

BISHOP MUSEUM VERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY

Digitizing a Diverse Collection

Vertebrate Zoology

Birds



Reptiles



Mammals



Amphibians



Geographic Focus

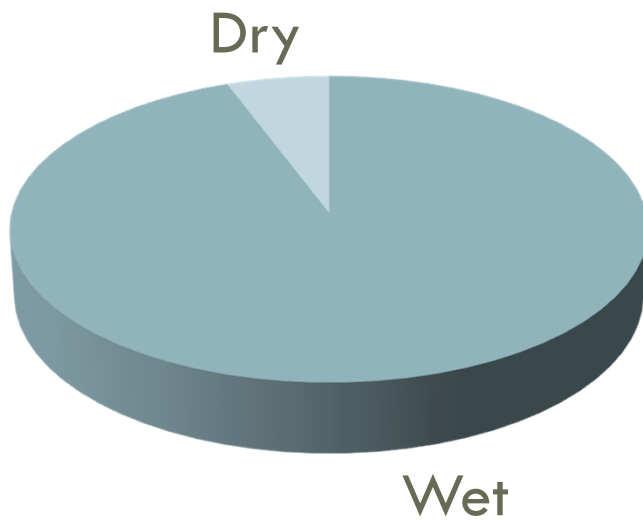
The scope of the collection has narrowed over time.

Many specimens from other parts of the world have been deaccessioned to better accommodate species from Hawaii & the Pacific region.

