



Mālama I Ka Honua

Cherish the Earth

JOURNAL OF THE SIERRA CLUB, HAWAI'I CHAPTER

A Quarterly Newsletter

April - June 2009

Superferry Decision

Find out the truth about the litigation against the Superferry and why the recent Supreme Court decision benefits all of Hawai'i.

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Easy Recycling!

Learn about a legislative proposal to make beverage container recycling easier -- and how YOU can help!

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Energy Efficiency

Learn about steps that can be taken to move Hawai'i to a fossil fuel free future.

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Hot Green Tips!

Looking for ways to save the environment? Check out the new feature that provides a short, easy tip that you can use to help save the environment. A hint -- this month involves beer!

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Super Volunteers!



Read about super volunteers that are making a difference today.

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Climate Recovery Agenda

Hear from Carl Pope on the National Sierra Club's plan to fix the economy, transform our energy future, and slow and ultimately reversing climate change

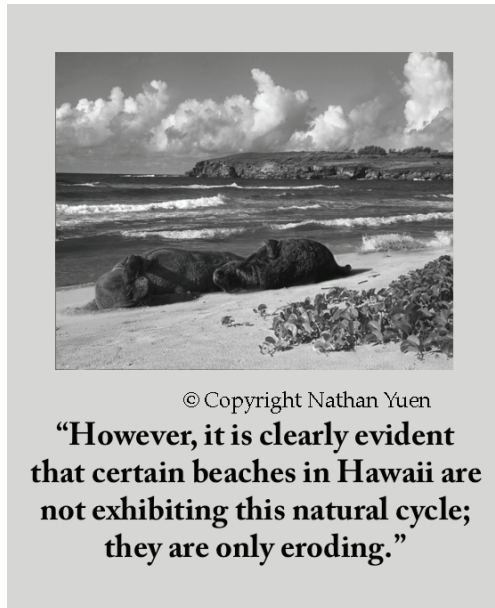
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Protecting Our Shoreline

What Will Hawai'i's Beaches Look Like in 2100?

by Mele Coleman

Beaches naturally erode and expand in Hawaii according to the seasonal changes in wave action. High wave action takes sand out to sea. During calmer periods, waves return some of the lost sand to the beach and wind delivers more sand from nearby dunes. However, it is clearly evident that certain beaches in Hawaii are



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“However, it is clearly evident that certain beaches in Hawaii are not exhibiting this natural cycle; they are only eroding.”

not exhibiting this natural cycle; they are only eroding.

There are two main reasons this natural cycle has been disturbed: Hawaii has lost most of its sand dunes and coastlines have

been hardened. The majority of Hawaii's sand dunes were landscaped away before their importance was realized. To worsen the matter, property owners have tried to prevent coastal erosion by armoring or hardening the eroding beach (building sea walls or sloping walls called revetments to protect the land) adjacent to their property. Armoring prevents coastal erosion but exacerbates beach loss. If a coastline is undeveloped, beaches will react to sea level rise by retreating inland. Although this retreat causes coastal erosion, it allows a beach to maintain it's width. Sea level rise hasn't played a key role in Hawaii's loss of beaches yet, however it is a valid threat to the life span of Hawaii's existing beaches.

Climate change is no longer speculative; it is well documented and widely accepted. The warming of our climate has caused glaciers in parts of Greenland, Antarctica, and the Arctic to melt at

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FROM THE
DIRECTOR'S DESK

Have you taken a look at our new webpage?

hawaii.sierraclub.org

While still in its infancy, we're working hard to take advantage of the internet to better communicate with you. One new development is a blog designed to keep you posted of Sierra Club events as they happen. For example, if you want to know about bills we're tracking and the current status of the legislature, you can click on the "blog" link to get access to a diary of sorts. We will soon start adding photos from recent outings events, tips for sustainable living, and alerts about upcoming programs. This way you can stay up to date with the Sierra Club without having to wait on the next edition of the Mālama.

The changes to our website are born out of a mix of necessity and opportunity. As with many organizations, the economic downturn is having impacts. The cost of printing and mailing the Mālama I Ka Honua is increasingly becoming difficult to sustain. We will be experimenting with electronic delivery of the Mālama in order to reduce costs and increase distribution of our newsletter.

Hope to see you on the trail,

Robert D. Harris

Superferry: Hawai'i's Environmental Laws Apply to All

by Robert D. Harris

The Superferry litigation, including the Superferry's recent decision to suspend operations, triggered a visceral response among many. Unfortunately, some people wrongly believed the Sierra Club's actions were spurred by a single-minded desire to shut down the Superferry. We hope you -- our members -- understand this has never been the Sierra Club's motivation.

The Sierra Club pursued legal action for one purpose only -- to uphold the key principle of Hawaii's three-decade old environmental law that an environmental review must take place *before* projects that commit public resources can proceed. Such a review requires honest consideration of the real environmental, cultural, and socioeconomic impacts of the proposed project, and allows decision-makers to contemplate available alternatives and measures necessary to avoid harm.

The special treatment that the Superferry obtained from our state administration and legislature trampled over these principles. The Superferry bailout also raised serious concerns about other corporations receiving similar exemptions, thus evading and eliminating the public participation and review process. This fear has been

borne out in recent legislative attempts to circumvent the review process and companies inquiring with the State about how to "receive the Superferry treatment" and be allowed to undertake an action without an environmental review. The highest court of the land ultimately found the Superferry bailout to be a violation of the "fundamental principle of the democratic nature of government; equal rights and treatment

"The takeaway message should not be that Hawaii is "bad for business," but that it is bad for businesses in our island community to cut corners and work the political process to get special favors"

for all persons under the law."

Contrary to common misstatements, the Superferry has not been singled out for environmental review. Harbor improvements involving other operations, such as Young Brothers and Matson, have required their own environmental reviews.

In the short term, the Court's decision will have unfortunate repercussions on the jobs and lives of members of our community. *No one desired this outcome.* The Sierra Club repeatedly

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Superferry: Hawai'i's Environmental Laws Apply to All
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urged, to no avail, that the Superferry and the Department of Transportation complete an environmental review before operations began. Even State Auditor Marion Higa found that the State and the Superferry knew at the outset that the proposed ferry needed to comply with the environmental law. But they swept this under the rug to accommodate the Superferry's "now or never" demands.

It's regrettable that Hawai'i's decision makers deliberately chose expediency over sustainability and accountability. It's also disappointing that the legislature sent the wrong message that Hawai'i's laws can be violated and then changed at the behest of a single special interest.

The Sierra Club's door has always been open to good faith efforts to provide jobs and alternative transportation in a responsible manner. The health of our island economy and society depends on such balance, and we shouldn't settle for less.

The takeaway message should not be that Hawai'i is "bad for business," but that it is bad for businesses in our island community to cut corners and work the political process to get special favors.

We hope that future projects will embrace the public review process as a positive tool to develop better outcomes. By anticipating and highlighting issues for resolution at an early stage, this process saves time, money, and heartache, gives a voice to Hawai'i's people and communities, and lets the knowledge of our citizens be put to work to shape their own future. In the end, such "democracy in action" can only lead to a better balance between development and our unique and irreplaceable environment and culture that is at the heart of Hawai'i's economy and well-being.

Oahu Group Looking for More Outing Leaders

All of you who enjoy the outdoors and especially the hikes, service trips and camping trips that the Sierra Club has provided have an innate appreciation of the organization and planning that goes into carrying out an outings program for Hawaii Chapter.

In order to continue to provide an adequate outings schedule for Oahu Group, we need to train more leaders. Plans are underway to conduct an all day outing leader training in May. If you are interested in learning more about leading hikes and service trips, please contact one of the planners for the Outing Leaders Training.

| | |
|---------------------|-----------|
| Stan Oka | 429-9814 |
| Deborah Blair | 955-4168 |
| Annette Kaohelaulii | 235-54321 |

Experienced outing leaders will attest that leading hikes and service trips is one of their most worthwhile Sierra Club memories. Call now to get your name on the

A Hot Green Tip!

