



MĀLAMA I KA HONUA

Cherish The Earth

JOURNAL OF THE HAWAII CHAPTER SIERRA CLUB

VOLUME 33 • NUMBER 3

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2001

Committed to the Coast

Sierra Club is Keeping it Wild!

We all know of the magic that occurs where the ocean crashes into Hawaii's wild coastlines. It's where we surf, swim, play, fish, get inspired, or just experience the raw beauty that makes these islands so special. We also know that more of our undeveloped coastline is vanishing to make room for luxury subdivisions, new resorts, golf courses, and second (or third) homes. That's why the Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter is committed to Malama Kahakai, or "Keep it Wild!" With Sierra Club volunteers and activists advocating for our wild coastlines in Congress, the State Capitol, and County Governments, the Sierra Club recently had several important victories in the campaign. These successes include proposals for appropriations to acquire land, regulatory actions to prohibit inappropriate development, and resolutions from legislative bodies supporting protection of coastal lands.

Currently, the Sierra Club is helping obtain a \$1.8 million Congressional appropriation for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (US FWS) to purchase the land at the James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge, located near Kahuku on Oahu's North Shore, and an additional 160 acres adjacent to the existing Refuge. The US FWS currently leases this land from the Campbell Estate and the appropriation would allow the agency to acquire the land and preserve one of the few remaining wild coastal areas on Oahu. The US FWS currently manages this land as wetland habitat for four endangered native waterbirds: the coot ('ālae ke'oke'o), black-necked stilt (ae'o), koloa duck (koloa maoli), and common moorhen ('ālae 'ula). With the immense loss of wetlands on Oahu, this land is particularly valuable as habitat for these endangered species. Furthermore, protection of this wild coastal land will preserve one of the few remaining coastal dune ecosystems in the state as well as the excellent fishing and surfing opportunity.

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photo Michael Kanouff

Maui's Wild Coastline

Progress at the Capitol

The 2001 legislature surprised many by tackling some bold environmental initiatives. Measures to encourage renewable energy use, increase penalties for environmental violations, help ensure appropriate permitting on the land board all won approval, while efforts to weaken our public input process and allow more sprawl on agricultural lands were solidly put down. What's more, lawmakers came close to approving the use of the hotel room tax for Hawaii's state parks and passing a bottle-deposit law—the underdog bill of the year.

Sure, in the midst of the teacher strike, privatization bills, and other high-profile battles, the environment didn't occupy much of the political discourse over the session. But behind the scenes, it is clear Hawaii's environment wasn't going to be ignored.

Why?

First, the 2000 elections shook out some of lawmakers

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The Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter, is Hawaii's largest grassroots environmental advocacy organization
INSIDE: Bush energy plan a bust • Maui Water drain • Critical Habitat • Protecting Ag

Deadline for next *Malama* September 1, 2001

SIERRA CLUB HAWAII CHAPTER

MĀLAMA I KA HONUA

Malama is published quarterly by volunteer members of the Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter. Non-member subscriptions are \$7 per year. To subscribe, send \$7 to:

Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter
P.O. Box 2577
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96803

Circulation for
Apr - June 2001 issue:
4,200 copies

ADVERTISING RATES

	1x	2x	4x
Full Page:	\$350	315	280
Half Page:	250	225	200
1/4 Page:	110	99	88
1/8 Page:	60	54	48
Bus. Cards:	50	45	40

Malama only accepts political advertisements from candidates endorsed by the Hawai'i Chapter

Editor:
Jeffrey Mikulina

Printed by Hawaii Hochi

Postal Note: The *Malama i ka Honua* is published four times a year by the Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter.

UPDATED WEBSITE

Check out the Hawai'i Chapter's updated website at www.hi.sierraclub.org

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.

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A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRWOMAN

As the new Hawai'i Chapter Chair, I would like to extend my sincere MAHALO to David Frankel for his selfless work as Chapter Chair. He is still diligently working on other campaigns for the Sierra Club and I will not try to fill his shoes. My expertise lies with Environmental Education—I am a lecturer at Hawaii Community College in Hilo, and have served as both Outings Chair and Group Chair for the Moku Loa Group. I consider my strengths to be in organization and facilitation of events and issues. Recently I attended the Chapter Chair training in San Francisco where I was given the opportunity to meet Chapter Chairs from across the US and Canada. These representatives were from many diverse backgrounds but all shared a passion for protecting our special places and environment. Our methods may be different but the goal is the same! The sessions were useful, advice was given freely and many questions were answered. I am ready to serve our Chapter to its fullest.

*Roberta
Brashear*

Our Hawai'i Chapter March Fund appeal has been quite successful so far and I would like to personally thank ev-

eryone who contributed to this campaign both financially and with your valuable time. The funds raised from this event are used here in Hawaii for protecting our pristine ecosystems and coastlines. Remember, it's not too late to send in your contributions!

The Hawai'i Chapter was awarded a National Sierra Club grant to hire a full-time coastal organizer based in Honolulu. Jay Griffin is joining us in this new capacity. He has two Master degrees from Duke University in environmental management and public policy and recently worked with the California Coastal Commission, the Hanalei Heritage River project and at the Hawaii State Legislature. Jay will be taking a proactive approach to protecting Hawaii's last wild coastlines by generating broad interest through media presentations, petitions, postcards, and events. Our past success stories: Beryl Blaich's incredible work at Mahaulepu, and Jack Kelly's endless perseverance to Keep Kealakekua Wild have not gone unnoticed. These critical coastal sites will be part of this project. Both of these campaigns energized the communities, recruited new activists, and increased our membership base.

Good things come to those who wait. At least that's what mom said as I stared hopefully at the earth-covered bean seeds I had just planted as a young gardener. The beans grew long after my patience was exhausted. If the lesson didn't sink in then, it certainly has now.

Working for lasting change in protecting our environment gives patience a whole new meaning. But perseverance is paying off for our Chapter's priority campaigns.

Consider our efforts to disclose the environmental impacts of tourism. While the court has yet to rule, the legislature has approved funding for a \$1.2 million "carrying capacity" study to begin examine at the limits of tourism growth. International media have carried our story on studying the impacts of tourism growth. And I understand from one visitor industry official that at recent tourism conferences and seminars, the topic of our lawsuit and implications on sustainable development are invariably mentioned. We've helped shift the dialog.

Look at clean energy. Sure, we face a new obstacle in the White House, but we are gaining ground at the state legislature. This past session we passed a measure that allows residents with small renewable energy devices to, in effect, sell their surplus electricity at the same price that they buy it. Now some 4000 homes statewide will be able to run their electricity meters backward as their renewably-produced power flows back to the power grid.

Our campaign to use the hotel room tax for Hawaii's en-

THE VIRTUE OF PATIENCE

A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

vironment was so close to succeeding at the legislature that a local newspaper printed the good news—only to have a single senator kill the effort in the final minutes of the session. Now we have commitments that this legislation will be a priority for next session.

The Keep it Wild! campaign scored an unprecedented initial victory against inappropriate development at Kealakekua Bay in South Kona. The Sierra Club's recent request to enhance protection of our agricultural lands before the state Land Use Commission has started a long overdue conversation on the appropriateness of luxury subdivisions sprawling over the island's remaining open spaces. Instead of offshore developers coming in and inflicting their profit-driven vision on Hawaii's wild coastlines, we are setting the agenda and choosing what Hawai'i will look like for our families, and for our future.

Making these bold changes to protect Hawai'i takes time. But considering it took the Earth one to five million years to produce these islands, the wait is certainly worthwhile.

If you want to help us plant some new seeds or tend the new sprouts of our campaigns, contact your local group leaders or the Chapter office. Thanks for your support.

CONSERVATION

Bush Energy Plan Ignores Islands' Needs

Jeff Mikulina

In an apparent attempt to outdo Hawaiian Electric Company's plans for more fossil fuel plants and less renewable energy, President George Bush rolled out his "big oil" energy plan in May 2001. It may as well be May 1859.

The president's energy plan focuses on producing more coal, oil and gas power and weakening environmental protections to build more power plants. The plan also calls for drilling the pristine Arctic National Wildlife Refuge—the crown jewel of our nation's wilderness. (Hawai'i Senators Dan Akaka and Dan Inouye are among three democratic senators supporting drilling in the Refuge, a position that the Hawai'i Chapter decries.)

The Bush plan does nothing to wean Hawai'i of its expense, dirty oil habit. It also potentially fast-tracks future power plant construction in Hawai'i. Hawaii's electric utilities plan to construct new coal or oil-fired power plants on Hawaii's four main islands in the next 16 years. (see figure).

The Sierra Club supports a balanced energy plan that includes efficiency measures such as increasing our fuel efficiency and providing tax incentives for efficient new buildings and equipment, more wind and solar power, and cleaner production. Hawaii's sustainable energy future should be based on something we can count on: the sun rising each day, the wind blowing, and the grass growing. Solar, wind, and biomass technologies are ripe in Hawai'i, but they struggle against economies of scale and the monopolistic grip of our utilities.

Unfortunately, Hawai'i will likely be receiving less Federal support for clean, renewable energy research and development. Although President Bush announced that he wants to increase renewable energy and offer efficiency tax cuts, his budget actually cuts research in renewable energy and development programs by 37 percent and cuts energy efficient research and development by 30 percent.

With the Administration's Energy Plan calling for massive construction of new power plants and no increases in fuel efficiency for automobiles, Hawai'i will be hit hard in another way: climate change. Even the Administration Energy Plan highlights the connection between energy and greenhouse gas emissions: "Energy-related activities are the primary sources of U.S. man-made greenhouse gas emissions, representing about 85 percent of the U.S. man-made total carbon-equivalent emissions in 1998." (Report of the National Energy Policy Dev. Group, May 2001)

The United States contributes nearly one quarter of the World's greenhouse gas emissions. Nowhere in the report, however, does it recommend target reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.

The most recent report out of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel Climate Change—written by 516 contributing experts around the world and released at the end of January in Shanghai—presents some disturbing new facts about the impacts of climate change. 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. For Hawai'i, this means disappearing coastlines, hotter temperatures, more severe and more frequent hurricanes, and possibly prolonged drought.

