



# MĀLAMA I KA HONUA

## Cherish The Earth

JOURNAL OF THE HAWAII CHAPTER

SIERRA CLUB

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# Green Bills Move at Capitol

## *Parks funding, energy bills still alive at legislature*

Legislation to improve Hawaii's environment is progressing at the 2001 State Legislature. Bills to use a portion of the transient accommodations tax for State parks management, fix the automatic permit approval law, greatly increase recycling and litter control and shift electricity generation to more renewable sources are still alive with a month left in the session. Only a few measures remain that would roll back Hawaii's environmental protections.

The perception of an improving economy has taken the pressure off dismantling Hawaii's environmental regulations—often the scapegoat for any economic foes. This has enabled the Hawaii Chapter to pursue a more proactive agenda. The Chapter is now focusing on creating solutions to Hawaii's neglected environmental needs: clean energy, natural resource funding, appropriate permitting and recycling.

One of the more promising measures being pursued by the Sierra Club is a bill to create a dedicated funding source for the desperately under funded State park system. Supported by the Departments of Land and Natural Resources and Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, the Hawaii Tourism Authority, the bill would divert 6% of the Tourism Special Fund (TSF) to State parks management. The TSF, collecting 37.9% of the Transient Accommodations Tax, is projected to grow at over 5% per year with increased visitor arrivals. The proposed percentage of funds to be diverted to state parks would still allow enough money in the TSF to continue funding the Hawaii Tourism Authority at \$61 million annually.

Hawaii's third-world style State parks are a turn-off to today's eco-savvy visitor. It's time to capture the most logical revenue stream—hotel room taxes—to protect what tourists come to experience. For more information on this measure and other Sierra Club priorities, see page 6-7.

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photo Mike Shultz

## Empty beverage containers are a common sight along Hawaii's roadways and beaches

### *Battle over Bottle Bill*

Chances are that empty soda bottle in your hand will get a one-way ticket to the trashcan—and then to the landfill or incinerator. Worse yet, it might be carelessly tossed in the Ala Wai. What a waste.

A bill before the legislature promises to change that. The container deposit law, or bottle bill, would place a 5-cent value on beverage containers that is redeemed when the container is brought back for recycling. Increased recycling, **Jeff Mikulina** cleaner beaches and roadways, and new business markets will result from the passage of the bottle bill. Granted, it's a big promise. But the bottle bill's impressive 30-year track record in other states proves it is a promise easily kept.

A bottle bill is the single best way to substantially increase recycling of some 800 million glass, plastic, and aluminum drink containers used in Hawaii each year. Bottle bills operating in 10 states around the country achieve 80% recovery of beverage containers on average. In comparison, the national recovery rate for containers is 38%.

*continued on page 3*

The Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter, is Hawaii's largest grassroots environmental advocacy organization  
INSIDE: Expanding Volcano • Maha'ulepu • Drilling in ANWR • Keep it Wild, Ben! • Hikes

# Deadline for next *Malama* June 1, 2001

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## MĀLAMA I KA HONUA

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The Malama is now online in PDF format (<http://www.hi.sierraclub.org/Malama/malama.html>).

All members and interested environmentalists are invited to contribute items to Malama. Articles should be sent via e-mail to: [mikulina@lava.net](mailto:mikulina@lava.net).

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Current recycling programs, such as the voluntary drop-off system on O'ahu, are capturing only about 20% of the available recyclable materials in Hawai'i. Considering that landfills on all our islands are already hitting their limits—Waimanalo Gulch on O'ahu and Kekaha on Kauai, for instance—efforts to reduce the amount of trash generated are welcome indeed.

But the bottle bill is not just about conserving resources and saving landfill space. By offering a 5-cent "reward" for every container, bottle and can litter is converted from trash to treasure. Containers will likely be quickly picked up and redeemed—or they won't become litter at all.

Empty beverage containers are frequently found fouling Hawai'i's beaches and roadways. The last Sierra Club clean up of Ala Wai Harbor netted nearly 1000 glass and plastic bottles and aluminum cans in one morning. Residents and visitors alike would be well served by a policy to reduce trash on our beaches and in the ocean.

Reducing glass bottle litter will also improve safety in our parks, beaches, and roads. In fact, the Hawai'i Bicycle League is one of the organizations supporting the bill. Why? To reduce the amount of broken glass bottles along Hawai'i's roadways—thereby reducing flat tires.

Once beverage containers are redeemed, they can be put to work creating jobs and new products. Glass is being used as an aggregate in asphalt or fill material. Aluminum sold to mainland recyclers to be used again and again. Plastic can be remanufactured into a plastic lumber that is both water- and termite-proof, perfect for island applications. Some recyclers have even expressed interest in setting up a recycling facility for plastics on O'ahu—but only if they are guaranteed a steady supply of materials. With more drinks being packaged in plastic containers (beer, even), the bottle bill will put them in business.

The bottom line is container deposit systems create jobs; net gains in employment have been shown in nearly every state with deposit systems. In Maine, the container deposit law has fostered over 1,600 jobs with annual wages of \$22.8 million at redemption centers throughout the state.

These overwhelming benefits weren't lost on the State House of Representatives, where the measure found support in four committees and passed to the Senate.

But the bottle bill's days are numbered if the powerful retail and beverage industry special interests continue their arm-twisting. Since the day the bill was introduced lobbyists from these industries have employed every trick in their bag that they've developed over the past thirty years squashing bottle bills around the country. The major beverage companies have been flying in their veteran lobbyists and consultants from the mainland for the past month

(tourism is already benefiting from the bottle bill).

Their transparent arguments about potential economic impacts to their industry reveal their true greed. The throwaway lobby would rather have taxpayers foot the bill for recycling and waste management than taking responsibility for their products themselves. The fact is there is no free lunch. Consider our current approach in managing used beverage containers: the beverage and retail industries get the money from the sale of the drink, the consumer gets the pleasure of the drink, and the taxpayers—some of whom do not even drink bottled beverages, are stuck with paying for the waste from then on. All of our empty beverage containers are, as Dr. Hana Steel, recycling coordinator for Maui County puts it, on welfare for life.

Hawai'i can do better than to fall prey to the big business beverage industry. Bottle bills are proven tools to substantially increase recycling and reduce litter. No bottle bill has ever been repealed—only strengthened.

Our State legislators now have this smart policy option before them. Ask them not to throw it away.

## native books

# CONSERVATION

## Keeping Kealakekua Wild!

David Kimo Frankel

The effort to Keep Kealakekua Wild is about protecting one of the most historically significant places in Hawai'i, the pristine class AA waters of the Bay from the kind of polluted runoff that came from the Hokulia project, about preventing the urbanization of lands classified by the state as "agricultural, and about keeping beautiful open space wild. Last year, in response to a Sierra Club declaratory petition, the Land Use Commission (LUC) temporarily halted developer Lyle Anderson's schemes. In a decision that will have statewide implications in stopping suburban sprawl, the LUC tightened the definition of "farm dwellings" that are permitted on agricultural land. In making their decision, they considered the price of the house, the amount of agricultural activity proposed, the location of the residential lots, the connection to agricultural activity. A month after their decision, Pacific Star filed three lawsuits against the LUC and the Sierra Club: one in federal court and two in the state court, arguing that they were denied equal protection and due process and that luxury houses are allowed in agricultural districts. The Sierra Club has filed a motion to dismiss the federal lawsuit and is also fighting the state appeals. *For the latest, see [www.keep-kealakekua-wild.org](http://www.keep-kealakekua-wild.org).*

## State Environmental Council Backs Greenhouse Gas Reductions

Jeff Mikulina

The State Environmental Council, in their recently published *Environmental Report Card, 2000*, is calling on the Governor and the Legislature to support the greenhouse gas reductions called for in the Kyoto Protocol. The Environmental Council, a fifteen-member citizen board appointed by the Governor to advise the State on environmental concerns, writes:

"The Environmental Council recommends that the Governor and the Legislature support the Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, signed by the United States in 1998, and accordingly, commit to reduce Hawaii's greenhouse gas emissions by 7% less than 1990 emissions by 2008-2010."

Under the current "business as usual" trend of more cars, more oil and coal power plants, and more flights, Hawaii's emissions will be 29% over the Kyoto target by 2010 and 43% over the target by 2020. Proposals now before state lawmakers would reduce emissions from electric utilities—the energy sector whose emissions equal those from air, marine, and ground transportation com-

bined. Greenhouse gas emissions cause a warming of the atmosphere—with perhaps dire consequences.

The most recent report out of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel Climate Change, released at the end of January in Shanghai, strongly supports the Environmental Council's recommendation. The report, written with 516 contributing experts around the world, and is one of the most comprehensive produced on global warming. The report projects the Earth's average surface temperature will rise 2.5 to 10.4 degrees Fahrenheit between 1990 and 2100, higher than its 1995 estimate of a 1.8 to 6.3 degrees F rise. Sea levels were likely to rise between 3.54 and 34.64 inches over the same period, it said.

The magazine *U.S. News and World Report*, in the February 5th, 2001 issue discussing the latest IPCC report, cited the 27 inches of rain that fell in 24 hours in Hilo last November as one example of bizarre weather that "could soon become more common."

Clean energy measures before lawmakers include renewable portfolio standards (HB173), setting a percentage of renewable energy generation that the utilities must meet, net energy metering (HB 1385), allowing residents who have renewable energy devices to effectively send surplus electricity to the grid, and a handful of tax credit initiatives for clean fuel and solar devices.

The Sierra Club believes it's time to act. Hawai'i is one of the few places where a multitude of renewable energy choices are available—and Hawai'i may be hit hardest with climate change. If we don't act now to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions, how can we expect anyone else to take it seriously?

## Akaka and Inouye support exploitation of Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

Nelson Ho

Did you know that Hawaii's two Democratic Senators favor opening the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge (ANWR) to oil drilling?

The ANWR was established by President Eisenhower in 1960 as America's last great wilderness. The Carter administration doubled its size to 19 million acres. In 1989 Congress set aside the coastal plane of ANWR for future exploration and was about to open it to drilling when the Exxon Valdez oil spill happened.

President Bush and Vice President Cheney want to open the ANWR to oil drilling in the hopes of easing the nation's energy woes. The two groups of native people living in the area are on opposite sides of the issue. The Inupiat people hope oil revenues will help to build new

# NOTES

schools and better housing. However, they publicly wonder if the money will come their way and worry that the oil drilling could expand into the ocean. The Gwich'in people fear drilling will disrupt the annual migration of the caribou they hunt and worry that drilling camps will bring the vice of alcohol into their community.

The ANWR is home to caribou, grizzly bears, foxes, wolves, moose, musk oxen, polar bears, loons, snow geese. It is a Wildlife Refuge - a place where wildlife can take refuge from encroaching human development. Nearby oil producing Prudhoe Bay is ablaze with artificial light, eight story tall buildings and gigantic bulldozers. The choice is between Nature's exquisite beauty and an industrial complex with the usual pollutants and disregard for Nature.

