

WILDLIFE CONSERVATION



Thousands of acres of State highway rights-of-way in Hawai'i occur adjacent to ecologically sensitive areas, such as wildlife refuges, national parks and forest reserves. Transportation projects often lead to unintended consequences for wildlife and habitat.

Vehicles, construction equipment, materials, and activities associated with construction and maintenance of roads and roadsides can negatively impact wildlife behavior and habitat, and promote the spread and establishment of invasive animals.

Typical impacts to wildlife include injury or death of birds disoriented by bright street lights and habitat destruction of stream fauna due to bifurcation of streams by bridges. Avoid and minimize impacts to wildlife. This is the most cost-effective management approach. Below are some threatened and endangered native species.

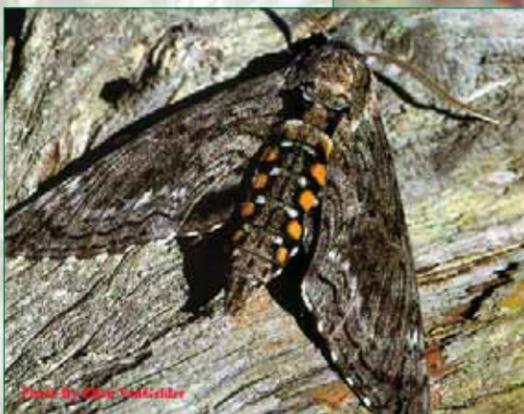


Hawaiian Petrel ('ua'u) (*Pterodroma sandwichensis*)



- The Hawaiian petrel breeds on Maui, Hawai'i, Kaua'i, Lāna'i, and possibly Moloka'i.
- It breeds in a variety of remote, inland habitats including xeric habitats with very sparse vegetation and lower elevation wet forests dominated by 'ōhi'a with a dense understory of uluhe fern.
- Threats: artificial lighting which disorients fledglings, powerline collisions, predation by introduced species, and habitat degradation.

Blackburn's Sphinx Moth (*Manduca blackburni*)



- Blackburn's sphinx moth now exists mostly in coastal, lowland and dry forests receiving less than 50 inches of rain per year.
- Occurs only on Maui, Kaho'olawe, and the Island of Hawai'i.
- Possible threats: introduced insects, such as ants and parasitic flies and competition from non-native species.

Newell's Shearwater ('a'o) (*Puffinus auricularis newelli*)



- Newell's shearwater occurs in the open tropical seas and offshore waters near breeding grounds, the largest occurring on Kaua'i; also nests in variety of habitats.
- Most breeding colonies occur 525 to 3,936 feet elevation on steep, densely vegetated mountains; also found on the dry, sparsely vegetated cliffs, forested cinder cones and open native forest.
- Threats: artificial lighting which disorients fledglings, powerline collisions, predation by introduced species, and habitat degradation.

Hawaiian Hoary Bat ('ope'ape'a) (*Lasirus cinereus semotus*)



- The Hawaiian hoary bat occurs on all main Hawaiian Islands, except for Ni'ihau, in a wide range of habitats and elevations.
- On the Island of Hawai'i, the bat is found primarily from sea level to 7,500 feet elevation, and has been observed near the island's summits above 13,000 feet.
- Possible threats: habitat loss, pesticide use, predation and roost disturbance.