



KAHO'OLAWE

Ko Hema Lamalama

KIRC names Nāho'opi'i



The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) has named Michael K. Nāho'opi'i as its new executive director.

In reflecting on the commission's selection process and decision-making, Chair Noa Emmett Aluli, M.D. noted: "Selecting an executive director, a leader who will be the keeper and implementer of the vision and promise of Kaho'olawe, has been a very serious and vital

task that all of the members of the commission took on with focus and commitment.

"After very careful and thoughtful consideration we were very pleased that Mike Nāho'opi'i accepted our offer to be the executive director of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission," Aluli continued.

"A very strong project manager, Mike has an outstanding background in fund development and grants, he is well connected and well respected in the Hawaiian community and by the local legislature and our congressional delegation. Mike also understands how to develop and implement strategy and how to track and measure results. He is very familiar with us, our programs, the work that we do and he knows Kaho'olawe."

Nāho'opi'i officially assumed his duties as executive director of the KIRC on March 10, 2008.

Mike Nāho'opi'i has been involved with Kaho'olawe from virtually every perspective in its recent history. A long-time Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana (PKO) member and former US Navy Officer-in-Charge of Kaho'olawe during the conveyance of the island to the State of Hawai'i, he was a senior manager during the early Model Cleanup and the later Unexploded Ordnance (UXO) clearance project, undertaken by the Navy.

In a 1981 trip to Kaho'olawe, Mike was among a group of Kamehameha School students – organized by now KIRC Commissioner Charles PMK Burrows and the PKO – who were the first children the Navy allowed on the island. During that initial trip, Mike met and came to know Uncle Harry Mitchell, Uncle Les Kuloloio, and current KIRC Chair Aluli.

Welcome to *Ko Hema Lamalama*, a newsletter declaring the news from Kaho'olawe. Uncle Harry Mitchell interpreted this name as the southern beacon, which served as a source of light to those 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.

In 1993, Mike returned to Kaho'olawe as Officer-in-Charge of the Navy's Kaho'olawe Project – the first Native Hawaiian naval officer ever assigned to the island. There he commanded the Naval Construction Battalion (SeaBee) Unit responsible for the operation and maintenance of the "Smuggler's Cove" Base Camp (Honokanai'a) and the Navy's compliance with the Navy-PKO consent decree of 1980. His unit performed monthly UXO sweeps, eradicated the remaining goats, conducted restoration plantings, and assisted in scientific studies of the island as part of the federally mandated responsibilities of the Kaho'olawe Island Conveyance Commission. Also assigned as the Navy's representative to the PKO, Mike spent a significant amount of time on Kaho'olawe and in Hakioawa Valley with the PKO.

After leaving the Navy, Mike served as senior project engineer for both the Model UXO Clearance Project in 1995 and the Kaho'olawe UXO Clearance Project from 1997 to 2004, responsible for project management oversight of technical, project and quality management programs.

Prior to joining the KIRC as its executive director, Mike served as a project manager for a Native Hawaiian company – The Hana Group – responsible for developing and managing quality and safety programs for defense contract work in the fields of physical and industrial security, range and missile safety, and base operations. Additionally, he was a program director for the non-profit Pacific American Foundation, directing federally funded programs in Native Hawaiian demographics, policies, and education.

Born in Honolulu, Mike graduated from the Kamehameha Schools in 1982. He received his BS in Electrical Engineering from the US Naval Academy at Annapolis and was commissioned an ensign in 1986, serving as a nuclear-trained submarine officer until his assignment to Kaho'olawe. In 1992, he received an MBA in accounting from Chaminade University. Mike is certified as a Quality Manager and Quality Engineer by the American Society for Quality, and holds the designation of Project Management Professional from the Project Management Institute. He and his family reside in Kapahulu, O'ahu.



Sea Turtles in The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve - Part I *

As indigenous species in Hawai'i, sea turtles have historically played an important role in Hawaiian culture. Honu (green turtle, *Chelonia mydas*) and 'ea or honu'ea (hawksbill turtle, *Eretmochelys imbricata*) are mentioned in the *Kumulipo*, the Hawaiian creation chant.



Hawksbill turtle

Depicted in Hawaiian lore and legend through hula, petroglyphs, chants, and tattoos, sea turtles were utilized in traditional ceremonies, and their use was controlled by the kapu system. Honu meat and eggs were consumed and oils were used for skin treatments (as honu'ea were unsafe for consumption because their diet can include toxic sponges, they were prized for their shells instead). Modern-day plastics have replaced the need for "tortoiseshell" from which fishhooks, tools, and jewelry were formerly fashioned.

