



MĀLAMA I KA HONUA

A Quarterly Journal of the SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

JANUARY-MARCH
2020



PROTECT



WHAT YOU



LOVE


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In this edition of the *Mālama i ka Honua*, we highlight a few of the individuals that make the Sierra Club of Hawai'i a strong, effective advocate for Hawai'i's unique way of life and the ecosystems it all relies on. People are what make the difference in all that we do. Working together, we build lasting bonds with each other and the amazing wilderness around us. Those bonds are what make it possible for us to do the hard things like hold corporations accountable for their misdeeds and take government agencies to task when they fail to protect us. And it is those bonds that help to make us a truly resilient community. It is because we have each other that we will successfully tackle this climate crisis, so that all of us throughout Oceania thrive once again. I extend my gratitude to those featured in this *Mālama*, to you, the reader, member, and supporter for all that you do for the Sierra Club and Hawai'i's environment, and to those that paved the trail before us, setting the strong foundation that we grow upon each day.

Cheers to a bright new year.

Aloha nō,



Marti Townsend, Chapter Director

To Protect the Planet, Be Proactive

by Colin Yost, Chapter Executive Committee Chair

We normally think of the act of protecting something as inherently defensive. A threat arises to something we love, and we race to its defense to protect it from harm. In these times of Climate Emergency, however, we must look as far into the future as possible and seek to protect the world of our grandchildren with decisive, far-reaching actions.

As I've written before in this space, planting trees is one of the most protective and hopeful long-term things we can do. A massive increase in carbon sequestration is needed worldwide, and locally, trees are the best defense against unbearable heat and humidity. So naturally, I felt the best way to celebrate my recent 50th birthday was to plant 50 trees on a farm managed by friends in east Honolulu.

My friends' farm had plenty of space for new trees, and they needed both fruit trees to increase their food production and native hardwoods to serve as a windbreak. Even better, they introduced me to Ben of Green Field Nursery in Kāne'ohe who, in addition to possessing the knowledge and bearing of a legendary druid, cultivates a large

number of native trees and fruit trees for sale at reasonable prices.

On planting day, it took less than two hours for twelve friends and family and I to plant 56 trees, including koa, milo, cacao, soursop, jackfruit, starfruit, avocado, mango and many others. Our youngest tree planter was just seven years old, but he had no trouble with a shovel and a pickaxe. My 17-year old daughter transformed into a Lorax and planted twice as many trees as anyone else.

The farm will ensure the new trees' survival, and we'll return again to volunteer and help them thrive. I also realized, as I enjoyed a celebratory farm-grown guava and banana smoothie, that there are many other farms and family homesteads where trees are welcomed with open arms. And I discovered a birthday tradition that I'll continue for the rest of my life. If you'd like to celebrate an anniversary of any kind with a tree planting, share your ideas with the Sierra Club and we can grow our community of trees together.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY COLIN!



Justice or Barbarism

by Michael Brune, Sierra Club Executive Director

Republished from Michael Brune's blog on sierraclub.org

Every time I write about social justice, I hear from a few folks: What does this have to do with the Sierra Club? Aren't we straying from our environmental mission when we oppose the border wall or show up for immigrant rights?

But the struggles to protect the environment and our communities can't be separated. Remember the rallying cry of the first People's Climate March? "To change everything, it takes everyone." When we treat concerns about racial, immigrant, or gender justice as afterthoughts in our quest to explore, enjoy, and protect the planet, we lose a lot of people. But when we acknowledge that these issues are deeply connected, we can build a bigger, more powerful movement.

When it comes to climate change, the connections between social justice and environmental issues are obvious. Confronting the climate crisis demands that we change our society in profound and far-reaching ways. We can't keep sacrificing people and places to create prosperity for the few. Instead, we have to build a new economy that prioritizes people over profit.

Change is coming, whether we like it or not. What is up to us is whether our response to the climate crisis changes society for the better or for the worse.

Next November the US will face a turning point. Will we double down on the climate denial and bigotry coming out of the White House? Or will we choose a just transition to a green economy that prioritizes people and health above corporate profits?

We're at a similar turning point with the climate crisis. Our choice is between climate justice and what Naomi Klein and others have called "climate barbarism." Will the nations most responsible for the climate crisis close their borders and turn away climate refugees searching for safety? Or will we build a more humane society and weather the storm together?

We've already seen climate barbarism gain acceptance in the political margins. Rightwing ideologues on YouTube and Twitter are using the climate crisis to fan the flames of xenophobia, nationalism, and white

supremacy, with horrific results. They have inspired mass murderers in El Paso, Texas, and Christchurch, New Zealand. But that's only the most extreme and visible version of this ideology.

This kind of thinking has found its way into the political mainstream as well. In the late 1990s, anti-immigration activists attempted to take over the Sierra Club's board. They wanted to "protect" the environment from people immigrating to the US.

Twenty years later, climate refugees are being demonized by a similar mix of xenophobia and phony environmentalism. Instead of cracking down on the corporations causing climate change, the Trump administration is targeting those forced to leave their homes by violence and climate-driven drought. Indefensible barbarism has become federal policy.

Today the Sierra Club's goal isn't just to end climate change but to achieve climate justice. We support immigrant communities and a path to citizenship for all. We've launched litigation with the ACLU to stop Trump's border wall, standing up for border communities and ecosystems. We've organized for the DREAM Act. And we're working to change corporate trade policies that contribute to forced migration and environmental injustice.

So when bigots invoke "concern for the environment" as a reason to exclude immigrants from our communities -- we push back. Because if we don't push back against their dangerous and hateful ideology, it will only grow.

As more people awaken to the reality of the climate crisis and what it means for their own lives, our challenge will be to offer them hope and a way to create positive change. If we don't, many will fall into despair and inaction. Or worse, turn to hatred and xenophobia.

We can't build a wall to keep out climate change. But we can work toward a world where everyone, in every community, can feel safe -- with access to family-sustaining jobs, affordable health care, clean air and water, and a stable climate.



O'ahu Suing Big Oil, Maui to Sue Next

by Marti Townsend, Chapter Director

In a historic move for the security of our climate future, the City & County of Honolulu is suing Big Oil for deceiving people about the known dangers of climate change and the resulting damages to O'ahu's roads, sewers, and other public infrastructure. Maui County is expected to take action next month. These two counties are joining dozens of other counties, municipalities, and states across the United States that are holding Big Oil accountable for deception around climate change.

Following the passionate testimony of many residents and hundreds of written comments submitted in support, the City Council unanimously approved filing the lawsuit against the fossil fuel companies that lied to us. This litigation, which will be filed soon, will help O'ahu's taxpayers who face tens of billions of dollars in lost infrastructure, land, and adaptation costs. The fossil fuel industry is responsible for the majority of the world's greenhouse gas emissions and knew in the 1960s that their products would cause the climate crisis we are seeing today—they should be made to pay their fair share to fix it.

Just as we saw in the tobacco litigation of the 1990's, these lawsuits are also important in preventing passage of federal laws that would protect these corporations from climate liability.

Stay up-to-date with us at sierraclubhawaii.org/climate.



Climate Advocate: Kaisen Carrillo

Kaisen and his family have farmed kalo for five generations. His parents and grandparents have witnessed changes in the weather impacting their crops. Then in 2018, the world's first rainbomb devastated Kaisen's farms, damaging future crops and causing the loss of infrastructure and equipment. Despite all this, Kaisen and his family remain resilient in the face of climate change.



Climate Advocate: Malia Nobrega

Malia is a Native Hawaiian educator, cultural practitioner, and indigenous rights and climate activist. Malia and her family are among the last traditional salt makers in Hanapēpē. With rising sea levels, eroding beaches and changing weather patterns her family has not been able to harvest salt for six years. Malia is a strong advocate for climate justice, sharing her voice all the way up to the UN.

Watch Kaisen and Malia's stories at sierraclubhawaii.org/protect

A Lot Pending for East Maui

East Maui Leases DEIS by Lucienne de Naie

Since 1878, hundreds of stream diversions on East Maui public lands provided super cheap water to A&B plantation lands in Central Maui. A&B and successor, Mahi Pono, want a 30-year state lease for 33,000 acres of East Maui watershed. A&B's Draft Environmental Impact Statement submitted to support the leases ignores constitutionally protected needs of the streams, stream life, East Maui communities, and Hawaiian kalo farmers and gatherers. The 2,700 page document lacked essential information decision makers need. A Final EIS is expected to be submitted to the BLNR sometime next year. If it does not adequately address all the comments submitted, it can be challenged in court.

Na Wai 'Eha Settlement Sets A New Standard by Lucienne de Naie

Hui o Na Wai 'Eha and Maui Tomorrow have offered a settlement with Mahi Pono to the Water Commission. It finalizes the amount of water that can be diverted in the future from Wailuku, Wai'ehu, Waihe'e and Waikapū streams to irrigate 3,700 acres of Mahi Pono lands, which has been the subject of a contested case since 2016. The settlement helps ensure the long-term recovery of the four legendary streams and the 'Iao aquifer they recharge, as well as hold Mahi Pono accountable for monitoring system flows, reducing system waste, diverting based on agricultural need and providing regular updates and access to community groups. The Water Commission has not yet required any other water diverter on Maui to commit to this level of accountability measures.

