

WANT TO HELP PROTECT HAWAIIAN WATERBIRDS?

You can support them by collecting data on the ebird app

Who are we?



[Pacific Birds Habitat Joint Venture](#) works in Hawai'i to build partnerships with the community around wetlands and waterbirds. There are four endangered waterbirds in the state, as well as the nēnē goose.

The 'ālae 'ula and koloa maoli are at particular risk, with ~700 individuals left for each species ([Gorresen et al., 2024](#)). The 'ālae 'ula is restricted to O'ahu and Kaua'i, while purebred Koloa are restricted to Kaua'i (except for James Campbell NWR, a stronghold on O'ahu).



We need your help!

We know that 'ālae 'ula, 'ālae ke'oke'o, ae'o, and nēnē use semi-urban habitats like golf courses, streams, playing fields, lawns, and river/stream areas. They can also thrive in lo'i.

However, we have little data on their movements or numbers in this habitat. Counting the urban dwellers will help us to better understand the populations to effectively direct resources.

Questions?

Call Helen Raine at: (808) 294-6626

What you can do:

If you like walking, running, golfing, paddling rivers, farming, or playing sports outdoors, you spend a lot of your time exactly where these birds might be.

It's very easy to record them on your phone in just a few seconds on the eBird app!

Learn how to use the app and identify the birds in this flyer.

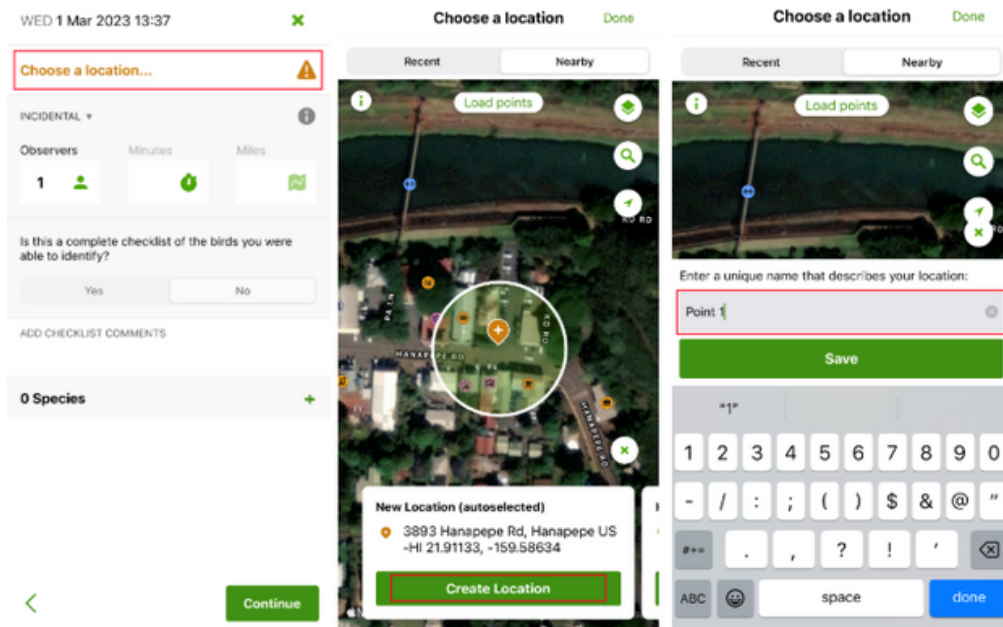
Contact:
mikemcfarlin@arckauai.com
if you have issues accessing the app.



COMMUNITY WATERBIRD SURVEY

How to Collect Waterbird Data in eBird

1. Download the eBird phone app.
2. Install the “Hawai‘i, US” pack. In the app, go to settings, “Packs”, click the search magnifying glass icon, and search “Hawai‘i”, then click “Install”.
3. To record a survey or bird sighting, open the app, click “Start Checklist”.
4. Click “Add observation or find species” to add observed individual(s) and species.
5. Once you’ve concluded the survey, click “Stop” at the bottom of the app.
6. Then click “Choose a location”, select the recommended location, and then choose “Create location”.
7. Delete the name provided and write out the location name, i.e., “Point 1” or “Hanapepe River”, and click “Save”.



8. Click “SUBMIT” when complete. The data will then be uploaded to the eBird website and will be publicly accessible. Data is accessible ~2 weeks after the checklist is uploaded.
9. **If you do not have reception, the checklist will be saved in your “Checklists” tab of the app.** When you have reception again, go to “Checklists”, click on the checklist you saved, click “Review”, then “Submit”.

SPECIES IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

Hawaiian Stilt



Hawaiian Stilt male. Note the black back and bright pink legs. Photo Hugo de Vries.



Hawaiian Stilt juvenile. Note the more brownish back, dull pink legs, and more extensive white on the neck and forehead. Photo Eric VanderWerf.



The **bands** on this juvenile stilt are red over aluminum left, blue over white right, or **RA/BW**. Photo Eric VanderWerf.

Hawaiian Moorhen



Hawaiian Moorhen. Note the long unlobed toes. Photo Eric VanderWerf.



Hawaiian Moorhen with chicks. Note the long unlobed toes. Photo David Desrochers.

Hawaiian Coot



Hawaiian Coot adult (left) and juvenile. Juveniles are grayish and lack the white bill. Photo Eric VanderWerf.



Adult Hawaiian Coots can have **white or red frontal shields** above the white bill. Photo Eric VanderWerf.

Hawaiian Goose or Nēnē



Nēnē adult. Photo by Renett Stowe.



Nēnē adult and goslings. Photo by Hob Osterland.

SPECIES IDENTIFICATION GUIDE

Hawaiian Duck or Koloa



Koloa male (left) and female. Hanalei, Kauai. Note the overall dark color, dark bill, mostly brownish back, brownish undertail coverts with black spots, and whitish tail with brown spots. Photos Eric VanderWerf.



Koloa in flight. Hanalei, Kauai. The speculum can range from blue to emerald green. Photos Eric VanderWerf.

Koloa wing. Photo Brenda Zaun.

**** Mallards or Mallard hybrids could be mistaken for Koloa. Both male and female mallards are larger than Koloa. Male mallards have a yellow bill, a green head, a white collar around the neck, and a black and white tail with black, upward-curved feathers. Female mallards resemble the endemic Koloa but mallards are 20-30% larger, measuring around 20-26 inches in length, compared to 16-22 inches for Koloa. Male and female koloa look alike with dark bills, dark sides, and cinnamon colored tails.** If you are NOT on Kaua'i, presume that birds are Mallards or hybrids, not Koloa.**

Koloa-Mallard Hybrids



Koloa-Mallard hybrid. Male. Hanalei, Kauai. Photo Eric VanderWerf.



Koloa-Mallard hybrid. Male. Kaelepulu, Oahu. Note the grayish sides and back, black and white tail, and curled black tail coverts. Photo Eric VanderWerf.

Mallard



Mallard. Male (front) and female. Note the "teal" blue speculum, white tail, and curled black tail coverts. This female has a darker, less orange bill than most and may be a domestic hybrid. Photo Eric VanderWerf.



Mallard. Males (front) and female. Note the white tail, curly black tail coverts, and gray back of males. The front male may be molting into breeding plumage or may be a domestic hybrid. Photo Eric VanderWerf.