

# Hawai'i: Island Endemics and Volcanic Lands

# February 28<sup>th</sup> – March 8<sup>th</sup> 2025

## **TOUR LEADER: Doug Whitman**

Report and photos by Doug Whitman



An l'iwi dangles upside down in the high elevation forests of Big Island

## Summary

The Hawaiian Islands are the most isolated archipelago in the world, and the flora and fauna show it—a rugged land of lava, mist, wind, and even snow--where a handful of wayward finches (and geese, solitaires, and monarch flycatchers!) underwent one of the world's greatest adaptive radiations and filled niches typically occupied by other birds--or even mammals and reptiles. Unfortunately, Hawaii is also the extinction capital of the world—nearly 50 endemic bird species have gone extinct since first European contact, and that isn't including the bird extinctions from first human contact, or the vast numbers of extinct plants and tree snails. Even today many Hawaiian species are on the very brink.

With that said, the remaining flora and fauna of Hawaii, and the monumental efforts of scientists and local people to protect what's left, are well worth a visit. On our tour this year we managed to find all the endemic species possible for the 3 islands visited, missing only a few inaccessible Kauai endemics. Highlights included watching a family of the endemic and rapidly declining **Anianiau** forage at close range, and a special encounter with a couple of singing **Palila** high on Mauna Kea--a tragically and rapidly declining keystone species of the Mamane-Naio dry forests. No trip to Hawaii is complete without visiting the magical old growth ohi'a koa forests of Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge, and we enjoyed both the otherworldly soundscape and particularly the extended counters with brightly colored **I'iwi** and **Hawaii Akepa**. The trip was capped off with a spectacular eruption of Kilauea, shaking the ground and launching lava fountains 600 feet into the air, and a beautiful morning off the Kona coast searching for seabirds.

Unfortunately, no matter how good the birding was, there was an undertone of sadness. Just as the tour was about to commence, a long-time client and friend of many of us here at Tropical Birding suffered a sudden medical emergency. They were rushed to the hospital, but despite the best efforts of the medical team in Honolulu, passed a couple of days later. This was an enormous loss for everyone who knew them, the birding community, and the world.

# Trip Report

#### Oahu

Day 1

Everyone arrived early to Honolulu, to either check out some of the beaches, museums, and restaurants prior to the tour, or in the guide's case, to settle some pre-tour logistics. Two of us met up prior to dinner to wander Queen Kapiolani Park next to the hotel and get our first taste of Hawaiian birding. **White Terns** are a fixture in the skies above Honolulu—they're the official city bird, and have both cultural importance to native Hawaiians, and high popularity amongst locals. They are the focus of citizen science for monitoring and conservation, and have continued to increase in numbers in recent years. The large shade trees in Waikiki provide excellent nesting sites for this strange, beautiful tern. We also had our first encounters with some of the suite of introduced birds to Hawaii—avian malaria wiped out most of the native birds in the lowlands, but unwilling to live without birds, residents have introduced a variety of different species from around the world. The result is an odd mixture of **Java Sparrows**, **Red-crested Cardinals**, **Rose-ringed Parakeets**, and more. We also had our first encounters with **Pacific Golden Plovers**, Kolea to the Hawaiians. Although rare in the US mainland, Kolea are a sometimes surprisingly common sight to people on their first visit to Hawaii, wandering around parks and even lawns!

After our brief walk, we all met for dinner at our beautiful accommodation right along the beach in Honolulu for the start of the tour. The food in Hawaii is top notch—fresh seafood nearly everywhere, and strong local traditions and ingredients blended with recipes and dishes from around the world. It was an excellent kickoff, complete with a bit of stargazing from the beach by the restaurant before turning in for an early morning and the start of our proper birding the next day.

#### Day 2

The first part of the morning was occupied by the medical emergency mentioned above. After leaving the hospital, we grabbed a quick breakfast for the road, and began driving upwards towards the forests above Honolulu, where our first endemic targets were waiting.

