

KAHO'OLAWE

Ko Hema Lamalama

Newsletter of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve | July 2016

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Welcome to *Ko Hema Lamalama*, the newsletter of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve. Uncle Harry Mitchell interpreted this name as the southern beacon, which served as a source of light to weary travelers who voyaged beyond the pillars of Kahiki. Let *Ko Hema Lamalama* aid us in sharing a source of light about the island of Kaho'olawe and the restoration of Hawaiian culture across Hawai'i nei. *Photo by volunteer Bryan Berkowitz.*

This issue is made possible by grant support through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



Commissioners and staff of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission wish to extend their deepest appreciation to Representative Ryan Yamane (pictured with KIRC Executive Director Mike Nāho'opi'i). We mahalo him for his guidance and support through this year's legislative session. Through the introduction of a

slate of bills seeking support for the future of both Kaho'olawe and the KIRC, he helped to secure funds for Fiscal Year 2017.

As the Chair of the House Water and Land (WAL) Committee, Representative Yamane offers a critical perspective of the multiple efforts across the state to protect the dwindling natural resources of our Hawaiian Islands. The culmination of these efforts is seen on Kaho'olawe as the KIRC works to preserve a near-pristine marine ecosystem within Reserve waters while reversing centuries of ecological devastation on the island.

Exposed to 50-plus years of military bombing and two centuries of uncontrolled grazing, much of the surface of Kaho'olawe is denuded of its once native forests. High winds combined with its position in the rain shadow of Haleakalā have created desert-like conditions that cause much of the island's rich topsoil to be blown away — making restoration efforts enormously difficult. The presence of unexploded ordnance (UXO) further complicates restoration efforts.

But, with continually innovative solutions by a dedicated staff and volunteer base, the KIRC has been making headway in replanting these barren hardpan areas.

During a December 2014 site visit to Kaho'olawe, Representative Yamane noted that while he was immediately struck by the barren landscape caused by years of uncontrolled grazing, he was also very impressed by the work we had done so far to restore the damaged landscape. He continued that he "quickly realized that the combined abilities of the Department of Land and Natural Resources are exemplified on this one island," and that "the KIRC is implementing a truly integrated, Mauka to Makai resource management system that includes the island's natural, cultural and historic resources."

Representative Yamane introduced a funding bill to support Kaho'olawe's continuing restoration, (HB2034), as well as legislation seeking to support a photovoltaic desalinization pilot project on Kaho'olawe, (HB 2035) — both in addition to a newly proposed means for the KIRC to develop financial sustainability, (HB2200).

Representative Yamane mentioned that while Kaho'olawe is held in a public land trust and a responsibility of the state, it is most effectively managed by a single, dedicated state entity that has the specialized expertise and ability to efficiently implement the restoration effort over the long period that is necessary to bring life back to Kaho'olawe. "If the KIRC could not continue as a viable entity," he concluded, "the responsibility to restore and manage Kaho'olawe would be spread across the multiple divisions of DLNR at a much higher overall cost to the state."

On June 17, 2016, Governor David Ige signed House Bill 2034 into law as Act 72 of the 2016 Legislative Session. This bill provides an additional \$450,000 of funding for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2016 and is critical to ensuring that the KIRC will be able to continue to bring community volunteers to support innovative restoration programs on Kaho'olawe.

Mahalo to these Kaho'olawe champions. We'll see you again at the next legislative session (January 2017)!

— Mike Nāho'opi'i, Executive Director



Staff from left: Bart Maybee, Cassie Smith, James Bruch, Lyman Abbott, Carmela Noneza, Lopaka White, Ka'ōnohi Lee, Paul Higashino, Mike Nāho'opi'i, Governor David Ige, Kelly McHugh, Dean Tokishi, Michele McLean (Chairperson) and Jennifer Vander Veur.

APPRECIATION



Our logo represents the curled tentacle of the he'e (octopus), one of the kino lau (body forms) of the god Kanaloa, and the curled shoot of the hapu'u fern, symbolizing kūkulu, or the beginning of a life force.

Kūkulu Ke Ea A Kanaloa

The life & spirit of Kanaloa builds and takes form

Established by the Hawai'i State Legislature in 1993, the mission of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) is to implement the vision for Kaho'olawe Island in which **the kino (body) of Kaho'olawe is restored and nā poe o Hawai'i (the people of Hawai'i) care for the land.** The organization is managed by a seven-member Commission and a committed staff of 15.

OUR CORE PROGRAMS



The OCEAN PROGRAM manages all marine resources within the Reserve.



The RESTORATION PROGRAM restores native, land-based habitats and watersheds.



The CULTURAL PROGRAM provides for the expansion of meaningful, cultural use of the island.