Sierra v. BLNR Update by Marti Townsend

The Sierra Club has sued to challenge BLNR's approval of temporary permits to divert water for yet another year. BLNR has failed to ask for basic information about the impact of the stream diversions; provide any protection at all to 13 streams; protect native aquatic life harmed by diversion structures; impose deadlines for stream restoration; ensure that A&B was using the water in a reasonable and beneficial manner; cap the amount of water that A&B can take; require A&B to control the spread of invasive species on public land it uses; and investigate whether A&B has cleaned up its trash. We want BLNR to fulfill its legal obligation of ensuring the public's natural resources are well protected. Trial is set for May 2020.

Stream Protector: Lucienne de Naie

A Huelo resident, Lucienne knows the battle against stream diversions well, living right off of Huelo Stream. A long time Sierra Club member and leader, she has dedicated much of her life to stream restoration and the preservation of Maui's landscape and culture. Mahalo Lucienne for all that you do!



U.S. Supreme Court Hears Lahaina Wastewater Case

by Tanya Dreizin, Chapter Office Manager and Kecia Joy, Maui Group Manager

Despite the Maui County Council's vote and the people's demand for a settlement, the Lahaina Injection Wells Case made it all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court in November. Earthjustice, on behalf of the Sierra Club Maui Group, Surfrider Foundation - Maui Chapter, Hawai'i Wildlife Fund and West Maui Preservation Association, is suing Maui County for violating the Clean Water Act. Maui County's Lahaina wastewater treatment facility discharges millions of gallons of sewage into groundwater that then flows into the ocean, polluting the coastal waters and destroying wildlife habitat.

Maui County does not deny that its wastewater pollution reaches the ocean, yet claims that it does not violate the Clean Water Act because it flows indirectly into the ocean through groundwater. The oral arguments and the evidence given by Earthjustice at the Supreme Court were extremely encouraging. Several of the justices, including those who tend to be more conservative, asked questions that indicated they did not want to let Maui County off the hook.

In addition, Mayor Victorino is also currently being sued by Maui Tomorrow, Representative McKelvey, former council member Joanne Johnson, and Archie Kalepa for going against the Council's vote to settle this case.

You can listen to the oral arguments at bit.ly/oyez-lahaina. A decision is not expected until the Spring of 2020—so there is still time for the County to withdraw and settle the injection well case. Tell Mayor Victorino you want him to honor the Council's vote and actually invest in improvements to the Lahaina wastewater facility at bit.ly/mayor-settle or call him at 808-270-7855.



Earthjustice and allies in front of the Supreme Court. Photo by Earthjustice.

First Step Toward Kaiwi Coast's Recovery Taken

By Reese Liggett, O'ahu Group Member

In the last issue, these pages told the story of a devastated section of Kaiwi called Wāwāmalu Beach—just east of Sandy Beach Park. But, over the past nine months, O'ahu Group members brought the Hawai'i Kai neighborhood board's attention to the depredation on what residents proudly call the Maunaloa-Makapu'u State Scenic Byway. O'ahu Group members pointed out to the board that the natural features along a scenic byway are to be protected—not trashed. NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service sent a letter pointing out the danger that offroading vehicles present to resting monk seals on the beach and leaders of Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui spoke up to support our members' efforts.

Finally, on October 29th the Hawai'i Kai Neighborhood Board, chaired by Roberta Mayor, passed a resolution asking the City's Department of Parks and Recreation work with Councilmember Tommy Waters in the budget process to provide resources. These resources would help with planning a parking area and natural features with protective bouldering or other barricades to prevent further damage from offroad driving. This will provide much-needed parking and access to the public and allow nature to heal the natural features—like sand dunes, native vegetation, shore rock formations, and the monk seal habitat that is the coral-sand beach.

Now it is up to Sierra Club members to continue participation in the process and ensure that the Hawai'i Kai Neighborhood Board's resolution is not for naught. To see a video discussion about Wāwāmalu Beach featuring Councilmember Tommy Waters and Reese visit bit.ly/wawa-m



Burned out vehicle, burned up vegetation among dunes at Wāwāmalu Beach.



East O'ahu Protector: Reese Liggett

Reese has been instrumental in the Sierra Club of Hawai'i and the Ka Iwi Coast for over 34 years. A long time outings leader and community advocate, Reese has worked to preserve the remaining wild lands of East O'ahu for all of us to enjoy. Mahalo Reese for all that you do!



LĀ HO'OU LU
PAE MOKU
RETREE HAWAI'I

Save the date!
OCTOBER 30, 2020
FOR
**TREE PLANTINGS
ACROSS THE ISLANDS**
TO FIGHT THE
CLIMATE CRISIS

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Trees for the Future

by Randy Ching, Service Trip Program Coordinator

Do you want to help solve the climate crisis? One way is to help keep recently planted trees alive so they can sequester CO2 for many years to come. The Mālama Tree Crew invites you to join us in this endeavor.

The Mālama Tree Crew volunteers to weed, mulch and water trees so they will thrive and sequester carbon. We also help landowners with reforestation and watershed projects—and we can definitely use your help!

Currently, the Mālama Tree Crew is focusing on 4 sites: Akupu Enclosure and Malama Learning Center planting site at Pālehua, Ala Mahamoe and Hāwea Heiau. Here is a summary of each site:

Akupu Enclosure—restoration of 6 acres for 'elepaio habitat. We have planted 35 native trees and are working to ensure their survival. Lonomea, lama and koa are the main species.

Mālama Learning Center planting site—native trees, shrubs and ground cover. Volunteers have planted hundreds of native plants in this former dry land forest area. The Mālama Tree Crew does maintenance once or twice a month, with an emphasis on keeping the fast-growing grass from burying the plants. Since the area is hot and sunny, we also water the plants on every trip. As a bonus, the views of O'ahu's south shore from this site are incredible.

Ala Mahamoe—located near Tripler Hospital. A thousand trees were planted in November of 2018. The Mālama Tree Crew is helping the remaining trees (about half of the original planting) stay alive. The current effort involves removing the grass from a section where a'ali'i is the dominant plant. The grass grows very fast so there is a constant need for maintenance. We are working with the Ko'olau Mountain Watershed Partnership.

Hāwea Heiau—a partnership with the Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui in Maunaloa. The Hāwea Heiau is a community-based project where volunteers have been working monthly for several years. Boy Scouts have recently planted trees in this hot, dry area and the Mālama Tree Crew is watering them.

Coming soon is a planting of 100 trees near the Hawai'i Kai Golf Course driving range and the Mālama Tree Crew will be helping Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui with the maintenance of those trees.

Visit bit.ly/SCH-TREES for upcoming dates of service and for more details. Any and all are welcome in our mission to care for trees for the future!



Nate's Adventures: Pu'u Wa'awa'a



by Nate Yuen, Chapter Outings Chair

I recently went with the Sierra Club on a 2-day service project to help restore the native dry forest at Pu'u Wa'awa'a on Hawai'i Island, which once harbored an incredible diversity of plant and animal species.

Randy Ching, the Hawai'i Chapter's Service Trip Coordinator, organized the event with Mark Hanson – the "Sandalwood Man", and Liana Macdonald-Kainoa, Nāpu'u Conservation Manager with DOFAW.

Our objectives were to do: (1) tree mālama by clearing fast-growing grass to give newly planted trees a chance to grow, and (2) plant native trees.

We cut and rolled back kikuyu grass to make space for many baby trees we planted on the slopes of Pu'u Wa'awa'a.



We stayed overnight at the Protea Cabin – a quaint little cabin with a fireplace and all the amenities of home. We ate well and enjoyed each other's company in front of the fireplace after a long day's work.

We need help planting and caring for trees – there are lots of upcoming tree events, be sure to check bit.ly/SCH-TREES to find an event or service project near you!

WINNAHS

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i received the **Community Wavemaker Award** at the Surfrider Foundation's 2019 John Kelly Awards. Thank you to all our volunteers that made some waves this year & mahalo Surfrider for the award!



Lucienne de Naie, Hawai'i Chapter's Vice-Chair and long-time Maui Group leader was recently honored in **AKAKU's 2019 "Walk of Heroes"**, complete with enshrined hand and footprints. Mahalo Lucienne for all your hard work & thank you AKAKU!



Water at Risk as Navy Seeks Another 25 Years of Leaky Fuel Tanks at Red Hill

By David Kimo Frankel and Marti Townsend

You think the Trump White House is leaky, have you seen the fuel tanks buried at Red Hill on O'ahu? A recent report prepared by a consultant to the U.S. Navy concluded that there is a 27.6% probability that the Navy's Red Hill Fuel Tanks will leak 30,000 gallons of fuel every year. That means in a 10-year period, at least 90,000 gallons of fuel could leak from these massive, antiquated fuel tanks. And the Navy thinks it is reasonable to operate these tanks in place for another 25 years. So that would be 180,000 gallons of fuel possibly lost in our environment.

What makes this so outrageous is these enormous rust buckets are located a mere 100 feet above the Southern O'ahu Basal Aquifer, a.k.a O'ahu's principal source of drinking water.



Standing room only at the EPA and DOH's public meeting at Moanalua Middle School

Is it time to shut these tanks down and relocate this fuel? You bet it is! Hundreds of people have attended dozens of hearings and meetings over the last five years to help the Navy, the Environmental Protection Agency, and State Health Department to come to its senses about the future of the Red Hill tank facility. Out of more than 500 people at a hearing in November at Moanalua Middle School, more than 50 people testified and only one was in support of the Navy's position. One testifier asked everyone who agreed with relocating the tanks to stand and nearly everyone did except the five men in naval uniforms. After Ernest Lau, managing engineer for the Honolulu Board of Water Supply testified in strong opposition to the Navy's proposal for keeping the fuel in place, the crowd erupted into a standing ovation.

