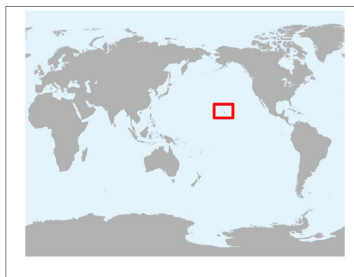




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Geographical range

Amazing Species: Akohekohe

The **Akohekohe**, *Palmeria dolei*, is listed as 'Critically Endangered' on the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species™. It is a species of Hawaiian Honeycreeper restricted to the northeastern slopes of Maui within the Hawaiian Archipelago. Formerly found also on Moloka'i, and once locally abundant on both islands, it now occupies only 5% of its original Maui range.

Long-term human impacts have been deleterious for the Akohekohe largely through deforestation and the introduction of exotic plants and animals; much of the bird's habitat is being degraded by goats and pigs. Avian malaria, spread by non-native mosquitoes, is of particular concern to the Akohekohe in its current distribution range and is forcing this species to move to less suitable habitat at higher elevations.

In order to increase numbers of Akohekohe, habitat preservation and improvement is of utmost importance, and can be achieved through fenced enclosures coupled with the removal of feral ungulates. Conservation measures such as reforestation, protecting remote and ecologically diverse areas of their home range, and the possibility of establishing a secondary population in the future, would help to ensure the continued survival of this species.

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