

Readers' Guide

Native species discussed in this document are referred to by their Hawaiian names. Common English names and scientific nomenclature can also be found in the glossary in Appendix A. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service endeavors to be accurate in its use of the Hawaiian language and correctly spell Hawaiian words, including the diacritical marks that affect the meaning and aid in pronunciation. This guide is provided to simplify pronunciation for the reader.

When Captain Cook arrived in the Hawaiian Islands in 1778, the Hawaiians had a totally oral tradition. In 1820, western missionaries standardized a written version of the Hawaiian language that features eight consonants and five vowels.

Consonants

H - as in English
 K - as in English
 L - as in English
 M - as in English
 N - as in English
 P - as in English
 W - after i and e pronounced v
 - after u and o pronounced like w
 - at the start of a word or after a,
 pronounced like w or v
 (‘) - ‘okina - a glottal stop

Vowels

A - pronounced like the a in far
 E - pronounced like the e in bet
 I - pronounced like the ee in beet
 O - pronounced like the o in sole
 U - pronounced like the oo in boot

Special Symbols

Two symbols appear frequently in Hawaiian words: the ‘okina and the kahakō. These two symbols change how words are pronounced. The ‘okina itself looks like an upside-down apostrophe and is a glottal stop – or a brief break in the word. An example of this in English is in the middle of the expression “uh-oh.” The ‘okina is an official consonant – just as any of the other consonants.

The kahakō is a stress mark (macron) that can appear over vowels only and serve to make the vowel sound slightly longer. The vowels ā, ē, ī, ō, and ū sound just like their non-stress Hawaiian vowels with the exception that the sound is held slightly longer. Missing the ‘okina or kahakō can greatly change not only the how a word sounds, but also its basic meaning. A popular example of how an ‘okina and a kahakō can change the meaning of a word is “pau”:

- pau = finished, ended, all done
- pa‘u = soot, smudge, ink powder
- pa‘ū = moist, damp
- pā‘ū = skirt

Refuge Place Names

Keālia	(<i>kay-AHH-LEE-ah</i>)	meaning: salt encrusted
Mā‘alaea	(<i>MAHH ah-la-AY-ah</i>)	meaning: red colored earth
Molokini	(<i>Mo-lo-KEE-nee</i>)	meaning: many ties

Waterbirds

Ae‘o (EYE oh)

Hawaiian Stilt *Himantopus mexicanus knudseni*

SPECIES STATUS:

Federally listed as Endangered

State listed as Endangered

State recognized as Indigenous



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‘Alae ke‘oke‘o (ah-lye KAY oh KAY oh)

Hawaiian Coot *Fulica alai*

SPECIES STATUS:

Federally listed as Endangered

State listed as Endangered

State recognized as Endemic



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Nēnē (NAY-NAY)

Hawaiian Goose *Branta sandvicensis*

SPECIES STATUS:

Federally listed as Endangered

State listed as Endangered

State recognized as Endemic



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‘Auku‘u (ow-KOO oo)

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous



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Koloa maoli (ko-LOWah MAOW-lee)

Hawaiian Duck *Anas wyvilliana*

SPECIES STATUS:

Federally listed as Endangered

State listed as Endangered

State recognized as Endemic



Brenda Zaun

Migrant Shorebirds

‘Akekeke (ah-kay-KAY-kay)

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous

U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan - High Concern



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Hunakai (hoo-nah-KYE)

Sanderling *Calidris alba*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous

Hunakai means “sea foam.” Their habit of running along the receding waves on the shore in search of small sand crabs apparently reminded early Hawaiians of the sea foam or *hunakai* left behind by the waves. It shares the name with a coastal plant.



