

# Mālama I Ka Honua

### Cherish the Earth

### JOURNAL OF THE SIERRA CLUB, HAWAI'I CHAPTER

**A Quarterly Newsletter** 

January - March 2011

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Learn about the founder of the High School Hiker's and Hawaii Service Trip Programs, Lorin T. Gill, and the Sierra Club's efforts to honor this amazing man through the creation of an endowment in his name.

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# What Could Be?

2011 Legislative Preview

by Robert D. Harris

This upcoming legislative session -- much like the past two years -- will be dominated by debates over the budget. By now, you've probably heard some of the terrible economic projections. The State projects a \$834 million shortfall over the next two years. To put that in perspective, the entire Department of Land and Natural Resources budget -- the agency charged with protecting the

all of the state's unique environmental resources - was a little over \$13 million.

Despite the tough budget situation, the Sierra Club is going to the Capitol with an ambitious policy agenda, and a few suggestions on how to address the budget problems. This year's agenda continues our emphasis on fighting global warming, but also includes a broad slate of initiatives intended to increase Hawai'i's sustainability and protect our unique environment. Some top tier agenda items include:

#### Food Sustainability Standards

The 2008 price spike in the cost of oil gave us a taste of how damaging our reliance upon imported oil could be.

Hopefully we never have a similar lesson about our dependence on imported food: roughly 85% of the food consumed in Hawai'i.

We propose setting specific metrics on the quantity of food grown in Hawai'i -- say 50% of our local consumption by 2040 -- and tying compliance with one of the largest problems to a local food supply, that is, overdevelopment of Hawai'i's agricultural lands. Under this proposal, no large reclassification of agricultural land would be authorized unless the food sustainability standards are met.

This proposal helps define a specific goal for the state and ensures that all

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#### FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

As we enter the New Year with the usual resolutions to eat better, spend more time with family, and be more active -- I'd like to ask that we all put special emphasis on that last point.

As a part of our Capitol Watch campaign, we recently held a "Forces for Good" symposium. Experts spoke on food, energy, waste, and native plant preservation issues. A session was held on how to be a better advocate for green issues (you can see videos of these panels at www.sierraclubhawaii.com/capitolwatch). Interest in this symposium was outstanding -- we actually had to turn nearly 40 people away.

It was abundantly clear from the high interest level in this symposium that people want change. But are we willing individually to do more to achieve it? Are we willing to apportion a part of our day or a small part of our budget to see it happen?

Here's my pitch on why you should make one of your resolutions this year to get more active:

- It's good for you. Studies have shown that people who volunteer are <u>happier</u>, <u>healthier</u>, and <u>live longer</u>.
- You can meet great people. Go on a Sierra Club outing, get involved in a service project, or help participate in a rally. It's a way to meet new folks and protect beautiful places at the same time.
- It's fun. I know, I know . . . getting involved in something like politics may not seem like fun. But *winning* is fun and winning on things that matter, like keeping our air and water clean, is really fun. And if there's anything the Club knows how to do, it's win!

So how do you get more active in 2011? An easy way is to simply go on an outing or service project and tell the leader that you're interested in doing more. Or you can sign up to volunteer at our website at <a href="https://www.sierraclub.com/volunteer">www.sierraclub.com/volunteer</a>.

Not sure you have the time? Donating a little, say \$10 a month, helps ensure that others can work to protect the environment. It allows us to keep the lights on at our office and have someone at the table when important decisions are being made. Donations can be made online at <a href="www.sierraclubhawaii.com/donate">www.sierraclubhawaii.com/donate</a> or checks mailed to P.O. Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803.

Have a happy and safe start to 2011! I look forward to working with you in the new year.

Hope to see you on the trail, Robert D. Harris



#### Mālama I Ka Honua

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## A Path Near & Far: Thoughts from the Chapter Chair by Mark Glick

#### Keeping Your Balance

Many Sierra Club staff and volunteers are accustomed to the dual nature of fulfilling their passion for the outdoors. Part of the fulfillment comes with the pleasure of being outdoors, whether on the trail as a hike leader or trekker, or participating in a service trip to restore a trail or natural area. My favorite hikes in Hawai'i have been solo efforts through the Laupahoehoe Natural Area Reserve and the midway crossing at Mana Road towards the summit of Mauna Kea. From such an intimate experience and observation of nature, one can stand witness to the splendor of the living cultural landscape, tempered by the divergent altitudes and sub-climates, all too often laid waste to a large degree by invasive species.

When you fall in love with the outdoors, there is a great likelihood that you'll want to be involved in protecting it. That's the other side of the dual nature, and I suppose we are all pulled by that sense of responsibility sooner or later. Ken Kramer was my first exposure to a Sierra Club leader who wore the balance between advocate and outdoorsman very well. In 1987 we collaborated (he as the Lone Star Chapter Director, and me as the senior aide to the Texas Land Commissioner) on the formation of a unique coalition called Clean Air Texas that proposed and supported passage in 1989 of what was then the nation's strongest clean energy legislative package. Key parts of this legislative package were codified into the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, immortalizing the work of Ken and Clean Air Texas for generations. But, Ken was equally capable as an outdoorsman, reveling in the unique areas of Texas from the Big Bend National Park to the piney woods of East Texas.

For the better part of the past half century in Hawai`i, there probably had been no greater example of this than Lorin Tarr Gill. He was a legendary trekker with an encyclopedia-like knowledge of the flora and fauna throughout the state. I've also heard countless stories of how Lorin never lost the sheer enjoyment of being outdoors, and how he strove to share that passion and knowledge with others, particularly the young, by establishing the Sierra Club High School Hikers and Hawai'i Service Trip Programs. But Lorin kept his balance through his writings and teachings to advocate successfully for the creation of a comprehensive environmental education culture in Hawai'i. He defined the environmental education agenda at the Makiki Environmental Center (now the Hawaii Nature Center) and trained teachers on environmental issues through the Moanalua Gardens Foundation Environmental Education Program.

With the Lorin T. Gill Endowment Fund, the Hawai'i Chapter is attempting to ensure that our Chapter remains appropriately balanced between our dual agenda of enjoying and protecting the outdoors. With the support of our membership and the broader network of those touched by Lorin, we hope this endowment will institutionalize our Chapter's commitment for environmental education and outdoors programs. If we all work together, we can fulfill our goal to perpetuate self-sustaining High School Hikers and Service Trip Programs and to inspire a new generation of outdoor enthusiasts. You can make your contribution to the Lorin T. Gill Endowment Fund by mailing a check to the Sierra Club Foundation, P.O. Box 2577, Honolulu HI 96803. See you on the trail!

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### Sierra Club Honors Lorin T. Gill

by Annette Kaohelaulii

In the 1970's I began hiking the ridges and valleys of Oahu. Soon after, I met Lorin T. Gill and that meeting had a profound effect on my life. Lorin was the inspiration for my own enjoyment of the wondrous natural resources of the Hawaiian environment. His ability to share his enormous store of knowledge and information about the natural world with such ease and enthusiasm drew me into helping the Sierra Club with Lorin's newly formed outing program for young people, the High School Hikers. In conjunction with that program, another program had been formed for college age students to perform service projects, the Hawaii Service Trip Program.

For the next 40 years I led hikes and excursions all over the state of Hawaii for the Sierra Club.

Lorin Gill, who passed away on October 1, 2010, was one of the original members of the Hawaii Chapter. He asked his family to direct all donations upon his death to the Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter.

In the meantime, the Hawaii Chapter Executive Committee had highlighted the need to create a staff

position to coordinate the work of furthering environmental education and conservation efforts in Hawaii. Through this effort, the Chapter hopes to develop more leaders to keep the Sierra Club in the forefront of the environmental scene in Hawaii.

To this end, we applied for a capacity building grant, looked for other grant funding sources and began the process of identifying large donors for this project from among our members.

Former Chapter Chair and Chapter Treasurer Ed Stevens provided a very generous endowment to Hawaii Chapter, which enabled the Hawaii Chapter to hire a full time Director. In late 1998, Jeff Mikulina was hired to provide the services of Chapter Director, Sierra Club lobbyist, spokesman, etc., for the Hawaii Chapter. From that time, the Chapter became the organization the local media and the public went to for help with information on environmental issues.

As the Sierra Club took on more issues and expanded programs, it became obvious that one staff member could not handle all the tasks that a large conservation organization was being asked to handle. Volunteers provided the staffing for our very successful outings programs, and other volunteers provided administrative support to the Chapter and Groups by serving on the Executive Committee, but leaders of the Chapter wanted to do more in the area of education, outings and conservation. It was determined that the Sierra Club needed to enhance efforts to inform the public about the importance of protecting Hawaii's fragile environment. An educated and informed constituency will help overcome the many perils that face the environment such





as inappropriate development, climate change, and ill-advised policy decisions.

The Executive Committee, ever grateful for Lorin's generous contribution would like to take this opportunity to create an endowment in Lorin's name. The endowment would provide the funding for the expansion of the Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter's efforts. At a minimum, we need to have \$100,000 to fund this endowment. Ideally, we would need \$500,000 or more to generate the funds for an additional annual salary for a staff position dedicated to educational efforts

All of us have to have the faith and commitment to see that this endowment happens. Lorin touched so many people's lives during his eighty plus years. Every one who ever went on a Sierra Club outing, or a service trip perhaps unbeknown to them, had the benefit of Lorin's vast storehouse of knowledge about Hawaii's natural history and culture. Those very fortunate hikers and campers who had Lorin himself as leader, and the multitudes of outing leaders who learned from Lorin and went on to share their knowledge of our natural resources and culture, have an incredible opportunity to honor Lorin by funding this endowment in his name.

