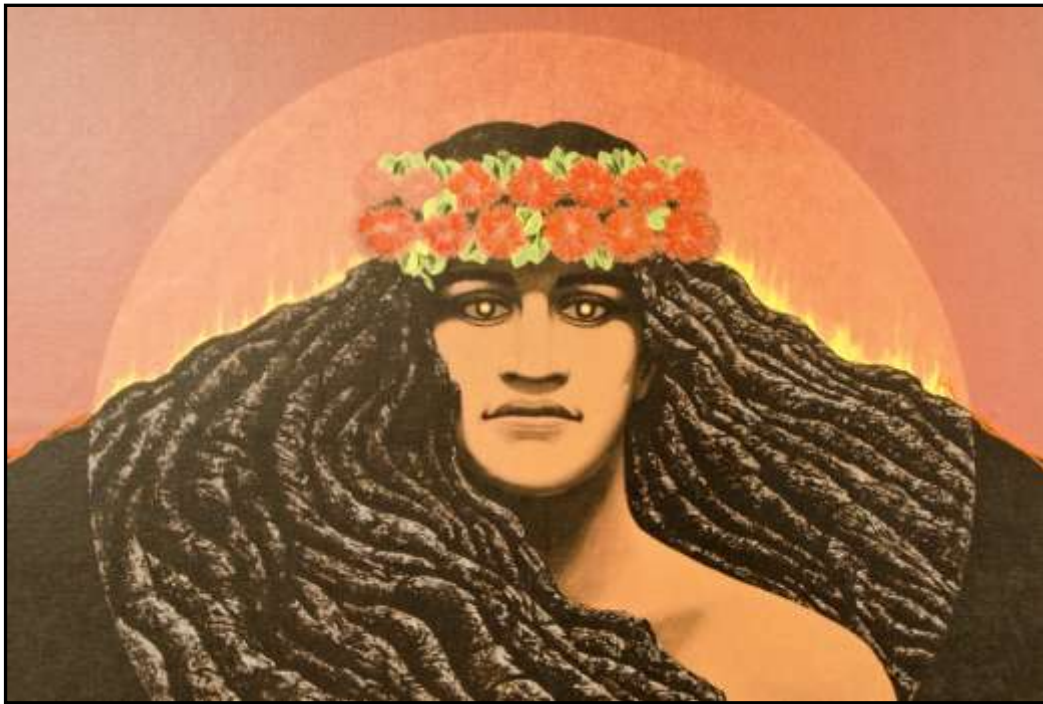


**ORNITHOLIDAYS TOUR TO USA - HAWAII**

*Iiwis, Omaos & Nenes*

**29 April – 13 May 2010**



Pele – Goddess of the Volcano

**Leaders: David Kuhn and Richard Coomber**

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### A Personal Diary

#### Thursday, 29 April

With still another week of UK electioneering ahead, we were probably glad to be heading off to somewhere exotic as the 2010 Ornitholidays' party assembled at Heathrow's Terminal 4 for our American Airlines flight to Los Angeles en route to Hawaii. Our flight left about mid-day and headed northwest over the British Isles to begin our Atlantic crossing out over the Hebrides. During the flight we passed directly over two significant landmarks! The first was David's house in Cumbria and the other was Eyjafjallajokull, the Icelandic volcano that has caused such disruption the air travel in recent weeks. Because of 'proper' cloud cover we actually saw neither!

After 5,448 miles and 10¾ hours flying time we landed at Los Angeles, where immigration went very smoothly, the luggage took an age to appear and the security check before we reached the gate took even longer. Passengers were boarding by the time we reached the gate and before long we were settled in our seats with the prospect of another five hours flying time ahead of us. It seems weird to think that travelling with time we had come halfway round the world in a day!

We reached Honolulu at about 7.30 p.m., and were soon re-united with our luggage. Getting to the hotel was the next challenge as the airport shuttle bus called in at a dozen or more hotels in the Waikiki area before reaching ours. With some body clocks calling for breakfast some of the party opted for a light supper, whilst the rest of the group, perhaps wisely, headed straight to bed!

#### Friday, 30 April

A fine day, becoming overcast after lunch. 80°F

Andrew and David were up and out early seeing a number of species in a nearby park, whilst Common Mynah, Red-vented Bulbul and Spotted Dove were seen from the hotel.

After a continental breakfast at the hotel Andrew kindly took the group birding locally, whilst I headed back to the airport to meet David Kuhn, our local guide and one of Hawaii's top birders, and to collect our two hired minivans. By 11.30 a.m. we were all back at the hotel. The morning's local birding was quite productive and those with Andrew saw several of the introduced passerines and both Spotted and Zebra Doves, both of which proved to be common around Honolulu. The park also produced Pacific Golden Plover, whilst the nearby shore turned up Wandering Tattler, Ruddy Turnstone and had the distance not been so great they might have had a more accurate i.d. for the 'comic' tern fishing offshore. The best bird however was a Snowy Egret, a species from the mainland that could either be classed as a vagrant or perhaps a rare winter visitor.

My trip to the airport went smoothly and by 11.30 a.m. I was introducing David to the group and were en route to lunch at a restaurant in nearby Kiliouou. Afterwards we drove to Kiliouou Valley where we walked along a well-worn footpath up the valley. We were about as alien as much of the vegetation, that included many Strawberry Trees (*Arbutus sp.*) and a background chorus of bulbuls, Red-billed Leiothrix and White-rumped Shamans, the latter's fluty song being particularly attractive. Our targets were none of these, but two Hawaiian endemics, which we eventually saw with varying degrees of success. The Oahu Elepaio is a monarch flycatcher that responded to David's pishing, but sadly not for long. The other was Oahu Amakihi, one of the Hawaiian honeycreepers, that we watched along with Red-billed Leiothrix feeding on the pink flowers of a blossoming tree.

The last birding of the day was around Kapiolani Park, a busy public park. Our target bird here was White Tern, or Fairy Tern as it was called until the Aussies hijacked the name for their Little Tern look-alike. Large trees around the edge of the park are amongst the few places where it nests away from offshore islets. We were indebted to Wally for finding an adult incubating an egg in the fork of a branch high in a roadside tree, and to Andrew for spotting a half grown youngster a few feet away on another branch. Before returning to the minivans we explored further and found a large feeding flock of Common Waxbills in an area of short dry grass and with them was a pair of Nutmeg Mannikins, whilst two male Yellow-fronted Canary preferred longer grass nearby. Amongst the various seedeaters, Common Mynahs, bulbuls and doves we watched two Northern Cardinals looking for scraps by a trash can. No doubt the bird that drew most admiration was a superb Pacific Golden Plover in breeding plumage that fed alongside another in non-breeding plumage. Two Ring-necked Parakeets flew over calling as we returned to the vehicles for the short drive back to the hotel.

Before dinner this evening, at the Outback Steakhouse, we did the checklist on the small patio outside reception.

### **Saturday, 01 May**

Hot and sunny with clouds low over the island's mountains all day. Fresh s.e. breeze. 84° *Vog* (= volcanic fog!) from an active volcano on the Big Island limited visibility, but the planes are still flying out here!