State and federal laws have protected Hawaiian sea turtles as endangered species since the 1970s.

Within the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve, sea turtles had gone practically unstudied until 2002 when Ocean Resources Specialist II **Cheryl King** joined the KIRC Ocean Resources Management Program (ORMP) as an intern. King designed and implemented a research project that both garnered invaluable data for the KIRC ocean resources management program and earned her a master's degree in marine biology through Nova Southeastern University's Oceanographic Center (Florida).

King's baseline assessment (2002-2005) combined aerial and in-water research methodologies while recording all incidental sightings and opportunistic reports. In addition, cultural insight, previous studies, literature, and other references were included in the study. Still used today by the ORMP, these protocols will continue to build upon the knowledge of sea turtle occurrence within the Reserve and monitor changes.

Despite their cultural importance, archaeological surveys of Kaho'olawe have revealed only one sea turtle-related finding of record. Turtle shell fishhooks and pieces of hawksbill carapaces were found in a shrine at Kamohio Bay (McAllister 1933). The origins of these materials, whether from turtles caught at Kaho'olawe or a neighbor island, are unknown. Two petroglyphs –

at Kealaikahiki and mauka of Kanapou Bay – resemble turtles although have not been identified as such (Community Development Pacific, Inc. 1994; Lee and Stasack 1993).



Petroglyphs found on Kaho'olawe

Two turtle-related place names on Kaho'olawe are associated with streams: "Punawai Honu" is located on the southern end of Kanapou Bay, and "Wai Honu Gulch" runs down the southwestern mountainside toward Kealaikahiki.

A third place name still in common use is "Honukanaenae", located makai of Wai Honu Gulch. Honukanaenae has been translated by various sources as "tired turtle" and "chant for the turtles" with historic accounts referring to nesting and resting turtles in the area.

Nearby Honokanai'a has had numerous spellings, one being "Honu-kana'i", which historian Inez Ashdown translated and explained as: "where the sacred turtle guards this land which will return to its heirs someday. Lae Ke-ala-i-kahiki is the tail and it points the way to the channel between Kaho'olawe and Lāna'i, and to the horizon, or Kahiki-kū" (Ashdown 1979). No species-specific information or extent of nesting or basking occurrences has been found. Only five indications of basking turtles have been documented on Kaho'olawe since the 1980s. The only recent written reference to nesting was Uncle Les Kuloloio's May 14, 1995 observations at Keanakeiki (Protect Kaho'olawe Fund 1997).



Green turtle

Although survey time has been limited, the KIRC ORMP has searched coastal areas for signs of nesting and basking, but none has been found. Despite the presence of mice, rats, and cats, there is a near absence of humans and infrastructure; therefore relatively pristine nesting and basking habitats exist on Kaho'olawe compared to the other main Hawaiian Islands. Hopefully honu and honu'ea will return to utilize them someday.

All Kaho'olawe sea turtle insight is welcome. Please send accounts to cking@kirc.hawaii.gov.

*Part II of "Sea Turtles in the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve" including the results of the ORMP study will appear in the next issue of *Ko Hema Lamalama*.

Recollections of a Kaho‘olawe Childhood

News from the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana

Swimming and fishing every day all summer sounds like a dream for many. These were some of the best memories shared recently by **Steve Pedro, Sr.** who did exactly that—spending his childhood summers playing on Kaho‘olawe.

From 1921-1940, Steve’s father, **Manuel Pedro**, was the luna for the island of Kaho‘olawe during a period when Grove Ranch and then - sole lessee **Angus MacPhee** managed the island as a cattle ranch. After Manuel’s son John and wife Hattie passed away in 1931, he was on-island by himself most of each year. Steve remembers his dad being listed in *Ripley’s* as the “Kaho‘olawe Hermit.” Each week a boat arrived with food, newspapers and kerosene. Drinking water was secured from a rooftop catchment system.

On March 2, 2008, the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana brought Steve Pedro Sr. and his family members to Kūhe‘eia.

