



Mālama I Ka Honua

April - June 2011

Cherish the Earth

JOURNAL OF THE SIERRA CLUB, HAWAII CHAPTER

**Special Color Appeal
Edition**
See Page 2



**Planting
Native: Koki'o
Kea**

Page 4

**Join the Sierra
Club!**

Page 5

**Nate's
Adventures:
'Ihi'ihilauakea**

Page 8

**What's the
Big Deal
About Plastic
Bags?**

Page 6

**9 Myths about
Electric
Vehicles**

Page 10

**Capitol Watch
Cheat Sheets
and Bill Status**

Page 12

**E-Readers vs.
Books: What's
Greener?**

Pages 14 - 23

**Group Reports
and Hike
Schedule**

Page 16 - 24



Support Your Hawai'i Chapter

Invest in Hawai'i's Green Future

Sometimes, inspiration arrives in small packages.

This past year it was delivered to us in the form of a hand-written letter from a young boy named Damian. Damian enclosed \$17 of his hard-earned allowance and asked us to use it wisely to protect Hawai'i's environment.

Wow. Talking about a humbling and inspiring example.

We're trying to live up to Damian's request. This past year we led dozens of service projects across the state, recruited hundreds of volunteers to a

brand-new advocacy program called Capitol Watch, helped pass the toughest ban on shark finning in the United States, and continued to advocate for locally-grown food and clean energy.

But we still have a lot to do. And we need your support.

Can you follow Damian's lead and invest in Hawai'i's future? Now more than ever, the Sierra Club's Hawai'i Chapter needs your financial support. This is your chance, during our annual fundraising appeal, to make a donation directly to the Hawai'i Chapter. 100% of your donation will support our hard work right here in Hawai'i.

Please consider making an investment of \$50 or more today. *You can make a gift at www.sierraclubhawaii.com or by using the form at the back of this newsletter.*

Please act now. We have a challenge grant that ends on April 17th. With your prompt donation, we can multiply the amount invested right here in Hawai'i.

For a second year in a row, the Sierra Club received a contribution to print a color cover for the Mālama I Ka Honua to raise attention to our annual March Appeal fundraising drive.



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

"The Capitol." It just sounds scary, doesn't it? For many, that funny shaped building is a terrifying place where secret deals and bad things occur. The intimidation of this building -- and perhaps some of the people inside of it -- is one reason why so few people participate in the legislative process. Having more than two or three citizens testify on a particular bill is unfortunately somewhat unusual.

This was part of the reason for starting the Sierra Club's Capitol Watch. Terrific volunteers like Anthony Aalto, Gary Hooser, and Scott Glen thought we could demystify the legislative process by training folks about how bills move through the legislature and sending regular updates about their status. You may have already heard that the Sierra Club put on the incredibly successful "Forces for Good" symposium and brought in experienced speakers to discuss the issues of the day. Hot issues like clean energy; reducing Hawai'i's opala problem; reusing grey water; and protecting native plants and animals were all addressed. The symposium also taught folks advocacy skills and introduced them to legislators that took the participants on tours of the building.

Another group of amazing volunteers, like Brian Bell, Joy Leilei Shih, Stuart Coleman, Nina Bermudez, Diana Kucmeroski, Nicole Lowen, Shem Lawlor, and Dave Raney are now reviewing each environmental bill as they come up for hearing and sending out a bi-weekly email (called, somewhat ironically, the "Insider") to alert interested folks. In the email, each type of bill is color-coated by category. For example, if you're interested in marine issues? They're in blue. Interested in food/agriculture issues? They're in green.

Another reason for the Capitol Watch program was the terrific example of an outstanding leader in the Club: Dave Raney. Before the Hawai'i Chapter could afford to hire a Director, Dave was dutifully tracking legislation and offering testimony on the Sierra Club's behalf in the 1970's and 80's. He selflessly give up his lunch hour to walk down to the Capitol to see what bills were being heard and then drafted testimony at night. Dave was one of the key advocates that helped get Hawai'i's Coastal Zone Management Act passed. He embodies some of the best qualities of the Sierra Club: grassroots, volunteer leadership at its best.

So the thinking was something like this: If one Dave Raney was good, what if we gave an opportunity for more folks to be involved in the legislature?

Does this sound up your alley? Want to help promote or push a particular legislative change? Want to simply find out more about what's going on? ***Please take a look at our Capitol Watch page (www.sierraclubhawaii.com/capitol-watch) and sign up to receive the Insider emails.*** Or click on the "volunteer" tab to sign up to do a little more.

