

SPRING HAWAII

MARCH 9-17, 2016

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By Bob Sundstrom

The Spring Hawaii tour takes in the best of the natural history of three main Hawaiian islands—Hawaii, Kauai, and Oahu: stunning seabirds, rare one-of-a-kind forest birds in beautiful tropical forests, scenic seacoasts and interior mountain ridges, and massive volcanoes. Hawaii also offers the most accessible volcanic realm in the world, balmy weather, and superb food. Lodging is nice too, and three of the four hotels where we stay back right up to the ocean shoreline.

Our 2016 Spring Hawaii tour, over nine days and across three islands, began on the island of Oahu, in Waikiki, with dinner at sunset, overlooking the Pacific. The next morning found us watching sprightly White Terns, fluttering above nest trees or perched on branches. After breakfast with a view of the ocean and Brown Boobies, we went in search of the island's endemic forest birds—Oahu Elepaio and Oahu Amakihi. By midafternoon we were watching one of the world's scarcest shorebirds—the Bristle-thighed Curlew—near the island's northeast corner, and close enough to see the trademark bristles, as a Great Frigatebird hung in the air overhead. A superb way to round out the day's birding, before another dinner overlooking the Pacific.

By mid-morning of Day 3 we were standing on a scenic overlook on the island of Kauai, watching spectacular seabirds. Although Kilauea Point refuge was temporarily closed to repair a washed-out walkway, we still had nice views of spectacular seabirds. Lustrous Red-tailed Tropicbirds flapped by again and again, some close enough for us to see the almost wire-like feathers that make up the red tail. Others lay in nest crevices, within good scope view. Laysan Albatrosses arced over the lighthouse and across the waves, as Red-footed Boobies flew by at close range. At nearby Hanalei Refuge we enjoyed close views of the islands' endangered waterbirds: Nene (Hawaiian Goose), Koloa (Hawaiian Duck), Hawaiian Coot, and the local subspecies of Common Gallinule and Black-necked Stilt.

A second day on Kauai put us alongside majestic Waimea Canyon, rightly known as “Hawaii's Grand Canyon,” and next to 4,000 foot overlooks onto the sea along the Na Pali coastline. The drive up the canyon turned up our first views of Pueo (Hawaiian Short-eared Owl), as well as Black and Erckel's francolins. Birding the native forest nearby, we found such Kauai endemic forest birds as Anianiau, Kauai Elepaio, and Kauai Amakihi, as well as Apapane.

On Day #5 we landed at Kona on Hawaii, aka “The Big Island,” where we would spend the next four nights. Lunch found us at a tiny café tucked into the Kona coffee groves on the west slope of Mauna Loa—and overlooking Kealakekua Bay, some 1,500 feet below. The next day led into Hakalau Refuge, the best place anywhere in the islands for native forest birds. Soon after reaching the refuge at 6,000 feet in the rainforest, we began to see Iiwis—unique, scarlet Hawaiian honeycreepers probing the red blossoms of native ohia trees with their long, red, sickle-shaped bills. Soon we saw Hawaii Amakihis and Hawaii Elepaios, often at eye level. A

warbled note put our eyes onto a tangerine-orange Akepa, another Big Island endemic, followed by the Big Island's unique thrush, Omao. A little farther down the trail, an endangered endemic Hawaii Creeper crept over the limbs and trunk of a tree, much like a nuthatch. On the drive out to the forest in the morning, we crossed paths with no less than eight of Hawaii's native diurnal owl, the Pueo, and had nice views of soaring Hawaiian Hawk—yet another one-island endemic.

The following day we explored mamane/naio forest on the dry, western face of Mauna Kea. Here is the last holdout of the Palila, an island endemic that looks something like a Pine Grosbeak, and a species found only in this forest. Our good luck held, as we soon were treated to nice views of Palila, as well as a distinctive, dry forest form of Hawaii Elepaio and a fancy exotic, the Red-billed Leiothrix.