Each year, the Chapter, the Groups and the activity sections will be conducting fund raising hikes, lectures, silent auctions, and other activities in order to fund the Lorin T. Gill endowment. Please participate or create your own fund raising event, so that the Hawaii Chapter can continue to fund this

endowment and grow our programs. We can use those funds to leverage other donors for additional funds. Our goal is to make this endowment happen sooner, rather than later. We did it with the Ed Stevens Endowment. Let's do it again with the Lorin T. Gill endowment.

Another way to keep the Lorin T Gill Endowment going is to include it in your estate planning. Please contact me for more information on how to do this (Annette Kaohelaulii at annettesadventures@juno.com). I created a scholarship for a student in the University of Hawaii system who would like to study Hawaii's natural resources as a way of expressing my appreciation and thanks to Lorin for his profound influence on my life, and a portion of my trust will go to Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter to further his work.

On behalf of the Sierra Club, I'd like to urge you to send a donation now to help further Lorin's vision of educating all of the children of Hawaii about the importance of our special environment.

Donations may be made out to the Sierra Club Foundation. Include Lorin T. Gill Endowment in the memo line. This donation will be tax deductible.

Please send your donation to Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter, P.O. Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803.



Explore, enjoy and protect the plane

### All Creatures Great and Small



"Every good thing, great and small, needs defense"

- John Muir

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Enclose a check and mail to Sierra Club, P.O. Box 52968, Boulder, CO 80322-2968 or visit our website www.sierraclub.org

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# Hiking with the Master

By Ken Kupchak

Presentation given at the Lorin Gill Celebration of Life, Palama Settlement, Honolulu, on Nov 20, 2010.

Bear with me a moment. In my Lorin-like fanny pack, I brought with me today my trusty Sierra Cup and a bit of what I learned from Lorin, my single malt. Pardon me while I savor it. I thought that he would appreciate me toasting him in the style to which he had become accustomed.

Lorin, I know that you are just around that corner. I am just lightening my load so that I can keep up with you and join you to continue our hike together.

There may not be a Hawaii hiker alive between the ages of Six(6) and Ninety-Six(96) that has not heard the "Word of Gill"--- Today you have already been treated to many of Lorin's progeny.

As a result of Lorin T. Gill's brief passage on this earth, we have all learned to appreciate, first hand, the uniqueness of Hawaii's natural environment.

Lorin was not placed on this earth to work behind a desk or even in an office. He was a hands on, experiential and an in the mist and mud leader. He led from the front. And what a distinctive front it was. Picture it now in your minds eye...

There is probably not be a single one of you that has not seen and does not vividly recall Lorin in what , over the years, I have come to call his "Class "A" uniform.

That's right, from head to toe, everwhere, in practically every kind of weather; there was Lorin in his floppy hat, his light green or blue T-shirt, his light colored shorts and, except on A'a, the true badge of his office, his Asahi Tabi!

Wait, there is more... around his waist, on day hikes, was the ever present fanny pack, in which was always a thin rain jacket, a bottle of water and a bento from his favorite Kalihi okazu.

On over nights, there was also the ever present canister of scotch, preferably single malt, and, after his hands on inspection of what must have been every distillery in Scotland, preferably Talisker.

Pardon me, but Lorin is whispering in my ear that I must drink this single malt before it evaporates.

We have each been there, there being practically anywhere in a Hawaiian native forest, whether it be the trail up Mapulehu, on Molokai, on the way, over land, to Wailau, or just along the short trail to Peacock Flats; where, for instance, Lorin would stop. Over the years, most you probably came to realize that each stop was triggered by his infallible sixth sense. He just knew that some in the group, which he always kept together, was in need of a breather. As a cover for their need, Lorin would use the opportunity for a teaching moment.

For instance, on the way to Peacock Flats, upon gathering the group, he would lift his arm and extend it in the desired direction, all fingers extended and authoritatively pronounce: "Around this corner is the largest Ohia tree on the Island of Oahu." And you just knew that he was absolutely correct.

On blind faith, you knew that he HAD seen EVERY Ohia tree on the Island of Oahu and this was , indeed, the real thing, the BIGGEST OHIA TREE on the Island of Oahu. I know I never doubted it. I also suspect that many of you are now recalling this very same tree.... and you knew it too, although each of us had a few more ohia trees to see before we slept.

Over the years, I also suspect, many of you, on leading a hike on this same trail, would listen for the huffs and puffs as we approached that curve in the trail. We had each had come to realize, that yes, more than a few needed a chance to catch their breath. Gathering the group, we would then raise our arm, extend it toward the point of interest, fingers extended, in the "Gill" manner, and proceed to tell the very same story, verbatim, even though we still had yet to see every Ohia tree on the Island of Oahu. This scene continues to be flawlessly imitated, the sincerest form of flattery, time and time again on practically every trail and classroom in the State.

Speaking of Miles to go before one sleeps, especially if you are following in Lorin's footsteps, perhaps you too will be reminded, when thinking of Lorin's embarkation on this, his last hike, of Walt Whitman's lament, in the immediate aftermath of the assassination of Abraham Lincoln? I urge you to google; Oh Captain , My Captain. Read it silently to yourself. And while you read it let you mind retrace those times of yore and, hopefully, tomorrow, as you follow in the footsteps of Lorin T. Gill.

Wait up, Lorin, I am still admiring that Ohia tree and savoring the single malt—until we meet again.



### Planting Native

by Rick Barboza

**Hao** Rauvolfia sandwicensis

#### Endemic

**Description:** These plants are one of a few native plants related to Plumeria (which is not native). They are gorgeous trees which can reach heights up to 30 ft. but generally are in the 5- 15 ft. range with great looking elliptical leaves that form whorls of up to seven leaves

per node. Each leaf has smooth margins, is bright green with a yellow mid-rib and is about five inches in length. The flowers are very tiny, white and emerge on clusters just like Plumeria and have a fragrance very similar to it; surprisingly they are very easy to smell considering how small they are. Once pollinated, the flowers will form small fruit about ¾ of an inch across which eventually turn dark purple/ black when ripe. The outer bark is a very light tan as is the inner wood which is very hard hence the name "hao" which is also the Hawaiian word for iron or any iron tool. Like the Plumeria, hao also bleeds a milky sap when either leaves or stems are broken.

**Distribution:** This is an uncommon tree most likely found in mesic forests but occasionally lower dry forests on all of the larger islands except Kaho'olawe, although it may have well occurred there in the past.

Landscape Uses and Care: Hao look great anywhere and if more were available I'm sure you would see it more often, its sad that more people are familiar with its non-native cousin the Plumeia. You could plant it as a specimen plant or use it to fill blank spaces, they thrive in full sun to light shade and require minimal watering once established. You can pretty much plant it anywhere you would normally plant a Plumeria. Few pests bother it since most don't like their milky sap. Personally I think this plant is awesome; I love the way it looks as well as the beauty it adds to the landscape

Additional Info: Like I said above, this is one of a few native plants related to Plumeria which



are in the family *Apocynacea*, the other native plants in this family include maile (*Alyxia oliviformis*) which is still faily common; holei (*Ochrosia spp.*) which is very rare; and kaulu (*Pteralyxia spp.*) which is very, very rare.

Rick Barboza co-owns Hui Ku Maoli Ola, a native Hawaiian plant nursery, with Matt Schirman. Contact him at 295-7777

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What Could Be?
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the pertinent parties are working together.

#### No Child Left Inside

Okay, perhaps this title is a bit misleading. Over the past couple of decades, the State of Hawai'i has failed to invest in its recreational areas like our state parks and trails. The Department of Land and Natural Resources recently issued a report sharply condemning the state of Hawai'i's recreational areas. Picture after picture featured run-down conditions. "Signs are dilapidated and don't provide interpretive information about the rich history; a lot of minor repairs and maintenance work is obviously not being done; bathrooms are dirty, trails are rough and narrow; and in many cases no one from the State is there to help people or take care of the mess," said the report.

Recreational areas -- sometimes the only opportunity people have to see the outdoors -- must be maintained in a safe and adequate fashion. If we expect our youth to care about the environment in the future, we have to ensure their experiences are rich and rewarding.

Perhaps this title isn't misleading after all?

#### **Native Plants First**

We have a plethora of amazing native plants that can, and should be, used more effectively in state landscaping. They're a central part of our indigenous culture. And, if tourism is your thing, they help differentiate Hawai'i from other locations.

For example, when visiting the state capitol, shouldn't we see the state flower in our landscaping? Instead of

the "Hula Girl" hybrid hibiscus? When landscaping a public park in Aiea, for example, shouldn't we consider planting the Aiea tree?

We can fix a loophole in our procurement code that requires the use of native plants "whenever feasible." Let's simply require the State to lead by example and ensure our native plants are featured around our state buildings and roads.

#### **CFL Recycling**

CFL bulbs do an exceptional job in reducing our electricity consumption and CO2 production. Hawaii Energy estimates each bulb saves a consumer an average of \$24 and 3.63 gallons of oil.