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



Mālama I Ka Honua

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Planting Native

by Rick Barboza

Koki'o Kea

Hibiscus waimeae

Endemic: Kaua'i

Description: Unreal shrubs or small trees up to 15 ft. tall but usually stay in the 5-8 foot range. These plants have light green foliage which is densely pubescent on the underside and less pubescent on top which makes the underside an even lighter green. The most attractive feature of this plant is its beautiful white and also fragrant flowers which emerge at the tips of branches. In the morning, the flowers open up and are a brilliant white and by the end of two days they slowly fade to a light pink and begin to close up before falling off. The petals of this hibiscus are very robust and thick which enable it to stay open for so long and which also adds to it's stronger than normal fragrance. The staminal column is reddish pink which makes it stand out against the white petal background but it is shorter and more robust than other native whites.

Distribution: This rare native white hibiscus is endemic to the dry forests of Waimea Canyon on the island of Kaua'i and is found nowhere else in the world.

Landscape Uses and Care: As with most hibiscuses, the koki'o kea can be trimmed into a beautiful, highly colorful hedge or left alone to be admired as a specimen plant. It is very wind, sun and drought tolerant and is resistant to the unattractive bumps from gall mites that seem to plague most hybrid hibiscus. This is yet another perfect native plant for the xeriscape garden, or

any garden for that matter. Hint: plant this plant in front of a dark background like a rock wall or ti hedge to really show off the flowers! Watch out for aphids and whitefly, if you do notice them treat the plant by either shooting them off with a water hose or spraying them with pesticide. If you follow the directions on the bottle you should have good results.

Cultural Uses: The flowers of Hibiscus were eaten as a laxative and some sources say that the native red hibiscus were eaten by girls and women while the white hibiscus were eaten by boys and men. In addition the flowers were also strung into lei but today it is most often put behind the ear.

Additional Info: The native white hibiscuses, which include *Hibiscus arnottianus* (found on O'ahu and Moloka'i) and this species *H. waimeae*, are the only fragrant hibiscuses in the world. Of the ones listed above, this flower is the most fragrant, making it -- the most naturally fragrant hibiscus in the WORLD!!! Sweet! An endangered subspecies of this plant *H. waimeae subsp. hanneriae* is also found on Kaua'i and has a much smaller flower but is still quite fragrant.



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

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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.

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A Path Near & Far: Thoughts from the Chapter Chair

by Mark Glick

Your Chapter's Sustainability Plan

Like springtime, the Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter has our own cycle of renewal and growth. It starts with our 6,000 members statewide who provide enormous volunteer capacity to manage and operate Chapter programs. The state director and only paid staff, manages and coordinates program and advocacy efforts, and our thirteen-member executive committee sets policy and serves as the check and balance.

Like most nonprofits, we're always trying to do more with less, and we often find that skilled volunteers can fill the vacuum across the board, from administration and finance to programs and advocacy. We're fortunate to have several hundred exceptional volunteers who month after month get the job done. Volunteers are the heart of our sustainability plan. Robert Harris's column this month showcases our energetic and effective team of volunteer advocates at the Legislature. When it comes to our environmental campaigns, outings and service trips, the secret to our success is the quality and depth of our volunteer leaders on Kaua'i, Hawai'i, Maui, and O'ahu.

Despite high demand for High School Hiker and Hawai'i Service Trip programs, both have had some challenges recently in recruiting new volunteer leaders to coordinate the efforts. As a result, we have fewer schools participating in the program and fewer service trips per year. We address this in our 2011 budget with a part-time volunteer coordinator charged with expanding our network of participating schools and doubling the number of service trips per year. Our sustainability plan makes the position permanent via the Lorin T. Gill Endowment Fund so we can consistently deliver environmental education and outdoors programs.

We expect to receive about 15 percent of our funding from the national Sierra Club. But the lion's share, 85 percent, comes from local sources, including donations, an endowment earmarked for the Hawai'i Chapter and grants.

The March Appeal kicks off our annual fundraising drive, and our members who donate are the second key ingredient of our sustainability plan.

Here's how you can help us meet our operational goals:

- Participate in a "gift program" where you make a gift to the Chapter in someone's honor.
- Respond to the March Appeal and become a monthly donor.
- Hold a fundraising event at your home, with the active participation of members of the Executive Committee;

Please go online for more details on how to help. On behalf of the Executive Committee, I cannot thank you enough for your support and interest in the Sierra Club and for making us Hawai'i's largest and most effective grassroots environmental organization.