We made an early start soon after 6.15 a.m. to get up to the northern coast of Oahu for breakfast. That was the plan anyway, but unfortunately the various eateries we tried didn't open until 8 a.m. If that was the bad news, the good news was that the upmarket Turtle Bay Resort welcomed us in spite of the fact that we were not dressed in the same style as their resident clients! The buffet was a sumptuous affair and well worth the wait.

Birding began in earnest soon afterwards, when we arrived at Kahuku Dunes area to find Bristle-thighed Curlew feeding on the golf course we had to cross in order to reach the dunes. Beyond the fairway we found several more and had excellent telescope views before they flew round behind us, perhaps also to feed on the golf course itself. Looking inland from the elevated position of the dunes we overlooked James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge, one of the few good wetlands remaining in the islands. Around the margins of the lagoons, and bathing in the lagoons themselves, one could see a dozen or more curlews, which several of us had seen previously on their breeding grounds inland of Nome, Alaska. Around the shores were Hawaiian Stilts, the local endemic race of North America's Black-necked Stilt and the endemic race of Common Moorhen. Out in the pools were Hawaiian Coot, a full species that looks very similar to the American Coot, but with a larger frontal shield. All of these wetland species are endangered partly due to habitat loss and also to predation by introduced predators such as the Lesser Indian Mongoose, that we had seen a few times already this tour. Other birds present included Sanderling, Ruddy Turnstone, Wandering Tattler and perhaps more surprisingly two Ring-billed Gulls.

As we drove further east along the coast the sea became more spectacular. A stop looking across to two islets showed hundreds of Sooty Terns, some of which flew overhead from time to time. Further on another vantage point gave us good views of Red-tailed Tropicbirds, whose tails seem to become almost invisible at any distance.

Back in the Waikiki area we stopped for a late lunch at a café before driving and birding along Tantalus Drive above Honolulu, where we found smart adult Oahu Amakihi and a male White-rumped Shama. The views looking down on Waikiki were splendid from a park-like vantage point. Dinner this evening was at the nearby Red Lobster restaurant.

### **Sunday, 02 May**

Hot and more humid with torrential rain around breakfast time and overcast skies late morning onwards. 84°F

We were up and loaded by 6.15 a.m. and on our way to the airport, and once the rental cars had been dealt with we checked in for our flight to the Big Island of Hawaii. The formalities went smoothly and after breakfast we boarded the flight to the Big Island, but not until after the mother of all tropical downpours had passed.

Our flight to Hilo on the Big Island, as the island Hawai'i is usually called, took us past the islands highest peaks of Mauna Loa (13,677 feet) and Mauna Kea (13,796 feet), domes of the latter's astronomical telescopes being clearly visible above a mid-elevation band of vog. Once we had landed and had dealt with the rental of two Ford 4x4 vehicles we stopped to drop our luggage off at Uncle Billy's Hilo Bay Hotel.

The Hawai'i Volcano National Park, on the lower slopes of Mauna Loa, was our destination for the day's excursion. Once inside the park we made a brief stop at the visitor centre where the first Apapanes were seen. This was to be the commonest of the native endemics we were to see as they flourish wherever blossoming native trees occur on mountain slopes, both here and other islands. The scarlet males showed white undertail coverts that contrasted with black tails as they fly around, which they frequently do. Beyond the visitor centre we visited the rim of the caldera of Kilauea, smoke and gas from which had closed the crater drive, meaning that we would be unable to visit Jaggar Museum today.

We had lunch just outside the park at Volcano Village, where more Apapanes were seen whizzing around and everyone caught up with the Hawaiian Hawk, seen by some of the party earlier in the morning. After lunch we took the Chain of Craters Road down to the south coast, where against the spectacular lava cliffs a regular succession of large waves crashed, throwing spray 75 feet or so to the top of the cliffs. Further to the east we could see smoke and/or steam rising from the lava flow that reaches the sea from the Kapaianaha Lava Shield. Hopefully we should see that from the other side of the flow in a couple of days. The birding highlights were the Black Noddies that breed in caves and recesses along the face of the lava cliff below our vantage point. Similar to the Lesser Noddies of the Seychelles, this Pacific species has a greyer head and tail than its western counterpart and in the case of the Hawaiian race, orange-brown legs and feet.

On the way back from the coast we stopped for a lava experience, wandering around a lava flow, where there were some excellent examples of *pahoehoe* – rope lava and tucked away where there was any accumulation of soil, tufts of grass and ferns clung to a precarious existence.

Back in the core part of the national park we stopped at a viewpoint overlooking the Kilauea Iki Crater, whose flat floor was just grey lava and one or two steaming vents. Birdwise we found a male Hawaiian Amakihi and heard Oamo (Hawaiian Thrush) and also saw Apapane again. By some picnic tables a pair of Kalij Pheasants emerged from the surrounding forest to give splendid views. Our next stop was amongst the lush vegetation that surrounded the Thurston Lava Tube area. Another Amakihi was seen and for a bit of exercise we took the path down into the main depression and walked through the 600 foot long tube and back over the hill from the other side.

After that it was time to return to Hilo, but before we reached the hotel we stopped at the local Safeways for breakfast and lunch supplies for tomorrow. Dinner was taken at the hotel's restaurant this evening.

### **Monday, 03 May**

Overcast at Hilo, but fine and sunny all day on the slopes of Mauna Kea. 70°F

We left the hotel at 5.30 a.m. and before setting off on the day's excursion we stopped at Starbucks for a caffeine fix. From the town we took the Saddle Road that crosses the island between the volcanoes of Mauna Loa and Mauna Kea. Rising from sea level we broke through the belt of clouds into a beautiful crisp and clear morning of superb visibility with excellent views of the mountains. After a while we turned off and drove along the Mauna Kea access road for a while, before turning off the tarmac onto a gravel road that led to Hakalau National Wildlife Refuge, the first NWR to protect an area of forest. It is a vast area covering some 60,000 acres of remnant native forest. The approach road gave us the opportunity to add a number of introduced gallinaceous birds – Ring-necked Pheasant, California Quail, Erckel's Francolin, Chukar and Wild Turkey as well as a number of introduced Eurasian Skylarks. In places whole hillsides were covered with European Gorse – no Dartford Warblers, but Japanese White-eyes instead. There were still a few cows and bulls running on the hill, but the core area, where the best vegetation and birds occurred had been cattle free for 25 years.

Eventually we reached a flat open area, where a party of six Nene (Hawaiian Geese) grazed, as overhead scarlet Apapanes flew around display flighting. Our walk along a track lead into native forest dominated by

Ohia-lehua *Metrosideros collina* with its pin-cushion-like red flowers and the finer leaved Koa *Acacia koa* with shaggy lichen covering its outer branches. If one had a poll to decide the bird of the trip the winner might be the stunning I'iwi, a large honeycreeper with vivid scarlet body, jet black wings and a decurved red bill. We had good views of one at the start and later during the walk, even better views. They were particularly common and noticeable larger than the superficially similar Apapane. Later we were to see the third red honeycreeper – the Akepa – a smaller bird than the other two and a rather more orangey shade of scarlet. After the red birds came the green ones! Hawaiian Amakihi was the commonest, whilst the Hawaiian Creeper (which unusually doesn't have a local name) was less frequently encountered. We had hoped to see the Akiapolaau, with its long curved bill, but it eluded us. David thought he might have had a female, but it flew off in the opposite direction at the crucial moment. Another endemic seen well during the morning walk was the Oamo – Hawaiian Thrush, a species more closely related to the Solitaire branch of the family than the true thrushes. Non-native species seen in the area included a pair of sparring Kalij Pheasants, Red-billed Leiothrix and Northern Cardinal.

