



KAHO'OLAWE

Holiday Fund Drive

This holiday season ... give a gift to the future.

This past October, the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission and the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana opened the planting season with the traditional calling of the rain in a *Kaholo i kalani* ceremony held on Kaho'olawe and across the channel at Pu'u Mahoe on Maui. On that day, modern-day Hawaiian cultural practitioners at Pu'u Mahoe called on the clouds of Haleakalā to form and billow in the clear morning sky; while from Kaho'olawe, their counterparts called the *Naulu* rain clouds from Kahikinui and Pu'u Mahoe to journey across the 'Alalākeiki Channel to embrace Kaho'olawe and restore its parched soil. In November, the 'Ohana also called the *Naulu* rains to Kaho'olawe as they marked the start of *Makahiki* season, welcoming the arrival of Lono in his manifestations as black clouds, rain, and the return of planting and cultivation on the island.

In this time of *Makahiki* – a time of renewal and restoration – we ask for your *kōkua*. We know that these are difficult economic times and that extra money is hard to come by. Yet a contribution of just \$25 will purchase one dozen 'a'ali'i plants (a native dryland shrub) for this planting season – a \$50 donation will double that — helping to slow erosion and bringing us that much closer the eventual restoration of Kaho'olawe's ecosystems.

The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission is not funded by the State of Hawai'i, but by a limited remaining trust established during the federal cleanup of the island. As with most conservation agencies, our mandate far exceeds our initial and current funding. So we look to you – especially those among you who have personally experienced the transformative power of Kaho'olawe – to help keep this dream alive for our children, for our children's children.

The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve is entering a period of reawaking and with this new hope, and the resiliency of Kaho'olawe, together we can – together we *will* – restore Kaho'olawe to its proud heritage as the *piko*, the physical and cultural center of the Hawaiian Islands.

Help us realize the dream; become a part of the dream. This holiday season, give a gift to the future.

'Ae, hiki nō!



Michael K. Nāho'opi'i
Executive Director

** The KIRC is a 170(c)(1), authorized, per IRS Publication 557, to receive tax-deductible contributions to programs, such as those listed above, that serve a public purpose. Donors should always consult with their tax advisors before claiming any tax-deductible charitable contributions.*