

# Establishing a New Breeding Colony of the ESA Threatened Newell's Shearwater on Maui

Gregory Spencer, Brad Yuen, David Ainley

H. T. Harvey & Associates, Topa Financial Center, 745 Fort Street, Suite 2003, Honolulu, HI 96813

## Overview

- Newell's shearwater nearly extirpated from Maui, with few known colonies.
- Project, as mitigation for wind farm, in West Maui mountains; now in 6<sup>th</sup> year, using social attraction.
- Visitation Years 2-3; eggs laid Years 4-6; first fledglings (N=5) Year 6 (2019).
- Various changes in 6<sup>th</sup> year brought visitation from 8 to 22 nest boxes.



## Management Implications

- First successful Newell's shearwater social attraction project in Hawaii.
- Progress in accord with pre-project demographic modeling.
- Information on shearwater nesting activities, with much occurring outside of nests, demonstrates species' extreme sensitivity to introduced predators, a major factor behind extirpation from most of Hawaii.

