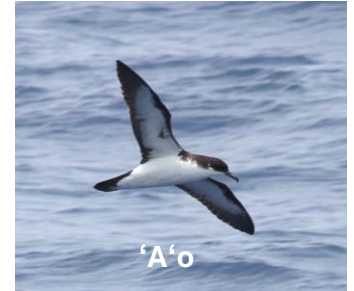


# Breeding Seabirds of the Main Hawaiian Islands



We have documented more than 50 species of seabirds around the main Hawaiian Islands, and 20 of them breed there. The list to the right includes 16 of the most commonly-seen species.

While our research focuses on dolphins and whales, we also photograph and record seabirds to help us track how productive the environment is, to document unusual species, to contribute photographs to bird researchers, and to better understand the interactions between seabirds and marine mammals. Some species, particularly 'Iwa, 'Ua'u kani, and occasionally Noio, will associate with pantropical spotted dolphins, and 'Iwa sometimes associate with rough-toothed dolphins.

Name and status of the most common species	'Olelo Hawai'i
Hawaiian Petrel (endangered, endemic)	'Ua'u
Bulwer's Petrel	'Ou
Wedge-tailed Shearwater	'Ua'u kani
Newell's Shearwater (threatened, endemic)	'A'o
Black-footed Albatross	Ka'upu
Laysan Albatross	Mōlī
Band-rumped Storm Petrel (endangered)	'Akē'akē
Red-tailed Tropicbird	Koa'e 'ula
White-tailed Tropicbird	Koa'e kea
Great Frigatebird	'Iwa
Brown Booby	'Ā
Red-footed Booby	'Ā
White Tern	Manu o Kū
Sooty Tern	'Ewa'ewa
Brown Noddy	Noio kōhā
Black Noddy (endemic subspecies)	Noio



Photographs are not to scale



To learn more about our seabird sightings



For more on Hawaiian birds, see the 'Birds of the Hawaiian Islands' webpage at the Bishop Museum

Want to buy a seabird guide? This is the one we recommend →