This issue is going before Congress NOW. The Republican Senators from environmentally conscious states oppose opening the ANWR: Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Pennsylvania, Oregon, Illinois. There are 3 Democrats currently in favor of the proposal—two from Hawaii. (source: *Time Magazine* 2/19/2001)

We need wild places on our planet. The Wilderness feeds our imagination, our creativity and opens our hearts in awe. Humans have a tradition of overuse without considering long term consequences. Wild animals are facing shortages of habitat that cannot be corrected once destroyed. Several alternatives could help ease our dependence on oil such as energy conservation, higher fuel-efficient cars and solar power.

The author of the bill, Frank Murkowski (R) Alaska, says there is nothing up there, so why save it. He should clarify that to read "no human presence." And that is exactly why we should oppose opening the ANWR to oil drilling, because it is untouched, unspoiled, dominated by wild animals and the supreme forces of Nature. Once we start drilling in the ANWR we will wreck that pristine environment forever.

Please send word to our senators that you also oppose drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

**Sen. Daniel Inouye:** <http://www.senate.gov/~inouye/webform.html>

**Sen. Daniel Akaka:**  
[senator@akaka.senate.gov](mailto:senator@akaka.senate.gov)

## Northwestern Hawaiian Islands protection finalized by Clinton

Before leaving office, President Clinton took one final action that will be remembered for generations: finalizing new protections for the remote and pristine coral reefs of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. The President's second Executive Order pertaining to the reserve, dated January 17th, establishes the 84 million-acre Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Coral Reef Ecosystem Reserve—the largest protected area ever created in the United States. The Northwestern Hawaiian Islands contain 70% of the nation's coral reefs. President Clinton's historical order will be remembered as a victory in the preservation of biodiversity worldwide. Globally, coral reefs are rapidly degrading due to human activities.

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## FUNDING NATURAL RESOURCES

**SB1169 SD2 / SB1029 SD2 *State Park Funding through Hotel Room Tax.*** GOOD. The best form of the bill would divert 6%—or roughly \$5 million—annually to state parks management from the Tourism Special Fund. (see page 7)

## APPROPRIATE PERMITTING

**SB981 SD1 *Board of Land and Natural Resources Automatic Approval Voting Fix.*** GOOD. Requires only a simple majority of Land Board members present to approve or disapprove a permit. Fixes situations where four votes (of the six) are not present or unable to vote (say, for ethical reasons), and the automatic approval deadline passes. Such a situation occurred with the Keahole power plant conservation district application.

**HB728 SD1 *Exempting Airports from County Approval.*** VERY BAD. This bill eliminates all meaningful public participation in airport planning process and exempts airports from the proper coastal zone permitting process. Leaves such decision making up to the not-so-green Department of Transportation.

## ENERGY BILLS

**HB1385 HD3 *Net Energy Metering.*** GOOD. Allows residential and commercial customers to effectively run their electric meter backward if they operate a small-scale renewable energy device. This measure would provide an incentive for people and businesses to invest in private renewable energy systems. The bill should be amended to allow at least 1% of peak grid power to be generated from net metered systems and allow individual system sizes of over 200 kW.

**HB1282 HD2 *Solar Tax Credit Extension.*** GOOD. This bill extends the highly successful tax credit for solar hot water heaters, which will otherwise sunset in 2003. The bill should be amended to eliminate the sunset date altogether, or extend it to at least 2010 to provide long-term security for the local solar industry.

**HB173 HD2 *Renewable Portfolio Standards.*** GOOD. This bill mandates that electric utilities purchase a percentage of energy from renewable sources. The bill will help Hawai'i to move away from expensive fossil fuels and powerplants, create new industry in Hawai'i, and reduce Hawaii's contribution to climate change. The bill should be amended to include target percentages recommended by the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism: 8% by 2005 and 10.5% by 2010. Expansion

of geothermal and waste-to-energy facilities should also be eliminated from the definition of renewable energy.

## RECYCLING

**HB1256 HD2 *Bottle Bill.*** GOOD. Implements deposit system for beverage containers. Cleaner beaches, smaller landfills, new business markets, and quite possibly lower taxes are some of the many benefits of a container deposit law. The ten states that have adopted a bottle bill achieve 80% recovery of containers on average. Hawai'i currently captures around 20%. The bill should be amended to include the deposit amounts specified in the original House draft (5 cents; 15 cents for over 24 ounces).

## PLANNING

**HB538 HD2 *Coastal Zone Management Changes.*** OK. This bill would change the structure of the coastal zone management advisory group and require public notice for all special management area minor permits.

**SB1473 SD1 *Smart Growth Advisory Council.*** GOOD. Allocates funds for a smart growth advisor and advisory council to oversee development strategies that focus urban development and protect rural areas.

## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- 1) **Get in the Loop.** Email [mikulina@lava.net](mailto:mikulina@lava.net) and ask to be included on the "action alert" mailing list.
- 2) **Get the Latest.** Visit [www.hi.sierraclub.org/alert/legislature2001.htm](http://www.hi.sierraclub.org/alert/legislature2001.htm) for easy links to the status of important green legislation.
- 3) **Get Informed.** Visit [www.capitol.hawaii.gov](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov) to find out who represents you in the state house and senate. Call that person and express your views.
- 5) **Give Support.** Send a non-tax deductible contribution to the Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter PO Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803 to support our lobbying and public information efforts.

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# WHY HAWAII'S STATE PARKS DESERVE HELP FROM THE HOTEL ROOM TAX

*THE MOST LOGICAL SOURCE OF FUNDING FOR DESPERATELY NEEDED REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE*

**O**ur state parks are the gems that provide visitors with access to the wild natural beauty of Hawai'i. But today our state parks are in desperately poor condition—and in some cases, disasters waiting to happen. A recent inventory by the DLNR of needed park improvements found that an investment of over \$133 million was needed to bring our parks up to acceptable conditions and make them American Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant. At Wailua River State Park on Kauai, railings are needed at the lookout. Restrooms are needed at Kahana Valley State Park on O'ahu. Makena State Park on Maui is waiting for a picnic shelter, tables, and walkways. Lava Tree State Monument on Hawai'i needs ADA improvements. The list goes on and on.

Once visitors see the glossy advertisements for Hawai'i's wild places in magazines, spend thousands on a vacation to experience what they saw, and then find that there are no toilet seats in the bathrooms and the trail is pot-holed and overgrown, they won't return. Nearly three of every five visitors to Hawai'i is a repeat visitor. Experience means more to these folks than marketing.

## *Seeing the nexus*

Hawai'i's state parks give today's eco-savvy visitors the opportunity to experience the State's natural outdoor beauty. But today our state parks have fallen into complete disrepair due to increased tourist pressure and

chronic lack of funding. Eroded trails damage streams and habitat, rusted-out signs conceal important safety information, endangered species habitats are overrun with invasive species, and bathroom facilities are often of third-world quality.

A bill before the legislature hopes to change that. Offered by Governor Cayetano in his *State of the State* address and supported by the Hawai'i Tourism Authority, legislation to use 6% of the Tourism Special Fund to the State Parks Special Fund. This would make roughly \$5 million available for state parks maintenance while not reducing the current Tourism Authority budget of \$60 million. Considering that our state parks are visited by tourists more often than local residents, a portion of the nightly hotel room tax should be used for funding necessary improvements and maintenance.

Visitor arrivals hit a record last year with nearly 7 million tourists. This year is projected to break that record. And next year is projected to bring even more tourists. The Council of Revenues projects that the tourism special fund will receive \$71.4 million this year, \$75.6 million in 2002, \$80 million in 2003, and nearly \$100 million in 2007. At the same time, Hawai'i will likely see an increase in educated, eco-savvy visitors, and we had better be prepared.

**Ask your legislators to support SB1169 and SB 1029 in a form that would create a dedicated, ongoing funding stream for Hawai'i's parks. At least \$5 million annually is needed—or 6% of the Tourism Special Fund as called for in the original bill.**



# Malama Maha'ulepu Report

The year 2000 ended on a high for the initiative to preserve Maha'ulepu. Governor Cayetano announced to the press that he "wants Maha'ulepu for the people." The Governor stated that he hopes "to convince the new owners of the pristine Maha'ulepu coastal area of Kauai to sell the land to the state or, better yet, to donate it." Since **Beryl Blaich** then, the Governor has spoken generally about the importance of open space in his *State of the State* speech. But with his sound commitment to education, public worker salary issues and his enthusiasm for new projects in Kaka'ako, Maha'ulepu and other land conservation opportunities could slip off his agenda, so — Right now! Governor Cayetano needs to hear that his stance is appreciated and his continued leadership is needed.

Please write the Governor, or email, or fax to say:

- Mahalo for his support for preservation of Maha'ulepu.
- Applaud all efforts to engage the landowner in finding a way preserve the natural and cultural resources for future generations and to sustain the experience of Maha'ulepu as an undeveloped place with compatible recreational uses.
- Urge his floating a bond for coastal land conservation.
- Remind him that creating the parks and preserves of the future is an urgent need (and the most magnificent legacy) with great social, economic, environmental and cultural benefits.

Ask for his continued leadership and attention. Governor Benjamin J. Cayetano Executive Chambers Hawaii State Capitol Honolulu, HI 96813

Fax: 586-0006

E-mail: [gov@gov.state.hi.us](mailto:gov@gov.state.hi.us)

Drop us an email so that we know that you took action! [blaich@aloha.net](mailto:blaich@aloha.net)

## Priorities for 2001

Last year, Sierra Club was the guardian angel of Maha'ulepu. Grant funding from the Sierra Club along with some private donations made it possible to hire a coastal conservation organizer, reform Malama Maha'ulepu and to create a record of individual support and to develop educational materials about Maha'ulepu.

Sierra Club also sent four activist trainers for an intensive one-day strategic planning workshop that was attended by 20 people in January. Among the general goals and related activities identified for this year are:

- Continue to educate and gain support of decision makers. A resolution is being introduced by Councilman Ron Kouchi and other Kaua'i County

Council members.

- Continue the facilitator/ organizer position.
- Continue to develop a menu of preservation possibilities including sources of funding from federal, state and private sources.
- Develop a menu of long-term stewardship options that involve community and our partners in public education, restoration, and decision-making.
- Expand relationship with the landowner and advance stewardship activities including possible user surveys to establish baseline data and provide for future monitoring of the area.

Obviously, fund raising is an immediate challenge in order to continue present operations, including the position of organizer and to for expenses. We are planning a fundraiser in the early summer. But we welcome monetary donations in any amount which are needed for our educational materials - the color brochure, inventory book and the video, especially. Donors giving \$50.00 or more will receive a copy of our 7 minute video about Maha'ulepu. This spectacular footage - much of it aerial - and beautiful original soundtrack gives viewers a special encounter with this place.

Checks (tax deductible) may be made for Maha'ulepu's preservation made out to the Sierra Club Foundation, PO Box 3412, Lihue, HI 96766. Non-tax deductible donations may be made to Malama Maha'ulepu c/o Treasurer Marge Ferguson, PO Box 426, Lawai, HI 96765. Certainly, the imperative and fundamental goal is to insure that this area remains wild and accessible. Maha'ulepu is simply too special to develop. But how preservation comes about and how Maha'ulepu may be managed are challenging, complex questions.