What's

by Robert D. Harris

Plastic bags. These modern-day tumbleweeds have become a symbol of our society's wasteful and disposable habits. The EPA estimates that Americans use 3.96 million tons, or 7.9 billion pounds, of plastic bags each year. Put another way, over 60,000 plastic bags are used in the U.S. **every five seconds.** Of this staggering figure, only 3-5% of the bags are recycled.

The overuse of plastic bags has a very real environmental impact. Approximately 12 million barrels of oil are used each year to make the United State's supply of bags. Many plastic bags never make it to the landfill and instead enter our environment. And we're all familiar with seeing plastic bags float by on our streets, our trails, and in our oceans. As noted by NOAA, plastic photo-degrades -- breaking down into smaller and smaller pieces due to exposure to solar UV radiation. However, when in water plastic does not get direct sunlight exposure, therefore breakdown happens much more slowly in the aquatic environment. So as far as we know, plastics do not ever fully "go away," but rather break down into smaller and smaller pieces, sometimes referred to as microplastics. And -- in particular concern to a coastal state like Hawai'i -- the United Nations Environment Program estimated in 2006 that there are 46,000 pieces of plastic in every square mile of ocean.

Plastics also have the potential to adsorb contaminants from the marine environment and carry these contaminants through the food chain. Plastic debris attracts and accumulates hydrophobic organic toxins such as PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) up to

the Matter With Plastic Bags?

100,000-1,000,000 times ambient seawater concentrations. These toxins can then bioaccumulate up the food chain, where they directly impact human health.

Even if single-use bags are burned at H-POWER (only on O'ahu), they are essentially converted to greenhouse gasses, further hastening global climate change, and ultimately not addressing the root of the problem.

There is also an indirect and direct economic impact to consider. "Free" plastic bags are an expense that is typically not directly visible by customers. A recent USA Today article estimated retailers spend hundreds of millions of dollars annually to provide single-use bags to customers. For example, each supermarket can spend up to \$1,500 to \$6,000 a month just to provide single-use bags to their customers at the check-out.

The cost of purchasing tens of millions of bags in Hawai'i annually is most certainly passed onto local consumers. But without any market signal, as with anything "free," we tend to take advantage of the ready supply plastic bags without recognizing or considering the indirect cost.

The cost of bags doesn't stop at the cash register. A recent study conducted in Seattle concluded that the net cost to Seattle and ratepayers of collecting, transferring and disposing of waste was calculated to be approximately \$121 per ton or

approximately \$200,000 annually for the city.

So what's the solution? Plainly single-use plastic bags is not a part of Hawai'i's sustainable future.

Most of the focus has been on banning plastic bags. A number of counties across the U.S. and other countries have banned plastic bags (according to the China Trade News, China's ban on certain plastic bags is saving 37 million barrels of oil used to produce bags each year). The islands Kaua'i and Maui are among the successful counties that have enacted such a ban.

One detriment to a plastic bag ban is that it may simply convert a customer to paper bags. Without getting in a silly discussion of what is worse (paper or plastic), it might be easier to simply assume they are both are bad for the environment. Paper bags are expensive, produce more CO₂ emissions in their manufacture and distribution, waste extensive amounts of water during the bleaching process and require the use and destruction of forests.

In short, simply converting someone from a paper to a plastic bag is not necessarily a "win."

Another trend is to impose a fee on all single-use bags. Ireland is the model, where their use of disposable bags has decreased over 93% since 2007. Reports indicate that it has become socially unacceptable to be seen accepting a plastic bag at the supermarket.

D.C., which just recently passed a 5 cent fee on all single-use bags, has seen some stunning early results. Initial estimates indicate that at least a 50% reduction in the use of both paper and plastic bags has occurred. Other reports indicate that the reduction may be far greater. Alice Ferguson Foundation found 50% fewer bags in their annual Anacostia River Clean up less than a year after Washington D.C.'s bag fee law was implemented. Small businesses in D.C. have reported cleaner storefronts and a vast majority of their customers who have fully embraced the use of reusable bags.

The Sierra Club is currently supporting a similar measure here in Hawai'i. SB 1363 would impose a fee (currently the amount is blank but fees from 5 cents to 25 cents have been discussed) on most paper and plastic bags used at supermarkets. Almost of the testimony has been in support of this concept. Somewhat as a turn around from past experiences, even the major retailers are supporting this measure. One key stumbling point, however, has been whether the legislature would "preempt" the county bans on plastic bags. Environmentalists have been successfully pushing to keep the bans in place -- retailers have been trying to remove them. Stay tuned.