"The energy required to produce a single twelve-ounce aluminum can from virgin ore is enough to produce nearly two new twelve-ounce glass bottles. So the next time you buy a six-pack of beer, opt for glass bottles over aluminum cans. The manufacturing energy conserved could power your television through two Sunday NFL games. If 10 percent of beer drinkers replaced a six-pack of cans with six glass bottles, the energy saved could fly thirty-thousand Cowboys fans from Dallas to the Meadow-lands to watch their team take on the New York Giants."

- *Elizabeth Rogers and Thomas M. Kostigen, The Green Book (Three Rivers Press New York, 2007)*



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It's time for America to get smart about energy and be less dependent on dwindling oil reserves. We need to increase our use of clean, renewable energy sources like wind and solar power. Let your voice be heard.

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Easy Beverage Container Recycling?

By Robert D. Harris

The single best way to ensure easy, convenient 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 **three billion bottles and cans being diverted from Hawaii's landfills since its passage**. Beyond waste diversion, the new recycling law reduced litter, created jobs, and provided new opportunities for churches, charities, and schools to fundraise. The bottle bill proves that a little change can make a big difference.

"When respondents were asked how much of the redemption center they normally use changed in the past year, 66% of them said that it worsened a little.

Hawai'i is currently the only state with a bottle law that does not

Despite its success with redeeming over three billion beverage containers, **the bottle law can be improved**.

Residents have rightfully complained about the cumbersome redemption process, with infrequent redemption centers and spotty hours of operation (and service). A recent Department of Health study indicated 29% of respondents would prefer to redeem their containers at stores or the place where the bottles were bought. To this end, 27% of respondents complained in a recent study that it was "too much of a hassle" to redeem containers.

"The bottle bill proves that a little change can make a big difference."

require grocery stores to 'close the loop' on recycling. Hawai'i should require that stores over a certain size (or over a certain sales threshold) provide redemption, exempting most "mom and pop" stores. A recent Senate proposal (SB 243, introduced by Senator Mike Gabbard) would do this, requiring that large, "big box" stores over 75,000 square feet

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Easy Beverage Container Recycling?
Continued from page 4

provide for redemption. Stores would not need to staff a redemption center; they could simply install “reverse vending machines” at the store or in the parking lot.

Such an improvement to our bottle law would streamline the redemption process and provide residents with convenient recycling where they shop, when they shop.

The Senate proposal, however, did not go far enough. It should be amended to include regular grocery stores in the beverage container redemption program. Stores 10,000 feet and larger should be required to take back

bottles and cans, just like they do in every other bottle law state. Setting the size limit at 10,000 square feet would provide more opportunities to recycle for residents (at the Foodlands, Safeways, etc. where they shop) while excluding the smaller, mom-and-pop stores (for comparison, most “7-11” stores in Hawai‘i are smaller than 10,000 square feet).

The time to make retailers become a part of the recycling solution is now. The legislature has tried to encourage the voluntary use of reverse vending machines by offering rebates to retailers and recyclers who use them. The rebates ranged from \$30,000 to \$90,000 (depending on store size), effectively covering a majority of the cost of

such machines. These enticements failed to increase the number of stores participating in the redemption program. It is unfortunate that the retailers and grocery stores have refused to play a role in Hawai‘i’s beverage container program by providing easy, convenient recycling – just as they do in the other bottle law states where they operate. SB 243—properly amended to include more of the everyday grocery stores that residents patronize—would ensure that they participate in this recycling program to keep the products that they profit from out of our landfills and off our beaches.

Want more information? Check out the Sierra Club’s blog at hawaii.sierraclub.org.



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Protecting Our Shoreline

Continued from page 1

alarming rates, resulting in an acceleration of the rate of sea level rise globally. Although parts of the world are currently afflicted with the affects of sea level rise (Northwestern Alaska is a prime example), the central Pacific Ocean is experiencing a fifty-year delay in reaction time.

If predictions are correct, Hawaii's sea level may rise up to 1.4 meters by 2100. Even if that prediction were an overestimate, studies indicate that the consequences of a 30 cm rise in Hawaii's sea level would be devastating; a vast proportion of Honolulu would be flooded. Low lying areas in general will have an increased frequency of flooding events and an increased vulnerability to coastal hazards: wave induced marine inundation, drainage problems, salt intrusion into groundwater and tsunamis. Hawaii's coastal zone management plan does not address changes due to a rise in sea level.

The adoption of a statewide, managed plan of retreat is not an action that would be taken without precedent. There are several national and international examples of this (*i.e.*, California, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, South Carolina, the UK). Basically the idea is to minimize the risk of coastal hazards by moving structures and roads away from the shoreline. It isn't an easy task but it's feasible when you have decades to prepare.

Researchers from the University of Hawaii's Coastal Geology Group have been exploring Hawaii's options for



developing and implementing a managed retreat plan. Their results indicate that there are a few key actions that the state of Hawaii must take to reduce our vulnerability to sea level rise:

- Increase construction setbacks for future coastal development; mandate that the rate of erosion be accounted for in shoreline setback ordinances
- Prohibit inappropriate coastal development
- Preserve sand dunes, which are necessary to continue the natural cycle of beach erosion and accretion
- Relocate vulnerable roads
- Identify and protect beaches of highest cultural and economic value
- Minimize shoreline armoring; allow nature to dictate rate of erosion
- Integrate management agencies so as to improve coordination and enforcement under a unified vision
- Provide incentives for owners of vulnerable beachfront properties to retreat from the shoreline

The rate and location of beach erosion data has been collected for three islands. How to apply this data is subject to debate. Maui and Kauai have taken steps to prepare for sea level rise; they are using the data as a coastal management tool in what is termed the "whole island" approach. Maui has an island wide construction setback of 50 times the rate of erosion plus 20 feet, preventing coastal hazards for up to 50 years. Kauai has a construction setback of 70 times the rate

of erosion plus 40 feet, preventing coastal hazards for up to 70 years. Shoreline setback is measured from the certified shoreline, which is the line marking the upper reach of public beach access which is determined by the upper reach of waves (excluding storm and tsunami waves).

The rest of our state lacks appropriate shoreline setback guidelines; Oahu's current setback is dangerously close to the shoreline at a mere 20 feet. However, Oahu may be the first island to adopt the "beach by beach" approach to utilizing the beach erosion data available. This option enables customization of shoreline setback guidelines and is likely to be a better fit for Oahu than the "whole island" approach. Not all beaches erode at the same rate; sometimes "one size does not fit all." If applied, the "beach by beach" method will use an individual beach's erosion rate to determine that beach's specific shoreline setback. Furthermore, certain beaches are of higher "value" to our society than others and therefore require higher levels of protection.

Regardless of which approach is adopted, the overall consensus is that it is critical that Hawaii implement a statewide policy mandating the enforcement of a managed retreat plan. Avoiding the issue any longer will only make it more difficult for our future generations to live with. Hawaii's government should be encouraged to take aggressive action on this issue in order to protect our coastal areas for future generations.

Haleakala Service Trip

A group of intrepid Sierra Club Volunteers recently hiked into the Halekala crater, spent the evening in a rustic cabin (Kapalaoa), and removed invasive weeds (California telegraph plant and narrow leaf plantain). The group had an amazing time -- special thanks to Ron Nagata, Chief of Resource Management at Haleakala National Park for coordinating the trip.



MARK GLICK, DEBORAH BLAIR,
AND REINA HARRIS HUDDLE
FOR WARMTH



MARK GLICK, CHAPTER CHAIR,
AND WEEDING EXPERT



RON NAGATA SHOWS THE WAY

Interested in doing a trip like this? Contact Deborah Blair at (808) 955-4168.

Hey Mr. Green



Hey Mr. Green, I know the Sierra Club encourages replacing incandescent bulbs with efficient fluorescents, but the former are readily disposable in the trash, while the latter contain mercury. So what am I supposed to do with my dead fluorescent bulbs? —Stew in Princeton, New Jersey

How many environmentalists does it take to change an efficient lightbulb? While your local hazardous-waste authority is the best source for information, many hardware stores will take back your old bulbs—sometimes at no charge if you're buying replacements. Check www.earth911.org or call (800) CLEANUP to find a recycling location near you, or visit the EPA's Web site at www.epa.gov/bulbrecycling for info. It's worth the effort: Though fluorescents do contain mercury, a highly poisonous element that persists in the environment, burning coal to generate electricity puts almost fifty tons of the nasty stuff into the air each year. Since fluorescents are four times more efficient than regular bulbs—and last at least five times longer—replacing all household incandescents (and recycling all dead fluorescents) could cut mercury and CO₂ emissions while saving the equivalent of at least 4 billion gallons of oil annually.