A slow walk up a well-maintained trail quickly yielded our first **Oahu Amakihi!** The first few were moving fast and high, offering brief views which would thankfully be remedied a little later in the hike. Suddenly, a bit of movement caught our eye, and we spotted the warm brown feathers and cocked tail of a dashing **Oahu Elepaio**, quietly moving through a thicket of strawberry guava. Oahu Elepaio is the most endangered of the three elepaio species, but has also shown remarkable adaptability—frequently successfully nesting in invasive strawberry guava, and even modifying its nesting strategy and locations to evade predation from rats in recent years. After crippling looks at the elepaio we continued up the trail until we encountered our first blooming ohi'a lehua—the iconic, red-flowered keystone tree that makes up much of Hawaii's rainforests, and is the favorite food source of many honeycreepers. We decided to stop for water and a snack near the blooms to see if any birds came in, and sure enough, we were treated to several Oahu Amakihi showing off as they hustled between the flowers. A few hikers along the trail were curious what we were seeing and got to share in the excitement of watching a native Hawaiian bird pollinating flowers for an iconic native Hawaiian tree. Other birds along the trail included plenty of **Warbling White-eyes**, the gorgeous **White-rumped Shama**, and the striking **Red-billed Leiothrix**, a member of the laughingthrush family that sounds oddly reminiscent of a grosbeak or tanager from the continental US.

With both of Oahu's endemics seen and seen well, we got back to the car and made our way to Oahu's famous North Shore for lunch and a very special shorebird. As we scanned some open fields we were treated to a group of 4 **Bristlethighed Curlew** wheeling in for a landing. Bristle-thighed Curlew breeds in a very small area of Alaska, and winters on certain pacific islands. However, it's notoriously difficult to see in Alaska, requiring a real slog up a hillside near Nome. This species was particularly satisfying for one client, who had done the miserable Alaskan slog and dipped! Knocking off a nemesis on a sunny day in Hawaii right after lunch...not a bad time at all. Other highlights of our time up here included numerous Pacific Golden Plovers, our first **Gray Francolins**, **Saffron Finches**, and most excitingly, a **Laysan Albatross** cruising right past us, over land! Known as Mōlī to Hawaiians, a handful of them breed right near where we were birding on Oahu. Ending the day on a high note, we made the drive back to our hotel, had dinner, and went to bed to prepare for our early morning flight to Kauai the next morning.

#### Kauai

### Day 3

Honolulu airport was as crazy as always, but we made our flight in good time and had some breakfast in the airport. Interisland flights in Hawaii are typically pretty smooth, and I personally enjoy the complimentary "POG" (passionfruit, orange, guava) juice that the airline typically offers on even the shortest flights. Kauai is a much sleepier island than the hustle and bustle of Honolulu, and we quickly sorted out our rental and were on our way. Brunch was at a lovely café with some live music and set us up well for the rest of the day birding Kauai's scenic northern coast and Hanalei Valley.

Our first stop was Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge—a stunning overlook of the ocean, and the site of an enormous seabird colony with the largest predator exclusion fence in the world. We stopped on the drive in to soak in a family of **Nene (Hawaiian Goose)**. Once brought down to only about 50 birds, today Nene are thriving, particularly on Kauai, and we were able to pull off the road to leisurely watch some parents and goslings hanging out. Tearing ourselves away, we moved on to the overlook proper. The seabird colony is *spectacular*. **Red-footed Boobies** soared constantly overhead, some parading sticks for their under-construction nests. Both **White-tailed Tropicbird** and **Red-tailed Tropicbird** made frequent passes. Menacing **Great Frigatebirds** hung motionless in the air, surveying boobies returning from the ocean.

Scanning the ocean yielded rafts of **Laysan Albatross** loafing on the water, and occasionally one would rise up the cliff face and soar past. It's the type of place you can hang out for a long, long time, and that we did, mesmerized by the seabirds and appreciative of the work that's gone into protecting the colony.

We eventually dragged ourselves away to check out the taro farms and wetlands of the Hanalei Valley for some more native species. Within moments of arriving, we were treated to up close looks at the endemic **Hawaiian Duck** and **Hawaiian Coot**, and the endemic Hawaiian subspecies of **Black-necked Stilt** and **Common Gallinule**. We also enjoyed some more widespread birds like **Black-crowned Night Heron**, **Western Cattle Egret**, and the omnipresent Pacific Golden Plovers. **Chestnut Munia** also made an appearance, although they were quick and unsatisfying flyovers.

