



**Coastal and Upland Wetland Restoration of Kaho‘olawe, HI  
(NAWCA U.S. Small Grants)**

**BACKGROUND**

The purpose of this project is to enhance the temporary wetland sites at Keanakeiki and Lua ‘O Kealialalo through the removal of invasive plants and out planting of natives. Activities are to be completed in partnership with the Maui Nui Seabird Recovery Project, the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana Education Committee and KIRC community volunteers. The period of performance runs from September 2024- January 2025.

**DELIVERABLES**

- Remove invasive species
- Out plant native species
- Monitor through photo points

**AWARD AMOUNT:** \$100,000

**FUNDER:** North American Wetland Conservation Act –USFWS / Ducks Unlimited

**HIGHLIGHTS**

Through removal of invasive species, native habitat regeneration is improving. Grant funding is spent on materials and supplies, travel costs, and a portion of PKO access fees.

**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

*SPENT*  
\$34,056

*BILLED*  
\$0

*RECEIVED*  
\$0



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PROJECT UPDATE: September 1, 2024 – January 31, 2025

- Invasive species removal continued at Keanakeiki and Lua ‘O Kealialalo. Remaining clumps of *Cenchrus ciliaris* were dug up. *Xanthium strumarium* (kikania) was removed at Kealialalo.
- 80 plants/clumps of *Cressa truxvillensis* (makihi) were pulled and taken to Maui Nui Botanical Garden for propagation. To date, six plants took root at that nursery.
- Eight pounds of *Gossypium tomentosum* (mao) was collected at Keanakeiki.
- 4000 native and canoe plants were planted at Kealialalo. 2000 native and canoe plants were planted at Keanakeiki. Survival rates were very low at both sites due to limited rainfall from October to January. Survival and establishment rates should increase with the heavy rains in late January.



Native Makihi (*Cressa truxillenses*) has expanded into the area where Kiawe was removed at Keanakeiki.