Want to find out more about this effort? Stay tuned in by subscribing to the Insider at www.sierraclubhawaii.com/capitol-watch.



Nate's Adventures

by Nate Yuen

'Thi'ihilauakea

We hiked to Koko Head and Makapu'u along the Ka Iwi Coast of East O'ahu to see 'ihi'ihilauakea, an endangered fern endemic to Hawai'i that comes to life during ho'oilu — the rainy season.

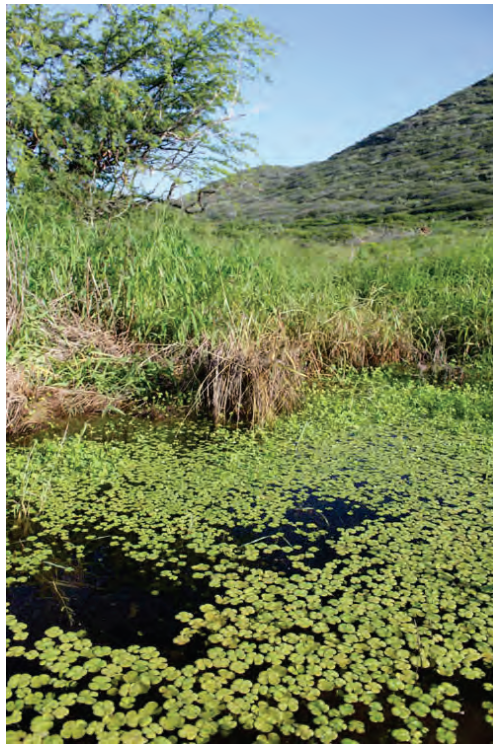


'Thi'ihilauakea or villous water clover (*Marsilea vilosa*) is a rare native fern that has evolved to survive alternating conditions of flooding and drought. The plant grows in dry areas of the island and is known to grow in only a handful of locations on O'ahu and Moloka'i. A small crater on the southern rim of Hanauma Bay is the ancestral home of 'ihi'ihilauakea, and is named after the fern.



When 'Thi'ihilauakea Crater fills with standing water, the spores germinate, and the ephemeral pool becomes a veritable sea of four leaf clovers. Since the rainfall over Oahu had been fairly heavy this winter, We decided to see if enough rain fell for the crater to flood. The crater does not fill often, filling on average only once every 6-1/2 years, but decades can pass between flooding. The last three documented floodings of 'Thi'ihilauakea Crater occurred in the winters of 1987-1988, 1990-1991, and 2003-2004.

Unfortunately, it had not rained hard enough over Koko Head for the crater to fill with water. So we decided to visit another population of 'ihi'ihilauakea ferns several miles down the Ka Iwi Coast in Makapu'u, where a pool floods with greater regularity.

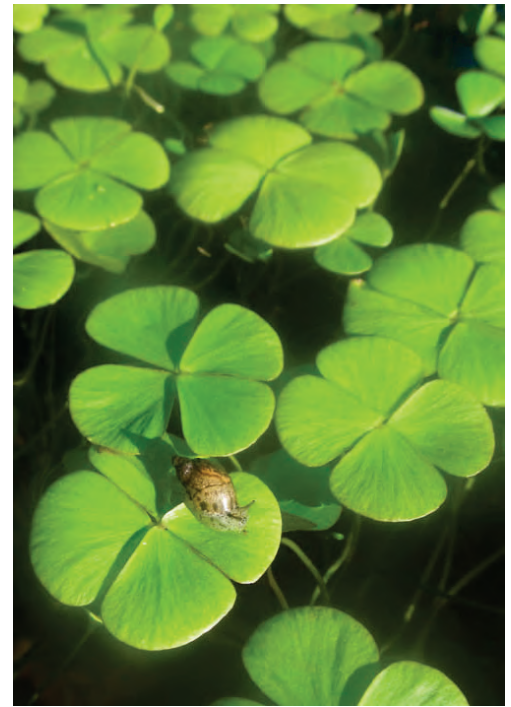


We were thrilled to see the surface of the pond covered with the floating fronds of 'ihi'ihilauakea which resemble four leaf clovers. During the fern's aquatic stage, the fronds have long supple stems and

their fronds — which are no more than an inch and a half across and look like four leaf clovers — float on the surface.



Since I had my goPro camera which can take underwater photos, I placed the camera in the water to see what the ferns look like beneath the surface of the water.



