



**Coastal and Upland Wetland Restoration of Kaho‘olawe, HI**  
**(NAWCA U.S. Small Grants)**

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this project is to enhance the temporary wetland sites at Keanakeiki and Lua ‘O Keāliālalo through the removal of invasive plants and out planting of natives. Activities are to be completed in partnership with the Maui Nui Seabird Recovery Project, the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana Education Committee and KIRC community volunteers. The period of performance runs from December 2021- November 2024.

DELIVERABLES

- Remove invasive species
- Out plant native species
- Monitor through photo points

AWARD AMOUNT: \$100,000

FUNDER: North American Wetland Conservation Act –USFWS / Ducks Unlimited

HIGHLIGHTS

Through removal of invasive species, native habitat regeneration is improving. Grant funding is spent on materials and supplies, travel costs, and a portion of PKO access fees.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

<i>SPENT</i>	<i>BILLED</i>	<i>RECEIVED</i>
\$34,056	\$0	\$0

PROJECT UPDATE: January 1, 2024 – March 31st, 2024



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- Invasive species removal was conducted in both Keanakeiki and Lua ‘O Keāliialalo. At Keanakeiki buffelgrass clumps (*Cenchrus ciliaris*) were dug up. The remaining kiawe trees (*Prosopis pallida*) were removed. All stumps were treated with herbicide to reduce re-sprouting. A transect was established to monitor the re-growth of Makihi (*Cressa truxvillensis*). This transect will monitor the increase/spread of makihi after the removal of kiawe.



Native Makihi (*Cressa truxillenses*) has expanded into the area where kiawe was removed at Keanakeiki.

Guinea grass (*Panicum maximum*) was cut back in three 20 meter by 20 meter planting plots in Lua ‘O Keāliialalo. One plot was covered with weed cloth. These plots will be planted from September through November 2024.

Volunteers also assisted in the collection of pili grass seed (*Heteropogon contortus*) and mao (*Gossypium tomentosum*). Seeds will be used for future restoration efforts on Kaho‘olawe and to assist re-vegetation of fire damaged areas on Maui.