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Kioea (kee-oh-AY-ah)

Bristle-thighed Curlew *Numenius tahitiensis*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous

IUCN Red List Ranking - Vulnerable



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Kōlea (KOHH-lay-ah)

Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous

U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan - High Concern



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‘Ūlīlī (OOO-lee-lee)

Wandering Tattler *Heteroscelus incanus*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous

U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan - Moderate Concern



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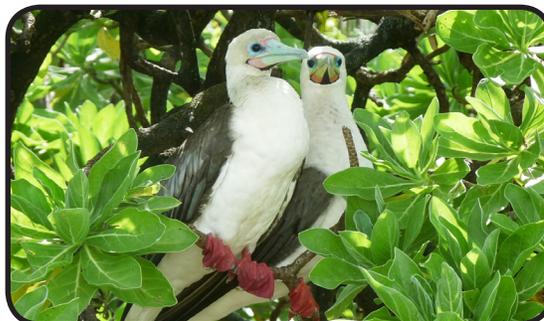
Seabirds

‘Ā (AHH)

Red-footed Bobby *Sula sula*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous



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Noio (NOY-oh)

Black Noddy *Anous minutus*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous

North American Waterbird Conservation Plan -

Moderate concern



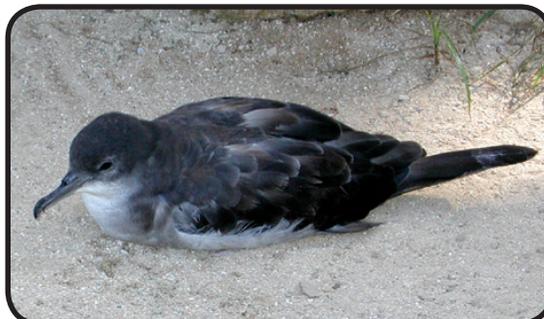
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‘Ua‘u kani (OO-ah oo KAH-nee)

Wedge-tailed Shearwater *Puffinus pacificus*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous



NPS

‘Iwa (EE-vah)

Great Frigatebird *Fregata minor palmerstoni*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous



USFWS

‘Ou (OH)

Bulwer’s Petrel *Bulweria bulwerii*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous



USFWS

Other Native Animals

‘Ōka‘i ‘aiea (OHH-kah ee eye-AY-ah)

Blackburn’s Sphinx Moth *Manduca blackburni*

SPECIES STATUS:

Federally listed as Endangered

State listed as Endangered

State recognized as Endemic



Ellen VanGelder

Honu ‘ea (HO-noo AY-ah)

Hawksbill Turtle *Eretmochelys imbricata*

SPECIES STATUS:

Federally listed as Endangered

State listed as Endangered



George Balazs

Honu (HO-noo)

Hawaiian Green Turtle *Chelonia mydas*

SPECIES STATUS:

Federally listed as Threatened

State recognized as Indigenous

IUCN Red List Ranking - Endangered



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‘Īlio-holo-i-ka-uaua (EEE-lee-oh HO-loh EE kah OO-ah OO-ah)

Hawaiian Monk Seal *Monachus schauinslandi*

SPECIES STATUS:

Federally listed as Endangered



NOAA

Pueo (poo-AY-oh)

Hawaiian Short-eared Owl *Asio flammeus sandwichensis*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Endangered on O‘ahu

State recognized as Endemic



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Native Plants - Herbs

‘Ākulikuli (AAH-koo-lee-KOO-lee)

Sea Purslane *Sesuvium portulacastrum*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous



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‘Āki‘aki (AH-kee AH-kee)

Beach Dropseed *Sporobolus virginicus*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Endemic



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Pōhuehue (POHH-hoo-ay-HOO-ay)

Beach Morning Glory *Ipomoea pescaprae*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous



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Kaluhā (kah-loo-HAHH)

Alkali Bulrush *Scirpus maritimus*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous



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‘Ihi (EE-hee)

Ihi *Portulaca molokiniensis*

SPECIES STATUS:

Federally listed as Endangered



Forest & Kim Starr

Native Plants - Shrubs & Trees

Hala (HAH-lah)

Beach Vitex *Pandanus tectorius*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous



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‘Ōhelo kai (OHH-heh-loh KYE)

Hawai‘i Desert-thorn *Lycium sandwicense*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous



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Naio (NYE-oh)

False Sandalwood *Myoporum sandwicense*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous



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Naupaka Kahakai (now-PAH-kah kah-HAH-kye)

Beach Naupaka *Scaevola taccada*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous



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Pōhinahina (POHH-hee-nah HEE-nah)

Beach Vitex *Vitex rotundifolia*

SPECIES STATUS:

State recognized as Indigenous



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