With the afternoon heating up and all of our major targets for the day acquired, we headed to our lovely beach front hotel to relax for the afternoon. Some folks swam or hung out on the beach, and we all met up for dinner in the evening at the outdoor restaurant. The day had one more surprise in store for us—while ordering, I caught an **American Barn Owl** in the lights of the hotel courtyard and startled the waitress with my sudden interruption! An unexpected pick up, and a lifer for one person!

#### Day 4

We all met for breakfast at opening time, and enjoyed local coffee, pineapple, papaya, and more. Hawaii's volcanic soil and diverse elevation and rainfall patterns means people can—and do—grow just about anything locally. It's very apparent in the food quality! Today was our day for the Alakai Plateau and some of the trickiest and rarest birds of the trip—the conservation situation on Kauai is changing rapidly, even from what it was a few years ago, and I worry for what Kauai will look like in the coming years. We stopped on the drive up to the plateau to listen to (and eventually see) some singing **Black Francolins**, and get some better looks at **Chestnut Munia** and **African Silverbill** in the roadside grasses. Getting higher we could start to appreciate our first glimpses of the spectacular Waimea Canyon, and watch the landscape slowly change from dry scrub, to nonnative eucalypt forest, to native ohia and koa forest. We made one more stop on the way up when I heard a **Japanese Bush Warbler** from the car. Remarkably, it came in for tape and we all got good views of this normally extremely skulky species. A friendly **Erckel's Spurfowl** was also perched in a tree nearby, seemingly as curious about us as we were about them.

Eventually we got to our trailhead and parked. It was a shockingly sunny and pleasant day on the normally misty and rainy Alakai Plateau—one of the wettest places on the planet. Shortly after starting our walk, we encountered our first **Kauai Elepaio** as it crept up the trunk of a koa looking for bugs. Elepaios were known as friends of ship builders by native Hawaiians—elepaios primarily eat bugs, and if an elepaio was particularly interested in a specific koa tree, ship builders would avoid that one, having a good indicator that the wood was bug-filled. We were serenaded by **Apapane** for nearly the entire walk after the first hundred meters or so, and with some persistence got great looks at these gregarious, deepred honeycreepers. Around this time I heard a **Kauai Amakihi**—but distantly downslope to our north. Unfortunately it only sang a couple of times, and we never encountered another one--a worrying surprise. Chatting with another guide we bumped into along our walk, she said she hadn't actually seen one since May, and the latest estimates form Kauai Forest Bird Recovery Project indicated an abrupt and dramatic drop in their numbers. Amakihis on Oahu and Hawaii are some of the only honeycreepers showing malarial resistance—hopefully Kauai Amakihi follows suit, and soon.

While folks were absorbing looks at an Apapane, a tiny, yellow bird landed in an ohia above my head. I gave a quick whisper and hurriedly gestured for folks to come quick as people quietly rushed over for our first looks at Hawaii's smallest extant honeycreeper and Kauai endemic—the rare and declining **Anianiau.** After walkaway looks, we were quickly entertained by a small group of Kauai Elapaio. Our looks before had been good, but this was absurd—elepaios are known for being surprisingly friendly on occasion, and these two lived up to it. Birds were hanging out about 6 feet above our heads, calling to each other and foraging. One was even color banded, indicating scientists were monitoring this population. We eventually reached the end of our walk at an overlook of the famous Na Pali coast, still serenaded by the native honeycreepers hanging on in these high Kauai forests.

The walk back was much of the same, with the exception of finding our single Anianiau again, now joined by two more! A small family group foraging low in some trees just off the trail. We were all silent, absorbing the experience. Anianiau is in even sharper decline than Kauai Amakihi—encounters with them are special and are never be taken for granted. Satisfied with our morning birding, we had lunch at Koke'e Lodge, the only game in town at the state park. The food was pretty good, and we all enjoyed the gift shop after we were done eating.

After lunch we checked out the enormous Waimea Canyon and enjoyed the 20+ **White-tailed Tropicbirds** milling around below us. White-tailed Tropicbirds breed in the canyon, a remarkably long flight from the ocean where they forage. The plan as we drove down was to visit a wetland along the coast before returning to the hotel.