Energy Efficiency

Too Good to Be True? Taking real steps to move Hawai`i to a fossil fuel free future

by Robert D. Harris

With the prime rate in the low three percent range, hoping to secure a twenty percent profit on an investment would seem to be a fantasy, wouldn't it? What if such an investment was not only available today, but also helped save the environment and improve the economy? Sound even more enticing? Let's say this investment also helped low-income and working people reduce their utility costs by as much as fifty percent here in Hawai`i, where we pay

some of the highest rates in the nation. Does this sound too good to be true?

This investment opportunity, however, is quite real. The investment is: energy efficiency – suddenly a “sexy” topic based on its potential to drastically lessen energy costs, reduce dependence on foreign oil, and produce immediate jobs. It is the central focus of President-Elect Barack Obama's economic recovery plan. Energy efficiency was even featured on a recent cover of Time magazine. Assuming current efforts succeed, it is highly

likely and altogether fitting that Hawai`i will begin an aggressive efficiency program by the end of the year.

Continued on page 10



CFL Light bulbs and Solar Fans are examples of simple energy efficiency projects



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Don't Get Left Out In The Cold... Join Us!

Sierra Club Outings are a terrific way to meet new people and enjoy the great outdoors. Whatever your interests - hiking, canoeing or birdwatching - there is an outing for everyone. If you are new to the area, let your local Chapter or Group show you around. Join today and become part of America's largest environmental organization with the most enjoyable outings.



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*Energy Efficiency**Continued from page 8*

Here's how a comprehensive energy efficiency program might work. An investor/broker (perhaps even a state agency or HECO) aggressively advertises "free" home improvements. A contractor could even be paid to go door-to-door. From a revolving loan fund or investor pool, the investor pays upfront for efficiency installations such as new solar hot water heaters, efficient windows, and proper roof insulation. A homeowner who signs up for this program -- who pays nothing out of pocket -- sees an immediate reduction in his or her energy costs. The investor, who has an agreement with the utility, receives a portion of the total energy savings, thus paying back the loan with interest over time.

This program creates jobs. For example, the building materials necessary to install these efficiency projects will be purchased from local suppliers. Successful contractors will have to hire hundreds, if not thousands, of talented plumbers, carpenters, and handymen to conduct the installations. Additional jobs are created to service these now-bustling contracting companies. A valuable and immediate infusion of money is placed into our local economy.

Significantly, a good energy efficiency program could reduce Hawai'i's energy demand by about thirty percent, thus reducing Hawai'i's oil consumption by millions of barrels of oil per year. Assuming a barrel of oil costs \$50, that's over fifty million dollars of savings to ratepayers each year.

So, when someone shows up to your door talking about energy efficiency and offering to lower your electric bill, remember this is NOT too good to be true.

Donate Now for Kahu Aina Trip to the Big Island

Kahu Aina donors will have an opportunity to go traveling to the island of Hawai'i for the next Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter sustainability tour. Moku Loa Group Chair Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers and her husband Randy will host a tour of their organic farm and sustainable home near Kurtistown on the island of Hawaii later this summer.


You can combine a "staycation" on Hawaii with a fun day of exploring down on the farm. The Fundraising (FUN) Committee will arrange the day, you arrange the stay. Go for the weekend or go for the day. We will meet at Roberta's, do the tour and have a scrumptious lunch. This will be an opportunity to support local farmers and small businesses while doing ecotourism. Learn more about how to do sustainable in your own home or garden.

You are a Kahu Aina member if you donate at least \$11 a month or \$132 a year to Hawai'i Chapter. If you have a spirit of adventure, you might want to start making plans now for a fascinating visit to the Hilo area. Kahu Aina members will receive a special mailing as plans begin to fall in to place. The next Malama (July) will announce the date for this event.

Make a pledge of \$11 a month (or \$132 a year) to the Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter's annual March fund appeal and start making your plans for a staycation at home in 2009. Contact Annette Kaohelaulii at 235-5431 for the latest details. She will let you know when to make airline reservations for Hilo, secure accommodations in Hilo or Volcanoes, Hamakua or even

SUPER VOLUNTEERS

The Sierra Club -- a grassroots organization -- is vitally dependent on a plethora of dedicated, energetic volunteers. Three new, fresh faces deserve special recognition. Mele Coleman, an aspiring law student, has been lobbying on behalf of the Sierra Club for a scientific shoreline setback and, in her spare time, has cleaned up the Chapter office. George White, a third-year law student, worked tirelessly for concrete efforts to reduce our waste output by seeking to eliminate plastic bags and styrofoam containers. Charlie Taylor, a first-year law student, has initiated a program to review environmental statements on behalf of the Chapter. When you visit the office, please say "hello" to these new volunteers!



Random Notes

From: Jeffrey Mikulina <mikulina@lava.net>
Subject: **Re: Family hikes on Oahu**
Date: January 6, 2009 8:32:19 PM HST
To: 'randy ching' <oahurandy@yahoo.com>
Cc: "Robert D. Harris" <robertharris@mac.com>, David Kimo Frankel <davidkimofrankel@hawaiiintel.net>, Judy Dalton <dalton@aloha.net>

Randy, Robert:

Sometimes these hike information requests are worth the time in responding. Remember this one from last year?

Lisa is the NJ Dept of Enviro Protection Commissioner and Obama's nominee to head the EPA. Doesn't hurt to be in good with her.

Judy hooked her up with some Kauai hikes as well.

Jeff

Lisa P. Jackson wrote:

Hey Randy. Thanks so much!

Looks like we are on the same wavelength. We did Manoa Falls this morning and loved it there. We were planning to do Diamond Head tomorrow and we'll do the third Friday.

Please thank Jeff for me. Thanks Jeff!

Lisa

-----Original Message-----

From: "randy ching" <oahurandy@yahoo.com>

To: "commdep@dep.state.nj.us" <commdep@dep.state.nj.us>

Sent: 8/22/07 4:43 PM

Subject: Family hikes on Oahu

Hi Lisa. I'm Randy Ching, an outings leader for the Sierra Club, Oahu Group. Jeff Mikulina, our chapter director, told me that you were looking for family hikes on Oahu. Here are 3 that come to mind:

1) Manoa Falls -- at the end of Manoa Road, less than a mile with a 100-foot waterfall at the end

2) Judd Trail -- in Nuuanu, on the Old Pali Road. A little over a mile with lots of pine trees.

3) Diamond Head -- hike starts in the crater after you drive through the tunnel. Costs \$5 (I think). Very popular with tourists.



Mele Coleman



George White



Charlie Taylor

The Sierra Club's Climate Recovery Agenda

Article from Carl Pope

Our Next Steps

In 2008, Americans chose change. “New Energy for America” trumped “Drill, Baby, drill,” marking a major change across the country.

Now that the celebrations are done, we must roll up our sleeves and get to work. Barack Obama’s top priority is investment in clean energy and energy efficiency in order to jumpstart our economy, create green jobs and make us more secure – and the Sierra Club’s Climate Recovery Agenda closely follows that priority. Energy is now a national priority, and it’s clear that the steps we need to take to help our economy recover will also help our climate recover.

The Sierra Club's Climate Recovery Agenda

Fixing our economy, transforming our energy future, slowing and ultimately reversing climate change and its consequences will require a clear agenda and aggressive timetable that will allow us to repower, refuel and rebuild America.

The Sierra Club’s Climate Recovery Agenda will help our economy recover, reduce our

dependence on foreign oil, cut carbon emissions 80% by 2050, and protect our natural heritage, communities and country from the consequences of global warming.