Lunch was taken in the shade of an open research shelter and afterwards those that hungered for the Akiapolaau had another walk with David, but this time off the beaten track on an obstacle course that added a couple of fallen trees and some gullies before reaching a gorge that defeated us. As we cut across to the track we had walked this morning David pointed out the song of a Akiapolaau, but unfortunately it stopped and had moved on by the time we reached the area where three or four lofty Koa trees grew.

On joining up with the rest of the group we walked back up the hill to where the vehicles were parked, but this time there was no sign of the Nene party and when we came to drive back down the hill fewer game birds and no Pacific Golden Plover were seen. Perhaps the highlight was a female Ring-necked Pheasant and a brood of chicks that were only a day or two old.

We returned to the hotel earlier than usual, which was appreciated given the early start this morning. Later we went for dinner to a restaurant in Hilo.

### **Tuesday, 04 May**

Often overcast with occasional sunny periods. Low cloud and fog during the afternoon and a fine late afternoon and evening amongst the mountains. 85°F

After an early breakfast at Ken's House of Pancakes (they did many other things as well) we drove the scenic road along the north-eastern side of the island to the spectacular Akaka Falls, a 422' (129 m) high waterfall with a perpendicular drop to the bottom. The only native bird species noted were Apapane and Hawaiian Amakihi.

Next we visited Kalopa State Park, where we enjoyed a walk along a native tree trail. However native birds were at a premium with just the Amakihi being noted. The secretive introduced Hwamei or Melodious Laughing-thrush was in fine voice, but failed to appear from the undergrowth. In the more open area below the car park David found the Hawaiian Hawk's nest he had hoped to show us. It was two-thirds the way up a tree and one of the adults was incubating when we looked through the scope for a better view. About half an hour later the off-duty bird called from the trees immediately above us, just before flying across to the nest with a large leafy branch to add to the rim of the nest. Its mate left the nest and we left the park soon after.

We stopped at Waimae in the north-western part of the Big Island for lunch. We then travelled to the view point at Palolu, overlooking some spectacular cliffs but there were no birds of note there nor on the journey. There was just a dead Sperm Whale on the beach far below and a welcome ice-cream from a store as we returned to Waimae. From here we took the Saddle Road, which passed between the volcanoes of Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa, but the views were non-existent as we soon climbed into clouds. Visibility was down to 10 yards at times on the quite narrow twisting switchback road, which made an interesting drive! There was more to come, for after a while we turned off to Puulaau, climbing a 4WD dirt road on the slopes of Mauna Kea. For the second vehicle, the mist and low cloud became discoloured with the yellow-brown dust thrown up by David's 4x4! After climbing 1,500-2,000 feet we broke through the clouds into a bright sunny world of mountain vistas.

We were after one target bird here and a hard one to see as it feeds on the seed pods of the yellow-flowered Mamane, *Sophora chrysophylla*. There were plenty of Hawaiian Amakihis in the area as well as such introduced species as Japanese White-eye and House Finch. The footprints in the sandy tracks we made by another introduction – the Mouflon, a sheep from Eurasia. After a while I spotted a chunky yellow and white bird flying towards us – a male Palila. One could see how well it matched the colour of the Mamane trees. Later we had another fly over, after Andrew had spotted it perched in the top of another tree near the track.

Time was also flying, so we began our descent. The clouds were retreating and before long we were back on the Saddle Road and heading for Hilo, our hotel and dinner.

### **Wednesday, 05 May**

Sunny periods with light rain at times. 80°F

Following breakfast at the House of Pancakes, David took us to explore the local farmers' market, where the locals were selling their produce that included flowers, honey, fruit and vegetables. It was busy with many local people buying, but few tourists like us looking around. It was a fascinating insight into local colour and some different shots for the photographers in the party.

The main focus of the day's birding was in the Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park where, thanks to a shift in the wind, the road to the Jaggar museum was open again. From there we had excellent views of the smoking crater of Halema'uma'u within the broad Kilauea Caldera. The museum was fascinating and very well done, as these things so often are with the United States national park system. There were few birds, but perhaps one would not have expected to see White-tailed Tropicbirds patrolling the lava cliffs within the caldera itself!

Once aboard the 4x4s we headed up through the native forests on the slopes of Mauna Loa, stopping at the car park at the end of the road. Of course we were looking for Hawaiian endemics and the best way was on foot, so we walked and drove, and walked some more, and drove some more, back down the mountain. The walk started in sunshine, but by the time we called it a day light rain was falling. The first good bird was picked up on call initially and then two, three and at least four Iiwis were seen perched, singing and chasing one another around. David was particularly pleased with this, for although we had seen the species on Mauna Kea, until today it had been thought to have become extinct within Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. Further down the mountain we entered a world of taller trees. Hawaii Amakihi was seen and eventually Hawaii Elepaio was added to the list.

It was still raining when reached the café in Volcano Village, where we had a late lunch before making our way down the mountain to Hilo and Uncle Billy's Hotel. Because of the early start on the last two days we had an earlier return than usual this afternoon to allow time to relax. An excellent dinner was enjoyed at the nearby Pond's Restaurant.

### **Thursday, 06 May**

A fine start on the Big Island, overcast with a fresh wind on Maui until we climbed above the clouds on Haleakala. 80°F

Following an early breakfast at Ken's we drove round to the airport for our flight to Maui, which left at 8.30 a.m. Things became a bit rushed at the end as David and I were delayed by a shortage of staff at the car rental depot. Our flight, which lasted barely half an hour, gave splendid views of Mauna Kea on the way. Luckily most of the rooms were available when we checked in at our beach-side hotel and soon afterwards we began birding at Kanaha Ponds, not far from the airport itself. Hawaiian Coot and Hawaiian Stilts were the most conspicuous species. Cattle Egrets and Black-crowned Night-herons and a hybrid Mallard x Hawaiian Duck were also seen, but a Greater Yellowlegs was only heard.

We then moved on to Kealia National Wildlife Reserve, once the royal fish ponds. The area of 700 acres consisted of a series of shallow ponds and a larger area that presumably holds much more water than today at other times of the year. It was quite windy and we were lucky not to have been in an exposed area when a very large dust devil twisted across an exposed dry area. The most conspicuous birds were the Hawaiian Stilts that seemed to occupy virtually every pond in reasonable numbers. A few other shorebirds were either

late wintering birds or passing through – Sanderling, Ruddy Turnstone and a Wandering Tattler fed around the smaller ponds, whilst there were 15-20 Pacific Golden Plover on the far side of the larger pond, along with 40-50 Hawaiian Coot and even more Hawaiian Stilts. Nearby some ducks were assumed to be hybrids, although some looked more like Hawaiian Ducks than any we had seen previously. A vagrant immature White-faced Ibis and an escaped Chinese Goose were the only other birds of note.

