

2000 FLO WERING SILVERS WORD CENSUS HALEAKALA NATIONAL PARK

Every year all the silverswords that flower are counted and 11 permanent plots are monitored. This year's census was performed from October 2-4, 2000. There were 180 flowering silverswords counted during the census this year. This year was an "average low year" for flowering silverswords.

Much mahalo to the staff and volunteers that joined in this year's count: Mike and Stefanie Townsend, Forest Starr and Kim Martz. We also thank RM, Maintenance, and Interp for logistical support and silversword count data.

This year we were joined by Rick Landenberger, a post-doc from the University of West Virginia who is working with Jim McGraw and Tim Warner to look at the potential of mapping silverwords using remote sensing. The data is still being processed, but early results suggest it is possible to count silverswords with a diameter >5cm using spectral imaging taken by a camera mounted to the belly of a helicopter flying 100 m above the ground.