Unfortunately, there has been little reason to applaud anything the Department of Health has done under the direction of Keith Kawaoka, Deputy Director for Environmental Services. He has done such a good job of supporting the Navy's proposal to extend the operation

of the Red Hill fuel tanks to 2045 that Navy officials did not even attend the public hearing to amend the Health Department regulations in their favor. Everyone else at the meeting testified in strong opposition.

State law requires underground storage tanks be designed, constructed, installed, upgraded, maintained, repaired, and operated to prevent releases of the stored regulated substances into the environment for the operational life of the tanks. Yet, these particular tanks at Red Hill have already leaked at least 200,000 gallons of fuel since they were built in 1943 and are expected to leak at least that much more over the next 20 years. Clearly, the tanks fail to satisfy the minimum requirements of state law.

To help the Health Department better protect O'ahu's future drinking water supply, the Sierra Club sued the Department to prevent it from automatically approving the Navy's permit request to operate the tanks in place, and we won. Now, we are in the midst of a contested case hearing on that permit application, along with the Honolulu Board of Water Supply. We will have more to report in the coming months on the progress of that case. In the meantime, O'ahu water drinkers unite! We must convince Governor David Ige to not approve the regulations extending the operation of the Red Hill fuel tanks. Find out more about the Red Hill tank issue and sign our petition at bit.ly/SCH-REDHILL.



Water Protector: Denise Boisvert-Jorgensen

Although beach cleanups, weeding invasive plants, and picking up litter on daily walks may be Denise Boisvert-Jorgensen's favorite forms of exercise, the push for the relocation of the U.S. Navy's Red Hill tanks has become this Waikiki resident's cause célèbre. Her testimonies always remind people of the human errors that caused the Exxon Valdez, Deepwater Horizon, and Flint, MI disasters. She likes to conclude with, "The tanks have served their purpose, and have worn out their welcome!" Mahalo Denise for all that you do!



O'ahu Group Outings

SEE PAGE 10 FOR GENERAL OUTINGS INFORMATION

View the latest hike listings and online registration options at bit.ly/SCH-outdoors.

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

Classification of outings: (E) Educational/Interpretation, (C) Conservation, (F) Family/Fun, (S) Service

Sunday, January 5

Photography Hike: 'Thi'ihilauakea Crater Hike (E)

Koko Head, moderate/3 miles, ridge

Reservations required at least one week prior. Contact John for reservations. We may spot some humpback whales from above as we make our way into the crater to view rare native plants. Leaders: John Shimogawa, 227-9925; Clyde Kobashigawa, clydekobashigawa@hawaii.rr.com; Susan Tom; Curtis Kawamoto

Saturday, January 18

James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge (E/F)

Kahuku, easy/1 mile

This is an easy, interpretive walk to see and photograph native endangered Hawaiian water birds and migratory birds that spend the winter here. There is a limit of 25 attendees. Reservations required to csoares48@gmail.com. Leaders: Colleen Soares, csoares48@gmail.com; John Shimogawa

Saturday, January 25

Pālehua 'Elepaio Enclosure "Akupu" Service (S)

Reservations required at least one week prior. Contact Clyde for reservations with first and last name and phone number contact. Space is limited as we will be working in a sensitive area where the endangered native 'elepaio is nesting and there are some native plants already growing which we don't want to disturb or damage. We will probably hear and see some native 'elepaio as we work in the area, so bring a camera as well. Pack a lunch and/or snack and definitely mosquito repellent. Bring gloves and hand tools for weeding alien plants in the enclosure. Leaders: Clyde Kobashigawa, clydekobashigawa@hawaii.rr.com; Susan Tom; Curtis Kawamoto

Saturday, January 25

Whale Count with Humpback Whale Sanctuary

Meet at 7:30am at the back porch of Church of the Crossroads. Participate in counting Hawaiian Humpback whales with the National Marine Sanctuary. Learn about whales and other marine life. Training provided. No swimming. Location to be determined. Leader: Sherine Boomla, boomla@hawaii.edu

Sunday, January 26

Hike Maunawili Trail

Maunawili, easy/4 miles, contour

This hike is for all ages, families and beginners. Turns around at huge iron wood trees where we will pause with view for snacks before returning to the trailhead. Meet at 1pm at the Pali Scenic turnout at hairpin turn while descending Pali Highway toward Kailua. Reservations required by January 25. Leader: Reese Liggett, wliggett@twc.com, 222-2088

Saturday, February 8

MCBH Kāne'ohe Bay Service Project (S)

Reservations required. Due to new MCBH regulations, all participants must register with DBIDS at least one week before outing to secure access to base. Contact Dan Anderson at 489-1695 or danderhi@gmail.com. We will be working with the Environmental Division helping clear wetlands of mangrove plants to create habitat for Hawai'i's endangered waterbirds. Because MCBH is a secured military facility, we must provide your name to the base in advance. We'll send you a waiver which you must bring with you. Leader: Dan Anderson 489-1695, danderhi@gmail.com

Sunday, February 9

Likeke Loop (F)

Kāne'ohe, moderate/7 miles, contour

Traditional contour hike below steep Ko'olau cliffs between Likelike and Pali Highways. Great views of Kāne'ohe and Kailua Bay. We loop back taking time to tour Ho'omaluhia Botanical Garden. Leader: Dan Anderson, 489-1695, danderhi@gmail.com

Sunday, February 23

Photography Hike: Pālehua-Palikea (E)

Makakilo, moderate/2 miles, ridge

Reservations required at least one week prior. Contact Clyde for reservations with first and last name and phone number contact. Space limited, so make your reservations early. The pace of photography hikes is extremely slow. Pack a camera, lunch and/or snacks, and water. Not for those uneasy about heights. Due to safety concerns, only adults will be accepted. Native plants, native happy face spiders, scenic panoramas, and native tree snails are the attraction in this preserve. Leaders: Clyde Kobashigawa, clydekobashigawa@hawaii.rr.com; John Shimogawa, 227-9925; Curtis Kawamoto; Susan Tom

Saturday, February 29

Whale Count with Humpback Whale Sanctuary

Whale count with the Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary. Meet at 7:30am at the back porch of Church of the Crossroads. Participate in counting Hawaiian Humpback whales with the National Marine Sanctuary.

O'ahu Group Outings

Learn about whales and other marine life. Training provided. No swimming. Location to be determined. Leader: Sherine Boomla, boomla@hawaii.edu

Saturday, March 7

Late Hike: Pu'u Pia

Mānoa, moderate/2 miles, 500 ft elevation gain

This short hike in the back of Mānoa Valley takes us to the top of a short hill (pu'u) with a surprisingly good view. Reservations required. Meet at 1pm. Leader: Jean Fujikawa, jean.fujikawa@gmail.com

Saturday, March 14

Pālehua Service Project - Trail Clearing (S)

Reservations required at least one week prior. Contact John for reservations. Space is limited due to parking, and also as we will be working along an existing trail that is not used very much to develop it as a fire break. Pack a lunch and/or snack and lots of water. Bring gloves, pruning saws, pruning shears, loppers, mosquito repellent, and lots of enthusiasm! The area is known for beautiful scenic panoramas from the ridge overlooking Nānākuli Valley. You may also hear and see some native birds, so bring a camera too. Leaders: John Shimogawa, 227-9925; Clyde Kobashigawa, clydekobashigawa@hawaii.rr.com; Curtis Kawamoto; Susan Tom

Sunday, March 15

Makiki-Tantalus Hike

Makiki, moderate/3-5 miles

Explore 3 to 5 trails in the Makiki-Tantalus trail system. Mostly shady. Some pretty views of Honolulu and the

ocean. Some steep drop offs. Muddy in places. Some native, indigenous plants. Important watershed area for O'ahu. Leader: Sherine Boomla, boomla@hawaii.edu

Wednesday, March 25 to Saturday, March 28

Kahaule'a Natural Area Reserve System (NARS) Service Project -Hawai'i Island (S)

We will be working with NARS clearing mainly kahili ginger. We will access the area via Volcanoes National Park where it is an easy 1/4 mile hike from Thurston Lava tube area to the work site. This a relatively new NARS site that is dominated with alien kahili ginger and a great way to see how it evolves into a truly native Hawaiian Natural Area Reserve. There are native birds above in the native 'ōhi'a lehua forest trees. Our accommodation will be at a house in Hilo at the NARS base yard. This trip requires a Wednesday evening departure to the Big Isle. Leader: Clyde Kobashigawa, clydekobashigawa@hawaii.rr.com

Saturday, March 28

Whale Count with Humpback Whale Sanctuary

Whale count with the Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary. Meet at 7:30am at the back porch of Church of the Crossroads. Participate in counting Hawaiian Humpback whales with the National Marine Sanctuary. Learn about whales and other marine life. Training provided. No swimming. Location to be determined. Leader: Sherine Boomla, boomla@hawaii.edu

SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS POLICY

The 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 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 permitted only at breaks and then only if the smell of smoke cannot be detected by other hikers. Outing leaders may prohibit smoking if, in their judgment, a fire hazard exists.

Bring with you: a liter of water (2 liters for strenuous hikes), lunch, sunscreen, insect repellent, raingear/jacket, and daypack. Boots, shoes with traction grooves (no loafers) or tabis are required. Unless otherwise noted, no bare feet or sandals of any type will be allowed.