That being said, each CFL bulb contain small amounts of mercury. Hawai'i could require the reporting of mercury levels (some CFL bulbs are better than others) and require convenient recycling centers on each island. For example, Home Depot currently takes back old CFL bulbs, but what about people who don't live near a Home Depot?

#### Plastic Bag Fee

Plastic bags cost residents in Hawai'i hundreds of thousands of dollars annually and permeate the environment for generations to come. Consider:

- Plastic bags contribute to litter and pose a consistent threat to avian and marine life in Hawai`i -- the endangered species Capitol of the world;
- Plastic bags are manufactured from a nonrenewable, polluting resource (oil);
- Plastic bags contribute to a growing trash problem on all our islands;

- Americans throw away nearly 100 billion plastic bags each year; and
- Only 0.6 percent of plastic bags are recycled.

Two counties, Kaua'i and Maui, have already enacted bans on plastic bags. For those of us that live in less enlightened counties, one way to minimize the use of plastic bags is to ensure the cost of the bag is seen at the front end and not hidden in food costs or property taxes. A nickel fee for each plastic bag creates an incentive to avoid the use of plastic bags and creates a visible economic value for those previously "free" bags. A fee works better than a rebate inasmuch as we're more motivated to avoid the loss of money (regardless of amount) than incentivized by a small reward.

#### No New Coal Plants

While we've come miles in establishing policy directing the development of new renewable energy, we'll only realize a green energy future if we stop building new "dirty" fossil fuel plants. It would be easy to start with prohibiting coal. Approximately 805,000 tons of coal are imported into our state annually. The combustion of coal and other fossil fuels contributes over 23 million tons of climate changing greenhouse gas into our atmosphere annually.

We need to prohibit the development of large, new fossil fuel plants while bringing onboard renewable energy sources. Controversial? It shouldn't be. No one realistically projects Hawai'i's future to lie with coal. New plants will last for at least another forty years. If we're serious about moving to renewable energy, we need to stop building new "dirty" fossil fuel plants.











### **Drifter Dan Photo Submissions**

A couple of months ago, we sent out an email asking for great shots of plastic bags (we call 'em "Drifter Dan") in the wild.

We wanted to use YOUR lens to help advocate for the reduction of plastic bags.

In gallows humor fashion, the submissions have ranged from the humorous (oh deer, anyone?) to the tragic. All will be used to help educate folks and try to make positive change.

Want to submit a photo?
Please visit:
plasticmenace.org.



Nate's Adventures

by Nate Yuen

### Palehua-Palikea in the Clouds

I hiked in the Honouliuli Preserve above Makakilo to look for native plants and animals along the Palehua-Palikea Trail and the spine of the Waianae Moutains (Oʻahu).

After driving up to the communication towers at about 2,700 feet elevation, we reached the start of the Palehua-Palikea Trail — the easiest way to access the southern portion of the Honouliuli Preserve.

The Honouliuli Preserve is home to a number of native snails. We saw a small pupu kuahiwi or *Auricullela ambusta* with an ivory colored shell a little longer and quarter inch long crawling over the woody stems of pilo (*Coprosma longifolia*).



The mists kept the mountain tops cool where ohia lehua (*Metrosideros polymorpha*) shrubs — many of them no bigger than 4 feet tall — grow along the margins of the trail.



Several of the taller ohia lehua trees were in bloom with red flowers. One of the interesting things about the branches of ohia is that they are often covered with mosses and lichens.



Upon closer inspection, we could see a diverse community of mosses and lichen

growing on the surface of the ohia trunk and branches.

One of the more interesting things we saw was a heau tree (*Exocarpus spp.*) in the midst of transition from juvenile to adult. The foliage of heau is distinctive. As the tree matures, the leaves of the plant fall-off leaving just the stems. Full grown trees have only leaf stems which contain chlorophyll and fulfill the role of leaves for the plant.

While making our way down the trail, we saw a number of new rat traps that appear to have been recently deployed. One of the traps had sprung and had killed a rat! Rats are notorious for preying on native snails, eating native plants and seeds, and are a destructive force in the native forest.

We stopped near the top of the Palikea lookout point to admire a native clermontia shrub amidst a grove of ohia trees.

Our explorations continued along the fence and we made our way through ohia trees with hapuu ferns (*cibotium chamissoi*) in the understory. We veered-off the fence line and descended a side-trail to explore a series of side valleys and gullies.



One of the cool things we found was a population of kahuli tree snails (*Achatinella mustelina*) about three-quarters of an inch long that live in trees. While kahuli are

mostly noctural — they sleep on the underside of leaves during the day — they sometimes are active during the day when rainfall drenches the vegetation.



Sure enough — after searching the foliage for quite some time — we found several kahuli crawling about! Snails are moisture loving creatures and relish the moisture from the mist. There is considerable variation in the color and pattern on kahuli shells.

Achatinella snails feed on mold, algae, and fungi that live on the surface of leaves. The snail above finds a leaf just covered with sooty mold and wastes no time grazing on the bounty. After admiring the snails for quite some time we pushed onwards to see what else we might come across in the underbrush.

Daniel found a strange looking native grasshopper in the leaf litter — in the order *Orthoptera* – that had long stretched out legs. This was the first time I had seen this native grasshopper and I wasted no time photographing the odd-looking creature.



During a break in the clouds which gave us a great view of Puuloa (Pearl Harbor) and the surrounding agricultural fields, we descended a small side-ridge and dropped-down into a small side-valley.



While dropping down we came across several ohe mauka (*Tetraplasandra oahuensis*) some of them with flower buds poised to burst into bloom.

One of the most unusual plants we saw was a'e (Zanthoxylum dipetalum) which has leaflets divided into 3 parts with a most unusual pair of smaller leaves in the back.

While exploring the small gully for native plants, we heard the calls of native honey

creeper birds and were thrilled when an amakihi suddenly appeared! Amakihi (*Hemignathus virens chloris*) are the most common of the native forest birds.



The amakihi came even closer — so close that we could clearly see its curved bill! Resting on an iliahi or sandalwood tree (*Santalum freycinetianum*), we were mesmerized for the entire 10 seconds or so while it remained on the branch. Since males are more yellow in color while females are a more olive green, I believe this to be a male amakihi.

Soon it was time to leave and we made our way back up the side ridge to fence line where we returned the way we had come. While making our way back, waves of clouds blew in once again, and then our hike back to our cars was just like how our hike started earlier in the day — in the clouds.

While making our way back down the trail, I reflected on the great time we had seeing kahuli crawling in the vegetation, odd-looking native grasshoppers in the leaf litter, and beautiful amakihi birds in the native forest. What a great hike!

Nathan Yuen is an artist/photographer / naturalist whose body of work is a confluence of hiking, conservation, and fine art photography. Each weekend you can find him hiking, backpacking or kayaking to out-of-the-way locations to photograph Hawaii's native plants and animals, many of which are rare or endangered. His goal is to showcase these biological treasures to give you a reason to protect them for future generations. Nathan has a website at HawaiianForest.Com where you can see his art and read about his adventures.

No O`ahu Group Report this quarter. For more information on the O`ahu Group's activities, please contact Jim Hayes at hayesja@pbworld.com

# Sierra Club Outings Policy

For 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 you: a liter of water (2 liters for strenuous hikes), lunch, sunscreen, insect repellant, rain gear/jacket and day-pack. Boots, shoes with traction grooves (heeled footwear are best; no loafers), or tabis are required. Unless otherwise noted, no bare feet or sandals of any type will be allowed.

You will also need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms or call 415-977-5630.

In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, sometimes participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.



# SIERRA CLUB, OAHU GROUP

### 3- DAY NEIGHBOR ISLAND SERVICE PROJECTS

The cost of the Service Projects is \$85.00 which covers food, accommodation and transportation on the neighbor island. Participants are responsible for their own airfares and will be informed which flights to purchase if they are accepted on the trip. We will work for 2 days and have 1 free day for hiking or other activity. If interested in a trip, please check the Malama or Sierra Club website for leader information or you can contact Deborah Blair at 955-4168 or email: <a href="mailto:deborahblair1@mac.com">deborahblair1@mac.com</a> for information on any of the trips. The trips can fill up early so please contact the leaders early if interested in joining us. Also, the earlier the trips fill up, the cheaper the airfares.

#### Kahaualea Natural Area Reserve



#### **Big Island**

We will be working with NARS (Natural Area Reserve System) clearing a new 5 acre fenced enclosure at the Kahaualea Natural Area Reserve. We will park by Thurston Lava Tube in Volcanoes National Park and then it's a easy 1/2 mile hike to our work site.

The work for the weekend will be eradicating Kahili Ginger and Faya Tree. This is a new and exciting enclosure that we are working on and eventually when it's cleared we will be able to fill it with native endemic plants.

Our accommodation will be at a well equipped house in Hilo at the NARS Base yard.

Trip Dates: March 25-27, 2011
August 19-21, 2011
\*\*These trips require a Thursday night departure.



#### **Haleakala National Park**



#### Maui

Our accommodation for the weekend is Kapalaoa Cabin situated in the center of Haleakala Crater. The work will be eradicating California Telegraph Plant and Plantago.