### Hawaii (Big Island)

Day 5

An early flight to Hilo was a breeze for two people in the very calm Kauai airport. Picking up the rental in Hilo was less of a breeze, with a bit of a long wait, but we were on our way soon enough to grab brunch and head to Hawaii Volcanoes National Park for our introduction to Big Island. It was a cold, misty, rainy day in the park, but there was still good birding to be had. A **Kalij Pheasant** showed off quite well near the visitor's center, and we got our first looks at the abundant **Hawaii Amakihi** and the familiar **Apapane**. The gift shop in Hawaii Volcanoes is excellent, and we used it as an excuse to get out of the rain for a bit as well.

A drive down the famous chain of craters road laid Hawaii's recent volcanic history bare. Enormous craters, barren lava flows, and remarkably tenacious ohia trees growing out of them, complete with Hawaii Amakihis feeding on even the smallest, most isolated tree's flowers. The weather was better towards the coast, and I pulled off to let the client hop out while I found a place to park, as a flock of the endemic Hawaiian form of **Black Noddy** was making a close pass. The Black Noddies in Hawaii look quite different than they do anywhere else—they have bright orange feet, and the gray on their tail is much paler than other subspecies. Maybe Hawaiian Noddy someday? Seabirds have been split for far less...

As we drove back up the road, we noticed a ranger directing traffic and large numbers of cars. What was happening? **Kilauea had started erupting again!** Although hungry and chilly, what were we going to do—pass up an erupting volcano?! We made the walk to the crater overlook through the rain, becoming shockingly aware of a low roar that wasn't wind, wasn't rain, and wasn't ocean. Kilauea came into view—two vents launching 600 foot tall lava fountains, powerful enough to see through the mist and wind. Lava was pooling in the crater. Hawaii may be known for its beaches and sun—but it's also a land of volcanoes, lava, and powerful ocean winds. We stood in awe for longer than either of us thought we would, before making the trek back to the vehicle and leaving the park. Our first **Omao** of the trip began singing on the way back, and we caught a brief look at this very cute endemic thrush.

We had a late check in to the hotel, and a late dinner—exhausted, but supremely satisfied with the day.

### Day 6

It was a bit of a later morning today, as we both needed it. Breakfast at the hotel had a nice view of the shore, and our first **Wandering Tattler** of the trip wandering around outside. The plan was to drive to Waimea on the other side of the island by way of the scenic saddle road, stopping to bird and in particular look for Palila on the way. Our first stop was at the famous Pu'u O'o trail, where we stopped to acclimatize at about 5000 feet, and enjoyed our first **l'iwi** of the trip.

Perhaps THE iconic Hawaiian Honeycreeper, these scarlet, sickle-billed clowns are thankfully still common on Big Island above the mosquito line.

After this, it was a long drive up to almost 9500 feet on the dry, leeward side of Mauna Kea in search of a very special bird. Palila are critically endangered, and only found on Big Island these days. They are specialists of the Mamane-Naio dry forest that grows on the opposite side of the island than the ohia koa rainforest where most of Hawaii's native birds remain. The seedpods of the mamane tree are hyper alkaline and downright toxic to most animals—but Palila love them. Palila populations are sadly in dire straits—threatened by invasive species, habitat destruction, grazing, and malaria. At this point its thought that less than 200 remain. It was a long drive and a lengthy search in some of the highest and most intact Mamane-Naio forest on the island, but we eventually heard the lovely, soft, song of a **Palila** coming from some mamane on our left! Getting visuals was a bit tough as the bird hung out in the interior of the trees it was working, but we eventually succeeded in getting great looks at this silver and gold, Pine Grosbeak-sized honeycreeper. A very special encounter, with 3 birds at least present in the area.

Unfortunately as we made to leave, I brought the car further down the road than was wise, and got the vehicle hopelessly stuck in sand. An embarrassing moment, but thankfully our local guide for the next morning was able to pick us up and bring us to our hotel while I sorted out a tow for the next day. We enjoyed a pretty authentic Hawaiian dinner of chicken and barbecue wrapped and cooked in taro once we were back in town before turning in for the night, preparing for what would undoubtedly be a highlight of the trip the next morning.

