

FALL HAWAII

OCTOBER 18-26, 2011



Nene © Brennan Mulrooney

**LEADER:
BOB SUNDSTROM**

COMPILED BY: BOB SUNDSTROM

**VICTOR EMANUEL NATURE TOURS, INC.
2525 WALLINGWOOD DRIVE, SUITE 1003
AUSTIN, TX 78746
WWW.VENTBIRD.COM**

TOUR REPORT
FALL HAWAII
October 18–26, 2011

By Bob Sundstrom

In nine days our Fall Hawaii tour makes the most of the natural history of three of the main Hawaiian islands—Hawaii, Kauai, and Oahu. Glistening tropicbirds, rare and endemic forest birds, one-of-a-kind hawks soaring over hillsides of Kona coffee, and great views of Bristle-thighed Curlews; our Fall Hawaii tour takes all this in and much more. Mid-October is an ideal time to visit the northern tropical Pacific. In addition to wonderful birds—many seen nowhere else in the world—Hawaii offers unique tropical forests and the most accessible volcanic realm in the world. Add to that wonderful, balmy weather, superb food, and nice lodging.

Our tour began on Oahu with a sunset dinner in Waikiki overlooking the Pacific and Waikiki's famous beaches. The next morning we had close views of lovely White Terns and a number of other new species even before breakfast—a breakfast overlooking the ocean and snorkelers over the reef. Before lunch we had hiked into a valley to see the endangered Oahu Elepaio, stood a few yards from a fledgling Red-tailed Tropicbird in a seaside lava cave, and tracked down another island endemic, Oahu Amakihi. Afternoon found us driving past the famous surfing waves of the North Shore en route to a wintering site for Bristle-thighed Curlews, one of the world's most-wanted shorebirds. Unlike the rigorous hike required to see these curlews in Alaska, our first curlew came after a leisurely stroll of a few hundred yards. We had scope views at first, then closer and closer views. One curlew stood atop a boulder, stiff bristle-like feathers at the base of the legs showing nicely. Others flew by calling and, as we were walking back to where we had parked, several Bristle-thighed Curlews were foraging in the grass just 50 feet from us, as the cameras clicked.

By mid-morning the next day after a short flight from Honolulu, we stood overlooking the blue Pacific and thousands of seabirds on the lush green island of Kauai. Pterodactyl-like Great Frigatebirds hung overhead, some chasing Red-footed Boobies that flew by our faces or perched on the nearby sea cliff. Fledgling Wedge-tailed Shearwaters peeked out from nest burrows, as several pairs of Hawaii's native geese, the Nene, waddled across a grassy portion of the refuge. Elegant White-tailed Tropicbirds trailing long white tail streamers winged close by, as well as a much-admired Red-tailed Tropicbird.

A second day on Kauai took us along remote unpaved roads into the native forest at 4,000 feet. Native forest birds, most of them endemic to Kauai, were our goal, and we had fine views of Kauai Elepaio, Kauai Amakihi, and chartreuse male Anianiaus. To reach the entrance to the forest we drove along the rim of Waimea Canyon, a split in the earth nearly half a mile deep. Looking down the sheer copper-colored cliffs, we could see numbers of tropicbirds flapping leisurely across the cliff faces, scanning the cliffs for nesting ledges.

On Day 5 of the tour, we reached our final island destination, Hawaii (The Big Island). The Big Island comprises more area and habitats than Oahu and Kauai combined, and its terrain is

defined by five volcanic peaks—three of them still volcanically alive. Arriving in Kona the morning of Day 5, we drove south into Kona coffee country in search of the endemic Hawaiian Hawk, or Io. We stopped for lunch at a café perched on a hillside like a tree house, with a view of Kealahou Bay 1,500 feet below. Soon after we ordered, the first Hawaiian Hawks were spotted, soaring in the distance along a ridge. As the day progressed, each ensuing view of another hawk was closer and closer, including scope views of one perched atop a bare tree at the roadside. The same day found us entranced by green turtles at just a few yards distance, in the shallows of a lava outcropping, as Wandering Tattlers and Pacific Golden-Plovers foraged in the background.

