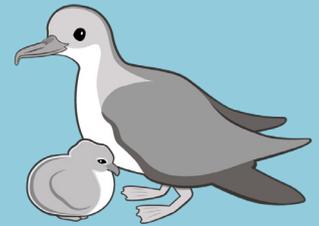


Introduction to Seabirds

The Wedge-tailed Shearwater

'Ua'u kani



WAY OF THE WEDGIE

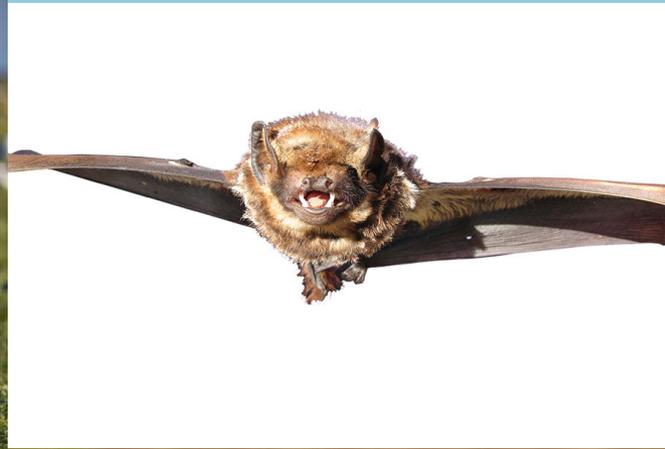
Survival Lessons
from a Seabird Preserve



What is a native species?

- A species that occurs naturally in a given region, without the aid of humans.
- Native species can be either endemic or indigenous.
 - **Endemic:**
native, occurring only in one particular region
 - **Indigenous:**
native, but found in more than one region

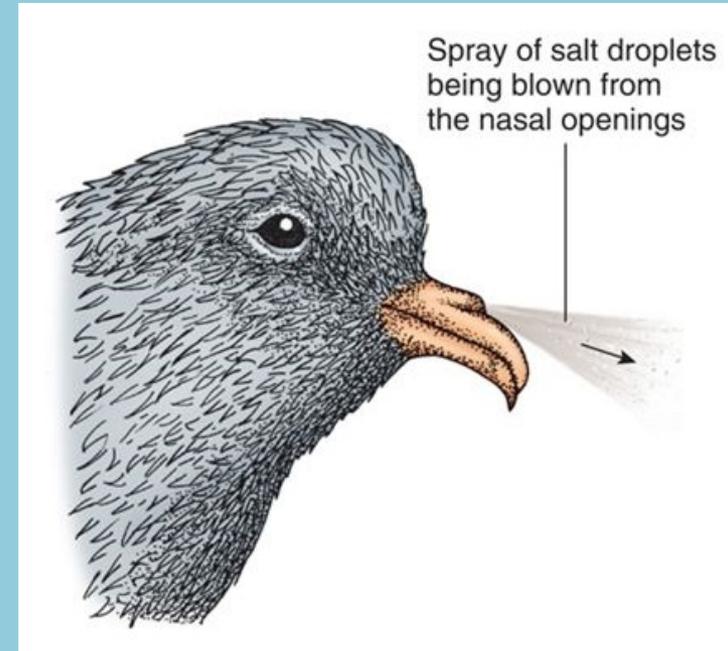
Native Hawaiian Species



Include plants, insects, birds, and mammals.

What are Seabirds?

- Birds that get their food from the ocean
- Nest on islands or near the coast
- Spend long periods of time at sea
- Adapted to live in the marine environment
 - Diving capabilities
 - Waterproof feathers
 - Salt glands



Seabirds in Hawaii



Polynesian voyagers discovered the Hawaiian Islands by following the stars, the winds, and **seabirds** to guide them to land

