

Iguana Update No. 3

22 July 2016

Likuliku Lagoon Resort is part of a larger family of environmentally conscious resorts here in the Mamanuca Islands. With the help of our colleagues, we recently surveyed for reptiles at Castaway Island Resort and Tokoriki Island Resort. Happily, we found populations of many different lizards and snakes. Iguanas, however, proved elusive. Historical iguana records do exist from those islands, but the populations may have winked out. This reality emphasizes the global importance of the Malolo Island Crested Iguanas at Ahura Resorts.

Baby iguanas are some of the cutest critters in Fiji. Our discovery of a new, wild baby (named Malolo Lailai) last Monday night was cause for celebration. This baby shows that our cat control program is working, and that the iguanas are reproducing successfully at Likuliku!

Outreach and education are vital to promoting a healthy environment. Last week, we were pleased to present iguana-related information to the Malolo Island Resort KidsClub, and the staff of Likuliku Lagoon and Tokoriki Island Resorts. The programs were well-received, and we thank our audiences for their excellent questions and engagement!



Historical photograph of a wild Tokoriki Island Crested Iguana. Image courtesy of Yvonne Turnbull.



Likuliku Front Office Manager Maria Vunitabua with our newest baby, Malolo Lailai.



Adam presenting to Malolo Island Resort KidsClub, with Malolo the iguana.