The following morning we set off for what would be the most exciting forest birding of the tour, in Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge on the eastern, rain forest face of Mauna Kea. The refuge is closed to the public, but our tour group has gained special permission to enter. On reaching the refuge, we quickly saw numbers of Iiwis—unique, scarlet Hawaiian honeycreepers—probing the red blossoms of native ohia trees with their long, red, sickle-shaped bills. Before long a vividly orange bird was spotted. It was a male Akepa—an endangered bird endemic to the Big Island. We watched another island endemic, the Hawaii Creeper, as it “nuthatched” its way along trunks and branches. The gruff whistles of an endemic thrush, the Omao, led us to good views of this gray cousin of New World solitaires.

The holy grail of the Hakalau refuge’s endangered endemics is the Akiapolaau, or just Aki’ for short. We had walked just a bit farther along the forest trails when a juvenile Aki’ began calling, making a distinct begging call that helped us home in on its location in the branches of a koa tree. The young bird fluttered its wings repeatedly in a distinctive “come feed me” manner, and we soon had our binoculars on the young bird and two parents as they came in to feed the young bird and then forage among nearby branches. We had encountered one of the islands’—in fact one of the world’s—rarest and most distinctively outfitted birds; the yellow Aki’ possesses what some have described as a “Swiss Army knife” bill. Its short, straight lower beak is paired with a long, slender, curved, flexible upper beak. The short half hammers like a woodpecker’s bill, and the upper searches for insects under the bark like a fine probe.

With only two days left on the Big Island, we spent one of them exploring the dry western face of Mauna Kea, in search of the remaining Big Island endemic specialty, the bright yellow Palila of dry tropical forest. An hour or so of searching led us to a Palila as it called softly from inside a dense shrub, where we were able to scope it nicely as it opened a pod of mamane seeds, its favorite food. On our last full day we explored the natural wonders of Hawaii Volcanoes National Park: craters and lava tubes, square miles of shiny black lava flows from recent decades, a forest studded with massive tree ferns, Black Noddies flying along black lava sea cliffs, and a Hawaii Elepaio at arm’s-length.

Our Fall Hawaii tour was memorable for its wonderful natural history and tropical scenery, balmy weather, wonderful food, and great companionship. Too soon it seemed, we were all headed back to the mainland.

FALL HAWAII

October 18 - 26, 2011

Leaders: Bob Sundstrom and Brad Schram

Itinerary and lists compiled by Bob Sundstrom

- Day 1** Tuesday, October 18: Arrival in Honolulu (Oahu) and get-acquainted dinner at New Otani Hotel. Dinner at New Otani's Hau Tree Lanai. Night in Waikiki.
- Day 2** Saturday, October 19: Oahu. Birding before breakfast in Kapiolani Park, and after breakfast with Eric VanderWerf near in Pia Valley and near Koko Head. Picnic at Maunaloa Bay Beach Park, then brief birding on Round Top Drive at Puu Ualakaa State Park. Midday across H-2 past Haleiwa and North Shore for afternoon birding near Kahuku. The day's birding highlights included amazing, close views of Bristle-thighed Curlews, numbers of White Terns, Oahu Elepaio and Oahu Amakihi, near-fledgling Red-tailed Tropicbird, and Red-billed Leiothrix. Returned to Waikiki via H-2. Dinner at New Otani's Hau Tree Lanai. Night in Waikiki.
- Day 3** Sunday October, 20: Early morning flight from Honolulu to Lihue (Kauai). Birded first at Kilauea Pt. National Wildlife Refuge, then after lunch in Kilauea birded Hanalei NWR and along the valley beyond the refuge. Kilauea Pt. offered great views of Wedge-tailed Shearwaters, , Red-footed Boobies, Great Frigatebirds, White-tailed Tropicbirds, and a Red-tailed Tropicbird flying offshore. At Hanalei, we saw Koloa (Hawaiian Duck), Hawaiian Coot, and the Hawaiian moorhen and stilt subspecies. Mid-afternoon to Kapaa to check in at the Courtyard Marriot. Dinner at Wahoo Grill. First of two nights in Kapaa.
- Day 4** Monday, October 21: Early morning departure for Kokee Forest in northwest part of Kauai, breakfast in Kalaheo. Scenic stop along Waimea Canyon and at Kokee Forest overlooks. Birded along Kokee main road, then well into the more remote forest along back roads, including hike into the forest, covering about 2½ miles round trip. Mid-afternoon scenic stops at Kalalau Lookout and along upper Waimea Canyon. Late afternoon birded the Kekaha area, including sand pits and back roads near Polihale. Today's bird highlights included great views of Kauai endemic bird species Anianiau, Kauai Amakihi, and Kauai Elepaio, as well as Apapanes. Saw both Black Francolin very well near Kekaha, and Erckel's francolins along the canyon road. Dinner at Wrangler's in Waimea. Night in Kapaa.
- Day 5** Tuesday, October 22: Early morning flight from Lihue via Honolulu to Kona on the island of Hawaii. Drove south from Kona to hawk-watch and have lunch overlooking the coast near Honaunau, and a bit of birding on side streets in Captain Cook and Kealahou. Heading north from Kona, we walked to beachfront at Kaloko-Honokohau National Historical Park, finding Green Turtles at close range as well as Wandering Tattlers. Continuing north, birded the country club grounds near Puu Anahulu, where we had good views of Gray and Erckel's francolins, among other birds. Superb view of a perched Io (Hawaiian Hawk), and several other soaring. Also today our first Saffron

