



# MĀLAMA IKA HONUĀ

*Cherish The Earth*

JOURNAL OF THE SIERRA CLUB

HAWAI'I CHAPTER

Volume 40 • Number 2

April - June 2008

## 5 Big Ideas

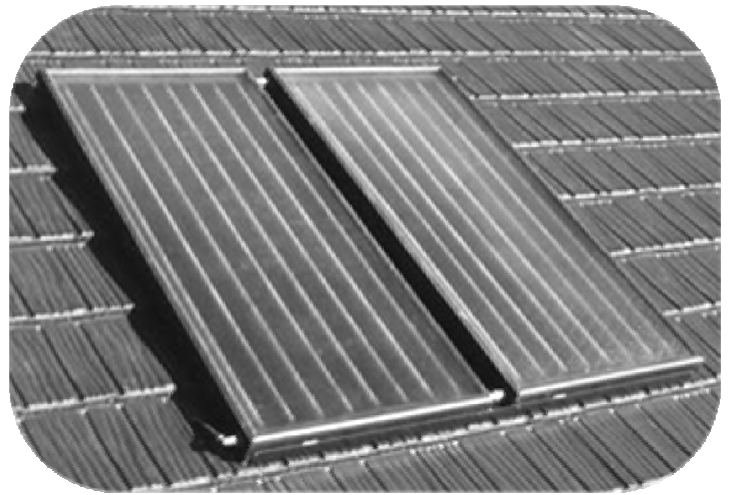
*That could actually become law this year*

Big ideas that move Hawai'i closer to sustainability don't often emerge from the State Capitol. Too often politics, competing priorities, and process—not to mention those who profit mightily from the status quo—stand in their way. But this year may be different. The stars are aligning at the legislature for a handful of big ideas to become law—from mandating solar on each new roof to creating a program to increase electronic waste recycling to establishing a carbon fund for renewable energy research. To find out how you can help make these bills become law, please visit [www.hi.sierraclub.org/capitol](http://www.hi.sierraclub.org/capitol).

### 1. Every new roof with solar (SB 644)

Fifteen gallons of gasoline. That's roughly the energy equivalent of the amount of sunshine that falls on most homes each day in Hawai'i. We shouldn't waste a drop of that energy, yet the vast majority of homes in Hawai'i lack the most basic tool to capture that heat: a solar water heater. About 20% of existing homes have such solar devices and approximately 30% of new homes may have them (although that figure is in dispute). We think every new roof in the state should come equipped with this basic amenity.

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Solar hot water heaters like these would come standard on all new housing in Hawai'i if Senate Bill 644 passes

## Green Beer?

*Kona Brewing Company strives for sustainability*

Green beer, anyone? That's what Hawaii's own Kona Brewing Company is trying to serve up with recent steps to improve the brewer's sustainability. From energy efficiency improvements to developing organic beer, Kona Brewing is looking toward reducing its environmental footprint.

"We recognize that the future of our Earth depends upon how businesses and individuals treat our Earth," said Mattson Davis, Kona Brewing Company's President and CEO. "It's all about running a business that is good for its employees, good for its customers, good for the community – and above all, good for the Big Island and the planet. We're happy to do our part!"

*Continued on page 3*

The Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter, is Hawai'i's largest grassroots environmental advocacy organization

INSIDE: International Year of the Reef • Blue Line Project • Hikes and Service Trips

## Deadline for next Mālama

June 1, 2008

### MĀLAMA I KA HONUA

*Mālama* 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 October - December 2007 issue: 5,500 copies

#### ADVERTISING RATES

	1x	2x	4x
Full Page:	\$350	315	280
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1/8 Page:	60	54	48
Bus. Cards:	50	45	40

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**Editor:** Jeff Mikulina

Printed by Hawaii Hochi

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

**WEBSITE:** [www.hi.sierraclub.org](http://www.hi.sierraclub.org)

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

All members are invited to contribute items to *Malama*. Articles should be sent via e-mail to: [hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org).

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Kyle Datta

# Kona Brewing

*Continued from front page*

Davis, based on the Big Island, serves on the Hawai'i Chapter's Honorary Board.

Kona Brewing Company brewed the first beer ever in Hawaii using all organic malted barley and hops, a Belgian-style saison named Oceanic Organic Ale. It was fermented with a custom blend of Belgian yeast strains and spiced with an abundance of organic hops, coriander and grains of paradise.

"We strive to be a 'green' leader in all that we do – from using organic produce whenever possible to feeding Big Island cattle the spent grain from our brewing process," said Davis. "We continue to develop a strong recycling program, and we are able



to lessen our carbon footprint by utilizing heat exchangers in the brewhouse and heat reclamation systems in our restaurant to reduce our use of electricity. All these processes are better for our guests, better for our business – and most of all, better for our planet."

Visit the Kona Brew Pub in Kona or Hawai'i Kai or see [www.KonaBrewingCo.com](http://www.KonaBrewingCo.com).

***The Hawai'i Chapter's Honorary Board assists in capacity and relationship building for the Club. The Hawai'i Chapter's eight-member Honorary Board includes business and opinion leaders from a diversity of sectors. For more information on the Board, please contact Julie Shiohita: [hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org) or 537-9019.***

## Save the date!

***Saturday, September 27***

Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter will celebrate 40 years of advocating and protecting our unique natural environment. Plan on meeting some of the stalwarts who have volunteered many thousands of hours lobbying at the legislature and the city and county councils, who have written letters, trained and led outings to unique places around the state and kept the organization in the faces of the decision makers for all these years.

Let's celebrate together at the Koolau Golf Course Clubhouse that evening. Many of your friends will be honored for their years of dedication to the special place that is Hawaii.

Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter

40  
YEARS

Since 1968

# 5 Big Ideas

Continued from front page

Senate Bill 644 requires that all new single family homes built in Hawai'i starting January 1, 2010, have a solar water heater installed. Details of the bill are currently being deliberated, such as what type of waiver should be allowed and how standards should be specified and implemented to ensure high quality systems. But the overarching policy—that all new homes tap into the sun to heat water—enjoys broad support. We need to implement this policy today as a solid first step toward zero energy homes in the future.

Solar water heating is the single best “clean” energy alternative for residences in Hawai'i. A typical family home with solar water heating avoids over 2.5 tons of carbon dioxide from being emitted annually (about 3000 kilowatt-hours avoided). Plus, it can save the average family between \$600 and \$1000 annually.

While bold, this measure is not without precedent. Israel has mandated that all new homes in the country come equipped with solar water heaters and now they are standard on some 95% of homes. Since January, 2007, Spain has required solar water heaters on all new residential construction. Here in Hawai'i, the Navy has been building all of its new residential units with solar thermal. (See [www.hi.sierraclub.org/capitol/solar.htm](http://www.hi.sierraclub.org/capitol/solar.htm) for aerial images of O'ahu housing developments with and without solar.)

New homes, of course, are only part of the picture—hundreds of thousands of existing housing units in Hawai'i need to be retrofit with solar water heaters as well. ***That's why we want to make sure the 35% tax credit is continued (or increased) for existing homes.***

Hawai'i is the Saudi Arabia of sun. If strong quality standards can be ensured, Senate Bill 644 would put that hot energy to work, reducing fossil fuel use and the cost of living.

## 2. Carbon fund for clean energy, climate change programs (HB 3444)

Funding is desperately needed to support clean energy research in Hawai'i and to provide funding to achieve Hawaii's new greenhouse gas cap (Act 234, Global Warming Solutions Act of 2007). There is a clear nexus between oil consumption and greenhouse gas and environmental impacts. Currently, a nickel fee is charged for every barrel of oil sold in the state. The fee currently raises roughly \$2 million annually for oil spill emergency response (and other environmental programs). A slight increase in this fee could provide needed funding for the new greenhouse gas law as well as other critical energy and environmental programs. House Bill 3444 increases this barrel fee, or carbon fund, to \$0.20 per barrel for these clean energy and climate change initiatives. The impact to the average resident would be nominal (\$3.85, according to state estimates), while the real financial cost of rising oil prices is staggering: the average resident paid an additional \$1250 over the past year with the \$50 increase in oil price. The only way to avoid that financial pain is to get off of crude.

While we all likely agree that we need to aggressively increase our clean energy use in Hawai'i and decrease our reliance on imported petroleum, we cannot do it with funding for research, development, and policy implementation. This common sense policy will foster greater energy independence by tapping into the source of our problem—imported oil—to fund our preferred energy future.

## 3. In-store recycling (SB 2841)

The single best way to ensure easy, convenient beverage container redemption for Hawaii's consumers is to mandate that grocery stores and retailers of a certain size take back the bottles and cans that they sell, just like every other deposit law state. Hawaii's bottle law has proven to be an overwhelming success for Hawaii's environment, with nearly 2 BILLION bottles and cans being diverted from Hawaii's landfills since the program started. Despite its success, the bottle law can be improved. Residents have rightfully complained about the

cumbersome redemption process, with infrequent redemption centers and spotty hours of operation. This problem could be remedied by simply requiring that grocery stores and retailers take back the bottles and cans that they sell—just as they do in every other bottle law state. SB 2841 will accomplish this, requiring that large, “big box” stores with over 75,000 square feet of interior space provide for redemption, exempting the small, “mom & pop” stores. While we would like to see this measure extended to all regular grocery stores (Foodlands, Safeways, etc) over 10,000 square feet, we appreciate this first step in increasing recycling opportunities. Stores would not need to staff a redemption center; they could simply install “reverse vending machines” in the store or parking lot.

#### **4. Electronic waste recycling program (SB 2843)**

This timely measure will establish an electronic waste (or e-waste) recycling program. The program, run by the manufacturers, will provide for collection, transportation, and recycling of electronic devices sold in the state. E-waste from computers, televisions, and other high-tech devices is an increasing problem. This type of waste frequently contains toxic materials, such as lead in the circuit board soldering or in the cathode ray tube. Moreover, with landfill issues on nearly every island, policies to divert waste from landfills should be encouraged. Starting the process to establish and fund a state e-waste recycling program is critical now as more and more residents purchase high definition televisions and decide to scrap their older sets. This measure could be made stronger by requiring all stores to take back the electronics that they sell and clarifying that electronics cannot be dumped on developing countries for recycling, but it is a good start to keep electronic equipment out of our landfills and incinerators.