Lunch was taken before we headed to Haleakala National Park, which is topped by Maui's highest volcano of the same name that stands 10,023 feet above sea-level. The road up seemed to be an endless series of hairpins once we left the lowlands. Before we reached the national park we broke through the clouds into clear mountain air. Not far beyond the entry station we stopped at a camp site and walked a nature trail that passed through, in part, native trees and bushes. Once we were in that area we started to see native birds – Apapane, Hawaii Amakihi and I'iwi were by now familiar species, but the brighter yellow Maui Creeper, or Maui Alauahio, was a new one for us and like most of the other Hawaiian creepers it was restless and only provided brief good views on the few occasions it was seen.

Then it was onwards and upwards, climbing higher and higher. Trees gave way to shrubby moorland, where we had excellent views of a pair of Nenes before they wandered up the slope and away from the road. The views of the Chukars were even better and a Ring-necked Pheasant was also seen. Near the summit bare black rock dominated the landscape with just a handful of plants growing in sheltered spots, most spectacular of which was the long silky-leaved Silver Sword. Once at the top the views were breathtaking and it wasn't just the rarefied atmosphere, for we were above clouds. It was like being in an aircraft without the noise and vibrations of the engines and no trolley service. Fantastic!

All too soon it was time to begin our descent of the mountain. The setting sun turned the clouds to gold as we lost height. Our sunset was over in a matter of minutes for we eventually reached the cloud level we were plunged into a brief dusk and then darkness. On the way down the mountain we stopped at Kula Lodge for an excellent dinner. Back at the hotel we made plans for tomorrow, but as it was getting late the checklist was postponed.

### **Friday, 7 May**

Generally fine and sunny above the lowlands. 80°F

There were two target birds on the wet windward slopes of Haleakala that David wanted to show us, but when he realistically described the trail just Andrew and Jardine opted to join the adventure. Some of the party decided they would like a day off and to relax, whilst I took the remainder for a more leisurely exploration of Haleakala National Park.

Over to Andrew for his account of their day:

"At 5.30 a.m. we set out with David Kuhn for the Nature Conservancy's Waikamoi Preserve, first stopping for a quick breakfast at Starbucks and to buy lunch in an adjacent supermarket. On the way up to the car park just inside the Haleakala National Park used for yesterday's short walk, we stopped briefly to watch a Short-eared Owl flying lazily over the fields. At about 7.00 a.m. we met Chuck, a local guide who had a key to the stile-gate over the fence and after brushing our boots to get rid of alien seeds we set off downhill on a wide, twisting track through the plantations of non-native conifers. Chuck told us that the Preserve of about 5,000 acres of native forest was a small part of the East Maui watershed on the windward side of Haleakala which protected the water supply for most of Maui. About half way down we turned on to a much narrower, less obvious path, still mainly under alien trees until at about 7.45 a.m. we reached an open area on the hillside which a skilled helicopter pilot had used to bring in the materials to build the Rose Gardner board-walk through the adjacent native Koa-Ohia woodland. Near the top of the board-walk we spent some time looking for the target Maui Parrotbill (Kikekoa) without success and then we walked slowly down the 162 wired steps scanning the flowering trees on both sides until we reached the small exposed platform at the bottom. Our other major target was the Crested Honeycreeper (Akohekohe) but we saw mainly Apapanes and I'iwis as well as the Maui race of the Hawaii Amakihi and small groups of the Maui Creeper (Alauahio). On the platform buffeted by the cold wind and wetted intermittently by clouds we met three Swedish birders who had already been to the boardwalk with Chuck the day before but had failed to see either the Parrotbill or the Honeycreeper. We then slowly patrolled the steps while David and Chuck concentrated on watching

particular prime areas. At about noon we decided to give up and walk back slowly to the car park which took about an hour and there we ate lunch in the shelter. We got back to the hotel at about 3.00 p.m."

For Ellen, Olive and Padmini a day at leisure was the order of the day, but for the remainder of the group it was back into the field after a later breakfast than usual and following a shopping session for lunch at a food market near the hotel we headed back up to the mountain and into Haleakala National Park again, stopping en route at a roadside café for elevenses – how decadent! We added one new species to the list as we nearly ran over a female Grey Francolin and her brood in the road. They survived the encounter and when we stopped to try and see them properly they had simply disappeared into the grass of the roadside field.

Once in the park we continued to the upper visitor centre, not seeing yesterday's Nenes or Chukars on the way. The views from the top were simply stunning and the more we looked the more we saw of the multi-hued rocks and volcanic ash deposits that lay in the eroded valley below us. Beyond over the lowlands were the clouds and as the day wore on so they started to creep higher and higher up the sides of the mountain and to spill over into the valleys. Plants clung to any earth they could find and the one that drew most attention was the Silver Sword, but unfortunately we were a few months too early to see a flowering specimen. A few months too early might be a few years too early, for the Silver Sword can take up to 50 years to flower and then it dies.

At just over 10,000 feet, only a few feet below the summit, we found a lone Chukar. Was it the highest in the world? Probably, until it was disturbed by some other visitors and flew in a long glide passing the astronomical observatories and way down the slopes and out of sight. It was the only bird we were to see at the top although droppings on the lava sand between rocks in a few places suggested that the signs we saw relating to Hawaiian Petrels, excavating nesting burrows in the sand, were probably well-placed.

On the way down we stopped at the camp site, where we had walked yesterday, but the swirling clouds and mists limited visibility to a certain extent. Birds in the area were not as plentiful as before, but we still saw Apapane and the Amakihi.

Back at the hotel we were reunited for the checklist before dinner, which this evening was a good buffet in the hotel's dining room.

### **Saturday, 08 May**

Sunny periods, but generally overcast. 80°F

Following the hotel's buffet breakfast we were soon at the airport and returning the rental cars, but to our surprise we then discovered when we came to check-in, that boarding had already commenced. We were soon, very soon, on our way to Kauai with about an hour and a bit in transit in Honolulu. That gave time for those without allocated seats on their boarding passes to have new boarding passes issued and one or two others to change their seats to window or aisle ones. The next flight left on time but when we arrived at Kauai our luggage didn't, but it came in on the next flight about 25 minutes later. By that time we had dealt with the new hiring of vehicles and once loaded were soon checking-in to our hotel.

Kauai too has its share of introduced species with Common Myna, Spotted and Zebra Doves being common in urban areas, and along the verges fed tickable Red Junglefowl! Perhaps not their native habitat, but they seemed at home there! Lunch was taken across the road at a beach restaurant, where the portions once again were a bit on the large side.

With the day's formalities over we got down to the real business we came for, as under overcast skies we drove up the islands north-east coast to Kilauea Lighthouse Point National Wildlife Refuge, arriving as the sun broke through. As we parked and began walking out to the lighthouse we had a White-tailed Tropicbird pass overhead, showing its black wing markings as it turned away. The most abundant seabirds were the Red-footed Boobies that were nesting in their hundreds on the slopes opposite our viewpoints. All were white-phase birds, except for one or two brown ones. It was the Red-tailed Tropicbirds that perhaps stole the show as they gave a wonderful aerial performance right in front of us. Another White-tailed was seen from time to time, but rather distantly. Next in on the act was a Wedge-tailed Shearwater in the ground beneath the track-side vegetation. Later Andrew saw others leaving the slopes to return to sea and those sea-watching

through scopes saw others, both light and dark-phase birds passing offshore. Then it was the turn of a Laysan Albatross to become the star as one sailed effortlessly along the cliffs and almost over our heads. From near the lighthouse David pointed out a small breeding group beneath a clump of *Casuarina* trees and there was a large downy youngster with them. Don't worry, our mentor told us, "*We'll see others later*". The only other seabird here was Great Frigatebird and from time to time a female or an immature would sail by effortlessly on long cranked wings.