Finches and Yellow-billed Cardinals. Dinner at Merriman's. First of two nights in Kamuela/Waimea.

Day 6 Wednesday, October 23: After an early breakfast in Waimea, departed for the east side of Mauna Kea and Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge (Pua Akala section). Birded along the ranch roads enroute, and arrived at the refuge by about 9 a.m. There we birded along trails in the native forest until early afternoon, with a great deal of bird activity all day. Raucous, scarlet Iiwis were out in force, and we had excellent views of the endangered endemics Akiapolaau (adults feeding a juvenile), Akepa (bright orange males) and Hawaii Creeper (foraging and singing overhead), as well as Hawaiian Hawk, Omao and Hawaii Elepaio. Second night in Kamuela/Waimea.

Day 7 Thursday, October 24: Again departed early from Waimea along the Saddle Rd., this time to bird near Puu Laau on the dry side of Mauna Kea. Found endangered Palila by mid-morning, then continued east on Saddle Road. Arrived in Hilo by lunch time, picnicked at Waiakea Pond, and checked the pond for water birds. Checked in at the Hilo Hawaiian early afternoon, took an afternoon break, then met again for dinner at Café Pesto. First of two nights in Hilo.

Day 8 Friday, October 25: Most of a full day in and near Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. First birded in Kipuka Puauulu (Bird Park) on the Mauna Loa Rd., getting close views of Kalij Pheasants, plus our best views of shy Hwamei, Red-billed Leiothrix, and Elepaio. After visiting Thurston Lava Tube, drove the full length of the Chain of Craters Road, stopping enroute to examine a'a and pahoehoe lava fields and to watch Black Noddies along the seacoast lava cliffs. After lunch at the Volcano country club, visited Jaggar Museum and before returning to the shoreline, where noddies were still absent. Returned to Hilo by late afternoon for farewell dinner at Café Pesto and final night at Hilo Hawaiian.

Day 9 Saturday, October 26: Most of group to Hilo airport for morning departures.

BIRD LIST

[LOCATION KEY: **O** = Oahu **K** = Kauai **H** = Hawaii/Big Is.]

NOTE: species in ***CAPITALIZED BOLD ITALICS*** are endangered Hawaiian endemics
species in ***bold italics*** are other Hawaiian Islands endemic species or subspecies
species in **lower case bold** are uncommon to rare, or unusual sightings for Hawaii

GEESE & DUCKS:

NENE (*Branta sandvicensis*) – K,H. Seen on Kauai at both national wildlife refuges, as well as at Hakalau refuge and Hilo's Waiakea Pond on the Big Island.

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) – H; a small flock at Hilo's Waiakea Pond, origin unknown and probably of introduced/domestic origin

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) – O,H; probably all of introduced/domestic origin

KOLOA [HAWAIIAN DUCK] (*Anas wyvilliana*) – O,K; Hanalei refuge on Kauai
Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) – H; four migrants at Hilo's Waiakea Pond

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS:

Black Francolin (*Francolinus francolinus*) – K,H. Seen best near Kekaha on Kauai, where a pair worked the edge of the mowed road shoulder. Several other females seen well on Kauai, and males at the road edge south of Waimea on the Big Island. A truly beautiful bird.