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

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

For specific islands, each group may have its own outing policy. Please look at each group's page or website for more specific information on where to meet or what to bring with you.



Kaua'i Group Report

Clear Cutting Coastal Trees Along the County Bike Path

Coastal ironwoods served as an important windbreak protecting agriculture when Kaua'i's east side was covered in sugarcane.

But since 2001 when the county approved the Keālia Kai agricultural subdivision and condominium development, its landowners have inappropriately found opportunities to cut down these mature, healthy coastal trees.

Keālia Kai is a gated community of 29 luxury residence "farm dwellings" on 300-acres of agriculturally zoned beachfront property. In early November, the Keālia Kai lot 10 landowner, in collaboration with the County Department of Parks and Recreation, wrongly clear-cut a broad swath of forested coastline.

The denuded landscape is park land owned by the county. It is adjacent to the county's multi-use coastal path, Ke Ala Hele Makalae. The zoning is designated a Special Management Area and State Conservation District. Both the County Planning Department and the State Office of Coastal and Conservation Lands have jurisdiction, but no permits were sought.

The clear cut area is located south of Kumukumu Stream and extends north to the historic Pineapple Dump, which a concrete pier used in the 1900's to discard pineapple waste into the ocean.



Area along county bike path wrongly cleared of coastal ironwood trees. Photo by Rayne Regush.

Apparently, the landowner's request was to top trees and cut overgrown grass. County Parks and Recreation staff gave approval without seeking guidance from the agencies that oversee coastal land use. Furthermore, there was no county staff onsite to monitor the work to ensure things are done properly.

Whether this clearcutting of oceanfront trees was intended to enhance views for the luxury home under construction mauka of this area, or to deter an encampment for the homeless, the outcome is fraught with negative impacts.

First there is the loss of shade valued by path users and fishers. The devastation also results in the loss of wildlife habitat, loss of topsoil from runoff and coastal erosion.

Compounding the problem was the possibility of pollutants at Kumukumu Stream and the slow response to investigate whether poison was used to kill the tree stumps, or if the heavy equipment excavators were leaking fluids.

Instead of imposing a stop-work order, the county let the same contractor proceed with debris removal. And, instead of hand clearing as required by conservation district rules, heavy equipment was used. That same equipment also damaged Kumukumu Stream Bridge, breaking apart railing panels and portions of concrete.



Aerial view of the area cleared of ironwood trees along the bike path. Photo by Erik Burton.

Kaua'i Group Report & Outings



Heavy machinery used to clear debris. Photo by Noreen Dougherty.

In addition to county and state regulations not being followed, the landowner also disregarded the Keālia Kai Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CC&Rs) regarding landscaping and grubbing. And, according to the CC&Rs, the county has the right to “exercise any remedy at law or in equity compel compliance, or cure the default, breach or violation” and recover attorney’s fees.

Although county leadership has apologized for this deplorable incident, it raises many questions about county procedures and the failure to adhere to environmental rules. Educating staff is certainly needed, along with improving response time to community concerns, and pursuing fines for violations.

Remediation Plan

The Kaua'i Group has asked to participate in the development of a restoration plan for this clear cut area. Felled trees greater than 6 inches in diameter should be replaced with an equivalent number of trees. Remediation should include a coastal landscape plan that incorporates an ecosystem-based approach with native plants and trees that provide shade.

Prior to re-vegetation, a qualified landscaper must survey the site and make recommendations regarding the use of irrigation, fertilizer and herbicides in establishing new growth, as well as upkeep and maintenance of the area once established.

UPCOMING OUTINGS:

SEE PAGE 10 FOR GENERAL OUTINGS INFORMATION

Join us on one of these great outings to discover the natural treasures of our island. Mileage is total miles. Outings focus on (C) Conservation/Interpretative, (E) Educational, (F) Family/fun, and/or (S) Service. Check bit.ly/SCH-Kauai-Hikes for hike schedule updates. Requested donation for members and participants under 18 is \$1. For all others \$5.

Have you ever thought about being an Outings leader?

If so, please contact JudyDalton123@gmail.com or call 482-1129 to find out how much fun you could be having while giving people the opportunity to explore the island, enjoy its beauty, and inspire them to protect it.

Friday, January 10

Donkey Beach (Kuna Bay) Sunset to Full Moon Coastal Walk (C/E/F)

East shore, moderate/4.5 miles

We start off in the late afternoon meeting at Kapa'a Library and shuttle our cars to start our walk along the coastal path from Donkey Beach ending back at the library as we watch an almost full moon rise over the ocean. Learn how the Planning Commission was legally challenged to assure increased building setbacks along the ridge at Donkey Beach to preserve the views on and along the coastline. See the area that was cleared of a large swath of tall, healthy trees in November without a permit.

Leader: Judy Dalton, 808-482-1129

Saturday, January 11

Māhā'ulepū Coastal Hike (C/E/F)

Po'ipū area, moderate/4 miles, mild elevation change on a rocky trail. Spectacular coastal walk with breathtaking views along this magnificent coastline! Leader: Vivian Hager, 808-652-3234

Sunday, January 12

Keālia to Anahola Coastal Walk (C/E/F)

East shore, moderate/5 miles, +/- 250 feet

We will thoroughly explore the coast and enjoy the lovely views of the East shore between Keālia and Anahola. The first part of this outing is easy on the bike/walk path up until Donkey Beach. The rest is unpaved and moderately rated. Leader: Julio Magalhães, 650-906-2594

Saturday, January 25

Descent into Waimea Canyon: The Kukui Trail (C/E/F)
Intermediate/5.5 miles, +/-2300 feet

We will hike from the rim of Waimea Canyon down to its base and admire the majesty of this canyon along the way. Leader: Julio Magalhães, 650-906-2594

Sunday, January 26

Kuilau Ridge Trail (C/E/F)

East side, easy to moderate/3.5miles, +/-280 feet

A gentle steady walk on a wide path with sweeping view of lush valleys and Mount Wai'ale'ale and Makaleha Mountain Ranges. This trail offers great rewards without a lot of effort. Glorious views and ever-present bird songs reward you along this trail. Hike to bridge and picnic tables for lunch. Leader: Vivian Hager, 808-652-3234

Thursday, February 6

Māhā'ulepū Sunset to Moonlight Walk (C/E/F)

South shore, moderate/4 miles, mild elevation change

Start out mid-afternoon from Shipwreck Beach walking along the coast to Māhā'ulepū. Enjoy the setting sun and a nearly full moon rise. Spectacular coastal walk. We'll shuttle cars for an easy trip back to the trailhead. Leader: Bill Snyder, 808-652-1718

Sunday, February 9

Wai Koa Loop Trail (C/E/F)

North shore, easy/4.5 miles, +/-200 feet

We'll pass through the Kīlauea Forest and then the largest mahogany plantation in North America. Then, the trail opens up and we'll enjoy impressive views of Mount Namahana, which means “the twin branches”, and hike near lovely farms and ranches. Leader: Julio Magalhães, 650-906-2594

Saturday, February 15

Jewel of Koke'e (C/E/F)

Strenuous/7 miles

Spectacular hike through forests of Koke'e, Black Pipe Trail, Canyon Trail, and Po'omau Canyon Lookout. Cross over Waipo'o Falls for a view of Waimea Canyon to the ocean. Leader: Ken Fasig, 808-346-1229

Saturday, February 22

Kuilau Ridge Trail (C/E/F)

East side, easy to moderate/3.5miles, +/-280 feet

A gentle steady walk on a wide path with sweeping view of lush valleys and Mount Wai'ale'ale and Makaleha Mountain Ranges. This trail offers great rewards without a lot of effort. Glorious views and ever-present bird songs reward you along this trail. Hike to bridge and picnic tables for lunch. Leader: Vivian Hager, 808-652-3234

Kaua'i Group Outings

Sunday, February 23

Nounou Mountain: Ascent from the East (C/E/F)

East side, intermediate/ 3.2 miles, +/-1000 feet

Nounou Mountain, which is more popularly called “Sleeping Giant”, offers spectacular panoramic views of the east side of Kaua'i. We will explore the east side and summit. Leader: Julio Magalhães, 650-906-2594

Saturday, March 7

Waimea Canyon Rim Vistas Hike (C/E/F)

West side, intermediate/4.5 miles, +/-1100 feet

Explore lovely panoramic views of the Waimea Canyon and ocean as we follow the Canyon Trail to Waipo'o Falls and then continue beyond the waterfall on a fun adventure getting to a spectacular vista point that is infrequently visited. Leader: Julio Magalhães, 650-906-2594

Sunday, March 8

Wailua Beach to Nukoli'i Beach Sunset to Full Moon Walk (C/E/F)

East shore, easy/2 miles

Enjoy the full moon glistening on the ocean as we walk along the wide sandy beach. Learn about the Sierra Club's role in stopping construction of a 3.5-mile long beach destroying seawall along the pristine coastline between Wailua and Nukoli'i Beaches back in 1996. We'll have a picnic dinner before we start off on our delightful coastal walk. Leader: Judy Dalton, 482-1129

Saturday, March 14

Nawiliwili Lighthouse Coastal Walk (C/E/F)

Moderate/3 miles

Hike from Kalapakī Beach to Nawiliwili Lighthouse, then along the coast to Hanamā'ulu Bay with shuttle to return. Enjoy views along the rugged coast. Leader: Ken Fasig, 808-346-1229

Saturday, March 21

Nā Pali Coast Trail to Hanakāpi'ai Beach (C/E/F)

North shore, intermediate/4 miles, +/-1200 feet

Hike begins at Ke'e Beach and follows the Kalalau Trail with its stunning coastal views for 2 miles to Hanakāpi'ai Beach. After a relaxing, soothing lunch at the beach, we will return along the same route. The scenery and views are truly spectacular on this personal favorite hike. Leader: Julio Magalhães, 650-906-2594

Maui Group Report



E Ola I Ka Wai

The battle over the East Maui streams continues. After dragging their feet for over 20 years, the East Maui Irrigation Company (EMI, owned by Alexander & Baldwin and Mahi Pono) published a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to justify their request for a 30 year (!) lease of the East Maui watershed lands in late September. The community was given only 45 days to review and comment on the 2,700 page document, but the reaction was swift and decisive. Despite its bulk, the DEIS did not address fundamental questions such as how much water EMI has been taking from each stream and how much was left to nourish stream life that depend on them—the vegetation and downstream residents. Many of those who commented suggested that the DEIS was in such poor shape that it would be best to start over from scratch. Sierra Club and many others will be watching for EMI's responses to the comments, which are required by law, and demand that the company show its cards before any long term lease is approved.