If anything good can come out of the Bush energy plan, it's the opportunity for Hawaii's state leaders and utilities to take a leadership role in renewable energy. While Bush is busy chopping renewable energy programs nationwide, Hawai'i can capitalize on the opening in the market and prove itself a leader in clean energy development. *To get involved in the Chapter's Clean Energy Now! campaign, contact Jeff Mikulina at mikulina@lava.net.*

Hawai'i Energy Strategy 2001-2017

O'ahu (HECO):	605 MW - 70% coal, 30% diesel
Maui (MECO):	234 MW - oil and diesel
Hawai'i (HELCO):	141 MW - oil, diesel, and coal
Kaua'i (KE):	61 MW - naphtha, diesel, and coal

Protecting Open Space and Agricultural Land

David Kimo Frankel

In early May, the Sierra Club filed a rulemaking petition with the Land Use Commission (LUC) to provide better protection of land designated "agricultural" by the state.

If adopted by the LUC, the proposed rules should go a long way to stopping sprawl on agriculturally classified lands. Often, developers build subdivisions in the agricultural district and call them "agricultural subdivisions made up of farm houses." There are plenty of examples of these: Donkey Beach on Kaua'i; Palau'ea and Spreckelsville on Maui; Obayashi's proposed development above Sunset Beach on O'ahu; the Hokulia project on the Big Island. The LUC put its foot down when Arizona developer Lyle

NOTES

Anderson tried to pull the same trick at Keopuka next to Kealakekua Bay. The Sierra Club petition targets these types of fake-farm developments.

These proposed rules would prevent luxury residential developments from avoiding the permitting process—and public review. Instead, a developer wanting to build a residential subdivision on farmland would have to present detailed information to the Land Use Commission so that the impacts to natural resources, native Hawaiian rights and infrastructure can be studied and discussed in public.

Unfortunately, the initial hearing before the LUC resulted in a denial of the petition. The opposition had gotten wind of the proposed changes and organized. But the effort to prevent inappropriate sprawl is far from over. The Sierra Club will continue to work with the Land Use Commission, the legislature, and the counties to ensure that our agricultural lands and open space resources are protected from uncontrolled development. *To get involved, contact David Frankel at frankel@lava.net.*

Critical Habitat gets Critical Support

Rob Culbertson

Congresswoman Patsy Mink took time out from her busy schedule during the Memorial day weekend to personally broker a meeting here on Kauai between local hunter representatives and high level Department of Fish & Wildlife administrators from Honolulu and Washington D.C. The cause was the rather intense anxiety and some of the greatly exaggerated claims being circulated about pending Critical Habitat designations on Kauai and elsewhere throughout the state.

Simply stated, the designations would place about 67,000 acres of land on Kauai into a context for future considerations IF any federal funding were to be used in support of any other governmental projects. Similar to some other progressive social programs for which the federal government has been tasked to lead, this latest but long overdue initiative (Hawai'i still maintains the dubious distinction of being the endangered species capitol of the U.S.) finally is starting to take our extinction crisis seriously and begins to set forth the kind of guidelines which an intelligent application of the Endangered Species Act has always contemplated.

In actual effect, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife agency is creating the standards and policies that all its other political divisions must follow, beginning with the basic tenet to 'first, do no harm.'

Although the designations do nothing in and of themselves to recover endangered and listed species, they do require consultations with the appropriate agency—in most cases the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, in order to mitigate any potential adverse modifications to critical habitats. Also, as a result of such designations, the likelihood of marshalling voluntary as well as governmental resources to eventual recovery projects will be enhanced.

So why all the fuss? Simply because now the agencies (state Division of Forestry and Wildlife and single issue interest groups such as the hunters) will have to expand their thinking beyond the traditional 'either/or' paradigm. Now, they are called on to help craft even more comprehensive and creative solutions within the multiple use philosophy of land management.

Both the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the Hawai'i Chapter of the Sierra Club have continued to affirm their support for hunting throughout the state. Similarly, long before this latest "controversy" pitting hunters against enviros, Kauai Group leaders have stood up for subsistence and sport hunting prerogatives right along side our traditional principles for conserving and recovering endangered plant and animal species. We see no reason why these aims should not be compatible.

Over the years, it has been aptly demonstrated that important needs in society often go begging without a vigorous constituency. In Hawai'i, the political failures to meet the needs of weak constituencies such as handicapped children in school, overcrowded prisoners and endangered species have resulted in the courts stepping in to force the changes necessary to bring about some equity.

And it's no surprise to hear the complaints which usually reverberate amid such mandates for change; 'we lack the funding to carry out the work'. However, with \$60 million dollars once again being thrown at the Hawaii Tourism Authority this year alone, it's hard to take such complaints seriously.

More to the point, it's obvious that those in charge of setting society's priorities for some time simply have not cared enough for the certain classes of people nor the destruction of our unique environment to make them as important as the justice system now is demanding. Now, for just 255 of over 300 of Hawaii's endangered and threatened species the court is saying that it's time to make amends. The only question SHOULD BE, is it already TOO LATE?

...continued from the front page

nities along this coastline and spectacular scenic vistas. Representatives Patsy Mink and Neil Abercrombie have been instrumental in securing the funds to acquire these lands and deserve recognition for their work on behalf of Hawaii's wild coastal areas.

On the Big Island, the recently released final draft of the Revised Hawaii County General Plan reclassified several parcels of land adjacent to Kealekekua Bay from the agricultural district into the conservation district. This reclassification effectively prevents inappropriate development on some of the hillsides overlooking Kealekekua Bay. This move by Mayor Kim is an important victory in the effort to Keep Kealekekua Bay wild, however, the Planning Commission still needs to adopt the revised plan and the County Council still needs to codify these proposed land use designations through ordinances. The wild coastal lands in Kealekekua Bay still need your help so please contact members of the Planning Commission and Hawaii County Council and tell them you support the proposed land use designations in Kealekekua Bay.

Maha'ulepu, the unique coastal area on the southeastern coast of Kaua'i, recently received strong endorsements for preservation from the State Legislature and Kaua'i County Council. During the past legislative session, the Legislature passed a concurrent resolution pledging support for preservation of Maha'ulepu. In addition, the Kaua'i County Council passed a similar resolution supporting preservation of this spectacular coastal area. Furthermore, after a visit from members of Malama Maha'ulepu last year, the Governor expressed his support for preserving Maha'ulepu. Even with these strong endorsements, the effort to protect Maha'ulepu must continue steadily. No formal negotiations are occurring with the landowner, Grove Farm Company, and in the past Grove Farm has expressed desire to develop parts of the land.

The State Legislature and Maui County Council also expressed similar support for creating a new national park near La Perouse Bay on the southern coast of Maui. Both legislative bodies passed resolutions urging the federal government to create a new national park from Keone 'o'io to Kanaloa Point. This area contains unique native plants and animals and has extensive archaeological and cultural sites. Rapid growth in Kihei and Wailea has drawn more people into this area and illegal camping and four-wheel drive vehicle use are impacting the area's resources. National park designation for this coastal area would protect its unique resources and provide for interpretive displays to educate the public on the important cultural and archaeological resources that exist there. With prompting from Representative Patsy Mink, the National Park Service recently announced it will initiate a reconnaissance

Archaeological history is often a vivid part of Hawaii's coasts, like the above honu petroglyph found at undeveloped Kohanaiki in North Kona. Hawai'i County has foreclosed on the Kohanaiki property after the owner owed millions in back taxes. The land may be up for sale as early as September 2001.

study of the area, which is a preliminary survey of the area's resources and the first step towards designating a national park.

On June 14th, the State Land Use Commission held a hearing on a petition to amend the rules regarding development on lands in the agricultural district. The Sierra Club and David Frankel brought the petition to the LUC in an effort to prevent sprawling developments on agricultural district lands. The proposed rules would provide important protection for the agricultural potential, open space, cultural sites, and natural resources found on these lands and are especially important for Hawaii's remaining wild coastal lands. Nearly one-third of the state's coastal land in the Special Management Area is designated for agricultural use, and on Kaua'i and Maui, where a considerable amount of SMA land is agricultural use (56% and 41% respectively), these rules are critical for managing future development.

That covers several key events regarding Hawaii's wild coastal lands and the Sierra Club's Malama Kahakai campaign. I am in the process of developing media materials and a presentation that I will deliver to interested groups throughout the state. Through these concentrated efforts, the Sierra Club will build solid public support for taking action to protect the unique and precious wild coastal areas of Hawai'i. If you have any questions or suggestions about the campaign, please call me at (808) 537-4388 or email me at Jay.Griffin@sierraclub.org.

Chapter Executive Committee Nominations Sought

If you're interested in getting involved in Club guiding campaigns, policy making and leadership, please send the office a short description (paragraph) of your vision for the Sierra Club. Hawai'i Chapter, and your qualifications. Send to Judy Dalton at dalton@aloha.net.

Membership Drive Proposed

Lisa Keala Carter

Membership Chair, Hawai'i Chapter

Can you say “environmentalists coming out of the woodwork?” Sierra Club member rolls are increasing all over the country—and the Hawai'i Chapter is no different. Our membership has increasing ever since oil-loving President Bush came into office. The timing is not a coincidence.

People are scared about the damage the Bush-Cheney administration will cause unless we band together to keep the environment in the forefront of our national and state issues. In January, we had around 3,300 members statewide. Now we have over 4,000 dues-paying Sierra Club members. But we are still missing a vital part of the population if we haven't asked our friends to join. The Hawai'i Chapter is launching a membership drive called, “Ask a Friend”. Our goal is to double our membership base by increasing it to 8,000 by the end of the year.

Ways that you can help: Ask your closest friends to join you on an outing, or to come with you to the Group's program night. Maybe there will be some other Club event that you could ask your friends to. Check out these outings listed in this newsletter, photocopy the membership form also located in this issue, and ASK A FRIEND.

I invite you to E-mail me or call me if you would like me to send some blank postcards to you about the Arctic Refuge threat. Those postcards are pre-addressed to Senators Akaka and Inouye and are a great introduction for you to talk to your friends about what the Sierra club is all about. Perhaps a friend might be willing to join the Club and help to send the message to Congress to not drill for oil in our national wildlife refuges.