This trip is for hikers in good physical condition and for those who don't mind "Roughing It". We have a 7 mile hike in via the Sliding Sands Trail and we will exit via the Halemau'u trail. Participants will also have to deal with the elevation. The cabin was built in the 1930's by CCC workers and is very rustic. There is no washroom or shower facilities. There is an outhouse and people will have to live with "horse baths". We do have a 2 burner gas stove top and a wood burning stove to keep warm.

The reward for this service project, if your up to the challenge, is spending the weekend in a very beautiful and fascinating National Park.

Tentative TripD ates: April2 2-24,2 011 October 8-10, 2011



#### Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge



#### Big Island

Hakalau Forest NWR was established in 1985 to protect and manage endangered Hawaiian forest birds and their rain forest habitat. Located on the windward slope of Mauna Kea, the 32, 733 -acre Hakalau forest Unit supports a diversity of native birds and plants equaled by only one or two other areas in the State of Hawaii.

Eight of the 14 native bird species occurring at Hakalau are endangered. Thirteen migratory bird species and 20 introduced species, including eight game birds, as well as the endangered 'ope'ape'a (Hawaiian hoary bat) also frequent the refuge. Twenty-nine rare plant species are known from the refuge and adjacent lands. Twelve are currently listed as endangered. Two endangered lobelias have fewer than five plants known to exist in the wild

Our work at Hakalau usually consists of Nursery work and planting understory plants with ample time for birding.

Trip Date: September 3-5, 2011





# O`ahu Group Outings

### See Page 12 for what to bring and general hiking instructions

Unless otherwise stated in the outing description, participants meet at 8:00 am at the back porch of the Church of the Cross roads, 2510 Bingham Street, Honolulu. Do not leave your car in the church parking lot.

Saturday & Sunday, January 1-2

Palehua Service Project (S/Ć) Leaders and trainees only. Reservations required. Start 2011 with a bang! Work near and stay in the Hokuloa Cabin above Makakilo. Build and clear trails around the cabin and enjoy gorgeous views.

Gwen Sinclair 753-0528

Saturday, January 8

Ala Wai Boat Harbor Cleanup (S)
Meet at 8 a.m. at the Harbor Master's Office,
between the 3rd and 4th row of boats behind the
Ilikai Hotel. Park in street stalls or public lot Ewa
of Hilton lagoon. Wear sturdy shoes with
gripping soles and bring a hat, thick rubber
gloves, sunscreen, and water. Closed toe shoes
only. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Sunday, January 9

Photography Hike: Kamehame Ridge (E/F) 2 mi/Easy/Ridge/Hawaii Kai Reservations required. The pace of photograpy hikes is extremely slow. Beautiful scenery of Hawaii Kai and Waimanalo from top of the Koolau Range. Stan Oka 429-9814, Clyde Kobashigawa 262-9062, John Shimogawa 227-9925

Sunday, January 9

Puu o Hulu Kai (F) 5 mi/Moderate/Ridge/Lualualei Not for those uneasy about heights. It's two steep short climbs to a lunch spot at a pillbox over the breaking surf. Be prepared for hot sun with extra water and skin protection. Bring a swimsuit for a dip in the ocean afterward. Ed Mersino 223-5765, Jean Fujikawa 203-8508

Saturday, January 15

Randy's Loop (F) 6 mi/Moderate/Ridge, valley/Kalihi First time hike for Sierra club. The valley part of this loop is ungraded and wild. Careful attention required. We start at Decorte Park, ascend to the Kapalama Loop Trail and return on a recently cleared ridge with views of Kalihi Valley. Randy Ching 942-0145

Sunday, January 16

Sierra Seminar: James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge (E) 1 mi/Easy/Kahuku Sign up early to secure a space on this morning tour of the James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge in Kahuku. This time of year the refuge is teeming with endangered native Hawaiian water birds and migratory birds who spend the winter months in Hawaii. See bristle-thighed curlews, pintail ducks, ruddy turnstones, plovers and other birds that you can add to your birding list. You will need to sign up early in order to find out time and directions to the meeting place. Call Annette Kaohelaulii at 235-5431 or e-mail to annettesadventures@juno.com to secure a place.

Sunday, January 16

Beginner hike: Hoomaluhia Botanical Garden (F)

Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. Wear closed-toe shoes with good traction. Bring at least one liter of water, a snack and raingear. Sunscreen, a hat, insect repellent recommended. Beginner hikes are for those who have never hiked or have not hiked in a long time. Randy Ching 942-0145, asst. Roxanne Villanueva

Sunday, January 23

Maunawili Trail from the Pali Lookout (F) 8 mi/Moderate/Contour/Maunawili Enjoy lovely views and a relatively easy forest hike on this trail which was built by the Sierra Club and other volunteers. We'll hike halfway then turn around. Sherine Boomla 527-8034

Saturday, January 29

Kuliouou: the Prequel (F) 4 mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Kuliouou Long before the current State trail, there was the HTMC trail (straight up the ridge, no switchbacks). We will hike the "old" trail up to the ironwood grove and take the current trail up to the summit over the newly constructed steps (150 of them!) put in by Sierra Club volunteers. We go back the same way, praying that our knees hold up. Randy Ching 942-0145

Sunday, January 30

Ihiihilauakea Crater (F) 3 mi/Moderate/Ridge/Koko Head We may spot some humpback whales from above as we make our way into a crater to view rare native plants. Stan Oka 429-9814, Clyde Kobashigawa 262-9062, John Shimogawa 227-9925

Sunday, January 30

Kuliouou Valley Late Hike (F)
2 mi/Easy/Valley/Kuliouou
Meet at the Church of the Crossroads at 1:00
p.m. A pleasant stroll on a sometimes rough
trail to a waterfall. We may see native birds.

Jean Fujikawa 203-8508, Gwen Sinclair 753-0528

Saturday, February 5

Queen Kapiolani Gardens Phase 3 Service Project (S)

Reservations required. Join the City's Division of Urban Forestry and the Sierra Club in the third phase of planting a native garden. Meet at Queen Kapiolani Garden (bordered by Monsarrat/Paki/ Leahi Avenues) at 8 a.m. Tools will be provided but you are welcome to bring your favorite digging or pruning tools! Clyde Kobashigawa 262-6092, Stan Oka 429-9814, John Shimogawa 227-9925

Sunday, February 6

Koko Crater Rim Hike (F)
4.5 mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Hawaii Kai
Once in a lifetime hike. Wonderful views
await after a strenuous workout to the top of
Koko Crater. Then with good balance and
some clambering circle the narrow rim.
Finally we use a very steep trail to drop down
into the crater. After that it's a leisurely walk
in the park amongst groves of fragrant and
beautiful plumerias. Not for those scared of
heights! Richard Bailey 723-2213

Beginner hike: Koko Crater Botanical Garden (F)

Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. Wear closed-toe shoes with good traction. Bring at least one liter of water, a snack and raingear. Sunscreen, a hat, insect repellent recommended. Beginner hikes are for those who have never hiked or have not hiked in a long time. Randy Ching 942-0145, asst. Roxanne Villanueva

Sunday, February 6

Sierra Seminar: Palehua-Palikea (E/F) 4 mi/Easy/Ridge/Makakilo Reservations required three weeks prior. Not for those uneasy about heights. Native plants, scenic panoramas, and exquisite tree snails are the attraction in this preserve. Clyde Kobashigawa 262-9062, Stan Oka 429-9814, John Shimogawa 227-9925

Saturday, February 12

MCBH Kaneohe Bay Service Project (S) 2mi/Moderate/Coast/Kaneohe Reservations required. Call Annette Kaohelaulii at 235-5431 by February 10. Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay has an award-winning environmental program. Help clear a wetland of mangrove plants to create habitat for Hawaii's endangered water birds. Because MCBH is a secured military facility, we must provide your name to the base in advance, and we will send you a waiver, which you must bring with you. Deborah Blair 955-4168

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# O`ahu Group Outings

Saturday, February 12

OISC Volunteer Miconia Survey (S) We will be surveying for invasive Miconia calvescens in the Koʻolau Range. The majority of the survey will be conducted off-trail and volunteers will encounter steep, unstable, and highly vegetated terrain. All new volunteers are required to conduct a brief interview before participating and must be in good physical condition.

Take along more water than you think you will need--at least 2 quarts. Wear sunscreen, mosquito repellant, long pants, long sleeves. Due to contamination issues with seeds, OISC will provide footwear and gloves unless specified otherwise. Pack a hearty lunch because we will be working hard! In order to join the work trip, all volunteers must RSVP complete by Thursday, February 10th. E-mail oisc@hawaii.edu or call 292-6691 to RSVP. There is a limit on the amount of volunteers so please sign-up early.

Sunday, February 13

Ka`ena Point Sierra Seminar (E) 6 mi/Moderate/Coast/Mokuleia Reservations required, space limited. We will learn about native coastal plants and animals on this interpretive hike. Possible whale, monk seal, and albatross viewing. The newly installed predator-proof fence is protecting several species in the Natural Area Reserve. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Saturday, February 19

Iliahi Ridge: Australian Tea Removal (S/C) 6 mi/Moderate/Ridge, valley/Pacific Palisades Hike up Manana Ridge for 1.5 miles, then drop into Manana Valley and up to Iliahi (Sandalwood) Ridge. We will remove Australian Tea that is gaining a foothold on the ridge. After lunch, we will head down the ridge and into Manana Valley and back up to Manana Ridge. Bring gloves and tools along with lunch, water and raingear. Ed Mersino 223-5765 or mersino@hawaii.edu.