Putting our planet on the path to economic and climate recovery will require Congress, working with the Obama Administration, to:

- Invest \$150 - 500 billion in clean energy to create millions of new, high quality jobs.
- Reduce our dependence on oil by increasing vehicle fuel efficiency, increasing the use of alternative fuels, and deploying innovative transportation technology like plug in hybrids.
- Move America to 100% renewable energy for electricity and dramatically increase the efficiency of our buildings and homes.
- Tackle global climate change by establishing an economy-wide cap on carbon emissions. Ensure that carbon permits are auctioned.
- Take action that acknowledges the consequences global

warming is already having and the need to protect vulnerable communities, wildlife and their habitat from drought, intense flooding, wildfires and the other changes we are already experiencing.

Congress’ first step working with Obama Administration should be serious investments in high performance technologies and energy productivity improvements that will create millions of immediate jobs. Public and private building energy upgrades, mass transportation improvements and grid modernization should also be part of any economic recovery package.

America can lead by example. By taking actions at home, we can provide leadership on the international stage to both work with and be competitive with other nations. This agenda will be hard work, but the good news is that these are proven ways to face our economic and environmental challenges – and the solutions help everyone.



Sierra Student Coalition

From Activism through Generation E, the Coalition's own newsletter, to outings worldwide, students can enjoy being part of a team that's working to preserve and protect the Earth and its wildlife.

www.ssc.org

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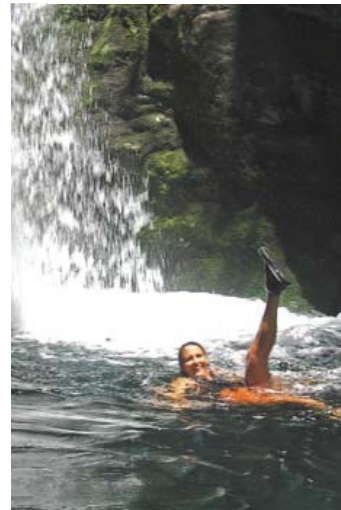
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Kaua`i Group Report



Explore, Enjoy, & Protect the Wild Places of the Earth!

Kaua`i is privileged to have more hiking trails and beaches than any other Hawaiian Island. We've offered hikes to waterfalls, rivers, forests, jungles, mountains, and coastlines that have delighted adventurers for more than 30 years. We've also conducted hundreds of clean ups - from beaches to rivers by kayak.

Nature is where we go to renew our spirit and experience our interconnectedness with the planet. It compels us to take responsibility and to act. Come explore Kaua`i with us and be inspired to protect our precious island.

Kathy Valier, Bob Nishek, Judy Dalton, Allan Rachap, Karen Tilley, Jane Schmitt, Vivian Hager, Bob Greene, Boreas VanNouhuys, Wendy McIlroy & Neil Brosnahan invite you to explore & enjoy!



Kaua`i Group Outings

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 donation for hikes: \$1 from Sierra Club members and participants under 18. \$5 for non-members. On the web at: <http://www.hi.sierraclub.org/kauai/> Women are advised not to camp or hike in remote areas alone on Kaua'i for safety reasons.

Sat. April 4 - Koke'e Gems. Strenuous/7.2 miles. Pihea Trail crossing the Alaka'i Swamp to Kawaikoi Stream, down to Sugi Grove. Spectacular views at Alaka'i picnic area. Neil Brosnahan 346-8460

Sat. April 11 - Kalalau trail to Space rock/ North shore/strenuous/ 7 miles. Hike our famed NaPali coast to the trails high point, above Waiahuakua cave; spectacular north coast views. Jane Schmitt 826-6105

Sat. April 18 - Earth Week beach clean up: In addition to making a beach more attractive and user-friendly, freeing them of litter protects wildlife, the reefs and ocean. We'll provide bags, gloves & snacks. Mahalo for taking care of our beaches. Call Karen Tilley 821-8008 and Judy Dalton 246-9067 for location and time.

Sat. April 18 - Kaua'i Community College students Earth Week hike: Jewel of Koke'e. Canyon to Black Pipe Loop Hike/Strenuous/ 6-mile loop. A wonder-filled forest & ridge hike crossing Kokee Stream to spectacular views of Waimea Canyon, Waipoo Falls, & Kumuwela Lookout. Neil Brosnahan 346-8460

Sun. April 19 - Maha'ulepu/South Shore/ Moderate/3 Miles. We're offering our favorite coastal hike for Earth Week. Spectacular coastal walk with stunning views each step of the way! This magnificent coastline is unique with its craggy rock limestone formations. Car shuttle for one-way hike from Shipwreck Beach to Maha'ulepu Allan Rachap 742-1001

Tues. April 21 - John Muir birthday clean up of Waimea Canyon Road. Afternoon clean up of Sierra Club's 2 miles of adopted highway usually requires a little over an hour. Please help keep the gateway to Waimea Canyon clean. Bob Greene 245-9280

Wed. April 22 - Honor the Earth on Earth Day with a conservation service on Sleeping Giant. East Side/Strenuous/4 miles. On this hike we will monitor and give care to endangered plants in their native habitat. Members only. Bob Nishek 346-0476.

Sun. April 26 - Earth Week River Clean-up. Hanalei River Kayak Trip and Clean up. An opportunity to kayak to keep our American Heritage River clean. Kayak Kaua'i provides kayaks gratis for community service. Judy Dalton 246-9067

Sun. May 3 - Okolehao North side/ Strenuous/ 5 miles round trip A fun hike that climbs 1200 feet along a ridge behind Hanalei with beautiful views of Hanalei Bay and the North Shore. Boreas Van Nouhuys 639-3009

Wed. May 6 - National Tropical Botanical Gardens Full Moon Walk. South Side/ Moderate/2 miles. Late afternoon hike enjoying lovely gardens and learning about propagation of native plants. Watch an almost full moon rise at Lawai Beach. Sierra Club members only. Bob Nishek 346-0476.

Sun. May 10 - 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. Karen Tilley 821-8008

Sun. May 17 - Nonou (Sleeping Giant)/East Side/5 miles/moderately strenuous. Hike to the top on one trail and return on another to see it all. Incredible sweeping views & lush vegetation. Allan Rachap 742-1001

Sat. May 23 - Jewel of Koke'e, Strenuous/7 miles. Spectacular hike through the forest of Koke'e, Black Pipe Trail, Canyon Trail, Po'omau Canyon Lookout. Cross over Waipo'o Falls for a view of Waimea Canyon to the ocean. Neil Brosnahan 346-8460

Sat. May 30 - Limahuli Gardens/ North shore/ work & 2 mi. Hike/ moderately strenuous. Help native plants to thrive in the garden's restoration area, then hike to the seldom seen waterfall at the valley's end (It's off limits to public) Jane Schmitt 826-6105

Sun. May 31 - Makaleha Falls/East Side/ Strenuous/3 miles A hike through native lowland forest to a beautiful waterfall. Not an established trail. Treacherous footing and lots of clambering. Tabs required. Limited to twelve hikers. Kathy Valier 826-7302

Fri. June 5 - Sunset to Moonlight Nukoli'i Beach Walk. East Shore/Easy 3.5 miles. Socialize & Exercise. Evening picnic at Lydgate Beach Park followed by walk on miles of natural, undeveloped coastline. Enjoy the sunset & a full moon rising over the ocean. Judy Dalton 246-9067

Sat. June 6 - Maha'ulepu Sunset to Moonlight walk. South Shore/Moderate/ 4 miles. Coastal hike starts at Shipwreck Beach late afternoon & ends with a full moon. We'll shuttle cars for a one-way hike. Incredible views every step of the way! Wendy McIlroy 634-0438

Sun. June 7 - Ka'apoko Tunnel/East Side/ strenuous/6.5 miles. An unusual adventure that starts from the Wailua area through a mile-long tunnel to the upper reaches of the Hanalei River and a waterfall. Boreas 639-3009

Sun. June 14 - Honopu trail/ Kokee/ strenuous/ 5 miles. This non-maintained trail is challenging due to steep elevation drop, but offers incredible views of the Honopu valley & NaPali coast. Jane Schmitt- 826-6105

Sun. June 21 - Father's Day & First Day of Summer Hike. Hike Gorgeous coastline of Donkey Beach. Eastside/easy/4 miles. Karen Tilley 821-8008

Sat. June 27 - Kealia Beach Clean Up. East Shore/Easy. Freeing beaches of litter is about more than just making a beach attractive. It also protects the wildlife, the reef, and ocean. Will you please help? We'll provide bags, gloves, & refreshments. Judy Dalton 246-9067

Sun. June 28 - Hanalei River Trail/North Shore/ Moderate/ 6 miles. Hike up the Hanalei River through a bamboo grove. Beautiful views of the mountains and a chance for a dip in the river. Limited to twelve hikers. Kathy Valier 826-7302

Maui Group Report

GROUP ACTIVITIES

BY KATHY MCDUFF

Maui Group had its annual meeting at the Kaunoa Senior Center on February 7th. Many Sierra Club members as well as community members were there to honor Lisa and Kiope Raymond as the awardees of the prestigious Onipa'a Award. This award is given for outstanding contributions to Maui and its environment over many years. Lisa, who is the Director of Maui Nui Botanical Gardens and a long time protector of Native Hawaiian plants of Maui Nui, and Kiope, a well-known Hawaiian cultural practitioner and professor of Hawaiian studies and language at MCC who is working to protect sacred Haleakala, certainly deserved this honor. Those present were also fortunate to be able to hear County Planner Dave Michaelson speak about the ongoing General Plan for Maui County. Dave provided a great deal of important information on how the plan is progressing.

