

let Tanagers paused at Désirade I., Guadeloupe 26-28 Apr (AL, FD). Single male **Rose-breasted Grosbeaks** visited La Toc, St. Lucia 25 Apr (*fide* MK) and Désirade I., Guadeloupe 15 Apr (AL), and there was a female at the latter locale 26 Apr (AL). Six **Northern Cardinals**, including a female feeding 2 juvs., at Cat Cay 28-29 May (ph. PD) established the first breeding record for the Bahamas, and for the West Indies outside of the Cayman Islands. A Blue Grosbeak was at Grand Lucayan Waterway 13 Apr (BP). Painted Buntings lingered at Treasure Cay until 12 Apr (EB). A Dickcissel photographed at Warwick, Bermuda 14 Apr (JT) provided a rare spring record. A Brown-headed Cowbird was at Princess Isle, Freeport, Grand Bahama 2 Mar (BP). A male Baltimore Oriole was at Petite-Terre N.R.,

Guadeloupe 25-27 May (AL). The recent expansion of **House Sparrows** through the Caribbean has reached Gros Islet, St. Lucia, where several pairs are now breeding (MK).

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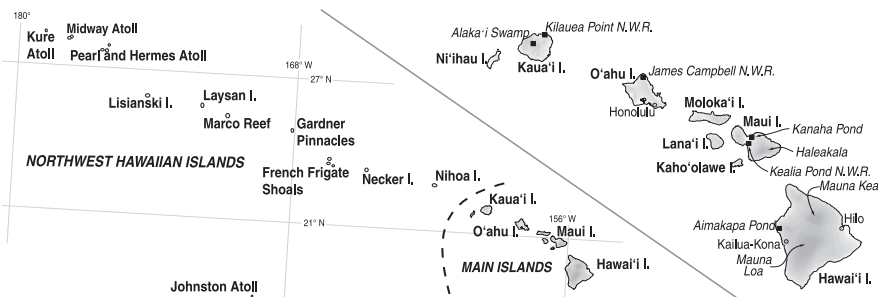
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Hawaiian Islands



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This was an unusually dry season, with record-low rainfall amounts set in many areas. However, there were no obvious negative effects on aquatic birds, partially because many remnant wetlands are managed for wildlife and their water levels can be artificially adjusted. Several rare migrants continued, but only a few rarities were discovered, mainly on pelagic trips.

Abbreviations: Kealia (Kealia Pond N.W.R., Maui I.); Kii (Kii Unit, James Campbell N.W.R., Oahu I.); Ohiapilo (Ohiapilo Pond, Molokai I.).

WATERFOWL THROUGH HAWKS

Reports of Greater White-fronted Geese were one at Kealia 6-7 Mar (MN), 3 at Waiakea Pond, Hawaii I. 29 Mar (RD), and one at Honouliuli Unit, Pearl Harbor N.W.R., Oahu I. 29 Mar (ph. MW). A Snow Goose, very rare in the Region, at Kealia 6-7 Mar (MN, BS) was

the same bird that has been present since 2006. Six Brant continued at Ohiapilo until 23 Mar, then moved to Puuhala, Molokai I. by 1 Apr (ADY). A Cackling Goose was observed at Kii 15 Mar-5 Apr (SM, MS et al.).

Respectable numbers of ducks were reported this season, including a Gadwall at Waiakea Pond, Hawaii I. 29 Mar (RD) and a male Cinnamon Teal at Kauanui, Molokai I. 5 Mar (ADY, RE, PP). Peak counts of puddle ducks included 317 Northern Shovelers at Kealia 3 Apr (MN) and 121 Northern Pintails at Kealia 6 Mar (MN). Seventy-three shovelers tarried at Kealia until 1 May (MN). Few reports were received from pelagic birding trips, but several interesting observations off the w. coast of