A final full day at Hawaii Volcanoes National Park gave us a chance to explore the volcanic landscape in the light of day, to look across vast fields of recent lava, to walk through an extinct lava tube, and to gain a closer, more personal sense of how the islands were created. A bit of birding along a forest trail gave us a terrific view of the secretive, loud-voiced Hwamei (formerly known as Melodious Laughing-Thrush) and scope views of Kamehameha Butterfly, one of only two butterflies endemic to the island chain. We had already seen the other, the tiny Blackburn's Blue.

The Spring Hawaii tour made the most of the natural history and scenic splendor of Hawaii, Kauai, and Oahu, while enjoying its mild climate and superb food.

ITINERARY:

- Day 1 Wednesday, March 9:** Arrival in Honolulu (Oahu) and get-acquainted dinner at New Otani Hotel. Dinner at New Otani's Hau Tree Lanai. First of two nights in Waikiki.
- Day 2 Thursday, March 10:** Birding on Oahu. Before breakfast, birded in Kapiolani Park. Later morning birding along Wiliwilinui Trail. Lunch at Sumo Ramen. Midday north on H-2 past Haleiwa and North Shore for afternoon birding near Kahuku. Return drive along Oahu east shore and over Likelike Hwy. The day's birding highlights included fine views of White Terns and Oahu Amakihi, and as many as ten Bristle-thighed Curlews. Dinner at New Otani's Hau Tree Lanai. Second night in Waikiki.
- Day 3 Friday, March 11:** Kauai. Morning flight from Honolulu to Lihue (Kauai). Birded north shore of Kauai at overlook adjacent to Kilauea Pt. National Wildlife Refuge [refuge closed for several months for repair of collapsed walkway to point]. After lunch in Kilauea, birded wetland edges at Hanalei NWR. Near Kilauea Pt., good views of Red-tailed Tropicbirds, Laysan Albatrosses, and Red-footed Boobies. At Hanalei, we saw Koloa (Hawaiian Duck), Nenes very close, Hawaiian Coot, and the Hawaiian gallinule and stilt subspecies. Mid-afternoon check in at the Courtyard Marriot in Kapaa, and afternoon break. Dinner at Wahoo Grill. First of two nights in Kapaa.
- Day 4 Saturday, March 12:** An early morning departure took us first to breakfast in Kalaheo, then up along Waimea Canyon, where we stopped for francolins near the roadside and at scenic overlooks on the canyon. Drove into Kokee Forest, stopping along roadside to bird at several spots. Afternoon birding near Kekaha, including sand pit wetland. Today's bird highlights included great views of Kauai endemic bird species Anianiau, Kauai Amakihi, and Kauai

Elepaio, plus Apapanes, Erckel's Francolin and Black Francolin. Dinner at Brick Oven Pizza in Kapaa; second night in Kapaa.

- Day 5 Sunday, March 13:** A morning flight from Lihue, Kauai via Honolulu to Kona, on Hawaii (Big Island). Drove south for lunch at Coffee Shack with a stupendous view of Kealakekua Bay. After lunch, birded residential roads above Captain Cook. Heading north from Kona, drove some distance up Kaloko Rd, and birded near Puu Anahulu where we had good views of Sky Lark, Erckel's Francolin, and Wild Turkey. Also today our first Saffron Finches and Yellow-billed Cardinals, and Kalij Pheasant behind Kamuela Inn. Dinner at Merriman's in Waimea. Night in Kamuela/Waimea.
- Day 6 Monday, March 14:** After an early breakfast in Waimea, departed for the east side of Mauna Kea and Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge. Packed up picnic lunches at Mauna Kea State Park. Birded along ranch road enroute to refuge. Birded along trails in the native forest until early afternoon, when fog/cloud diminished visibility to nil. Hakalau featured a great deal of bird activity and fine views of many Iiwis and all Big Is. endemics except Aki'. Numerous Pueos (Short-eared Owl) during drive. Arriving in Hilo, checked in at Hilo Hawaiian and took an afternoon break, before dinner at hotel. First of three nights in Hilo
- Day 7 Tuesday, March 15:** After breakfast in Hilo, departed east to bird near Puu Laau on the dry side of Mauna Kea, where we had good luck finding endangered Palila. Returned east on Saddle Rd. to hike out Puu Oo Trail. Picnicked in a koa kipuka, awaiting opportunity to find Akiapolau, which were silent today and not to be seen foraging either. Returned to Hilo; late afternoon break. Dinner at Café Pesto. Second night in Hilo.
- Day 8 Wednesday, March 16:** A full day in and near Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. Birded in Kipuka Puau (Bird Park) on the Mauna Loa Rd., where we saw the endemic Kamehameha Butterfly, plus Kalij Pheasants and Hwamei. Next to Thurston Lava Tube, then drove full length of Chain of Craters Road, stopping enroute to view volcanic features. Great views of Black Noddies along seacoast lava cliffs. Lunch at Lava Rock Café in Volcano Village. Returned to park to visit Visitor Center/Art Gallery, then Jaggar Museum, and finally Puu Puai/Devastation Trail. Returned to Hilo by late afternoon for dinner at Café Pesto. Final night at Hilo Hawaiian.
- Day 9 Thursday, March 17:** Breakfast at Ken's in Hilo, before individual flight departures from Hilo.