The OPERATIONS PROGRAM provides transport, maintenance, manpower and safety.



The ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM manages volunteers, GIS, outreach, collections, fund development, finance and human resources.

MAHALO RECENT VOLUNTEERS

- Four Seasons Resort Maui
- Hawai'i Army National Guard
- Hui Kāpehe (KIRC Interns)
- Kanapou Marine Debris Volunteers
- Kihei Canoe Club
- Kihei Charter School
- Maritime Careers Exploration, Marimed Foundation (*Makani Olu*)
- Maui Nui Seabird Recovery Project
- Mililani High School
- MISC & East Maui Watershed Partnership
- NOAA & Island Conservation
- Queen Lili'uokalani Children's Center
- Seabury Hall
- University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, William S. Richardson School of Law
- University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Ethnobiology Society



He haki nu'au'a nei kai... Indeed a rough and crashing sea
'O 'awa ana i uka..... Echoing into the uplands
Pehea e hiki aku ai..... How is it that one lands?
'O ka leo..... It is the voice
Mai pa'a i ka leo..... Please don't hold back the voice

OLI-KĀHEA, Cultural Protocol for Approaching Kaho'olawe Island



The KIRC welcomes **new Commissioner Joshua K. Kaakua, Ed.D.** as a representative of the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana.

Serving as a Kua with the PKO for 14+ years with kuleana to guide safe and meaningful access to Kaho'olawe and to perpetuate the principles of Aloha 'Aina throughout Hawai'i, Joshua recently supported the development of *I OLA KANALOA!: A Plan for Kanaloa Kaho'olawe through 2026* (www.iolakanaloa.org).

Raised in Waimanalo, he is a graduate of Punahou School, the University of Notre Dame (BS Civil Engineering), the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa Shidler College of Business (MBA), and the University of Southern California Rossier School of Education (Ed.D.). He has worked at UH-M since 2002 teaching in the College of Engineering, directing the Native Hawaiian Science & Engineering Mentorship Program and administering over \$10 million in extramural projects to improve STEM education and outcomes for underrepresented groups. Joshua currently serves as Diversity Specialist for the UH-M Office of STEM Education, charged with providing system-wide leadership and support for STEM activities. He and his family reside on Oahu.

By statute, the Commission consists of 7 members appointed by the Governor provided that 1 is a member of the PKO; 2 are appointed from a list provided by the PKO; 1 is a trustee or representative of OHA; 1 is a county official appointed from a list provided by the Mayor of the County of Maui; 1 is the Chairperson of the DLNR; and 1 is appointed from a list provided by Native Hawaiian Organizations.

2016 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

On June 17, 2016, Governor David Ige signed House Bill 2034 into law as Act 72 of the 2016 Legislative Session. This bill provides an additional \$450,000 of funding for the fiscal year starting July 1, 2016 and is critical to ensuring that the KIRC will be able to continue to bring community volunteers to support innovative restoration programs on Kaho'olawe. Mahalo to all that provided testimony and helped to spread the word about **Aloha Kaho'olawe!**



Grant Thompson, Michele McLean, Lopaka White, Paul Higashino, Sen. Brickwood Galuteria, Sen. Glen Wakai, WAM Chairperson Jill Tokuda, Sen. Rosalyn Baker, Mike Nāho'opi'i, Sen. Gil Riviere and Sen. Gil Keith-Agaran of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means (WAM) during a recent site visit to the KIRC's Kihei property.



"On Kaho'olawe, we were able to witness firsthand the devastation caused by unchecked proliferation of ungulates: a century ago, feral goats laid waste to the island's vegetation, causing loss not only of the forests but also precious topsoil. In some places, we encountered areas where it is estimated that over 15 feet of soil had been lost!

I have never before had the opportunity to witness so starkly the potential of human action. We stood on the edge of the massive bomb crater at Sailor's Hat, and contemplated the destructive power of the atomic bomb. We saw the recovered ordinance and the smaller bomb craters leftover from years of U.S. military bombing. Yet each day, under the guidance of KIRC staff, we planted native grasses and brush. We were able to view the plantings by previous volunteer groups over the years, now growing in healthy clumps, spreading on their own, and creating new soil. Each baby plant we lovingly put into the ground felt like we were closing a small wound. We swam over unmolested reefs and marveled at the 'opihī grown to the size of our hands, able to grow to their maximum size without the pressure of human predation. The beach was full of shells, and the night sky full of stars in a way that none of us had ever experienced.

My students were never so inquisitive, respectful, and engaged as they were on Kaho'olawe. The KIRC staff impressed us all with their knowledge and their commitment to their work, which was clearly more meaningful to them than just a job.

