

# Makahiki o Nā Manu Nahele

## 2024: Year of the Forest Birds



### Celebrating our native forest birds & efforts to protect them

## Nā Manu

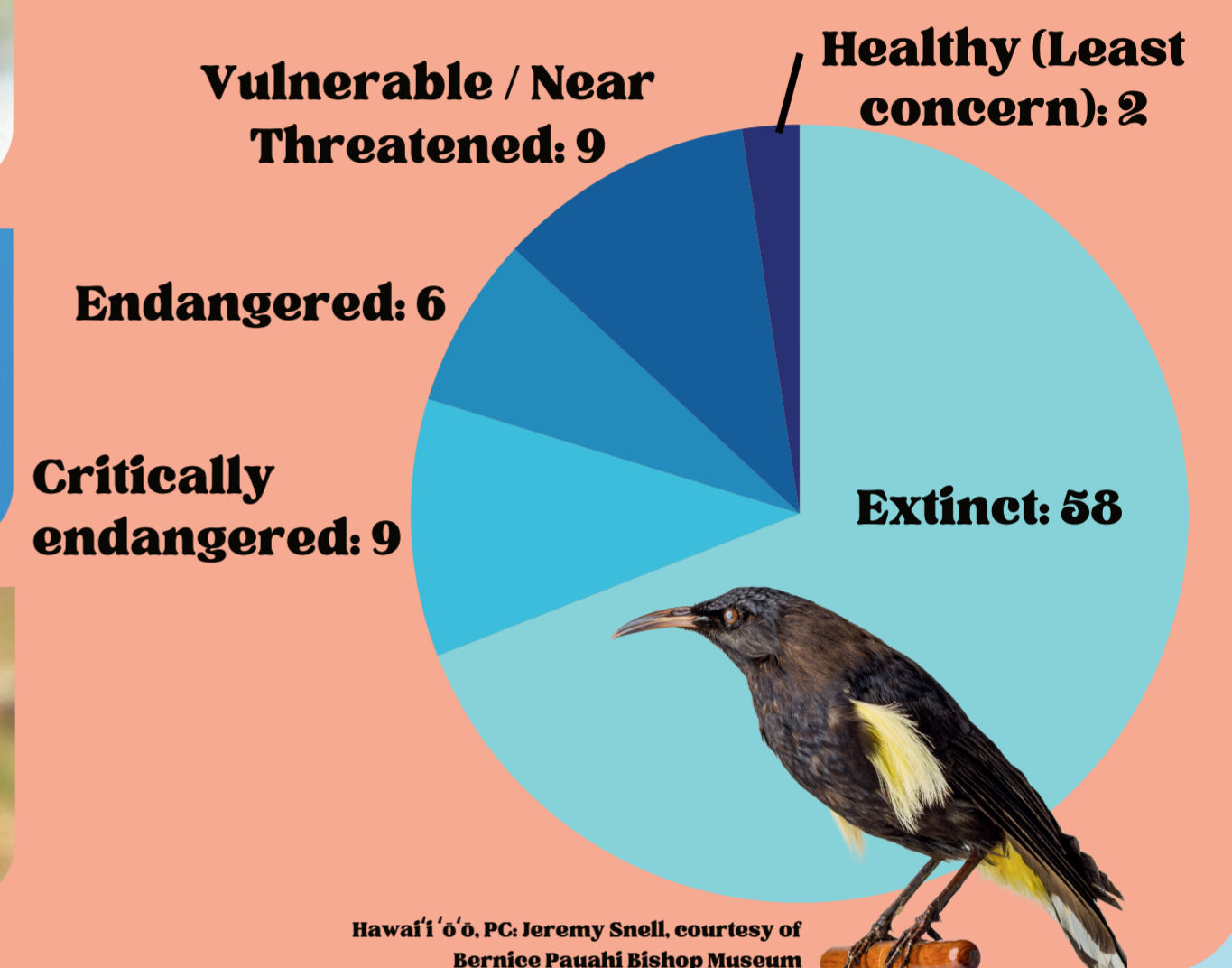
Hawai'i's forest birds have critical ecological roles as pollinators, seed dispersers, and insect managers of Hawaiian forests.

Our forest birds are an inextricable part of Native Hawaiian culture in their roles as 'aumakua (family deities) and messengers between akua (gods) and kānaka (people).

### Types of Hawaiian forest birds



### Status of 84 known species of Hawaiian forest birds



Hawai'i 'o'o, PC: Jeremy Snell, courtesy of Bornice Pauahi Bishop Museum

## Nā Kia'i

Community members and manu experts are working to protect our birds by restoring habitat, controlling predators (like cats, rats, and mongoose), and reducing disease. Some birds are brought to care facilities to keep them from extinction.



A biologist feeds an 'akiapola'au after checking its health.



A predator-proof fence keeps cats, rats, and mongoose out of bird habitat.



Automatic traps keep rat numbers low in nesting areas



An 'alalā in a care facility. 'Alalā are currently extinct in the wild and awaiting reintroduction.



Avian malaria, a disease carried by invasive mosquitoes, is particularly harmful to our birds. A new tool called Incompatible Insect Technique offers new hope to reduce mosquito numbers and avian disease. Learn more at [birdsnotmosquitoes.org](http://birdsnotmosquitoes.org)

## How will you celebrate?

We have activities, swag, and events rolling out all year long to celebrate our nā manu nahele. Visit our webpage to join in.



Find volunteer events to help restore habitat



Buy merch or donate to support field projects protecting birds



Bring native species to your virtual meetings & devices with manu wallpapers



Free manu stickers for Hawai'i-based classrooms



Find educational events at museums, libraries, and theatres all year long



See manu-focused hula and learn about the cultural context of Hawai'i's birds



Create manu finger puppets and masks



Find curricula and lesson plans about honeycreepers and other forest birds



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[dlnr.hawaii.gov/dofaw/manu](http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/dofaw/manu)