When our membership base increases, the politicians and the media pay more attention to environmental concerns—numbers mean clout. The Sierra Club is more effective in cleaning up the environment when Club leaders and activists can say that they have the backing of thousands of dues-paying members. Numbers count—big time.

Contact Lisa at 808-366-8727 (kctbecat@aol.com)

Statewide Fundraising Committee Starting Up

Lisa Keala Carter

Fundraising Chair, Hawai'i Chapter

With a small grant received from National to assist the Hawai'i Chapter with fundraising and membership building, the Club volunteers are gearing up. Communicating our success stories to the general public as well as to other environmentalists is key to building a bigger membership base. Contributions, planned giving, and other donations will all help to continue the good work that has already been accomplished with the Coastal Lands Campaign, a.k.a. Malama Kahakai—Keep It Wild!

The new Coastal Lands organizer, Jay Griffin, is tasked with spending a percentage of his time in helping the Groups organize events and presentations toward this directed fundraising effort. Energetic representatives from each Group are ready to coordinate efforts with other volunteers from each island: Roberta Brashear (Moku Loa), Miranda Camp (Maui), Judy Dalton (Kaua'i), Randy Ching (O'ahu).

Please avail yourself to the effort and help to plan and organize these events. We have silent auctions, dinners, slide presentations, and/or litter clean-ups for your enjoyment. So when you hear about fun Sierra Club events planned on your island, make sure you attend—and bring a friend!

To contribute your skills, contact Lisa at 808-366-8727 (kctbecat@aol.com)

Agricultural Subdivisions

At a March meeting of the Kauai County Council, many Sierra Club members and others testified in favor of a proposed two-year moratorium on agricultural subdivisions. The moratorium was introduced by Republican county council member Bryan Baptiste, who pointed out that the General Plan update included provisions for retaining agricultural land and that a moratorium would provide time to study ways to ensure that ag land is truly used for agriculture. The proposal called for a moratorium on subdivisions of 100 acres or more.

On Kauai, as elsewhere in Hawaii, agricultural subdivisions are used to get around state land use laws that disallow the use of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes in the absence of a public hearing. The Kauai County Council finally mandated last year that residential developments on agricultural land should pay property tax based on residential rates rather than agricultural rates. However, paying a residential rate is no deterrent to wealthy property owners.

Although there was much public support for the moratorium at the March meeting and indications were that the council supported it, by early April the measure was mysteriously dead. By a vote of 4 to 1, the County Council voted to receive the bill, effectively killing it. The vote came after an executive session with county attorneys—a session that was not open to the public. An attorney for the county had said that there might be problems with the arbitrary designation of 100 acres and above. But there were also hints that the real opposition came from the Planning Department.

Not to be deterred, Ray Chuan (a longtime activist and county council watcher) wrote a letter asking that Agricultural Subdivisions be put on the County Council meeting agenda again. This finally happened in a meeting in late May. At this meeting, Sierra Club members Marge Freeman and Ray asked the council to explain their lack of action on this bill (and, for that matter, on any other bills). Marge pointed out that there are legal cases to support the power of a municipality to impose a moratorium of limited duration and that these cases have been upheld against many different challenges. (Supporting legal documentation was provided by the Sierra Club's David Frankel.)

In response to Marge and Ray, several council members claimed to have dropped the measure because of assur-

ances from the Planning Department that they were going to clarify the issue of density on agricultural lands by June 26. Marge responded, "I would say that since you have no control over the Planning Department or the Planning Commission, why don't you reintroduce the bill? If it's not needed, fine. But you've got then a little stick. Why not reintroduce it in a form that's better? Let's get on with it. Let's work both sides of the fence." To which Mr. Baptiste responded that it would take 4 - 6 months to reintroduce the bill.

Density on agricultural lands isn't really the issue, so there is little reason to think that anything substantive is in the works from the Planning Department. Do other Sierra Club members have suggestions on how to pursue this issue?

Reefcheck on Kauai

Dave Raney, chair of the Sierra Club's Coral Reef Working Group, visited Kauai during the first week of June. Dave, who lives on Oahu, is organizing community efforts to monitor reefs throughout Hawaii and is looking for volunteers who wish to participate in a Reef Check program on Kauai. Reef Check began in 1997 as a way for local communities to monitor the health of their own reefs. Since then, Reef Check has trained snorkelers and divers worldwide to monitor reefs using Reef Check surveys. The group has been instrumental in publicizing the dangers of coral bleaching and overfishing.

While visiting, Dave explored reefs at Anini Beach, Maha'ulepu, and Lawaikai. He was glad to report that there is quite a bit more living coral in the nearshore waters of these beaches than those surveyed by Reef Check at his own "adopted" beach, Waikiki. Of course, the amount of living coral is dependent on many factors, not all of them linked to overuse or climate warming. For example, pollution, sedimentation, and water depth are also big factors.

Participating in Reef Check is not complicated; it requires periodic snorkeling or diving to check for a small number of fish and invertebrate indicator species and documenting percentages of live coral, fleshy seaweed (limu), and other simple classifications of bottom types for the surveyed area. If you live on Kauai and are interested in monitoring and protecting the coral reefs of a favorite beach, please contact Dave (D_Raney@aloha.net).

Gating off the North Shore?

A proposed gated community at Velzyland just North of Sunset Beach has all sorts of folks up in arms. First, the current residents of the property thought that they were leaving so that the City and County could build a park—Kaunala Beach Park. Now they find out they are leaving so that a luxury subdivision can be built. Second, surfers and those who fish are questioning how reasonable public access to the shoreline will be. A good question indeed, considering the track record of gated communities on O`ahu blocking access. Finally, environmentalists are concerned over the plans to dispose sewage from the new community in underground injection wells close to the ocean. The developer has yet to provide decent hydrologic data showing the impacts on the nearshore waters. The O`ahu Group has expressed their concerns in comments on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement. *To get involved with the issue, contact Jay Griffin at 537-4388 or jay.griffin@sierraclub.org.*

Energy Efficiency for O`ahu Homes

While Vice President Dick Cheney is calling energy conservation measures “virtuous,” the City and County of Honolulu might soon be calling them “mandatory.” Two bills, one to require insulation (at the level of R-19 or equivalent) in new residences, and one to update the model energy code for commercial buildings on O`ahu were heard in front of the Public Works Committee on June 6th. The O`ahu Group testified in support of both. Joining us in support were non-traditional allies Building Industry Association and Pacific Allied Products, manufacturers of foam insulation (as well as plastic bottles, which made them opponents to the bottle bill at the legislature last session). Both measures passed and now move to the full council for passage. *To support these measures or other energy bills, contact Jeff Mikulina at 538-6616 or mikulina@lava.net.*

Kahala Mandarin Shortchanges Public

The beach in front of the Kahala Mandarin is an important public resource. Unfortunately, access to the beaches in the vicinity remains inadequate. So when the Kahala Mandarin sought a permit from the City and County to expand their facilities, the Sierra Club asked them to fulfill their public access requirements. The permit that the hotel was seeking is called a Special Management Area permit—required for construction activities within a certain distance from the shoreline. In granting such a permit, however, the County must ensure given objectives are met. One of those objectives is to “provide adequate, accessible, and diverse recreational opportunities in the coastal zone.” Currently at the Kahala Mandarin, the public can park at the Wai`alae Beach Park (although on weekends the lot is usually full) and then walk one-half mile down to the sandy beaches in front of the hotel. Although the area is perfect for families with babies and small children, it is an unreasonable distance to carry small children. The

public can also park at the Kahala Mandarin’s facilities—for \$6 an hour. The O`ahu Group asked the Zoning Committee to add two conditions to the hotel’s Special Management Area permit: first, that the Kahala Mandarin provide 25 free public parking places—with no restriction on hours (so that folks can fish at night); and second, that the hotel remove its lounge chairs and cabanas from the public beach (which currently give most beach goers the distinct impression that the beach is private). While the committee did not approve the conditions, the media and the public users of the beaches in Kahala certainly showed their support. The Star-Bulletin even ran a pro-access editorial on the issue in their June 8th edition. Constant pressure is the only way to keep Hawaii’s shoreline and public resources free and open to the public.

O`ahu Group gears up to fight sprawl

Faced with a massive new development project in Central O`ahu, the Sierra Club is looking for a few good activists to help promote smart growth and appropriate development for the remaining open spaces on O`ahu. Castle & Cooke proposes to take over a thousand acres of land out of the agricultural classification and put it into the urban district in Central O`ahu. The project is called Koa Ridge and is located between Mililani Mauka and Waiawa. It involves building hundreds of houses, commercial facilities, a school, and a medical park. It is the essence of sprawl—especially when the island has designated Kapolei as the Second City to direct future growth. The four central issues are: 1) traffic (already a disaster); 2) adequacy of schools to handle the growth; 3) water (aquifer is currently bumping up against limits); and 4) cost of infrastructure. This is really quality of life issue for residents of O`ahu. Aren’t we ready to say enough already? This campaign will take lots of volunteers and lots of energy. *To get involved in what could be the land use issue of the decade, contact the Chapter Office at 538-6616.*

Interested in being a Club hike leader?

Meeting on Monday, July 16, at 5:30 p.m., led by Reese Liggett at Cheney-Brooks, 606 Coral Street (off Halekauwila Street). \$10.00 fee for printed materials. Register with Joanna Yin, 734-5323.

Early Holiday Shopping!

2002 Sierra Club Calendars

Number of 2002 Wilderness wall calendars (\$10):
Number of 2002 Engagement desk calendars (\$10):
Shipping and Handling (\$2 each):
Total:
Name:
Shipping Address:
Mail order form and Check payable to:
2002 Calendar orders
P.O. Box 2577
Honolulu, HI 96803

CO₂ dumping battle won, but war continues *Jay Scharf*

Everyone opposed to the federal Department of Energy's plans to dump 60 tons of liquid CO₂ pollution into the ocean at Keahole-Kona celebrated a small victory. The enactment of HCR 64 by the Hawai'i State Legislature which called on the DOE to do a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) rather than the very inadequate Environmental Assessment (EA), and called on the state Department of Health to hold public hearings if and when DOE applies for permits, has had some effect.