The educational value of this place cannot be overstated. I urge all of you, if you have not had the opportunity, to visit Kaho'olawe and experience it for yourself." — **Franny Brewer**

WHAT WE SUPPORTED THIS SESSION:



HB2034: *Introduced by Representative Yamane*
SB2582: *Introduced by Senator English*
 A direct appropriation General Fund request for FY2017 to support restoration of and access to Kaho'olawe.



HB2035: *Introduced by Representative Yamane*
 Promoting a 3-year photovoltaic desalinization pilot project to evaluate A) efficiency and cost-saving opportunities; B) conservation, sustainable-development and water security benefits; and C) potential for technological development and future Statewide implementation.



HB2200: *Introduced by Representative Yamane*
 Applying a percentage of Public Land Trust funds to facilitate the continuing preservation, restoration and appropriate use of Kaho'olawe for the betterment of Native Hawaiians.



(Left) Sen. Maile Shimabukuro with Hui Kāpehe interns (Right) KIRC's Ka'ōnohi Lee and Mike Nāho'opi'i with Sen. Ronald D. Kouchi (Senate President)

PUBLIC TESTIMONY: WHY THIS MATTERS



KIRC intern Mahina Lealao, Executive Director Mike Nāho'opi'i, intern Boysie Burdett, former Executive Director Keone Fairbanks and intern Clayton Wallace

"The other day I did something I never dreamed I would do: speak before the Legislature on behalf of Kaho'olawe. Although I wasn't planning on voicing my opinion, who can be quiet when it comes to Kaho'olawe? So, I said my best phrase in Hawaiian - and although it was shaky, I told them it took me 50 years to learn how to say that in Hawaiian. I mentioned that I was a Hawaiian master gardener and wanted to report on the progress by the KIRC, the interns and with the lack of federal assistance, all of the work that was accomplished already would be wasted. Kaho'olawe is part of the Hawaiian Islands, too, and it needs help. So help us get the assistance we need so we can show the world who we are: kanaka ma'oli." — **Boysie Burdett**

(Below: Mahina Lealao offering her testimony before the House Committee on Ocean, Marine Resources and Hawaiian Affairs)

"I first accessed the island in August 2015 for an internship through the KIRC's Hui Kāpehe program. It instilled in me importance and obligation not only to my culture, but to the people around me and our 'aina. It is the soil on Kaho'olawe that I replenished and nurtured that gave me the mana to speak today, as a Protector. The leaders and staff of the KIRC, as well as myself, have accepted the journey to see Kanaloa prosper and all that is in the Island's best interest. With the understanding that this Island Reserve is in trust for a Native Hawaiian sovereign entity, the KIRC is dedicated in their efforts to restore and maintain the thriving future of Kaho'olawe - and we need that financial source. The focal point is the Island. Your support enables us to focus on the innovative and acclaimed restoration programs as well as other programs developing. It is amazing how Kanaloa can bring us together as strangers and release us as an 'Ohana. I would like to encourage the legislators to volunteer on Kaho'olawe, to feel the passion and mana that it holds. Take a week off from wearing your everyday suit wear and enjoy the pukas in your pants and shirt. Most importantly, see and feel for yourself what this Island can do for the people of Hawai'i and the future generations. That said: be that vote that says YES to the ongoing protection of the islands ecosystem. Be that vote that says YES in protecting our archaeological sites, features, and history it poses and more history in the making. Be that vote that says YES to defend our endangered species. Be that legislator that says YES, I support these bills. I ola o Kanaloa which means Kanaloa lives." — **Mahina Lealao**



"As the Po'o of the Aha Moku Advisory Committee representing the Island of Kaho'olawe, I and the generational families and communities of Honuaula, the traditional moku attached to Kaho'olawe, are strongly behind Aha Moku who supports this measure. Our direct ancestors gave all of the place names to the island. It is we who hold the knowledge of the ancient history and lineage of the ahupua'a on the island, of the ocean, the currents, the winds, the water - every resource that is on or linked to the island. The State of Hawai'i cannot allow their protection of Kaho'olawe to dwindle into uncertainty and neglect." — **Leslie Kuloloio, Aha Moku Advisory Committee (AMAC) – Moku O Kanaloa**

"I humbly ask that you support this bill and provide funding for KIRC. 'A'ohē pau ka 'ike i ka hālau ho'okahi... All knowledge is not learned in just one school ('ōlelo no'eau, pukui). Kaho'olawe is a dynamic, evolving, and life-altering classroom rich in history and culture.

