees, teams, task forces and workshops, including: the Permit Process Task Force, the 'Alala Recovery Team, the Wetland Restoration and Protection Partnership, the Forest Bird Recovery Team, the Natural Area Reserve Commission, the Marine Fish Conservation Network Advisory Board, Hawai'i's Watchable Wildlife Campaign, Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Reserve Council and CITES.

**Other Society Activities:** The January 2003 Annual Chapter Leaders' Retreat featured strategic planning activities and discussions of conservation issues and the Society's role in promoting the protection of native wildlife and habitats. In June, Hawaii Audubon Society Board members and Chapter Leaders participated in a Facilitative Leadership workshop through the generous support of the Packard Foundation. Jose Moreno, a workshop leader from the Interaction Institute for Social Change in San Francisco, provided a variety of interesting activities and concepts designed to increase the efficiency and productivity of HAS Board operations.

In October, the Society's tenth Annual Awards Dinner was held at the Imin Conference Center adjacent to the University of Hawai'i's East-West Center gardens. Eight educators, volunteers, public figures and corporate leaders were honored for their contributions to environmental education and the protection of Hawai'i's wildlife and habitats. Tracey Goltz, Facilities Manager at Hawai'i Island's Keauhou Bird Conservation Center, presented a unique program with slides depicting captive propagation research and techniques in support of the survival of Hawai'i's endangered native forest birds. Honolulu Mayor Jeremy Harris graciously accepted the Society's President's Award in recognition of his sincere and persistent dedication to environmental issues on O'ahu. Other honorees included: Mike Ord (Charles Dunn Lifetime Achievement Award), Dave Smith (Conservation Award), Dr. Tom Dove (Program Award), Hawaii Metal Recycling (Corporate Conservation Award), O'ahu Invasive species Committee (Government partnership Award), Rick Barboza and Matt Schirman (Environmental Education Award), Gary Sprinkle (Environmental Journalism Award).

**Grants and Scholarships:** the Society's George C. Munro Environmental Law Award included a small grant which was presented to Paul Henan, a second year student at the William S. Richardson School of Law. Charles Chimera received a small grant in support of his research on imperiled Hawaiian dry forests, as did Stephanie Dunbar for her research on *Plantago*, and endangered Hawaiian plant. Both research grant recipients are candidates for Master of Science degrees at University of Hawai'i Manoa. Support from the Society's "Kolea Fund" was provided to Oscar W. Johnson for radiotelemetry investigations on the migratory behavior of the Pacific Golden Plover (*Pluvialis fulva*).

**Publications and Products:** The Society published nine issues of the journal 'Elepaio in 2003. This publication was mailed to all local and Joint members and subscribers and includes peer-reviewed articles on current research in addition to news relating to the conservation and management of natural resources in Hawai'i and the Pacific. The 'Elepaio also includes Society updates and notice of activities of interest to members and the general public. Other educational products produced by the Society include the following: Hawai'i's Birds, a definitive, full color paperback now in its fifth edition; a companion cassette set "Voices of Hawaii's Birds," and current checklist of the Birds of Hawaii; "Hidden Treasures of O'ahu," a map featuring locations and detailed information on sites for exploring nature and ancient Hawaiian culture; "The Edge of Forever" an art-quality limited edition print featuring two endangered Nene. The Society also offers several T-shirt designs, a one-page 2004 calendar featuring a Red-tailed Tropicbird photo by Dr. Tom Dove, and an embroidered patch featuring the 'Elepaio.

# HAS Products and Publications

May be purchased by mail, on our website [www.hawaiiudubon.com](http://www.hawaiiudubon.com) via PayPal, or in person at our office to avoid mailing costs.

Hawai'i's Birds by the Hawaii Audubon Society, 5th edition, 1997. Over 150 color photographs and illustrations. \$12.95 per copy (\$9.95 plus \$3.00 postage and handling).

**ON SALE!** Voices of Hawaii's Birds by Douglas Pratt and the Hawaii Audubon Society, 1995. Two 60 minute tapes of songs of more than 100 species of birds found in Hawai'i. Includes a booklet. \$8.00 (\$5.00 plus \$3.00 postage and handling).

Hawai'i's Rare & Endangered Birds Notecards with artwork by renowned Island artist Patrick Ching. Eight greeting cards with envelopes. \$9.50 per box (7.00 plus 2.50 postage and handling).

Treasures of O'ahu Map A fun and informative self-guided tour of O'ahu including hiking, birding, and ancient cultural sites. \$5.00 (\$4.00 plus \$1.00 postage and handling).

The Edge of Forever The Society's 60th Anniversary Commemorative Poster by Richard Pettit. Now only \$10.00 (\$5.00 plus \$5.00 postage, mailing tube, and handling).

**NEW!** HAS 2004 one-page calendar featuring a lovely Tropicbird photo by T. Dove. \$4.00 (\$3.00 plus \$1.00 postage and handling).

'Elepaio logo patch \$3.75 (\$3.00 plus \$.75 postags and handling).

Checklist of the Birds of Hawai'i—2002 by R.L. Pyle. Lists all taxa naturally occurring in Hawai'i and introduced species that have established viable populations. \$3.50 (\$3.00 plus \$.50 postage and handling).

Checklist of the Birds of the Mariana Islands by James D. Reichel and Philip O. Glass, 1991. Lists all taxa naturally occurring in the Marianas and introduced species that have established viable populations. \$3.00 (\$2.00 plus \$1.00 postage and handling).

Checklist of the Birds of Micronesia by P. Pyle and J. Engbring, 1985. Lists all taxa naturally occurring in Micronesia and introduced species that have established viable populations. \$3.00 (\$2.00 plus \$1.00 postage and handling).

Field Card of the Birds of Hawai'i by R. L. Pyle and R. David, 1996. A pocket-sized field card listing bird taxa found in Hawai'i. \$.50 each. Call for postage price.

Hawaii Audubon Society logo t-shirts in white, natural, Pacific blue, jade, and gray, in sizes from S to XXL. Tank tops in white and grey, S to XL, same price. \$18.00 (\$15.00 plus \$3.00 postage and handling).

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## Calendar of Events

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### Monday, March 15

Board Meeting: Open to all members, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the HAS office. Education and Conservation Committees meet at 5:45 p.m. before Board meetings.

### Saturday, March 27

Field Trip: Kahuku Dunes shoreline walk with Dr. Phil Bruner. *See page 10.*

### Saturdays, April 3 and 17th, both 7:30am

Field Trips: Shorebird Farewell at Paiko Lagoon. *See page 10.*

### Wednesday, April 21, Program Meeting

Complete information will be in the April 'Elepaio, on the office answering machine (528-1432), and on our website ([www.hawaii.audubon.com](http://www.hawaii.audubon.com)) as soon as the speaker is confirmed.

### Sunday, May 16

Field Trip: Ka'ena Point walk to see Laysan Albatross chicks. *See page 10.*

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