Hawaii I. were submitted by cetacean researchers with Cascadia Research Collective (hereafter, CRC). Three Mottled Petrels were off Oahu I. 17 Mar (GA, PD, DL et al.), with singles s. of Kauai I. 10 Apr (DK et al.) and w. of Hawaii I. 24 Apr (ph. CRC). Several Hawaiian Petrels (Endangered) were off w. Hawaii I. 24 Apr-13 May (ph. CRC). Good numbers of Hawaiian Petrels were observed flying inland in the evening at Wailua, Kauai I., with 20 on 30 Apr and 15 there 1 May (MG), while 40 others were found nearby 1 May (DK). A Stejneger's Petrel was seen off w. Hawaii I. 13 May (ph. CRC); little is known of its status in the area. Reports of Bulwer's Petrels included 4 spotted from a boat s. of Kauai 10 Apr (DK et al.), several w. of Hawaii I. 24 Apr-7 May (ph. CRC), and one seen from shore at Wailua, Kauai I. 1 May (MG). Populations of many burrow-nesting seabirds at Midway Atoll N.W.R. were decimated by rats, so it was welcome news that 4 Bulwer's Petrels were regularly observed at a calling station there (JK). The only reports of Newell's Shearwaters (Threatened) were 16 seen from shore at Wailua, Kauai I. 30 Apr and 3 there 1 May (MG). Red-tailed Tropicbirds appeared to be prospecting for nest sites around Kaena Pt.,

SA Quite interesting was the report of a **Hawaiian Goose** (Endangered) in flight over Kaena Pt. 17 Apr (LY), which furnished one of very few reports for Oahu I.; most reports there have been questioned. Hawaiian Geese were thought to be adapted to dry, sparsely vegetated, high-elevation habitat, primarily on Hawaii I. However, a number of captive geese at Kauai I. that escaped during Hurricane *Iniki* during Sep 1992, along with subsequent intentional releases of additional birds, have thrived in lush lowlands. The Kaena Pt. goose flew in from the ocean, then flew back out to sea; it may have been a vagrant from Kauai, about 105 km to the northwest.



Gadfly petrels are notoriously difficult to photograph at sea, so it was great that both the dorsal and ventral sides of this Stejneger's Petrel were recorded off the Kona coast of the Big Island of Hawaii 14 May 2008. The dorsal view shows the dark "M" pattern and dark crown that contrast with the paler gray on the rest of the upperparts, while the ventral view shows the prominent dark half-collar extending well down onto the underside. Photographs by Daniel Webster/Cascadia Research Collective.



Bulwer's Petrels breed around the Main Hawaiian Islands, but good photographs of the species are rare. The light winds and calm winds prevailing off the Kona coast of the Big Island of Hawaii make it a bit easier to get images like this one, taken 3 May 2008. Photograph by Daniel Webster/Cascadia Research Collective.



This photograph, taken 6 May 2008 off the Kona coast of the Big Island of Hawaii, nicely shows the forked tail and white rump with dark center of this Leach's Storm-Petrel. Leach's is regular in Hawaiian waters, assumedly as migrants, but the possibility of local breeding cannot be ruled out. Photograph by Daniel Webster/Cascadia Research Collective.

Oahu I. (RF, LY), where breeding is not known to occur. Single White-faced Ibis were at Kealia all season (MN) and Kii 24 Mar–5 Apr (MS, GS, SM); the species is becoming regular in the Region. Reports of rare raptors were a Northern Harrier at Ohiapilo 14 Mar (ADY) and a Peregrine Falcon at Kii 15 May (MW).