When considering to fund education, think beyond the traditional classroom and invest in a learning experience that will enrich and inflict positive change in peoples' lives. Support Kanaloa Kaho'olawe. "

— **Pookela Hanson**

KIRC TEAM NEWS



KIRC contractors from Zapata Engineering oversee all on-island operations, which include infrastructure management, vehicle maintenance, fuel operations, housing, water and energy. Together, we adapt, learn and always move forward with a common goal: to provide safe and meaningful access to Kaho'olawe. Photo by volunteer Bryan Berkowitz

Cassie “Hökūikekai” Smith joined the KIRC as Volunteer Coordinator in January 2016. Raised on the island of O’ahu before moving to Kīhei, Maui at 13, Cassie’s first volunteer trip to Kaho’olawe (at age 14) set in motion her vocation to learn about mālama ‘āina. She has a degree in Hawaiian Language from UH Mānoa and spent 2 years with KUPU’s HYCC internship program. Outside of the KIRC she assists with aloha ‘āina causes and perpetuates local culture through hula and other community activities. Welcome Cassie!

Natural Resources Specialist and ‘Ōhua captain Lopaka White recently participated in a Kalama C.A.R.E.S. (Community Awareness of Resources for Education & Services) event at Kalama Intermediate School, his alma mater. If you are interested in welcoming a member of the KIRC to your community event, please contact us with a preferred date, time and the mission of your organization at administrator@kirc.hawaii.gov. We look forward to working together!

During the most recent meeting of the KIRC Commissioners, Executive Director Mike Nāho’opi’i honored former Commissioner Amber Nāmaka Whitehead for her 8 years of service (pictured). The KIRC also recognized the outstanding contributions and dedication of Nāmaka towards the healing and restoration of Kaho’olawe. Mahalo for providing continuity in our vision for the future of Kanaloa.

GIS Specialist Carmela Noneza, Administrative Officer Ka’ōnohi Lee and Natural Resources Specialist Lopaka White recently celebrated 10, 30 and 10 years (respectively) with the Kaho’olawe Island Reserve Commission. We are deeply grateful for their outstanding service to Kanaloa and to the Hawai’i community.



RESTORATION PROGRAM NEWS

KAHO'OLAWE BIOSECURITY PROJECT



The Hawaiian archipelago accounts for only 0.2% of the U.S. land area but is home to nearly 75% of recorded extinctions, with invasive species as the leading cause. The KIRC prioritizes the advancement of an invasive-predator-free Kaho'olawe Island Reserve for the benefit of recovering Native Hawaiian species and to aid in the revitalization of Hawaiian cultural practices.

The ecological restoration of Kaho'olawe depends, in large part, on the prevention of Invasive Alien Species (IAS) and the eradication of target species. Through grant support of the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council (HISC), the KIRC is currently developing a new plan for preventing *new* IAS from entering the Reserve while targeting *existing* ones for control and eradication. With protocols for shipping materials, accessing the Reserve and more, the plan will focus on 5 main areas:

[PREVENTION](#) > [DETECTION](#) > [QUARANTINE](#) > [ERADICATION](#) > [EDUCATION](#)

The forthcoming guide will provide a comprehensive approach to preventing invasive species from becoming established in the Reserve, addressing, for example:

- IAS seed transported via clothing, footwear, and tools.
- Fountain grass (*Cenchrus setaceus*) introduced on Kaho'olawe during the UXO clearance project, which poses a major fire threat, permanently alters native habitat and is declared both a noxious weed and one of Hawai'i's most invasive plants by the State of Hawai'i.
- Harmful invasive animal species that present a threat to the restoration of Kaho'olawe's ecosystem.
- The Little Fire Ant (*Wasmannia auropunctata*), a new introduction to Maui that harbors a painful sting causing welts and injuring wildlife while promoting other pest species (whiteflies, aphids). (*Vectors for ants include plants, fruits and even cardboard boxes*).
- IAS threats from the ocean in the form of invasive algae, i.e. *Gracillaria salicornia* and *Hypnea musciformis*, which have the ability to smother coral reefs. (*Vectors for introduced limu include vessel hulls and ocean recreational equipment*).



Volunteers from UH carefully cut off seed heads of invasive fountain grass and bag them to limit seed dispersal before digging up the roots.

Please Kokua



STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!

Prevent the transport of nuisance species.
Clean all recreational equipment.
www.ProtectYourWaters.net

Help Protect Hawaiian Waters
From Invasive Alien Species

Additionally, the HISC grant has allowed the KIRC to establish baseline vegetation surveys and to expand fountain grass surveys.

At Lua 'O Keāliālalo, a small but persistent population of individuals appear after heavy rains which we were previously able to regularly control. A newly expanded survey revealed over 400 new plants south of the wetland area that have since been pulled up or treated with herbicide. This new population will now be the focus of control and eradication efforts in order to prevent this IAS from becoming permanently established on the island.

