



## Update from Congressman NEIL ABERCROMBIE

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### Native species protected by James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge



Stilt (ae'o)



Coot (ʻālae keʻokeʻo)



Moorhen (ʻālae ʻula)

Dear Friend:

### PROTECTING HAWAII'S ENDANGERED SPECIES

Hawaii is often cited as the endangered species capital of the world. There are different approaches to meeting this challenge, but there is general agreement that the national system of wildlife refuges has worked well in providing protected areas where threatened and endangered species can live, reproduce and thrive.

In Hawaii, one of the most important of these areas is the James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge, located on Oahu's North Shore near Kahuku. Its 260 acres (with expansion to 342 acres already authorized for 2006) provide valuable habitat for endangered native water fowl such as the Hawaiian stilt (ae'o), coot (ʻālae keʻokeʻo), moorhen (ʻālae ʻula), and duck (koloa maoli). It also serves as a winter refuge for migratory birds from Alaska, New Zealand and Asia.

This Refuge is important to the survival of the species which use it for mating, nesting and feeding. It would be even more valuable if the area were enlarged and its footprint consolidated (it now consists of two separate parcels of land). That is why I introduced [H.R. 2866](#), which authorizes the acquisition of additional land to consolidate the James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge and more than triple its size to 1109 acres. Senator Dan Inouye has introduced a companion bill in the Senate.

There are many benefits to expanding the Refuge. It would create the largest managed freshwater wetland habitat on Oahu. It would connect the Refuge's two separate units and create a protected flyway between them. It would encompass and protect Oahu's last large remaining



Duck (koloa maoli)

Photos courtesy USFWS



Hawaiian monk seal  
(ilio-holo-i-ka-uaua)

Photo Courtesy National  
Marine Fisheries Service



Green sea turtle  
(honu)

Photo courtesy of National  
Oceanic and Atmospheric  
Administration

coastal dune and preserve native coastal species like the threatened green sea turtle (honu) and possibly the endangered Hawaiian monk seal (ilio-holo-i-ka-uaua). Finally, it will strengthen the cooperative flood control efforts between the Refuge and the Kahuku community, which is routinely inundated during periods of heavy rain.

As responsible stewards of the 'aina we are obliged to do all we can to protect endangered plant and animal species in Hawaii and elsewhere. There may never again be an opportunity to acquire this acreage to strengthen the protection afforded by the James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge. It is important that we act now.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Neil Abercrombie".

Neil Abercrombie  
Member of Congress

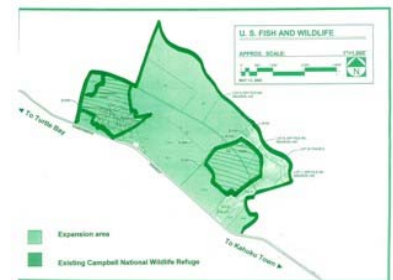
If you would like be removed from my *e-neil update* list, please go to my website at <http://www.house.gov/abercrombie/e-neil.shtml> and fill out the un-subscribe portion of the web page.

## Aerial photo and map of James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge



Photo courtesy of USFWS

Aerial view of the James  
Campbell  
Wildlife Refuge area



Map courtesy of USFWS  
Click map to enlarge

Current refuge area and  
expansion authorized by H.R.  
2866

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**Congressman Neil Abercrombie**

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