Seabirds in Hawaii

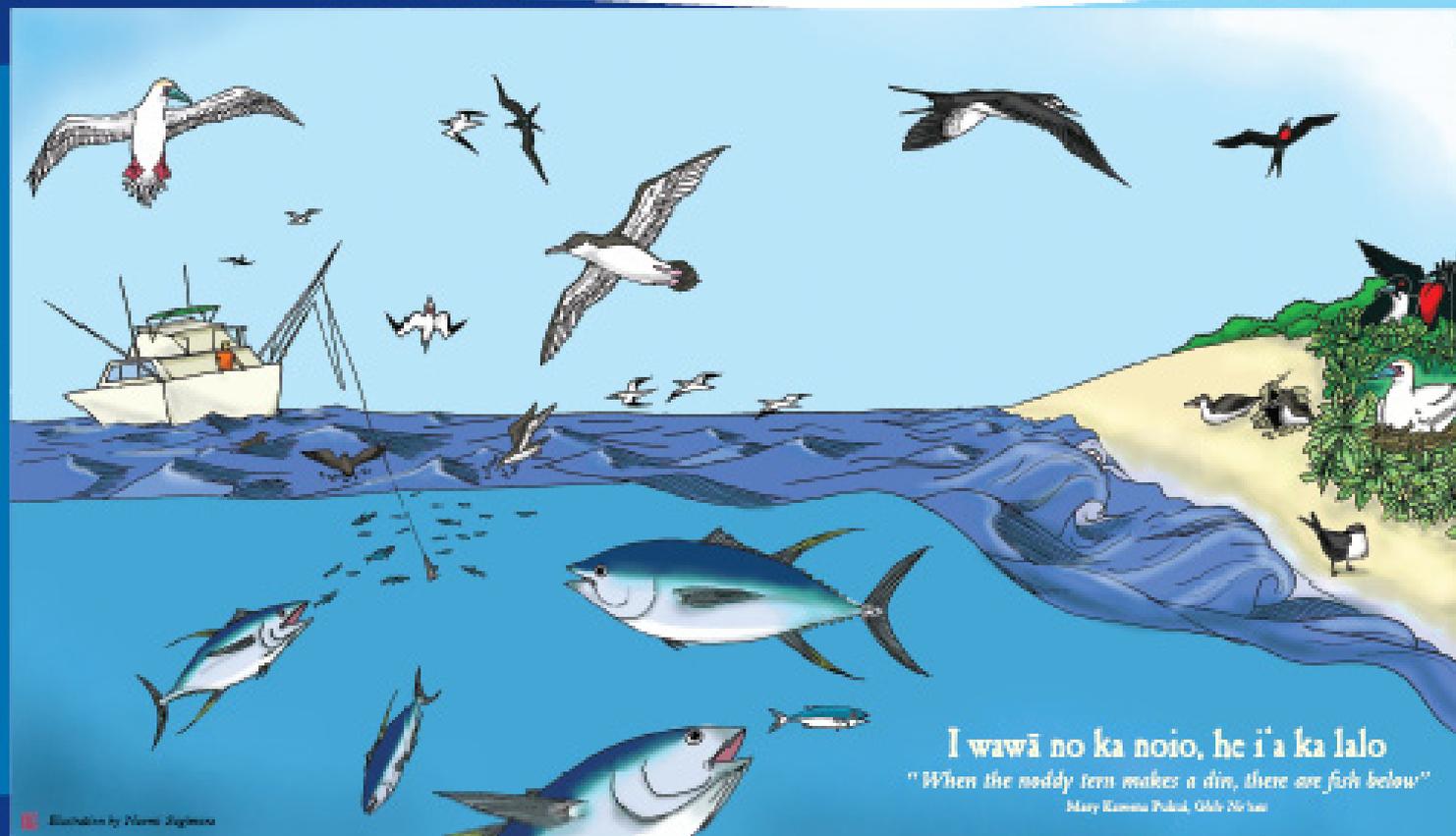


Illustration by Norma Jagersma

I wawā no ka noio, he i'a ka lalo
"When the noddy tern makes a din, there are fish below"
May Kamea Pukui, Oahu 1968

Seabirds have always been important to Hawaiians. Ancient Polynesian voyagers observed seabirds to find schooling fish and to navigate between islands.