Other activities in this project include conducting biological inventories on the island and at ports of departure, e.g. Kihei boathouse. The development of best management practices for the KIRC nursery currently under construction and ongoing control projects for rodents and khaki weed (*Alternanthera pungens*) are all supported through the HISC project. Education and volunteer based implementation are the cornerstones for the success of this project and in the coming months the KIRC website will be updated to include a new section on Biosecurity. The KIRC would like to thank HISC, the Maui Invasive Species Committee and Forest and Kim Starr for this project support.

ACCESSING THE RESERVE? WHAT TO DO

- All recreational snorkel and dive equipment including tabs cleaned and sterilized with a 3% bleach solution and dry gear completely before coming to island.
- Boat owners are now required to keep their vessels free of all Invasive Alien Species (IAS) when entering the reserve. Vessel hulls and motors inspected and cleaned of invasive limu.
- Clothing, shoes and camping gear inspected and manually cleaned of all seeds and soil.
- Plants, food, and ceremonial offerings (Ho'okupu) inspected for IAS (fungi, disease, mold, insects, frogs, small lizards, etc). All items should be contained in sealed containers and inspected again for IAS once on Kaho'olawe.

CURRENT GRANT PROJECTS



Planting at Hakiowa Watershed

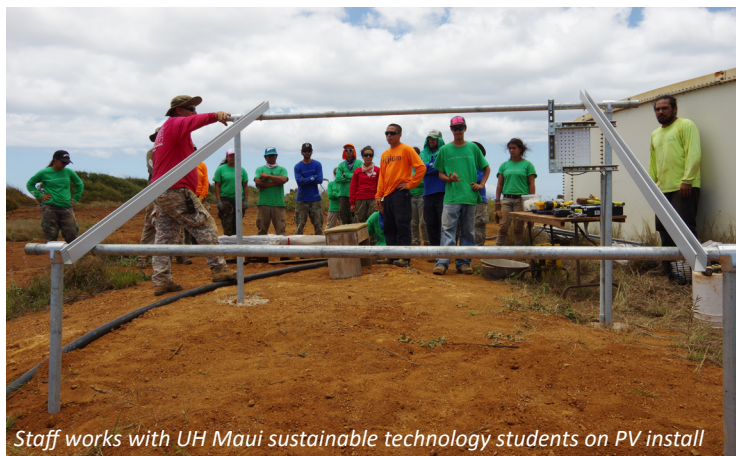
HAKIOAWA WATERSHED RESTORATION

A decade-long project funded by the *Hawai'i Department of Health, Clean Water Branch*, KIRC and thousands of community volunteers have aggressively addressed a 500 acre, Tier I & II area of the Reserve's hardpan via plantings, erosion control and non-native species control.

Goals include prevention of erosion, permanent loss of archaeological sites, fatal impacts to near-shore coral reef communities and pollution of our global waters. To date, more than 90,000 native plants have been established in the Hakiowa Watershed project site.

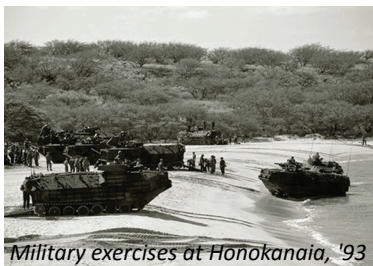
KAHO'OLAWE BASE CAMP SELF-SUSTAINABILITY PROJECT

Now in its 4th year of partnership with the *Office of Economic Development, County of Maui*, we have built a stand-alone, battery backup photovoltaic system to power off-grid volunteer housing and other infrastructural units. An upcoming project will power a security system, with a full rehaul of Base Camp's energy system underway through *State of Hawai'i Capital Improvement Project (CIP)* funding.



Staff works with UH Maui sustainable technology students on PV install

THE KAHO'OLAWE LIVING LIBRARY



Military exercises at Honoanaia, '93

Funded through the *Native Hawaiian Museum Services, Institute of Museum and Library Services, Hawai'i Tourism Authority's Kūkulu Ola Living Hawaiian Culture Program* and the *Hawai'i Council for the Humanities Preservation and Access Grant Program*,

this online database presents a community-curated collection of searchable items for educational use. Next steps include the design of an interactive application ("app") for mobile access, presenting a fully functioning map of Kaho'olawe that enables the user to virtually explore the Reserve and discover the archived collection, piece by piece, as well as an oral histories component. (View the pilot at <http://livinglibrary.kahoolawe.hawaii.gov/index.htm/index.htm>).

KAHO'OLAWE SEABIRD RESTORATION

Through a collaboration with *Island Conservation* funded by the *National Fish and Wildlife Foundation*, a long-range strategic plan is being implemented to restore the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve as a sanctuary for rare wildlife species in Hawai'i. Amongst other critical outcomes, restoring seabirds will significantly advance opportunities for participation in and awareness of traditional Native Hawaiian cultural practices.



