

## Hawaiian Coot (*Fulica alai*) or 'Alae Ke'oke'o

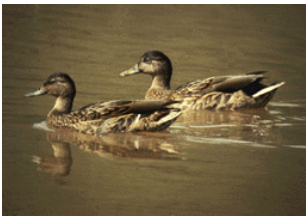


Endangered Hawaiian coots have often been observed in the Wetland Preservation Area in the Kauhale Preserve. They are distinguishable by their black coloring and white beaks and foreheads. They construct floating nests of aquatic vegetation in open water, or semi-floating nests anchored to clumps of wetland vegetation. Nests have also been documented on shorelines or rocky islets. "False nests" may be constructed near the actual nest and are often used as loafing or brooding platforms. Most nesting occurs from March through September, although some nesting occurs in all months of the year. Clutch size ranges from 3 to 10 eggs,

with an average of 5 eggs.

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## Hawaiian Duck (*Anas wyvilliana*) or Koloa maoli



As shown in the photograph at left, the endangered koloa are small, drab-brown ducks, with emerald patches of color on the rear part of the wings. The adults of both sexes resemble dark, female mallards. They are usually alone or in pairs and are very wary. Hawaiian ducks breed year-round, but the majority of nesting occurs from March through June. Nests are on the ground near water, but little else is known of their specific nesting habits. There have been few documented records of nesting in areas populated by humans, particularly where cats, dogs, or mongooses are common. Clutch size ranges from 2 to 10 eggs.

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## Hawaiian Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus knudseni*) or Ae'o



Endangered Hawaiian Stilts are frequently present throughout the Ocean Pointe/Hoakalei property. As shown by the photograph at far left, Stilts are black above (except for the forehead) and white below and have distinctive pink legs. The average length of a Hawaiian stilt is about 16 inches. As illustrated by the photograph at near left, they prefer to place their nests on small, bare, or sparsely vegetated islands in shallow ponds with stable water levels. However, they will also use other dry, bare sites near shallow water. The nest itself is a simple scrape or depression on

the ground. Nesting season in Hawaii is March through August with a peak in May and June. Feeding typically occurs in shallow flooded wetlands. Hawaiian stilts require specific conditions (water depths of 13 centimeters [5 inches] or less) for optimal foraging.

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### ***Protecting Endangered Waterbirds***

At least three species of endangered waterbirds (Hawaiian Coots, Hawaiian Stilts, and Hawaiian Ducks) use the Wetland Preservation Area in the Kauhale Preserve for foraging and/or nesting. The Endangered Species Act (ESA), as amended, makes it illegal to "harm" these endangered waterbirds in any way. Harm includes changing their habitat in a way that makes it more difficult for them to rest or eat. Cleanups of the WPA help maintain habitat for these endangered birds. It is VERY IMPORTANT that everyone comply with the Endangered Species Act. The Endangered Species Act makes individuals responsible. That means that if you do something on purpose or carelessly that harms the birds, the government could prosecute you. The penalties can be stiff fines or even jail.

***Mahalo for your help and cooperation.***

***It is important to the continued survival of these species!***

*'E Hana Pono No Ka 'Āina A Me Ka Ho'oilina O 'Ewa  
To ensure good stewardship of the land and heritage of the 'Ewa Plain*