Steve led us through tall grass to point out a fire pit that bore the name, exactly as he described, M-A-N-U-E-L P-E-D-R-O. He described for us the “Haole House,” used by the owners to entertain guests. He pointed out troughs, corrals and dams. Crossing the streambed where once a river flowed, he hiked us upland to remnants of old cisterns where shards of china identify the old cookhouse site and rickety wooden posts tell us where the Cowboy House, or barracks, once was.

Manuel lived and worked on Kaho‘olawe by himself except during cattle drives. Then, up to 20



Steve Pedro Sr., whose father lived on Kaho‘olawe 1921-1940, returned in March

cowboys and women arrived with their own horses. Cattle were driven from all over the island to Kūhe‘eia and corralled before being loaded onto a skiff for transport to other islands.

Born in 1928, Steve attended school in Kihei from the age of six. He lived with a Mrs. Hart, with whose descendants his family is still in touch. Each summer, he and his brother **David** couldn’t wait to join their father.

“Fishing and swimming all day. What the hell else could you ask for?” Steve chuckles. “The old man said it kept us out of trouble.”

The boys enjoyed their summers until 1940—not 1941, as we have believed—when they were removed from the island. Their father went to work as a ranch manager in ‘Ulupalakua and bought a house in Makawao before he passed away at the age of 54.

Family members were last on Kaho‘olawe in 2001 to scatter the ashes of Steve’s brother David.

It was a privilege to have this island son back on Kaho‘olawe sharing his stories, allowing us to walk in his footsteps. KIRC staff, other ‘Ohana members, and ranching descendants of other eras joined the small party.

Mahalo to KIRC for its support, participation and sharing of ranch artifacts from its collection. Mahalo nui to **Hardy Spoehr**, formerly with the Kaho‘olawe Island Conveyance Commission, and the Spoehr Foundation for sponsoring the visit for the Pedro family and others. Mahalo a nui loa to the Pedro ‘Ohana: Steve Sr. and wife Virginia, Steve Jr. and niece **Danielle** (David’s daughter) for returning to their family home and for sharing those stories with us.

Aloha ‘Āina.



‘Ohana members find all the markings on the firepit described by Steve Pedro, Kūhe‘eia



Danielle Pedro, Steve & Virginia Pedro, Steve Pedro Jr., March 2008, Kūhe‘eia

Photos by K.K. Bernie

KAHO‘OLAWE REHABILITATION TRUST SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES



The Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve Commission is dedicated to the rebirth, restoration and flourishing of Kaho‘olawe and its surrounding waters. With each small success in cultural, environmental and marine restoration we provide a marvelous heritage for generations to come. Toward this end, we have added the following exceptional sponsorship opportunities for those wishing to help perpetuate these preservation efforts.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN CULTURAL PROGRAM

– Sponsorship supports archeological surveys – more than 3,000 historic sites and features identified to date; the exercise of traditional Native Hawaiian cultural protocols, ceremonial practices and rites such as the annual planting ceremony, marking of solstices; care for iwi kūpuna; and collaborative cultural programs with Department of Education for high school and college students and curriculum development opportunities for teachers.

OCEAN RESOURCE PROGRAM

– Sponsorship fosters the conservation of marine resources within the Kaho‘olawe Island Reserve. Initiatives include coral reef monitoring, fish tagging and replenishment, and habitat monitoring for the health and proliferation of resident marine life including manō (shark), nai‘a (dolphin), ‘Ilioholoikauaua (Hawaiian Monk seal), honu (sea turtles), koholā (whale), seabirds such as ‘iwa and koa‘e ‘ula, and literally hundreds of fish species.

RESTORATION PROGRAM

– Sponsorship underwrites the revegetation of Kaho‘olawe with native species of trees, shrubs, vines, grasses and herbs; invasive species removal; the creation of a “seed bank” enabling a native plant community; controlling erosion and sediment runoff and expanding the island’s rain catchment system to increase storage capability to supply continuing and future irrigation needs.

RESERVE OPERATIONS PROGRAM

– Sponsorship advances work currently underway in transitioning island work and storage sites from dependence on expensive fossil fuels to energy self-sufficiency through the purchase and implementation of alternative energy solutions including solar and wind energy technologies.

RESERVE EDUCATION, ADMINISTRATION CENTER & MUSEUM BUILDING PROGRAM

– Sponsorship advances the long-awaited Kihei center to house permanent historical, cultural and scientific information and displays, provide classrooms for educational programs and office space for the Reserve’s administrative and operations staff.