In public presentations to Kauai groups and in press interviews, representatives of the new owner, Mr. Steve Case, indicate that there are no plans for Maha'ulepu at this time. It will be kept accessible to the public as it is now - open during the day with the access road gated in the evening. The entire Kaua'i community is very pleased about the continuing public access, and the "go slow" hopes of the landowner mesh with Malama Maha'ulepu's advocacy for a public/private collaborative process to explore all preservation possibilities.

And one more thing: Malama Maha'ulepu steering group meetings are held on Wednesdays at 4 PM at the Koloa Neighborhood Center. (Please call Beryl Blaich (828-1483) to confirm.) The steering group is open and operates by consensus. Plus, we've got subcommittee opportunities for every taste, talent and amount of available "free" time. Please, check us out.



# CAN WE ACCOMMODATE MORE TOURISTS?

*David Kimo Frankel*

A year ago, Star Bulletin ridiculed the Sierra Club when we asked for a study disclosing the affects of increasing the number of tourists coming to Hawai'i. The Sierra Club sued the Hawaii Tourism Authority to conduct an environmental assessment on the impacts of bringing a million additional tourists — on top of the 7 million that currently come here annually. We asked what the impact of too many tourists would be on our water supplies, roads, sewage systems, landfills, beaches and wilderness.

Despite the initial scorn and derision from tourism officials and the Star Bulletin, the mainstream now supports the idea. In fact, the executive director of the Maui Visitors Bureau recently announced, “We cannot accept too many more arrivals on Maui anymore, let's face it.”

Although the Supreme Court has not issued its decision yet, the State's own Environmental Council, the Honolulu Advertiser, the conservative Pacific Business News, and top tourism officials have now all embraced the idea of a carrying capacity study.

And Governor Cayetano in his State of the State address declared, “Our greatest asset in marketing Hawaii to the world is our breathtaking natural environment. Limited resources cannot support unlimited growth. And economic growth should never come at the expense of our natural environment. I propose a long-range analysis of our State's carrying capacity to help evaluate our State's ability to endure growth. We will look at whether the State's infrastructure and our natural resources can survive such growth without being damaged. The results of this analysis will be used to create a strategic plan to make sure we balance our economic interests in maintaining tourism with our duty to protect our natural environment.”

So, what should a carrying capacity study involve?

First, it needs to include lots of public input. From beginning to end.

Second, it shouldn't be controlled by those who have an economic bias. Instead of letting tourism executives police themselves, the study must be done by an objective third party.

Third, the study should examine our infrastructure. Can our over-crowded roads handle more tourists? The Maui Visitors Bureau now admits that Maui's roads cannot. How much more garbage will a million more tourists generate — and where will we build landfills for their garbage? Can our wastewater treatment plants adequately treat all the sewage more tourists will generate? Do we need more overhead powerlines in order to provide more electricity to more tourists? Can our trails handle more tourists? Manoa Falls

certainly cannot. Will more hotels need to be built for these extra tourists? According to the Hawaii Tourism Authority's own survey, 72% of residents oppose more hotel construction.

Fourth, it should examine the impact of too many tourists on our environment. How much water will all these tourists use? We already know that Maui's Iao aquifer is being overdrawn. Will free-flowing streams need to be diverted to support the growth in the tourism industry? Will we need to build more buildings and powerlines to accommodate these tourists — thereby ruining open space and viewplanes? Will more tourists mean the arrival of more alien species harmful to farming and native species? Recent inspections at Kahului airport prove that they will.

The study must look at places that have suffered from overuse. Hanauma Bay and Manoa Falls serve as classic examples of areas that have suffered from overuse from tourists. How do we prevent other areas from suffering the same fate? Aren't other sites threatened if an extra million tourists visit our islands annually?

Fifth, the study must explicitly recognize the value of wilderness. Most studies fail to recognize this most important concept since wilderness cannot really be measured. It is only experienced. Wilderness is the opposite of the crowds and noise of the city. You may have experienced it when you were a kid: hiking, camping or fishing somewhere. And ironically, some tourists come to Hawai'i for the wilderness experience. It is harder to find these days.

We know that too many tourists can destroy the wilderness experience. That is what happened on the Na Pali coast of Kaua'i. Tourcraft overflights destroy the wilderness experience at our parks. So too do tour buses left with their engines on illegally, jetskis and crowds of people.

Sixth, it must examine how too many tourists harm our quality of life. Do we want all our beaches to be as crowded as Waikiki beach? The fact is, most local folks don't want to go to the beach in front of a hotel. Will more tourists mean that locals lose the opportunity to catch waves at Makapu'u and Sandy Beach without running into tourists? Will tourists overcrowd parks that locals use? The study needs to address existing societal values regarding appropriate levels of intensity of use at various natural areas.

Finally, the study should examine tourists' desires. Will tourists keep coming if we are over-built and overcrowded? At what point will we kill the goose that laid the golden egg? A survey of 1000 Maui tourists found that 91% of respondents said that preservation of natural areas was the most important factor in their decision to return to the islands.

The time to answer these questions is now. After all, the environment is the economy.

## Parking for Hikers Restored

Good news—Waialae Iki V gated community has conformed their hiker Rules & Regulations to the public access easement document for Wiliwilinui Trail.

As reported in the last issue, gated community, Waialae Iki V, had stated last fall in their Rule & Regulations that they would tow hiker's cars from an area that is in fact the tertiary parking area as delineated in the public access easement document for Wiliwilinui Trail at state Land Court.

A Sierra Club Outing Leader spoke about the situation to Councilmember Steve Holmes. Councilmember Holmes took the situation to the city's Planning and Programming Department, and now the hiker Rule & Regulations notice, which is handed by the gate guard to each vehicle bound for Wiliwilinui Trail, has been revised to show that there are in fact three parking areas for hikers.

Going back several years to the state and city process for establishing a fair public access, Oahu Group members, as well as members of Oahu Pig Hunters, Hawaiian Trail and Mountain Club and Hawaii Bicycle League had worked very hard to assure that there was no small-parking-lot-trick accomplished at Wiliwilinui Trail. The small-parking-lot-trick is infamous across the state for severely restricting the public's access at numerous trails and shoreline access points at gated resorts and gated communities. Now that all three parking areas are recognized in Waialae Iki V's Rules & Regulations, hikers are assured that even for large club hike events, there should be adequate, hassle-free parking convenient to the trailhead.

## Outings Leader Honored

Outing Leader Sharon Moran was honored March 6 by the prestigious Rotary Club of Honolulu for her five-year-running service project at Ala Wai Boat Harbor. Sharon, received the Rotary Club's Random Act of Aloha Award for her leadership in quarterly scheduled cleanup efforts of Waikiki's front-yard boat harbor. Many Sierra Club members were in attendance at the Rotary Club's luncheon in the Monarch Room of the Royal Hawaiian Hotel in Waikiki to help Sharon celebrate, and as well, bask in the reflected glory for our Outings program and the Sierra Club.

Sharon Moran with the help of her husband, Pat Moran, undertook the project though the Outings Program five years ago because of the terrible blight that was on the harbor scene. But even more importantly she saw that the harbor was the last place to collect the trash before it gets out into the maritime food chain—and causes untold and terrible losses to sea life and sea birds. Research has shown that the primary sources of the trash are carelessness and litterbugs up and along the tributaries of the Ala Wai watershed. Streams like Palolo, Manoa, Makiki, and

the Ala Wai Canal itself. And of course, much litter blows off adjacent streets and parking lots. Wherever the trash comes from, Sharon figured out that through the Sierra Club she could lead volunteers to greatly reduce it.

It is estimated that over the course of the project, over 1000 person hours have been applied to the cleanup of the harbor due to Sharon's leadership. Many of the volunteers have been Sierra Club members, and many have been drawn from the Rotary Club of Honolulu and the public.

For the Oahu Group Outings Committee, chaired by Randy Ching, the award is rich tribute for the many unheralded and unsung service projects that Oahu outings has accomplished over the years. From cleaning shorelines, to building trails, to leading outing and hikes, to clearing Heiau, to restoring native habitat for native plants and animals, Oahu Group Outings, like Sierra Club Outings programs all over the state and country provide an enormous lift to the environment. If you are a Sierra Club member who has not been out on a service project, go to the Outings schedule for your Group in this Malama and choose one to go on to have an adventure and help our environment.

## Sprawling over Central O`ahu

The O'ahu Group, is concerned with the proposed Castle & Cooke Homes development of 836 dwelling units on 104 acres in the Mililani Mauka area (Phase III). First, we are troubled that central O'ahu is rapidly being developing residential communities when Kapolei has been slated the "second city." Mililani—including the proposed Phase III development—lacks the features that make a city self-sufficient: employment opportunities, shopping, schools, etc. It is likely that most of the new residents in the Phase III development will be employed outside of the Mililani area and rely on personal automobiles to commute to these jobs, exacerbating the traffic problems that currently exist along the H1/H2 corridor. Smart development creates walkable communities that are centered around and intertwined with economic activity—not blocks and blocks of residential homes that are separated from meaningful work opportunities, schools, and recreation. Second, we are very concerned with the current overdevelopment of central O'ahu given the uncertainty of water supply for the area. Reallocation of existing agricultural permitted uses, diverted water from Waiahole Ditch, and desalination of brackish or sea water should not be relied on to speculate availability of future water. Third, the cumulative impacts of Phase III and the proposed Koa Ridge development by the same applicant/developer must be considered to achieve and accurate disclosure of impacts to the area, especially in regards to traffic, schools, and visual impacts.

## Member Meetings

Members are welcome to attend our monthly executive committee meetings. Our next meeting is on April 30. If you would like to attend, please call 821-8667 or email [cristal@aloha.net](mailto:cristal@aloha.net) for more information. We are also looking for a volunteer to act as treasurer for our group.

## Powerlines

Marge Freeman testified at a Public Utilities Commission hearing against Kaua'i Electric's proposal to build new overhead lines 110 feet above the ground in the Isenberg Tract area of Kaua'i. (This plan is part of the diesel-fired power plant that KE wants to built in Hana'maulu.) The power lines present a very real danger to young Newell Shearwaters that fly to the sea in October and November of each year. Scientific studies show that area of the proposed power plant to be one of the major flight corridors for the shearwaters on Kauai. The Newell Shearwater population has been declining in recent years and the species is threatened with extinction.

*Judy Dalton*

## Endangered Plants

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service held hearings on Kaua'i in January to determine whether 76 plants on Kaua'i and Nihau should have new federal protection. The proposal included critical habitat protection for approximately 38,130 acres in northwestern Kauai. The Kaua'i Group echoed the testimony of Margery Ziegler of EarthJustice Defense fund, who asked for additional protections, including protection for a native mint, alani and three species of loulou palms. This is not a proposal that excludes hunters from any traditional hunting grounds, contrary to opinions expressed by members of the hunting community that attended these hearings. Critical habitat designation simply means the federal government will act cautiously if it spends money or approves permits in these areas.

## Wailua Seawall

Despite a recent headline in The Garden Island stating "No seawall planned for golf course", the County of Kaua'i once again began the process to obtain a permit for the proposed revetment/seawall fronting the Wailua Golf Course. Fortunately for the time being their pursuits have been stalled by the Office of Environmental Quality Control(OEQC).