The Board of Land and Natural Resources is also responsible for the current state of affairs. Sierra Club has sued the BLNR for breach of responsibility as stewards of public lands and waters. How can they grant renewed "revocable permits" to EMI/A&B year after year without knowing how much water is being taken from each stream, how much is left, what the consequences of the water diversions are for the native flora and fauna, what EMI/A&B are doing to stop the spread of invasive species, etc? Read more on page 4.

Fight Climate Change, Plant Trees!

The Maui Group has launched a campaign for a statewide tree planting day in late 2020, with strong support from other environmental, community and conservation organizations. Why plant trees? A better question might be "why not?". Trees bind and improve the soil, reducing the risks of runoff into the ocean and flooding; provide shade and cooler temperatures; soften and beautify urban landscapes; improve air and water quality. But with the accelerating climate crisis we are facing, there is an even more urgent and important reason: trees (and other plants) sequester greenhouse gases.

The roadmap to replacing our fossil fuel based power generation with green, renewable sources is clear, although our electricity utility and State regulatory organization are woefully behind where we need to be in the transition. The move from internal combustion engines in ground transportation to environmentally friendly technologies like electricity and hydrogen must be accelerated. We have to reduce our dependence on the heavily greenhouse gas emitting air transportation and shipping of food and other necessities to Hawai'i while encouraging the use of biodiesel and other technologies to replace jet and diesel fuel. But this will still take time

and we don't have time. New technologies to suck greenhouse gases out of the atmosphere are still in their infancy, with a whiff of science fiction, while the ability of trees and other plants to consume and bind carbon dioxide is fully established.

The campaign is primarily focused on planting more trees and plants where there is a history of planting and an infrastructure to support plant survival—conservation lands, parks, schools, churches, hotels and resorts, golf courses, open space corridors, condominium green areas, even homeowners' backyards.

Would you like to help make this happen where you live? Please visit retree-hawaii.org and email info@retree-hawaii.org.

Mākena Resort Update

The Sierra Club, Maui Tomorrow, and Ho'oponopono O Mākena representatives met with archaeologists and Mākena Resort staff in October to review new studies and other updates. A master plan and EIS that was required in a 2017 settlement agreement for all 1,800 acres is expected by summer 2020. The addendum surveys found dozens of new archaeology sites even though the land had been disturbed by some bulldozing. Many artifacts were found and evidence that a large village had existed in over 25 acres between Old Mākena Road and Mākena Alanui. Additional studies are planned on the Mākena Landing site and because of recent findings, the south parcel layout will also be redesigned and additional areas in the northern 22 acres were set aside for "no grading". The site plan was changed from 5 condos and 15 large lots to 20 large lots and no condo buildings! This area will now be part of a cultural preserve. It is noted that without legal intervention, this history would have been buried, lost, and forgotten.

Much more remains to be discovered on the 47 acres above Mākena Landing and the hundreds of acres of surrounding the Mākena Resort lands. The Sierra Club will be at the table making sure the many settlement promises for affordable housing, large preserves, beach access, restoring access to historic trails, and protection for cultural sites are kept.

Preservation of the Hāna Coast

The Sierra Club along with Ke Ao Hali'i gave presentations and testimony in November to the Economic Development & Budget Committee, asking for open space funds to purchase the Mokae Parcel near Hāna. It is an opportunity to protect and preserve the Hana coast for generations to come. The meeting was broadcast on akaku.org.



SIERRA CLUB
OF HAWAII
MĀLAMA I KA HONUA

SEE PAGE 10 FOR GENERAL OUTINGS INFORMATION

Please register for all hikes with the leader listed in the description; provide your email and a cell phone number. Bring lunch, water, raingear, sunscreen, and appropriate footwear. Hiking boots are recommended for longer hikes. A donation of \$5 (\$3 for Sierra Club members) is requested of hikers over age 14 except where otherwise indicated.

Hike description key: (C) conservation focus, such as discussing how to conserve this land for future generations to enjoy; (E) educational, such as visiting and learning about archeological sites and naming the plants and flowers; (S) service outing (no donation requested).

We always welcome more hike leaders! Contact sierraclubmauigroup@gmail.com if you are interested.

Check bit.ly/SCH-Maui-Outdoors for updates to the schedule.

If the hike description states an EMI waiver is required: East Maui Irrigation Company (EMI) allows access to their trails as long as each hiker has a waiver. An EMI waiver is absolutely required for EMI hikes. Call in your waiver request at 579-9516 well in advance to make an appointment to sign it. Then go to EMI's Pā'ia office at 497 Baldwin Avenue to sign the waiver. It is open Monday-Friday 7am-3pm. Waivers cannot be mailed, faxed, or emailed. Please be considerate of EMI staff time and pick up the waiver 5 days in advance if possible. The waiver must be brought on the hike and shown to the hike leader.

Saturday, January 4

Wailea 670 Archaeological Hike (C/E)

South Maui, 2-3 miles

Help find and clean Hawaiian archaeological sites and trails hidden above Wailea with archaeologist Dr. Jeanne Schaaf. No experience is necessary. Rugged terrain. Closed shoes/boots, long pants and good balance a must. Bring water, hiking stick, and camera. Meet at 3pm at top of Kaukahi Rd in Wailea. Limit 18. Leader: Lucienne de Naie, laluzmaui@gmail.com or 214-0147

Sunday, January 5

Pāpā'a'ea Trail Hike (C/E)

Huelo, 4 miles

Hike on hunters road through a beautiful forest to a waterfall pool. Uneven and sometimes muddy areas. If conditions allow we can cool off in the pool area. Be prepared for sunny and/or rainy conditions. Bring water and snacks. Meet at 8am at the Ha'ikū Community Center.

Maui Group Outings

Limit 15. Email leader: Miranda Camp, mauimiranda@hotmail.com. EMI waiver required, see instructions above.

Sunday, January 12

Kapalua Resort Coastal Trail Hike (C/E)

West side, 4 miles

Mostly level hike on spectacular Kapalua Resort Coastal Trail. Meet at 8:30am at the Maui Ocean Center parking lot in Ma'alaea (the end near the gas station) to carpool. If you live on the west side, meet 9:30am at D.T. Fleming Beach Park (the south parking lot) which is where the trail starts. Bring water, lunch, sun protection, camera, and optionally a swimsuit. Limit 18. Leader: Rob Weltman, robw@worldspot.com; please provide cell phone

Friday, January 17

Ma'alaea Cultural Sites and Petroglyphs (C/E)

Ma'alaea, 2-3 miles

Explore ancient Ma'alaea village, exposed by recent fires, and one of Maui's best collections of petroglyphs. Rugged terrain. Short distances but uphill. Closed shoes/boots, long pants and good balance a must. Bring water, hat, hiking stick, and a camera. Meet 9am at mauka end of Maui Ocean Center parking lot. Limit 15. Leader: Lucienne de Naie, laluzmaui@gmail.com or 214-0147

Saturday, January 25

Hāmākua Mālama Day (C/E/S)

Ha'ikū, 3 miles

Community service outing to remove trash and enjoy magnificent coastal trails on 267 acres of oceanfront Hāmākua lands. Bring gloves, hand tools, water, hat, lunch, and sturdy shoes. Meet 9am at Ha'ikū Community Center. Limit 15. Leader: Lucienne de Naie, laluzmaui@gmail.com or 214-0147

Sunday, January 26

Kanaio Stupa (C/E)

Kanaio, 2 miles

Some steep grades. Hike up the south slope of Haleakalā to beautiful shrine built in 1982 and view of south coast. Meet 9am at Kēōkea Park (upper Kula) to carpool. Bring lunch, water and rain gear. Limit 18. Leader: Rob Weltman, robw@worldspot.com; please provide cell phone

Sunday, February 2

Waihe'e Coastal Dunes and Wetlands Refuge (C/E)

Waihe'e, 2 miles

This area was acquired by HILT to keep it from development. The walk covers about two miles on level ground and we will probably take about three hours to do it. There is no shade, so bring sunscreen, hat, and plenty of water. Although the paths are well worn, covered shoes are recommended on this rocky coast. There are archaeological features, unspoiled views, and we may see whales, monk seals, turtles, Hawaiian birds, and native plants.