LOCATION KEY:

H = Hawaii (the Big Island)

K = Kauai

O = Oahu

Note: species in ***bold italics*** are Hawaiian Islands endemic species or subspecies
species in ***CAPITALIZED BOLD ITALICS*** are endangered Hawaiian endemics
species in **plain bold** are otherwise especially noteworthy sightings, rare or unusual

BIRDS:

GEESE & DUCKS:

Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*) – one at Waiakea Pond in Hilo

NENE (*Branta sandvicensis*) – K,H. A couple dozen seen on Kauai, primarily at Hanalei refuge.

On the Big Is., seen at Hakalau refuge and Waiakea Pond in Hilo.

Eurasian Wigeon (*Anas penelope*) – O,H; a male and female at shrimp ponds on Oahu; a drake at Hilo's Waiakea Pond.

American Wigeon (*Anas americana*) – O; six at shrimp ponds near Kahuku, on Oahu

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) – H; some at Lokowaka Pond probably of wild origin
KOLOA [HAWAIIAN DUCK] (*Anas wyvilliana*) – K; endemic to the Hawaiian Islands, nice views at Hanalei National Wildlife Refuge; on Oahu, Koloa are presumed hybridized with Mallards, although appeared very similar to those seen on Kauai

Northern Pintail (*Anas acuta*) – O,H. Three hens at Kahuku shrimp ponds; a hen and drake at Lokowaka Pond, Hilo.

Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya collaris*) – H; one drake at Lokowaka Pond.

Lesser Scaup (*Aythya affinis*) – H; two hens at Lokowaka Pond.

GALLINACEOUS BIRDS:

California Quail (*Callipepla californica*) – H; at Big Island Golf Club at Puu Anahulu and along Saddle Rd.

Chukar (*Alectoris chukar*) – H; along Saddle Rd. and ranch road into Hakalau refuge

Gray Francolin (*Francolinus pondicerianus*) – H; several pairs on Parker Ranch horse arena grounds on the edge of Waimea; also along Saddle Rd.

Black Francolin (*Francolinus francolinus*) – K,H. Nice views of several beautiful males along the lower Waimea Canyon Rd. on Kauai. Also seen along highway south of Waimea and along Saddle Rd.

Erckel's Francolin (*Francolinus erckelii*) – K,H. The largest of the three francolins, we had first good views along lower Waimea Canyon Rd. on Kauai, and again on Hawaii at various locations from Puu Anahulu to Saddle Rd. to Hawaii Volcanoes NP where one posed for photos at the start of the trail into Kipuka Puauulu (aka Bird Park)

Red Junglefowl (*Gallus gallus*) – K. Feral chickens grading into remnants of long established populations of Junglefowl in Kokee Forest at higher elevations. The species was originally brought to the islands about 1000 years ago by the Polynesians.

Kalij Pheasant (*Lophura leucomelana*) – H; first seen at Kamuela Inn at Waimea, then daily on Big Island with closest views and photos at Kipuka Puauulu

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

Wild Turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) – H; flocks near Puu Anahulu and along Saddle Rd. and ranch road into Hakalau

TUBENOSES:

Laysan Albatross (*Diomedea immutabilis*) – K. At Kilauea Pt. National Wildlife Refuge, adult albatrosses flew by the lighthouse and over open water as viewed from the overlook just outside the closed refuge entrance gates.