We spent nearly 90 minutes in the company of the seabirds as they flew by. Sometimes the Red-footed Boobies were carrying with nesting material, or the Red-tailed Tropicbirds were displaying to a prospective partner, with their red tails fluttering behind them. The presence of eight or nine Nene's grazing on the grass beside the lighthouse scarcely attracted attention.

The affluent residential end of the nearby community of Princeville was our final stop of the afternoon. Java Sparrows and Chestnut Mannikins fed on the verges, but instead of goblins and pixies stuck on the lawns of the houses there were albatross chicks! We learned from some of the locals that most gardens along the roads in one particular part of the development had Laysan Albatrosses nesting in the well-manicured gardens. We saw three or four chicks and an adult, whilst beneath a tree in the nearby golf course were three more adults! Surely this must be the ultimate in breeding garden birds. No doubt the pair or two of Nenes we passed also nested in some quiet corner or other.

We returned to the hotel, which was about an hour's drive away and did the checklist on the hotel lawn before crossing to dine at JJ.'s Broiler, where we had lunched.

### **Sunday, 09 May**

Fine and sunny all day, although partially cloudy. 75°F

An early start this morning led to a sit-down breakfast at Kalaheo Lodge, where I'm sure they are not usually quite so busy by 7 a.m. on a Sunday morning. From there we headed up the long ridge road up the western side of Waimea Canyon. Once near the summit we stopped at one of the view points to the sound of Red Junglefowl cocks crowing and after we had enjoyed the spectacular views of the canyon, three males and their females emerged from the surrounding forest onto the verges of the car park.

The road eventually reached the lookout at Pu'u o kila from where we could look down to the north-west coast in one direction and down into the upper reaches of the canyon in the other. When we came to return down the road we had some walks either along the road or along one of the posted side trails. We soon found Kauai Elepaio – an immature and an adult initially and a couple of sightings of others later. Apapanes were very much in evidence, but we could only hear Akekee. Another species we only heard was Melodious Laughing-thrush and the fact that species duetted meant that missing them was a double Hwamei! Later one was seen to fly across the road between the two vehicles and also a Japanese Bush-warbler did the same, also having only been heard previously.

We had lunch at a café about a third the way down the hill, where a small museum was worth a visit. Red Junglefowl seemed to be everywhere, including being on the menu of the café. On returning to the lowlands we visited the flooded sand workings at Kawai'ele Sand Mines Bird Reserve, where Hawaiian Coot and Hawaiian Stilt were amongst the first birds to be seen, followed soon after by our first pure Hawaiian Ducks, a close relative of Mallard that is becoming rarer as a pure species for the native birds are being dominated by the introduced Mallard. There were several adult Black-crowned Night-herons around, but the only migrants were single Pacific Golden Plover, Ruddy Turnstone and an immature Ring-billed Gull. Rowan and Olive were able to catch-up with Japanese Bush Warbler before we left.

Further along the coast to the east we reached Salt Pond Beach, a sand beach busy with families enjoying the weather and the sea, but there was a large area unoccupied by humans. A solitary Hawaiian Monk Seal, another endangered species with an estimated world population of about thousand animals, lay on the beach apparently oblivious of the people nearby.

It was a good end to the day and before we reached the hotel we visited a supermarket to buy supplies for our picnic lunch tomorrow. Dinner this evening was at Café Porfino, an excellent restaurant in the nearby Marriot complex.

### **Monday, 10 May**

A mainly fine day with sunny periods and one or two light rain showers. 82°F

We needed an early start for today's excursion up to the Alakai Plateau area on the north-western side of Waimea Canyon, so a Starbuck's breakfast and coffee was called for. We made good progress up the corkscrew road, passing two Northern Mockingbirds on the way, for being a week day the roads were not as busy as yesterday. As we neared Koke'e State Park we saw a female White-rumped Sharma and a lone Erckel's Francolin at the roadside in addition to the fairly numerous Red Junglefowl. Once we left the tarmac the narrow earthen track presented one of the drivers with a whole new driving experience as we switched to low-range 4x4 for the steeper rocky hills!

On reaching a broad flat area we parked and began a walk that led us into some beautiful native forest where amongst the native shrubs and ferns, introduced ginger plants, and others, were being particularly invasive. There were a few introduced birds with White-rumped Sharma and Melodious Laughing-thrush being heard with just one laughing-thrush being seen as it flew across the road in front of the second 4x4. David pointed out one shrub with a peculiar curved flower - this one of the flowers that the I'iwi feeds on as its curved bill matches the arc of the flower perfectly. The I'iwi is an important pollinator of the species, unlike the introduced Japanese White-eye that destroys the flower to reach the nectar.

It was the native birds that had brought us to this special place. To reach the best area a walk of about a mile and half, of which two thirds was on a poorly maintained boardwalk. The woodland seemed devoid of birds at first, but after a few patient minutes they started to appear – Apapane, Elepaio and I'iwi were old friends, but soon we saw our first Anianiau – a bright yellow male that stayed around the area for much of the time we were waiting for the elusive Akekee to appear. We gave it a good go, but it never appeared and to make matters worse David didn't hear it either. Later he seemed somewhat philosophical when he remarked that he wondered how much longer he would be able to bring people into the area to try and see the declining number of special birds. We did see the Kauai Amakihi – similar to the other amakehis, but with a stouter curved bill. Perhaps two of the three target birds wasn't too bad after all.

Alongside the trail evidence of foraging pigs was very much in evidence. Pigs are one of the reasons for the decline in many of the high elevation endemics nowadays as their foraging and diggings creates puddles at altitudes where such a habitat had previously never occurred. Mosquitoes now breed higher than ever before and bring with them avian malaria that infects the endemic passerines that have no natural immunity.

We had brought lunch with us and round about midday some of the party started to drift back towards the vehicles. The diehards stayed up with David, but apart from those species mentioned earlier nothing new was seen. In early afternoon we all met up again at the 4x4s for the return to the coast. The first good bird was a Short-eared Owl hunting the grassy slopes above the small town of Waimea. Its hovering into the breeze was worthy of any Rough-legged Hawk! As Wally had not been with us yesterday we returned to Salt Pond Beach to see if the Monk Seal was still around. It was and enjoying a much more peaceful day. A small airport nearby produced our first, and only Western Meadowlarks of trip. As we closed in for a better view we spotted a Barn Owl perched on a post – a much more orange looking bird than ours. Further on was another and soon afterwards the two Davids saw a second Short-eared Owl.

It was about 4 p.m. when we reached the hotel, which gave us plenty of time to relax and write up diaries. We had dinner again this evening at JJ's Broiler.

