

# Haleakalā National Park



## Hōlua

### *E komo mai i ka hale o Hōlua* (welcome to Hōlua Cabin)

Hōlua is the best place during summer nights to hear an ancient song that was almost exterminated. `Ua`u (*Pterodroma sandwichensis* or Hawaiian petrel) were thought to be extinct, but in the early 1960's nests were found in the cliffs above this cabin and up to the summit. Haleakalā National Park began to protect this struggling population of endangered seabirds by controlling introduced animals.

Today, there are an estimated 3000 – 4000 breeding pairs, but the work is not finished. Each pair raises only one chick per season and returns to their carefully constructed burrow year after year. Stepping off trail anywhere in the park impacts native species, but in this area you may be crushing a pair's home when they return in the spring to a collapsed burrow. In the summer, you may crush an egg, chick, or parent. The Hawaiian name refers to the strange and wonderful sounds the `ua`u make as they fly. Please listen quietly to the calls of these endemic seabirds and do not shine lights on them.

When you leave this historic cabin and step back on the trail, you are re-entering a part of the national park designated as a Federal Wilderness Area in 1976. The Wilderness Act of 1964 provided federal land agencies with the opportunity to protect certain areas.

You can help protect this wilderness area:

- *Hike only on designated trails* that are shown on the park's official hiking maps.
- *Pack-out all your food and garbage.* Leave nothing behind to feed alien ants, wasps, roaches, mongooses, or rats.
- *Keep them wild: Do not give food or water to birds or other wildlife.*
- *Use resources sparingly:* water and compressed logs for the stoves are precious commodities in the wilderness area. *It is illegal to gather wood or kindling for burning.* Use fire-starters or newspaper to start a fire in the morning instead of burning several logs throughout the night. Reducing your carbon footprint begins at home, and at the cabin!



A young `u`au prepares for take-off just outside its burrow, hidden in the cliffs.



Hikers protect `u`au and other species by staying on the trail.