TROPICBIRDS

Red-tailed Tropicbird (*Phaeton rubricauda*) – K. Several pairs of these lustrous white seabirds flew out from the overlook at Kilauea Pt., sometimes close enough to see the fine red tail feathers.

White-tailed Tropicbird (*Phaeton lepturus*) – K,H. Close and distant views alongside or in Waimea Canyon; on Hawaii, flying through the gases pouring out of Halemaumau Crater.

FRIGATEBIRDS

Great Frigatebird – O,K. One immature soared overhead for excellent views at Kahuku on Oahu; another at Kilauea Point on Kauai.

BOOBIES

Red-footed Booby (*Sula sula*) - K. Hundreds of boobies were perched in their nest/roost trees adjacent to Kilauea Pt., and others flew close by the overlook for excellent views, sometimes showing their red feet used as rudders in tight turns in flight.

Brown Booby (*Sula sula*) – O, K; flying along the outer surf line at Waikiki, as seen at breakfast from the lanai restaurant. Also flying near Kilauea Pt.

HERONS AND IBISES:

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) - O,K,H; an introduced species in Hawaii

Black-crowned Night-Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax hoactli*) - O,K,H. Considered same subspecies found in South and North America; the Hawaii adults are duskier overall.

EAGLES, HAWKS & ALLIES:

I'O [HAWAIIAN HAWK] (*Buteo solitarius*) – H. First seen at Hakalau, soaring over the forest edge as we walked down into the tree. Excellent view of one on the ground along Saddle Rd., where old lava flows were interspersed with ohia forest.

MOORHENS & COOTS:

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

Seen near Kahuku on Oahu, and at Hanalei refuge on Kauai. In a recent AOU taxonomy revision, the Common Moorhen found in the New World was split from those in the Old World, and returned to its former name of Common Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*). The Hawaii birds are considered part of the New World species, Common Gallinule. The same revision suggested that Hawaii's birds should be evaluated more carefully, implying a possible distinct species.

HAWAIIAN COOT (*Fulica alai*) – O,K,H. Hawaiian endemic coot with massive white frontal shield than American or Eurasian coots. One seen with a massive red spot on shield.

SHOREBIRDS:

Pacific Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis pacifica*) – O,K,H. Wintering plovers were ubiquitous on grassy areas on all the islands, many with lots of black feathers of alternate plumage on their undersides and superb golden edges to back feathers.

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

Wandering Tattler (*Heteroscelus incanus*) – O,H; first, good views at Kahuku shrimp ponds; others at ponds in Hilo and on Hilo Bay rocky shoreline near the hotel.

Bristle-thighed Curlew (*Numenius tahitiensis*) – O. Approximately ten were seen near Kahuku, at one of the species regular wintering sites in the Hawaiian archipelago (and only regular wintering site on the main islands). Two curlews hunkered down out of the stiff wind in a small Japanese cemetery, close enough to see the stiff, bristle-like feathers at the base of the legs. Some flew by showing buffy to salmon rump and uppertail. One of the world's scarcer shorebirds, with entire population estimated around 7000-8000.

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

Sanderling (*Calidris alba*) – O; wintering migrants near Kahuku

JAEGERS, GULLS, & TERNS:

White Tern (*Gygis alba*) – O. While still dark the first morning, we scoped a roosting White Tern very near the hotel. Twenty or so terns fluttering over the trees in Kapiolani Park, and a few perched. Oahu is the only main Hawaiian island where this species is seen.

Black Noddy (*Anous minutus melanogenys*) – H. Great views of this distinctive subspecies of noddy on ledges and in flight along the black volcanic cliffs near the end of Chain of Craters Rd., in Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. Black Noddy in Hawaii is currently considered the light morph of *A. m. melanogenys*, and is restricted to the southeastern Hawaiian islands. Its orange feet and a gray wash on the upper surface of the tail are unique within the species.

PIGEONS & DOVES:

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

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

Mourning Dove (*Zenaida macroura*) – H. With a very small population on the Big Island, we were lucky to see on near Puu Laau.