We will stop for an early lunch or snack at the turning point. If you are willing and able to pick up trash on the way back, bring a bag. Meet at 8:30am across from Waihe'e School on Kahekili Highway. Leader: Rob Weltman, robw@worldspot.com; please provide cell phone

Sunday, February 9

Wailea 670 Ahupua'a Boundary Hike (C/E)

South Maui, 2-3 miles

Explore the ancient ahupua'a boundary sites where Palau'ea and Keauhou ahupua'a meet with archaeologist Dr. Jeanne Schaaf and Hawaiian cultural guides. Rugged terrain. Closed shoes/boots, long pants and good balance a must. Bring water, hiking stick, and a camera. Meet 3pm at top of Kaukahi Rd in Wailea. Limit 18. Leader: Lucienne de Naie, laluzmaui@gmail.com or 214-0147

Friday, February 14

Mākena Landing Historical Hike (C/E)

South Maui, 3 miles

Learn from kama'aina residents about Mākena Landing's history and visit Hawaiian sites that have recently been uncovered, documented and preserved thanks to the Sierra Club and Mākena's kanaka maoli descendants. Some uneven terrain. Closed shoes recommended. Bring water, snacks, and a camera. Meet 8:30am at public parking lot across from Keawala'i (Mākena) church. Limit 18. Leader: Lucienne de Naie, laluzmaui@gmail.com or 214-0147

Sunday, February 16

Kanaio Beach (C/E)

La Perouse, 6 miles

Kings Highway from La Perouse Bay to south of major lava flow with beach oasis. Bring lunch, water, hat and sunscreen. Bring bathing suit (also water shoes for the rocky entry) if you want to get wet. Meet at Kihei Community Center at 8am. Leader: Rob Weltman, robw@worldspot.com; please provide cell phone

Saturday, February 22

Hāmākua Coast Hike & Mālama Day (C/E/S)

Ha'ikū, 3 miles

Hike to stunning Kuiaha Bay and help mālama coastal trails along the way. Bring gloves, hand tools, water, hat, lunch, and sturdy shoes. Meet 9am at Ha'ikū Community Center. Limit 15. Leader: Lucienne de Naie, laluzmaui@gmail.com or 214-0147

Saturday, February 29

Sierra Club Maui Annual Meeting

Pā'ia Community Center, 11am-3pm

Friday March 6

Wailea 670 Kalama-Kanaio Trail Hike (C/E)

South Maui, 4 miles

Hike this historic trail, passing through the Palau'ea and Keauhou ahupua'a, and learn about their history with archaeologist Dr. Jeanne Schaaf and Hawaiian cultural guides. Some rough terrain. Closed shoes/boots, long pants a must. Bring water, hiking stick, and a camera. Meet 3pm at top of Kaukahi Rd in Wailea. Limit 18. Leader: Lucienne de Naie, laluzmaui@gmail.com or 214-0147

Saturday, March 7

Pa'uvela Lighthouse and Tide Pools (C/E)

Ha'ikū, 4 miles

Moderate, with some steep muddy sections. Dramatic coastal views and tidepools. Meet 9am at Ha'ikū Community Center. Bring lunch, water and footwear good for slippery rocks. Limit 15. Leader: Rob Weltman, robw@worldspot.com; please provide cell phone

Sunday, March 8

Native Planting with Hui o Nā Wai 'Ehā (C/E/S)

Waikapū, 1.5 miles

We will plant native seedlings in a community-managed preserve above Waikapū stream. Meet 9am in Ma'alaea end of Maui Tropical Plantation parking lot in Waikapū. Leader: Lucienne de Naie, laluzmaui@gmail.com or 214-0147

Sunday, March 15

'Ulupalakua to Kaupō Car Tour (C/E)

30 miles

Caravan by car and stop for short hikes. Amazing native plants, historical site, views and commentary by noted botanist and historian Bob Hobdy. Meet 8:30am at Kōōkea Park in upper Kula. Bring lunch and water. Limit 20. Special donation: \$5 members \$10 non-members. Leader: Lucienne de Naie, laluzmaui@gmail.com or 214-0147

Friday, March 20

Pilale Bay Hike

Ha'ikū, 3 miles

Hike to Pilale Bay down a steep slope to explore Halehaku stream, Halehaku heiau and remains of a Hawaiian settlement. Bring water and snacks. Limit 10. Meet at 8:30am at the Ha'ikū Community Center. Leader: Miranda Camp, mauimiranda@hotmail.com

Saturday, March 28

Hāmākua Coast-East Kuiaha Stream (C/E/S)

Ha'ikū, 3-4 miles

Explore east Kuiaha stream trails, makai of Hana Hwy, remove trash and keep coastal trails open along the Hāmākua coast. Bring gloves, hand tools, water, hat, lunch, sturdy shoes. Meet 9am at Ha'ikū Community Center. Limit 15. Leader: Lucienne de Naie, laluzmaui@gmail.com or 214-0147



Cliff-Hanger: Honua Ola by Cory Harden

Please watch the news for upcoming hearings on two draft permits for Honua Ola, one regarding air pollution and one regarding deepening injection wells.

Honua Ola, previously known as Hu Honua, is the wood-burning power plant under construction in Pepe'ekeo, infamous for running wastewater into the ocean last year. The State Department of Health called it a "blatant disregard of ...environmental laws" and levied a \$25,000 fine.

Honua Ola has also drawn fire from residents over risks of air and water pollution, the stability of its cliffside site, traffic hazards from huge logging trucks, and bothersome noise.

The air pollution permit does not consider greenhouse gas emissions from Honua Ola's main activity—burning wood. This is based on Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) policy that burning green trees is CO2 equivalent neutral—a policy rejected by EPA's own Science Advisory Board.*

By some calculations, for the first 70 years, greenhouse gas emissions from harvesting and burning wood are just as harmful as burning coal. But according to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, we have only 12 years to avoid the worst impacts of climate change.*

Honua Ola says it will replant. It assumes new, small new trees will sequester as much carbon as the mature large trees it harvested—but this is unlikely. For about 3,000 acres, the landowner, Kamehameha Schools, does not even plan to replant.* Emissions from cutting, transporting, and chipping wood are not considered.

The permit will not treat the plant as a "new source" of air emissions—though Honua Ola spent \$300 million to reconfigure the original coal-burning plant to burn wood.

The injection well permit would allow three wells to be deepened from 400 to 800 feet. 21 million gallons of water a day will be pumped out of supply wells, run through a condenser, then pumped back into the ground via the injection wells. The water will eventually seep into the ocean, carrying small amounts of chemical additives,



Photo by Big Island Video News

at a temperature warmer than normal for the ocean. This poses risks to coral, endangered sea turtles, and other ocean life. Residents also worry about wells so close to the cliff, since Hāmākua cliffs are notoriously unstable.

There is a chance the planned injection wells will require a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit under the Clean Water Act. The U.S. Supreme Court is now weighing whether Maui County violated the Clean Water Act with injection wells at its Lahaina Wastewater Reclamation Facility. If Maui County loses, Honua Ola's wells would need a NPDES permit and Environmental Impact Statement—time-consuming and costly undertakings. The court should decide by June.

Also in play is a local lawsuit, which may result in Maui County agreeing that its injection wells would require a NPDES permit or equivalent control to protect ocean water quality—the same consequences as above for Honua Ola.

In addition, Honua Ola faces a contested case by Life of the Land before the State Public Utilities Commission, after Life of the Land won a Hawai'i Supreme Court case allowing the proceeding. Additionally, two lawsuits by Hilo resident Claudia Rohr, over the need for an Environmental Assessment, are pending.

*Mahalo to Tawn Keeney for this information

Recycling Rollback by Kristine Kubat, Recycle Hawai'i president

Good news: Community uproar over the rollback in recycling services is moving the policy compass away from incineration towards a zero waste future...but there is still a lot more to be done.

The Department of Environmental Management (DEM) scheduled Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan informational meetings in Hilo and Kona in December.

Recycle Hawai'i is asking each county council member to help fund a series of scoping meetings that will engage the public in creating strategies for diverting plastic and paper from the waste stream. These will happen in February. If you want to participate, contact your council person and ask them to kick in some of their discretionary funds to make sure we come to your district. The feedback we get at these meetings will be used to inform the request for proposals DEM issues later next year as it seeks to rebuild its recycling program (or possibly cancel it in favor of waste-of-energy schemes).

There is also a plan afoot to take advantage of backhaul capacity on shipping containers to get non-reusable, discarded items off island ASAP, with plastics a high priority. Although it is clearly a stop gap measure, prompt removal of unwanted discards clears the way for a system that prevents such materials from getting shipped here in the first place. Schemes that take advantage of these materials for energy or construction only lock us into

Hawai'i Island Group Report

the wasteful practices we desperately need to abandon... this while stoking increased demand for virgin plastic, a commodity produced by one of the most carbon intensive industries on the planet.

Bottom line: Keep calm and stockpile!

Aquarium Fish Trade by Rob Culbertson

The court mandated Draft Environmental Impact Statement regarding commercial aquarium fishing permits was released last quarter for public comment. As expected, the study, written by the same company that gave us the Keystone Pipeline, sides with a select group of 14 commercial aquarium fish collectors on Hawai'i Island that hope to retain their unregulated practice that has bedeviled the public and most native practitioners for decades. Currently, a court ordered moratorium has operations on pause in the West Hawai'i Regional Fishery Management Area.