#### **5. Climate-smart shoreline planning (HB 1037)**

We know that a higher sea level and likely stronger storm surge are in Hawaii’s future. Are we preparing for it? House Bill 1037 would update our shore-

line setback and planning policies to reflect our current scientific understanding and trends regarding climate change and erosion. The current draft of the bill (Senate Draft 1) would require that the counties adopt a parcel-by-parcel setback standard that is 100 times the annual erosion rate and restrict the use of beach-destroying seawalls unless a clear public interest is served.

Our current statewide setback—minimum of 20 feet—is dated and dangerous. Given the realities of sea level rise caused by global climate change and the accompanying loss of shoreline-protecting coral reef, a policy of “managed retreat” makes the most sense to protect private property, taxpayers, and public shoreline. Setting a meaningful setback from the shoreline for new construction or redevelopments is the best managed retreat strategy.

Setting a significant shoreline setback is not without precedent. The County of Kaua’i recently adopted an ordinance for shoreline setback that is the strongest in the state (and likely the nation). The new law requires dwellings to be set back 70 times the erosion times the annual coastal erosion rate plus 40 feet. This aims to protect coastal structures against 70 - 100 years of erosion. Pushing buildings back from eroding waterlines, the law says, is critical to the protection of life and property, the mitigation of coastal hazards, and the preservation of coastal resources.

Ultimately, HB 1037 would prevent inappropriate construction too close to the shoreline. When dwellings and buildings are built too close to the shore, beach-destroying seawalls are often requested when erosion threatens to undermine the structures.

**For the most recent legislative updates, please visit [www.hi.sierraclub.org/capitol](http://www.hi.sierraclub.org/capitol)**

**If you would like to receive capitol watch email action alerts occasionally, please send an email to [hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org)**



## **Wildlife License Plates now available**

By Annette Kaohelauii

The Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) recently announced the availability of the new DOFAW Specialty License Plate. These specialty license plates feature the native ohia lehua blossom with an i'iwi, Hawaiian honeycreeper, and the words "Protect Our Native Species".

Proceeds from the license plates will go towards projects relating to Hawaii's species of greatest conservation need and their affiliated habitats.

If you would like to purchase a DOFAW Specialty License Plate, please go to your local motor vehicle licensing location (Satellite City Hall on Oahu), complete the application form, and surrender the Certificate of Registration for your vehicle. The cost for the new plate is \$30.50 and includes: (1) the new plate fee (\$25.00), (2) a plate replacement fee (\$5.00), and (3) registration emblem replacement fee (50 cents). The license location should have information on specialty plates when you apply, or call 532-4325.

DOFAW will receive \$20.00 of the \$30.50 paid for the plate/decal program. Each year when you renew your vehicle registration, you will be charged an additional \$25.00 of which \$20.00 will again go to support the protection of Hawaii's native species.

Be aware that if your vehicle registration has expired or will expire within 45 days of the processing of the DOFAW plate replacement, the applicable renewal fees and taxes will be assessed.

What a great way to let your friends and neighbors know that you want to protect native species.

## **Solar Loan Program**

We are all aware of global climate change and the importance of reducing our consumption of oil. The simplest, easiest, and cheapest way to do this is at home is to use solar water heaters on our rooftops. The City & County of Honolulu has money to loan homeowners for purchasing solar water heating systems. Interest charged on these loans is zero percent (0%) for low-income families and two percent (2%) for middle-income families. Loans are repaid with the savings your solar collectors provide, which HECO estimates at 20 to 30 percent of your total electric bill. After the loan is paid off, you will benefit from lower bills (not to mention a cleaner environment). This is too good an offer for homeowners to pass up. We in Hawai'i should think seriously about the possibility of having a solar collector on every roof (see "5 Big Ideas"). This is a practical dream and it can start with using the money that is now available at no cost. Sunshine is free, and it's clean. Let's leave the oil (and the carbon) in the ground. **For more information and application forms, please call the City & County of**



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# ***Giving away the farm?***

## *Bill would allow urban and rural development without proper Land Use Law process*

With all the talk of protecting important agricultural lands, you'd think legislative leaders would be doing all they can to reduce the pressures of development and land speculation. But a couple of measures with strong support from House leadership do just the opposite. The bills gives landowners who designate agricultural lands as "important" the option of designating other lands as urban or rural by bypassing the existing deliberative land use law process.

This proposed policy is not only unnecessary for "important" ag lands designation, it fosters poor planning and may have unintended consequences. Our existing process is essential for thorough decision making and public involvement. Nothing prevents landowners with ostensibly "rural" lands currently from petitioning to reclassify those lands through the existing public process before the Land Use Commission (LUC). Given the incredible speculative real estate pressures on Hawaii's limit lands, there is no good reason to expedite the conversion of farmland to developable land—particularly if such a process reduces public input.

This proposal will only foster greater speculative investment in Hawaii's undeveloped lands and could further drive up the price of land for farming and local housing. Finally, what this measure seems to overlook is the sprawl-preventing aspects of our state Land Use Law and the processes it provides. The founders of Hawaii's Land Use Law were the

first in the nation to establish de facto "urban growth boundaries" and use comprehensive zoning as a way to keep unbridled development in check statewide. Our current law helps to prevent costly urbanization of lands far from existing urban areas where additional development is more efficient. In other words, when agriculturally designated lands restrict urban uses outside of the urban core (i.e., by prohibiting "residential" uses), they serve their purpose even if they are not actively farmed. Agricultural designation is a critical tool to contain urban growth and focus development where it makes the most sense.

Designating important agricultural lands and protecting farmlands are critical. But this proposed policy is simply a masquerade for farmland protection. Let's not let development interests dictate land use policy and give away the farm in the process.

***The bill which originally contained this land development policy was HB 2807, but it is likely now in either or SB 2646 or SB 546 (or perhaps another measure). We'll be watching close. Contact [hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org) or visit [www.hi.sierraclub.org/capitol](http://www.hi.sierraclub.org/capitol) to get involved.***

## **2008 Capitol Watch**

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# The Polar Bear – Coral Reef Connection

By Dave Raney

How many polar bears does it take to save a coral reef? Darned if I know, but there is a polar bear-coral reef connection. Global warming threatens the existence of both polar bears and coral reefs, and efforts to save the polar bear also help coral reefs. Likewise, the recently proclaimed International Year of the Reef 2008 encourages people all over the World to take actions to combat global warming—to the benefit of polar bears as well as coral reefs.

The January/February *Sierra Magazine* features a dramatic cover photo of a submerged polar bear looking directly at the reader, and the associated article warns that climate warming eminently threatens the existence of the shared world of the polar bear and the Inupiaq people of Alaska. While recent photos of polar bears in distress, and melting glaciers tumbling into the ocean, have focused the attention of the World on these consequences of global warming, another disturbing scenario has been taking place beneath the surface of the ocean.

For more than a decade, coral reef scientists, recreational divers, and resource managers have warned that coral reefs were in decline—including remote reefs in French Polynesia and elsewhere far from human activities. The first worldwide survey of coral reefs, conducted in 1998 by Reef Check, documented that a phenomenon known as “coral bleaching,” was widespread and potentially devastating. So, what is “coral bleaching,” and how is it related to global warming?

As most Sierra Club members know by now, global warming is caused by the accumulation of carbon dioxide and other “greenhouse” gases in the atmosphere—which trap solar energy and raise air and sea temperatures. Corals have a symbiotic relationship with small algal cells called zooxanthellae, which provide food for corals through photosynthesis. Zooxanthellae also are the sources of the colors we associate with coral reefs. Reef-building corals require warm waters, but not too

warm. Most species have evolved over a very long time within limited ranges of sea temperatures. When sea waters warm beyond those limits long enough, zooxanthellae often disappear from their coral hosts, depriving the corals of food and coloration. When the zooxanthellae are gone, the corals lose some or all of

their pigmentation and the corals take on a whitish appearance known as “coral bleaching.” If the bleaching persists long enough, the corals die. They can recover if some zooxanthellae return in time.



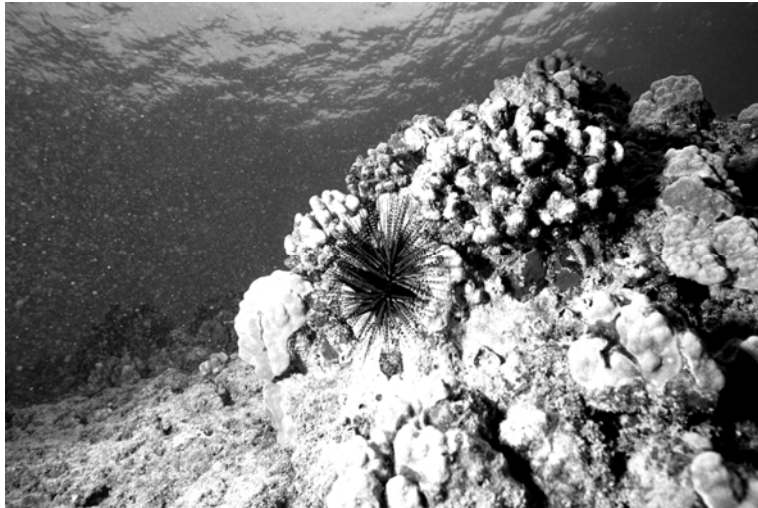
Although coral bleaching has been associated with El Niño events, and other specific periods of sea temperature increases, scientists believe the long-term trend of global warming is increasing the frequency and severity of coral bleaching and the related loss of coral reefs worldwide.