While examining the fronds on the surface I saw several endemic pupu kuahiwi or amber snails (*Succinea caduca*) about a quarter inch long crawling on the fronds swimming from pad to pad. While I knew the snails were able to survive dry periods by sealing themselves in their shells until it rains, I had no idea

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

they were so adept in the water until now.



The ephemeral pool will eventually dry out, and the ferns will undergo a more terrestrial stage. The photo above was taken several years ago after the standing water had evaporated. The ferns were closely packed together in a dense growth that they almost entirely crowded out the other plants.



During this terrestrial stage where the ferns grow in dry soil, the stems stiffen and tiny hairs grow in the surface of the fronds. With the pool drying out and their life cycle coming to an end, the ferns reproduce sexually to create spores that lie dormant until the next big rain that fills the pool with standing water — which can be decades later. What an amazing native fern!

BRIGHT IDEA ALERT!

Want to receive your Malama electronically? Visit www.sierraclubhawaii.com and click on the “newsletter” link at the top. The form will appear on the left side of the page.



photo by Marcio Scarzut

GOING, GOING... GONE?

Sea turtles date back nearly 90 million years and are among the Earth’s oldest surviving species. All 6 species of sea turtles are protected under the Endangered Species Act. Sierra Club has mounted a major effort to defend and preserve threatened habitats before their inhabitants are gone forever.

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9 Myths About Electric Vehicles

Myth 1: *Switching to an electric vehicle will just mean that the same amount of pollution comes from the electricity generation rather than from the tailpipe — I'll just be switching from oil to coal.*

Reality: According to a range of studies, an electric car leads to 35 to 60% less carbon dioxide pollution from electricity than the CO₂ pollution from the oil of a conventional car with an internal combustion engine.[1][2][3] In some areas, like many on the West Coast that rely largely on wind or hydro power, the emissions are significantly lower for EVs. And that's today. As we retire more coal plants and bring cleaner sources of power online, the emissions from electric vehicle charging drop even further. Additionally, in some areas, night-time charging will increase the opportunity to take advantage of wind power -- another way to reduce emissions.

A caveat to consider, according to some studies, is that when coal plants supply the majority of the power mix in a given area, electric vehicles may emit more CO₂ and SO₂ pollution than hybrid electric vehicles.[4] Learn where your electricity comes from, what plans your state or community has for shifting to renewables, and whether you have options for switching to greener power.



The new all-electric Nissan Leaf. Photo by Darrell Clarke.

Myth 2: *Plug-in cars will lead to the production of more coal and nuclear plants.*

Reality: Even if the majority of drivers switched to electric, the existing electrical grid's off-peak/nighttime capacity for power generation is sufficient without building a single new power plant. Studies have shown that electric vehicle owners will largely charge their vehicles at night when there is plenty of capacity on the grid. In some areas, new "smart charging" allows you and the utility to set up a system by which you and other electricity users distribute the load evenly during charging so that the system is not overwhelmed by increased demand.

Myth 3: *Electric car batteries pose a recycling problem.*

Reality: Internal combustion engine vehicles use lead-acid batteries, and their recycle rate is about 98% in the US. The newer batteries for electric vehicles, such as those made of lithium-ion, include even more valuable and recyclable metals and will have a life well beyond the vehicle. In fact, a Belgian company plans to use Tesla Motor's electric vehicle battery pack material to produce an alloy it can further refine into cobalt, nickel, and other valuable metals as well as special grades of concrete. Technology will soon allow for EV batteries to store energy produced by solar or wind power.

Myth 4: *My electricity bill will go way up.*

Reality: While you'll spend more on electricity, the savings on gas will more than cover it. If you drive a pure battery electric vehicle 12,000 miles a year at current electricity rates (assuming \$.12 per kilowatt hour though rates vary throughout the country), you'll pay about \$389 per year for the electricity to charge your battery, but you'll save about \$1200 in gas (assuming \$3 per gallon, a 30 miles per gallon vehicle, and 12,000 miles driven). So \$1200 minus \$389 equals \$811 in savings – a 68% reduction in fueling costs. Some utilities are offering EV owners lower off-peak/nighttime rates. The more we successfully advocate for these off-peak incentives, the lower your electricity payments will go.

Myth 5: *Electric vehicles will just fail again like they did before.*

Reality: Manufacturers are serious this time -- rolling out more than a dozen new plug-in models in the next couple of years, starting now. With higher gas prices and climate change worrying many consumers, stricter fuel economy standards for new vehicles required of auto manufacturers, and billions of public and corporate dollars being spent on an EV infrastructure and research in the US, EVs are here to stay.