Pu'ukoa'e (Hill of the Tropic Bird), the only area of the Reserve free from predators

Kāpehe at Pu'u 'O Moa'ula Nui



HUI KĀPEHE

Currently in its 3rd year, the KIRC's Hui Kāpehe college internship program offers work-related experience, community service learning and job shadowing opportunities related to career and technical education - with focus on sustainability and Hawaiian culture. Part of a national initiative funded through the *Native Hawaiian Career and Technical Education Program*, in partnership with *Alu Like Inc.*, college students gain hands-on experience in each of the KIRC's core programs as a prerequisite, then engage in a paid internship in the area of their choosing.

CURRENT GRANT PROJECTS



'Ōhūa unloading volunteers, supplies, equipment and staff

SUSTAINING COMMUNITY ACCESS TO KAHO'OLAWE: 'ŌHUA

The KIRC's 'Ōhūa landing craft became its primary means of cargo, personnel and volunteer transport in 2007 — significantly reducing overhead costs and improving logistics efficiency. Due to age, frequency of use and the extreme weather conditions, our Operations team applies much of their time and energy towards maintaining the vessel. With recent funding through the *Office of Economic Development, County of Maui* (OED) and State Bill #2034, we are currently working on major repairs and maintenance of this critical connection to Kaho'olawe.

KAHO'OLAWE MARINE DEBRIS REMOVAL

In June 2015, the KIRC was awarded a portion of a new DLNR grant through the *Japanese Tsunami Marine Debris* (JTMD) Program via the *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's* (NOAA) *Marine Debris Program*. An adjunct to the two-year NOAA partnership that contributed to the removal of 43 tons of marine debris from Kaho'olawe (2013-2015), the JTMD initiative supports exemplary partners in tackling marine debris challenges and finding proactive solutions that help eliminate debris through research, removal, prevention, emergency response and coordination. The KIRC is currently allocating State CIP funds to continue this important work to protect Reserve and global waters.



Volunteers after a work day collecting marine debris

KAHO'OLAWE BIOSECURITY

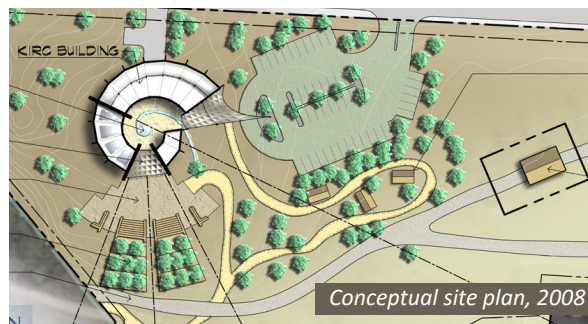
Working with the *Hawai'i Invasive Species Council*, the KIRC is developing a new plan for preventing new *Invasive Alien Species* (IAS) from entering the Reserve while targeting others for control and eradication. With protocols for shipping materials, accessing the Reserve and more, the plan will focus on Prevention > Detection > Quarantine > Eradication > and Education.



Slippers with invasive puncture vine, a common vehicle for IAS

THE KAHO'OLAWE EDUCATION & OPERATIONS CENTER, KIHEI

Designated to the KIRC in 2002 as the future site of its primary operations, information and cultural learning center, this 8-acre Boat House property is currently being developed to host community work days and school outreach programs, featuring an educational walking trail, native plant nursery and traditional hale. Through grants made through the *Hawai'i Tourism Authority* and *Hawai'i Community Foundation*, this living model of the methods and educational approaches applied within the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve is being designed to enable access to the broader community. A 2015 State CIP bill was passed to complete designs of the planned Center; with imminent plans to launch a capital campaign for the site. (Projected completion: 2021).



Conceptual site plan, 2008

COASTAL RESTORATION PROJECT

A project initiated in 2012 through the *Hawai'i Community Foundation's Community Restoration Partnership*, thousands of community volunteers representing schools, nature centers, conservation organizations and more have planted 10,000 drought resistant natives at Honokanai'a - with plans to expand to Keanakeiki and Kealaikahiki. Landscapes have been stabilized around significant cultural sites and 1,000+ invasive roi, to'au and ta'ape have been removed, all fish that prey on native species. This work is integral to realizing the KIRC mission.



Working towards the goal of a thriving native ecosystem

JOIN US

BIODIVERSITY FESTIVAL

The KIRC is proud to be a part of the **International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) World Conservation Congress 2016**— the world’s largest conservation event, (Sept 1-10, 2016, Oahu).

Held every four years, the Congress brings together leaders from government, the public sector, non-governmental organizations, business, UN agencies and indigenous and grass-roots organizations to discuss and decide on solutions to the world’s most pressing environment and development challenges. With the selection of Hawai’i, United States of America, as the host of the 2016 event, attendants will address the challenges of a “Planet at the Crossroads” and celebrate achievements of the U.S. and Hawai’i in environmental stewardship, bio cultural sustainability and economic leadership.