SHOREBIRDS THROUGH HONEY-CREEPERS

Good numbers of Pacific Golden-Plovers were 230 at Kii 18 Apr (SM) and 53 at Kualapuu Res., Molokai I. 22 Apr (ADY); few birds remained after 1 May. Nineteen Bristle-thighed Curlews at Kahuku, Oahu I. 3 May had dwindled to one by 19 May (PD). Rarer shorebirds included a Red Knot at Ohiapilo, Molokai I. until 15 Apr (ADY), a Curlew Sandpiper at Kahuku, Oahu I. until 21 Apr (MW), and a Whimbrel at Kaunakakai, Molokai I. until 4 May in (ADY). Five Laughing Gulls, an unusually high number for the

Region, were at Kealia 6 Mar (MN), and one or 2 others were seen at each of several locations, with the latest report of one at Palaaui, Molokai I. 23 May (ADY). A Franklin's and 2 Ring-billed Gulls were spotted at Kealia 6 Mar–1 May (MN), and another Ring-billed was at Sand I., Honolulu, Oahu I. 4 Apr (RJ). Single Arctic Terns were observed off w. Hawaii I. 20 & 27 Apr (ph. CRC). A Least/Little Tern was found at Moanalua Bay, Oahu I. 3 May (ph. DM) but specific identification could not be determined. Single Gray-backed Terns, rarely observed breeders in the Region, were s. of Oahu I. 17 Mar (GA, PD, DL et al.) and onshore at e. Oahu 7 May (MW). White Terns are locally common around Oahu I. but are seldom reported around the other main islands, so one off w. Hawaii I. 26 Apr, and 2 there 13 May (ph. CRC), were notable. The only Pomarine Jaeger reported was at Wailua Bay, Kauai I. 1 May (MG).



Sooty Shearwaters are frequently reported in Hawaiian waters, but it is often unclear if the birds are Sooty or Short-tailed Shearwaters. This photograph taken 19 April 2008 off the Kona coast of the Big Island of Hawaii clearly shows the long bill, sloping forehead, and distinct pale underwings characteristic of Sooty. Photograph by Daniel Webster/Cascadia Research Collective.



This photograph of a Sooty Shearwater was taken off the Kona coast of the Big Island of Hawaii 24 April 2008. Photograph by Robin Baird/Cascadia Research Collective.



This Red Phalarope photographed 6 May off the Kona coast of the Big Island of Hawaii showed only a few traces of the red plumage that makes the adults so distinctive. Photograph by Dan McSweeney/Cascadia Research Collective.

Rose-ringed Parakeets seem to be expanding their range at Kauai I., with 50 at Puakea G.C. 13 May (RD) and others established in the Lihue area (DK). A Mariana Swiftlet (Endangered) at Punaluu, ne. Oahu I. 2 Apr (DK) provided a very rare sighting away from its



This image shows one of three Arctic Terns observed off the Kona Coast of the Big Island 27 April 2008. Arctics are probably regular spring and fall migrants in Hawaiian waters, but they are rarely observed. *Photograph by Daniel Webster/Cascadia Research Collective.*



This photograph documents the rare occurrence of a White Tern off the Kona coast of the Big Island 13 May 2008. The only nesting records in the Main Hawaiian Islands are from Oahu Island, about 250 kilometers from Kona. *Photograph by Daniel Webster/Cascadia Research Collective.*



The Oahu Elepaio is an endangered subspecies of Elepaio found only on Oahu Island. This juvenile was one of two observed with their parents along busy Aiea Trail 24 April 2008. *Photograph by Michael Walther.*

breeding colony in s.-cen. Oahu. There were three reports on Oahu of Oahu Elepaio (Endangered): one at Kuliouou Trail 3 Mar (MW), 4 (2 ads. and 2 juvs.) at Aiea Trail 24 Apr (ph. MW), and one ad. and one subad. there 27 May (PD). Limited access to Waikamoi Preserve, Maui I. was reopened, allowing the observation of 2 Maui Parrotbills 7 & 27 Apr (DK). Tour groups were able to find Palila (Endangered) regularly in the heart of their range at Puu Laau Hawaii I. all season (HFT), but surveys have shown a decrease in the population over the past five years (PB). There were several reports of very small num-

bers of Akiapolaau (Endangered) in e. Hawaii I. all season (HFT, BR). Hawaii Creepers (Endangered) and Akepa (Endangered) were also reported regularly in e. Hawaii I., mostly at Hakalau N.W.R. (HFT, BR).

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