Ka Palupalu O Kanaloa Partnership Project - *Kanaloa kahoolawensis*

BACKGROUND

Discovered on ‘Ale‘ale in 1993 as a new genus with only two wild plants in existence, efforts have been underway to recover the species into stable populations. After many failed attempts of propagation of the cultivated plants a breakthrough in 2016 produced two clones through cuttings. From these cuttings numerous seedlings have been produced. The purpose of this project is to implement the KIRC Ka Palupalu O Kanaloa Management Plan through a working group Hui to restore *Kanaloa kahoolawensis* into the wild. This plan aligns with the already existing USFWS Recovery Plan and includes the timeline and history also detailing current efforts underway.

PROJECT GOALS

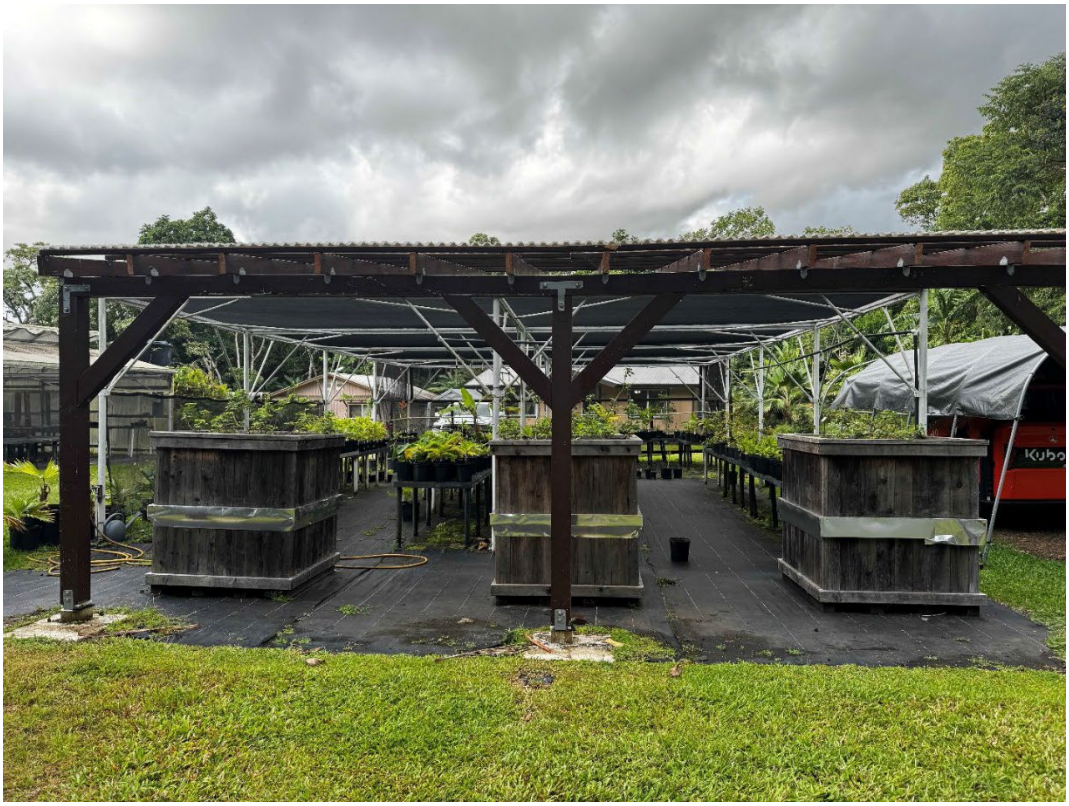
- The Partnership Hui meets on a quarterly basis.
- Cultivate Ka Palupalu O Kanaloa plants in propagation facilities.
- Create storm shelters within the propagation facilities.
- Propagate 100 or more plants at multiple nurseries.
- Outplant propagated plants into the wild to form stable populations.

PARTNERS: USFWS, DLNR/DOFAW, National Tropical Botanical Garden (Kahanu Garden and Preserve), Olinda Rare Plant Facility, Ho‘olawa Farms, PCSU Plant Extinction Prevention Program, Lyon Arboretum Micropropagation Lab, Makena Golf & Beach Club, and The Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana.

HIGHLIGHTS- June 1ST 2025 – November 30TH 2025

- Fifteen plants are in propagation and are distributed at with 3 at Ho‘olawa Farms (Haiku), 9 at Olinda Rare Plant Facility (Olinda), and 3 at Kahanu Gardens (Hana).
- The Working Group Hui met on November 3, 2025.

- All three plants at Kahanu Gardens (NTBG) have been transplanted into 4 foot by foot redwood planter boxes. Spider mite damage on plants.
- The last seed collected in 2008 from ʻAleʻale is thriving as a seedling at Olinda.
- The oldest plant at Hoʻolawa Farms was transfered to a new planter box.
- Additional pollen was added to the Lyon Arboretum Micropropagation lab.
- 14 cultures of callous cell are at the Micropropagation lab.
- Matt Kier with DOFAW introduced a new software mapping tool to the group that uses climate and geo-topography data from historical locations that can help define favorable conditions for the eventual out planting of *Kanaloa kahoolawensis* back into the wild.
- Communications Website has been launched and can be accessed at https://www.kapalupaluokanaloa.org/the-hui



Three Ka Palupalu O Kanaloa planted into redwood boxes at Kahanu Gardens