### **Tuesday, 11 May**

Hot and sunny, but with a stiff S.E. breeze during the morning at sea. Overcast late afternoon/early evening. 82°F

We left the hotel at about 6.30 a.m. and headed west out of town until we reached Kalaheo Lodge, where we had eaten last Sunday. It wasn't far to the small harbour at Port Allen, where Mike and his 45 foot catamaran *Na Pali Kai* waited to take us on a pelagic cruise of the south and western side of Kauai. In addition to Mike and his assistant we were joined by four land-based seabird researchers from the US Fish and Wildlife service. For the first hour at sea we saw nothing more than two or three Wedge-tailed Shearwaters and a similar number of White-tailed Tropicbirds, but all that changed as we began heading north-west and ran into a large fishing flock of shearwaters, boobies and terns. For almost an hour or so we stayed in the company of this wonderful gathering as they fished over a large area of ocean. By far the commonest species was Wedge-tailed Shearwaters and amongst them we found several Christmas and a lone Sooty Shearwater as well as the endangered Newell's Shearwaters – all three being additions to our trip list. There were dozens of Red-footed Boobies and from time to time we came across a small party of Brown Boobies. Brown Noddies and Sooty Terns formed the bulk of the terns in the flock with just a single Arctic and a Spectacled or Grey-backed Tern being seen.

When we were not with the flock we encountered passing terns and shearwaters, but we reached an area as we slowly made our way back to towards Port Allen where we saw a number of petrels. A Bulwer's Petrel was the first, followed in the course of the next half an hour by two or three more. A small grey and white *Pterodroma* petrel was too far to be identified by the experts on board, but was part of the *cookelaria* complex, which in layman's terms meant that it was either Cook's, Pycroft's or Masatierra (de Fillippe's) Petrel – it was going away all the time at a distance that prevented the critical i.d. features to be seen. We had a couple of Band-rumped Storm Petrels give good views.

Having left port at 8 a.m., we were ready for lunch when we returned to *terra firma* five hours later, so we returned to Kalaheo Lodge for the last time. By the time we returned to our hotel it was mid-afternoon, so until 6 p.m. there was plenty of time allotted for relaxing and/or packing for the journey home tomorrow.

At 6 p.m. we drove to Wailua State Park, not far beyond the airport, to try and see the Hawaiian Petrels that gather offshore at dusk before they fly inland to their nesting sites on the upper slopes of Kauai's mountains. There were plenty of birds passing – Wedge-tailed Shearwaters and lines of Red-footed Boobies heading back to their colonies. The first Hawaiian Petrel was picked up by Andrew and before long we had all had views of the contrasty light and dark birds that wheeled low over the sea not far beyond the breakers. They frequently rose higher above the waves than the shearwaters and David explained that they climb several hundred feet before heading inland to their nesting grounds. Indeed we saw one, or two, a hundred feet or more above the waves, but they soon dropped back down to sea level – it was too early. We were delighted to see what we thought would have been the tour's last new bird, but after several minutes of petrel watching a skua was seen flying north-west – its bulk and the thicker tips to the central tail feathers showed it to be a Pomarine Jaeger in full plumage. Another good seabird find.

We stayed until about 7.15 p.m., when we returned to the hotel and picked up those who had chosen not to come on the sea-watch. Dinner tonight was again at the excellent Café Porfino and as it was the last night drinks were on Nigel – thanks!

### **Wednesday, 12 May**

Hot and sunny on Kauai and Honolulu.

Not wishing to become addicts we chose not to have breakfast at Starbucks, but instead ate at the Beach Hut – a small eatery between our hotel and the large Marriott complex nearby. We were made most welcome and enjoyed a freshly cooked meal. The ambience was slightly rustic and the view from the upper eating area across to the bay with its palm trees blowing in the breeze was a perfect setting for the end of our Hawaiian holiday.

Unlike other days we had a relatively relaxed morning and a leisurely check-in, although I managed to lose David one last time (or was it the other way round!) as we drove round to the rental car return! The check-in and the security screening went smoothly and our flight to Honolulu departed promptly at 12.05. Our last native bird was *Apapane*, but sadly not a real one for it was the name given to the Hawaiian Airlines' paraffin parrot that flew us to Honolulu. Scarcely were we at cruising altitude than it was time to start our decent again!

There was about a three-and-a-half hour wait at the airport, during which time we transferred to the international terminal by shuttle bus, where those that were travelling business class went off to their lounge and the rest of us had lunch before we were able to find an occupied American Airlines check-in desk that could issue us with our boarding passes. We left Honolulu for Chicago on time at 4 p.m. and headed out over the Pacific for the North American mainland.

### **Thursday, 13 May**

Somewhere in the night yesterday became today, but we were stacked before reaching Chicago O'Hare airport as heavy rain and thunderstorms temporarily closed the airport, delaying us for about half an hour. We were now five hours ahead of Honolulu time and we landed at gate K7 just before 6 a.m. Checking the information monitors showed that our onward connection to Heathrow was due to leave from gate K7 as well. In fact when we did come to leave it was on the very same Boeing 767-300 that had brought us in on the first leg of our journey!

Fears of disruption due to the Icelandic volcano had been allayed and with London being six hours ahead of Chicago our 7hr 15min flight landed at 10.40 p.m. – so that was another day gone! By the time we reached the baggage carousels our bags were off and we were glad to be on the final legs of our journeys home, although some had chosen to overnight at one of the airport hotels before completing the journey tomorrow.

### **Acknowledgments**

Until the other day Hawaii was just a collection of small dots on a map in the middle of the Pacific Ocean, or perhaps a glamorous setting for some T.V. series or movie. It is now more than that, much more, for through the eyes and knowledge of David Kuhn we discovered that there was much more to this collection of tropical islands than palm trees, sandy beaches, surfers and grass skirts. (In fact we didn't see any grass skirts!) Wonderful endemic birds, that have a precarious toe-hold to their existence in a world that has been changed by man and his introductions over the last few centuries. Their names were almost unpronounceable. And then there were all those seabirds! Thanks go to David for sharing his knowledge and patience with a group of Brits on what was a most enjoyable tour. Thanks also to everyone for coming and being such good company and for your help in various ways. Thanks also go to Andrew, for guiding the bird walk on the first day and for writing the text for the walk he and Jardine did on Maui. I know we shared laughs along the way, but it was wonderful sharing the magic of Hawaii with friends. At the moment Nigel is busy in the office working on the Ornitholidays' 2011 programme and I hope we'll meet up again on another tour before too long. There'll be plenty to choose from as usual.