The OEQC informed the County on Feb 22nd that the revised version of the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) was still deficient because "it did not include a current shoreline certification and coastal engineering report, alternatives to a seawall such as beach replenishment or revegetation, an assessment of the proposed action's cultural impacts, and answers to issues raised by attorney Kurt Bosshard". The OEQC explained to the County, "the absence of this information precludes a complete analysis of impacts, alternatives and measures in the

environmental assessment." It was essentially the same as the County's earlier rejected DEA.

The OEQC is to be commended for withholding publication in their Environmental Notice of the availability of the County's resubmitted DEA for the proposed seawall since the County's document didn't respond to requirements posed by the OEQC and the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR).

Among the many issues raised by Bosshard were the County's illegally placed landfill on the beach causing damage to the coastal area. The DEA also failed to give scientific data to assert that the endangered species in the area would be unaffected by the installation of a seawall. In fact, the Hawaiian monk seals which frequent the area were not even mentioned in the DEA. Additionally, the document totally ignored the state's Shoreline Hardening Policy.

Attorney Bosshard discovered that according to the DEA, twenty to thirty feet of the #1 fairway would have to be given up to accommodate a seawall. Building a seawall would clearly create a lose/lose proposition for both golfers and beach users. The golfers would lose part of the golf course, and the beach goers and fishermen would lose a substantial portion of the beach.

The most viable solution is revegetating the coastal dunes fronting the golf course and keeping vehicular traffic off the beach which is destroying the banks and plants necessary to maintain the integrity of the coastline. We've been waiting over 3 years for the County to use the \$183,000 given the County by FEMA for a revegetation project to maintain the stability of the area. Questions remain unanswered as to why the County has not used the FEMA funding to revegetate the shoreline but instead will no doubt continue forging ahead with their folly of obtaining permits for a beach-destroying seawall.

# O`AHU GROUP OUTINGS

APRIL - JUNE 2001

## Sunday, April 1

*Waimano Ridge & Valley (partial)* 6mi/Moderate/Contour/Pearl City Hike down into the valley, then back up onto the Waimano Ridge Trail, where we'll see an old ditch and climb around some narrow spots. Leaders: Ed Mersino 455-8193; Gwen Sinclair 734-3214

## Saturday, April 7

*Kaena Point Natural Area Reserve Service Project* 1-2mi/Easy/Coast/Mokuleia Kaena Point needs your help to remove invasive plants that endanger this rare and beautiful native coastal ecosystem. Sunscreen, hats and even raingear are all recommended. It is likely that we will see spinner dolphins and possibly albatross or an endangered Hawaiian monk seal. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Camp Erdman. Leader: Annette Kaohelauii 235-5431

## Sunday, April 8

*Manoa Cliff Trail* 7mi/Moderate/Contour/Tantalus Great urban hike! Enjoy views of Manoa Valley and some nice native plants in a shady forest. Leaders: Cindy & Jim Waddington 947-2732

## Saturday, April 14

*Miconia Removal Service Project* 2mi/Strenuous/Ridge&Valley/Upper Manoa or Kalihi Uka Help remove

evil miconia! Bring insect repellent & rain gear. Work area is off trail and brushy; long pants/shirt & clear lens eye protection needed. Bring a machete IF you are handy with one. Information: Kapua Kawelo 656-7641 (w) or Joan Yoshioka 677-1674

## Sunday, April 15

*Diamond Head Breakfast Hike* 1.5mi/Moderate/Diamond Head Our traditional Easter outing. Meet at 7:00 a.m. inside Diamond Head crater at the big tree next to the restrooms. Bring a flashlight and breakfast to share. Leaders: Arlene Buchholz 988-9806; Denby Fawcett 734-7017

## Saturday, April 21

*Kawaenae Heiau Service Project* Join us in observing Earth Day by helping to restore a heiau. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the First Hawaiian Bank parking lot in Windward City Shopping Center in Kaneohe. This 1/2 day project involves the removal of vegetation to help in the restoration of this sacred site. Enjoy great views of Kaneohe Bay and the Koolau Range. Bring plenty of water, a snack, rain gear, insect repellent, gloves, and tools (sickles, pruners, hand saws, gas weed trimmer). Leaders: Cindy & Jim Waddington 947-2732

## Sunday, April 22

*Family Hike: Manoa Cliffs Trail* 3mi/Easy/Contour/Manoa Celebrate Earth Day with a hike! This trail offers nice views of Manoa and the Koolau mountains. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the Church of the Crossroads. Bring back or lumbar pack, water, lunch, rain gear. Call for possible car pool if you need a ride or can give one. Leaders: Reese Liggett & Suzan Harada 732-4489

*Pahole Natural Area Reserve Service Project* 3mi/Moderate/Ridge/Mokuleia What better way to spend Earth Day than by restoring native vegetation? We'll be building trails, helping control invasive plants, and outplanting native plants on this service project. Second meeting place is at Waialua High School at 8:45 a.m. Leader: Sherine Boomla 739-3936

## Sunday, April 29

*Luaialaia Late Hike* 3mi/Moderate/Valley/Manoa Meet at the intersection of Manoa Road and Waakaua Street at 1:00 p.m. Avoid the tourists on this waterfall hike in the back of Manoa Valley. Plan on ducking under ferns and tree branches and getting your feet wet at stream crossings. Leaders: Mike Gawley 779-3645; Maile Sakamoto 946-5712

## Saturday, May 5

*Kaala Natural Area Reserve Service Project* Reservations re-

### ALL SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS

Sierra Club Outings are conducted according to Club policy and under the direction of certified outings leaders. Our Outings are group activities and all participants are expected to follow leaders' instructions and to remain with the group for the entire outing. We welcome all Sierra Club members, non-members and visitors on most of our outings; however certain outings may be restricted to members. Firearms, pets (unless specifically allowed), and audio devices with or without headsets are prohibited. Smoking is only permitted at breaks and then only if the smell of smoke cannot be detected by other hikers. Outing leaders may prohibit smoking if, in their judgement, a fire hazard exists. Bring with: a liter of water (2 liters for strenuous hikes), lunch, sunscreen, insect repellent, rain gear/jacket and day-pack. Boots, shoes with traction grooves (heeled footwear are best--no loafers), or tabs are required. No bare feet or sandals of any type will be allowed on O'ahu outings. Sign in on the roster and pay the donation. When signing in participants will be required to acknowledge their understanding that Sierra Club carries no participant insurance and that participants assume all risks for any car pooling as well as the outing being undertaken.

### O`AHU GROUP OUTINGS INFORMATION

Unless otherwise stated in the Outing description, participants meet at 8:00 a.m. at the back porch of the Church of the Crossroads, 2510 Bingham Street. Do not leave your car in the church parking lot. Participants in windward outings which are designated with an asterisk may also meet at 8:15 am at the First Hawaiian Bank parking area in the windward City Shopping Center. (Intersection of Likelike and Kamehameha Highway in Kaneohe). Requested donation for participants age 14 and under and Sierra Club members with a membership card is \$1; donation for all others is \$3. Participants under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

# O'ahu Outings

quired. Ride to the bog on the top of Kaala, the highest point on Oahu. Help protect this unique place with its uncommon native plants by removing invasive vegetation. Be prepared for rain, cold, and great views. Leader: Betsy Weatherford 526-3986

## Sunday, May 6

*Kaukonabua* 5mi/Moderate/Valley/Wahiawa This stunning ridge trail dives into a valley with large swimming holes. The trail can be slippery and muddy. Bring your swimsuit! Leaders: Doreen Swan 739-0029; Randy Ching 381-2891

## Saturday, May 12

*Miconia Removal* See April 14 for details.

## Sunday, May 13

*Hawaii Loa Ridge Sierra Seminar* 3mi/Moderate/Ridge/East Oahu Reservations required. Our annual Plants for the Botanically Challenged hike. Leaders: Maile Sakamoto 946-5712; Denby Fawcett

*Ka Iwi Coast Family Hike* 1.5mi/Easy/Shore/East Oahu. 9AM meet at Sandy Beach restroom (Makapuu-end of Sandy). Stroll shoreline enjoying shore, tide pools, and breezes. Leaders Suzan Harada and Reese Liggett 732-4489.

## Saturday, May 19

*Kawaewae Heiau Service Project* See April 21 for details. Leader: Gwen Sinclair 734-3214

## Sunday, May 20

*Pahole Natural Area Reserve Service Project* See April 22 for details. Leader: Annette Kaohelauii 235-5431

## Sunday, May 27

*Hauula-Papali* 7mi/Moderate/Contour/Hauula Get out of town on this double loop trail with views, deep gulches, and interesting plants. Leaders: Gwen Sinclair 734-3214; Sherine Boomla 739-3936

## Saturday, June 2

*Pahole Natural Area Reserve Service Project* See April 22 for details. Leader: Sylvianne Yee 373-3062

## Sunday, June 3

*National Trails Day/Membership Recruitment Outings* Join us for our annual National Trails Day hikes and biannual Sierra Club membership recruitment campaign. Join or renew when you do the hike for the reduced rate of \$25, a 28% savings off of the regular \$35 fee.

*Waahila-Kolowalu* 4mi/Moderate/Ridge&Valley/Honolulu We'll start on the Waahila trail at the top of St.Louis

Heights & follow the Kolowalu trail down to Manoa. Car shuttle required. Leaders: Ralph Toyama 941-0460; Gwen Sinclair 734-3214

*Mt. Olympus* 6 mi/Strenuous/Ridge & Summit We will follow the Waahila ridge line through rain forest to the Koolau crest at Mt. Olympus. Weather permitting, there are great views of Maunawili, Kailua, and points beyond. Leaders: Adam Liss 732-5660; Dave Iacobucci 239-4596

## Saturday, June 9

*Miconia Removal* See April 14 for details.

## Sunday, June 10

*Hawaiiiloa Family Hike* 3mi/Moderate/Ridge/Hawaiiiloa 9AM at Kawaikui Beach Park parking lot just off Kalanianole Hwy. Ascend ridge for a while enjoying beautiful vistas. Leaders Suzan Harada and Reese Liggett 732-4489.