### Day 7

We were picked up from our hotel bright and early by Lance Tanino, one of the few people permitted to take visitors into one of the best birding sites in Hawaii—Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge. It was a long drive, but with good conversation on Hawaiian conservation and history, and broken up by some good birding along the way. A **Short-eared Owl (Pueo)** put on a show along the saddle road, and we stopped to soak in Hawaii's only extant native owl. **Wild Turkeys, Eurasian Skylarks,** and **Yellow-fronted Canaries** were frequent along the road as well. After the long drive through agricultural land and a large area choked by the highly invasive gorse, we arrived at the entrance to Hakalau.

The change as we drove through a gate and entered Hakalau was immediately apparent. A **Nene (Hawaiian Goose)** hung out near the parking area, and the air was filled with the sounds of **Apapane**, **I'iwi**, and **Hawaii Amakihi**. A short walk down a wide dirt road flanked by enormous old growth ohia trees immediately yielded our first **Hawaii Elepaios**, completing our elepaio sweep for the islands! I'iwis were putting on quite a show, dangling upside down, singing, feeding from flowers, and chasing rival I'iwis and Apapanes alike from some of the best blooms. **Omao** were singing, and although unusually shy, we managed some better looks than we'd had a few days prior. Lance pointed out a probable nest for the endangered **Akiapola'au**, and after a brief wait a pair of them appeared! Akiapola'au are completely bizarre, Hawaii's answer to "what happens when a finch finds a vacant woodpecker niche and you give it about 5 million years." The answer is a chunky bird with a sharp spike of a lower mandible to peck holes in koa trees, and a long, flexible, overgrown upper mandible to fish bugs out. The foraging strategy is so bizarre that parents need to teach their offspring how to forage over the course of months and months. Akiapola'au typically only raise one offspring every couple of years, with chicks following parents for often over a year learning how to forage.

We were quickly distracted from the Akiapola'au as a fiery orange **Hawaii Akepa** appeared and gave us spectacular looks. Akepas can only be found in old growth ohia forests—they rely on the cavities formed from broken off branches for nesting (they are essentially secondary cavity nesters, on an island with no animals to excavate cavities), and use their ever so slightly laterally crossed bill to pry open ohia buds and feed on insects within. After dragging ourselves away from the Akepa, we had a nice bento box lunch accompanied by a few bold l'iwis, and began the hike back up to our parking while looking for our last remaining target for the day. After picking out their song, we were treated to extended looks at our last remaining Big Island honeycreeper—The Hawaii Creeper, also known as Alawi. We had walkaway looks of a bird spiraling up and down some koa branches mere feet away, picking through lichens and probing crevices. At the same time, a female akepa was nearby gathering nesting material—very special to see.

Although difficult to leave, our time in Hakalau was ending, and we began the long drive back to our hotel. After dropping the client off for some rest, Lance was able to give me a ride to pick up the now-unstuck rental vehicle. With vehicle in hand and still some daylight left, we made a visit to a rather odd birding location, the vacant lots and skatepark of a local town to look for one of Hawaii's odder introduced species. We were immediately successful, with a pair of **Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse** flying from a vacant lot as we pulled in. The species was introduced in the 1960s by Nevada Fish and Game to test its suitability as a game bird for Nevada. It was thought to be a failure, and Nevada Fish and Game abandoned the idea. However, many years later, local birders noticed sandgrouse still hanging around—and they persist to this day on the dry, leeward side of Big Island. Other birds were **Yellow-billed Cardinal**, **Scaly-breasted Munia**, **Gray Francolin**, and **Saffron Finches**. As the sun set we pulled back into our hotel, and grabbed dinner at a tasty Japanese restaurant across the street.