For years the take of fish along Hawai'i Island's "Gold Coast" from just a select few operators amounted to over 1.8 times more fish taken than all of the fish caught by food and recreational fishers combined. Yet this DEIS projects historic numbers in highly impacted coastal zones against a base number of the entire island—thus computing a negligible amount in the 1% range—therefore justifying their skewed finding of "no significant impact". That is like computing the impact of a dirty smokestack in your neighborhood against the general air quality of the entire state!

Even worse, while the prior Environmental Assessment was rejected by DLNR for not properly conducting a cultural impact component, this DEIS took copious testimony from Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners but dismissed their testimony, saying that since the populations of reef animals are not substantially reduced than the operations cannot possibly have a significant cultural impact either.

If DLNR chooses to accept this DEIS it would directly conflict with the Department's own asks urging recreational and subsistence food fishers to practice self restraint and voluntarily avoid taking many of these same herbivorous fish

to maintain reef health in the face of climate change impacts. The Hawai'i Island Group called for a rejection of the DEIS's preferred alternative to put these operators



School of yellow tang reef fish.

back in business and continues to push for an end to this wasteful and destructive industry.

Mauna Kea Update by Debbie Ward

Protectors of Mauna Kea, including members of the Sierra Club, continue to block the convoy of equipment intended to prepare for construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope. The State of Hawai'i continues to block access to the summit, the Ice Age Natural Area Reserve, the Hakalau National Wildlife Reserve, DHHL lands, and hunting areas to all but astronomers and telescope technicians. Most religious and cultural practitioners are also excluded from these lands held in trust for the people of Hawai'i. While some were heartened to hear that the government of Spain has cleared some of the required permits for construction of the TMT in the Canary Islands, we have learned that the government of Spain has pushed this plan in direct conflict with laws and policies that were put in place to protect vulnerable and invaluable ecological and cultural sites. Ben Magec Ecologistas en Acción en Canarias, part of the NGO federation of Ecologists in Action, has informed us that the TMT has proposed to build in a site that has a high presence of protected bird species, archaeological sites, and is in protected proximity to the Caldera de Taburiente National Park. The site is a protected natural area of the European Network Natura 2000 and has several other protected designations. Despite numerous meetings with TMT representatives since 2016, Ben Magec reports that "TIO has been actively involved in the attempt to demolish the normative instruments of conservation of the place, which demonstrates their arrogance and lack of respect for the scientific, technical and political work that led to the current protection." The group intends to continue to litigate in opposition to siting the TMT in the proposed location.



Mauna Kea protectors in July 2019. Photo by Nate Yuen.

Hawai'i Island Group Outings

SEE PAGE 10 FOR GENERAL OUTINGS INFORMATION

Requested donation for members and participants under 18 is \$1. Donation for others: \$5.

For most hikes bring 2 quarts of water, rain gear, sturdy hiking shoes, hiking stick, hat/visor, and lunch. For full descriptions and updates go to bit.ly/SCMLG-outings

Classification of outings: (E) Education/Interpretation, (C) Conservation, (F) Family/Fun, (S) Service (no donation required).

IMPORTANT: Hawai'i Island Group Outings are subject to "ROD Protocol" which asks participants of hikes in 'ōhi'a forests to wear clean clothes, scrub their boots, then spray with alcohol. We will publish notice of ROD prone areas in outing descriptions. This preventative procedure is best done at home before reaching the area but leaders will have needed items at meeting places. Please help us protect our precious forests.

Monday, January 20

Pu'u O'o Trail Day Hike (E/C)

South Hilo District, moderate to strenuous/7 miles, 5400' Pu'u O'o trail starts from Saddle Road between the 22 and 23 mile marker and meanders through kipukas of native plants and birds surrounded by old lava flows. We will hike the trail to where it intersects Powerline Road. Bring rain gear, hat, 2 quarts of water, snacks, lunch, binoculars and wear sturdy shoes. ROD protocol will be observed. Leaders: Linda Larish, 966-6337 or text 808-657-9640 and Diane Ware, 967-8642

Saturday, January 25

Mauna Iki Trail (Twin Pits) (E/C)

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, moderate/7 miles, 5000' This trail starts by Kulanaokuaiki Campground and goes out into the Ka'ū Desert to a set of pit craters where we will turn around and return the way we came. It's a pretty hike with very little shade. Bring at least 2 quarts of water, sunscreen, lunch, hat and raingear. ROD protocol observed. Leaders: Michael and Sunny LaPlante, 964-5017

Saturday, February 8

Kīlauea Iki (E/C/F)

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, moderate/4.5 miles, 3800' +/- 480' A forest and lava crater hike in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park starting at Kīlauea Iki parking lot. We will be walking through a wooded area of native vegetation, with great

views of Kīlauea Iki crater. Then down to the crater floor, past steam vents to view the cinder cone formed during the 1959 eruption. We will be making a loop on the recently reopened Byron's Ledge trail. Follow ROD protocol; wear sturdy boots, bring plenty of water, sun and rain protection, sunglasses, and snacks. There will be an optional group lunch after the hike at Volcano House. Leader: Diane Ware, 967-8642

Monday, February 17

Makaopuhi Crater Hike (E/C)

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, moderate to strenuous/8.5 miles, 3000' +1000' Enjoy fantastic views of Mauna Ulu and Makaopuhi Crater on this hike. We will begin the hike at the Kealakomo Lookout on the Chain of Craters Road and then follow the Napau Trail to the Mauna Ulu parking lot. This will require a vehicle shuttle from the Mauna Ulu parking lot to Kealakomo Lookout. ROD protocol will be observed. Leaders: Linda Larish, 966-6337 or text 808-657-9640 and Diane Ware, 967-8642

Tuesday, February 18

Pepe'ekeo Cliffs Day Hike (E/C/F)

Hāmākua District, easy/4 miles, shoreline +/- 200' Scenic vistas, sea birds and some historic sites depending on which part of the trail we follow atop the Hāmākua cliffs. Come join us on this hike along the ocean. Leaders: Michael and Sunny LaPlante, 964-5017

Friday, March 27

Kaloli to Hā'ena (Shipman Beach) (E/C/F)

Puna District, moderate/5 miles, sea level Hike on a historic trail in Puna from Paradise Park to the beach at Hā'ena. The trail used to be an inland carriage road. At Hā'ena Beach, we will see nēnē at the Shipman Estate and swim with the turtles. Bring water, rain poncho, swim suit and lunch. ROD protocol observed. Leader: Linda Larish, 966-6337 or text 808-657-9640

Saturday, March 28

Crater Rim Day Hike (E/C)

Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, moderate/5 miles, 4000' +/- 400' This will be a hike on a section of the Crater Rim Trail that goes by Keanakakoi Crater. Learn how Hawaiians used this area. There may be views of Halema'uma'u Crater along the way during what will be an easy slow paced hike in the National Park. Bring the usual items for a day hike. ROD protocol observed. Leaders: Sunny and Michael LaPlante, 964-5017

Focus on Climate Change and Group Priorities at the State Legislature

by Jodi Malinoski, Chapter Policy Advocate

As we get ready for the 2020 legislative session, which opens on January 15th and ends on May 7th, we plan to focus and prioritize bills that will tackle the climate crisis. Hawai'i is already experiencing very active hurricane seasons, beach and coastal erosion threatening homes and roads, rain bombs, and record-breaking temperatures. The Sierra Club of Hawai'i is dedicated to ensuring a just future for Hawai'i in the face of a changing climate. We will work at the state level to help mitigate Hawai'i's carbon emissions and adapt to existing climate impacts.

Carbon Free Hawai'i:

Hawai'i is already leading the nation with our goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2045 but we must do more to ensure the transition to clean energy is accelerated and equitable. The Sierra Club of Hawai'i is prioritizing bills that will:

- **Fix the calculation of Hawai'i's renewable portfolio standards** to accurately reflect clean energy in Hawai'i, as the current formula overestimates the state's progress to 100% clean energy by 2045.
- **Include gas in the renewable portfolio standards** and require the gas company to also reach Hawai'i's 100% clean energy mandate.
- Defend the 2008 law that **required solar hot water heater systems for new homes.**
- **Require solar panels on new home construction**, similar to a law already adopted in California.
- Make the state "coal free by 2023" by ensuring Hawai'i's **last coal-fired power plant in Kapolei, O'ahu, does not renew its contract** after 2022.
- **Support EV-ready new construction** for certain homes and businesses. A percentage of new parking stalls would have the wiring required to install electric vehicle chargers in the future, helping to accelerate EV adoption and preventing costly retrofits for charging infrastructure.

