HOODED Merganser  
*Lophodytes cucullatus*

non-breeding visitor, vagrant  
monotypic

Hooded Mergansers breed in se. Alaska across temperate N America, and winter S to Baja California, Florida, and (rarely) n. Mexico and the Bahamas (AOU 1998); vagrants have been recorded in Europe (Cramp and Simmons 1977). In the Pacific Basin, Hooded Mergansers occur casually in the Southeastern Hawaiian Islands in winter, where 17 records of 24 individuals have occurred since 1966. Most birds were in female or first-cycle plumages; males in basic (breeding) plumage have occurred twice.

On *Kaua‘i*, a Hooded Merganser appeared at Wailua Reservoir 30 Nov-27 Dec 1993. On *O‘ahu*, one was observed at Kahuku 21 Jan 1967, six (including 3 first winter males) were seen regularly at Nu‘upaia Ponds 4 Dec 1976-6 Mar 1977 (E 37:82,85; 38:56; HRBP 0001, 0233, 0889-0891), a probable first-winter male first seen at the Ki‘i unit of JCNWR 15 Jan 1979 was joined by a female 26 Jan-12 Mar (E 40:15), a female was reported from stock ponds on the slope of Mt. Ka‘ala above Waialua 13-19 Dec 1992, an adult male was observed 7 Mar 2003 on Salt Lake in Honolulu, an adult female was at Honouliuli Unit of PHNWR and Ki‘i Unit of JCNWR 2 Nov 2005-19 Mar 2006 (HRBP 5261-5264), and a female was at the Punamano Unit of JCNWR 10 Dec 2011-12 Feb 2012. On *Moloka‘i*, an adult male was near Kaunakakai 7 Dec 1998-12 Apr 1999 and one was reported at Kualapuu Reservoir 19 Dec 2000. On *Maui*, one was at Kealia Pond NWR 8-9 Dec 2010. On *Hawai‘i I*, Hooded Mergansers were found on Loko Waka Pond in Hilo 13 Jan 1966 (E 28:7) and 25 Nov 2007, 3 were reported on Kehena Reservoir in the Kohala Mts 13 Jan 1977 (E 38:7), a female-plumaged bird was on Aimakapa Pond 12-28 Dec 1981, a first-year male was at Waiakea Pond in Hilo 14 Dec 1992-29 Mar 1993 (HRBP 0991 published in Englis et al. 2004), and another was photographed there 26 Dec 2009-4 Mar 2010 (HRBP 5766-5767, 6022-6023; published NAB 64:357).

**Acronyms and Abbreviations**

**Literature cited**