

## **Culture Program Status Update December 2015 to February 2016**

### **Hui Kāpehe Program**

Within the consortium of grant awardees, the KIRC partnered with Mari-Med in February to access the island with the KIRC and Mari-Med program participants to do a short weekend access to water plants in Luamakika and in Honokanai'a as well as do some work projects at Base Camp.

Through the MOU with the University of Hawaii Maui College, they have hired two new Internship Coordinators and have accessed the island in December and in February.

### **Site 110BU Stabilization Plan**

With limited access to the island and grant projects with objectives on-island being prioritized, staff has focused on staging building materials necessary to complete the project.

### **Kihei Property**

Our monthly **Ho'ōla iā Kaho'olawe Event Series** (CPEP grant) ended in December. The project was geared to strengthen the KIRC's connection with Maui communities by promoting Hawaiian culture and history through mele and mo'olelo with focus on sustainability and conservation. Although the project has ended, Maui's visitors are still encouraged to participate in monthly work days to continue the work and sustain the relationships built over the past year. Work days vary by month and staff will try to promote different days to see what fits best for both KIRC staff and volunteers.

The nursery is underway as staff allocates time to keep the area maintained and in order. Nursery tables have been installed and irrigation and propagating techniques are being practiced in order to develop an SOP for the area.

### **Ala Loa and Kahualele Honokanai'a**

A partnership project with the PKO to build a coastal circum-island trail that will provide access to remote areas of the island and allow for a greater cultural use is ongoing. Trail maintenance and use is key to keeping trails alive which is why Culture program volunteers routinely use the trail from Honokanai'a to Honoko'a to help maintain and line the trail. Unfortunately, the culture program has not had an access since August and will plan to have the next access at the end of December to provide trail maintenance.

The Kahualele is nearly complete. Access support is **imperative** to complete the structure. One access focused solely on the completion of the structure is all that is needed.