We had a service table at the annual Whale Festival on February 21st hosted by Pacific Whale Foundation in Kihei. Since our booth was immediately adjacent to the ocean, we had a front row view of the whales who showed up to put on a beautiful show, and we were able to get our sustainable energy information out to the general public. Lots of people dropped by our table to talk story about our ongoing projects and to educate themselves on the issues we are working on.

On March 14th, we held our annual plant sale fundraiser as part of the Ha'iku Ho'olaulea and Flower Festival at the Ha'iku Community Center. Fundraising is a really important issue this year for all non-profits, especially Maui Group Sierra Club. With the strained economy, funds have been very slow coming in so thank you to everyone who participated in this effort. We hope to continue to offer our educational programs, such as the recent one on alternative energy, and to continue our service events throughout the year. If you have not yet donated to Maui Group this year, we would deeply appreciate your consideration on our behalf.

UPDATES ON MAUI CONSERVATION ISSUES

By Lucienne de Naie

North Shore Heritage Park: Join the fun for Earth Day on April 19th for a photo shoot around the North Shore Park mural. Support the Maui Island Plan (MIP) maps adopted by the General Plan Advisory Committee (GPAC) in late February. These maps include several hundred acres of present and future park/open space makai of existing homes and golf course from Baby Beach (Wawau) to Baldwin Beach Park and makai of Hana Hwy from the existing Baldwin Park to the Paia Youth & Cultural Center. Also included, thanks to public support, was land mauka of Hana Hwy to help protect the coastal lands from flooding and runoff. A large expansion of Ho'okipa Park was also proposed. Now the MIP and its maps go to the Maui Planning Commission for review and public hearings. To receive alerts sign up at www.mauiSierraclub.org. Also, please see www.northshorepark.org.

Pali to Puamana Parkway: The dream of an 8 mile parkway makai of any realigned Honoapiilani Hwy route is supported in MIP policies, but the county must negotiate with landowners to secure the makai lands. The proposed Olowalu Village development is proposing hundreds of new houses from the existing Honoapiilani Hwy to the future bypass with a park near Camp Pecusa between the proposed bypass and the existing coastal road. Citizen input to support the parkway can be offered to the Maui Planning Commission.

East Maui Streams: Water has begun to flow regularly in a few East Maui streams after a Sept 2008 settlement of a 7 year old citizen petition to amend (increase) stream flows in 27 East Maui streams. Sierra Club Maui continues to support restored flows in more Maui streams.

'Iao & Waihe'e Stream Restoration: Plans for a proposed water treatment plant (a partnership between A&B and Maui County) using Iao & Waihe'e stream waters, have been put on hold. In the first half of 2009 a decision is expected to settle legal challenges filed by Hui o Na Wai Eha and Maui Tomorrow on the amount of water that should be returned to the streams. The State PUC also put off a decision on granting Wailuku Water Delivery Co (formerly Wailuku Ag Co) a license to operate a water utility.

Sustainable Energy: Sierra Club activists are pursuing renewable technologies, more energy efficient operations at homes and businesses and laws that support renewable technologies. Check our Sierra Club's Sea Change Hawaii campaign to boost energy efficiency and reduce carbon emissions at www.seachangehawaii.org. Sierra Club activists continue to monitor all plans to help shape a viable local renewable energy future for Maui. For more information: www.HawaiiBioFuel.org.

Superferry Update: The superferry Draft EIS was issued and Maui Group and many others offered numerous comments. Concerns about Maui sea life being shipped to O'ahu and other unresolved issues continue. For updates please go to www.SaveKahuluiharbor.com.

Haleakala Solar Telescope (ATST): Members of Kilakila o Haleakala, a citizen's group urging an alternative site for the 14 story energy hog telescope have been joined by native Hawaiian environmental alliance Kahea and several other groups in questioning the benefits of the telescope plan. Some federal agencies have questions as well. Haleakala was recently recognized internationally as one of Earth's sacred sites. Telescope issues include use of ceded lands, huge size and energy uses of the project and lack of appropriate respect for an internationally recognized sacred site. For more info, go to www.kilakilahaleakala.org.

Honolua Bay development: Discussions between Maui County and Maui Land and Pine continue. The goal is a permanent conservation easement on the lands of Lipoa Point, Honolua Bay and valley. ML&P is asking to add a 60 room hotel and TVR use to around 600 luxury units in the adjoining Kapalua Mauka development. For more updates, go to www.savehonolua.org.

Wailea 670: The 1400 unit Wailea 670 development has issued an EIS preparation notice which doesn't discuss the endangered species of a native moth and a number of rare plants found on the site. Disappointedly, a habitat preserve area of only 22 acres is being proposed, although native plants now cover an area many times that size. Other questions remain unanswered about water supply, drainage, traffic and emergency access. Comments can be sent in until April 8th. Go to http://oeqc.doh.hawaii.gov/Shared/%20Documents/EA_and_EIS_Online_Library/Maui/2000s/2009-03-08-MA-EISPN-Honuauia.pdf. Maui Group supports preservation for the whole southern 200 acres of Wailea 670 due to the extraordinary amount of native plants still surviving there.

Makena Resort Rezoning: The economy appears to be downsizing plans for hundreds of luxury condos and homes in Makena. One project, Maluaka, has been withdrawn from realty sales sites and reportedly downsized from 69 three to five thousand sq ft condo units to 13 individual luxury homes. Other portions of the project may also be adjusted. The public comment process will continue with Special Management Area Review in 2009. For updates on hearings and actions on either project, go to www.savemakena.org.

Food Security: Sustainable life styles, home and community gardens, energy updates, a local economy and lots more are being discussed on a lively new action-oriented blog hosted by Sierra Club board member Rob Parsons. Check it out: www.mauifoodsecurity.com.

Maui Group Outings

Please be prepared for outings. Bring lunch, water, rain gear, sunscreen and sturdy footwear. Hiking boots are recommended and please trim your toenails. No kidding! Hiking can cause "tennis toe." A donation of \$5 (\$3 for Sierra Club members) is requested of hikers over age 14. Please register early. Pre-registration is required for some hikes. Call the hike leader number shown below. Also, please check our web site, www.mausierraclub.org, and click on Hikes and Activities for additional hikes and outings and/or changes which we have added after this newsletter was published. Mahalo!

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 below). 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. Then, please bring the waiver on the hike and show it to the hike leader and carry it with you during the hike.

Saturday, April 4: More Fish in the Seal • E Ola ke Kai, E Ola Kakou, A Common Vision – A Shared Kuleana, 2 pm to 10 pm at Maui Community College near the Pilana Building. The event includes bands, speakers, keiki activities, action groups, discussion groups, games, films, food, and restoration of key sites. Speakers include: Uncle Mac PoePoe – Traditional Fishery Management at Mo'omomi, Donna Kahakui, renown paddler, EPA special agent and founder of Kai Makana, Iokepa Nae'ole, and many more. For more information see www.MoreFishHawaii.com or contact the Hawai'i Wildlife Fund at 575-2046 or 280-8124. This is not a Sierra Club activity.