HOW TO CONTRIBUTE

Please fill out the attached Sponsorship Form indicating how your tax-deductible contribution should be directed and send both along with your check to the Kaho‘olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund, 811 Kolu Street, Suite 201, Wailuku, HI 96793.

The KIRC is a 170(c)(1), government entity, authorized per IRS Publication 557, to receive tax-deductible contributions to programs, such as those listed above, that serve a public purpose.

And, mahalo for keeping the dream alive.

KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA

KAHO‘OLAWE REHABILITATION TRUST FUND

Contributions of money or property to the Kaho‘olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund may be deducted as charitable contributions in computing taxable income so long as those donations are used exclusively for public purposes.*

SPONSORSHIP FORM

Name: _____

Company: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

Day Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

‘Ae! I’d like to kōkua! Please direct my tax-deductible sponsorship contribution to the following program(s):

	Amount
<input type="checkbox"/> Wherever the need is greatest	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Native Hawaiian Cultural Program	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean Resource Program	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Restoration Program	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Reserve Operations Program	\$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Reserve Education, Admin Center & Museum Building Program	\$ _____
Total Enclosed:	\$ _____

Please make check payable to the
Kaho‘olawe Rehabilitation Trust Fund

and mail, with this form, to
811 Kolu Street, Suite 201, Wailuku, Hawai‘i 96793
Telephone (808) 243-5020 Fax (808) 243-5885

‘Ae! I’d like to receive the KIRC newsletter, *Ko Hema Lamalama*, by e-mail and help reduce the Trust’s printing, postage and handling expenses.

* 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.

Volunteer Program

Kaho'olawe's continues to heal, thanks to all the hard work of our volunteers. Native grasses and shrubs were planted on the slopes of Pu'u Moa'ulanui in the headwaters of Hakioawa valley which entailed laying irrigation lines, digging thousands of holes, checking previous plantings, and constructing pili erosion barriers. All this work has made a noticeable difference in the healing and greening of Kanaloa. In addition to restoration work, volunteers improved roads and helped monitor our ocean resources. Mahalo to everyone for your tireless efforts!

January 1 – March 31, 2008 Volunteers

Shane Aldulfo	Von-Allan Keleleiki
William Aoki	John Kim
Milton Arellano	Moke Kim, Jr.
Kukui Awana	David Leialoha
Ben Bailey	Jonathan Lindsey
Corey Boss	James Mason
Erin Brittin	Sandra Mason
Bob Burger	Maui Preparatory Academy
N. Dana Collins	Jill McIntire
Kanekoa Crabbe	Wayne Meyer
Jamie Crimmins	Mason Miyamoto
Shawn Dizon	Jonah Molina
Judy Edwards	Wallace Morita
Steven Eminger	Grant Muroda
Kyle Eminger	Kūhea Paracuelles
Ruben Eskaran	Landon Paracuelles
James Espaniola	David Pfeifer
Albert Espaniola	Arlene Reiss
Cyril Foster	Barbara Schneider
Robert Fox	Dean Scofield
Cassandra Fraser	Linda Soma
Kaipo Garcia	Maureen Spollen
Arthur Goings	Forest Starr
Ronald Goings	Kim Starr
Hālau Mele	Anya Tagawa
Nicholas Harlow	Jae Tagawa-Kajiwara
Kawelu Higashino	Michael Tengan
Lihau Higashino	The Nature Conservancy
Maurice Hoffman	Finau Tuakoi
Tiffany Hoshijo	Cheryl Vann
Jared Ishida	James Waddington
Stanley Johnsen	Cynthia Waddington
Benjamin Ka'aikala	Wai'anae High School
Glen Kajiwara	Terry Weaver
Adam Kapp	Constantinos Xiromeritis
Robin Kaye	Anthony Yovandich

Hālau Lokahi 7th and 8th Graders
 Lahainaluna AOHT Program
 Lāna'i High School 11th and 12th Graders
 Lāna'i High School Administration
 Mililani High School Hawaiian Language
 Nā Hanona Kūlike 'O Pi'ilani

Volcano Arts and Science Academy Administration



Outreach

Kaunoa Senior Center

Early 2008 was filled with KIRC presentations and displays that all began in January. At the request of Maui County Leisure Specialist **Lana Queddeng**, KIRC staff made a cultural and historic presentation to more than 80 enthusiastic seniors at the Kaunoa Senior Center in Spreckelsville.