Gray Francolin (*Francolinus pondicerianus*) – H. Good views of several at Big Island Country Club at Puu Anahulu. Also on the roadside early morning south of Waimea.

Erckel's Francolin (*Francolinus erckelii*) – K,H; The largest of the three francolins, we had lots of excellent views along the roadsides, at Big Is. Country Club, along the Saddle Rd, and along the ranch road into Hakalau.

Red Junglefowl (*Gallus gallus*) – K; at higher elevations in Kokee Forest

Kalij Pheasant (*Lophura leucomelana*) – H; close views in Bird Park (Kipuka Puaulu)

Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*) – O,H

Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) – H; in flocks of various sizes near Puu Anahulu, along Saddle Rd., and along the road into Hakalau refuge

California Quail (*Callipepla californica*) – H; covey of 40+ on the Puu Laau Rd.

TUBENOSES:

Wedge-tailed Shearwater (*Puffinus pacificus*) – K,H. Downy, near-fledglings sitting at the mouth of their natal burrows at Kilauea Pt. NWR. A few flying offshore on the Big Island near the Black Noddy cliffs.

TROPICBIRDS, BOOBIES, and FRIGATEBIRDS

White-tailed Tropicbird (*Phaeton lepturus*) – K. Several pairs flew frequently by Kilauea Pt. and many were seen at a distance in Waimea Canyon and from Kalalau Lookout. On the Big Island, two flying in smoke filled Halemaumau Crater in Volcanoes park.

Red-tailed Tropicbird (*Phaeton rubricauda*) – O. Eric VanderWerf showed us a near-fledgling in a nest in the Oahu sea cliffs, an amazingly close look at the only one of this species we saw during the tour. We were fortunate to also see an adult in flight at Kilauea refuge.

Red-footed Booby (*Sula sula*) – K. At Kilauea NWR, we watched white adults and brown immatures fly by at closed range, some with frigatebirds in pursuit. Hundreds of others were perched in trees or nesting nearby.

Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*) – K. Several flew by viewpoints at Kilauea refuge, and others roosted there on an offshore islet.

Great Frigatebird (*Fregata minor*) – K. Wonderful views of soaring frigatebirds and frigates pursuing boobies at Kilauea Pt.

HERONS AND IBISES:

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) - O,K,H

Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*) - O,K

EAGLES, HAWKS & ALLIES:

I'O [HAWAIIAN HAWK] (*Buteo solitarius*) – H. Hawks were first seen soaring at several spots south of Kona, then a closer one in Captain Cook. Views kept improving, as we scoped on perched along the highway north of Kona, and saw others perched and soaring at Hakalau refuge or along the ranch road into the refuge. Some of the best views of the hawk ever on the tour.

MOORHENS & COOTS:

COMMON GALLINULE [Hawaiian subspecies] (*Gallinula chloropsis sandvicensis*) – O,K;

Seen near Kahuku on Oahu, and at Hanalei refuge and Kekaha ponds on Kauai

HAWAIIAN COOT (*Fulica alai*) – O,K,H; an endemic coot with a huge white frontal shield

SHOREBIRDS:

Pacific Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis pacifica*) – O,K,H. Wintering plovers were seen commonly and on just about any grassy area on all the islands. A wonderful bird to see so routinely.

BLACK-NECKED STILT [Hawaiian subspecies] (*Himantopus mexicanus knudseni*) – O,K,H; showing more black on the face and neck than the North American stilts.

Wandering Tattler (*Heteroscelus incanus*) – H; seen along the Kona coastline and from the Hilo Hawaiian hotel balconies.

Lesser Yellowlegs (*Tringa flavipes*) – a juvenile at the Kahuku shrimp ponds

Bristle-thighed Curlew (*Numenius tahitiensis*) – O. Superb and incredibly close views and lots of photo opportunities. One of the world's scarcest shorebirds, we saw at least a dozen on the ground and in flight, calling.