Scientists warn that unless drastic steps are taken now to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, average sea temperatures may continue to increase beyond the level at which coral reefs can survive. Some predict that coral reefs could die off within the next fifty years if current rates of emission continue. In addition to the intrinsic value of coral reefs as beautiful and productive ecosystems, coral reefs also reduce the impacts of tsunamis and storm events on coastal areas, provide habitat for fish and other species, and, of course, provide surf sites. Thus, we have a responsibility to do all we can, now, to assure that future generations can experience the beauty of coral reefs and the other benefits that healthy coral reef ecosystems provide.

Scientists have also revealed a lobster, crab, and clam connection with coral reefs. As a sort of “double-whammy,” it turns out that the historically high level of carbon dioxide now absorbed into the ocean is causing “ocean acidification,” which reduces the ability of ocean creatures to acquire the calcium carbonate needed to build skeletons, shells, and spines. If there is



any good news in this, it is that as the impacts of carbon dioxide emissions on other sea creatures besides coral reefs are made known, the constituency of concerned citizens will grow dramatically – and this should translate into the political action which is sorely needed. When lobster fishers and clam diggers join reef-huggers in demanding action, this is bound to catch the attention of politicians from both sides of the aisle.



Fortunately, the Sierra Club is fully engaged nationally and locally in the political struggle to combat global warming, and the related need to transition away from fossil fuels and toward clean, renewable sources of energy. As highlighted in the previous issue of *Mālama*, Hawai'i is the second state in the nation with an enforceable limit on greenhouse gas emissions, and is committed to an aggressive clean energy strategy.

The paradox of global warming is that it is so enormous that our individual actions to combat it may seem insignificant. Yet, because it is so enormous, it can only be combated successfully by the cumulative results of millions of individual actions taken around the World. One person switching to a compact fluorescent bulb may not seem like much, but when a half million people do so it adds up big-time.

The main message of this article is that coral reefs are benefiting from the growing focus on the need to combat global warming, including the attention on the plight of the polar bear in the cold waters of the North. But wait, there's more! Although global warming affects the fate of coral reefs on a global scale, individual coral reefs are also at risk from local impacts. In Hawai'i these include invasive algal species, sedimentation and other land-based sources of pollution, and overfishing of herbivorous fish needed to keep corals from being overrun with algae. So, we need to do more than fight global warming in order to preserve our coral reef ecosystems for future generations. Fortunately, there are a lot of ways to do that.

A major goal of The International Year of the Reef (IYOR) 2008 is to identify and promote specific actions individuals and organizations can take to further coral reef conservation – both locally and globally. IYOR 2008 is being encouraged and supported at the national level by the United States Coral Reef Task Force and at the state level by the Coral Reef Outreach Net-

work, among others. To learn more about what is happening globally and nationally, visit the IYOR 2008 website at [www.iyor.org](http://www.iyor.org).

IYOR Hawai'i 2008 was officially launched by the Governor on January 25 at an event at the State Capitol. Mahalo to Randy Ching for manning the Sierra Club booth there. Hawai'i Public Radio aired a feature on the IYOR event, which mentioned the connection between the Sierra Club's Global Warming campaign and IYOR 2008. To follow IYOR Hawai'i actions and activities, check out [www.iyor-hawaii.org/](http://www.iyor-hawaii.org/).

To learn more about coral reef ecology and how to participate in community-based monitoring of reefs on your island, visit the Reef Check Hawai'i website at [www.reefcheckhawaii.org/](http://www.reefcheckhawaii.org/) for details and schedules. Reef Check is active on O'ahu, Kaua'i, Maui, and the Big Island and will be conducting island-wide surveys in August as one of its IYOR projects. The first Reef Check survey was held at Hanalei Bay in 1997 and the Kaua'i Group members has been active with Reef Check since.

IYOR 2008 is a great opportunity to join the worldwide effort to bring coral reefs back from the brink of extinction, and to share experiences with other volunteers around the world. Hawai'i Chapter leaders and members should keep IYOR 2008 in mind as they plan activities for the year, and be sure to post any relevant activities to the IYOR websites. Feel free to contact me at [d\\_raney@hawaiiantel.net](mailto:d_raney@hawaiiantel.net) if you have any questions or suggestions regarding IYOR 2008 or other coral reef conservation matters.

*Dave Raney is the Chair of the Sierra Club Coral Reef Working Group.*

## O'ahu Group Report

By Randy Ching, O'ahu Group Chair

### Sustainability Top Priority for 2008

Let's support sustainability bills and resolutions from the City Council. City Council members Donovan Dela Cruz (District 2) and Ann Kobayashi (District 5) have introduced a package of sustainability bills and resolutions that would make Oahu a much more environmentally friendly place to live. The following page is an update as of March.

#### Who to contact (Council committees):

- *Planning and Sustainability:* Chair Gary Okino 768-5008, gokino@honolulu.gov
- *Transportation and Public Works:* Chair Nestor Garcia 768-5009, ngarcia@honolulu.gov
- *Public Health, Safety and Welfare:* Chair Donovan Dela Cruz, 768-5002, dmdelacruz@honolulu.gov
- *Executive Matters:* Chair Ann Kobayashi 768-5005, akobayashi@honolulu.gov
- *Budget:* Chair Todd Apo 768-5001, tapo@honolulu.gov

If you would like more information on any of the bills or resolutions, please call Randy at 537-9019 or email him at oahurandy@yahoo.com.

#### Oahu Group executive committee election results

The Oahu Group recently completed the online executive committee election. Thanks to all of you who voted. The top 4 vote totals belonged to Elizabeth Dunne, Jim Hayes, Chris Damitio and Kim Kido. Chris is yielding his spot on the executive committee to the next highest vote getter, Kim Kido. The 2008 executive committee members are:

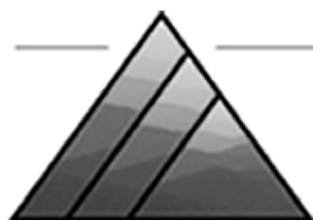
- Randy Ching – chair
- Michael Kliks – vice chair
- Lydi Morgan – treasurer
- Elizabeth Dunne – membership chair
- Betty Gearen – sustainability chair
- Jim Hayes and Kim Kido – newly elected members

#### Oahu Group – new outings leaders

The Oahu Group conducted a training on March 15 for 11 new outings leaders. In addition to Stan Oka and Jean Fujikawa, that brings the total to 13 new outings leaders that have taken the OLT 101 training. Nine of the outings leaders are members of Oahu Invasive Species Committee (OISC), who conduct monthly outings to eliminate invasive species. They usually meet at the rear lanai of the Church of the Crossroads at 8 a.m. on the second Saturday of each month. RSVP to 286-4616 or oisc@hawaii.edu

#### Outings pictures now on website

The Oahu Group now has its photo feature online at <http://picasaweb.google.com/oahu.group.photos/>. If you have pictures that you would like to share with the world, please send them to sto@hawaii.rr.com.



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## Status of O'ahu Sustainability Measures

<b>Bill 82</b>	RELATING TO RECYCLING OR REUSE OF CONSTRUCTION AND DEMOLITION WASTE	BILL PASSED FIRST READING AND WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS
<b>Bill 83</b>	A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO RECYCLING AT CITY FACILITIES	BILL DEFERRED IN PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE- February 26, 2008
<b>Bill 84</b>	A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE USE OF BAGS PROVIDED TO CUSTOMERS	BILL DEFERRED IN PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE- February 26, 2008
<b>Bill 85</b>	A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO REAL PROPERTY TAX CREDITS FOR SOLAR WATER HEATERS	BILL REPORTED OUT OF BUDGET COMMITTEE FOR PASSAGE ON SECOND READING AND SCHEDULING OF A PUBLIC HEARING AS AMENDED IN CD1 FORM- February 27, 2008
<b>Bill 86</b>	A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO PARKING FEES FOR HYBRID VEHICLES.	BILL PASSED FIRST READING AND WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEES ON TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC WORKS AND BUDGET (CONSECUTIVE REFERRAL).
<b>Bill 87</b>	A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 16 OF THE REVISED ORDINANCES OF HONOLULU 1990, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE BUILDING CODE	BILL DEFERRED IN BUDGET COMMITTEE- February 26, 2008
<b>Bill 88</b>	A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO THE COUNTY MOTOR VEHICLE WEIGHT TAX	BILL DEFERRED IN COMMITTEE- February 6, 2008
<b>Bill 89</b>	A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO STREET LIGHTS.	BILL PASSED FIRST READING AND WAS REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS
<b>Bill 90</b>	A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO WATER CONSERVATION	BILL AMENDED TO CD1 AND DEFERRED IN TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE- February 7, 2008
<b>Bill 91</b>	A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE RELATING TO WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES	ADOPTED, BILL PASSED SECOND READING , PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AND REFERRED TO PUBLIC HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELFARE COMMITTEE-January 23, 2008
<b>07-189</b>	RESOLUTION URGING THE CITY ADMINISTRATION TO IDENTIFY CITY PROPERTIES THAT ARE SUITABLE FOR COMMUNITY GARDENS	RESOLUTION 07-189 ADOPTED -January 23, 2008
<b>07-353</b>	ESTABLISHING A CITY POLICY PROMOTING THE SUSTAINABILITY OF ITS NATURAL RESOURCES AND QUALITY OF LIFE IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU	NOT YET HEARD
<b>07-354</b>	RESOLUTION INITIATING AMENDMENTS TO THE REVISED CHARTER OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU 1973, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO DEVELOPMENT PLANS	RESOLUTION DEFERRED IN EXECUTIVE MATTERS COMMITTEE- February 6, 2008
<b>07-355</b>	RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING A COMMISSION TO SET PRIORITIES FOR EXPENDITURES FROM THE CLEAN WATER AND NATURAL LANDS FUND	RESOLUTION 07-355 CD1 WAS ADOPTED -February 20, 2008
<b>07-356</b>	RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT RECYCLING WORKSHOPS BE CONDUCTED IN THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.	RESOLUTION 07-356 WAS ADOPTED- December 12, 2007
<b>07-357</b>	PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO CHAPTER 21, REVISED ORDINANCES OF HONOLULU 1990 (THE LAND USE ORDINANCE), RELATING TO ECO-ROOFS	RESOLUTION DEFERRED IN ZONING COMMITTEE-November 27,2007
<b>07-358</b>	ESTABLISHING A CITY POLICY TO REDUCE WATER CONSUMPTION AT CITY FACILITIES	RESOLUTION 07-358 CD1 WAS ADOPTED-January 23, 2008
<b>08-53</b>	ESTABLISHING AN ADVISORY WORKING GROUP ON SUSTAINABILITY STANDARDS	REFERRED TO PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE - March 20, 2008