The small victory is DOE's decision to not do the dumping at Keahole. In order to avoid state jurisdiction and thus having to answer to anyone about what they are doing, DOE has decided to go outside the state of Hawai'i's territorial limits. The three new proposed sites are 18 miles north of Keahole, or 8.5 miles off Barbers Point, Oahu, or 4.5 miles off Nawiliwili, Kaua'i. The small victory includes a commitment to avoid prime fishing grounds and the requirement of a marine biologist.

But the fact that DOE is still pushing forward, approving their own inadequate EA with a "Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)" means no EIS, and this war is not over. Perhaps the courtroom is next.

Mauna Kea Update *Nelson Ho*

Nature Magazine, another premier science journal, printed a substantial article about how the international astronomy community is worried that NASA will not be able to spend the \$50 million allocated several years ago to enhance the Keck telescopes, already the largest in the world. Call 933-2650 if you'd like a copy of the article.

Los Angeles Times article: a major front-page story was published recently about the importance of Mauna Kea to the Hawaiian and environmental community. Call 933-1650 if you would like a copy of the article.

Hilo Planetarium is to be built in Hilo's Technology Park on Komohana Avenue. Federal monies will flow into this facility. This is a good opportunity to have a spin-off facility benefit the Big Island public, visitors and the University community. This facility, with a broad mandate, could ameliorate the conflict that has simmered for too many years. A director is now being selected. It is crucial that this person bring in the local community, via Polynesian astronomical traditions, as part of the core message.

Keck 6 and NASA environmental review: Jon Lee, Program Director, met with Nelson Ho (Chair of Sierra Club's Mauna Kea Issue Committee), hoping to find a way where NASA could continue with their expansion plans without having to produce a full environmental impact statement and conducting studies that demonstrate that more telescopes could be built on the mountain without damaging the social cultural and environmental landscape of the mountain. He said the draft environmental assessment was inadequate in disclosing impacts and proposing environmentally responsible mitigation measures.

Wai Opae Tidepools and Coral Gardens *Rene Siracusa*

Located *makai* of Vacationlands subdivision on the Puna Coast, this oceanic gem contains the most diverse coral gardens on the island, including antler, plate rice and brain corals, and an array of native fish and marine invertebrates. Increasingly over the years, overuse and misuse in the form of coral and aquarium fish collecting, cloroxing of the pools and over-fishing have led to habitat degradation.

A group of concerned citizens, including residents, Malama O Puna's leaders, native Hawaiians, fishermen and others have formed the Kapoho Tidepools and Coral Head Preservation Committee. They have met with Mayor Harry Kim, DLNR aquatic biologists and UH marine biologists to hammer out rules for a proposed Marine Life Conservation District. Contact Rene Siracusa, 965-9254, for more details and a proposed schedule for protection.

Annual Garage Sale *Diane Fournier*

The Moku Loa Group will be holding its annual garage sale on Saturday, August 11 at Susan Hick's house in Hawaiian Paradise Park: 15-2012 26th Avenue, off Maku'u Drive. We will need help sorting and pricing on the days before the sale as well as help on Saturday. Make sure that all items, especially clothing, are clean before drop-off. Contact Diane at 965-9695 to help or to donate. This is our group's main fund raiser, so please *kokua* if you can.

Another Successful Service Learning Semester *Roberta Brashear*

Hawai'i Community College students participated in service learning with the Sierra Club. Projects in the Fall 2000 semester included clearing on the Old Government Trail in Hawaiian Paradise Park coordinated with Jon Olsen from Puna Trails, as well as alien plant eradication at the Kalopa State Forest. During the Spring semester, students were given a number of options and new areas to explore. Students were required to participate in at least three of these projects: weed eradication and beautification at the Liholilo Gardens in Hilo, coordinated by Debbie Ward; Kalopa State Park eradication of impatiens, holly and alien ferns, coordinated with Edith Worsencroft. Another interesting project was the Miconia control and eradication in the Onomea area, coordinated by Nelson Ho, Operation Miconia Education Director. Roberta Brashear, lecturer at Hawai'i Community College, was the school contact person and assisted on all of these service trips.

The enthusiastic students who participated were Wendy Bartolo, Bonnie Bator, Sachiko Ishiyama, Brad Gali, Mary Villar, Darlene Amaral, Agnes Leilani Chow and Michele Mullikan. MAHALO to ALL!

More South Maui developments

Wailea 670 developers were asked by the Planning Commission to meet with community groups to hear their concerns about the proposed 1,400 unit project adjacent to Maui Meadows. Wailea 670 is represented by former Maui County Director of Public Works, Charlie Jencks. Sierra Club and Maui Tomorrow had their say last week before the commission, once again reiterating our concerns about traffic problems and water shortages. Wailea 670 has offered to help fund plans for road improvements to Piilani Highway, but much to our dismay, their only solution to the traffic problems is widening the road, a short-term solution at best.

Miranda Camp

Wailea 670's water plan is to drill wells on Ulupalakua Ranch land as a "private" water source. A test well is being drilled at this time and a long-term agreement has been reached with the Ranch. Mr. Jencks admitted that the investigation into their proposed water source would not be completed before the next Planning Commission meeting on Wailea 670.

On May 22, the proposed Wailea Beach Villas, a 104-unit luxury project on the only remaining beachfront in the Wailea Resort, went before the Planning Commission and failed to be approved. Sierra Club members voiced concerns about water shortages and traffic congestion. The Planning Department gave the project its usual evaluation of "no significant impact" on water or traffic. To its credit, on June 12, the Planning Commission voted to defer the issue and told the developers to return with figures that quantify the sustainable yield from the Iao Aquifer. This Planning Commission is not "rubber-stamping" every project that comes before it, to Maui's benefit.

Water! Water! Water!

Water has been the issue of the year. The attention is long overdue.

The Bureau of Land and Natural Resources held its meeting on Maui last month to a packed house. East Maui Irrigation was asking to increase its water lease from a year-to-year lease to a 30-year lease. There was moving testimony from native Hawaiian citizens, the Native Hawaiian Legal Corporation, Office of Hawaiian Affairs, the Sierra Club and Maui Tomorrow, among others. With several court cases pending on water rights issues, EMI left the meeting with a decrease in its water leases from the year-to-year lease it formerly held, to a month-to-month

lease. We realize this battle is not over, but once again, a step in the right direction.

Lucienne de Naie penned an incredible letter for the supplemental environmental impact statement on the East Maui Water Development Plan. The plan is to drill a series of wells in East Maui that will eventually benefit proposed developments in Sprecklesville and South Maui. The letter brought up, among many other concerns, the fact that this water plan "will not help Haiku families who have been waiting years for a water meter, nor will it ease water shortages in Kula. Rather than serve the needs of existing residents and their families who will be underwriting its costs, it seems to be aimed at providing water for a type of future growth that will benefit a few large landowners, luring out-of-state buyers."

The Old Lime Kiln Beach controversy

One of our board members, Christina Hemmings, along with Hui Ala Nui O Makena have hired famed environmental attorney Isaac Hall to file an appeal on a development east of Baldwin Beach. Sand from the site had been mined for lime for many years. The area has been in the Haiku-Paia community plan as open space but was sold to the current owner with a single-family resident permit. The owner was given approval by Planning Director John Min to subdivide the property, which now has 3 separate dwellings on it. The appeal is moving forward. Way to go, Christina!

25 Years on Maui!!!!

To celebrate the Sierra Club's 25 Year presence on Maui we have a couple of very fun events planned. Our first event is a family picnic at Mark Sheehan's property. Many of you are familiar with the fact that Mark is the President of Maui Tomorrow. This will be a fun, all-day event with food, music and plenty of games for the kids and adults alike. This event will take place on Saturday, August 4th.

Our second event is the Big Gala! October 13th is the date of our biggest fundraising event ever! It's going to be a Grand Event at the Waikapu Clubhouse. There will be a beautiful spread of fine foods, music, dancing and a silent auction to top off the evening. The event will begin at 6 p.m. and run until 10 p.m. Many thanks go out to Bobbi Becker for bravely coordinating what we hope will be the 1st annual Gala Ball.

O`AHU GROUP OUTINGS

JULY - SEPTEMBER 2001

Sunday, July 1

Abuimanu Late Hike 2mi Easy/Valley/Kabaluu 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 Reservations required. 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: 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

Saturday, July 14

Ala Wai Boat Harbor Cleanup Help make the harbor a point of pride and encourage the return of sealife to the area. We will work from the docks, using scoopers and nets to gather up flotsam and jetsam. Meet at 8:00 am 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. Leader: Sharon Moran 277-2549

Sunday, July 15

Halawa Ridge 14mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Halawa 7:00 a.m. meeting time. This long, graded trail to the Koolau summit was constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Leaders: Dave Iacobucci 239-4596; Randy Ching 381-2891

Opaenla Family Hike 2mi/Moderate/Gulch/Haleiwa 9:30 a.m. meeting time adjacent to Liliuokalani Church (66-909 Kamehameha Hwy) on Emerson Rd., across from Matsumoto's Shave Ice in Haleiwa. We'll wade the stream (waist high—children must be able to cross or be carried). See old tunnels and ditches, and bring your swimming suit. Leaders: Reese Liggett & Suzan Harada 732-4489.