Saturday, February 19

Photography hike: Lyon Arboretum (E/F) Reservations required. The pace of photography hikes is extremely slow. Meet at the Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. \$5 suggested donation to Lyon Arboretum. Learn about native and tropical plants. Bring raingear and insect repellent. Stan Oka 429-9814, Clyde Kobashigawa 262-6092, John Shimogawa 227-9925

Sunday, February 20

Randy's loop (F) 6 mi/Moderate/Ridge, valley/Kalihi We'll do the January 15 hike in reverse. Randy Ching 942-0145 Sunday, February 27

Sandy Beach Cleanup (S) 1 mi/Easy/Shoreline/East Oahu Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Sandy Beach bathroom at eastern side of beach park. Cleanup along highway and coastal areas until 10:30. Call Tred (394-2898) for information. Bags, gloves provided. Closed toe shoes only. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Sunday, February 27

Kaiwa Ridge (F)
2 mi/Moderate/Ridge/Kailua
Scenic views from Makapuu to Kaneohe. Car
shuttle required. John Shimogawa 227-9925,
Clyde Kobashigawa 262-9062, Stan Oka
429-9814

Sunday, March 6

Moanalua (Kamananui) Valley Middle Ridge (F)

10 mi/Strenuous/Valley, ridge/Moanalua Dare to tread on the stairway to heaven. After a long road walk, climb a steep, narrow, treacherous ridge to reach the Ko'olau Summit Ridge. A short cross over on the overgrown ridge gets us to the top of Haiku Stairs. After that we turn around and return the way we came. Not for those scared of heights or sore legs! Richard Bailey 723-2213, Ed Mersino 223-5765

Beginner hike: Kuliouou Valley (F) Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. Wear closed-toe shoes with good traction. Bring at least one liter of water, a snack and raingear. Sunscreen, a hat, insect repellent recommended. Beginner hikes are for those who have never hiked or have not hiked in a long time. Randy Ching 942-0145, asst. Roxanne Villanueva

Sunday, March 6

Puu Ma`eli`eli (F) 3 mi/Moderate/Ridge/Kahaluu Reservations required. Uphill hike to pillbox overlooking beautiful Kaneohe Bay. Clyde Kobashigawa 262-6092, John Shimogawa 227-9925, Stan Oka 429-9814

Sunday, March 13

Photography hike: Leeward Community College Native Plant Garden (E/F) Reservations required. The pace of photography hikes is extremely slow. Started in the early 1990's, Leeward Community College's native plant gardens contain plants representing dryland, coastal, mesic forest and Polynesian gardens. John Shimogawa 227-9925, Clyde Kobashigawa 262-6092, Stan Oka 429-9814

Sunday, March 13

Kealia (F) 7 mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Mokuleia

We'll switchback up the ridge overlooking Dillingham Airfield and the North Shore until we reach a lookout over Makua Valley, watching gliders, parachutists, and paragliders along the way. Gwen Sinclair 753-0528

Saturday, March 19

Manana Ridge Exotic Eradication & Waimano Pool Hike (S/C/F) 5mi/Moderate/Ridge, valley/Pacific Palisades Hike up the Manana ridge for about 1.5 miles and remove some of the exotic weed trees that are sprouting in a nascent koa forest. After lunch, we will return down the trail and descend steeply to enjoy a waterfall and swimming pool on Waimano Stream. Some steep parts. Bring gloves and tools along with lunch, water and raingear. Ed Mersino 223-5765 or mersino@hawaii.edu.

Sunday, March 20

Kaena Point Sierra Seminar (E) 6 mi/Moderate/Coast/Mokuleia Reservations required, space limited. We will learn about native coastal plants and animals on this interpretive hike. Possible whale, monk seal, and albatross viewing. The newly installed predator-proof fence is protecting several species in the Natural Area Reserve. Colleen Soares 748-9215

Friday - Sunday, March 25-27

Kahaualea Natural Area Reserve Service Project (S)

We'll be working with NARS clearing a new 5 acre fenced enclosure of Kahili ginger and Faya Tree. We'll access the enclosure via Volcanoes National Park where it is an easy half mile hike from Thurston Lava tube to the work site. This will be our second time at this site. It's a great way to see how a new site begins and evolves into a truly native Hawaiian Reserve. We'll see native birds in the ohia forest. Our accommodation will be at a well-equipped house in Hilo at the NARS baseyard. Deborah Blair 955-4168 or deborahblair1@mac.com, Clyde Kobashigawa 262-9062

Sunday, March 27

Kuliouou Ridge: the Sequel (F) 4 mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Kuliouou First came the HTMC trail (the prequel: see January 29). Then came the State Trail: the sequel. Lots of switchbacks and a gentle grade up to the shelter. This popular trail has been markedly improved by the addition of 150 steps recently put in by Sierra Club volunteers. Jean Fujikawa 203-8508

# Kaua'i Group Report

By Carl Imparato and Judy Dalton

Battle Brewing Over Growth on Kaua'i
In 2008 Kaua'i voters approved by a 2:1

In 2008, Kaua'i voters approved, by a 2:1 majority, a citizen-sponsored County Charter amendment that requires the County of Kaua'i to comply with the vision in its General Plan by limiting the growth in tourist accommodations to no more than 1.5% per year. (The Kaua'i Planning Commission had been approving new tourist units at a pace that was 4-6 times the growth rates envisioned in the General Plan.)

The Kaua'i Group was a key member of the coalition that obtained the signatures to place the measure on the ballot and worked for its approval. We recognized that managing the key driver of growth on Kaua'i is the ultimate sustainability issue for the island, as unmanaged growth of the tourist economy would create long-term impacts on traffic, congestion, energy use, waste, groundwater, housing

affordability, infrastructure, parks and beaches, as well as Kauai's rural character and pace of life.

In December, the County Council released its first draft of a bill (Bill 2386) to implement the Charter amendment. The bill is inconsistent with the spirit and the law of the amendment. Among other things, the bill would manipulate the definition of tourist accommodations to create a base that far exceeds the true number of existing units, thereby allowing far more than the amount of growth envisioned in the General Plan and the Charter amendment. The bill also proposes to exempt a large number of potential developments from the annual growth limit. Together, these end-runs around the Charter amendment would make the amendment meaningless.

Bill 2386 will be heard before the Planning Commission and the County Council over the coming months. Kaua'i residents will need to mobilize to ensure that their efforts to bring meaning to the General Plan are not undone by County government.

#### Beach Clean Ups Help Save Marine Life, Ocean and Reefs

Cleaning beaches certainly keeps them looking beautiful, but more importantly, clearing beaches of litter and marine debris protects marine life, the ocean and coral reefs. Sea birds and sea turtles ingest litter and starve when their bellies become clogged with plastic. If washed ashore fishing nets get swept back to sea, they can entangle and drown whales, sea turtles and Monk seals. Please help us pick up litter

and remove fishing nets so they won't pose a threat to marine life. See our Outings page for clean ups.

### Shrimp Farm Requests Permit to Release 30 Million Gallons of Effluent Per Day

The Kaua'i Group presented Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter's comments to the Department of Health on Sunrise Capital, Inc's request for a permit to discharge up to 30 million gallons per day of effluent into the ocean and wetlands for a shrimp farm facility in Kekaha.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) comments on this permit expressed "serious concerns" about the draft permit and identified the need to include federal effluent guidelines. We strongly concur with the EPA to strengthen permit requirements to meet the Clean Water Act goals of protecting recreational uses of our waters.



Sierra Club, Malama Maha'ulepu, and Surfrider volunteers after cutting through a large pile of washed ashore fishing nets at Maha'ulepu. These nets won't make their way back to sea to entangle marine life or damage coral reefs. Photo by Jeff Vesci

# Kaua'i Group Outings

Join us on one of these great outings to explore, enjoy and care for our island. Mileage is round trip unless otherwise indicated. Requested donation for members and participants under 18:\$1. Donation for others: \$5. Outings Classifications: (C) Conservation/Interpretive (E) Educational (F) Family/Fun (S) Service. For more information check our website: www.hi.sierrclub.org/kauai

**Sun. Jan 9** Waipo'o Falls (Waimea Canyon) 4 Miles moderately strenuous (C/E/F) Great views not available from the roadside overlooks. Picnic at a lovely ginger pool Allan Rachap 212-3108

**Sat. Jan 15** Morning catamaran sail along the coast from Poipu to Kipu Kai to see the wild Maha'ulepu coastline; Hawaiian dolphins and Humpback whales. Funds help Malama Maha'ulepu preserve the coastal region. (C/E/F) To make a reservation, email: Judy Dalton <a href="mailto:dalton@aloha.net">dalton@aloha.net</a>>

Sun. Jan 16 Maha'ulepu Sunset to Moonlight walk. South Shore/Moderate 4 miles. (C/E/F) Enjoy an incredible coastal hike starting at Shipwreck Beach ending with a nearly full moon glistening on the ocean. See Humpback whales this time of year. Car shuttle for a one-way hike. Bill Snyder 652-1718

Mon. Jan 17 - Martin Luther King, Jr's birthday. Beach Clean Up. Sierra Club and Surfrider collaborate to clear the beach of discarded fishing nets on the beach by Kamalani Playground. (C/S) South of Wailua Bridge turn makai onto Leho Dirve toward Lydgate Beach Park. Drive beyond Kaha Lani condos to Kamalani Park. Look for organizations' banners. Clean up: 9am – 12 noon. Refreshments. Judy Dalton 246-9067

**Tues. Jan 18** National Tropical Botanical Gardens Full Moon Walk.(S/C/E) South Side/Moderate/2 miles. Hike and learn about propagation of native plants in lovely gardens, plus volunteer service. Sierra Club

members only. NTGB requires a minimum of 10 days advanced reservations. Bob Nishek 346-0476

Sat. Jan 22 Ili'ili'ula Jungle Trail / Strenuous/ East side/7.5 miles. (E/F) North Wailua ditch system trail to the upcountry weir on the Ili'ili'ula Stream. Bob Greene 245-9280

Sun. Jan 23 Okolehao/Northshore/ Strenuous/4 miles. (E) We'll enjoy late afternoon views from a trail climbs 1200 feet along a ridge overlooking Hanalei Bay and the North Shore. Kathy Valier 826-7302 and Frank Whitman.