# O'ahu Group Outings

## Saturday, April 5

### *Ala Wai Boat Harbor Cleanup*

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 closed-toed shoes with gripping soles and bring a hat, thick rubber gloves, sunscreen, and water. All participants under 18 must have a waiver signed by their legal guardian to participate. Please contact the leader for the waiver. Deborah Blair 955-4168

## Sunday, April 6

### *Hahaione-Kuliouou Loop*

5 mi/STRENUOUS/Valley and Ridge/Hawaii Kai. Not for those who are afraid of heights. Elevation gain, followed by loss, is about 1,700 feet. Randy Ching 942-0145

## Saturday, April 12

### *OISC service project – Halawa Valley Weed control*

Meet at Church of the Crossroads parking lot at 8:00 am. Trips last from 8:00 am to 2:30 pm. Trips involve a 45 minute hike and then some weeding off-trail. The terrain is often steep. Bring water, snacks, lunch, raingear, sunscreen, bug repellent, and sturdy walking shoes. RSVP to 286-4616 or oisc@hawaii.edu. Arlene Buchholz 988-9806

## Saturday, April 12

### *MCBH Kaneohe Bay Service Project*

1 mi/Moderate/Coast/Kaneohe Reservations required. Because MCBH is a secured military facility, we must provide your name to the base in advance, and we will send you a waiver, which you must bring with you. Coordinator: Annette Kaohelauii 235-5431; leader Deborah Blair

## Sunday, April 13

### *Maunawili Trail from Pali Lookout*

10 mi/Moderate/Contour/Maunawili Travel the Maunawili Trail from the lookout to Waimanalo. The Sierra Club built this trail in the early 90's. Sherine Boomla 527-8034

## Saturday, April 19

### *John Muir Day Service Project: Manana Falls*

6mi/Moderately difficult/elevation gain 680 ft. We'll combine our hike with trail work, so bring pruning saws, loppers, or clippers. Swimming hole! Ed Mersino 223-5765, Arlene Buchholz 988-9806; Asst. Jean Fujikawa

## Sunday, April 27

### *Family hike: Moanalua Valley*

4mi/Easy/Valley/Moanalua. Take a stroll into this historic valley for a look at petroglyphs and house sites. Child carrier needed for children under 5. Wear hiking boots or running shoes with good traction. Bring a small backpack or fanny pack, rain gear, water and a snack. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Church of the Crossroads or at 9:00 a.m. at Moanalua Valley Park. Randy Ching 942-0145; Asst: Colleen Soares

## Sunday, May 4

### *Iliahi Ridge*

4 mi/Moderate/Ridge, valley/Pacific Palisades. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Moanalua Valley Park. This trail starts out on the Manana Trail, but after 1.5 miles drops down and crosses Manana Stream. Along the way we will stop briefly to eradicate some invasive Australian Tea plants. Ed Mersino 223-5765, Randy Ching 942-0145

## Saturday, May 10

### *OISC service project*

Help control invasive species with the Oahu Invasive Species Committee. Pau hana at 3 pm. Expect difficult hiking. Bring lunch, hiking shoes, sunscreen, and water. RSVP to 286-4616 or oisc@hawaii.edu.

## Sunday, May 11

### *Family Hike: Hauula Loop Trail*

3mi/Moderate/Contour/Hauula. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the far end of Hauula Beach Park across from the white church. Child carrier needed for children under 5. Wear hiking boots or running shoes with good traction. Bring a

## 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 judgment, 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 foot wear are best--no loafers), or tabs are required. No bare feet or sandals of any type will be allowed on O'ahu outings. Sign in on the roster and pay the donation. You will also need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see [www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms](http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms) or call 415-977-5630. In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel. **For more details about these outings, visit our website at [www.hi.sierraclub.org/Oahu/oahu-hikes.html](http://www.hi.sierraclub.org/Oahu/oahu-hikes.html)**

## 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 \$5. Participants under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

small backpack or fanny pack, rain gear, water and a snack. Bob Moore 942-2734

### **Sunday, May 18**

#### *Sandy Beach Cleanup*

1 mi/Easy/Shoreline/East Oahu. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Sandy Beach bathroom at eastern side of beach park. Call Tred (394-2898) for information. Bring water, hat and sunscreen. Bags, gloves provided. All participants under 18 must have a waiver signed by their legal guardian to participate. Please contact the leader for the waiver. Closed toes shoes only. NO SLIPPERS. Deborah Blair 955-4168, Asst: Colleen Soares

### **Saturday, May 24**

#### *Na Pohaku o Hauwahine service project*

Moderate/Kailua. We'll join Ahahui Malama i ka Lokahi at Kawai Nui Marsh. Work in a native plant garden off of Kapa'a Quarry Road in Kailua. Meet at 8:30 on the right side of Kapa'a Quarry Rd. about one mile from the intersection of Kapa'a Quarry Rd. and Kalaniana'ole Hwy. Bring work gloves, water, lunch, insect repellent, tools such as sickles, pruners, handsaws, machetes, hand cultivators. Arlene Buchholz 988-9806

### **Sunday, May 25**

#### *Bicycle outing: Sand Island/Lagoon Drive*

15 mi/Easy/Mapunapuna. Reservations Required. Sunday morning is a great time to explore the area between Honolulu Harbor and the airport on a bike. Gwen Sinclair 753-0528; Asst: Colleen Soares

### **Sunday, June 1**

#### *Tantalus Crater*

4 mi/Moderate/Ridge/Manoa. We'll reach Tantalus Crater for lunch, sitting under big Cook pines. Sherine Boomla 527-8034

### **Saturday, June 7**

#### *National Trails Day/Membership Recruitment Outing*

Waimano Trail 4mi/Moderate/Ridge/Pearl City. Go for a hike today at our biannual Sierra Club membership recruitment event. Join or renew when you do the hike for the reduced rate of \$25, a 36% savings off of the regular \$39 fee. Gwen Sinclair 753-0528

### **Saturday, June 14**

#### *OISC service project*

Help control invasive species with the Oahu Invasive Species Committee. Pau hana at 3 pm. Expect difficult hiking. Bring bag lunch, hiking shoes, sunscreen, and water. RSVP to 286-4616 or oisc@hawaii.edu.

#### *MCBH Kaneohe Bay Service Project*

1 mi/Moderate/Coast/Kaneohe. Reservations required. Because MCBH is a secured military facility, we must provide your name to the base in advance, and we will send you a waiver, which you must bring with you. Coordinator: Annette Kaohelaulii 235-5431; leader Deborah Blair

### **Saturday, June 21**

#### *Family hike: Manana to shelter*

3mi/Easy/Ridge/Pacific Palisades. Meet at 1 p.m. at the end of Komo Mai Drive. Child carrier needed for children under 5. Wear hiking boots or running shoes with good traction. Bring a small backpack or fanny pack, rain gear, water and a snack. Sherine Boomla 527-8034

### **Saturday, June 28**

#### *Work'n-Learn Day With Ka`ala Farm*

1mi/Moderate/Makaha. Come help the Honolulu Board of Water Supply restore the native forest in Makaha Valley by removing alien trees within the forest. Please meet us at the entrance of the Waianae Boat Harbor (on Farrington across from Waianae Intermediate School) at 8:15 AM. We will carpool to the site. Arlene Buchholz 988-9806, Randy Ching 942-0145

### **Sunday, July 6**

#### *Kamanaiki Ridge*

5mi/Moderate/Ridge/Kalihi. Not for those uneasy about heights. We'll ascend a steep ridge that divides Kalihi Valley and see native forest with nice views. Gwen Sinclair 753-0528, asst. Jean Fujikawa

### **Saturday, July 12**

#### *OISC service project*

Help control invasive species with the Oahu Invasive Species Committee. Pau hana at 3 pm. Expect difficult hiking. Bring lunch, hiking shoes, sunscreen, and water. RSVP to 286-4616 or oisc@hawaii.edu.

