

# WHERE TO WATCH KAUA'I'S NATIVE WATERBIRDS



## FOLLOW OUR MAP BELOW TO SPOT SOME OF THE RAREST BIRDS IN THE WORLD RIGHT HERE ON KAVA'I

#### The Big Five\* are:

- 1. Ae'o Hawaiian Stilt
- 2. Koloa Maoli Hawaiian Duck
- 3. 'Alae 'ula Hawaiian Common Gallinule
- 4. Alae ke'oke'o Hawaiian Coot
- 5. Nēnē Hawaiian Goose

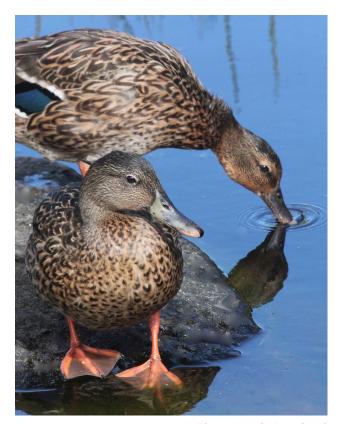
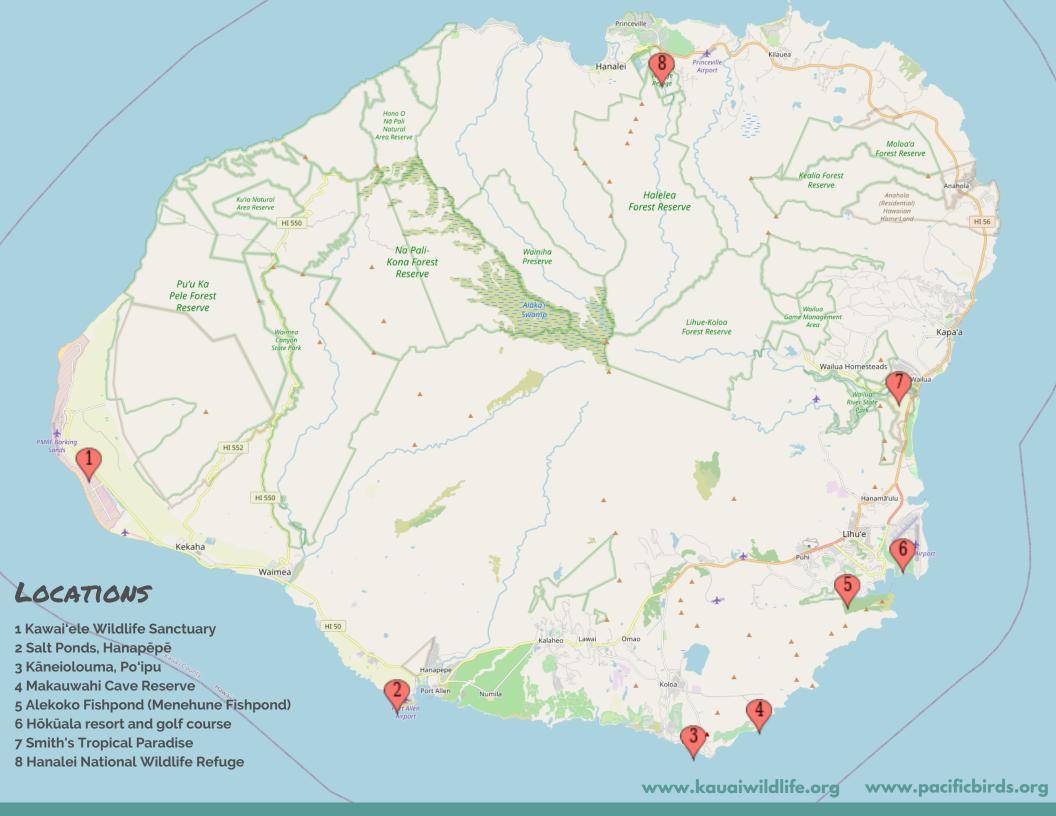


Photo: @Hob Osterlund



### 1. Kawai'ele Wildlife Sanctuary (Kekaha Beach Park)

This former sand mine is managed for waterbirds and native plants by the Division of Forestry and Wildlife. Open access.

See: Big Five\*, Black-crowned Night-heron.
Occasional vagrant gull. In winter, American
& Eurasian Wigeon, Pintail, Northern
Shoveler, Blue-winged Teal



#### 2. Salt Ponds, Hanapēpē

Located to the left of Salt Ponds beach, the wetland is separated from the adjacent Hawaiian Salt Pans by a closed road. Open access.

See: Hawaiian Stilts & Hawaiian Ducks. Winter ducks - Pintails, Northern Shovelers, Bluewinged Teal, Greater Scaup, Buffleheads, and Mallard. Shorebirds - Grey-tailed Tattler, Stilt Sandpiper, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, Dunlin. Ruddy Turnstones, Sanderling in fall. Black-crowned Night-heron.

### 3. Kāneiolouma, Poʻipu (www.kaneiolouma.org)

This spectacular site is a remnant of a huge Hawaiian settlement and has been lovingly restored by Hui Mālama O Kāneiolouma. View the wetland from outside the walls, from the road above or the parking lot with recycling station below the site.

**See: Big Five** 

## 4. Makauwahi Cave Reserve (www.cavereserve.org)

Makauwahi Cave Reserve is the richest fossil site in the Hawaiian Islands and a living museum dedicated to the past. Restoration projects here draw on fossil and pollen records to guide the replantings. There's a wetland taro lo'i (patch) as well as three newly restored pools. Park left of CJM Stables and follow the trail in (trail entrance to your left). Open access to grounds; cave itself has opening times.

**See: Big Five** 



5. Alekoko Fishpond (Menehune Fishpond) (www. malamahuleia.org)

A fantastic site which is being restored by Malama Hule'ia – they are removing invasive mangrove to open up mudflats for birds and hopefully repair the functioning of the fishpond. You can view from the overlook above the site on Hulemalu Road or by kayak from the Nawiliwili Small Boat Harbor (don't enter the site itself.)

See: Big Five\* Black-crowned Night Heron. Ruddy Turnstone.



6. Hōkūala Resort and Golf Course (www.hokualakauai.com/experiences/trails)

The grounds here has a lot waterbirds and you have a great chance of seeing Hawaiian Gallinules.

See: Big Five\*, Black-crowned Night-heron, Pacific Golden Plovers in winter.

7. Smith's Tropical Paradise (www.smithskauai.com/tropical-paradise-garden)

Smith's has an entry fee to its 30-acre botanical and cultural garden, which are enjoyable in themselves and a great place to see Hawaiian Gallinules and Hawaiian Coots. Attending the luau also includes garden entry.

See: Hawaiian Gallinules and Hawaiian Coots

8. Hanalei National Wildlife Refuge (www.fws.gov/refuge/hanalei/)

The Hanalei Refuge is closed to the public but there is a single-lane road that goes through the refuge. The road is primarily for farming and local residents. Please watch for vehicles in both directions and avoid obstructing the road. Drive slow to avoid killing native birds.

The sole parking area is at the Okolehao Trail.