Zebra Dove (*Geopelia striata*) – O,K,H. The petite and very tame dove, sometimes underfoot.

OWLS:

Pueo (*Asio flammeus sandwichensis*) [AKA Short-eared Owl, Hawaiian subspecies]– K,H. First seen on Kauai, from road along Waimea Canyon. On the Big Island, we saw altogether about ten of these distinctive, diurnal owls along the Saddle Road and ranch road into Hakalau and road up to Puu Laau. Species had become scarce and local after a long drought on the Big Island, but appears to have bounced back a bit.

PARROTS AND ALLIES:

Rose-ringed Parakeet (*Psittacula krameri*) – O,K. Seen in Kapiolani Pk., small numbers in flight. Seen briefly on Kauai. Native to sub-Saharan Africa and South Asia, feral populations are now established in many parts of the world.

MONARCH FLYCATCHERS

Hawaii Elepaio (*Chasiempis sandwichensis*) – H. We saw brownish form of Hawaii Elepaio at Hakalau refuge, and at Puu Laau on the dry side of Mauna Kea a paler, grayer form. Until 2010, the current three elepaio species were treated as subspecies. DNA and other research by Eric Vanderwerf has shown that the species on each island are distinct.

Kauai Elepaio (*Chasiempis sclateri*) – K. Excellent views of the amazingly confiding Kauai Elepaio. Kauai Elepaio adults were gray overall with rust underparts.

OAHU ELEPAIO (*Chasiempis ibidis*) – O. An endangered species found only on Oahu. On a very windy day, we had only brief views along Wiliwilinui Trail. One of the harder Hawaiian endemics to find.

LARKS

Sky Lark (*Alauda arvensis*) – H; common in grassy areas around Waimea and on Mauna Kea; Barry counted over 300 seen along roadways on the day we drove across Saddle Rd. to Hakalau refuge.

BULBULS

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

OLD WORLD WARBLERS

Japanese Bush-Warbler (*Cettia diphone*) – K,H. Heard on Kauai, seen by some at a picnic area along Waimea Canyon on Hawaii. It's loud song was easily heard.

WHITE-EYES

Japanese White-eye (*Zosterops japonicus*) – O,K,H. The little green birds seen often while looking for the native species.

BABLERS

Hwamei (*Garrulax canorus*) – K,H. We heard its loud song at a variety of sites, and were rewarded with excellent views of one singing in Volcanoes Park, at Kipuka Puauulu.

Red-billed Leiothrix (*Leiothrix lutea*) – O,H. Always a challenge to see although often heard in right habitat, we had best views in at Puu Laau at the Palila spot.

OLD WORLD FLYCATCHERS

White-rumped Shama (*Copsychus malabaricus*) – O,K. Good views of this elegant introduced bird along the road in the upper part of Hanalei Refuge on Kauai; seen also on hotel grounds in Kapaa. Heard on Oahu.

THRUSHES

Omao [Hawaiian Thrush] (*Myadestes obscurus*) – H. Endemic to the island of Hawaii, we first saw this smoky gray thrush at Hakalau refuge, and heard it in Volcanoes Park.

MIMIDS

Northern Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottus*) – K,H; near Lihue airport, Kekaha, and Puu Laau

MYNAS

Common Myna (*Acridotheres tristis*) – O,K,H; widespread, always in pairs

TANAGERS & ALLIES

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

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

BUNTINGS, SPARROWS & ALLIES

Saffron Finch (*Sicalis flaveola*) – H. First seen at Kona airport. Common on the west side of Hawaii, becoming more common on Hilo side of island in recent years.

CARDINALS & ALLIES

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

BLACKBIRDS AND ALLIES:

Western Meadowlark (*Sturnella neglecta*) – K.

NON-NATIVE FINCHES (subfamily Carduelinae)

House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) –O,K,H; introduced from North America

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

HAWAIIAN “HONEYCREEPERS” (finch subfamily Drepanidinae)

PALILA (*Loxoides bailleui*) - H. First seen perched atop a twig along the road to Puu Laau, then scoped in the mamane/naio forest near a fenced remnant sandalwood grove. An endangered, Big Island endemic finch limited to a small area, the entire population is may be less than 1000.