### Day 8

With nearly all land bird targets wrapped up, it was time to take to sea. After a quick breakfast, we made our way down to a harbor in Kona, and boarded a zodiac to go have a look for seabirds and cetaceans. The Hawaiian islands are essentially the very tops of massive volcanoes, and the ocean drops off steeply around them. In short order, we were in water over 10,000 feet deep! The day started off slow for birds, but excellent for mammals as a group of **Spinner Dolphins** hung out near the boat shortly after leaving the harbor. After a bit of searching, the birding picked up. I spotted a **Wedge-tailed Shearwater**, which our captain masterfully shot after, giving us phenomenal up-close looks at this classic bird of the tropical Pacific and Indian Oceans. Hanging out in a current full of flotsam, we noticed a group of eight **Red Phalaropes**! Red Phalaropes are quite uncommon in Hawaii, only passing through in pelagic areas as they head back north to the tundra to breed. Excitingly, one was banded! I have been unsuccessful so far in finding out where it was from for certain—but it seems to have most likely been banded in Alaska. A feeding flock of **Sooty Terns** and Wedge-tailed Shearwaters provided great looks at both, including some of the less common (in the Northern Pacific) dark morph Wedge-tailed Shearwaters, which was a nice surprise. A single **Sooty Shearwater** blasted by the boat too, although it didn't stick around for extended looks.

On a recommendation from our captain, we headed down to a lovely restaurant in south Kona with an overlook of the valley below for lunch. This was a dual-purpose visit—the food (local coffee and fresh made bread) was fantastic, but the valley overlook is also a good spot to watch for **Hawaiian Hawk (lo)**, our last remaining Big Island endemic. The plan delivered one part—excellent food, and a very cute (nonnative sadly) **Gold Dust Day Gecko** sampling some jelly the staff had set out for them. However, shockingly, the normally quite common Hawaiian Hawk was nowhere to be seen! Improvising on our way back to our hotel for the final night, we cruised around the hilly roads outside of Kona, checking overlooks, and making a last ditch attempt at the endemic sweep. Luckily, it paid off—we pulled over in a neighborhood and hurriedly hopped out to check out a lovely light morph **Hawaiian Hawk** lazily circling overhead. With the sweep completed, we had a nice celebratory last dinner of the tour at the same Japanese restaurant as the previous night, and got organized for the flights the next day.

### Day 9

The airport was smooth. The client continued on for some independent travel in Maui, and I got on my flight to Honolulu, en route back home. Time in Hawaii is always too short—with much more to see and do.



A friendly Nene (Hawaiian Goose) at Hakalau Forest NWR



An Apapane buried in the blooms of an enormous ohia lehua



A Hawaii Creeper (Alawi) on a koa tree comes up for air from the lichen it's been foraging in



Hawaii Akepa has a bill that's crossed horizontally at the tip to pry open ohia buds. You can see it doing this in the first photo. The second photo is just plain cute.



This **I'iwi** came in and posed for a bit while we were eating lunch at Hakalau Forest NWR



Not a fantastic photo, but any day with an adult **Anianiau** is a good one.



This **Kauai Elepaio** is color banded! Researchers are likely keeping track of elepaios in this area. The colors are white over blue on left leg, and aluminum over black on the right leg. Projects I've worked on would refer to this individual as WBAK.



Hawaii Amakihi are common on Big Island—one of the only honeycreepers showing some malarial resistance.



There are more Erckel's Spurfowl in Hawaii than there are in their native range in Ethiopia.



Detail on some blooming mamane—a keystone tree of Hawaii's dry forests, and a preferred plant of the **Palila** 



White-rumped Shamas aren't native to Hawaii, but they sure are pretty



Although weather was rough, the 600 foot tall lava fountains of Kilauea Volcano were visible through the mist



This Red Phalarope is color banded! Probably in Alaska. We had good numbers of these birds in the oceans off of Kona.



We had great close encounters with both dark and light morph Wedge-tailed Shearwaters (Ua'u kani in Hawaiian)



Hawaiian Coot in some of the excellent wetlands in the Hanalei area of Kauai



This Red-footed Booby seen from Kilauea Overlook is "sky-pointing" to display at other boobies flying around.

### **BIRD LIST**

The list includes everything that was seen by at least one of the group, including the guide/tour leader. Taxonomy follows: Clements, J. F., T. S. Schulenberg, M. J. Iliff, D. Roberson, T. A. Fredericks, B. L. Sullivan, and C. L. Wood. 2024. The eBird/Clements checklist of birds of the world: v2024. Downloaded from http://www.birds.cornell.edu/clementschecklist/download/