#### *Ala Wai Boat Harbor Cleanup*

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 closed-toed shoes with gripping soles and bring a hat, thick rubber gloves, sunscreen, and water. All participants under 18 must have a waiver signed by their legal guardian to participate. Please contact the leader for the waiver. Deborah Blair 955-4168

### **Sunday, July 13**

#### *Sandy Beach Cleanup*

1 mi/Easy/Shoreline/East Oahu. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Sandy Beach bathroom at eastern side of beach park. Call Tred (394-2898) for information. Bring water, hat and sunscreen. Bags, gloves provided. All participants under 18 must have a waiver signed by their legal guardian to participate. Please contact the leader for the waiver. Closed toes shoes only. NO SLIPPERS. Deborah Blair 955-4168

#### *Hawaii Loa Ridge Sierra Seminar*

3mi/Moderate/Ridge/East Oahu. Reservations required. This lovely trail features a surprising array of native plants. Randy Ching 942-0145, Sherine Boomla

## O'ahu Group Service Projects

Would you like to get your hands dirty helping the Hawaiian environment by removing invasive plant species and protecting and restoring native ecosystems? Sierra Club Oahu Group Service Projects provide an excellent opportunity for environmental volunteers to experience unique places that are of-

### JULY 4 to 6, 2008 – Friday to Sunday (Independence Day Weekend)

*Nene o Molokai Foundation, Molokai --*

- Leader: Bob Moore, 1634 Makiki Street, Apt. 906, Honolulu, 96822, akepa@earthlink.net , 942-2734
- Leader: Mel Yoshioka, mhyosh88@hotmail.com , (work phone) 587-0879

### AUGUST 15 to 17, 2008 --Friday to Sunday (Statehood Day Weekend)

*Hakalau National Wildlife Refuge, Hawaii --*

- Leader: Randy Ching, 1560 Kanunu St., #818, Honolulu, 96814, oahurandy@yahoo.com , 942-0145
- Leader: Arlene Buchholz, snovakz@yahoo.com , 988-9806

### AUGUST 30 to SEPT. 1, 2008 -- Saturday to Monday (Labor Day Weekend)

*Puu Makaala and Kahaualea Natural Area Reserves, Hawaii --*

- Leader: Bob Moore, 1634 Makiki St., #906, Honolulu, HI 96822, akepa@earthlink.net , 942-2734
- Leader: Stan Oka, stoka@gmail.com , 429-9814

### OCTOBER 11 to 13, 2008 -- Saturday to Monday (Columbus Day Weekend)

*Hakalau National Wildlife Refuge, Hawaii --*

- Leader: Arlene Buchholz, 3138 Paty Drive, Honolulu, HI 96822; snovakz@juno.com , 988-9806
- Leader: Sherine Boomla, bsherine@yahoo.com , 722-2223

### To Apply For A Service Project...

To apply for a service project, write a \$25.00 (per person) deposit check, payable to the "**Sierra Club Oahu Group**" and mail it to the leader listed first in the schedule. Be sure to include your own address, phone number and e-mail. It is important you make your deposit early, as many trips fill quickly.

You may contact the leader for the estimated price of the trip. Trip fees will definitely cover the cost of ground transportation, meals, lodging and a portion of the leaders' expenses. The leader will tell you whether the trip fee also includes airfare or if you will be responsible to make your own reservations and pay for your own airfare. (Of course, the trip fee would be adjusted accordingly.)

On a service project, we will work for the 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 or rustic than they are used to. **Therefore, it is important that the participants have a positive and cooperative attitude and willingness for teamwork. All trip participants are subject to approval by the leaders based upon the participant's experience, physical condition and attitude.** Deposits will be returned to any participants who are not accepted. The leaders may give preference to Sierra Club members and Oahu residents.

### SERVICE PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

#### **Nene o Molokai Foundation, Molokai --**

We will work at the Koheo Wetland removing debris that has drifted in on the tides, planting native species or removing weeds. The wetland is host to numerous birds including Bristle-thighed Curlew, Asian Whimbrel, Stilts, Plovers and lots of Peeps. Since the wetland is an open area, we should enjoy cool tradewinds while we work. We will camp in our own tents on the lawn of a beachfront home with beautiful views. There will be a portable toilet, an outdoor hot shower (screened for privacy), and a large tent-covered area to prepare our food and to eat. On our free day we may go on an archaeological/historical hike led by our host or you can stay back and relax on the beach.

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

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service manage this refuge. They are creating makai-mauka corridors of native vegetation across open pasture lands which native forest birds can use in their migrations up and down the slopes of Mauna Kea. The service projects usually involve planting native species such as koa or working in the greenhouse. Accommodations are at a well-equipped cabin at the 6,200-foot elevation with elec-



# Appealing for your kōkua

By Annette Kaohelauii, Fundraising Chair

By now you should have received the Hawaii Chapter's March Fund Appeal letter asking for a donation to Hawaii Chapter. If you haven't already responded, please send a generous contribution to help Sierra Club protect Hawaii's fragile natural environment.

Each year the Hawaii Chapter participates in the Sierra Club's annual March Fund Appeal which raises funds to support local programs and initiatives. A very small portion of your dues to the national Sierra Club goes to the local Chapter and primarily funds the Chapter newsletter. Funding that is raised locally stays in Hawaii, to support the Chapter functions and the administration of the various activity sections, groups and programs within the state. Some funds are provided by an endowment left by former Chapter Chair and Treasurer Ed Stevens, to cover our overhead, but the bulk of the operations money is raised through the March Fund Appeal.

tricity, running water, a flush toilet, a hot shower, kitchen, and bunk beds with mattresses. Participants will need to bring their own sleeping bags. At this high elevation, cold wet weather is always possible, so warm clothing and footwear and good quality raingear are necessary. 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.

## **Puu Makaala and Kahaualea Natural Area Reserves, Hawaii –**

This is a new service project! Puu Makaala is located on the sloping eastern flank of Mauna Loa and protects wet ohia and koa forests and also a wet mountain grassland ecosystem. The reserve is home to many rare plants and animals. Kahaualea is located nearby and is the site of recent volcanic activity. Mountain and lowland wet forests, a lowland mesic forest and successional communities are represented. The largest population of an endangered fern is also found in Kahaualea. We will stay in a recently renovated house located at the State of Hawaii Baseyard in Hilo which has a bathroom, a newly remodeled kitchen, and new bunk beds. We will probably go hiking on our free day.

Our goal for 2008 is \$36,000. We've deliberately set a higher than usual bar for ourselves this year to support a successful launch of Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter's Sea Change project. Our climate change initiative will focus on the effects here in Hawaii and what we can each do directly to slow its impacts on the predicted sea-level rise. Thanks to our generous local donors, Hawaii has one of the highest average donation rates in all of Sierra Club, and together we can draw the line on sea level rise.

A small grant has provided funds to develop this educational project focused specifically on Hawaii, but additional funds are needed to allow us to outreach a wider audience. Because global climate change affects all of us in an island state, this year's appeal is focuses on educating and informing Hawaii residents on the effects of global climate change—and how to motivate awareness into action! Hawaii Chapter has a brand new web site for Sea Change at [www.seachangehawaii.org](http://www.seachangehawaii.org) Check it out around Earth Day.

An easy option to consider is to make a pledge to the Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter on your credit card. Your monthly pledge will help us to budget for the year and allow on-going outreach for our Sea Change project. For pledging just \$11 per month you will be recognized as a Kahu 'Aina donor with special events and updates just for you.

Sierra Club Hawaii Chapter continues to build on our success and accomplishments. The prime piece of legislation that Sierra Club focused on in 2007 was the Global Warming Solutions Act of 2007 (HB 226, Act 234) which set an enforceable limit on Hawaii's greenhouse gas emissions. In addition, our Director, Jeff Mikulina was one of a handful of Hawai'i people selected for Al Gore's Climate Project training in January of 2007, and he continues to speak to audiences throughout the state on what climate change portends for Hawai'i and for the planet. We continue our dedication to the environment, working at the legislature and at the county level for new victories for a more sustainable Hawaii in 2008.

Your generous donation to the March Fund Appeal will enable Hawaii Chapter to carry on this important work. Do you know where the blue line is for your neighborhood?

*Annette Kaohelauii, long time member of Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter is the Fundraising Chair for the Chapter and plans unique tours and events for our donors in the Kahu 'Aina program.*

## Moku Loa Group Outings

**Key: D=distance, the estimated round trip for the day; E=elevation in feet: + is gain, - is loss, +/- is up and down. Classification of hikes: (E) Education/Interpretation; (C) Conservation; (F) Family/Fun; (S) Service**

**Saturday, April 5 – Kalopa State Forest Service Trip (S) E = 2250'** We will be removing invasive alien plant species from this native forest. Bring tools, gloves, mosquito repellent, lunch and water. Leader, Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers (966-7002); Co-Leader, Sarah Moon (935-3475).

**Saturday, April 12- Kiholo Bay Day Hike (Sierra Singles) (F)(E) (C) D = 4 miles, E = sea level +/-200'.** A pleasant, easy hike to Kiholo Bay, one of the greatest treasures of the Kona coastline. Explore a crystal clear lagoon. Bring 2 quarts of water, lunch, snorkel gear, camera, sunscreen, and tabs are recommended; wear sturdy shoes. Swimming is available, but at your own risk; there are no lifeguards or restroom facilities available. Leader, Rose Acevedo (756-5990); Co-Leader, Phil Barnes (965-9695).

**Friday, April 18 – Earth Day – UH Hilo Lanai**

**Saturday, April 19 – Mauna Iki Full Moon Hike (E) D 3, E = 3000'+/-150'** This hike within Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park takes us into the SW rift of the summit of Mauna Iki, which last erupted in 1919-20. Panoramic views sweep across major features in Ka'u. The trail crosses prehistoric pahoehoe flows where historic footprints are embedded in hardened ash; and we will discuss a couple of theories to explain and date them. We start our hike before dusk; then return while the full moon rises. Boots, water, food, flashlights, raingear, warm clothes are required. Contact Leader Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers (966-7002); Co-Leader Debbi Uchida (985-7303).

*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. In order to participate in one of Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please call (415) 977-5630, or see [www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms](http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms). In the interest of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make car-pooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for car-pooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Car-pooling, ride sharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel. Each participant should carry a minimum of one quart of water, lunch, sunscreen, insect repellent and rain gear. Wear sturdy shoes with traction. Additional items will be listed with the outing description. Donation for non-members is \$3.00. Participants under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.*

**Saturday-Monday, April 19-21 – Pepeiao to Ka`aha Backpack (E) D = 14.6 miles round trip, E = +/-2200'**

Join us for a moderate 3-day loop backpack from the end of Halina Pali Road in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. We will camp one night at Pepeiao Cabin (1700') and one night on the coast at Ka`aha shelter. Reservations and leader approval can be made with Diane Ware (967-8642) or Cheryl Shine (985-9601).

