'Ākohekohe (crested honeycreeper)



Distribution

Increases in climate favorable to mosquitoes have restricted 'ākohekohe to the absolute highest native forest habitats available in East Maui. 'Ākohekohe occur in a very narrow, high elevation band in the highest elevation 'ōhi'a forests, especially in The Nature Conservancy's Waikamoi Preserve, Hanawī Natural Area Reserve, and Manawainui within Haleakalā National Park.

Behavior

'Ākohekohe can be very aggressive and are at the top of the nectarivore food chain now. They have a relatively higher reproductive rate, but they did not do well in captive breeding when a small number of eggs were collected and reared in the late 1990s.

Current Status

Estimated wild population in 2021 is 1,657 individuals. There are no 'ākohekohe in captivity. Estimated year of extinction is 2026 to 2037, most likely 2032.

Link to ECOS https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3089