Branta sandvicensis

Anas platyrhynchos

Callipepla californica

Francolinus francolinus Francolinus pondicerianus

Lophura leucomelanos Meleagris gallopavo

Pternistis erckelii

Gallus gallus

Alectoris chukar

Spilopelia chinensis

Geopelia striata

Zenaida macroura

Pterocles exustus

Gallinula galeata

Himantopus mexicanus

Numenius tahitiensis

Phalaropus fulicarius

Fulica alai

Pluvialis fulva

Tringa incana

Anous minutus

Gygis alba

Columba livia

Anas wvvilliana

H=heard only GO=guide only (I)=introduced species

Hawaiian Goose (Nene) Hawaiian Duck (Koloa Maoli) Mallard

California Quail (I) H, GO Erckel's Spurfowl (I) Black Francolin (I) Gray Francolin (I) Red Junglefowl (I) Kalij Pheasant (I) Wild Turkey (I) Chukar (I) H, GO

Rock Pigeon (I) Spotted Dove (I) Zebra Dove (I) Mourning Dove (I)

Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse (I)

Common Gallinule (Hawaiian) Hawaiian Coot (Alae Keokeo)

Black-necked Stilt (Hawaiian) Pacific Golden-Plover Bristle-thighed Curlew Red Phalarope Wandering Tattler

Black Noddy (Hawaiian) White Tern (Manu O Kū) Sooty Tern

White-tailed Tropicbird

Phaethon lepturus

**Onychoprion fuscatus** 

+1-409-515-9110

## Tropical Birding Trip Report Hawaii: Island Endemics and Volcanic Lands Feb-Mar 2025

**Red-tailed Tropicbird** 

#### Phaethon rubricauda

Ardenna pacifica

Ardenna grisea

Fregata minor

Nycticorax nycticorax

Asio flammeus sandwichensis

Chasiempis sandwichensis

Buteo solitarius

Psittacula krameri

Chasiempis sclateri

Chasiempis ibidis

Alauda arvensis

Pycnonotus cafer

Horornis diphone

Leiothrix lutea

*Pycnonotus jocosus* 

Zosterops japonicus

Acridotheres tristis

Mimus polyglottos

Myadestes obscurus

Estrilda astrild

Euodice cantans

Lonchura punctulata

Lonchura atricapilla

Copsychus malabaricus

Tyto furcata

Sula sula

Ardea ibis

Phoebastria immutabilis

Laysan Albatross (Mōlī) Wedge-tailed Shearwater ('Ua'u kani) Sooty Shearwater

Great Frigatebird Red-footed Booby

Western Cattle Egret (I) Black-crowned Night-Heron

Hawaiian Hawk ('Io)

American Barn Owl (I) Short-eared Owl (Pueo)

Rose-ringed Parakeet (I)

Hawaii Elepaio Kauai Elepaio Oahu Elepaio

Eurasian Skylark (I)

Red-vented Bulbul (I) Red-whiskered Bulbul (I)

Japanese Bush Warbler (I)

Warbling White-eye (I)

Red-billed Leiothrix (I)

Common Myna (I)

Northern Mockingbird (I)

#### Omao

White-rumped Shama (I)

Common Waxbill (I) African Silverbill (I) Scaly-breasted Munia (I) Chestnut Munia (I)

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Java Sparrow (I)

House Sparrow (I)

#### Palila

Apapane I'iwi Akiapola'au Anianiau Hawaii Amakihi Oahu Amakihi Kauai Amakihi (H)(GO) Hawaii Creeper ('Alawī) Hawaii Akepa House Finch (I) Yellow-fronted Canary (I)

Western Meadowlark (I)

Northern Cardinal (I) Red-crested Cardinal (I) Yellow-billed Cardinal (I) Saffron Finch (I)

OTHER WILDLIFE Humpback Whale (Koholā) Spinner Dolphin Small Indian Mongoose (I) Mouflon Sheep (I) Gold Dust Day Gecko (I) Lonchura oryzivora Passer domesticus

Loxioides bailleui Himatione sanguinea Drepanis coccinea Hemignathus wilsoni Magumma parva Chlorodrepanis virens Chlorodrepanis flava Chlorodrepanis stejnegeri Loxops mana Loxops coccineus Haemorhous mexicanus Crithagra mozambica

Sturnella neglecta

Cardinalis cardinalis Paroaria coronata Paroaria capitata Sicalis flaveola

Megaptera novaeangliae Stenella longirostris Urva auropunctata Ovis aries Phelsuma laticauda