

HAWAII IBP SYNTHESIS:  
3. THE KILAUEA RAIN FOREST ECOSYSTEM\*

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The analysis of this rain forest was focussed on its structure and dynamics with regard to both plant and animal life. Species were assessed quantitatively according to their life forms and ecological roles which they have assumed in the various general niches of this forest.

The structure and behavior of the forest plant community will be briefly characterized and the activity patterns of the birds, tree arthropods, and introduced mammals will be highlighted. A few conclusions will be drawn as to the maintenance trends of this ecosystem under natural conditions.