**Monday, April 21 – Slow Foods Hawai'i Presentation – Kea`au Community Center – 7 pm**

**Friday-Monday, May 2-4 – Waimanu Valley Backpack (E) D = 19 miles round trip, E = +/-500'** This is an energetic backpack for individuals with backpacking experience and proper gear. We will start from the rim of Waipi'o Valley, descend into the valley, cross and ascend the far side, and continue on this trail until we drop down into Waimanu Valley, 9 miles from our starting point. After a layover day in incomparable Waimanu Valley we will return via the same route. Previous backpacking experience, sturdy boots, leader approval required. Contact Leader Diane Ware (967-8642) for details; Co-Leaders Phil Barnes (965-9695), Guy Nicholson (323-0369).

**Saturday, May 3 – Lokoaka Trail Service Trip (S) D = 0.5 miles, E = sea level.** Clear trails to pristine lagoons, plant native plants and clear noxious plants. Tools, gloves, water and insect repellent provided. Wear sturdy boots or shoes and protective clothing; bring swimsuits for a cool swim after the project. Leaders, Jan and Sarah Moon (935-3475).

**Saturday-Sunday, May 10-11 – Outing Leaders Training – First Aid and CPR – Location TBA**

**Saturday, May 17 – Ka'ohē to Kauloa Point (Sierra Singles) (E) (C) D = 6 miles, E = sea level.** Hike north on this part of the Ala Kahakai trail, which was been designated a National Trail, and learn about native coastal plants. Bring two liters of water, lunch, sunscreen, hat, dark glasses and boots. Leader, Rich Vogler (328-8387); Co-Leader, Rose Acevedo (756-5990)

**Saturday, May 24 – Manuka Natural Area Reserve and Miloli`i (E)(C)(F) D = 1 mile, E = 1800' +/- 600'** This dryland forest in the Ka`u district used to be the home of the alala and still features a variety of native flora and fauna. Our mauka walk from the state wayside park will include interpretation of the plants and other features of the area. Bring lunch, water, binoculars, rain gear and wear sturdy shoes. After the hike we will drive down to Miloli`i for a picnic lunch and a short hike to the black sand beach. Contact Leader Rich Vogler (328-8387); Co-Leader, Paul Campbell (965-5460).

## Kaua'i Group Outings

**Wed. April 9** - *Waimea Canyon Road Cleanup/West Side/Easy/ 2 miles*. Afternoon clean up of Sierra Club's adopted highway usually requires just a couple of hours. Please help keep the gateway to Waimea Canyon clean. Bob Greene 245-9280

**Sun. April 13** - *Nonou (Sleeping Giant) East Side/6 miles/ moderately strenuous*. Have you ever hiked up to the top and along all the trails? A circuit hike lets you see everything. Incredible, sweeping views & lush vegetation. Allan Rachap 742-1001

**Wed. April 16** - *National Tropical Botanical Gardens*. Late afternoon to evening moonlight walk. South Side/Moderate/2 miles. Learn about native plants in these lovely gardens. Sierra Club members only. Call at least 1 day before. Bob Nishek 346-0476

**Sat. April 19**. *Earth Day Beach Clean Up*. Do something good for the earth by helping with a morning beach clean up at Maha'ulepu. Meet at parking lot at Maha'ulepu 9am or call for directions before Saturday. Judy Dalton at 246-9067

**Sat. April 19**. *Evening hike*. Haena to Ke'e Full Moon Beach Walk/Northshore/Easy/2.5 miles. Watch the sunset past Na Pali and walk home in the moonlight. Kathy Valier 826-7302

**Sun. April 20**- *Limahuli Gardens work & hike/ North Shore/ Moderate/ 4 miles*. Help our rare, endangered native plants to flourish in Limahuli Gardens & hike to back of valley to view beautiful, seldom seen falls. Jane Schmitt 826-6105

**Tues. April 22** - *Earth Day Native Hawaiian Plant Event*. Help carefully propagated native plants get a foothold into the earth with a plant out on the grounds of National Tropical Botanical Garden. Leader: Bob Nishek. Call Lea Taddonio 332-7324 x228.

**Sat April 26**. *Moloa'a Bay Beach Walk and Marine Debris Clean Up*. East side/Easy/ 1.2 miles. At 10 am, we'll walk the entire beautiful cove and later remove ocean debris at the stream mouth. We'll supply drinks & equipment. Karen Tilley 821-8008

**Sat. May 3** - *Ili'iili'ula /Strenuous/ East side/7.5 miles*. An all day hike starting along the North Wailua ditch system trail to the upcountry weir on the Ili'iili'ula stream. Tabi's recommended for rock hopping up the Ili'iili'ula stream. Bob Greene 245-9280

**Sat. May 10** - *Okolehao /North side/ Strenuous/ 5 miles* Hike up a ridge crest to take in stunning views of Hanalei Valley and Bay and Waioli Valley. Boreas VanNouhuys 639-3009.

**Tues. May 13** - *Pihea Trail/Koke`e/Moderate/ 2.5miles* . Start at 2nd Kalalau lookout and end at Pihea overlook, the highest rim point of Kalalau Valley. Native forest birds and spectacular views of Na Pali coast. Judy Dalton & Wendy McIlroy 634-0438

**Wed.. May 14** *National Tropical Botanical Gardens*. Afternoon to early evening moonlight walk. South Side/Moderate/2 miles. Learn about native plants in these lovely gardens. Sierra Club members only. Call at least 1 day before. Bob Nishek 346-0476

**Sat. May 17** *Kapa'a area Beach Clean-up & Bonfire*. Meet late afternoon and enjoy a picnic and bonfire on the beach. East side/Easy/.25 miles. We'll supply cold drinks and equipment. Call Karen 821-8008.

**Sun. May 18** - *Maha'ulepu Sunset to Full Moon Walk. South Shore/Moderate/ 4 miles*. Coastal hike starts at Shipwreck Beach in the afternoon and ends with the full moon glistening on the ocean. Car shuttle for one-way. Judy Dalton 246-9067

**Sat. May 24** - *Alaka'i Swamp board walk/Koke'e/West side/Very strenuous/7 miles*. Misty mountain rain forest rising 4,500 feet above the Pacific made accessible with the construction of boardwalks, a project Sierra Club helped. Bob Greene 245-9280

**Sun. May 25** - *Waipo'o Falls/Koke`e/ Moderately strenuous/ 4 miles* Views, and more views along this spectacular hike. Lunch at a pool below a small waterfall. Allan Rachap 742-1001

**Sat. May 31** - *Upper Wailua River/Wailua/Strenuous/2.5 miles*. Follow a hunter's route along the upper Wailua River, then boulder-hop to a pool with two waterfalls. Short but slow with tricky footing. Tabi's are required. Kathy Valier 826-7302.

**Sun. June 1** - *Ho'opi'i Falls/ East Side/3 miles/moderate*. You'll be in for a delightful surprise discovering this forest trail along a river featuring two beautiful waterfalls. Judy Dalton 246-9067

**Sat. June 7** - *Kohua Ridge Trail, Koke'e/ Strenuous/ 5 miles*. Superb views over the Waimea and Poomau canyons. The Kohua Ridge separates the beautiful canyon lands of Po'omau and Koaie. Rare native plants along trail. Bob Green 245-9280

**Sun. June 8**- *Honopu, Koke'e/ Moderately strenuous/ 5 miles*. Hike through native forest for a splendid view into remote Honopu valley with it's huge archway. Jane Schmitt 826-6105.

**Sat. June 14** - *Black Pipe Trail Loop/moderately strenuous/4 miles*. Breath-taking views of Waimea Canyon along this hike through koa forest, top of Waipo'o Falls. Bob Greene 245-9280

**Sun. June 15** *Maha'ulepu Sunset to Full Moon walk*. South Shore/Moderate/ 4 miles. Coastal hike starts at Shipwreck Beach in the afternoon and ends with an almost full moon on the ocean at Maha'ulepu. One-way hike. Judy Dalton 246-9067

**Wed. June 18** - *Hanalei Bay Full Moon walk/ North Shore/ easy 2 miles*. Stroll along the beach from Black Pot Pier under moonlight just before the solstice. Jane Schmitt 826-6105.

**Sat, June 21** - *Hanakapi`ai Falls. North Shore/ Very strenuous/ 8 miles* Hike begins at Ke'e Beach following the Kalalau Trail to Hanakapi'ai Beach then inland to the falls. The scenery is beautiful and the falls are spectacular.. Boreas 639-3009

**Sun. June 22** - *'Anini Beach North Shore/Moderately easy/4.5 miles*. Morning walk along this glorious sand beach and later relax with a picnic by the calm ocean. Karen Tilley 821-8008

**Sat. June 28** - *Mohihi Waialae Trail: Kokee/Difficult/ 8 miles*. This trail crosses Mohihi Stream and follows Kohua Ridge into the Alakai Wilderness Preserve, then continues to the Koaie Stream. Bob Greene 245-9280

**Sun. June 29** - *Maha'ulepu/South Shore/ Moderate/3 Miles*. Spectacular coastal walk with stunning views This magnificent coastline is unique with its fascinating craggy rock formations. We'll shuttle cars for a one-way hike. Allan Rachap 742-1001

**Join us on one of these outings to explore and care for our island. Please note the level of hiking proficiency and round-trip mileage for each hike. Participants must sign a liability waiver. Requested hike donation for members and participants under 18: \$1 For others: \$5. Women are advised not to camp or hike in remote areas alone on Kaua'i for safety reasons.**

## Maui Group Outings

**Sunday April 13:** Makena Historical Tour, 2 mile roundtrip walk explores the legendary past of the area from Puu Ola'i to Makena Landing. Meet 9am at first paved parking lot Makena State beach (aka Big Beach). Leader: Lucienne de Naie 572-8331.

**Wednesday, April 16:** Visit beautiful Kahanu National Botanical Garden set right on the ocean in Hana and see the largest heiau in Hawaii. \$10/person entrance fee. Then, drive to Waianapanapa State Park and hike rugged coastal trail overlooking magnificent tidal pools. Swim and have lunch on the beach at Waianapanapa State Park. Meet 8:30 am at the Haiku Community Center and carpool to Hana. Bring bathing suits and lunch. Limit 18. Leader: Bob Babson. Please call Bob at 874-1166.