## Saturday, June 16

*Kawaewae Heiau Service Project* See April 21 for details. Leader: Arlene Buchholz 988-9806

## Sunday, June 17

*Kaala Natural Area Reserve Service Project* See May 5 for details. Leader: Bob Moore 942-2734

## Sunday, June 24

*Pupukea Summit* 8mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Pupukea Terrific gentle ridge hike to the first of the Koolau summits. Leaders: Betsy Weatherford 526-3986; Bob Moore 942-2734

## Sunday, July 1

*\*Abuimanu Late Hike* 2mi Easy/Valley/Kahaluu We'll see ancient rock-wall taro terraces, a spectacular dike, a fresh spring, and we'll break at a beautiful dry water chute. The path is steep, muddy, & rough in places. Children should be 9 or older. Meet at 1pm at the First Hawaiian Bank parking area in the Windward City Shopping Center. Leaders: Mike Gawley 779-3645; Sherine Boomla 739-3936

## Saturday, July 7

*Kaala Natural Area Reserve Service Project* See May 5 for details. Leader: Annette Kaohelauii 235-5431

## Sunday, July 8

*Kamanaiki* 5mi/Moderate/Ridge/Kalihi Not for those uneasy about heights. We'll ascend a steep ridge that divides Kalihi Valley and see some native forest with a nice view. Leaders: Gwen Sinclair 734-3214; Atomman Kimm 234-7204

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# SERVICE PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

## **Hakalau National Wildlife Refuge, Hawaii**

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which manages this refuge, is creating makai-mauka corridors of native vegetation that native forest birds can use in their migration up and down the slopes of Mauna Kea. The service projects usually involve the removal of alien plant species, such as banana poka and planting native species, usually koa. Accommodations are at a small, but well equipped, cabin at the 6,200-foot elevation with electricity, running water, flush toilet, hot shower, kitchen, and five bunk beds with mattresses. Participants need to bring their own sleeping bags. Cold inclement weather is always a possibility, so proper warm clothing and footwear and good quality raingear are mandatory. The free time activity may include a hike in a koa-ohia forest to observe native forest birds, some of which are endangered.

## **Kalaupapa National Historical Park, Molokai**

This trip allows participants to visit the Hansen's disease settlement on the north shore of Molokai. The Kalaupapa National Historical Park was established in 1980 to preserve and interpret the natural and historic aspects of the area and maintain the community for the residents. We will help the Park to restore habitat and eradicate alien plants. Accommodations include a facility with electricity, hot showers, flush toilets and kitchen facilities. Free time activities may include going to the beach and visiting the old settlement of Kalauao and St. Philomena Church, which was built by Father Damien.

**Restricted to Club members who have been on at least one other Sierra Club three-day service project.**

## **Kamakou Preserve, Molokai**

The Nature Conservancy's Kamakou Preserve is located in the mountains of East Molokai. The work usually involves a beach clean up and/or the removal of alien plant species encroaching into the preserve. Accommodations are in a wooden barracks-style building with electricity, kitchen, hot showers, flush toilets, and metal frame beds. The barracks are at an elevation of 2,200 feet and the work projects may be at a higher elevation, so warm clothes and raingear are needed. Free time activities may include a hike through a pristine rain forest at Pepeopae Bog or visiting Moomomi Beach.

## **Kokee Resources Conservation Program, Kauai**

This newly offered service project is located within the Kokee State Park. The work will probably involve the eradication of invasive alien plants threatening the rare native ecosystem. The facilities are at the historic 1935 CCC camp buildings, which have electricity, bunk beds, indoor toilets and hot showers. Since the site is at 3,500 to 4,000 feet in elevation, warm clothes and good raingear are essential. Free time activities may include hiking on many scenic trails.

## **Manuka Natural Area Reserve, Hawaii**

Manuka contains one of the few relatively undisturbed ancient native lowland forests in Hawaii. The work may include clearing alien weeds from a 150-acre kipuka on the slopes of Mauna Loa. We will stay in a three-bedroom cabin at 1,600 feet elevation at Kiolakaa, 20 miles south of the Reserve. The cabin has hot showers and a gas range, but no electricity. There is bed space for five and plenty of tent space on the lawn. Free time activity may include bird watch-

ing, a visit to Ka Lae (South Point) or a hike along the wilderness coastline of the Reserve to a black and green sand beach.

## **Nene o Molokai, Molokai**

The Nene o Molokai Foundation has acquired a wetland property for bird habitat. The work may include clearing weeds and brush in preparation for the planting of native Hawaiian species for a nene goose habitat. Accommodations are at a beach house with bathrooms, hot showers, kitchen, space for sleeping (either on beds or on the floor), and an ocean front lawn--perfect for camping. Free time may include guided tours of wetland bird habitats, visits to see diversified ag, sightseeing, hiking and visiting Kaunakakai.

## **Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii**

The Volcanoes National Park contains diverse ecosystems ranging from coastal to alpine terrain. The work will probably involve the eradication of invasive alien plants, which threaten the native ecosystem. Since the park is at a higher elevation, participants will need to bring warm clothing and raingear. Free-time activities include scenic hiking trails with interesting geological features and visits to Volcano House, Volcano Art Gallery and Jaggar Museum.



# 2001 OAHU SERVICE PROJECT SCHEDULE

Oahu Group Service Projects provide an excellent opportunity for environmental volunteers to experience unique places that are often closed to the public. To apply for any Oahu Group Service Project, **mail** \$25 (per person) deposit check, payable to the leader listed first in the schedule. **Reservations cannot be made by phone.** Trip fees will range from about \$175.00 to \$200.00 and will cover the cost of round trip airfare, ground transportation, meals and a portion of the leaders' expenses. It is important to make your service project deposit early, as many trips fill quickly.

On a service project, we normally work for preserve for two days and have one day free for hiking or other recreational activities. The participants will share in the preparation of meals and clean up.

*Participants will live together in facilities that are probably more cramped and rustic than they are used to. Therefore, it is important that all have a cooperative and positive attitude and willingness to work as a team. All trip participants are subject to approval by the volunteer leaders based upon experience, adaptability, temperament and physical condition. Deposits will be returned to any participants who are not accepted. On service projects that are especially popular, the leaders will have the option to give preference to current Sierra Club members and Oahu residents.*

## EASTER WEEKEND

April 13 to 15, 2001

- **Kalaupapa National Historical Park, Molokai**  
*This service project is limited to Sierra Club members who have been on at least one other Sierra Club three-day service project.* Leaders: Doreen Swan, 1615 St. Louis Drive, Honolulu, HI 96816, phone: 739-0029; and Maile Sakamoto, phone: 946-5712.
- **Kokee Resource Conservation Program, Kauai**  
Leaders: Judy Buffington and Vernon Knight, 500 University Avenue, Apt. 1130, Honolulu, HI 96826, phone: 955-2820; e-mail: judyvk@hgea.org

## MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

May 26 to 28, 2001

- **Hakalau National Wildlife Refuge, Hawaii** — Leaders: Bob Moore, 1634 Makiki Street, Apt. 906, Honolulu, HI 96822, phone: 942-2734, e-mail: akepa@earthlink.net; and Betsy Weatherford, phone: 526-3986.

## KAMEHAMEHA DAY WEEKEND

June 9 to 11, 2001

- **Kamakou Preserve, Molokai** - Leader: Randy Ching, 1560 Kanunu Street, Apt. 818, Honolulu, HI 96814, phone: 944-9471; Other Leader TBA.
- **Manuka Natural Area Reserve, Hawaii** — Leader: Betsy Gagne, 47-682 Hui Kelu Street, Apt. 8, Kaneohe, HI 96744, phone: 239-4280.

## ADMISSION DAY WEEKEND

August 17 to 19, 2001

- **Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii** — Leaders: Jim and Cindy Waddington, 1545 Nehoa Street, Apt. 301, Honolulu, HI 96822, phone: 947-2732.

## LABOR DAY WEEKEND

September 1 to 3, 2001

- **Hakalau National Wildlife Refuge, Hawaii** —

Leaders: Arlene Buchholz, 3138 Paty Drive, Honolulu, HI 96822, e-mail: snovakz@juno.com; and Sharon Reilly, phone: 739-2438

- **Kokee Resource Conservation Program, Kauai** - Leader: Sherine Boomla, P. O. Box 37714, Honolulu, HI 96837, phone: 739-3936, e-mail: bshrine@yahoo.com!; Co Leader: David Iacobucci, phone: 239-0106

## VETERAN'S DAY WEEKEND

November 10 to 12, 2001

- **Kalaupapa National Historical Park, Molokai**  
*This service project is limited to Sierra Club members who have been on at least one other Sierra Club three-day service project.* Leaders: Leader: Annette Kaohelauii, 45-403 Koa Kahiko Street, Kaneohe, HI 96744, e-mail: annettesadventures@juno.com; Co leader: Bob Butchart; phone: 235-0582
- **Manuka Natural Area Reserve, Hawaii** — Leaders: to be announced

## THANKSGIVING WEEKEND

November 23 to 25, 2001

- **Nene o Molokai, Molokai** — Leaders: TBA

## Armchair Fundraising

For your Sierra Club Chapter or Group

Recommend that someone visit our webpage at

[www.life-list.com](http://www.life-list.com)

If they like what they see and purchase one or more of our *Life-List Illustrated* albums, your Chapter/Group will receive

**a \$15.00 donation**

(for each album purchased)

Details: Purchaser must mention your Chapter or Group as their "Company" affiliation when they complete the shipping/billing information part of the order form.

**This promotional fundraiser ends June 17th, 2001**

If you have any questions: contact Robert Warner  
[acepick@sisqtel.net](mailto:acepick@sisqtel.net)

# Keck Telescope Assessment Incomplete

Sierra Club has been involved with Mauna Kea environmental matters since the mid-1970s and has recently reviewed the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for the Keck Outrigger Telescopes Project funded by NASA. After careful examination of the DEA we have concluded that given the special cultural and environmental significance of Mauna Kea, the mitigative measures proposed by NASA are insufficient to adequately protect the mountain's upper summit cones and natural ecosystems during construction and operation of the proposed outrigger telescopes. Also, the non-Hawai'i alternatives to the Keck as home for the outriggers are not adequately examined. Finally, the cumulative impacts of these six outriggers combined with the 15 other telescope elements anticipated for the summit region over the next twenty years have not been examined at all.

Nelson Ho

For these reasons, Sierra Club draws some conclusions:

1. Because of the special nature of Mauna Kea's summit, and the deficiencies in its DEA, we agree with Hawaii's Office of Hawaiian Affairs that NASA and others who call for a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act.
2. We also believe that in that EIS, NASA should rigorously consider the "No-Action Alternative," which was given only a one-paragraph analysis in the DEA.
3. When the final EIS analysis is completed, the Office of Mauna Kea Management, The University of Hawai'i Board of Regents, and the Hawai'i State Land Board should evaluate the Outrigger Project in light of the need to find a compromise between those who seek removal of all structures on the summit area and those, like the University's Institute for Astronomy, which seek observatory expansions engendering a ten-fold increase in the land area to be disturbed. A moratorium on any new construction that increases the existing footprints of facilities or causes further damage to the natural environment adjacent to them would preclude approval of the Outrigger Project proposal.

## NASA Praised for Finally Adhering to Federal Law

We are pleased that after some initial resistance, NASA has agreed to follow United States federal law with respect to conducting an environmental review in accordance with the federal standards required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NASA has also agreed to follow the consultation requirements and other provisions

of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). *This is the first time any of the federally funded projects on Mauna Kea have complied with these United States statutes.* Previously constructed observatories which have failed to comply include the Smithsonian Institution's Submillimeter Array, the Gemini North telescope and the National Radio Astronomy Observatory's Very Long Base Array. We hope your compliance with NEPA and NHPA will establish a more lawful pattern of practice among these and other observatories who rely on federal funds or other kinds of "substantial federal involvement" in building or modifying their facilities on Mauna Kea.