In tandem with the years of planning that have gone into this event, the **Indigenous Crop Biodiversity Festival 2016** (Aug 24 - 26, 2016, Maui), a Parallel Event to the Congress, is inviting global participants to experience a week of inspiring Maui Nui-based actions, workshops, site visits, special lectures, films, music, art, food and celebration around some of the most pressing conservation and sustainability issues of our time.

"Participating in these planning conversations over the past year has allowed the KIRC to strengthen relationships with like-minded organizations throughout the State and to broaden our collective reach," says Executive Director Mike Nāho’opi’i, "the Biodiversity Festival and IUCN are providing the KIRC an opportunity to be featured on a global stage for its innovative restoration efforts amidst nature's most extreme climactic and devastated landscapes. We look forward to expanding our network of support and, through this, our ability to restore the Reserve."

"In the field of conservation there are many levels of work, from protecting intact ecosystems and endangered species to invasive species removal, habitat restoration and restoring cultural relationships to place," says Maui Island conservation planner and Festival Coordinator Penny Levin, "Kaho’olawe is a good example

of a training ground for recovery of severely degraded lands, as well as the careful process of restoring landscapes after war, one of the most challenging conditions under which conservation works because of unexploded ordnance and munitions."

Please join us for the Indigenous Crop Biodiversity Festival Opening Ceremony on Friday evening, August 26th at the Maui Tropical Plantation (food, films and music!), where filmmaker Walter Kanamu will debut a film about the work of the Kaho’olawe Island Reserve Commission. Visit icbf-maui.com for further information.



The KIRC's Hui Kāpehe interns mālama the 'uala patch at Pu'u 'O Moa'ula Nui



i/c/b/f
INDIGENOUS
CROP BIODIVERSITY
FESTIVAL



IUCN
World
Conservation
Congress
Hawai'i 2016



**KAHO'OLAWE
ISLAND
RESERVE
COMMISSION**



A special mahalo to Four Seasons Resort Maui and friends (pictured) for donating 1,500 'aki'aki to vital Kaho’olawe restoration projects. Please contact us at administrator@kirc.hawaii.gov to learn about how you can help! *Photo by volunteer Bryan Berkowitz*

ALOHA KAHO'OLAWE

Through your resounding support of last year's inaugural ALOHA KAHO'OLAWE membership drive, we were able to secure the first-ever direct appropriation of general funds since being established by the State of Hawai'i in 1993.

You are critical to our efforts in protecting, restoring and preserving the ocean and land of this important cultural reserve.

If you have been impacted by Kaho'olawe — as a volunteer, friend, teacher, student, researcher or otherwise interested community or family member, we invite you to renew today (or to join a friend!) in order to continue to make a difference for this special place.

MEMBERSHIP LEVELS & BENEFITS:

SUSTAINER \$50 (\$25 Student)	BENEFACTOR \$100	PATRON \$500
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mahalo! 2. e-news enrollment 3. Subscription to the KIRC's newsletter: <i>Ko Hema Lamalama</i> 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mahalo! 2. e-news enrollment 3. Subscription to <i>Ko Hema Lamalama</i> 4. KIRC logo gift (NEW!) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mahalo! 2. e-news enrollment 3. Subscription to <i>Ko Hema Lamalama</i> 4. KIRC logo gift (NEW!) 5. Newsletter Advertising



Now entering its second year, **ALOHA KAHO'OLAWE** is a campaign to continue Kaho'olawe restoration and access. Through this initiative, we invite participation via donation, membership, partnership and legislative support. By building consensus that there is value in the historical, cultural, ecological and community building resources shared through the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve, we aim to demonstrate a greater need for investment by the State of Hawai'i. Your support contributes directly to the sustainability of KIRC programs, which are dedicated to the rebirth, restoration and flourishing of Kaho'olawe and its surrounding waters for generations to come.



The KIRC Marco Kaldi Fund celebrates and honors the legacy of Marco Kaldi (pictured). A memorial fund founded by his daughter Serena Kaldi, all donations are recognized in his name and support restoration, preservation and access activities associated with the healing of Kaho'olawe. "I know that this will be a great honor to him and will help fulfill his wish of bringing healing and revitalization to Kaho'olawe." Please visit <https://hawaiianwayfund.dntly.com/fundraiser/the-kirc-marco-kaldi-fund#/donate> to learn more.

If you would like to set up a donation fund for Kaho'olawe that recognizes *your* organization, school or a loved one, please contact Public Information Specialist Kelly McHugh at kmchugh@kirc.hawaii.gov.

