



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: January 1st 2026 – July 31st 2026

- Fifteen plants are in propagation and are distributed with 12 at Ho‘olawa Farms (Haiku), and 3 at Kahanu Gardens (Hana).
- All Ka Palupalu O Kanaloa from the Olinda Rare Plant Facility have been moved to Ho‘olawa Farms to facilitate pollen sharing and to habituate to a more suitable elevation for cultivation.
- The Working Group Hui did not have a formal meeting this period.

- Communications Website has been launched and can be accessed at <https://www.kapalupuokanaloa.org/the-hui>



The oldest (2008) Ka Palupalu O Kanaloa at Ho'olawa Farms in Haiku.



Three (3) Ka Palupalu O Kanaloa are at Kahanu National Tropical Botanical Garden in Hana.