### Hoohana Solar Exhibit H2 Ho'ohana Solar Farm T&E Species Awareness Training 2022



## **Purpose of this Training**

- Several species currently listed under State, and Federal-Endangered Species statutes may occasionally use resources on the job site.
- The project has specific endangered species protocols in place
- All contractors and managers are required to follow the simple protocols
- There are potentially significant legal implications if the protocols are not followed

## **Regulatory Setting**

- Federal The Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (ESA)
- Federal Migratory Bird treaty act (MBTA)
- State of Hawai'i Hawaii Revised Statutes (Chapter 195-D)

#### IT IS ILLEGAL TO:

"harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to engage in any such conduct" any species listed under any of these statutes

## Agency and Endangered Species Program Contacts Who to Call?

**Construction Management** 

John Dawley, Power Global: (808) 397-3321

**Group70 Project Coordinator** 

Tracy Camuso, G70: (808) 441-2125

**Wildlife Agencies** 

USFWS-Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office: (808) 792-9400

HDLNR Non-game Wildlife Manager: (808) 348-0652

#### **Endangered Hawaiian Waterbirds**

- Habitat for endangered Hawaiian waterbirds is not currently present in the Project area.
- Avoid creating puddles or other standing water. Endangered Hawaiian waterbirds may be encountered if waterbird habitat is created by allowing water to accumulate in depressions during construction.

### Ae`o, Hawaiian ssp. Black-necked Stilt



### *`Alae ke`oke`o,* Hawaiian Coot



### *`Alae `ula,* Hawaiian ssp. Common Gallinule



## **Special Rules and Prohibitions**

- No dogs or other pets are allowed on the site
- If you eat your lunches anywhere on the property, police up all of your trash, bento boxes, food scraps and soda and water bottles and remove from the site – or place in covered trash receptacles
- Do not feed or approach any animals on the site
- Cease all work within 100 ft of a protected bird. Do not approach. Work may resume once the bird has left by its own volition.
- If an endangered Hawaiian waterbird nest is found, the Project manager must inform USFWS-PIFWO within 48 hours. Cease all work within 100 ft of any nests with eggs or chicks.

### Pueo, Hawaiian ssp. Short-eared Owl



### Barn Owl – *Tyto alba*



#### Construction Crew Response Protocol -Hawaiian ssp. Short-eared Owl

- Short-eared Owl or *pueo* are State-listed as endangered on O'ahu only.
- Habitat for Short-eared Owl may occur at the site. Short-eared Owl nest on the ground and are susceptible to ground disturbance.
- If an owl nest is discovered, Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) must be notified before proceeding with any activity that could disturb the nest.



### Hawaiian hoary bat – Special Rules



- No cutting of tall trees 15 ft or taller between June 1<sup>st</sup> to September 15<sup>th</sup>
- Do not install barbed wire on fences within the Project site

(Photo: USGS/C. Pinzari)

#### **Seabird Fallout Season Issues**

- Avoid nighttime construction when possible, especially during the seabird fledging season (September 15 to December 15).
- Night flying seabirds are often attracted to lights.
- Fledgling (*keiki*) birds on their way to sea for the first time can be confused by lights.



### Take Home Message

- The harming of listed species may be construed as "take" under the ESA, and/or HRS 195D.
- The minimization and avoidance of "take" to the maximum extent practicable is required under both federal and State of Hawai'i endangered species statutes
- Failure to do so may result in enforcement action, which may result in significant civil and criminal penalties
- Penalties include civil fines of up to \$25,000 per incident, and criminal fines of up to \$50,000, and up to one-year federal imprisonment per incident
- Non-compliance with any of the endangered species rules and protocols will result in immediate disciplinary action

#### Mahalo

- PowerGlobal/G70, thank all of you for your attention and assistance for implementing this awareness training
- We take pride in our continued efforts to protect the natural resources on the Island of O'ahu, and we can't do it without your kokua
- Protection of these native resources is everyone's responsibility and is in the common interest of the Island community and future generations

#### Just in Case – Nighttime if Construction is Required

### Seabird Fallout Season Issues

- Night flying seabirds are often attracted to lights
- Fledgling (*keiki*) birds on their way to sea for the first time are often attracted to lights and can be confused by them
- Confused birds may collide with structures, or simply land on the ground too tired to continue flying



### **T&E Night-flying Seabirds**



A'o or Newell's Shearwater



*`Ua`u* or Hawaiian Petrel



'Akē'akē or Band-rumped Storm-Petrel

### **Protected Seabird Species cont.**



*`Ua`u* kani or Wedge-tailed Shearwater



*`Ou* or Bulwer's Petrel

# **Seabird Response Protocol**

- If nighttime construction is necessary, a biological monitor may be required.
- In the event that you see a seabird circling lights, or find one on the ground, immediately report it to your supervisor.
- Stay with the animal until a biological monitor responds.
- Follow any instructions that monitor gives you.
- The monitor will shut down the job for 1 hour.
- When the lights come back on if the monitor has to shut the job down again – it will be shut down for the rest of the night.