Kalij pheasants (Lophura leucomelas) are native to Southeast Asia and were first introduced as a game bird species to the Island of Hawai'i in 1962 at Pu‘u Wa‘awaa Ranch. Kalij quickly spread throughout most forested areas on the Island of Hawai‘i within 14 years at a dispersal rate of about 8km/year (Lewin & Lewin 1984).

**Foraging Habits**

Kalij are both seed dispersers and seed predators of both invasive and native plants. On the Island of Hawai‘i, Kalij have been implicated in the spread of banana poka (Passiflora mollissima) and Rubus spp. Lewin and Lewin (1984) identified 19 plant food items within Kalij crops and gizzards, as well as, invasive slugs and snails, small native snails, isopods, and earthworms.

Native plant species consumed on Hawai‘i:

Invasive plant species consumed on Hawai‘i:
- Banana poka (Passiflora mollissima), Blackberry (Rubus argutus), Thimbleberry (Rubus rosifolius), Guava (Psidium guajava), lilikoi (Passiflora edulis), Fragaria vesca, Kyllinga brevifolia, Ehrharta stipoides (Lewin & Lewin 1984, Postelli et al. 2004).

**O‘ahu Sightings**

Kalij pheasants have become established on O‘ahu through the unauthorized release(s) of birds on or prior to 2003. Sighting locations have ranged from Kukaokala in the northern Wai‘anae Mts. to Palehua in the far south of the mountain range (Fig. 1). Since 2003, Kalij have been sighted on O‘ahu at an increasing number of locations and in increasing numbers of birds in the Wai‘anae Mts (Fig. 2, 3, 4).

**O‘ahu Information**

- First Kalij pair sighting on Oahu 2003.
- 56 sighting events from 2003 to 2010 (Table 1).
- Sights observed within eight general locations (Fig. 1).
- Group size range 1 to 13 (Fig. 3).
- First family group sighting 2007 in Pahole NAR.
- A minimum of 10 family groups observed.
- Elevation range 1280 ft to 2350 ft (Fig. 5).

**Implications**

- Kalij are native seed predators and invasive plant seed dispersers.
- Potential threat to endangered plant species in the Wai‘anae Mts.
- Could have a impact on the remaining mesic forest composition.
- Potential threat to native arthropods and native ground snails.

**Future**

- With the distribution of Kalij sightings throughout the Wai‘anae Mts. is the possibility of eradication or control to late?
- Do we have the necessary management tools to succeed?

**References**

**Acknowledgements**
We would like to thank D. Souza, M. Elmore, J. Rohrer, K. Wong, K. Pali, E. Shield, R. Pender, S. Stuart, L. Abbott, and E. Vanderwerp for sighting reports.