Saturday, April 11: Wailua Iki Water Hike: Six mile moderate uphill hike above Hana Highway through beautiful forest on windy jeep road. Pools, waterfalls and lush plant life. Bring sturdy shoes, bathing suit, sunscreen, lunch and water. Meet 8:30 am at Haiku Community Center (Hana Highway at mm 11.6). EMI WAIVER REQUIRED – PLEASE SEE ABOVE. Limit: 18. Leader: Mitch Skaggerberg. Please call Mitch at 875-4970 to register.

Saturday, April 18, 9 am to 3 pm: Earth Day celebration and plant sale at Maui Nui Botanical Gardens, 150 Kanaloa Avenue, Kahului. This will be the seventh annual Earth Day Celebration! Sierra Club Maui will be among the educational

booths focusing on conservation of Hawai'i's environment, native species and the beautiful culture. Enjoy the 'ono food and great Hawaiian music. Free admission and free parking. Bring the family for a fun, hands-on learning experience! This is not a Sierra Club activity.

Sunday, April 19: Earth Day will be celebrated at Baldwin Beach from 10 am until sunset. There will be two stages – one for music and one for speakers. Non-profit tables will be under the pavilion and environmentally friendly vendors will be located in the parking lot behind the pavilion. A large photo/painting of the proposed North Shore Heritage Park will be available so that all those there can have a group photo taken in front of it to be shown to county council to show support for the North Shore Park.

Thursday, April 23, 5:30 to 7:30 pm: Maui Sierra Club Board of Directors meeting at the Flatbread Company "Board Room" upstairs, 89 Hana Highway, Paia. Sierra Club members are invited to attend and share their ideas. Please email Karen Chun at Karen@RedwoodGames.com to confirm meeting time and place and to add any agenda items you would like to discuss.

Friday, April 24 to Sunday, April 26: 17th Annual East Maui Taro Festival in Hana. Come visit the Sierra Club info booth. Concerts, musicals, plays, performing arts, cultural and Hawaiian food & beverage. A wonderful festival. For more information, please go to www.tarofestival.org. Please come and enjoy. This is not a Sierra Club activity.

Saturday, April 25: Community Work Day cleanup: "Keep the Hawaiian Islands Beautiful." Please call CWD at 877-2524 to find the cleanup nearest to you or watch for the listing of all cleanup locations in the Maui News. Mahalo for helping keep Maui beautiful! This is not a Sierra Club activity.

Sunday, April 26: Haleakala National Park, hike in Sliding Sands trail and hike out Halemau'u Trail. Explore the crater and enjoy the absolutely breathtaking scenery. Bring your camera! Strenuous, high elevation 11 mile all day hike. Must be in good condition. Dress warm, rain gear, hiking boots, bring lunch & water. Meet 7:30 am Bank of Hawaii, Pukalani Terrace Shopping Center to carpool to the top where the hike begins. Leader: Bob Babson. Limit 12. Call Bob at 874-1166 to register.

Saturday, May 9: Papa'aea Reservoir Trail. Moderate uphill 5 mile hike above Hana Highway in lush East Maui watershed. Eat lunch at a

beautiful pool with waterfall. EMI WAIVER REQUIRED – PLEASE SEE ABOVE. Bring lunch, water and bathing suit. Meet at the Haiku Community Center (Hana Highway at mm 11.6) at 8:30 am. Limit 18. Leader: Bob Babson. Please call Bob at 874-1166 to register.

Thursday, May 28, 5:30 to 7:30 pm: Maui Sierra Club Board of Directors meeting at the Flatbread Company "Board Room" upstairs, 89 Hana Highway, Paia. Sierra Club members are invited to attend and share their ideas. Please email Karen Chun at Karen@RedwoodGames.com to confirm meeting time and place and to add any agenda items you would like to discuss.

Sunday, May 31: Hike from Haleakala National Park Kipahulu visitor Center up the Pipiwai Trail through beautiful grasslands and bamboo forest to 400' Waimoku Falls. At end of hike swim in pools near visitor center. Bring lunch, water, sunscreen and bathing suit. Park entrance fee is \$10/car. Meet 8:00 am Haiku Community Center to carpool. Limit 12. Hike Leader: Mitch Skaggerberg. Please call Mitch at 875-4970 to register.

Saturday, June 13: Wahinepe'e hike. Spectacular hike in East Maui watershed above the Hana Highway through beautiful forest with waterfalls and pools. EMI WAIVER REQUIRED – PLEASE SEE ABOVE. Six miles round trip. Bring water, lunch, camera and bathing suit. Meet 8:30 am at the Haiku Community Center (Hana Highway @ mm 11.6). Leader: Bob Babson. Limit 18. Please call Bob at 874-1166 to register.

Thursday, June 25, 5:30 to 7:30 pm: Maui Sierra Club Board of Directors meeting at the Flatbread Company "Board Room" upstairs, 89 Hana Highway, Paia. Sierra Club members are invited to attend and share their ideas. Please email Karen Chun at Karen@RedwoodGames.com to confirm meeting time and place and to add any agenda items you would like to discuss.

Sunday, June 28: 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. Please call Bob at 874-1166 to register.

Moku Loa Group Report

CHAIR REPORT

BY ROBERTA BRASHEAR-KAULFERS

Aloha and welcome to 2009, a year with our new President Obama, our new Mayor Mr. Kenoi, and our new County Council. Yes, it truly is the year of change. The economy is the main issue on everyone's mind these days, but remember that maintaining a safe and healthy environment is also a major concern. We look forward to increased member participation this year in the fight to keep our "local" environment sustainable.

Moku Loa Group is always looking for talented volunteers, so if you have a few hours per month or want to get involved in local issues, please e-mail me (brashear@hawaii.edu).

I would like to thank Paul Campbell, our past Chair, who served us well and invested so much of his personal time for the past three years. Welcome to our three new Board members: Justin Avery, Al Beeman, and Diane Ware, who will be working very hard to keep you informed as we face many environmental challenges ahead.

Marina Curtis has also stepped down as Treasurer, so if any of you have accounting skills and can use Quick Books, contact me as soon as possible if you would be interested in serving as the Moku Loa Group Treasurer.

I currently serve as the Hawai'i Chapter delegate from Moku Loa Group and the Fifth Officer of the Council of Club Leaders at the National Sierra Club. If you would like to find out more about issues at the Chapter or National level, feel free to e-mail or call me (966-7002).

Up and coming events to look for:

- National Board of Directors Elections in April 2009;
- Hawaii Community College Earth Day Fair at UH-Hilo campus center plaza on April 24, 2009.

NO ON USING 2% LAND FUND MONEY TO MEET BUDGET SHORTFALLS *by Debbie Hecht*

The Hawai'i County Council may raid the 2% for the Land Fund to meet budget shortfalls. In 2006, 57% of voters voted to set aside 2% of our property taxes to purchase Open Space. Using 2% money to meet budget shortfalls is a betrayal of voters trust! E-mail the Council (counciltestimony@co.hawaii.hi.us) and Mayor (cohmayor@co.hawaii.hi.us) and ask them to leave the 2% fund alone.

The 2% for the Land Fund campaign was a victory for preserving Hawai'i County's treasured places. In 2006 the Save our Lands Citizens' Committee ran an initiative drive to set aside 2% of Hawai'i County property taxes for Open Space. In four months, two hundred volunteers collected almost ten thousand signatures. Fifty-seven percent of voters voted YES! A clear mandate that Hawai'i County voters want their treasured lands preserved.

This economic downturn is the time to leverage the \$3.5 - \$4 million in the fund as the yearly payment on approximately \$45 million in Open Space Bond money. Land values have fallen up to 44.45% (WHT - MLS). Now is the time to buy! More information:

<http://www.dhecht.com/wp-admin/page.php?action=edit&post=13>

Since December 2006, how much has been deposited? When? How much interest has been earned? How much has been spent? On what properties? Can this information be published twice per year?

There are two properties for sale: Kiholena (Kohala) and Puapua'a (Kona). Are these properties being pursued for acquisition? What will happen to negotiations on Kawa Bay? Matching funds are committed from the State Legacy Lands Fund and Federal Fish and Wildlife Fund.