Saturday, July 21

Kawaenae Heiau Service Project 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). Leader: Sharon Reilly 739-2438

Miconia Removal Service Project-Manoa 2mi/Strenuous/Ridge&Valley/Various locations Help remove evil miconia in Manoa or Maunawili. 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. Leader: Pat Conant 1-808-967-7346

Sunday, July 22

Waimano Valley Family Hike 2mi/Easy/Pearl City Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the end of Waimano Home Road. We'll hike into the valley, make a short ascent to the ridge, and return in a loop. Leaders: Suzan Harada & Reese Liggett 732-4489

Pahole Natural Area Reserve Service Project 3mi/Moderate/Ridge/Mokuleia Reservations Required. Want to learn about rare native plants in a gorgeous location? 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, July 29

Aiea Ridge 12mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Aiea 7:00 a.m. meeting time. A tough but rewarding hike with lots of native plants

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 tabis 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

and spectacular views. Leaders: Dave Iacobucci 239-4596; Arlene Buchholz 988-9806

Saturday, August 4

Pahole Natural Area Reserve Service Project See July 22 for details. Leader: Bob Moore 942-2734

Sunday, August 5

Ulupaina Late Hike 4mi/Moderate/Ridge/Kabaluu Meet at 1pm at the First Hawaiian Bank parking area in the Windward City Shopping Center. This hike offers spectacular views of the Windward coast and wetlands. Leaders: Ralph Toyama 941-0460; TBA

Saturday, August 11

Miconia Removal Service Project-Maunawili See July 21 for details. Second meeting place is Maunawili Neighborhood Park. Leaders: Kapua Kawelo or Joby Rohrer 656-7641 (w)

Sunday, August 12

Schofield-Waikane 12mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Helemano 7:00 a.m. meeting time. Reservations required. See the wildest part of our island. Native forest and terrific views. Leaders: Randy Ching 381-2891; TBA

Maunawili Falls Family Hike 3mi/Easy/Gulch/Maunawili 9:00 a.m. meeting time at the corner of Maunawili Rd. and Kelewina St. Pleasant hike along a stream with about 8 crossings. See old stone walls, coffee plants, old Api Spring, and enjoy a nice swimming hole. Leaders: Suzan Harada & Reese Liggett 732-4489

Saturday, August 18

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

Sunday, August 19

Kaala Natural Area Reserve Service Project See July 7 for details. Leader: Maile Sakamoto 946-5712

Sunday, August 26

Kaipapau 11mi/Strenuous/Gulch & Ridge/Laie 7:00 a.m. meeting time. This hike is for fit, experienced hikers who are not uneasy about heights. This combination of stream crossings and ridge hiking offers an adventurous exploration of a seldom-visited area. Leaders: Dave Iacobucci 239-4596; Arlene Buchholz 988-9806

Saturday, September 1

Kaala Natural Area Reserve Service Project See July 7 for details. Leaders: Jim & Cindy Waddington 947-2732

Saturday, September 8

Miconia Removal Service Project-Manoa See July 21 for details. Leader: Pat Conant 1-808-967-7346

Sunday, September 9

Kaau Crater 6 mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Valley/Palolo Hike up a ridge and around the rim of a stunning tuff crater. Waterfalls and native forest are also included on this hike. Plan on getting muddy and/or wet. Leaders: Dave Iacobucci 239-4596; Atomman Kimm 234-7204

Nuuanu-Judd Trails Family Hike 3mi/Easy/Gulch/Nuuanu 9:00 a.m. meeting time at 3513 Nuuanu Pali Dr. (just after you turn off the Pali Hwy from Honolulu). Pleasant hike through big trees to a dike wall. Leaders: Reese Liggett & Suzan Harada 732-4489

Saturday, September 15

Get the Drift and Bag It Call to confirm location. Join us at a lovely beach for this nationwide effort to clean coastal lands of beach debris such as nets, floats, and fishing line that are harmful to marine life. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Church of the Crossroads or 8:00 a.m. at Campbell National Wildlife Refuge in Kahuku. Leaders: Gwen Sinclair 734-3214; Doreen Swan 739-0029

Sunday, September 16

Pahole Natural Area Reserve Service Project See July 22 for details. Leader: Ed Mersino 455-8193

Sunday, September 23

Waimalu Ditch 6mi/Moderate/Valley/Waimalu Bring a swimsuit on this hike. You'll get your boots wet on the many stream crossings. Leaders: Mike Gawley 779-3645; TBA

Sunday, September 30

Waimano Ridge - 15mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Pearl City 7:00 a.m. meeting time. This long and challenging trail was built in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps and offers rewarding views at the Koolau Summit. The upper portion of the trail is almost completely native forest. Leaders: Dave Iacobucci 239-4596; Ed Mersino 455-8193

Saturday, October 6

Pahole Natural Area Reserve Service Project See July 22 for details. Leader: Annette Kaohelaulii 235-5431

Sunday, October 7

Kawainui 5mi/Moderate/Valley/Haleiwa A great hike through a valley with lush vegetation and many stream crossings. Lunch and a swim at a superb swimming hole. Leaders: Gwen Sinclair 734-3214; Sherine Boomla 739-3936

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 which native forest birds can use in their migrations up and down the slopes of Mauna Kea. This service project usually involves the removal of alien plant species such as banana poka and the planting native species such as koa. Accommodations are at a small but well equipped cabin at the 6,200-foot elevation with electricity, running water, a flush toilet, a hot shower, kitchen, and five bunk beds with mattresses. Participants need to bring their own sleeping bags. At this high elevation, cold inclement weather is always a possibility, so proper warm clothing and footwear and good quality raingear are mandatory. Raingear can be borrowed from the Refuge. The free time activity may include a hike in a koa-ohia forest to observe native forest birds, some of which are on the endangered species list.

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 restore habitat and eradicate alien plants. Accommodations include a facility with electricity, hot showers, flush toilets and kitchen. 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. This service project is limited to Sierra Club members who have been on at least one other Sierra Club three-day service project.

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. Accommodations are at the historic 1935 CCC Camp with electricity, bunk beds, flush 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 one of the many great trails in the park.

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 with hot showers, flush toilet 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 watching, a visit to Ka Lae (South Point) or a hike along the wilderness coastline

of the Reserve. We may be asked to work in the Pu'u Maka'ala and Kahauale'a Natural Area Reserves near Hilo, with accommodations in Hilo. These are also beautiful and interesting preserves.

Volcanoes National Park, Hawaii

The Volcanoes National Park on the Island of Hawaii is a large park with diverse ecosystems ranging from coastal to alpine terrain. The work will probably involve the eradication of invasive alien plants, which threaten the native ecosystem. Accommodations will be at the historic Ainahou Ranch. This is a large nice facility with several rooms with beds; but does not have electricity, running water or flush toilets. Since the park is at a higher elevation, participants will need to bring warm clothing and raingear. Numerous attractions for free-time activities include great hiking trails, Volcano House, Volcano Art Gallery and Jaggar Museum.

legacy

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.

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: bsherine@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 Kaohelaulii, 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: Betsy Gagne, 47-682 Hui Kelu Street, #8, Kaneohe, HI 96744, phone: 239-4280, e-mail: betsyh-gagne@exec.state.hi.us; Co-Leader: to be announced later.

ecotips

promote activism

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

Sunday, July 8 - Judd Trail (E) D = 6 miles, E = 5500'+/-200' We will walk on the historic Judd Trail at about the 5500 foot elevation after a long 4-wheel drive trip on the flank of Hualalai. The group will visit the Ahua a Umi, a *heiau* dating to the 16th century. Space is limited to 20 people. Contact leader Scott Mandel (322-0718) for reservation. A \$10.00 deposit, payable to Moku Loa Group, is required to reserve your space. Meet at Teshima's Restaurant at 7:30 am. Leaders: Gloria Amaral, Phil Barnes.

Wednesday, July 18 - Red Turtle Rising (movie); UHH Komohana Ag Complex; 6:30 pm. *Red Turtle Rising*, a moving documentary about endangered Hawksbill turtles will be shown; discussion afterwards with Larry Katahira, Natural Resource Program Manager at Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. For information, Sarah Moon at 935-3475.

Sunday, July 22 - Haena Beach (Shipman) (E) (F) D = 6 miles, E = Sea Level Hike on a historic trail in Puna, an inland carriage road from Paradise Park to Haena Beach. See *nene* and interesting backshore ecosystems. Bring lunch, water, swim suits; wear sturdy shoes. Swimming possible, but ocean could be rough; no lifeguards available. Rocks could be slippery. Meet in Hilo at parking lot across from the Bayfront Shell station. Contact leader Phil Barnes (965-9695). Co-leader, Sarah Moon.

Sunday, August 5 - 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 70-year-old eucalyptus, silk oak, and paper bark. These trees, planted in the 1930s by the CCC, have recently been under consideration for harvesting. 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.

Saturday, August 11 - Annual Garage Sale at Susan Hicks home, Paradise Park. Contact Diane Fournier (965-9695) if you can help.

Saturday-Sunday, August 25-26 - Napau Crater Backpack (E) D = 12 miles E = -600' Explore part of Kilauea East Rift Zone, crossing Mauna Ulu lava to partially forested area around Makaopuhi Crater, then beyond the old

pulu factory to Napau Crater for stunning views of the steaming Pu'u O'o cone from our camp. Return via Na'ulu trail to Ke Ala Komo (pizza hut) lookout. Must be able to carry heavy pack with three quarts of water. Wear sturdy hiking boots, bring rain gear, tent. Car shuttle. Trailhead Mauna Ulu. Leader approval. Contact Diane Ware (967-8642). Co-leader, Roberta Brashear.

Saturday-Sunday, September 8-9 - Red Hill Cabin Backpack (E) D = 9 miles/day; E = 6500'+/-3800'

The trail starts at the end of Mauna Loa Strip Road where participants will begin a strenuous climb up the slopes of Mauna Loa in HVNP. You will enjoy the view at "the top of the world" from the cone at over 10,000' Required gear: frame backpack, sleeping bag, warm clothes, sturdy boots, hat, sun screen and good health. May have to carry 35-lb. pack. Reservations required and limited to ten. Co-operative dinner will be arranged in advance; other meals will be provided by individuals. Trailhead departure by 9:00 am. Contact Phil Barnes (965-9695) or Roberta Brashear (966-7002).

Saturday, September 15 - Lokoaka Park Trail Building Project (S) Clearing trails to the Hilo shoreline, planting native plants and clearing noxious plants. Refreshments, lunch, tools, gloves, water and insect repellent provided. Wear sturdy boots or shoes and protective clothing; bring swim suits for a cool swim after the project. Meet at 8:00 am; finish by 2:00 pm. Call leader Sarah Moon (935-3475).

