

# Feral Cats That Are Fed Still Kill Native Wildlife and Birds

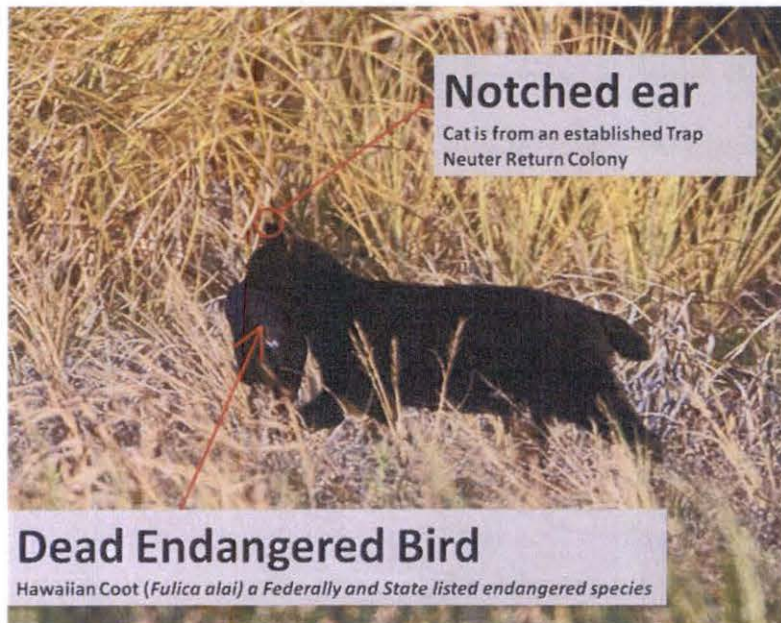
HFC -24

**Kanahā Pond Wildlife Sanctuary - A Case Study:**  
Seven cat colonies are maintained within 1/4 mile of the Kanahā Pond Wildlife Sanctuary, home to 40% of the endangered *ae'o* on Maui.

- A study of 22 feral cat stomach contents showed:
- 50% contained native and endangered birds, with only 13 % containing cat foods/bait.
  - 12 % of those bird remains in these cats' stomachs were endangered bird species.
  - 28 mongoose stomach samples were examined in the same study: only 24% contained bird remains, and only 6 of those were endangered.



*Native Hawaiian species are unaccustomed to cats and do not avoid them*



## Feral cats have been shown to kill:

- **forest birds** (6 of Maui's original 11 species remain - 2 are endangered)
- **water birds** (geese, ducks, stilts, coots - all 4 endangered)
- **sea birds** (petrels, shearwaters, terns, noddies, tropic birds - 2 are endangered)
- **hatchling sea turtles**
- **bats** (our endangered native bat roosts in trees)

*Most seabirds, like these shearwaters, partner for life and lay only one egg per season - and it takes both parents to raise a chick*

Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR)  
Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) manages 25% of lands across Hawai'i, in all habitats  
Responsible for protection of all native and Threatened and Endangered wildlife, on all lands, statewide under Chapters 183D & 195D Hawai'i Revised Statutes (prohibiting the 'take' of birds and native species)

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Flora P. D. Wall



- 300,000 to 400,000 feral cats on Maui

- 2 Feral cats per human resident

- ~413 feral cats per square mile



*Jocelyn Bouchard, CEO of the Maui Humane Society was quoted in a Maui Weekly article (9/3/2009) "Feral cats are everywhere on Maui ...there are hundreds of colonies across the island..."*

- ~ 1% spayed or neutered annually

- Throughout an average of seven reproductive years, one pair of fertile cats can produce 2,905 kittens, who will mature and reach reproduction age themselves.

For more info:

<https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/hisc/info/invasive-species-profiles/feral-cats/>

## Maui Cat-Conflict Wildlife Zones: Where Native Birds Meet Alien, Feral Cats