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) – O,K,H; wintering migrants

Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) – O,K,H

JAEGERS, GULLS, & TERNS:

Black Noddy (*Anous minutus melanogenys*) – O, H. Nice views along the black volcanic cliffs near the end of Chain of Craters Rd. in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. Noddies were roosting on the sea cliffs and flying by below, others offshore. This Black Noddy is currently considered the light morph of *A. n. melanogenys*, and is restricted to the southeastern Hawaiian islands. Its orange feet and a gray wash on the upper surface of the tail are distinctive within the species.

White Tern (*Gygis alba*) – O. The first tour morning in Kapiolani Park, we saw pairs of terns flying close by and scoped one perched in a tree right in front of the New Otani Hotel.

Oahu is the only of one of the main islands where this species can be regularly seen.

SANDGROUSE, PIGEONS & DOVES:

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*) – O,K,H.

Spotted Dove (*Streptopilia chinensis*) – O,K,H.

Zebra Dove (*Geopelia striata*) – O,K,H.

PARROTS AND ALLIES:

Rose-ringed Parakeet (*Psittacula krameri*) – O. Seen flying and perched in Kapiolani Pk.

Species is well established on Kauai and apparently Maui too; established on Oahu in the Nuuanu Valley since the early 1970's. Native to Africa and Asia, feral populations of this large parakeet are now established in many parts of the world.

OWLS:

Pueo [Short-eared Owl - Hawaiian subspecies] (*Asio flammeus sandwichensis*) – H. Scarce in recent years, we saw two along the Saddle Rd. and along the road up Puu Laau.

MONARCHS, FANTAILS, and ALLIES

Hawaii Elepaio (*Chasiempis sandwichensis*) – H. Until 2010, the three elepaio species were treated as subspecies. DNA and other research now show that the species on each island are distinct. We saw *ridgwayi* subspecies Hawaii Elepaio at Hakalau refuge and Puu Puuulu (Bird Park), and *bryani* subspecies at Puu Laau.

Kauai Elepaio (*Chasiempis sclateri*) – K. Unlike the browner species of elepaio on the other islands, the Kauai Elepaios were mostly gray, the immatures mostly rust in color.

OAHU ELEPAIO (*Chasiempis ibidis*) – O. Seen with the help of Eric VanderWerf, whose research established the three way species split. For more on Dr. VanderWerf's research, see his website, pacificrimconservation.com.

LARKS

Sky Lark (*Alauda arvensis*) – H; common in the grassy areas of Parker Ranch and Mauna Kea

BULBULS

Red-vented Bulbul (*Pycnonotus cafer*) – O; common on Oahu

Red-whiskered Bulbul (*Pycnonotus jocusus*) – O; Pia Valley

OLD WORLD WARBLERS

Japanese Bush-Warbler (*Cettia diphone*) – K; heard near Kekaha

THRUSHES

White-rumped Shama (*Copsychus malabaricus*) – O,K; superb views of these lovely thrushes, first seen in Pia Valley and several on back roads on Kauai

Omao [Hawaiian Thrush] (*Myadestes obscurus*) – H. An island endemic, seen well at Hakalau refuge and Thurston Lave Tube in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

BABLERS

Hwamei/Chinese Laughingthrush (*Garrulax canorus*) – O,K,H. Formerly known as Melodious Laughing-Thrush. The best views were of one foraging through the leaf litter near the trail at Puu Puuulu (Bird Park).; We heard its loud song at a variety of sites, including in the Pia Valley on Oahu.

Red-billed Leiothrix (*Leiothrix lutea*) – O,K,H. Often a challenge to see, we had good views of these beautiful birds in Oahu’s Pia Valley, and even better views of a couple perched in the open at Puu Puaulu (Bird Park). Seen flitting at Hakalau refuge, heard at Puu Laau.

WHITE-EYES

Japanese White-eye (*Zosterops japonicus*) – O,K,H; ubiquitous on the three islands

MIMIDS

Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottus*) – K,H

MYNAS

Common Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*) – widespread on all three islands

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS & ALLIES

Saffron Finch (*Sicalis flaveola*) – H. First seen at the Kona airport, the numbers of these yellow finches on the fairways of the Big Is. Country Club were in the hundreds, perhaps a thousand or more.