**Tuesday, April 22, 5:00 to 10:00 pm.** Come and join the fun! Sierra Club Earth Day Fundraiser at the Flatbread Company, 89 Hana Highway, Paia. We will also be celebrating John Muir's birthday. John Muir was born on April 21, 1838 in Dunbar, Scotland and founded the Sierra Club. Enjoy great Pizza and updates on local issues.

**Monday, May 12:** Huelo waterfall hike along Hanehoi stream. Short, but challenging hike along historic Huelo stream to waterfall and pool. Leader: Lucienne de Naie. Limit 12: please call 572-8331 to register.

**Saturday, May 24:** Wailea historical tour. Learn about the forgotten fishing villages of Palauea, Waipa'o and Wailea on this informative tour with two walking stops. Meet 9am at Polo Beach parking lot (downhill from Kea Lani Hotel). Leader: Lucienne de Naie.

**Sunday, May 25:** Haleakala National Park - Hike from Halemau Trailhead down to rim of the crater for spectacular views of the crater and then backtrack to the "Supply Trail" and hike to Hosmer Grove where we will look for birds. Actually see two sandalwood trees still growing in the wild! Leave one car at Hosmer Grove to take drivers back to trailhead where we began. All downhill!!! 5 miles. Bring lunch, water and binoculars. Meet 8:30 am at Pukulani Terrace Shopping center at Bank of Hawaii to carpool. Park entrance \$10/car. Limit 12. Leader: Ann Fielding. Asst: Bob Babson. Please call Ann 572-8437 to register.

**Saturday, June 7:** Wahinepe'e Water Hike Moderately strenuous uphill hike in East Maui watershed with waterfalls and pools. EMI WAIVER REQUIRED. Six miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, camera and bathing suit. Meet 8:30 am at the Haiku Community Center. Leader: Tina Dart. Limit 18. Bob Babson at 874-1166.

**Sunday, June 8:** Snorkel Trip to Honolua Bay. View Honolua Bay's beautiful coral reefs and turtles. This is a protected marine reserve and is loaded with fish. Bring snorkel gear, towel, sunscreen, lunch, and water. For those who get cold in the water, please bring a "shorty" wetsuit. Meet 8:30 am at D. T. Fleming Beach Park. Limit 10. Leader: Ann Fielding. Ann is a marine biologist and will give a marine life briefing before the snorkel. Call Ann 572-8437 to register.

**Saturday, June 14:** Hike south from La Perouse Bay on the Kings Highway to one of the most remote and beautiful areas on Maui. Visit anchialine ponds (unusual shallow ponds with tiny red shrimp) and archeological sites along the way. Then hike further south to beautiful sandy beach where we will swim and have lunch. Bring swimsuit, lunch, water, hat and sunscreen. 6 mile roundtrip all day hike. Meet at Kihei Community Center (Lipoa Street & Piilani Highway) at 8:30 am to carpool. Leader: Bob Babson. Limit 18. Call Bob at 874-1166 to register.

**Sunday, June 22, 1:00 to 4:00 pm:** Please join us on a very interesting and educational historical tour of Haiku. Visit a number of sites in Haiku that were significant to the Hamakua Loa region and hear the story of each area. The tour is sponsored by the Sierra Club and the Haiku Living Legacy Project. Meet at 1:00 pm at the Haiku Elementary School cafeteria, on Pauwela Road near the Hana Highway. The Haiku Living Legacy Project is a 501c3 organization and donations will be appreciated. Call Kathy McDuff to register at 572-5662.

**Sunday, June 29:** Papa'aea Reservoir Trail. Moderate uphill 5 mile hike in lush East Maui watershed. Eat lunch at a beautiful pool with waterfall. EMI WAIVER REQUIRED. Bring lunch, water and bathing suit. Meet at the Haiku Community Center at 8:30 am. Limit 18. Leader: Bob Babson. Call Bob at 874-1166.

**Please be prepared for outings.** Bring lunch, water, rain gear, sunscreen, sturdy footwear and trim your toenails. A donation of \$5 (\$2 for Sierra Club members) is requested of hikers over age 14. Please register early. Pre-registration is required for some hikes. Call Sierra Club hike line at 573-4147 or the hike leader number shown below. The East Maui Irrigation Company (EMI) allows us to hike across their land so long as each hiker has a waiver. An EMI waiver is ABSOLUTELY REQUIRED for EMI hikes (listed above). One waiver covers all EMI hikes for this quarter. Call in your waiver request to Jackie at 579-9516 well in advance and make an appointment with her for when you can sign it. Then go to EMI's Pa'ia office at 497 Baldwin Avenue to sign the waiver. Please be considerate of Jackie's time and pick up waiver 5 days in advance whenever possible. Also, please check our web site, [www.hi.sierraclub.org/maui](http://www.hi.sierraclub.org/maui), and click on Hikes and Activities for additional hikes and outings and/or changes which we have added after this newsletter was published.

**Just a quick note to also say we do need new hike leaders.** Being a hike leader is fun. You can pick the hikes you lead. Please call Lucienne de Naie at 572-8331 or Bob Babson at 874-1166 for more information if you are interested.

# Maui Group Report

**North Shore Heritage Park:** The new General Plan maps which will show what areas of the North shore are recommended for urbanization and/or preservation are scheduled to be released on April 3, 2008 (note this date was delayed from Dec 13, 2007 date originally set). They will be posted at [www.co.maui.hi.us/departments/Planning/gp2030/index.htm](http://www.co.maui.hi.us/departments/Planning/gp2030/index.htm). A&B properties, which owns virtually all the lands proposed for the park has announced publicly that they will be selling many of their Maui lands. Both Mayoral candidates in the 2006 campaign supported creation of a park. Please let your support for the Park be heard during the General Plan review process. To receive alerts sign up at Sierra Club Maui webpage. For more information, please see: [www.northshorepark.org](http://www.northshorepark.org).

**Pali to Puamana Parkway:** A community Task Force will meet in May 2008 to choose from four possible alternative solutions to improve traffic conditions on Honoapiilani Hwy between Ma'alaea and Launiupoko. Based upon this discussion, a report on "Alternatives Analyses" for a Lahaina bypass route is expected by November, 2008. Citizen concerns have been expressed that no new road corridor should be approved that allows more development makai of the new road and restricts the public to a few access points along the coast. The issue of determining parklands in this area will also be reflected in the upcoming General Plan maps (see above).

**East Maui Streams:** State biologists conducted a study of native stream life and stream flows in a number of East Maui streams in late 2007. State Water Commission hosts a public meeting April 10 5-9 pm at Haiku Community Center to discuss their findings and next steps to act on a 7 year old citizen petition to amend (increase) stream flows in 27 East Maui streams.

**'Iao & Waihe'e Stream Restoration:** The State Water Commission concluded its hearing on citizen petitions to increase stream flows in Na Wai Eha on March 4. Hui o Na Wai Eha, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs and Maui Tomorrow made a strong case. The Commission will decide the matter by the end of 2008. Maui County is also generally supportive of this position. The Commission voted March 13 to designate the 4 streams (Na Wai Eha) as a surface water management area, an action that will require commercial users to apply for permits and justify their existing or proposed uses of stream water. Domestic users are exempt from permits. Sierra Club is not a party to this historic action, but testified at the hearing in support.

**Plastic Bag Ban:** Local natural foods stores have com-

mitted to switch to bio-degradable plastic bags but a Maui County bill requiring businesses with annual gross sales over \$250,000 to provide compostable plastic bags, paper bags or reusable bags to customers has hit resistance from big retailers. The matter has been deferred until May after council budget sessions are complete. Will voluntary programs to reduce proliferation of plastic bags work as the industry lobbyists are promising? Tired of plastic bags in our ocean? Let the county council know you support laws that help Maui transition to less use of plastic bags and then only compostable bags. Email testimony to: [county.council@mauicounty.us](mailto:county.council@mauicounty.us)

**Superferry Update:** Judge Cardoza awarded Sierra Club and its allies court costs for a portion of their legal expenses incurred during legal challenges asking that HSF undergo environmental review. HSF and the state are expected to appeal the judge's decision. The Superferry itself has spent most of 2008 out of operation due to impacts from winter ocean conditions. Sample inspections during its few sailing days revealed many of the risks expected by the public: transport of bees and other insects, marine foods collected on Maui being transported to O'ahu and other hazards. On Feb 29, 2008, Sierra Club and its allies appealed Judge Cardoza's decision to lift his original restraining order and allow the ferry to sail before the environmental review process was complete. The allies believe that the action taken by the legislature to create a special exemption for the ferry violated the state's constitution. For updates please go to: [www.SaveKahuluiharbor.com](http://www.SaveKahuluiharbor.com)

**Pumping Policy for Harbor Tour Boats:** Keep our oceans free of disease. Weigh in at: [www.pumpedontdump.com](http://www.pumpedontdump.com).

**South Maui Development:** Wailea 670 (approx 1,200 units, priced from \$400k to \$4 million, just S. of Maui Meadows) received first level County Council approval with four conditions. S. Maui residents have filed several legal challenges that are pending, over the lack of updated environmental review and other irregularities in the Council's review process. Maui Group and others advocate for the project to update its EIS to let policy makers know what is really planned to address the many unanswered concerns. For updates on hearings and actions, go to: [www.savemakena.org](http://www.savemakena.org).

**Honolua Bay development:** Two citizen groups are working with the Mayor's office, Hawaii Wildlife Fund and others on a plan to protect one of Maui's most historic and culturally significant regions. Save Honolua Coalition and other groups are supporting a bill in the legislature to help fund purchase of park lands. For more updates go to: [www.savehonolua.org](http://www.savehonolua.org).

# Kaua'i Group Report

By Judy Dalton

## Responsible Development Charter Amendment

Runaway over-development in the tourist sector of Kauai's economy has been the driving force behind the most of the island's problems, including traffic congestion; overcrowding at parks and beaches; unsustainable demands for limited resources (groundwater, sewage treatment, landfills, energy); noise from helicopters; and the loss of Kauai's character and quality of life.