The time is now! We need to save Hawai'i's treasured lands for our keiki and grandchildren before they are lost forever.

DE-LISTING OF THE `IO *by Diane Ware*

The Dept. of Fish and Wildlife is proposing to de-list the `io from the endangered species list. They held informational meetings in Hilo and Kona. A number of attendees questioned their justifications for de-listing, such as secure habitat, stable number of individuals (The number they presented did not show a decline of several hundred birds in ten years.), and no major human or natural hazards found. Attendees pointed out

that thousands of acres of forest are at risk of loss due to ag conversion, clearing for development and subdivision. Also discussed was the fact that the hawk is on only one island and natural hazards such as VOG, fire or hurricanes could jeopardize the population. There were also cultural concerns presented. The details of the plan can be found at www.fws.gov/pacific islands. Comments will be taken until April 13, 2009 at www.regulations.gov. Any questions, contact me -- Diane Ware (967-8642).

HAWAII DISTRICT SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING FAIR 2009 *by Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers*

The Moku Loa Group Hawai'i Chapter of the Sierra Club presented the following awards at the Imiloa Astronomy Center on February 14, 2009.

The Mae Mull Award for Outstanding Senior Research Project relating to the Environment in Hawai'i was presented to Mark T. Seu from Waiakea High School. His project Title: Herbicide Residues in Water -- Breast Cancer?

The Wayne Gagne Award for Outstanding Junior Display Project relating to the Environment in Hawai'i was presented to Gina McGuire from Kamehameha Schools - Hawai'i. Her Project Title: Waiawi: Strawberry Guava Ethanol.

The Ruth Lani Stemmerman Award for Outstanding Junor Display Project relating to the Environment in Hawai'i was presented to Fiona Follet from St. Joseph Junior and Senior High School. Her Project Title: Endangered Sea Turtles.

The Dr. Don Worsencroft Award for Outstanding Senior Research in Physical Science was presented to Megan M. Kurohara from Hilo High School and Kelson A. Lau from Waiakea High School. Their joint Project Title: Wireless Power Transfer: A New Approach toward Renewable Energy for the Future.

The Moku Loa Group Award for Earth Sciences was presented to Chloe C. Frizelle from Kea`au High School. Her Project Title: The Ocean's Role in Global Warming.

The Moku Loa Group judges were Phil Barnes, Al Beeman and Roberta Brashear-Kaulfers. Mahalo to the Hawai'i Community College/UH Hilo students David Cavas, Chris Kopp and Natalie Ilaban Kalahiki for also judging.

The Moku Loa Group congratulates these fine young scientists.

Moku Loa Outings

Outings are conducted in accordance with Sierra Club outing policies. Participants need to recognize the authority of the leader and plan to remain with the group for the entire outing. Sierra Club carries no participant accident insurance. 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 <<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.

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, March 7 - 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; ring swimsuits for a cool swim after the project. Contact Leaders Jan and Sarah Moon (935-3475).

Saturday-Monday, March 21-23 - Pololu Backpack (E)(C) D = 2 miles; E = 1200' +/-600'

Easy downhill hike into a beautiful valley and campground (base camp)., There will be a day hike to explore the area on the second day. Bring camping gear, mosquito repellent,

change of clothes, extra socks, meals, etc. Tabis may be needed for river crossing. Possible car pool expenses. Contact Diane Ware (967-8642) or Cheryl Hoover (985-9601)

Sunday, March 22 - Pu'u O'o Trail Day Hike (Saddle Road) (E)(C)(F) D = 4 miles, E = 5700' +/- 100'

This is an easy-paced interpretive nature walk on a well-marked fairly level old trail that was used long ago to drive cattle across the island. It begins off Saddle Road at the 5700' elevation and crosses through pristine native forest *kipukas* surrounded by old lava flows. We'll go as far as the group decides, then have lunch and retrace our route. The weather may

be changeable, so bring warm clothes, 1 quart of water, sunscreen, hat, rain gear, lunch; and wear sturdy shoes. Optional gear may include camera, binoculars and sketching materials. Contact Leaders Sunny and Michael LaPlante (964-5017)

Saturday, March 28 - Green Sands Beach (F) D = 4 miles; E = sea level

This strand of olivine crystals near South Point is reached along a hot, dusty road. This trail is part of the proposed National Historic Trail, the Ala Kahakai. Be prepared for sun and wind. Bring 2 quarts of water, lunch, sunscreen and hat. Swimming may be possible if the ocean is not too rough, but it can have a very dangerous current. No life guard on duty. Leader - Rose Acevedo (756-5990).

Friday, April 3 - Backpacking Basics Demonstration - Kea'au Community Center, 7:00 pm.

Friday-Sunday, April 10-12 - Hualalai Summit Overnight (E) D = 10 miles round trip, E = 5000' +/- 2800'

We will hike up Hualalai from the top of Kaloko on the Kailua-Kona side with light daypacks. Gear, tents and food to be trucked in support vehicles. Tent camping around the cabin at 7800 ft. We will explore the summit area over the second day, along with historic sites and awesome geology! High winds, rain, cloudy weather and low night temperatures are a possibility. Challenging trip up the mountain for experienced hikers. Participants must sign a liability release prior to the trip.

Reservations required and group size is limited. Fee for central commissary (2 breakfasts, 2 dinners) and trucking is \$50.00 per person. Hikers are responsible for their own lunches. Contact Leader Sarah Moon (935-3475) for

reservations. Assistant Leader Diane Ware (967-8642)

Friday, April 24 - Hawai'i Community College Earth Day Fair - UH-Hilo Campus Center Plaza

May - Green Lake - Four Mile hike on private land. Exact date to be determined. Leader - Rose Acevedo (756-5990)

Sunday, May 9 - Outings Leader Training - Location to be announced

Saturday-Sunday, May 30-31 - Pepeiao Cabin Backpack (E)(C) D = 9.6 miles, E = 700' +/- 700'

This hike beginning at the end of Hilina Pali Road takes us across lava flows and grasslands in HVNP to a cabin in koa/ohia trees. Enjoy spectacular view of the coast and Mauna Loa. Suitable for beginners., Phone Leader Diane Ware (967-8642) for reservations and required equipment. Assistant Leader Cheryl Hoover (985-9601).

ATTENTION ALL HIKERS

Have you ever considered being a hike leader? Meet a great group of experienced Big Island leaders. Find out what it takes to start leading your own hikes and learn about wonderful trails in your area. Please contact Rose Acevedo (756-5990) for scheduled time and location.

O`ahu Group Outings

Dr. Wally Johnson Talks Kolea

Sierra Club, Oahu Group and Hawaii Audubon Society are joining forces to bring news of the latest in Kolea or Pacific golden plover research to your part of the world. On Wednesday evening, April 22, Dr. Wally Johnson and his wife Pat will present "Kolea Research: 30 Years and Counting" at Windward Community College in Kaneohe.

The Johnsons will continue their kolea research in Hawaii this "kolea season" using a new technology—data loggers. The data loggers are tiny gadgets that can be attached to a leg band on the kolea. The loggers can record sunrise/sunset times daily, for up to two years from which one can calculate latitude and longitude of where the bird has been. This will mean that kolea will have to be recaptured so that the logger can be recovered and data downloaded into a computer. This new research effort should prove to be very exciting and provide better understanding of migratory routes, wintering ground locations, and where our Hawaii kolea go when they leave for the summer breeding grounds.

The two large meeting rooms at Hale Akoakoa on the Windward Community College campus have been reserved for the usual overflow crowd at any of Dr. Johnson's lectures. The address is 45-720 Keaahala Road. Follow the Hale Akoakoa signs to the parking lot at the top of the campus. Plan on being there early. The lecture will start at 7:00 PM.

Another presentation of this lecture will be held on Thursday, April 16 at 6:00 PM at the Waikiki Aquarium 2777 Kalakaua Avenue. Go to the blue door to the right of the main entrance. For more information on the Waikiki Aquarium lecture call Mary 440-9007.