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May 2010

## Itinerary and Weather

- 29 April** Morning flight to Honolulu via Los Angeles arriving in the evening.
- 30 April** Local birding in Waikiki in morning. Afternoon birding in Kiliouou Valley and Kapiolani Park.  
Fine & sunny, overcast for a while in afternoon. 80°F
- 01 May** Morning birding around northern and eastern Oahu, including Kahuku Dunes, James Campbell NWR and Makapu Point areas. Lunch in Waikiki, Afternoon birding along scenic Tantalus Drive.  
Hot & sunny. 84°F
- 02 May** Early morning flight to Big Island. Day excursion to Hawai'i Volcanoes NP.  
Hot on Oahu. Overcast on Big Island. 84°F
- 03 May** Day excursion to Hakalau NWR on slopes of Mauna Kea.  
Cooler, but fine & sunny all day on the mountain. 70°F
- 04 May** Birding and sightseeing in northern part of Big Island visiting Akaka Falls, Kalopa State Park, Palolu and Puulaau (on Mauna Kea)  
Overcast with occasional sunny periods. Low cloud and fog in n.w. lowlands p.m. 85°F
- 05 May** Further visit to Hawai'i Volcanoes NP, including Jaggar Museum area and the slopes of Mauna Loa.  
Sunny periods with light rain at times. 80°F
- 06 May** Early morning flight to Maui. Birding before lunch at Kanaha Ponds and Kealia NWR, after lunch to Haleakala NP, birding in native forest and on drive to summit.  
Fine on Big Island. Overcast with fresh wind on Maui, fine above the clouds. 80°F
- 07 May** Andrew and Jardine to Waikamoi Preserve, others had a day at leisure and others to Haleakala NP.  
Generally fine and sunny above the lowlands. 80°F
- 08 May** Morning flight to Kauai via Honolulu. After lunch to Kilauea Lighthouse Point NWR and Princeville for seabirds.  
Sunny periods, but generally overcast. 80°F
- 09 May** Exploration of Waimea Canyon area in morning. Afternoon to Kawai'ele Sand Mines Bird Reserve and Salt Pond Beach.  
Fine and sunny all day, although partly cloudy. 75°F
- 10 May** Further exploration of Waimea Canyon visiting Alakai area. In afternoon Salt Pond Beach and Hanapepe. Mainly fine day with sunny periods with one or two light showers. 82°F
- 11 May** Pelagic out of Port Allen, Late lunch, Afternoon at leisure. Evening visit to Wailua State Park. Hot and sunny, with stiff s.e. breeze during pelagic. 82°F
- 12 & 13 May** Morning flight to Honolulu. Afternoon flight to Chicago arriving early on morning of 13th. and onward flight to London Heathrow arriving late in evening.

**CHECKLIST OF BIRDS SEEN DURING TOUR**

<b>No of days recorded</b>	<b>Locations</b>	<b>Abundance Scale</b> (max. seen on 1 day)
1 2h means seen on 1 day and heard on 2 other days	O = Oahu B = Big Island (of Hawai'i) M = Maui K = Kauai	1 = 1 - 4 2 = 5 - 9 3 = 10 - 99 4 = 100 - 999 √ = Widespread

*Sequence of birds follows A Field Guide to the Birds of Hawaii and the Tropical Pacific Pratt, Bruner & Berrett (Princeton 1987)*

Names in **UPPER CASE BOLD** are Hawaiian Endemic Species

Names in **Lower Case Bold** are species with Hawaiian Endemic Subspecies

Names in *Italics* are introductions with the year (or approximate year) of the introduction following in brackets.

<b>Species</b>	<b>No of Days Recorded</b>	<b>Locations</b>	<b>Abundance Scale</b>	<b>Scientific Name</b>
Laysan Albatross	1		K 3	<i>Diomedea immutabilis</i>
Wedge-tailed Shearwater	2		K 4	<i>Puffinus pacificus</i>
Sooty Shearwater	1		K 1	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>
Christmas Shearwater	1		K 3	<i>Puffinus nativitatis</i>
<b>NEWELL'S SHEARWATER</b>	1		K 3	<i>Puffinus newelli</i>
Bulwer's Petrel	1		K 1	<i>Bulweria bulwerii</i>
<b>HAWAIIAN PETREL</b>	1		K 3	<i>Pterodroma sandwichensis</i>
Band-rumped Storm Petrel	1		K 1	<i>Oceanodroma castro</i>
White-tailed Tropicbird	5	B	K 3	<i>Phaeton lepturus</i>
Red-tailed Tropicbird	2	O	K 3	<i>Phaeton rubricauda</i>
Brown Booby	1		K 3	<i>Sula leucogaster</i>
Red-footed Booby	3	O	K 4	<i>Sula sula</i>
Great Frigatebird	2	O	K 2	<i>Fregata minor</i>
<i>Cattle Egret (1959)</i>	11	O B M	K 4	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Snowy Egret (Vagrant)	1	O	K 1	<i>Egretta thula</i>
Black-crowned Night-Heron	9	O B M	K 2	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
White-faced Ibis (Vagrant)	1		M 1	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>
<b>HAWAIIAN GOOSE (Nene)</b>	3	B M	K 3	<i>Branta sandvicensis</i>
<i>Mallard (?)</i>	4	B	K 2	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
<b>HAWAIIAN DUCK (Koloa)</b>	1		K 3	<i>Anas wyvilliana</i>
<b>HAWAIIAN HAWK ('Io)</b>	13	B	K 1	<i>Buteo solitarius</i>
<i>Black Francolin (1959)</i>	1	1h B M	K 1	<i>Francolinus francolinus</i>
<i>Grey Francolin (1958)</i>	1		M 1	<i>Francolinus pondicerianus</i>
<i>Erckel's Francolin (1957)</i>	4	B	K 3	<i>Francolinus erckelii</i>
<i>Chukar (1923)</i>	3	B M	K 2	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>
<i>Kalij Pheasant (1962)</i>	3	B	K 1	<i>Lophura leucomelanos</i>
<i>Red Junglefowl (pre 1776)</i>	5		K 4	<i>Gallus gallus</i>
<i>Common (Ring-necked) Pheasant (1865)</i>	6	1h O B M	K 3	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>
<i>Wild Turkey (1815)</i>	2		B 3	<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>
<i>California Quail (1890s)</i>	2		B 3	<i>Callipepla californica</i>
<b>Common Moorhen</b>	3	1h O	K 2	<i>Gallinula chloropus sandvicensis</i>
<b>HAWAIIAN COOT</b>	3	O M	K 3	<i>Fulica alai</i>
Pacific Golden Plover	6	O M	K 3	<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>
<b>Hawaiian Stilt</b>	5	O M	K 4	<i>Himantopus mexicanus knudseni</i>
Wandering Tattler	1		M 1	<i>Heterosceles incanus</i>
Bristle-thighed Curlew	1	O	K 3	<i>Numenius tahitiensis</i>
Ruddy Turnstone	6	O B M	K 2	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
Sanderling	2	O M	K 2	<i>Calidris alba</i>
Pomarine Jaeger (Skua)	1		K 1	<i>Stercorarius pomarinus</i>
Ring-billed Gull	2	O	K 1	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>
Arctic Tern	1		K 1	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>
Gray-backed (Spectacled) Tern	1		K 1	<i>Sterna lunata</i>