Saturday, September 29 - Old Government Trail; Kaloli Service Trip (S) D = 4 mi, Sea level. Hike and clear brush and debris on this historic trail in Puna, the Old Government Trail, from Paradise Park part way to the Shipman Beach (Haena) area. This is part of an ongoing project with Puna trails. Bring gloves, water, lunch and hand tools for clearing brush. Meet at 8:00 am at the end of Kaloli in Paradise Park and turn left at the bottom on Old Government Road. Contact Roberta Brashear (966-7002).

Sunday, September 30 - Mauna Iki Trail (E) D = 3 mi, E = 3200'+/-200' Start at Hilina Pali. Hike to twin pit craters. Hike across *pahoehoe* fields to site of 1974 lava flow. Climb adjacent cone crater (optional). No shade. Bring sunscreen, hat, dark glasses, two quarts water; wear sturdy boots. Call 982-9287 for more information.

Saturday, October 6 - Old Government Trail; Kaloli Service Trip (S) D = 4 mi, Sea level. Hike and clear brush and debris on this historic trail in Puna, the Old Government Trail, from Paradise Park part way to the Shipman Beach (Haena) area. This is part of an ongoing project with Puna trails. Bring gloves, water, lunch and hand tools for clearing brush. Meet at 8:00 am at the end of Kaloli in Paradise Park and turn left at the bottom on Old Government Road. Contact Roberta Brashear (966-7002).

KAUAI GROUP OUTINGS

Tuesday, July 3

Sleeping Giant Conservation Work/ East Side/ Moderate/ 3 Miles The conservation work consists of gradual removal of invasive Strawberry Guava away from native plants. The hike will also be a search for native plants. Bob Nishek 332-5158

Sunday, July 8

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. Les Ventura 332-8216

Saturday, July 14

Okolehau Service Trip/ North Side/ Strenuous/ 5 Miles Help maintain our beautiful adopted trail that follows the crest of a ridge running up Hihimanu Mountain. The ridge has views of Hanalei Valley, Leeward, and Waioli Valley. Kathy Valier 826-7302

Sunday, July 15

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 bird-songs reward the hiker along this trail. Harry Guiremand 823-8335

Saturday, July 21

Waimea Road Cleanup/ West Side/ Easy/ 2 mile stretch of highway cleanup Our casual morning cleanup of our adopted highway usually requires less than an hour and 30 minutes and ends with an optional swim at Salt Pond. Trish Eggar 332-7756 and Ron Peyton

Sunday, July 22

Waimea Canyon/ West Side/ Strenuous to the Max/ 7.5 Miles 800 meter descent from Kokee Canyon road to sea level at Waimea. Not for those with knee problems. Great views. Les Ventura 332-8216

Friday, August 3

Sleeping Giant Full Moon Hike/ 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 Kaua'i by full moonlight. Kathy Valier 826-7302

Saturday, August 4

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 by moonlight. Judy Dalton 246-9067

Sunday, August 5

Kauaikinana Ditch Trail - Kamanela Loop/ West Side/ Kokee/ Moderate/ 4 Mile Loop Extraordinary view of Poomau Canyon with scenic views of waterfalls and canyon lands. See birds, silver oak, eucalyptus groves, and possible sighting of goats. Les Ventura 332-8216

Saturday and Sunday, August 11 and 12

Lonomea Campout/ West Side/ Kokee/ Strenuous/ 15 Miles Round Trip Hike down into the Waimea Canyon and then up to the the Lonomea

campsite. DLNR Permits required. Bob Nishek 332-5158

Sunday, August 12

Hanalei River Kayak Trip and Cleanup/ North Shore/ Moderate/ 2 Miles Join us on a kayak trip along our American Heritage River. We will keep its banks looking clean and beautiful while we glide along its gentle flow. Kayak Kaua'i will provide kayaks or bring your own. Judy Dalton 246-9067

Saturday, August 18

Waininua - 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. Les Ventura 332-8216

Sunday, August 26

Makaleha Stream/ East Side/ Strenuous/ 4 Miles This hike up the Makaleha Stream valley begins in 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. Most of this hike is in the stream or along the sides and suitable foot wear is necessary. Ron Farrar 823-8716

Saturday, September 1

Kokee State Park/ West Side/ Moderate Kokee Resources Conservation Program in cooperation with the O'ahu Group. Eradication of invasive alien plants threatening the rare native ecosystem. Bob Nishek 332-5158

Sunday, September 2

Waipo'o Canyon - Blackpipe- Halemanu Loop/ West Side/ Kokee/ Very Strenuous/ 6 Mile Loop See waterfalls, canyon from various angles, forest restoration, and Kekaha Plantation ditch irrigation system running underground and over ravines. Les Ventura 332-8216

Wednesday, September 12

Conservation Work at NTBG/ South Side/ Moderate/ 1 Mile Conservation work will consist of planting native ground covers and other plants within the confines of the National Tropical Botanical Garden. Bob Nishek 332-5158

Sunday, September 16

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 native fauna only seen on this trail. Les Ventura 332-8216

Saturday, September 22

Honopu Ridge/ West Side/ Strenuous/ 5 Miles Round Trip A Na Pali trail that few people know. Go with this experienced guide and peer into hanging valleys and plunging gorges. Kathy Valier 826-7302

Sunday, September 30

Kalepa Ridge/ East Side/ Strenuous/ 6 Miles This is a ridge that continues the Sleeping Giant range from Wailua River to Hanamaulu. Great mauka and makai views with a few relict lowland plants along the trail. Ron Farrar 823-8716.

MAUI GROUP OUTINGS

PLEASE BE PREPARED FOR OUTINGS

Bring food, water, and, as conditions require, sturdy footwear, and mosquito repellent. A donation of \$3 (\$1 for Sierra Club members) is requested of all bikers over age 14. It is time for the summer water hikes. Hikes are very popular, please register early. Pre-registration and an EMI WAIVER are absolutely required for the specific hikes listed below. Call in your waiver request well in advance of going to EMI's Pa'ia office. Ask for Jackie at 579-9516. PICK UP PERMITS 5 DAYS IN ADVANCE.

Saturday, July 7

Honokowai Valley service outing and hike. Help uncover and stabilize ancient Hawaiian agricultural and cultural sites. Meet at 8:30 am at the Amfac headquarters in Ka'anapali in the parking lot area under the trees and then carpool to the site. Bring work gloves, water and lunch, tools (loppers, sickles, small digging tools etc.). 572-8085.

Sunday, July 15

Wahinepe'e Water Hike East Maui watershed, falls, and pools. EMI waiver required, see above. Meet at 8:30 am at the Ha'iku Community Center. Pre-registration required at 878-4122. Tina Dart.

Sunday, July 22

Community Clean-up Day Back to Pauwela Point in Ha'iku in cooperation with Surfrider Maui volunteers and Maui Land and Pineapple Co. staff. Meet at 8:30 am at the Ha'iku Community Center on Hana Hwy. Bring gloves. Pickup trucks help. Lucienne de Naie.

Sunday, July 29

Lower Hanawi Stream in Nabiku Moderate distance, but rugged terrain. Streambed hiking from the coast to magnificent Big Springs waterfall. Waterproof footwear with good tread a must! Meet at 8:30 am at the Ha'iku Community Center. Carpool to the trailhead. Bring water and lunch. Leader Lucienne de Naie. Limit 15. Pre-register at 572-8331. EMI waiver required, see above.

Saturday, August 4

Sierra Club Silver Anniversary Picnic Mark Sheehan's Place, 688 East Kuiaha Road, 3:00 pm until 7:00 pm Celebrate 25 years of Maui Group service with a fun day at Mark's beautiful 10 acre Ha'iku preserve. Music, dancing, ono plate lunches for sale, games, awards and GIANT treasure hunt. \$5 donation for adults. Kids under 12 free. Non-members welcome. Volunteers needed, Bobbie 572-7599.

Sunday, August 12

Ka'apahu Come and see the newest addition to Haleakala National park. A full-day outing, moderate hike with some uphill, great Kipahulu views. Bring mosquito repellent. Meet at Upcountry Community Center parking lot at 8:30 am. Leaders Tina Dart. Limit 10.

Sunday, August 26

Upper Waikamoi Top of Olinda Road. Moderate hike through native forest, following reservoir and irrigation trails. Meet at top of Olinda Road at 9:00 am. Tina Dart. Register at 878-4122.

Saturday, September 1

East Maui stream and coastal hike on private land 2.5 mile hike explores twisty jungle trails, pools, waterfalls and historic sites. Some streambed hiking/ wading involved. Meet at 9:00 am at the Ha'iku Community Center. Bring water, lunch, and waterproof footwear. Leader Lucienne de Naie. Limit 18. Pre-register 572-8331.

Saturday, September 8

Wailua Iki Water Hike Moderate hike of approximately 6-7 miles. Beautiful views of Ke'anae Valley, pools, waterfalls and lush plant life. EMI Waiver required. Pre-registration: 878-4122. Meet at 8:30 am at the Ha'iku Community Center. Tina Dart and Kitty Lengeek.

Saturday, September 22

National "Get the Drift and Bag it" Day Waihe'e Beach Clean-up. Help keep our beautiful North Shore beaches free of dangerous marine debris. Meet 8:30 am at Waihee School parking lot. All clean-up supplies and soft drinks provided. Lucienne de Naie: 572-8331.

Sunday, September 23

Hana Cave Tour 1.5-2 hour adventure hiking 3/4-mile round trip through the large passages of Ka'eleku Caverns. Ceiling height often reaches 30-40 feet. No claustrophobic worries on this tour. Our guide will hike you through passages replete with stalactites, flowstone, stalagmites, ledges, pillars, and the amazing "chock stone" and internal lava tube rupture! He will explain the geology of this ancient subterranean lava flow. All gear provided: hardhats, hip packs with water bottles, gloves, and lights. Need long pants, closed-toe shoes, and t-shirt. All participants must sign a waiver before going underground. Minimum age 9 years, maximum weight 230 pounds. Cost: \$35.00. Limit: 15. Pre-registration: Tina Dart at 878-4122.