## Further Industrialization of Kukahau'ula is Inappropriate

The measures contained in NASA's "Off-Site/On-Site Mitigation Cultural Resource Plans," while useful in minimizing some physical impacts of the Outriggers Project, don't mitigate the major negative impact, which is the further industrialization of the upper summit region, particularly the three cones which comprise Kukahau'ula. This area, which Native Hawaiians view as culturally significant (and sacred), has been deemed by the State Historical Preservation office as "an historical property" worthy of placing on the National Register of Historic Places. The *inherent* intrusion of more buildings, dust, sewage, hazardous waste, noise, people, laser beams, and the further alteration of Kukahau'ula's physical features and appearance (particularly from upper elevations) make further industrialization incompatible with protection of possibly the most important landscape in the Hawaiian archipelago.

## Wekiu Mitigation Ideas are Premature and may be Harmful

The measures contained in NASA's "Draft Wekiu Bug Mitigation Plan" are well meaning but may not be able to halt the catastrophic decline of the Wekiu Bug population (a 99.7% drop from 1982 to 1997). Until detailed studies of the Wekiu life history are conducted, ad hoc mitigative measures should not be conducted. This DEA does not adequately discuss life cycle history, habitat requirement information, breeding behavior, number of offspring or any other information that lends credence to the proposed mitigative measures' ability to positively affect the Wekiu bug's population. A research plan must be devised, funded and concluded prior to implementing any restoration work. The research must observe Wekiu life cycles and all impacts to the species, test hypotheses and formulate habitat restoration procedures and principles. For further information contact the Moku Loa Group Conservation Committee or Nelson Ho.

## **Chairperson's Report** *Phil Barnes*

As the Moku Loa Group's new, incoming chair I would like to thank Roberta Brashear for all of her efforts on behalf of the Sierra Club over the years. As new chair of the Hawai'i Chapter she will undoubtedly see that the interests of the Big Island are well represented at the club's state level. As I am a relative newcomer to Hawai'i, I will be seeking counsel from the years of environmental experience that is shared by the excellent members of our current executive committee. The year is off to an exciting start with a wide variety of environmental issues and concerns being laid on our table. The "Keep Kealakekua Wild" project has scored an early victory. The issues there are ongoing, however, and the national Sierra Club sent over a team of project experts to lead a workshop for our activists in Kona in early January. Hearings are ongoing on three issues of concern to the club—the County General Plan revision, expansion of Volcano National Park, and the zoning variance sought by the Shipmans for their proposed shopping center in Kea'au. A new legislature is in session in Honolulu, and as always there are a large number of proposed bills with serious environmental ramifications. As stewards of the 'aina we will have work to do, but let's not forget to have fun at the same time. We have a couple of interesting travel slide shows in the coming months to get you stoked for some outdoor adventures. And there are a wide variety of new outings for you to experience in the next few months. See you on the trail . . .

## **Volcano National Park Expansion**

*David Kimo Frankel*

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park has a unique opportunity to purchase the 116,000 acre Kahuku Ranch which borders the western boundary of the Park. The addition of this property to Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park would open a unique area to recreational and cultural uses for local community members and tourists, as well as providing opportunities to preserve many rare native plant and animal species. Kahuku Ranch is currently used only for mouflan sheep trophy hunting. This is an expensive activity and few local hunters participate. Local hunters do work with the National Park Service to control alien species by hunting feral ungulates. This benefits the Park and also benefits the community by providing a source of meat for families of the hunters. Kahuku Ranch would also be included in the control program if it were added to the Park. Kahuku Ranch is also rich in endemic and indigenous species; joining it to the Park would provide educational opportunities for children and others who have never seen these rare birds in their natural habitat. Also, the ranch has one of the longest trails in the state (about 15 miles), with great recre-

ational potential. If the National Park Service does not purchase this property, it could go to a buyer or developer who doesn't care about the local community. What can you do? Send a letter of support to: Representative Patsy Mink, 2135 Rayburn House Office Bldg., Washington, DC 20515-4906

## **Miconia Down but Far From Out** *Nelson Ho*

Five Saturday mornings (8:00 to 12:00 noon) have been scheduled for volunteer miconia eradication work. Sierra Club has joined with the Hawaii Island Economic Development Board (HIEDB) and Operation Miconia in sponsoring the following Saturday workdays: March 31, April 7, April 14, April 21 and April 28. Volunteers must be in reasonably good health; and need to dress in comfortable long-sleeved shirts, and wear boots that can be washed free of mud. Raincoats are also encouraged. Operation Miconia needs the help of volunteers because its crews are busy stemming the flow of trees headed toward the rainforests via river drainages and former cane lands. Overall, they are trying to contain infestations in an area larger than all of Oahu. Many mature trees have been eliminated in four years of operation, but the seeds are viable for at least eight years and are easily dispersed by birds. Participants usually meet at the Papaikou Hongwanji parking lot, but volunteers are asked to call HIEDB at 966-5416, or the Miconia Hotline at 961-3299, for details and to give organizers an accurate estimate.

## **Nepal & Tibet Slide Show - April 19**

The Moku Loa Group will be hosting a slide show of the recent trip that members Phil Barnes and Diane Fournier took to Nepal and Tibet. They did an overland trip from Kathmandu to Lhasa, Tibet, visiting many monasteries and cultural sites along the route. Slides of points of interest and the ancient cities of the Kathmandu Valley will also be included. Take an armchair grip to these exotic formerly forbidden kingdoms of Asia. Komohana Ag Complex on Thursday, April 19 at 7:00 pm.

## **Aquaculture in Hawai'i - June 20**

Aquaculture has a long history in Hawai'i. The ancient Hawaiians are acknowledged to have been masters of the coastal fishpond construction and operation. Aquaculture continues its contribution to Hawai'i's food supply and economy. Kevin Hopkins, Moku Loa Group treasurer and interim director of the University of Hawai'i at Hilo's Pacific Aquaculture and Coastal Resources Center, will give a presentation about ancient and modern aquaculture in Hawai'i at 7:00 pm on June 20 at the conference room of the Komohana Agriculture Complex.

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# Have you sent your 2001 March Fund Appeal Contribution yet?

Please continue to support our work locally. *Mahalo!*

Name \_\_\_\_\_ email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ To Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter  
\_\_\_ To Sierra Club Foundation, Hawai'i Account

*Please clip and mail to  
Sierra Club, PO Box 2577,  
Honolulu, HI 96803*

Enclosed is my gift for \_\_\_30 \_\_\_50 \_\_\_100 \_\_\_500 \_\_\_other

*Because much of our work involves citizen based advocacy and testimony, contributions to the "Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter" are not deductible as charitable contributions for income tax purposes. Contributions to the "Sierra Club Foundation, Hawai'i Account" are tax deductible, but our ability to use these funds is limited.*

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## **Carbon Dioxide Dumping: Approaching the right problem the wrong way**

*Dr. Robert J. Wilder*

A new experiment has been proposed for Hawaii that would test the idea of dumping massive amounts of CO<sub>2</sub> pollution into the world's oceans as a way to address global warming. Called the "Ocean Sequestration Experiment," their Project if fully carried out will liquefy immense amounts of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) from burning fossil fuels like oil and coal—and instead dump it in seas.

The Project's proponents actually believe this is a sensible response to issues of greenhouse gases! However they are in many cases the same organizations that seek to continue our reliance on oil and coal. For instance, one main backer is the Office of Fossil Energy within the U.S. Department of Energy, which seeks to maintain these dirtiest of fossil fuels in spite of the global warming threat.

Note carefully too, what the Project's backers don't tell you. They never refer to this manmade CO<sub>2</sub> waste as "pollution" (which of course it is). And they work very hard not to discuss the only reason for the Hawaii experiment—which is to further ocean dumping only. This is not useful basic science, but is an applied project whose sole aim is testing nozzle design and modeling plume dispersal.

Worse, their project does nothing to halt or reduce the offending activity of too much greenhouse gas produc-

tion. Their project creates a time bomb for future generations, since at least some of that CO<sub>2</sub> will in time return to the air. Importantly, this is not "sequestration" since the gases do not always remain in the sea. Yet since that CO<sub>2</sub> may not return for centuries, the Project is evidently not too concerned about the impacts on life that these gases might one-day present.

Consider as well that their project would have to be immensely polluting of the oceans, in order to succeed. Yet it largely could escape a full review because it is being segmented into early parts that occur in separate countries, ie, Hawaii (U.S), Norway, and it will experiment in oceans of the world beyond the purview a single entity. For that reason, some have consented to the Project, without understanding what this entire undertaking is designed to do.

Moreover it places the worst idea—disposal—ahead of far better strategies such as CO<sub>2</sub> prevention (best), or reduction at source. Instead, it perpetuates the myth of pollution as being costless, and dilution as the solution to pollution, which got us here in this global climate change dilemma in the first place.

We must halt this insane Project not only here in Hawaii, but prevent it from being inflicted on all the oceans of our planet. The sane recourse to greenhouse gases would be to prevent them from being produced in the first place, such as through clean energy—and not create a time bomb sure to vex future generations. For further information, see <http://www.pacificwhale.org/news/CO2.html> and <http://www.kahea.org/currentissues1.html> or e-mail me at [rob@pacificwhale.org](mailto:rob@pacificwhale.org)

# MOKU LOA GROUP OUTINGS

*Outings are conducted in accordance with Sierra Club Outing policies. Participants need to recognize the authority of the leader and plan to remain with the group for the entire outing. Sierra Club carries no participant accident insurance. Each participant should carry a minimum of a quart of water, lunch, sunscreen, rain gear and wear sturdy shoes with traction. Additional items will be listed with the outing description. Key D = distance, is the estimated round trip for the day. E = elevation in feet: + is gain, - is loss, +/- is up and down.*

**Classification of Hikes: (E) Education/Interpretation, (C) Conservation, (F) Family/Fun, (S) Service**

**Saturday-Sunday, April 7-8** -- Ainapo Cabin (E) D = 7.5 miles, E = 7750' +/- 5500' Trailhead is on Route 11 south of Volcano between the 40 and 41 mile markers. The first 8 miles are along a dirt 4-wheel-drive road and then native forest. Hike through an old growth forest for a stay in a Division of Forestry cabin on the slopes of Mauna. Contact leader Diane Ware (967-8642) for reservations and more information. Assistant Leader, Shaina Lawson.

**Saturday, April 14** - Kalopa Old Jeep Road & Gulch Trail (E) (F) D = 3 miles, E = 2500' +/- 500' We will hike uphill along the old jeep road to the highest elevation in the park, then return via the gulch trail, passing through groves of eucalyptus, silk oak, and paper bark. Wear sturdy shoes; bring rain gear, mosquito repellent, water and picnic lunch. Meet at the parking lot across from Bayfront Shell station at 8:30 a.m., or at Kalopa Park at 9:30 am. Contact leader, Edith Worsencroft at 963-6317 for info.

**Thursday, April 19, "Nepal"** (E) Komohana Complex, 7:00 pm. Phil Barnes will tell us about his visit to Nepal and Tibet.

**Friday, April 20** - Earth Day University of Hawai'i Lanai.

**Saturday, May 5** -- Wailuku River (off Saddle Road) (E) (F) D = 5-6 miles round trip, E = 4000' Hike along a jeep trail through native forest to the Wailuku River. Swimming is good there. Huge boulders; water falls. Can be rainy or sunny. Meet at parking lot across from Bayfront Shell Station at 8:00 am. Contact leader Jan Moon @ 935-3475 for more information. Assistant leader, Edith Worsencroft (963-6317).