Planning for Rising Seas:

Hawai'i's natural coastal habitats act as a buffer against the high wind and waves of powerful storms, protecting residents and infrastructure near the ocean while supporting unique ecosystems. Sea levels in Hawai'i could rise more than 3.2 feet by 2100, resulting in an estimated \$19 billion in loss of private land and structures and compromising 6,500 structures like hotels and businesses. As sea level rises, these buffers, habitats, and resources will erode and coastal infrastructure may no longer exist. The Sierra Club of Hawai'i is prioritizing bills that will:

- **Require disclosure of properties in the "sea level rise exposure area"** for real estate transactions. Disclosure of flood areas and tsunami zones are already required upon real estate sales.
- Amend Chapter 205A - Hawai'i's Coastal Zone Management Act **to protect beaches and provide guidance to counties** for shoreline permitting issues.
- **Incorporate the latest sea level rise predictions** and impacts in state and county planning and decision making processes.
- Implement recommendations from the 2017 Hawai'i Sea Level Rise Vulnerability and Adaptation Report to **improve Hawai'i's capacity to adapt to sea level rise.**

Group Priorities:

A Honolulu-based State Capitol provides challenges to our neighbor island group members and volunteers, who need to travel to O'ahu to directly interact with legislators and advocate on issues most important to their island. In 2020, we are also prioritizing issues that were important to the Sierra Club's four county groups. As a result, we will be working on the following issues that the Group's have identified:

- **Shoreline setbacks (Kaua'i Group)** - Requiring greater setbacks for shoreline development to protect beaches and coastal resources.
- **Soil Health (O'ahu Group)** - Creating and funding programs to support farming practices that will develop healthy soils on Hawai'i's farms and ranchlands, both good for agriculture and carbon sequestration efforts.
- **Climate change (Maui Group)** - No specific policies were identified, but the Chapter is already committing to prioritize climate bills.
- **Aquarium fish trade (Hawai'i Island Group)** - Prohibit harvesting aquatic life for commercial aquarium purposes to protect reef ecosystems.
- **Waste Management (Kaua'i and Hawai'i Island Groups)** - Promoting source reduction and zero waste policies that aim to prevent waste rather than manage it after the fact.

Capitol Champions

The Sierra Club staff and volunteers testified on 80 bills and resolutions during the 2019 legislative session. There were hundreds of people who supported our work, but we'd like to recognize a few key volunteers who championed issues at the legislature: Lori Mallini, Dave Raney, and Kau'i Pratt-Aquino.

Lori Mallini

Lori started with the Sierra Club in 2018. Although she had never lobbied before, she quickly gravitated towards policy work and championed all the plastics and waste bills— meeting with legislators, testifying...even baking cookies for the legislators for a lobby day. Lori also recently opened "Protea Zero Waste Store" to continue advocacy against single-use plastics. Mahalo Lori for all that you do!



Kau'i Pratt-Aquino

Our biggest victory last session was defeating the corporate water theft bill. Many community leaders and organizations assisted in this effort, but we want to recognize Kau'i who helped the Chapter with community organizing and grassroots lobbying. From helping to lead rallies and lobby days, to her frequent texts and social media posts, Kau'i volunteered countless hours. Mahalo Kau'i for all that you do!



Dave Raney

Dave is a long-time Hawai'i Chapter member and volunteer, who also serves as Co-Team Leader of Sierra Club National's Climate Adaptation and Restoration Team and as a Senior Advisor for the National Marine Team. Dave has been a champion at the Chapter on climate adaptation issues relating to sea level rise—this past session he drafted, tracked, and testified on all sea level rise measures. Mahalo Dave for all that you do!



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Important 2020 Session Dates

January 15: Opening day
February 14: First lateral
March 5: First crossover
March 20: Second lateral
April 9: Second crossover
May 7: Sine die

Climate Policy on Hold

by Lauren Watanabe, O'ahu Group Manager & Marti Townsend, Chapter Director

What started as a “no brainer” for climate resilience has become a political stalemate. The Honolulu Office of Climate Change, Sustainability, and Resiliency proposed Bill 25 earlier this year to update our building codes to improve energy efficiency, plumb new buildings for electric vehicle charging, and make it easier for new homes to comply with the solar water heater mandate. We know that homes over 5 years old, built to the 2006 code, instead of the contemporary 2015 version, use 33% more energy. We also know that Hawai'i's high-rate of EV adoption continues to increase, creating need for more EV charging stations. And we know that homes built with solar water heaters have much cheaper energy bills than those with gas water heaters. Bill 25 was designed to pull all of this together to save homeowners and renters on their day-to-day energy costs.

From the beginning of the bill drafting process, staff at the Resiliency Office met with the various stakeholders including the building industries, utilities, environmental organizations, unions, trade associations, and government agencies to formulate Bill 25. Yet after two public meetings and more than 40 individual meetings, the major obstacles remain the gas company and developers.

The gas company in particular is fighting hard against Hawai'i's 2045 renewable energy goals. A recent report in Civil Beat revealed that the gas company is spending big money on an anti-renewable energy campaign through John White (formerly of Pacific

Resources Partnership and now with Strategies 360). In addition to whipping up customer-fears, the campaign includes a faux community group called “Our Energy Choice,” and fictitious crayon drawings of a child.

Really what we are seeing is the failure of the gas company to evolve its source away from fossil fuels to locally produced, renewable sources like wastewater. In 2009 the gas company promised that 50% of its fuel would be sourced from non-fossil fuel sources. Today, that number is a whopping 3%!

Bill 25 needs to pass in its strongest form because it brings significant, cost-effective changes for homeowners and renters in the long run while moving Hawai'i away from the “business as usual” practices that fueled the climate crisis to begin with. Stay tuned for updates on the next hearing.



Clean Energy Champion: Will Giese

Will joined the Hawai'i Chapter in 2017 as a graduate student intern. He quickly became a crucial part of the team, working on several campaigns, including Red Hill and clean energy issues. Now the Executive Director of the Hawai'i Solar Energy Association, Will has been instrumental in establishing new solar policies, like Bill 25. Mahalo Will for all that you do!

Welcome the Newly Elected 2020 Executive Committee Members

Hawai'i Chapter

Lucienne de Naie
Raquel Kamalu

Michael Nieling
Sheila Sarhangi

Hawai'i Island Group

Rose Acevedo
Amanda Clausen
Emily Garland
Dr. Joe Kassel

Maui Group

Dr. Paul McCurdy
Charlene Schulenburg
Jeanie Stewart
Rob Weltman

O'ahu Group

Hunter Heavilin
Victor Limon
Dana Lyons
Lori Mallini

Kaua'i Group

Jesse Brown-Clay
Judy Dalton
David Dinner

Big mahalo to everyone that voted in the election.
Congratulations again to our new leadership!



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



With your help we can clean up our water

Sierra Club Water Sentinels are the first line of defense of America's waters. We live on the water planet. However, water is a finite resource with only about 1 % of the world's water actually being available for human consumption. Water pollution & over-use are threatening both the quality & quantity of our water resources at an alarming rate.

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Card Number _____ Exp. Date ____ / ____

Signature _____

Membership Categories	Individual	Joint
Special Offer	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 15	N/A
Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 39	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 49
Supporting	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 100
Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 175
Life	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 1000	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 1250
Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35
Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35
Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35

Contributions, gifts & dues to Sierra Club are tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen based advocacy & lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$ 7.50 for a subscription to SIERRA magazine & \$ 1.00 for your Chapter newsletter.

Enclose a check and mail to:
Sierra Club, PO Box 421041
Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041
or visit our website: www.sierraclub.org

WE'RE ON A TREASURER HUNT

The Hawai'i Chapter and its Groups are seeking volunteer treasurers! This is a great opportunity to serve one of the largest, oldest, and most influential grassroots environmental organization in the islands.

- Gain valuable experience and training
- Develop financial skills
- Work with “green” (\$) for a “green” organization

Summary of Responsibilities:

- Help process financial transactions
- Help prepare financial statements, ExCom reports, and budgets
- Help ensure financial stability of the Chapter and/or Group
- Monitor and evaluate Club activities requiring expenditures
- Assist in administration of fundraising activities, as needed
- Understand and promote the mission of the Sierra Club
- Attend ExCom meetings as requested
- Contribute to a sense of camaraderie and teamwork

Please contact us at hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org if you have the interest and skills for the position. There are opportunities on most islands.

We're moving databases!



The Hawai'i Chapter is being integrated into Sierra Club National's database system. This means many great things—increased access to online organizing resources, technical support, streamlined reporting, and more.

Staff and volunteers are working hard to make this transition as streamlined as possible and we thank you for your patience during this time. If you notice any changes in your subscription preferences, online or by mail, please let us know at hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org or 538-6616.



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAII
MĀLAMA I KA HONUA. *Cherish the Earth.*

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2019 Volunteer of the Year: Jun Shin

by Kirsten Kagimoto, Chapter Strategic Communications Manager

Jun Shin is a super volunteer, with a super smile, dedicated to advocating for a bright and equitable future for Hawai‘i. He first came to the Sierra Club in early 2017 through our CapitolWatch program and quickly became a tried and true volunteer, always turning out and sharing impassioned testimony and insights. Even as a busy full-time student, he dedicates his free time to all of the Sierra Club’s campaigns and many other organizations, as well as serve as chair of the Young Progressives Demanding Action Environmental Justice Committee. In just 3 years, Jun has volunteered hundreds of hours to research, lobby, organize, and testify for Hawai‘i’s drinking water, climate justice future, waste reduction, streams, and more. We are so grateful to have bright, young, creative volunteers like Jun. Mahalo nui Jun for all that you do!



Jun’s future plans:

“While working with friends and partners in politics and policy, such as at the legislature or through elections, I want to keep learning from all of you on how to work, navigate, and operate in these spaces toward justice for people and the planet. I hope to become more effective— whether that’s through law school or another path, I want to continue to find ways to be a valuable partner, team member and ally in enacting change. Just as I am being mentored, I would also like to be a mentor and resource to people, especially to young people, as the core of why I do this work is to create a better world for the next generation and help them realize their power to change the world and the need/ways to get involved.”