PLEASE JOIN THE CAUSE

Send this completed form with your donation to:
811 Kolu Street, Suite 201 | Wailuku, HI 96793.

Checks may be made payable to Kaho'olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund.

You can also give online at: hawaiianwayfund.dntly.com/campaign/1543#/donate

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Name and/ or Company

Address

E-mail

Phone

GIFT TYPE:

- SUSTAINER (\$50-\$99 | \$25 with student ID)
- BENEFACTOR (\$100-\$499)
- PATRON (\$500 & up)
- I am not interested in becoming a Member at this time and have included a donation in the amount of \$ _____

Comments

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



Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission
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 Web: kahooolawe.hawaii.gov



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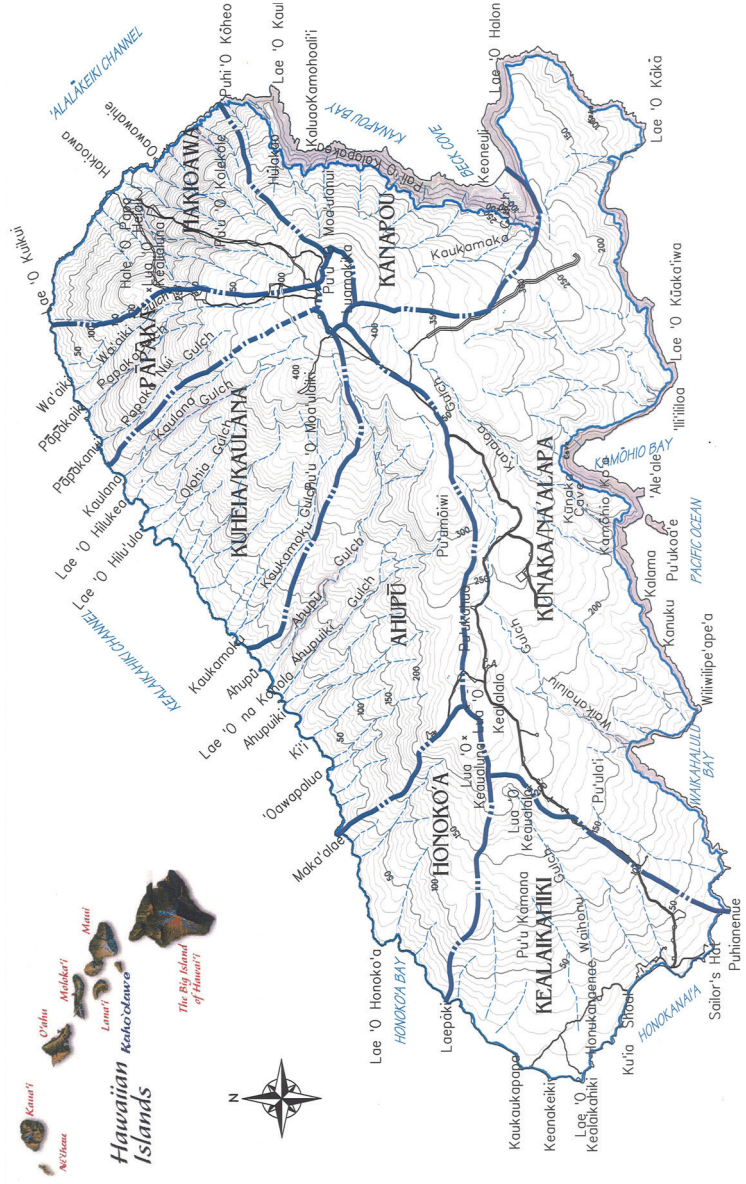
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ABOUT THE KIRC

The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) was established by the Hawai'i State Legislature in 1993 to manage the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve while held in trust for a future Native Hawaiian sovereign entity. The KIRC has pledged to provide for the meaningful and safe use of Kaho'olawe for the purpose of the traditional and cultural practices of the native Hawaiian people and to undertake the restoration of the island and its waters. Its mission is to implement the vision for Kaho'olawe Island in which the *kino* (body) of Kaho'olawe is restored and *nā po'e o Hawai'i* (the people of Hawai'i) care for the land. The organization is managed by a seven-member Commission and a committed staff specializing in 5 core programs: Ocean, Restoration, Culture, Operations and Administration.

COMMISSIONERS

County of Maui: Michele Chouteau McLean, Chairperson
 Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana: Jonathan Ching
 Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana: Joshua Kaakua
 Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana: C. Kaliko Baker
 Department of Land & Natural Resources: Suzanne Case
 Native Hawaiian Organization: Hōkūlani Holt
 Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA): Carmen Hulu Lindsey
 Michael K. Nāho'opi'i, Executive Director



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