Hawaii (Common) Amakihi (*Hemignathus virens*) – H. Fine views at Hakalau refuge and Puu Laau, sometimes right at eye level. Also and heard in Hawaii Volcanoes NP.

Oahu Amakihi (*Hemignathus chloris*) – O. Seen along Wiliwilinui Trail, where calling on and off. A male flew in to give us the best view. An Oahu endemic.

Kauai Amakihi (*Hemignathus stejnegeri*) – K. Another one island endemic, we worked quite a while to see this species, but finally had wonderful views of a male at the upper lookout in Kokee Forest. Distinctive among amakihi species for its longer and more decurved bill.

Anianiau (*Magnumma parvus*) – K. We found a very cooperative, bright yellow male Anianiau along the paved road in Kokee, saving a long trek deeper into the forest. Its current scarcity demonstrates a dramatic ongoing decline of Kauai’s native forest birds.

HAWAII CREEPER (*Oreomystis mana*) – H. Another Big Is. endangered endemic, we saw a couple briefly before getting a fine view of an adult creeper like a nuthatch on the limbs of a tree.

AKEPA (*Loxops coccineus*) – H. A lovely orange male gave nice views in the ohias in the first part of the walk into Hakalau. Another couple farther along the trail. Endangered, and found only at Hakalau Forest NWR.

Iiwi (*Vestiaria coccinea*) – H. One of the first native birds we saw at Hakalau, near the beginning of the trail, as an Iiwi worked the native raspberry thickets. Many spectacular studies of scarlet Iiwis during our hours at Hakalau, and lots of their raspy voices.

Apapane (*Himatione sanguinea*) – K,H. First seen in Kokee Forest on Kauai, we later enjoyed many views of this brick-red honeycreeper on the Big Is.

OLD WORLD SPARROWS

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

WAXBILLS (Estrilididae)

Lavender Waxbill (*Estrilda caerulescens*) – H; seen only by Allie, briefly in Coffee Shack coffee grove

Common Waxbill (*Estrilda astrild*) – O,H; in Kapiolani Park and elsewhere on Oahu; also near Captain Cook on Big Is.

African Silverbill (*Lonchura cantans*) – H; a flock along Saddle Rd. gave decent views
Java Sparrow (*Padda oryzivora*) – O,K,H
Scaly-breasted Munia (*Lonchura punctulata*) – O,K,H.
Chestnut Munia (*Lonchura malacca*) – K. Tiny, plump, chestnut colored birds with black hoods and heavy blue-gray beaks.

MAMMALS & HERPS:

Small Indian Mongoose (*Herpestes javanicus*) – O,H; nonnative
Feral Pig (*Sus scrofa*) – K,H; descendents of pigs brought by early English captains
Mouflon [sheep] (*Ovis orientalis*) – H (nonnative). Small to large groups of this Old World sheep along the Saddle Rd.
Feral Goat (*Capra aegagrus hircus*) – H.
mouse species
rat species
Gold Dust Day Gecko (*Phelsuma laticauda*) – H (nonnative); on the walls and windowsills of the Coffee Shack, south of Captain Cook and in Hilo
Brown Anole (*Anolis sagrei*) – K; probable identity of brownish anole seen on Kauai
House Gecko (*Hemidactylus frenatus*) – likely identity of geckos on walls and ceiling at New Otani Hotel
Common Coqui Frog (*Eleutherodactylus Coqui*) – H; heard (nonnative)

NATIVE BUTTERFLIES AND DRAGONFLIES:

Kamehameha Butterfly (*Vanessa tameamea*) – H. Barry scoped one on a branch over the trail in Kipuka Puauulu. One of only two butterfly species that are entirely endemic to the Hawaiian Islands.
Blackburn's Blue (*Udara blackburni*) – K,H. Tiny native butterfly seen on shrubs, quite green when wings folded up. Also known as Koa Butterfly and Hawaiian Blue.
Giant Hawaiian Darner/Pinao (*Anax strenua*) – K,H. Large native, endemic dragonfly. One of the largest of all modern dragonflies, with wingspan reaching 152 mm. (5.98 in.).