Saturday, September 29

Exploration of Puu Maboe, Ulupalakua Ranch near Aunahi Reserve This natural cinder cone was planted as a private arboretum of endangered native plants by the pioneering agriculturist D.T. Fleming in 1950. Martha Vockrodt Moran will give us a guided tour of her grandfather's project and we are also free to explore the walking trails on our own. Sweeping views and many rare plants! Bring walking shoes, water, and lunch. Meet at 9:00 am at the Hannibal Tavares Community Center in Pukalani, where we will carpool to the arboretum. Leader Neola Caveny. Call 579-9769 to register.

Thursday - Sunday, October 4-7

Kaho'olawe Service and Cultural Trip Participants must be strong swimmers and in good physical condition. Cost is \$85 payable to the Protect Kaho'olawe Ohana (PKO). Boat ride to and from Kaho'olawe from Makena Landing, Maui. Food is covered by the fee. All participants must bring 5 gallons of drinking water and personal camping gear; tent, sleeping bag, etc. There is a mandatory pre-trip orientation. Two chants must be learned. To reserve a spot the \$85 fee must be received by September 7, 2001. Pre-registration on or before 9/7/01 is mandatory with the trip coordinator. Mary Ann Ciuffini 891-0572 (h) 879-5077 (w). Limit: 20.



Malama Maha'ulepu Report

Maha'ulepu is the last accessible undeveloped coastal area of Kaua'i's south shore. Beloved by residents and visitors, the ahupua'a of Maha'ulepu extends from the peak of Ha'upu Mountain, to valleys and wetlands, to spectacular shoreline and the ever lively ocean. For a place of such essential solitude, Maha'ulepu is in active vital cultural, scientific, educational, recreational and agricultural use.

Over the past 30 years, the landowner, Grove Farm Company has planned for resort development at Maha'ulepu and residents have fought to keep the area as it is. With new ownership this year, its future is unknown and undecided. However, taking a proactive approach over the last 3 years, Sierra Club has given catalytic energy and funding for coastal protection. The informal coalition of Malama Maha'ulepu is the Kaua'i group's primary, on-going project.

Sue Dixon, Kaua'i resident and former editor of the Garden Island newspaper, recently described the character of this initiative: From the onset, Malama Maha'ulepu has sought a collaborative solution to the future preservation of this irreplaceable site. Among the group's stated principles is that public access to Maha'ulepu should be perpetual and appropriate, and that the landowner should receive fair value for land dedicated or sold for public purposes. In this spirit, the hope of preservation of Maha'ulepu gained strong support from legislators in April. The Kauai County Council and the State Legislature passed similar resolutions supporting "collaborative planning efforts to explore options that would make it possible to preserve the irreplaceable natural and cultural resources of Maha'ulepu and to sustain the special experience of this place." The resolutions also expressed appreciation to Grove Farm for keeping Maha'ulepu open to the public.

On Kaua'i, (under the leadership of Council Chairman Ron Kouchi), the County Council unanimously introduced and supported their resolution. At the legislature the current resolution was introduced and guided by Representatives Bertha Kawakami and Mina Morita and Senator Jonathan Chun with the endorsement of the Legislature's Hawaiian caucus. Lawmakers noted that the

resolutions acknowledged that Maha'ulepu merits preservation and that collaborative planning, which would honor both the interests of the landowner and the public, is a way to move toward that goal.

Many individuals and groups testified for the resolutions. Letters of support were submitted by the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the State Historic Preservation Office, Hawaii's Thousand Friends, Kauai's League of Women Voters, Don Cataluna, OHA Trustee for Kaua'i, by families and individuals including mainlanders.

In another form of taking care of Maha'ulepu, many people came together for an Earth Day clean up of beaches, dunes and headlands. Nearly seventy volunteers representing Malama Maha'ulepu, Ohana O'Maha'ulepu, Sierra Club, Keoki's Paradise, Hyatt, Bank of Hawaii, Lawai Beach Resort, Day Star Oceanfront Property, the Poipu Rotary Club, and private citizens participated in the clean up efforts with assistance from JC Sandblasting and Mayor Kusaka's Ho'olokahi program. Dicky Chang was there to film the event and had a wonderful report on his "Wala'au" Kauai cable TV program

During the four hour clean up effort the volunteers collected 2-1/2 barrels of glass (yes, we need a bottle bill), 1-large bag (about 30 pounds) of Aluminum cans, and about 1,500 pounds of miscellaneous bagged debris.

Other highlights of spring have been informational presentations from other conservation organizations including Pacific Island Land Institute, the Nature Conservancy, the American Friends Services and Sierra Club project personnel: new coastal conservation organizer, Jay Griffin, and Dave Raney of Reef Check.

Summer is for relaxation and celebration, and Koloa Plantation Days are the south shore's traditional community event. Malama Maha'ulepu will be showing videos about Maha'ulepu, will join in leading natural and cultural history hikes and will be at the Fair on Saturday, July 28th. There attendees can vote the winners of Malama's "Best of Maha'ulepu" photo contest, donate for bumperstickers and postcards and participate in mapping Maha'ulepu "places of the heart."

Let the Streams Flow!

Lucienne DeNaie

It appears that the water rights disputes that made headlines in O'ahu have spilled over to Maui. Maui Group members have called for protection of native stream life and restoration of natural stream flows for most of the Group's 25 year history. On May 25 over 100 people jammed a small meeting room at the ILWU Hall in Wailuku to watch history being made. At stake were annual leases that allow Alexander and Baldwin (A&B) and its subsidiary, East Maui Irrigation (EMI), to withdraw over 60 billion gallons of water a year from East Maui streams and transport this water to Upcountry and Central Maui agricultural lands.

A&B attorneys asked the State Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) to approve their usual one-year leases for water rights to divert East Maui streams at bargain fees (approximately \$158,000 year). They also asked the BLNR to begin the process to "auction" off 30 year leases for the same water resources

Terms of the "auction" would require all bidders to complete an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the project in order to be eligible to bid (cost: up to \$2 million) A&B also asked that lease rates remain the same and emphasized the excellent job they were doing in helping maintain the East Maui watershed. BLNR staff basically supported A&B's request, but numerous citizens and community groups, including the Sierra Club, Maui Group, did not.

Two attorneys requested a contested case (legal intervention.) Native Hawaiian Legal Corp (NHLC) intervened on behalf of "Na Moku" (Ke'anae / Wailua nui community members and other East Maui residents). Issac Hall intervened on behalf of Maui Tomorrow and the Coalition to Protect East Maui Water Resources.

NHLC requested a contested case on both the one-year EMI leases and the proposed plan to "auction" off 30 year leases. Some main Issues cited by both suits were:

- State, not A&B, should do an EIS (under State law);
- BLNR has no authority to issue long term leases because East Maui streams are not a "designated" water resource area monitored by the State Water Commission;
- Lease fee structures are not based on market value of water;
- Since native Hawaiian Trusts such as OHA & HHL are entitled to a percentage of any lease revenues, native Hawaiians are being short-changed;
- State water code provisions—guaranteeing adequate stream flows for stream health and traditional Hawaiian practices—need to be enforced before any leases are granted to remove water from the streams.

The request for a contested case was granted by BLNR. A hearing date will be set and a hearing officer chosen. Mean-

while, the BLNR was not legally able to renew A&B's one-year leases or proceed on plans to auction any 30 year leases. BLNR extended A&B's current leases (which expire on June 30, 2001) on a temporary month-to-month basis until the contested case is settled.

Maui Group Co-Chair Miranda Camp testified for the Group and numerous other Club members testified as individuals. The Maui Group has been conducting petition signatures asking for East Maui stream flows to be restored. Group Co-Chair Daniel Grantham, who videotaped the five hour proceeding, expressed hope that A&B representatives would meet with East Maui community leaders and work towards a fairer distribution of the stream waters.

NHLC also filed a separate petition asking the State Commission on Water Resources to "amend stream flow standards" (Increase minimum amounts of water required to be in streams under normal conditions) for 27 East Maui streams. This means that NHLC has to prove to the state that these 27 streams (Ko'olau streams from Makapipi to Kolea and Huelo's Hanehoi and Honopou streams) do not currently have enough year round flows to allow native stream life to survive and provide water needed by taro farmers and other users.

MORE EAST MAUI WATER NEWS

If you live in Ha'iku, Maui the County Board of Water Supply (BWS) wants your ground water. The BWS has big plans for 10 wells and a 36" diameter transmission line stretched along the 800' elevation from Maliko Gulch to Ulumalu. Why? The wells will send 14 million gallons of water a day to big developments planned for Spreckelsville, South and Central Maui.

Of course, the County is assuring the public that there will be no problems with pesticide contamination in the well water (as was the case in their Hamakuapoko test well for the project) or impacts to Ha'iku stream flows or nearshore waters. Nor will there be "growth inducing" impacts, just "planning for long range needs." Their study dismisses Ha'iku as being a "lightly populated" area of empty pasture lands—perfect for such a project. Haiku's water needs are never mentioned in the plan, although some local families have waited over ten years for a water meter.

This is the same East Maui Water Development Plan (EMPLAN) that was put on hold by a 1993 legal challenge. A 1994 court ruling forced the BWS to suspend work on the project to remedy the contaminated test well and conduct studies of the impacts of 10 additional wells on the Ha'iku watershed area. Since 1994, little has been done to monitor Ha'iku's streams and create baseline flow studies. This makes it hard to judge any impacts.

Sierra Club Maui Group recently submitted extensive comments on the Ha'iku well plan. Public hearings will eventually be held and concerned members are urged to contact the Maui Group office at 579-9802.

...continued from the front page

who were no friends to Hawaii's environment and replaced them with some open-minded new faces. Rep. Blake Oshiro and Rep. Helene Hale (replacing Rep. Bob Herkes) are two notable examples. Our traditional allies, Rep. Hermina Morita and Rep. Brian Schatz, also remained strong advocates. Second, concerned members and citizens took action. Action alerts brought calls, visits, emails, and testimony—and results. Third, we were organized. The state parks funding bill had support from the Governor, environmental organizations, and some in the visitor industry. Finally, there is always a role for luck. The energy crisis in California certainly helped to make the case for expanding distributed energy resources via net energy metering.