**Sat. Jan 29** Black Pipe Loop Hike. Koke'e. Strenuous 6 miles. Begin at the head of Waimea Canyon overlooking the canyon cliffs through a lush tropical forest of koa, ohia and oak. Bob Greene 245-9280

**Sat. Feb 5** Kealia Beach Clean up and Walk. Eastside/Easy/1 mile. (S/F) Afterwards, we'll take a walk along the newly cleaned beach. Karen Tilley 821-8008

**Sat. Feb 12** Kuilau Ridge Trail. (C/F) East side/moderate/3 miles. Lush mountain and sweeping valley views. Great reward for moderate effort. Denny Jackson and Erica Watson 647-0727

**Sun. Feb 13** Kealia Coast Walk. East side/ Easy/3 Miles. (F/E) Leisurely stroll starting in the late afternoon from Kealia to Donkey Beach returning by sunset and moonlight. Kathy Valier 826-7302.

**Tues. Feb 15** Waimea Canyon Road Clean Up/Easy/ 2 miles. (S) Afternoon clean up of Sierra Club's adopted highway requires a little over an hour. Please help keep the gateway to Waimea Canyon litter-free. Bob Nishek 346-0476

**Sun. Feb 20** Nonou (Sleeping Giant)/East Side/6 miles/moderately strenuous. (C/F) Hike up one trail and down another to see it

all. Fantastic views, and incredible vegetation. Allan Rachap 212-3108

Sat. Feb 26 Kauaikinana Ditch Trail/ Kumuela Loop Koke'e/West side/ Moderate/4 mile loop. (E/F) Extraodinary view of Po`omau Canyon & spectacular water falls. Bob Greene 245-9280 and Frank Whitman.

Sun. Feb 27 Hanama'ulu Beach Clean Up. (C/S) East Shore. Help protect marine life, the reef and ocean from litter and fishing net entanglement. Sierra Club and Surfrider team up for this effort. Look for organizations' banners at Hanama'ulu Beach Park. 9am to 12 noon. Refreshments. Judy Dalton 246-9067

**Sun. Mar 6** Awa`awapuhi Trail/Koke`e/ Strenuous/6.5 miles. (E) A hike through native forest to spectacular views into Nu'alolo and 'Awa'awapuhi Valleys. 1600foot elevation gain on return trip. Kathy Valier 826-7302.

**Sun. Mar 13** Maha'ulepu/South Shore/ Moderate/3 Miles (C/E/F) Spectacular coastal walk with stunning views each step of the way! See Humpback whales this time of year. Car shuttle for a one-way hike. Allan Rachap 212-3108

Thurs. Mar 17 Nonou (Sleeping Giant) Conservation Service Project. (C/S) East Side/strenuous/4 miles. Tend to endangered native plants in their habitat and enjoy a full moon walk. Sierra Club members only. Bob Nishek 346-0476

**Sat. Mar 19** Berry Flat Trail / Koke'e. (C/F) Moderate / 3.5 miles. Lovely forested hike with sugi pine and redwood groves. Denny Jackson and Erica Watson 647-0727

**Sat. Mar 26** Kohua Ridge Trail/ Koke'e/ Strenuous 3 miles. (E/F) Dazzling views of Waimea Canyon from the other side that few people ever see; plus stunning views of Koai'e and Po'omau Canyons. Bob Greene 245-9280 and Frank Whitman.

Key: D=distance, 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

# Maui Group Report

For the complete Maui Group Newsletter, please go to www.mauisierraclub.org and click on "Newsletters" and for the latest on hikes and activities, please click on "Hikes and Activities."

### UPDATES ON MAUI CONSERVATION ISSUES

Ma'alaea Harbor Expansion: Still waiting for Ma'alaea harbor consultation meetings with Army Corps of Engineers. State plans to repair bathrooms and other harbor facilities, that completed environmental review five years ago, may be beginning in 2011.

#### North Shore Heritage Park & Hookipa

**Expansion:** Routes for the proposed Paia Reliever Road are still being discussed as part of the environmental review process. The council is expected to review the area in Maui Island Plan maps in 2011.

East Maui Streams: Several East Maui community groups are asking Water Commission staff to complete actual restoration of water levels that were specified in the September 2008 stream flow agreement. Community groups continue efforts to create a watershed management plan to provide more water security for their area.

Na Wai Eha Stream Restoration: Stream water users in Na Wai Eha will have their permit requests reviewed by the Water Commission this month at a meeting in Pa'ia. All users, from large ag operations to small farmers will need to demonstrate that they have a use for the amounts that are being requested. Many kuleana water users (native Hawaiian families with water rights reaching back to the Mahele or before) have chosen not to apply for permits, feeling that the law already protects their rights.

#### Water Use and Development Plan (WUDP):

Review of the draft WUDP for Central Maui will continue in the Council's Water Resources

Committee. The Water Resource committee meets at 9:00 am on the Tuesday prior to the first and the third Friday of each month. Check county website to confirm. WUDP is posted at <a href="https://www.co.maui.hi.us/index.aspx?NID=213">www.co.maui.hi.us/index.aspx?NID=213</a>.

Hamakuapoko Wells: The two low elevation wells inland of Hookipa beach have been suggested for cane irrigation. Currently, they are not allowed to be used for domestic or ag water due to elevated levels of agricultural chemicals DBCP, EDP and TCP which require filtration systems to remove. It does not appear that the wells have been re-tested since 2005.

Sustainable Ag: To address the needs of an aging farmer population, Section 7410 of the Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (Pub .L. No. 110-234) amended Section 7405 of the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 and made available in Fiscal Year 2009, \$17.2 million to fund a Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program (BFRDP). A beginning farm is one that is operated by one or more operators who have 10 years or less of experience operating a farm or ranch. In 2007, approximately 21 percent of family farms met that definition. For further information see: <a href="www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/bfrdp/bfrdp.html">www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/bfrdp/bfrdp.html</a>.

Renewable Energy: Hawai`i's largest electricity company, HECO, has been given permission to burn 2.56 million gallons of palm oil in two large power stations for a 'test phase' - and they want to burn far more after that. HECO's so-called 'clean energy' will likely result in more deforestation and land-grabbing in Southeast Asia and West Africa, and more climate change. Please go to: <a href="https://www.rainforest-rescue.org">www.rainforest-rescue.org</a> for more info. Consider signing the action alert to policy makers in Hawai`i, requesting that they withdraw permission for HECO to burn palm oil or other agrofuels.

Big Island Fish Farm Proposal: In September of this year Hawaiian Oceanic Technology, Inc. asked the Army Corps of Engineers to halt review of their project proposal to deploy twelve 165' X 165' Oceansphere cages to raise Ahi off the North Kohala coast of the Big Island. Ponoaqua alliance and 300 commenters asking the Corps to hold public hearings before making any decision, are hailing the permit withdrawal as a victory. Now, HOTI staff are making public presentations about the virtues of farmed Ahi. Members of the Pono Aquaculture Alliance can keep you up to date on the project which proposed to export 90% of the 12 million lbs of tuna it hopes to farm in Hawaiian waters. For more information, go to: www.ponoaqua.org.

Regulation of Aquarium Fish: Maui County Council passed the "Aquatic Life Animal Control Bill" on August 24, setting stringent permit requirements on aquarium collecting, for the first time in Hawaii. A companion bill is being considered in the last weeks of this year's council session.

Wastewater Injection Wells: Maui Group continues to work with the DIRE (Don't Inject, REdirect) coalition to find solutions to funding for county upgrades for sewage treatment and delivery systems for treated water. Consultations with state and federal authorities are ongoing.

Waiale Development in Central Maui: Maui Group submitted extensive comments on the proposed 2,500 unit housing development proposed for the remnant sand dunes between Maui Lani and the community of Waikapu. Nearly 100 burials have already been disturbed at the site, and the minimal preservation areas offered are likely to put other unknown burials at risk. The project is seeking a State Land Use commission boundary reclassification from Ag to Urban.

Haleakala Solar Telescope (ATST): Kilakila Haleakala and other citizen groups, represented by Native Hawaiian Legal Corp, have requested a contested case on the permit at the Land Board hearing for the 14 story high Telescope, alleging that the permit did not follow laws governing protection of conservation lands. Please donate to legal expenses at: <a href="https://www.kilakilahaleakala.org">www.kilakilahaleakala.org</a>.

Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary: The Sanctuary management plan update team is collating numerous comments to begin the update process. MG is advocating for increased regulation of discharges as recently implemented at Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. Check out the Maui plan: <a href="https://www.hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov/management/management\_plan\_review.html">www.hawaiihumpbackwhale.noaa.gov/management/management\_plan\_review.html</a>,>

Honolua Bay Development: Cleanups, plantings, reef monitoring and educational events are ongoing at this popular Bay. For updates, go to: <a href="https://www.savehonolua.org">www.savehonolua.org</a> or contact Les Potts: <a href="mailto:lespotts@msn.com">lespotts@msn.com</a>.

Wailea 670: MG continues to advocate for a 130 acre preserve in the southern portion of Wailea 670 to protect numerous cultural sites, extensive Wiliwili groves that have survived wasp attacks, the endangered Blackburn Sphinx Moth and 24 species of native plants. The preserve is supported by US Fish and Wildlife Service scientists. The landowners have proposed a 22 acre preserve and scattered "enhancement" areas.

Makena Resort Rezoning: A hui of former investors and local developers purchased the 1,800 acre Makena Resort holding for around \$55 million a few months ago. It is expected that they will make their plans for the resort more public in the year ahead. MG will continue to monitor plans for this environmentally and culturally important area.

#### Makena State Park (Big Beach) Master Plan:

Oneloa Coalition, a stakeholders group formed as a result of Makena Resort rezoning conditions, has had its first meeting with representatives of the resort's new owners. All agreed to work towards completion of studies needed for the park master plan.

# Maui Group Outings

#### See Page 12 for General Outings Information

A donation of \$5 (\$3 for Sierra Club members) is requested of hikers over age 14. Pre-registration is required for some hikes. Call the hike leader number shown below. Also, please check our web site, www.mauisierraclub.org, and click on Hikes and Activities for additional hikes and outings and/or changes which we have added after this newsletter was published. Mahalo!

#### JANUARY HIKES AND ACTIVITIES

#### Saturday, January 15, 8:30 am to noon:

Community Work Day: Aloha Aina Cleanup! To volunteer, please call CWD at 877-2524 for the cleanup nearest you. For more information and future cleanups, please go to: <a href="www.facebook.com/communityworkday">www.facebook.com/communityworkday</a> or <a href="www.cwdhawaii.org">www.cwdhawaii.org</a>. This is not a Sierra Club activity.

Monday, January 17: Ma'alaea petroglyphs hike. Explore one of Maui's largest collections of petroglyphs (native Hawaiian picture symbols chiseled into rock) and learn about the history of the Ma'alaea area. Meet 9am at Ma'alaea harbor parking lot in front of Buzz's Wharf. Sturdy shoes and long pants recommended. Limit 18. (E) (C) D= 2 to 3 miles RT, some steep uphill. Register w/ Lucienne de Naie, laluz@maui.net or 214-0147.

Saturday, January 22: South Kihei Historical Hike in association with South Maui Sustainability. Explore the traditional ahupua'a of Kamaole and visit Hawaiian cultural sites hidden away in housing developments, as well as along the shoreline trail. Sturdy footwear, please. Meet 8am at Kihei boat ramp upper parking lot. Hike ends around 11 am. Register w/ Lucienne de Naie, laluz@maui.net or 214-0147. (E) (C) D= 2 miles RT, mostly moderate grades.

Thursday, January 27, 5:30 to 7:30 pm: Maui Sierra Club Board of Directors meeting upstairs at Flatbread Pizza in Paia. Sierra Club members are invited to attend and share their ideas. Please email Karen Chun at

<u>Karen@RedwoodGames.com</u> to confirm meeting time and place and to add any agenda items you would like to discuss.

Saturday, January 29: Maui Coastal Land Trust 10th Annual "Buy Back the Beach" Benefit Lu'au. Ten years ago, land conservation was just a dream for our newly-formed non-profit. Today we have preserved over 14,000 acres in Maui County. With your help, we can do so much more, protecting valuable lands across the entire State! We invite you to join us at our 10th Annual "Buy Back the Beach" benefit Lu'au. For more information please visit

www.mauicoastallandtrust.org or call 244-5263. Mahalo!

#### FEBRUARY HIKES AND ACTIVITIES

Saturday, February 5: Maui Group Annual meeting. Time 11am to 3 pm. Special awards will be presented. Main dish provided. Please bring side dishes for a great picnic lunch. Theme: Protecting Our Natural and Cultural Resources. Special Guest speakers will be State and County officials charged with resource management and protection. Admission is free. To get an email reminder about our annual meeting with all details, please go to our web page <a href="https://www.mauisierraclub.org">www.mauisierraclub.org</a> and click on "Join Our Email List" in left column of our home page.

Monday, February 7: South Maui historical hike 8 am to noon. Palauea to Makena Landing. Follow old roads and trails as much as possible, visit secluded coves and learn about the traditional fishing and farming communities along the shoreline of what today is an exclusive resort community. Limit 15. Meet 8 am at Polo Beach Parking lot. Register w/ Lucienne de Naie, laluz@maui.net or 214-0147. (E) (C) D= 4 miles RT, some narrow rocky sections along coast. Some uphill.

Saturday, February 19: Maui's Whale Day Celebration sponsored by the Pacific Whale Foundation. 10 am to 5 pm at Kalama Park on South Kihei Road (by the big whale statue). The Sierra Club will have an information booth in "Eco-Alley." Come enjoy and talk story. Free admission. This is not a Sierra Club activity.

Thursday, February 24, 5:30 to 7:30 pm: Maui Sierra Club Board of Directors meeting upstairs at Flatbread Pizza in Paia. Sierra Club members are invited to attend and share their ideas. Please email Karen Chun at

<u>Karen@RedwoodGames.com</u> to confirm meeting time and place and to add any agenda items you would like to discuss.

**Saturday, February 26:** Pali Trail Hike. Hike to the top of the Pali above Maalea. Spectacular views of whales, ocean, mountains and the Kaheawa wind farm. We have lunch at the top

and then walk back down the same way we came up. This is the same trail ancient Hawaiians walked to get from Lahaina to Wailuku. It rises from sea level to 1,500 feet and is 6 miles round trip. Bring lunch, water, sunscreen and camera. Meet 9:00 am at Pali trailhead (Lahaina side of tunnel just as the Honoapiilani Highway comes down to sea level at mile marker 10.8). Please call hike leader Mitch Skaggerberg at 875-4970 to register. Limit 18. (C) (E) D = 6 miles all day

#### MARCH HIKES AND ACTIVITIES

Saturday, March 5: Haiku Ho'olaulea and Flower Festival. Free admission! Music, food, contests, auction, farmer's market, historical display & family fun!! Check out the Sierra Club PLANT SALE booth in the Farmer's Market! 9 am-3:30 pm, Haiku Community Center on Hana Highway. Plant sale help needed. We need donated plants as well as volunteers to work at the event. Start your keiki plants now! Please call Lucienne de Naie for information about how to donate plants and to volunteer at 214-0147.

Friday, March 11: Ulupalakua to Kaupo tour. 9am-3pm. Carpool along this scenic drive with several stops to hike about and view native plant life and historic and cultural sites. Meet 9 am across from Grandma's coffee house in Keokea. Stops include: Sun Yat Sen cemetery, Ulupalakua ranch, Kahikinui, Manawainui Gulch, Nu'u and Kaupo/Mokulau. Limit 20. Register w/ Lucienne de Naie, laluz@maui.net or 214-0147. (E) (C) D= 30 miles each way.

Thursday, March 24, 5:30 to 7:30 pm: Maui Sierra Club Board of Directors meeting upstairs at Flatbread Pizza in Paia. Sierra Club members are invited to attend and share their ideas. Please email Karen Chun at

<u>Karen@RedwoodGames.com</u> to confirm meeting time and place and to add any agenda items you would like to discuss.

Sunday, March 27: 9 am to 1 pm. Huelo watershed hike on private lands. Travel the old Kings highway between Huelo and Hanawana valleys. Sites include remnants of Claus Spreckel's ditch system, streams and spectacular coastal views from overlooks. Wear shoes with good traction in water or mud. Bring lunch or snacks. Meet 9 am at top of Door of Faith Rd in Huelo. Limit 15. Register w/ Lucienne de Naie, laluz@maui.net or 214-0147. (E) (C) D= 5 miles R/T

Key: D=distance, 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

# Moku Loa Group Report

#### **CHAIR REPORT**

BY NELSON HO

Season's Greetings! Moku Loa Group's recent Annual Member's Meeting was made somewhat soggy with much wanted rain. It helped break a multiyear drought that turned much of the island brown and that night brought in a new crop of leaders to the executive committee. Maile Larrish is the newest and youngest member while Deborah Ward returns after a few years off from holding practically every position in the excom. Janice Crowl was the third new member of our leadership and a conflict in her schedule prevented her attendance this year. Jon Olson, stalwart of the Conservation Committee, just missed out in the voting but enjoyed the evening's camaraderie. We thank Richard Ha for throwing his hat in the ring. We see he is

in the running for Senator Russell Kokubun's vacated seat (who is selected to be Gov. Abercrombie's new Dept. of Agriculture Director).