More than 80 seniors enjoyed the Kaunoa presentation

Hawaiian Caucus Exhibit

In March, Rep. **Mele Carroll**, East Maui and Kaho'olawe representative in the state House of Representatives, invited KIRC staff to participate in the 2008 Hawaiian Caucus exhibit at the Legislature. In addition to Rep. Carroll, Senator **J. Kalani English**, House Speaker **Calvin Say** and Rep. **Cynthia Thielen** visited the KIRC display.



Kaho'olawe representative Mele Carroll stopped by the KIRC display at the Hawaiian Caucus

Lahaina Sunrise Rotary and Delta Kappa Gamma Presentations

In March, at the request of Maui Senator **Roz Baker**, KIRC staff traveled to Lahaina in the early morning hours to present information about the Reserve to about 25 active Rotarians who are members of the Lahaina Sunrise Rotary.

The women of the **Delta Kappa Gamma** sorority also welcomed KIRC Staff to their 2008 statewide convention on Maui, where 12 of their number took part in a breakout session on Kaho'olawe.



Delta Kappa Gamma breakout session

Earth Day 2008 exhibit

KIRC participated in the 6th Annual Earth Day Celebration at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens. Nearly 1,000 attendees engaged with earth-friendly exhibits. In keeping with this year's theme – "Ola Nā Papa I Pūlama 'Ia – Cherish the Living Reefs" – the KIRC exhibit highlighted the work of our Ocean Resources division.



Former mayor Alan Arakawa and his wife Ann visit KIRC's Earth Day Exhibit.

KO HEMA LAMALAMA
A newsletter of the Kaho'olawe
Island Reserve Commission (KIRC)
Phone: (808) 243-5020
Fax: (808) 243-5885
Email: administrator@kirc.hawaii.gov
Web: kahoolawe.hawaii.gov



KIRC COMMISSIONERS
Noa Emmett Aluli, M.D., Chairperson
Robert J. Lu'uwai, Vice Chair
Milton Arakawa
Charles P.M.K. Burrows, Ed.D.
Craig Neff
Laura H. Thielen
John D. Waihe'e IV
Michael K. Nāho'opi'i
Executive Director

Printed by Maui Printing Company.

MAHALO TO OUR SPONSORS

Many thanks to Librarian **Ramona Ho** and Librarian Assistant **Nani Harmon** of the Charles Reed Bishop Learning Center at **Kamehameha Schools Maui Campus** for the donation of several excellent reference books to the KIRC Library, including: Handy & Handy's *Native Planters in Old Hawai'i*; Gulko & Eckert's *Sea Turtles, An Ecological Guide*; Gulko's *Hawaiian Coral Reef Ecology*; Abbott's *Lā'au Hawai'i, Traditional Hawaiian Uses of Plants*; Krauss' *Plants in Hawaiian Culture*, Erickson & Puttock's *Hawai'i Wetland Field Guide*, and Dr. Donald Kilolani Mitchell's *Hawaiian Games to Play*.

Mahalo to volunteer **Solomon Tamanaha** of the **Kamehameha Alumni Class of 1971** who sent in a much-appreciated cash donation.

And a very special mahalo to **Robert Campbell, David Tucker** and **Tanya Cress** of **Maui Printing Company** who once again graciously donated the reprinting of the artwork for the KIRC DVD "*Kaho'olawe: The Breath of Our Ancestors – Ka Hā o Ko mākou mau Kūpuna.*"

And, finally, mahalo to those folks who stopped by the KIRC display at the **Maui Nui Botanical Park Earth Day** celebration and made contributions to help further Kaho'olawe restoration work.

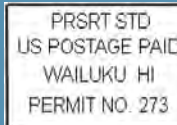
E KOMO MAI ...

The KIRC welcomes Natural Resources Specialist II **Christina Donehower** to our restoration staff. Born in Honolulu, Christina grew up in Gig Harbor, Washington. She holds a B.A. in biology from Lewis & Clark College in Portland (2001) and a Ph.D. in wildlife biology from McGill University in Montreal, Canada (2007), focusing on improving seabird and water bird conservation and management strategies. Among her studies are an avian malaria study on Hawai'i Island (2002) and rare seabird and habitat restoration on Midway Atoll (2000-2001). From 2002-2007, Christina served with the National Audubon Society in New England.



Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission
811 Kolu Street, #201
Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Printed on recycled paper