Sooty Tern	2	O			K	4	<i>Sterna fuscata</i>
Brown Noddy	1				K	3	<i>Anous stolidus</i>
<b>Black Noddy</b>	1		B			2	<i>Anous minutus melanogenys</i>
Common Fairy (White) Tern	1	O				2	<i>Gygis alba</i>
Rock Dove (Feral Pigeon) (after 1761)	12	O	B	M	K	√	<i>Columba livia</i>
Spotted Dove (c1900)	13	O	B	M	K	√	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>
Zebra Dove (1922)	13	O	B	M	K	√	<i>Geopelia striata</i>
Rose-ringed (Ring-necked ) Parakeet (pre 1867)	5	O			K	3	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>
Barn Owl (1958)	1				K	1	<i>Tyto alba</i>
<b>Short-eared Owl</b>	1				K	1	<i>Asio flammeus sandvicensis</i>
Eurasian Skylark (1865)	5	O	B	M		3	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>
Red-vented Bulbul (c1965)	4	O	B			√	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>
Red-whiskered Bulbul (c1965)	2	O				√	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>
<b>HAWAII ELEPAIO</b>	3		B			1	<i>Chasiempis sandwichensis</i>
<b>OAHU ELEPAIO</b>	1	O				1	<i>Chasiempis gayi</i>
<b>KAUAI ELEPAIO</b>	2				K	2	<i>Chasiempis sclateri</i>
Japanese Bush-Warbler (1929)	1	1h			K	1	<i>Cettia diphone</i>
White-rumped Shama (1931)	4	O			K	1	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>
<b>OMAO (Hawaiian Thrush)</b>	1	1h	B			1	<i>Myadestes obscurus</i>
Melodious Laughing-thrush (Hwamei)(from 1918)	2	1h	B		K	1	<i>Garrulax canorus</i>
Red-billed Leiothrix (Mesia) (from 1918)	4	O	B			2	<i>Leiothrix lutea</i>
Northern Mockingbird (from 1928)	2				K	1	<i>Mimus polyglottos</i>
Common Myna (1865)	13	O	B	M	K	√	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
Japanese White-eye (1929)	13	O	B	M	K	√	<i>Zosterops japonicus</i>
Northern Cardinal (1929)	9	O	B	M	K	√	<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>
Red-crested Cardinal (1930s)	13	O	B	M	K	√	<i>Paroaria coronata</i>
Saffron Finch (1960s)	1		B			1	<i>Sicalis flaveola</i>
Western Meadowlark (1931)	1				K	1	<i>Sturnella neglecta</i>
House Finch (1869))	13	O	B	M	K	√	<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>
Yellow-fronted Canary (1965)	1	O				2	<i>Serinus mozambicus</i>
<b>PALILA</b>	1		B			1	<i>Loxioides bailleui</i>
<b>HAWAII AMAKIHI</b>	6		B	M		3	<i>Hemignathus virens</i>
<b>OAHU AMAKIHI</b>	2	O				1	<i>Hemignathus chloris</i>
<b>KAUAI AMAKIHI</b>	1				K	1	<i>Hemignathus kauaiensis</i>
<b>ANIANIAU (Lesser Amakihi)</b>	1				K	1	<i>Hemignathus parvus</i>
<b>AKIAPOLAAU</b>	-	1h	B			1	<i>Hemignathus munroi</i>
<b>HAWAII CREEPER</b>	1		B			1	<i>Oreomystis mana</i>
<b>MAUI CREEPER (Alauahio)</b>	2			M		3	<i>Paroreomyza montana</i>
<b>AKEPA</b>	1		B			1	<i>Loxops coccineus</i>
<b>AKEKEE (Kauai Akepa)</b>	-	1h			K	1	<i>Loxops caeruleirostris</i>
<b>IWI</b>	5		B	M	K	3	<i>Vestiaria coccinea</i>
<b>APAPANE</b>	8		B	M	K	3	<i>Himatione sanguinea</i>
House Sparrow (1871)	13	O	B	M	K	√	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Common Waxbill (late 1970s)	2	O				4	<i>Estrilda astrild.</i>
Red Avadavat (1900s)	1				K	1	<i>Amandava amandava</i>
Nutmeg Mannikin (1865)	3	O		M	K	2	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>
Chestnut Mannikin (1959)	4			M	K	4	<i>Lonchura malacca</i>
Java Sparrow (c1964)	3	O			K	4	<i>Padda oryzivora</i>

**But we were too late for these that once occurred on the islands we visited**

Species	Scientific Name	Island	Last recorded
Oahu Thrush	Myadestes woahensis	Oahu	1824
Oahu O`o	Moho apicalis	Oahu	1837
Oahu `Akialoa	Hemignathus ellisianus ellisianus	Oahu	1837
Kioea	Chaetoptila angustipluma	Hawai'i	1859
Oahu Nukupu`u	Hemignathus lucidus lucidus	Oahu	1860
Lesser Koa Finch	Rhodacanthis flaviceps	Hawai'i	1891
Ula-ai-hawane	Ciridops anna	Hawai'i	1892
Oahu `Akepa	Loxops coccinea wolstenholmii	Oahu	1893
Kona Grosbeak	Chloridops kona	Hawai'i	1894
Hawaii `Akialoa	Hemignathus obscurus	Hawai'i	1895
Greater Koa Finch	Rhodacanthis palmeri	Hawai'i	1896
Hawai'i Mamo	Drepanis pacifica	Hawai'i	1898
Greater `Amakihi	Hemignathus sagittirostris	Hawai'i	1900
Hawai'i O`o	Moho nobilis	Hawai'i	1934
Kaua'i `Akialoa	Hemignathus ellisianus procerus	Kaua'i	1965
Kaua'i O`o - `O`o `a`a	Moho braccatus	Kauai	1985

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 A Photographic Guide to the Birds of Hawai'i *Denny, Jim* (University of Hawaii 2010)  
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**MAMMALS**

Humpback Whale	1	O		1	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>
Hawaiian Monk Seal	2			K	1 <i>Monachus schauinslandi</i>
Lesser Indian Mongoose	4	O	B	1	<i>Herpestes auro-punctatus</i>

**BUTTERFLIES**

Blackburn's Blue					<i>Udara blackburni</i>
Cabbage White					<i>Pieris rapae</i>
American Lady					<i>Vanessa virginiensis</i>
Monarch					<i>Danaus plexippus</i>

**DRAGONFLIES**

Hawaiian Giant Darner					<i>Anax strenuus</i>
Common Green Darner					<i>Anax junius</i>
Scarlet Skimmer					<i>Crocothemis servilia</i>
Wandering Glider					<i>Pantala flavescens</i>

**OTHER ANIMALS**

Green Anole					<i>Anolis carolinensis</i>
House Gecko					<i>Hemidactylus frenatus</i>
Praying Mantis					

This list represents those birds and other animals as seen by party members of this tour.



Wandering Tattler, Waikiki

© David Moore



Bristle-thighed Curlew, Kahuku

© Richard Coomber



Mokapu Point area, Oahu

© Richard Coomber



Kalij Pheasant, Hawaii Volcano NP

© Richard Coomber



I'iwi, Hakalau NWR

© David Moore



Hawaiian Stilts, Kealia NWR

© Richard Coomber



Hawaiian Elepaio, Mauna Loa

© Richard Coomber



Kauai Amakihi

© Richard Coomber



Nene, Haleakala

© Richard Coomber Haleakala



© Richard Coomber



Silver Sword, Haleakala

© Richard Coomber



Laysan Albatross chick, Kauai

© Richard Coomber



Seabirds (clockwise) Red-tailed Tropicbird, Newell's Shearwater, Red-footed & Brown Boobies. Kauai.



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