Red-crested Cardinal (*Paroaria coronata*) – O,K; beautiful, introduced, tame

Yellow-billed Cardinal (*Paroaria capitata*) – H; on the west side of the Big Island and in Hilo

CARDINALS & ALLIES

Northern Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) – O,K,H

NON-NATIVE CARDUELINE FINCHES

House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) –O,K,H

Yellow-fronted Canary (*Serinus mozambicus*) – O,H; a handsome exotic from Africa

HAWAIIAN HONEYCREEPERS (DREPANIDINES)

PALILA (*Loxoides bailleui*) - H. An endangered, Big Island endemic finch limited to a small area of dry forest on the west side of Mauna Kea.

Hawaii (Common) Amakihi (*Hemignathus virens*) – H. Excellent views at Hakalau refuge and Puu Laau.

Kauai Amakihi (*Hemignathus stejnegeri*) – K. Kauai’s amakihi species had a larger and more down-curved bill. We saw a few in Kokee Forest.

Oahu Amakihi (*Hemignathus chloris*) – O. The first Hawaiian honeycreeper species seen on the tour, we found one at Puu Ualaka State Park above Honolulu, as a very yellow male posed just overhead for great views. An Oahu endemic.

Anianiau (*Magumma parvus*) – K. We hiked into the native forest at least a mile before encountering a male Anianiau, and ultimately saw two or three. Its scarcity illustrates an ongoing decline of native birds in Kauai forests.

AKIAPOLAAU (*Hemignathus munroi*) – H. In Hakalau Forest NWR, we heard and then saw a begging juvenile and watched as it received a few feedings from its parents. The rarest of all the native birds seen on the tour, we were very lucky to see this species. The species’ population is down to a few hundred. Endemic to the island of Hawaii.

HAWAII CREEPER (*Oreomystis mana*) – H. Several great studies of a creepers working the trunks and branches of the native trees in Hakalau Forest NWR. We saw this endangered endemic and the next even before passing through the pig prevention gate at Hakalau.

AKEPA (*Loxops coccineus*) – H. Very nice views of tangerine orange male Akepas at Hakalau Forest NWR. A few females were seen too, and one males sang in flight.

Iiwi (*Vestiaria coccinea*) – H. The scarlet Iiwis with their long, sickle-shaped red bills were among the most admired birds of the tour. Throughout our visit to Hakalau refuge, we were entertained by Iiwis' squeaky, raspy songs and calls.

Apapane (*Himatione sanguinea*) – K,H. The other red honeycreeper, we heard the Apapane's gentle songs on both Kauai and Hawaii, and we had many good views of Apapanes coming in to feed on red ohia blossoms. Some of the best views were near Thurston Lava Tube in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park.

OLD WORLD SPARROWS

House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) – all three islands

WAXBILLS (ESTRILDID FINCHES)

Lavender Waxbill (*Estrilda caerulescens*) – H. In a patch of tall grass near in Kealakekua, in the same spot as the following species. A beautiful and tiny bird.

Black-rumped Waxbill (*Estrilda troglodytes*) – H. A small flock in Kealakekua, a bird not seen on the tour for years.

Common Waxbill (*Estrilda astrild*) – O; in Kapiolani Park and elsewhere on Oahu

Red Avadavat (*Amandava amandava*) – K; The only seen were just along the drive exiting the Lihue airport, where several were on the lawn right next to the road, causing us to create a bit of a traffic jam.

African Silverbill (*Lonchura catans*) – H. Very scarce this trip, one large flock flying off the road south of Waimea.

Nutmeg Mannikin (*Lonchura punctulata*) – O,K,H

Chestnut Mannikin (*Lonchura malacca*) – K; tiny, plump, chestnut colored birds with black hoods and heavy blue-gray beaks

Java Sparrow (*Padda oryzivora*) – O,K,H; the little finch with the puffin-like face

MAMMALS and HERPS

MONK SEAL – one of this endangered species was hauled out above the tide line at Kilauea refuge

Hawaiian Hoary Bat – H. A strange sighting, as one or two were flying around the Big Island Country Club under a late afternoon sky of low, dark clouds.

Small Indian Mongoose – O, H (nonnative)

Feral Pig – H (nonnative)

Feral Goat – H (nonnative)

Mouflon [sheep] – H (nonnative)

Green Turtle – H; native sea turtles along the Kona beachfront

Gold Dust Day Gecko – H (nonnative)

Gecko – O (nonnative)

Coqui Frog – H; heard (nonnative)