It does not take a sophisticated analysis to understand that the control valve for managing the growth of these impacts is the rate at which County government approves new tourist accommodations - hotels, time-share units, fractional ownership projects and transient vacation rentals. The County's 2007 Tourism Strategic Plan notes that some 6,259 resort/hotel/condo units have been planned or proposed. Compared to the existing base of 8,081 units, approval of all of those projects would mean a 77% increase in the number of tourist accommodations and a similar increase in the magnitude of the impacts outlined above.

The current growth rate in tourism is irresponsible (the County does not require the comprehensive environmental impact studies that are mandated by the law), unmanageable (infrastructure is inadequate to handle even the present load), economically unhealthy (creating ever more reliance on a single sector, tourism-based mono-economy) and unsustainable.

A major facet of the problem is the structure of Kaua'i County's government: the executive branch of government - the Planning Commission - routinely approves all new resort development but is not responsible for the consequences, while the legislative branch of government -the County Council - has no control over approvals of development, but is responsible for coming up with the funds for the infrastructure that the new resort development necessitates.

For the past two years the Kaua'i Group, along with other community groups, has evaluated the alternatives available to address the problem of unbalanced development. The coalition concluded that the only realistic solution lies in bringing a Charter Amendment before the voters this November. It would transfer the authority to approve resort development to the County Council - thereby aligning the responsibility to pay for development with the authority to approve the development - and would allow the Council to delegate that authority back to the Planning Commission only upon

the Council's passage of an ordinance limiting the increase in the number of tourist accommodations to no more than 1.5% per year as prescribed by Kauai's General Plan.

The success of the campaign will depend entirely on the support and commitment of concerned residents - in gathering 3,000 signatures by early June, publicizing and supporting events, educating neighbors, fundraising, and voting. Please call Judy Dalton at 246-9067 if you'd like to help with any aspect of the campaign.

## Temporary Moratorium on Creation of New Agricultural Subdivisions Stopped by County Council

The county administration proposed a one-year moratorium on subdivisions of agriculturally zoned lands, which was passed by the Planning Commission, but stopped by the County Council. The moratorium would provide a "time out" while the county complied with a state legislative mandate to classify agricultural lands with the purpose of conserving and protecting agricultural land for agricultural uses. The Kaua'i Group stated in our testimony that existing regulations have been grossly inadequate to achieving those conservation goals, as agricultural lands throughout Kaua'i have been converted to gentlemen's estates and other non-agricultural uses. A moratorium should apply not only to the subdivision of agricultural land but also to rezoning and condominium property regimes (CPRing).

The Council failed to pass the bill because of concerns about legality of the bill and fear that passing it would open the door to more CPRs (a means of dividing land which legally bypasses the public input process). Yet, adding CPRing and rezonings restrictions to the agricultural subdivision moratorium bill would prevent the further loss of agricultural lands to development.

## Moloka'a Bay Ranch Withdraws Permit Application

After six years of public hearings, Moloka'a Bay Ranch has withdrawn their SMA Use Permit application for after-the-facts permits for structures in the State Conservation District. The un-permitted structures will be removed and the land restored to its original condition. Public concerns about the historic coastal alaloa (trail) and the lack of a preservation plan remain un-addressed. Kaua'i Group continues to recommend that a conservation easement be established.



# Moku Loa Group Report

## Saving Land with Open Space / Parklands Bond

By Debbie Hecht

In 2006 57% of voters said “yes” to set aside 2% of our property taxes each year to acquire Open Space. There is now over \$5 million in the fund, but the money for '08 will pay for Kawa`a Bay. The 1.8 acres at Waipi`o Lookout was the first purchase using 2% money.

The Hawai`i County Council has approved nine resolutions, which instruct the Director of Finance to begin negotiations to acquire: Puapua`a Historic site (12+ acres north of Casa de Emdeko-Ali`i Drive, Kona), Waipi`o Lookout (acquired), Honoli`i, Cape Kumukahi, Ocean Park, Honolulu Landing, Wai`ele, Kawa`a Bay, Punalu`u Beach park.

Hawai`i Island's treasured lands need to be saved now! These lands make Hawai`i Island unique and provide our quality of life. People say, “We need roads, schools and infrastructure.” Absolutely!! This is not a “one thing or the other” issue. Hawai`i County needs all of these things in equal measure. Our infrastructure is not keeping pace with development; our quality of life is suffering. Open Space does not require expensive government services to maintain.

The 2% funds will NOT save all our important lands before they fall to development. An Open Space and Parklands Bond can provide funding to acquire these lands through outright purchase or the purchase of development rights through conservation easements. This is not a new idea. From 2004 to early 2007, 200 communities nation-wide have authorized bonds to purchase open space and parklands. (Trust for Public Lands-Land Vote Database)

An Open Space and Parklands Bond would be levied against properties island-wide. How does this work? The County borrows money the same way you would borrow money for a mortgage to buy your home. The County could borrow \$100 million to buy properties today and citizens countywide would pay back the loan. People with more expensive properties pay more. Look at the assessed value on your tax bill. If it states the assessed value is \$100,000, you would pay \$35.70/year or \$2.98/month; someone with a property assessed at \$500,000 would pay \$178.50/year or \$14.88/month; someone with a property assessed at \$750,000 would pay \$267.75/year or \$22.31/month. If the Council passed this measure,

you would not be assessed the total amount the next day; but the assessment would be added to your taxes gradually as properties were purchased and the money was spent. Right now interest rates are low; the real estate market has fallen 20%, is still falling; developers' cash flows are slowing and some land-owners need to sell. This is a golden opportunity for the County!

Please ask your Council members to introduce resolutions to conserve our special lands, buffer reefs, preserve beach access and park properties – especially lands which will soon fall to development, before they are lost forever. Ask your community development plan to include a recommendation for an Open Space and Parklands Bond. Make this a campaign issue – ask Council candidates, “What is your plan for preserving parks and open space?”

## Volunteers Needed for Earth Day Fair, April 18, UH-Hilo

by Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers

### Hawaii Community College Special 20th Anniversary UHH/HCC Upper Campus

- 9 am to 12 noon – School Trips
- 12:00- 4:00 – Open to the Public
- 4:30-10:00 – Reggae Music

### Presenters at the theater:

- Nainoa Thompson – Famous Hokulea Navigator;
- Joshua Cooper - “An Inconvenient Truth” Presentation for Youth

Events & Exhibits: Hybrid Cars, Bike Exhibits, Puppets, Native Plants, Trash Fashion Show, Native Garden Tours, Circus Acts, Clowns, Drummers, Story Tellers, Jugglers, Belly Dancers, Environmental Videos, and 68 Educational Exhibits, Three Reggae Bands will be performing, so you may enjoy your evening until 10 pm. FREE popcorn, drinks, native plants and trees.

The Moku Loa Group will have an exhibit table, and volunteers are needed to pass out info and meet the public. If you have any outings photos, stories to share, important petitions and would like to volunteer your valuable time, please contact Roberta (brashear@hawaii.edu) or 966-7002. The display will be set up at 8 am; the Fair runs from 9-12 for school participants, and 12-4 for the general public. It is a wonderful community event with music and entertainment all day long.



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# Blue Line Project

*Continued from back page*

On January 30 and 31, the Bush Administration hosted the "Major Economies Meeting on Energy Security and Climate Change" at the East-West Center in Honolulu. Many countries, including the European Union and Japan, were pushing the United States to agree to significant, short-term reductions in its economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions—reductions that the U.S. has been vigorously opposing, pushing for voluntary measures instead. The U.S.—surprise—did not agree to such reductions, but did agree to "continue the discussion."

The Fourth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change estimates that global greenhouse gas emissions need to peak in the next 10 to 15 years and be reduced below 50% of the 2000 levels before 2050 in order to stabilize their concentrations in the atmosphere. Developed countries as a group must reduce emissions 25% to 40 % below 1990 levels by 2020—standards

that European countries now propose for themselves.

Also in January both the Hawai'i House and Senate passed Sierra Club-supported resolutions (H.R. 53 and S.R. 24) calling on the United States to commit to a binding international treaty that would result in a significant and rapid global reduction in greenhouse gas concentration.

The Blue Line Project research and map was provided by Dr. Charles Fletcher, Chair of the Department of Geology and Geophysics at University of Hawai'i.

The Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter, plans to facilitate more "Blue Line Project" chalkings in the future with students as part of the ongoing Sea Change Hawaii campaign. To help, please email [info@seachangehawaii.org](mailto:info@seachangehawaii.org) or call the Chapter office at 538-6616.



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# Students draw line on climate change

***Blue Line Project hopes to raise awareness of Hawaii's vulnerability to climate change and need for immediate reductions in greenhouse gas***

On January 30th, Honolulu students are literally—and metaphorically—drew the line on climate change. While leaders from sixteen countries representing the largest producers of greenhouse gas met blocks away, Hawai'i students and residents chalked a line indicating the extent of flooding from a one meter sea level rise through Honolulu. Climate experts believe a one meter rise may occur before the close of this century—or sooner if the melting of Greenland and Antarctica ice continues to accelerate.

The cost of inaction on climate change will be overwhelming for Hawaii. The line literally marked the amount of devastation that may occur in the students' lifetimes from sea level rise alone should we fail to act on dramatically reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The Sierra Club is calling for a "sea change" in our response to global warming.

Approximately 50 students and individuals took part in the event. Seven city blocks between Isen-



**The Hawai'i Chapter's Julie Shiohita shows Blue Line Project participants an image of projected flooding through Honolulu with a one meter sea level rise.**

*Photo: Kent Nishimura*

berg and McCully streets were chalked with a line, drawings, statements, and other art by the students (maps and images available at [www.hi.sierraclub.org](http://www.hi.sierraclub.org)).

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