Moku Loa Group is still firmly committed to advocating for the protection of Mauna Kea. Some residents and members see our analysis of the university's management plans and telescope proposals as antiscience and anti-astronomy. We continue to join with Hawaiian cultural practitioners and activists in demanding proper land management policies. We look forward to the change in leadership of DLNR and the Legislature in this arena. It looks like the Thirty Meter Telescope will hit the DLNR agenda in February, 2011. Stay tuned. Moku Loa Group is looking forward to a vigorous 2011. Mahalo for being a Sierra Club member.

### Shoreline Buffer Zone could protect 98 miles of coastline on Hawaii Island

ву Деввіе Неснт

On December 11th the Democratic Party's Environmental Caucus voted to support a 2,000 foot coastline buffer zone on all state owned lands on Hawaii Island. Representative Denny Coffman will be presenting this legislation. This 2,000 foot setback from the ocean would protect the Ala Kahakai National Historic Trail, numerous cultural sites, coastline access, the reefs and fishing from sedimentation from grubbing and grading. A parallel trail along the 175 mile Ala Kahakai Trail could be built to provide recreation for residents and visitors. For more information (and a map) or to get involved go to www.dhecht.com or call Debbie Hecht 989-3222.

Featured: Carl Pope and Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers.

This photo was taken at the celebration of Carl Pope's 18 years of Service as the Executive Director of The Sierra Club. He is now the Chairman of the board. The reception was held in May 2010 in San Francisco.

Michael Brune has taken over as the new Executive Director. More information about him can be found at: www.sierraclub.org/ed/



# Moku Loa Outings

#### Moku Loa Group Outings Information

#### See Page 12 for All Outings Information

Donation for non-members is \$3.00. Participants under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

Sunday, Jan 2 - Onomea Bay **Dayhike** (E)(C)(F) D = 2 miles, E = 200' +/- sea level, Explore a coastal tropical rainforest, and along a scenic shoreline with streams and waterfalls. Expect to get feet wet crossing streams. Wear sturdy shoes, water and a snack. Leaders Michael and Sunny LaPlante 964-5017

Saturday - Monday, January 17-19 NARS Service Project in Kulani **Prison Area -** Opportunity to work and hike in newly acquired NARS addition to Pu'u Maka'ala. Work on fencing or ginger removal. Monday will be a hiking tour of high quality montane forest. We will have use of a house at DLNR baseyard in Hilo for those from the West side. Dinners and breakfasts are potluck. Transportation to be provided. Leader Diane Ware 967-8642.

Ledge in Volcanoes National Park Native Forest Nature Trail (F)(E)  $(E)(F) D = 7.5 \text{ miles}, E = +/-1000', (C) D = 1 \text{ miles}, E = 2250', Bring}$ Hike from the Volcano House to the family along on an interpretive Byron's Ledge then on to nature hike. Devastation Trail and loop back. through the Hawaiian rain forest Contact leader Roxanne Lawson where you will learn about many 965-8002

Okoe Bay (F)(E)(C) D = 6 miles, E available for lunch after the hike. = sea level, This hike will start at the Trail may be muddy; wear sturdy fishing village of Miloli'i in South shoes. Bring water, lunch, mosquito Kona. We will stop at the beautiful repellant. Limited to 15 people. bays of Honomalino and Okoe. The Contact leaders Linda Larish trip is over ancient trail and a 4x4 966-6337, Sarah Moon 935-3475 drive road. Swimming will be at your own risk. No lifeguard will be Saturday, March 14 - Hike/Bike provided. Hikers need to bring the Hawaii Volcanoes National Park following: hat, sunglasses, sunscreen, (E)(C) D = 15 miles, E = =/- 1000', lunch, 2-3 quarts of water; and wear Spend a day in the park hiking 8.5 sturdy boots or shoes (no sandals). miles on the Na'ulu Trail to the Contact leaders Sarah Moon Mauna Ulu parking area and then 935-3475 and Roxanne Lawson we will bike downhill 7 miles to the 965-8002

Sunday, March 6 - South Point **Day Hike** - (E) D = 4 miles, E = sea level, This rough up and down over sand and lava hike (No trail for the most part) from Kaulana boat ramp to the broken road boat ramp along the coast (hot and dry - no shade) is part of the proposed National Historic Trail, the Ala Kahakai. The hike will pass the southernmost tip of the island and go by the Kalaea Heiau and the fishing hoist cliffs. Bring hat, hiking stick, lunch, camera, binoculars and wear sturdy boots or shoes. Contact leaders Rich Vogler 328-8387, Diane Ware 967-8642

Saturday, January 22 - Byron's Saturday, March 26 - Kalopa Enjoy a short walk native plants and possibly native

birds. An interpretive guidebook is Saturday, February 26 - Milolii to provided and picnic grounds are

> cars at Kealakomo. This adventurous outing requires helmet/pump for bicycling plus normal hiking gear. Leaders Diane Ware 967-8642 and Roxanne Lawson 965-8002

Saturday, Apr 23, - Historic **Downtown Hilo Walk** -(F)(E)(C)D = 2 miles, E = sea level, Stroll around Downtown Hilo and discover historic sites and buildings from the time of the Hawaiian Monarchy to the present. Wear sturdy walking shoes. Size limited. Call leaders for more information. Sarah Moon 935-3475 and Rich Vogler 328-8387

Key: D=distance, 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

## **HECO Continues to Push Palm Oil**

By Rob Parsons and Lance Holter

In early 2007, Hawaiian Electric Co. and subsidiary Maui Electric Co. announced plans by BlueEarth Biofuels to construct a mega-sized palm oil refinery on Maui, which would have been the largest in the world. Since that time, several respected Hawaii environmental and cultural groups have raised a red flag against the idea of importing Malaysian palm oil to Hawaii.

Sierra Club-Maui, Maui Tomorrow Foundation and several Oahu organizations stated that merely replacing one imported fuel with another does nothing for our energy security, local economy or sustainability. In fact, the cultivation of palm oil results in wide-ranging impacts of devastation to rain forest habitats through slash-and-burn clearing, which releases more carbon into the atmosphere than any reductions in HECO's or MECO's smokestack emissions.

Undaunted by criticism that palm oil imported from Southeast Asia can never be sustainable, HECO forged an alliance with the Natural Resources Defense Council and concocted sustainability standards for imported biofuels. The idea was soundly criticized during a round of community meetings held on three islands and at Public Utility Commission hearings.

Despite turning down a biodiesel importation docket in 2008-09, the PUC last June approved HECO's request to import 2.5 million gallons of palm oil from Southeast Asia for testing on Oahu and at MECO's Maalaea power plant.

Tests are not needed. MECO already knows that biodiesel is cleaner burning, since it has contracted with Pacific Biodiesel for years to provide locally recycled vegetable oil biodiesel for generator startups to meet Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Health emissions standards.

HECO claims that palm oil represents a bridge to the future, hoping that agricultural entrepreneurs might begin producing oil crops locally for conversion to biodiesel. But, that same reasoning was used in 2006 when Hawaii mandated 10 percent ethanol in our gasoline. To date, no one has produced ethanol commercially in Hawaii. We import all our ethanol from the Mainland - where it is federally subsidized - and from Brazil.

The bridge to the future referred to by HECO's spokesman would be a grim future indeed for diminishing rain forests, endangered orangutans and hundreds of other mammals, plants,

insects, as cited in a November 2008 National Geographic cover story.

It may take years for any oil crops planted in Hawaii today to mature and produce. Furthermore, the 2006 "Biodiesel Crop Implementation In Hawaii" report indicates that even if all the available agricultural acreage in Hawaii were planted to fuel crops, it wouldn't come close to fulfilling our energy needs. It makes far more sense to utilize any locally produced biodiesel for transportation fuel and to move away from burning imported fuels for electricity. Wind, solar and wave energy are viable alternatives.

Yet, we now have learned that HECO has formed a nonprofit advocacy group, Hawaii Biofuel Foundation, which will conduct statewide meetings in December to present the Roundtable for Sustainable Biofuels Standard for Hawaii. It has the appearance of another exercise to allow HECO and MECO to continue foot-dragging and obstruction of efforts to integrate more local renewables and to promote proved energy conservation and efficiency efforts.

Hawaii environmental groups are partnering with the international organization Rainforest-Rescue.org to spread the news of HECO's ill-conceived palm oil importation plan across the globe. More than 17,000 people have added their names to protest the action. Their concerns will be conveyed to HECO, MECO, Hawaii's elected leaders, the PUC and NRDC.

Will you add your voice to speak for a better Hawaii energy future to reduce our foreign dependency, to keep our energy dollars here at home and to provide well-paying energy jobs in Hawaii?

- Rob Parsons is the conservation chairman for Sierra Club-Maui, vice president of Maui Tomorrow Foundation and has served on the Greenhouse Gas and Carbon Emissions Working Group of the Maui County Energy Alliance.
- Lance Holter is chairman of Sierra Club-Maui and a Maui Tomorrow board member.

Want to receive your Malama electronically? Visit <a href="https://www.sierraclubhawaii.com">www.sierraclubhawaii.com</a> and click on the "newsletter" link at the top. The form will appear on the left side of the page.

# Chapter Directory



"To explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives."

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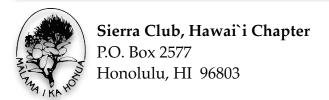
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Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter

January - March 2011

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