Sunday, April 5

Kaunala West

5mi/Moderate/ Contour/Pupukea

Native plants are the highlight on this trail, with beautiful views of central Oahu. Stan Oka 429-9814

Saturday, April 11

MCBH Kaneohe Bay Service Project

1 mi/Moderate/Coast/Kaneohe

Reservations required by April 8. 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 955-4168

O`ahu Invasive Species Committee Service Project

Reservations required. Please join OISC for our next volunteer service trip to remove an invasive plant, manuka (*Leptospermum scoparium*), on Manana trail in Pearl City. RSVP by April 9 to 286-4616 or oisc@hawaii.edu. Asst. Christine Pawliuk

Sunday, April 12

Makapuu Easter Breakfast Hike

2 mi/Easy/Contour/Makapuu

Our traditional Easter outing. Meet at 7:00 a.m. and bring a breakfast dish to share. Sherine Boomla 527-8034

Sunday, April 19

Kawailoa

5 mi/Moderate/Contour/North Shore

Let's celebrate John Muir's birthday (April 21) on this great contour trail, which passes through one of the wildest areas on Oahu. The trail is actually 4 miles long (8 miles round trip) but we'll only go the first 2.5 miles. Ed Mersino 223-5765

Beginner hike: Moanalua Valley

Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. Beginner hikes are for those who have never hiked, have not hiked in a long time or would like to learn the basics of hiking. Randy Ching 942-0145, Arlene Buchholz 988-9806

Sunday, April 26

Maunawili Trail from Pali Lookout

10 mi/Moderate/ Contour/Maunawili

Travel the Maunawili Trail from the lookout to Waimanalo. Car shuttle required. Stan Oka 429-9814, Jean Fujikawa 203-8508

Saturday, May 2

Outings Leader Training – TBA

For certified outings leaders and assistant leaders only.

Sunday, May 3

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

Saturday, May 9

O`ahu Invasive Species Committee Service Project

Reservations required. Help the endangered na`u (*Gardenia brighamii*) and other native dry forest plants at the Ka`ala Farms Cultural & Botanical Preserve in Nanakuli. RSVP by May 7 to 286-4616 or oisc@hawaii.edu. Arlene Buchholz 988-9806, Asst. Christine Pawliuk

Sunday, May 10

Koko Crater Stairs

2 mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Hawaii Kai

Not for those with bad knees or a heart condition. We will climb the 1000 plus stairs 1200 feet up to the top of Koko Crater. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Sunday, May 17

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. Cleanup along highway and coastal areas until 10:30. 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. Closed toes shoes only. NO SLIPPERS. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Beginner hike: Judd Trail

Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. Beginner hikes are for those who have never hiked, have not hiked in a long time, or would like to learn the basics of hiking. Randy Ching 942-0145, Arlene Buchholz 988-9806

Saturday, May 23

Work'n-Learn with Ka`ala Farm in Kalaeloa

O`ahu Group Outings

Learn about and help preserve the last wild population of the endangered `Ewa Plains `akoko. Meet us in the large parking lot near the intersection of Lexington and Yorktown (behind Subway Sandwiches and across from the Kalaeloa Post Office) at 8:30 AM. For more info contact Bruce at koebele@hawaii.edu.

Sunday, May 24

Sierra Seminar - Waianae Kai
5 mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Waianae
Reservations required. Celebrate Earth Day by taking a walk on the wild side to see native plants and endangered tree snails. Leader training credit. Randy Ching 942-0145, David Lassner

Sunday, May 31

Bicycle Outing: Kahuku to Swanzy Beach Park
25 mi/Moderate/Windward
Reservations required. Gwen Sinclair 753-0528, Ed Mersino

Saturday, June 6

Aiea Loop Trail National Trails Day/ Membership Recruitment Outing
4.5 mi/Moderate/Ridge/Aiea
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. Randy Ching 942-0145, Stan Oka 429-9814, Jean Fujikawa

Sunday, June 7

Beginner hike: Moleka Trail
Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. Beginner hikes are for those who have never hiked, have not hiked in a long time, or would like to learn the basics of hiking. Leader: Randy Ching 942-0145, Arlene Buchholz 988-9806

Saturday, June 13

MCBH Kaneohe Bay Service Project
1 mi/Moderate/Coast/Kaneohe
Reservations required by June 10. 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 955-4168

O`ahu Invasive Species Committee Service Project

Pulling Blackberry along Mau'umae Trail. Reservations required. 8:00-3:00
Hike along Mau'umae Trail and then remove invasive blackberry off-trail. Trail is intermediate, work requires off-trail hiking on steep slopes. In order to join the work trip, please RSVP by June 11 to oisc@hawaii.edu or 286-4616.

Sunday, June 14

Iliahi Ridge
6 mi/Moderate/Ridge, valley/Pacific Palisades
This trail starts out on the Manana Trail, but after 1.5 miles drops down and crosses Manana Stream. Ed Mersino 223-5765

Sunday, June 21

Hoomaluhia Botanical Garden to Likeke Loop
7 miles/Moderate/Ridge/Kaneohe
This hike starts in the Hoomaluhia Botanical Garden and climbs to join the Likeke Trail. Jean Fujikawa 203-8508, Stan Oka 429-9814

Sunday, June 28

Kuliouou Ridge Cardio Hike
4 mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Hawaii Kai
If you're always at the front of the pack when hiking then this hike is for you. This will be a fast paced hike with minimal stopping. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Saturday, July 11

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 shoes with gripping soles and bring a hat, thick rubber gloves, sunscreen, and water. All participants under 18 must contact the leader a waiver. NO SLIPPERS, closed toe shoes only. Deborah Blair 955-4168

O`ahu Invasive Species Committee Service Project

Remove Medinilla along Judd Trail. Help remove an invasive vine from along the Judd Trail, before it moves into native areas of the Koolau. Hike is easy, off-trail hiking through underbrush required to the work site, but it is not overly steep. In order to join the work trip, please RSVP by July 9 to oisc@hawaii.edu or 286-4616.

Sunday, July 12

Hawaii Loa Ridge Sierra Seminar
3mi/Moderate/Ridge/East Oahu
Reservations required. This lovely trail features a surprising array of native plants. Stan Oka 429-9814, Arlene Buchholz

Sunday, July 19

Beginner hike: Manoa Cliff Trail (partial)
Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. Beginner hikes are for those who have never hiked, have not hiked in a long time, or would like to learn the basics of hiking. Randy Ching 942-0145, Arlene Buchholz 988-9806

Sunday, July 26

Opaepala
3-4 mile/ moderate/ North Shore
This is a little hike above Haleiwa's sugar cane fields starts by dropping down a ridge to Opaepala Stream. After following along an irrigation ditch up the forested valley, the trail ends at a cool pool. Ed Mersino 223-5765

In Memoriam

Bob Moore, long-time Oahu Group outings leader, passed away on March 14 from cancer at the age of 70. Bob worked for the City and County of Honolulu in the subdivision section of the Department of Planning and Permitting. In his retirement, he traveled extensively in Europe and especially loved to hike in Italy.

Bob was in charge of Na Kokua, the 3-day Neighbor Island service trip program, for 10 years and was a great story teller. He will be greatly missed. Bob is survived by his daughter, Alana, and his sister, Pat.



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Contributions, gifts and dues to Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to *Sierra* magazine and \$1 for your Chapter newsletters.

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

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Chapter Directory



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FOUNDED 1892

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

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DON'T FORGET!

Robert Harris, the Hawai'i Chapter Director, recently sent out letters to all Chapter members and supporters asking for your support. This letter detailed the work the Chapter had accomplished and what needs to be done in 2009. If you have yet to respond to Robert's letter, please consider sending in a donation to fund the Chapter's advocacy programs.

These contributions make a difference to the Sierra Club and are an important part of the Chapter's budget. When you make a donation to the Chapter, you support the Sierra Club's work in our own backyard. You allow us to continue our work to protect wilderness and wildlife, to improve the quality of life in our cities, and to promote the enjoyment of nature.

Our March Appeal is the one time during the year that the Hawai'i Chapter can make a direct appeal to its members. Recognizing the tough economic times impact us as much as you -- please be as generous you are able -- and remember, these funds directly affect the protection of the environment in your neighborhood.

Mail your contribution to:
 Hawai'i Chapter, Sierra Club
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