Here's a simple example: towards the end of April, a disastrous bill to allow airport construction without county approval was resurrected by Sen. Cal Kawamoto (at Reps. Ezra Kanoho and Joe Souki's urging). With administration support (Transportation Dept) and the blessing of the powerful elders in the legislature (which few are inclined to cross), the bill, as they say, "had wings." But suddenly the tide turned. First, we encouraged some key legislators (we'll call them "non-traditional allies") to do some homework and present this bill for what it was: an affront to county homerule. Then we educated the media and had them tell the story. Then we rallied our activists through an action alert mailing. The response was overwhelming. Nearly every senator had heard the message over and over after the first day. They were swamped with phone calls and email messages. The bill died before going to a vote.

We have influence, and we can apply it. Of course, our goals are much closer with the help of good legislators, administrators, and community groups. A special mahalo to those fighting the hardest for Hawaii's environment at the legislature: Rep. Hermina Morita, Rep. Brian Schatz, Rep. Blake Oshiro, Rep. Cynthia Thielen, Sen. Lorraine Inouye and Sen. Les Ihara (and their staffs). Also thanks to Gary Gill for his work on pollution bills, Genevieve Salmonson and Suzanne Jones for their bottle bill efforts, and Maurice Kaya for his leadership on energy issues.

Let's take look at each issue.

GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL BILLS THAT PASSED

HB173 HD2 SD2 CD1 Renewable Energy Portfolio Goals and Net Energy Metering. A two-part measure. First, a renewable portfolio standard (RPS) goal encourages Hawaii's electric utilities to purchase 9% of energy from renewable sources by 2010. Ideally, this 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. Second, net energy metering

allows electricity customers to effectively run their electric meter backward if they operate a small-scale renewable energy device. This should provide an incentive for people and businesses to invest in renewable energy. The original bill would have mandated that 10.5% of electricity in the state be generated from clean, local sources. Such a mandate would have saved the state hundreds of millions of dollars over the next 20 years as compared with the current energy plan, according to an independent study of the renewable energy bill conducted by GDS Associates, Inc. in March 2001. Sen. Ron Menor, the chair of the Senate Consumer Protection Committee and a key decision maker on this measure, did not like the renewable energy mandate (regardless of the savings). He also did not like the net metering idea but his committee—in an unusual move—forced him to tack net metering onto the weakened renewable energy standard bill on April 6th. The brave Senators that made it possible: Sen. English, Sen. Hogue, Sen. Matsunaga, and Sen. Chumbley. During the final conference committee meetings, the bill evolved through 8 or 9 drafts into its final compromised version.

SB981 SD1 HD2 CD1 Board of Land and Natural Resources Automatic Approval Voting Fix. 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 and a house in Lanikai on O'ahu. The final version adds an additional member (total 7) to the Board, which the Sierra Club supports.

Hawaiian Electric Company was loudest in its opposition to this bill. Citing the importance of decisions in the conservation district, they said 4 votes are necessary for proper permitting. Of course, they failed to mention that they have won a permit approval automatically for a power plant when those 4 important votes—in support or in opposition—could not be found. This bill will help to prevent automatic approval of HECO's pending permit for their Wa'ahila ridge 138kV powerline.

HB538 HD2 SD2 Coastal Zone Management Law. This bill increases protection of Hawaii's coastal areas by requiring publication of all Special Management Area minor permits, increasing fees for violations of the coastal zone management law, improving the wording of what defines "development," and changing the structure of the coastal zone management advisory group.

HB200 CD1 Section 74 of the Budget – Carrying Capacity Study. Appropriates \$1,200,000 for DBEDT to study the carrying capacity of Hawaii for tourism.

GOOD ENVIRONMENTAL BILLS THAT FAILED

SB1169 SD2 HD2 State Park Funding through Hotel Room Tax. This important bill would have appropriated \$4 million annually to state parks management from the Tourism Special Fund. As visitor arrivals continue to increase, the amount of money collected by the transient accommodations tax (TAT) does as well. The measure represented more than simply badly needed funds for a faltering parks system—it was an acknowledgement of the nexus between the state’s largest industry and natural resources that sustain it. The park funds were to be used for everything from lifeguard services to trail maintenance to improved sewage systems in state parks. The Department of Land and Natural Resources estimates that a majority of state park users are tourists, yet the parks are mostly funded by taxes on local residents. The Department believes this measure would have helped close the gap. Considering both the importance of Hawaii’s environment for the visitor industry and the impact that tourists have on Hawaii’s natural resources, it is good policy to link increases in visitor arrivals with increased protection of Hawaii’s environment.

Unfortunately, on the final day of session, the Senate was poised to accept the House amendments to Senate Bill 1169, transferring \$4 million annually from the Tourism Special Fund to the State Parks Special Fund, when Senator Donna Kim, Chair of the Tourism Committee, had the bill killed. Since then she has stated her support for the concept.

HB1256 HD2 SD2 Bottle Bill. This good recycling bill would have implemented a deposit system for beverage containers. Cleaner beaches, smaller landfills, new business markets, and quite possibly lower taxes would likely have resulted from enactment 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 beverage industry has agreed to study the issue in the interim and design a recycling plan of their own. If the plan fails to produce results acceptable to the legislature, the bottle bill is waiting in conference committee to be passed.

The beverage and restaurant industries pulled out all the stops and lobbied hard against this. In fact, just introducing this bill was good for tourism, considering the number of mainland lobbyists that came out to present their propaganda in opposition.

HB 1529 HD1 Citizen suits for water pollution. This bill sought to increase protection of Hawaii’s water by codifying the right of citizens to sue clean water law violators. Community groups and other members of the public can assist the State in protecting Hawaii’s environmental qual-

ity. Providing a state citizen suit provision ensures both that citizens will have access to the courts and that Hawaii’s higher environmental standards will be enforced.

The bill was strongly opposed by the City and County of Honolulu, County of Kauai, Hawaii Agriculture Research Center, and the Land Use Research Foundation and, of course, the Hawaiian Electric Company, who expressed the concern in their testimony that “any facility, including those providing a critical public service, will be subject to lawsuit after lawsuit if this bill were to pass.” Say no more.

HB1282 HD2 SD2 Solar Tax Credit Extension. The bill would have extended the highly successful tax credit for solar hot water heaters and other technologies from 2003 to 2010, which would have provided long-term security for the local solar industry. Unfortunately, the law also allows a 50% tax credit for ice-storage facilities, which raised concerns from the Department of Taxation due to plans for expensive new facilities in Honolulu.

HB 955 and HB954 HD3 Automatic Permit Approval Fixes. These bills would have ensured that permits are at least complete and the appropriate environmental review has been satisfied before an automatic permit approval could occur. The bills also addressed many of the other loopholes present in the existing automatic approval law that may expose citizens and the environment to inappropriate permitting.

A solid report by the Legislative Reference Bureau was produced over the interim last year, and these bills were part of the product. The bottom line is, developers like automatic approval, and will defend it at all cost. As one said during an interesting hearing, “of course automatic approval is inappropriate for things like gun permits and nursing requirements, but land use is different...”

BAD ENVIRONMENTAL BILLS THAT FAILED

SB1202 SD1 and HB728 SD1 CD1 Exempting Airports from County Approval. These bills would have eliminated all meaningful public participation in airport planning process and exempted airports from the proper coastal zone permitting process. Would have left such decision making up to the not-so-green Transportation Department.

HB 213 SD1 Allowing non-farm dwellings on lands zoned for agriculture. Would have permitted the counties to allow non-farm houses to be built on state agriculture lands. This bill would have allowed subdivisions to be built on agriculture lands and open space—under the guise of farm dwellings. If passed, the bill would have overturned the Land Use Commission’s recent decision to help protect lands adjacent to Kealahou Bay on the Big Island.



Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter
 P.O. Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803
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Mahalo Patagonia!

Patagonia, an environmentally-aware outdoor clothing and equipment company based in Ventura, California, knows how to pick their fights. They've not only made a significant grant to the Hawai'i Chapter, but they are "donating" a full-time employee to the Chapter office for the month of July. It's part of their internship program, where Patagonia employees can work a few weeks a year for an environmental cause while receiving their regular salary. The grant will be used for the Kealakekua campaign to produce press kits and videos to convey both the *Keep Kealakekua Wild* struggle and the beauty of the place that the community is working so hard to protect. Some funds will also support the legal campaign defending the Land Use Commission's position in favor of protecting agricultural lands. Thank you Patagonia!

Sierra Club Canvasses Hawai'i

In order to expand public awareness of environmental issues and increase our membership, the US Public Interest Research Group is canvassing (going door-to-door) for the Sierra Club in select neighborhoods statewide until September. Canvassers are currently discussing the president's plan to drill in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, but will soon start to canvass on the Chapter's Coastal Campaign, "Keep it Wild!" The canvassers are asking residents to sign petitions or send postcards on the issue, as well as join the Sierra Club. If you are a member and would rather not contribute to the canvass, politely let the canvasser know. Remember, they are out there working for us!

Harry hits a homer!

Mayor Kim and his planning director Chris Yuen have laid out a magnificent vision for the Big Island's future. The proposed revision of the general plan, if approved by the Planning Commission and the County Council, will provide unprecedented protection of our undeveloped coastlines.

David Kimo Frankel

Mayor Kim has proposed to protect the scenic, undeveloped areas surrounding Kealakekua Bay, Pu'uuhonua O Honaunau National Park and Kaloko-Honokohau National Park. The proposed general plan provides significant new protection at Keopuka, Honaunau and Kohanaiki. In response to massive public opposition to resort proposals at Kohanaiki, O'oma, Honaunau Bay and Pohue Bay (site of the proposed Riviera), the Kim administration proposes to remove the resort designations for these areas.

The Moku Loa Group is actively working to make sure that these revisions to the general plan get adopted.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Write a short postcard or letter to:

Planning Commission
 25 Aupuni St.
 Hilo, HI 96720

Encourage them to adopt the Planning Department's recommendations that protect Keopuka, Honaunau, O'oma, Kohanaiki and Pohue Bay.