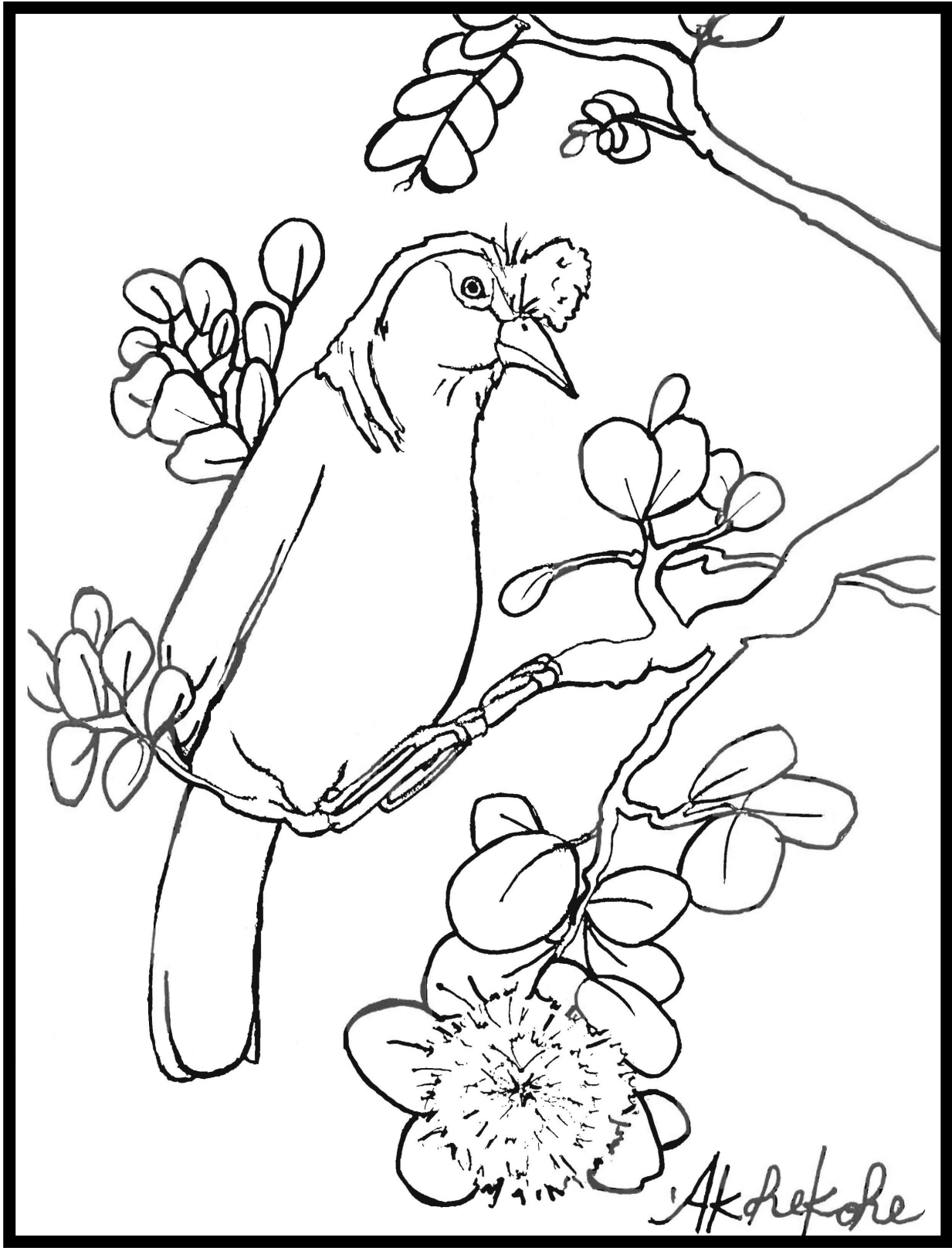


Save the forest, save the birds!



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`Akohekohe (Crested Honeycreeper)

Palmeria dolei

This Akohekohe, sitting on the branch of an ohia-lehua tree, is one of the largest honeycreepers in the forest. The Akohekohe once lived in the wet forests throughout Maui and Molokai, but today is found only in a small area on the northeast slopes of Haleakala.

How to Color Me:

- * **Face:** Bright orange ring of feathers around the eye, the rest of the face is black and silver.
- * **Crest on Forehead:** Whitish-yellow
- * **Eyes:** Dark brown
- * **Bill:** Black
- * **Body:** Black with silver-tipped feathers
- * **Back of Neck and Shoulders:** Bright Orange
- * **Wingtips and Tail tips:** White
- * **Legs and Feet:** Black

Diet: The Akohekohe is mostly **nectarivorous** (feeds on the nectar made by flowers) and gets almost all of its food from ohia-lehua flowers in the forest canopy. They can also be seen picking insects from branches. When ohia flowers are not blooming, Akohekohe sometimes visit the flowers and fruits of other native plants.

Sounds and Calls: The most common call is a whistle. Other calls include the low “*peter-peter gluk gluk*” and “*AH-kohay-kohay*” (the bird probably gets its Hawaiian name from this song.)

Conservation Efforts: Akohekohe’s habitat is shrinking. Plants and animals that are not native to Maui are causing this habitat to shrink even more. Scientists are working to understand how Akohekohe are affected by these threats so that we can help protect them and other plants and animals native to Maui.

Where can you see an Akohekohe? Akohekohe can sometimes be seen at Hosmer’s Grove in Haleakala National Park.

Visit our website: www.mauiforestbirds.org, to see photos of the Akohekohe and to learn more about our other native Maui forest birds.