Fishers find tuna by locating foraging seabirds

The Wedge-tailed Shearwater

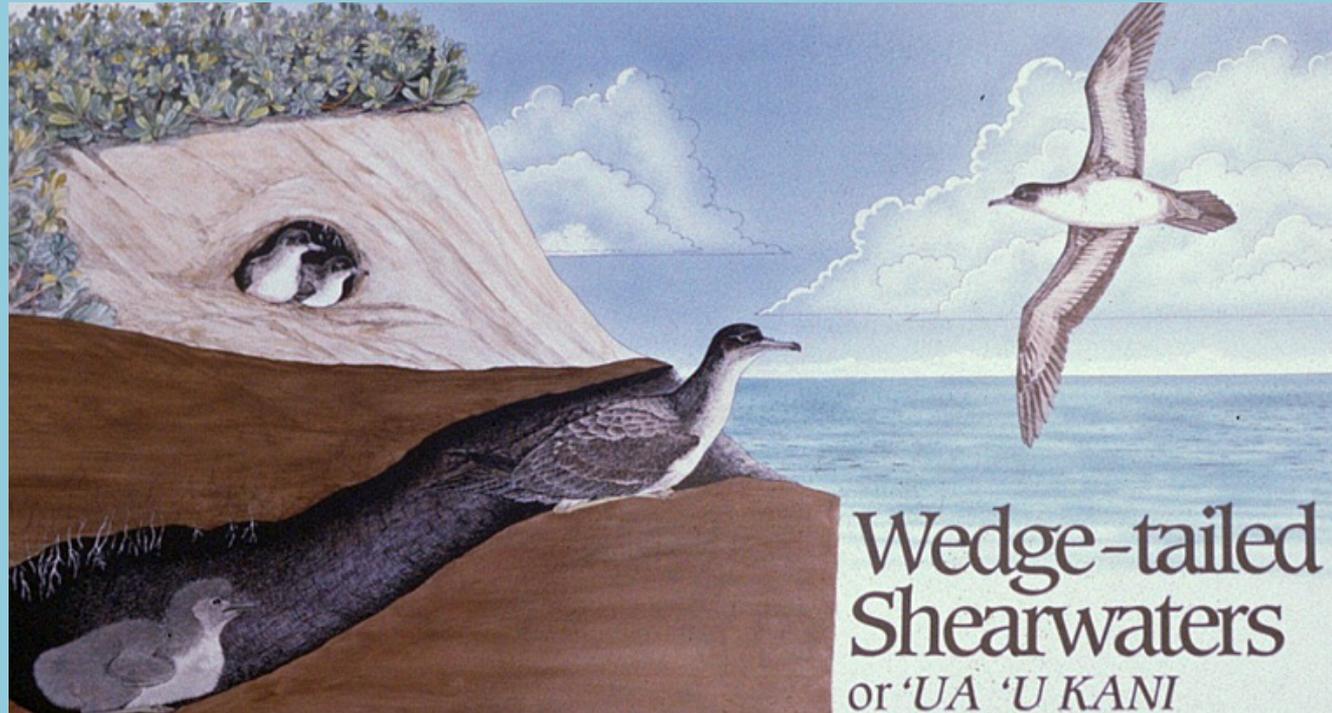


©Eric VanderWerf

Shearwaters are named because flying birds often shear (cut) the water surface with their wing tips

The Wedge-tailed Shearwater

- Native Hawaiian Seabird: **‘U‘au Kani**
- Order Procellariiformes “Tube-nosed birds”
- Pigeon-sized, gray and white, pink legs
- Feed at sea, Nests underground or in crevices



The Wedge-tailed Shearwater

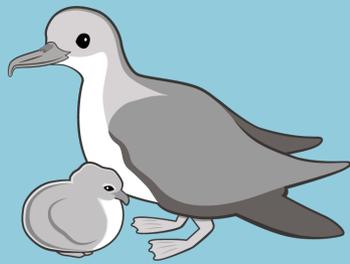
- Range throughout the Tropical Pacific Ocean
- About 270,000 breeding pairs in Hawaii
- Over 34,000 breeding pairs on Oahu
- Manana Island (below) is Oahu's largest colony



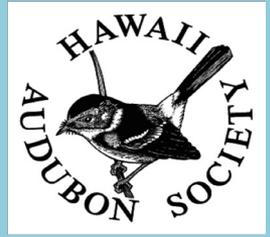
The Wedge-tailed Shearwater



Shearwaters return to colonies in the evening and depart in the morning. They are social and curious.



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**WAY OF THE
WEDGIE**

Survival Lessons
from a Seabird Preserve



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CURRICULUM RESEARCH
& DEVELOPMENT GROUP
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA



**HAWAII PACIFIC
UNIVERSITY**

These lessons were created by Laura Cottongim, dean of Curriculum and Instruction at the University Laboratory School in Honolulu, Dr. David Hyrenbach (Hawai'i Pacific University) and Wendy Johnson (Hawai'i Audubon Society). With updates from Jenn Urmston and Michelle Hester (Oikonos).

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We appreciate feedback. Contact Hawai'i Audubon Society at: hiaudsoc@gmail.com

Resources for Way of the Wedgie are free at www.freemanseabirdpreserve.com/lessons-home