**Thursday, May 10** -- Outings Leaders Hike Planning session, 6:00 pm

**Saturday, May 12** -- Hike Leader's Orientation Training This hike is for Sierra Club hike leaders and assistant leaders. Phil Barnes will show the group how to use a compass and map to find your way, and Gloria Amaral will lead this outing. Call Gloria Amaral at 959-5180 (leave a message) for more info as to the meeting time and place.

**Saturday-Sunday, May 19-20** - Polulu Backpack/Kohala Ditch Trail (E) D = 2 miles; E = 12' +/- 1200' Easy downhill backpack into a beautiful valley and campground

(base camp). Second day, 9:00 am hike six miles (4 hours) on Kohala Ditch trail. This is a scenic trail that overlooks Polulu Valley and goes behind the waterfall. Limited to 15 people. This is a permitted event; participants must register by May 1 deadline. The backpack is short and relatively easy. The ditch trail is a moderate hike. The first 2 miles are the major portion of elevation, and then over a cow pasture. Meet in Hilo at the parking lot across from the Bayfront Shell station at 7:00 am. Bring lunch, two quarts of water, flashlight, rain gear, tent, backpack equipment. There is a fee for central commissary. For more info and to register contact Roxanne Lawson (966-4859).

**Saturday, May 26 to Monday, May 28** -- Waimanu Valley Backpack (E) D = 19 miles round trip, E = +/- 1000' This is an energetic backpack for individuals with backpacking experience and proper gear. We may drive down to Waipio Valley and camp on Friday night. Hopefully, we will have someone with a 4WD vehicle to expedite this trip. Call Phil Barnes for further information and trip planning @ 965-9695; e-mail greenhi@interpac.net.

**Saturday, June 2** National Trails Day. Anaeoomalu Bay to Keawaiki (E) D = 5 miles, E = 0 Celebrate National Trails Day! We will hike along the Ala Kahakai on an old trail and hike past a petroglyph field, an anchialine pond and archaeological sites. Be prepared for warm conditions and a sometimes rugged trail. Participants need to bring the following: 2 quarts of water, lunch, sunscreen, dark glasses, swim wear, rugged boots or shoes. Swimming will be a possibility, but will be at your own risk. Call leader Gloria Amaral at 959-5180 (leave message) for meeting time and place, or for more information. Assistant leader is Scott Mandel.

**Saturday, June 9** -- Kalopa Service Trip (S) D = 0 E = 2250' We are trying to eliminate invasive alien plants in the Kalopa Native Forest. Wear sturdy shoes; bring rain gear, mosquito repellent, water, lunch, gloves and hand tools suitable for uprooting plants with stubborn roots. Meet in Hilo, 8:30 a.m., parking lot across from the Bayfront Shell station, or at Kalopa at 9:30 am. For more information contact Edith Worsencroft @ 963-6317, or co-leader Sue Bostick @ 959-1727.

**Saturday, June 16** -- Manuka Olopuia Kipuka in Manuka State Park (E) D = 6 miles, E = 3000' +/- 1000' Visit a rare native forest in a kipuka. Meet at parking lot across from Bayfront Shell Station at 7:00 a.m. Contact leader Jan Moon at 935-3475 for further information. Assistant leader, Sarah Moon.

**Wednesday, June 20** -- "Aquaculture" (E) Komohana Complex, 7:00 pm. Kevin Hopkins' presentation on Hawai'i Aquaculture.

# KAUAI GROUP OUTINGS

## YES, WE'D LOVE FOR YOU TO BECOME AN OUTINGS LEADER!

Do you enjoy hiking and showing our beautiful trails on Kauai to others? How about volunteering as a Sierra Club outings leader? We will train and assist you. Call Judy Dalton at 246-9067 or dalton@aloha.net if interested.

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR NA PALI SHUTTLE SERVICE

Kauai Group has offered a customized shuttle service from Lihue airport to the Na Pali trailhead and other desirable destinations in the past. We now need a few volunteers to continue this much appreciated service. Please let us know if you are willing to shuttle hikers as a means of receiving donations for the Kauai Group as well as helping hikers get to trails. We reimburse drivers \$10 for gas for each pick up. Please call 246-9067.

### Sunday, April 22

*Mohihi/Camp Ten/ Kokee* West Side/Moderate Family Hike/ 4.5 Miles See abandoned irrigation systems, Mohihi Stream, pritchardia palms, Kailua trees, and methyl plums. 4x4 cars and trucks appreciated to pool into the area. Leader: Ron Farrar 823-8716

### Thursday, April 26

*Moalepe Trail* East Shore/ Moderate/ 2 Miles Doggie Hike ...A hike with dogs? Yes! All welcomed- with or without your pet. Leader: Felisha Felix 821-8667

### Saturday, April 28

*Sleeping Giant* East Side/ Moderate/ 4.5 Miles This well maintained, though often steep, trail passes through wild patches of ti and pandanus to reach the peak of Nonou Mountain where we will enjoy panoramic views of the east side of Kauai Leader: Harry Guiremand 823-8335

### Saturday, May 5

*Kuilau Ridge Trail* East Side/ Moderate/ 4.5 Miles Starting near the Keahou Arboretum near Kapa'a, the Kuilau Ridge Trail offers great rewards without a lot of effort. Glorious views and ever present bird-songs reward the hiker along this trail. Leader: Harry Guiremand 823-8335

### Sunday, May 6

*Waininina/ Berry Flats Loop/ Kokee* West Side/ Moderate Family Hike/ 5 Mile Loop See forest restoration, giant redwoods, sugi groves, mokihana, maile, and methyl plum trees Leader: Ron Farrar 823-8716

### Saturday, May 12

*Power Line Trail* East Side/ Moderate to Strenuous/ 4 Miles Starting at the Kiahou Arboretum near Kapa'a we will climb through unending vistas, culminating with views of Kapakanui and Kapakaiki Falls and then return. Harry Guiremand 823-8335

### Saturday, May 19

*Miconia Project* East Side/ Extremely Strenuous/ 4 Miles The Miconia Project involves the systematic removal of the invasive weed, Miconia, from plotted transects in Wailua. The miconia is located in very rugged terrain and the population is believed to be very small. Most of the work consists of exploration. The project is conducted by the Department of Land and Natural Resources. Contact for info: Katie Cassel 335-0924

**Kapoko Hunter's Trail** East Side/ Strenuous/ 6 Miles Hike

approximately two miles then through a mile-long tunnel that brings water from the headwaters of the Hanalei River to Wailua. Muddy conditions usually make this a strenuous hike. Beautiful scenery at the tunnel's end. Limited to 12 hikers. Leader: Kathy Valier 826-7302

### Saturday, May 26

*Wailua River Kayak Trip, River Cleanup and Hike to Waterfall* East Side/ Moderate/ 4 Miles We team up with Kayaks Kauai who supply the kayaks to clean up the Wailua River. Along the way we will hike to a lovely waterfall. Leader: Judy Dalton 246-9067

### Sunday, June 3

*Maha'ulepu Full Moon Walk* South Shore/ Easy to Moderate/ 4 Miles Delight in the wonders of this magnificent coastline. Start out with the afternoon sun and return under the light of the moon. Leader: Judy Dalton 246-9067

### Saturday, June 9

*Maka'leha Stream* East Side/ Strenuous/ 4 Miles The hike up the Maka'leha stream valley begins with a winding trail through a bamboo forest. The trail drops down to the valley floor and consist of a long, in stream, rock hop, to the Falls of Maka'leha. Leader: Kathy Valier 823-7302

### Sunday, June 10

*Alakai Board Walk* Kokee/ West Side/ Strenuous/ 7 Miles See the recovery of the Alakai Swamp since the construction of the board walk... See native koa, introduced koa, maile, mokihana, ferns, birds, and a variety of native fauna only seen on this trail. Leader: Ron Farrar 823-8716

### Thursday, June 14

*Okolebau Trail* North Shore/ Very Strenuous/ 4 Miles Lovely views along the top of the mountain ridge of this trail reopened by the Sierra Club's trail clearing. Leader: Felisha Felix 821-8667

### Saturday, June 16

*Miconia Project* East Side/ Extremely Strenuous/ 4 miles The Miconia Project involves the systematic removal of the invasive weed, miconia, from plotted transects in Wailua. the Miconia is located in very rugged terrain and the population is believed to be very small. Most of the work consists of exploration. Volunteers should have back county experience and adequate foot wear. The Miconia Project is under the direction of the Dept of Land and Natural Resources. Contact: Katie Cassel 335-0924

### Saturday, June 23

*Nukoli'i Beach Walk, Beach Cleanup and Bonfire* East Side/ 3 Miles Enjoy a late afternoon beach walk while cleaning up the beach. You'll be rewarded at the end with a bonfire where we will enjoy a cookout under the stars. We especially welcome new members to this event. Leader: Judy Dalton 246-9067

### Sunday, June 24

*Waipo'o Canyon/ Black Pipe/ Halemanu Loop/ Kokee* West Side/ Strenuous/ 6 Miles Loop See waterfalls, the canyon from various angles, forest restoration, and the Kekaha Plantation ditch irrigation system running under ground and over ravines.. Leader: Ron Farrar 823-8716

### Saturday, June 30

*Kawai'oi Stream Trail/ Kokee* West Side/ Easy/ 2 Miles Enjoy on of the loveliest nature walks on Kauai. This beauty is a fairyland lush beyond description. Leader: Judy Dalton 246-9067



# MAUI GROUP OUTINGS

## **PLEASE BE PREPARED FOR OUTINGS**

Bring food and water, and—as conditions require—sturdy footwear, mosquito repellent, sun protection, and/or rain gear. A donation of \$3 (\$1 for Sierra Club members) is requested of all hikers over age 14, except for fund raiser and/or special educational hikes requested donations are slightly higher. Hikes are popular. Please register early through Voice Mail (573-4147).

**Project Malama.** On going Service outings to lush Honokowai Valley (above Kanapali in West Maui). Help Na Kupuna O Maui stabilize important cultural sites for future interpretation. Next access: Saturday April 14 Call 572-8331 for directions and future access dates

**Saturday April 7:** *Waibou Springs dog hike.* Enjoy a peaceful 2-mile easy/moderate forest walk in upper Olinda to a lovely fern grotto, Non aggressive dogs on leash. Meet @ 9:30 AM in parking lot across from St. Joseph's Church in Makawao. Register 878-2190 Brian Parker and Tina Dart

**Saturday April 14:** *Kealia National Wildlife Refuge* Come and see a variety of waterfowl and shore birds, and hear an overview about the refuge. Meet @8 AM at the refuge office (turn into driveway at the Mile Post 6 on Mokualele Hwy. and follow the road for 1/2 mile to the office) Bring binoculars, spotting scope, suitable shoes for mud and water. Limit 20. Pre-registration a must with Leader: Lance Tanino 280-4195

**Saturday April 21:** *Earthday: "We Love the Gardens" day* at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens in Kahului (Old Maui Zoo). Celebrate Earthday! Come help spruce up Maui's only public garden specializing in native dryland forest plants. 9am-12pm service outing (bring work gloves) Everyone welcome. Potluck Picnic lunch (beverages provided) and guided tour for renovation plans for the Garden. Call 579-9802 for additional info.