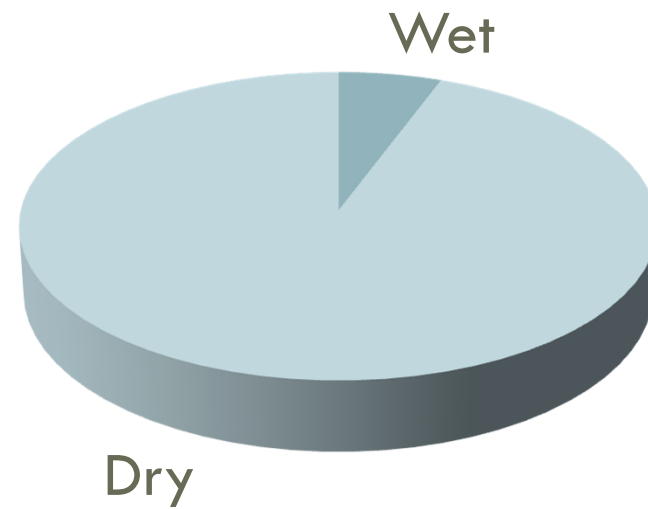


Preservation Methods

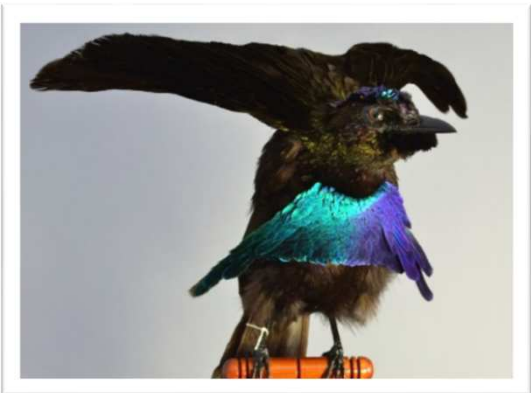
Reptiles & Amphibians



Birds & Mammals



Dry Specimens



Skins

Study Skins

Flat Skins

Mounts

Dry Specimens

Skeletons

Articulated

Disarticulated



Dry Specimens



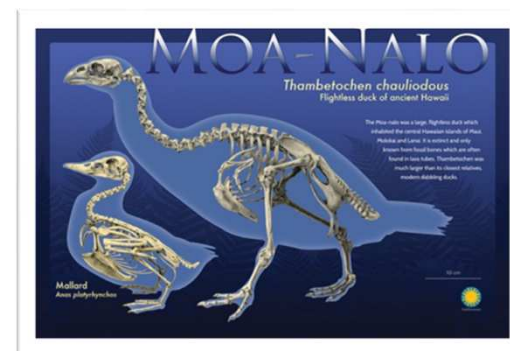
Eggs
& Nests

Dry Specimens

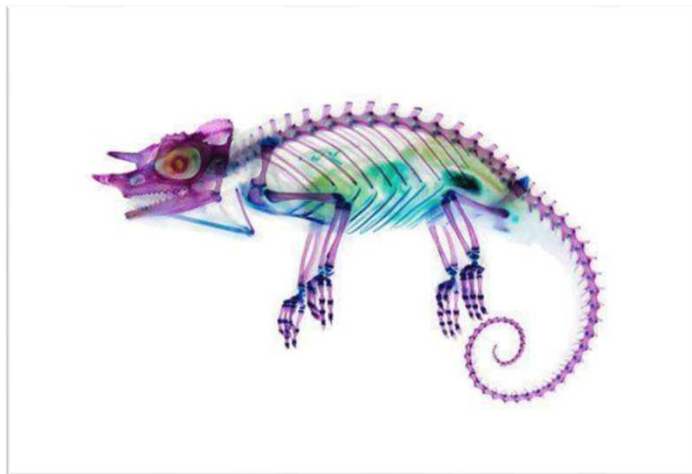
Sub-fossils

Birds

Mammals



Wet Specimens



70%
Ethanol

Cleared &
Stained

Tissue Samples

Herpetological tissue samples are taken in the field before the specimens are fixed with formalin.

Bird and mammal tissues are taken at Bishop Museum during prep.

All tissues stored in PCMB.

Digitization Status

- 100% of the herpetological specimens have basic event and georeferencing data entered
- 80% of the birds have basic event data entered
- 20% of the mammals have basic data entered
- 50% of sub-fossil material still needs to be cataloged

Digitization Goals

What else can be digitized?

- - Photos
 - from the field
 - abnormalities during prep
 - before and after destructive sampling



Digitization Goals

What else can be digitized?

- - Sound recordings
- - Video
- - Catalog cards
- - Accession, Loan, and Conservation records
- - References to literature
- - Links to DNA sequences
- - Links to other specimen analyses (ex. pollen studies)

Digitization Goals

How to prioritize?

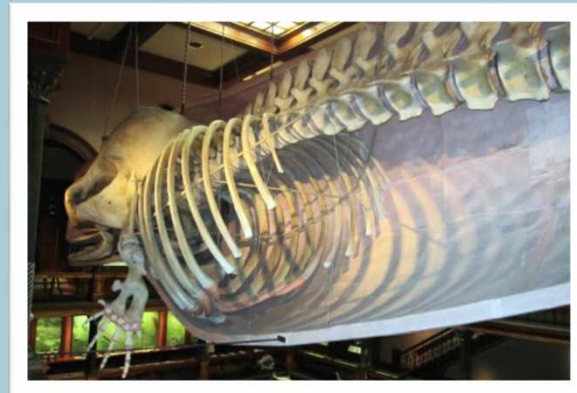
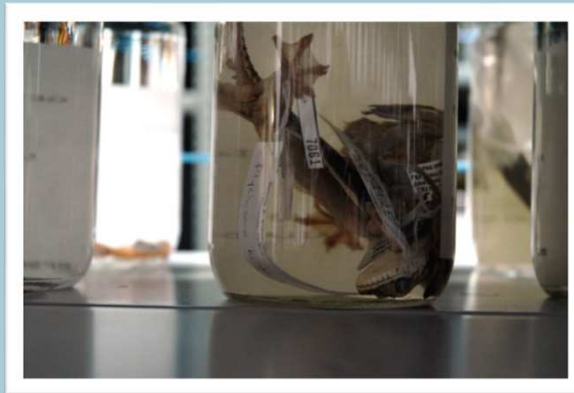
- Specimen importance (ex. types, specimens that are not candidates for shipping)
- Specimen size (i.e. small, dry specimens first)



Digitization Goals

Where to start?

- Equipment
 - Imaging station to accommodate a wide range of preservation methods and object sizes



Take Home Message

- Plan, Plan, Plan
- Project Management