**Saturday April 28:** *Coastal Cleanup: Pauwela Point.* Sierra Club supports Community Work Days Keep America Beautiful Day nationwide cleanup effort with a cleanup at Pauwela Lighthouse area. Meet at 8:30am at Haiku Community Center parking lot. Pickup trucks especially welcome. Leader: Lucienne de Naie. All supplies provided. Call 579-9802 for info.

**Saturday May 5:** *"Ho'olaule'a o Na 'Opio o Na Moku" A Community Celebration.* Benefit Concert to raise funds for youth directed environmental and community service projects. Great live music, food and activities from 10am-6pm @ Maui Nui Botanical Gardens Amphitheatre. Visit the Sierra Club enviro info booth. Concert entrance fee: Adults \$10 youth (under 12) \$5.

**Sunday May 6:** *Maui Cave Adventures at Kaaeoku Caverns.*

1.5 -2hour adventure. Hike 3/4 mile round trip through the large passages of Kaaeoku Caverns. Ceiling height often reaches 30-40 feet. No claustrophobic worries on this tour. Our guide will hike through passages replete with stalactites, flowstone, stalagmites, ledges, pillars, and the amazing 'achockstone'a and internal lava tube rupture! He'll explain the geology of this ancient subterranean lava flow! Only two duck down spots but optional crawls and climbs are available for those who want more of a challenge. All gear provided: hardhats, hip packs with water bottles, gloves, and lights. Please come prepared in proper caving attire: long pants, closed toe shoes, and t-shirt. All participants must sign a waiver before going underground. Minimum age; 8yrs; max weight 240 pounds. Cost: \$35.00 Limit: 15. pre-registration a must w/ leader Tina Dart 878-4122. Pre-registration a must. Tina Dart @ 878-4122.

**Saturday/Sunday May 12 & 13:** *Oheo service trip.* Come join the fun at Kipahulu. Overnight camping and help maintain this beautiful park. Work Gloves and tools provided. Register and info: Koana Smith @ 669-9602.

**Sunday May 27:** *Papa'aea Reservoir.* Moderate uphill 4-mile hike in lush east Maui watershed (bamboo groves of Kailua Valley.) EMI waiver required. (see above) Meet at Haiku Community Center at 9am. Call Leader: Tina Dart 878-4122 for registration. Asst leader: Brian Parker

**Saturday June 2:** *Celebrate National Trails Day - Pilale Bay Hike* A tour of historic Pilale Bay. Guide will provide cultural and historical background. Easy to Moderate 2 mile family hike through meadows and forests ends at panoramic, cobble strewn beach (picnic site). Meet at 9:30 AM at Haiku Community Center (Hana Hwy) Leader: Lucienne de Naie. \*\*Bring insect repellent.

**Saturday June 10:** *Haleakala National Park.* 3.5 mile moderate down hill hike. Halemau'Āōu to supply trail. Be prepared for wet and cool, and/or hot and sunny weather. Sturdy foot wear and water. Meet at Hosmer grove campground at 9AM. There is a \$10 entry fee to the park. Pre-registration required 891-0572. leader Mary Ann Ciuffini.

**Sunday June 17:** *Polipoli park.* 4.5 mile easy/moderate loop trail. Enjoy birding at the beginning of the trail. Bring: binoculars, rain gear etc. Meet @ 8:30 a.m. sharp at Rice Park (Lower Kula Road) Leader: Tina dart. Bird specialist: Lance Tanino Registration required 878-4122. 15 only.

**Saturday June 23:** *Lupi Rd. above twin falls.* Explore East Maui Rainforest. Bring lunch. Meet @ 9am at Twin Falls parking lot- on Hana Hwy. in Huelo. ( 2 miles past intersection of hana Hwy. and Kaupakalua Rd. in Hana direction) Leaders: Lucienne de Naie and Koana Smith. Register 573-4147 EMI waiver required.

## New Office

The Maui Group has moved into a shared office space next to the old EPEC office in Paia. The group is sharing with long time allies Maui Tomorrow and Hawaii Wildlife Fund. Two fundraising events are planned for March; a plant sale on the 10th and a night of guided stargazing with noted astronomer Harriet Witt-Miller on the 25th. Bobbie Becker has agreed to serve as Maui Group's fundraising chair and is coordinating plans for a gala event to celebrate the Group's 25th anniversary this year.

## Palauea Shoreline Certification Victory

Former Maui Group chair Diane Shepherd gave photos and testimony at the first ever Hawaii shoreline certification contested case. The hearing officer found for the interveners, ruling that the planted and irrigated naupaka on Lot 55 at Palauea Beach had caused the shoreline survey to be moved up to 30 feet closer to the sea than it should have been. Thanks for a great job to Hui Alanui o Makena and attorney Isaac Hall. Christina Hemmings met with the mayor to make a presentation on shoreline building violations in the Baldwin Beach area (by Paia). The

mayor and staff were impressed by her research and the severity of the violations.

## Traffic Action Committee

Conservation Chair Rob Parsons and Daniel Grantham have been working on the Mayor's traffic action committee, which aims to gather solutions from the community for action. Public meetings have been held (400 turned out in Kihei) and suggestions are being evaluated. Rob and Daniel were also interviewed on the Statewide Transportation Plan being prepared by Kaku Associates and Belt Collins for DOT.

## New National Park for Maui?

Patsy Mink has introduced a bill asking the National Park Service to study the possibility of a national park along six miles of South Maui shoreline, from Ke'oneoi'o to Kanaloa point. The remote shoreline and archeological sites are in need of management and protection. The Maui Group has been collecting signatures on postcards in support of the bill at community events. Letters of support to Patsy are needed.

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sites, including petroglyphs and heiau. It is a favorite place for locals to surf, fish and swim.

Where there is not enough money, the Governor can work with the federal government to ensure permanent protection. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service should complete the proposed acquisition of the Kahuku wetlands and coastal dunes. Haleakala National Park should be encouraged to complete purchases of coastal lands. The state should enter into discussions with the National Park Service about turning over jurisdiction of south Maui coastal lands to ensure better management.

## **REGULATORY PROTECTION**

Cayetano should ask his Office of Planning to start the process of placing wild undeveloped coastal areas into the conservation district.

The Office should start with Keopuka, next to Kealakekua Bay, and Honaunau, between the Pu'uhonua O Honaunau National Park and Kealakekua Bay. This area is, according to the state Department of Land and Natural Resources, "one of, if not the most, historically significant places in Hawai'i." It also fronts pristine class AA waters.

Placing these lands in the conservation district would not "take" any vested property rights from any landowner, but would prevent the construction of any new golf course and hundreds of mansions.

Cayetano should also have the Office of Planning aggressively enforce the law to prevent developers from building fake farmhouses in the agricultural district — particularly those near the ocean. Mansions masquerading as farmhouses violate the letter and spirit of the state's land use law. But the counties have failed to take any action against fake farming proposals that increase sprawl, pave over open space and damage coastal resources.

## **CORRECTIVE ACTION**

Finally, it is not too late for Cayetano to fix the mistakes made by his administration.

At Makapu'u, the beauty and wildness of the coastline is now marred by an ugly chapel, built on state land and approved by the Board of Land and Natural Resources. Only a few months ago, bodysurfers at Makapuu escaped from urban life and tour bus riders witnessed the stunning coastline. Now, the experience is utterly destroyed by a large and inappropriately located private chapel — on state land. This stupid decision needs to be reversed — even though the state will have to foot the bill.

And the Governor needs to ensure that there is some semblance of balance on the Board of Land and Natural Resources. While the Hawaii Tourism Authority is made up virtually exclusively of tourism executives, the Board

of Land and Natural Resources doesn't have a single environmental expert. It is made up of a tourism official, a developer, a former developer's attorney, another attorney, a union representative, and a doctor who claimed at the Hawaii County Democratic Convention that the pig is the steward of the forest.

If we do not act now, development will eat away at the last vestiges of Hawaii's undeveloped coastlines. Governor Cayetano can leave a lasting legacy for our families and for our future. Keep it wild, Governor!

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## Keep it Wild, Ben!

Unfortunately, Governor Ben Cayetano's State of the State resolve to "keep these wild places wild" was largely ignored by the media.

Although often criticized by environmentalists (including me), Cayetano has a track record of keeping many wild places wild. On **David Kimo Frankel** Kaua'i, he took actions where his predecessors stumbled to rid the Hanalei river of over-commercialization. He made great strides in restoring the wilderness qualities of Kalalau. His administration purchased Lumahai Beach.

On O'ahu, Cayetano convinced legislators to provide the bond money to purchase Queen's Beach in order to keep the Ka Iwi coastline wild. He approved the designation of the Humpback Whale Sanctuary.

On the Big Island, Cayetano's Office of Planning joined with the Sierra Club in opposing massive urbanization plans next to the Kealakekua Bay State Historical Park.

Wilderness coastlines provide families areas to swim, whale watch, hike, snorkel, surf, explore tidepools, picnic, seek tranquility and fish. They provide habitat for native species and protection of native Hawaiian cultural sites. And they create jobs for the visitor industry, which is dependent on the preservation of Hawaii's natural beauty. Ninety-one percent of 1,000 visitors surveyed said that the preservation of natural areas — particularly coastlines — is an important factor in their decision whether to return to the islands.

We all suffer the consequences of inappropriate coastal development. The fact is, most local folks don't want to go to a beach in front of a hotel or condos.

And then there's the Hokulia disaster. Twice now in

the past half-year, massive amounts of soil from a golf course development have polluted Kona's pristine waters. Kona residents and tourists on dive boats saw the brilliantly pristine turquoise blue waters fronting the Hokulia project turn opaque brown and putrid green on September 9 and then again on November 2. A Board of Land and Natural Resources report raised serious concerns about damage to the Big Island's coral reef resources from the Hokulia sediment runoff. As much as three inches of sticky mud covered much of the bottom — and corals were smothered — killing them.

If we are going to preserve our cultural heritage, provide recreational opportunities and support our visitor-based economy, we must, as the Governor has proposed, keep our wild places wild.

### ACQUISITION

The first order of business is to buy these unique areas. Without taking money away from teachers or other deserving causes, the Legislature can appropriate bond money and excess money raised through the hotel room tax for coastal land acquisition.

The Governor has already expressed his desire to ensure the long-term preservation of Maha'ulepu on Kauai's southeastern coast. Maha'ulepu is a stunning display of geological sculptures, sea cliffs and golden beaches. It is one of the few places you can go and not have hotels and condos blocking views. And it is refuge for many federally threatened and endangered species. Last summer, a monk seal pup was born there.

On the Big Island, Kohanaiki cries out for protection. Adjacent to the Kaloko-Honokohau National Park, the land is zoned for resort use. Its anchialine ponds are one of the last remaining and most extensive anchialine pond complexes in the state. It holds over 150 archeological

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