Myth 6: *My battery will run out of juice.*

Reality: The majority of drivers in the US drive less than 35 miles each day, sufficient for a fully charged pure electric vehicle (most can go 80 to 140 miles on one charge), and an extended range electric vehicle (that drives about 35 miles on electric and then the gasoline power kicks in). Using a 220-volt outlet and charging station, a plug-in hybrid recharges in about 100 minutes, an extended range plug-in electric in about four hours, and a pure electric in six to eight hours. A regular 110-volt outlet will mean significantly longer charging times, but for plug-in hybrids and extended range electrics, this outlet may be sufficient. Most of the time, the battery will not be empty when you plug in, thus reducing charging time.

Most people will charge at home. However, some businesses and public entities are beginning to install 220-volt public chargers. Some are installing fast-charging stations along highways and in public places that can re-charge a car to 80% of battery capacity in less than 30 minutes.

Myth 7: *Electric vehicles are much more expensive than traditional vehicles.*

Reality: While the initial sticker price of EVs is higher than traditional vehicles, you need to do the math to account for a variety of factors. For individual consumers, there is currently a federal tax credit of up to \$7,500 for the purchase of an electric vehicle, as well as a partial federal credit for the charging unit. Several states have additional tax credits on top of the federal ones. Additionally, the average EV driver will save more than \$800 a year in fuel (the cost of electricity compared to gasoline). Due to a cleaner, more streamlined system under the hood, an EV may save the average driver about 46% in annual maintenance costs, according to one federal government study.

Myth 8: *Electric vehicles are only available in California.*

Reality: While EVs are not yet available for purchase in every state, they are quickly becoming available in many. The fully electric Nissan Leaf is being sold to customers in California, Washington, Oregon, Arizona, and Tennessee. The Chevy Volt, an extended range plug-in hybrid electric vehicle, is currently being sold at select dealerships in California, Connecticut, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Texas, and Washington, DC. Customers in nearly all states are expected to be able to purchase or lease a Leaf, Volt, or plug-in Toyota Prius by late 2011 or early 2012. The Tesla Roadster, a fully electric luxury sportscar, is available in several locations throughout the country. By 2012, many other models will become available nationwide, including the Ford Focus EV, Tesla Model S, and the Mitsubishi iMiev.

Myth 9: *Charging an EV on solar power is a futuristic dream.*

Reality: The technology to power your EV with solar power is already available. The investment in solar panels pays off faster when the solar power is not only replacing grid electricity, but replacing much more expensive gasoline. According to [Plug In America](#), EVs typically travel three to four miles (or more) per kWh (kilowatt hour) of electricity. If you drive 12,000 miles per year, you will need 3,000-4,000 kWh. Depending on where you live, you will need a 1.5kW-3kW photovoltaic (PV) system to generate that much power for your vehicle using about 150 to 300 square feet of space on the roof of your home. According to [SolarChargedDriving.org](#), for both vehicle and other home electricity needs, you will need about 7-10 kW of solar power in total on your roof. If your solar system is already in place but does not have enough panels for both home and vehicle charging needs, you may be able to buy a converter that can handle another "string;" micro inverter systems may be particularly good for this. Utility credits for the daytime solar power can offset the cost of charging the car at night. If solar PV isn't feasible at your home, find out if your utility offers a green energy option.

Originally printed on the Sierra Club National's Website. To find out more, go to: www.sierraclub.org/electric-vehicles



Cheat Sheets

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politics/](http://blogs.starbulletin.com/inpolitics/category/in-politics/)

Civil Beat:
www.civilbeat.com

Campaign Spending Commission
hawaii.gov/campaign

Policy Ninja
www.policyninja.org

Bills to watch during the rest of the 2011 Legislative Session

We're Opposing:

- **HB 117 HD2** - Eliminates the dollar amount distinction between a minor or major project in special management areas and includes 10,000 square foot homes in the definition of development
- **HB 376 HD1** - This measure has three main components:
 - It authorizes third-party reviewers to approve permits, licenses, and other applications;
 - It automatically approves applications before the state historic preservation division if that agency does not review and comment within 60 days; and
 - It automatically approves any business or development-related permit, license, or approval within 30 days if the underlying agency does not pass rules regulating the time to approve or reject applications.
- **SB 631 SD1** - Allows solar energy facilities to be built on 10% of agricultural land with soil classified as B or C.
- **SB 671 SD1** - Allows legislators and employees to accept tickets to charitable events from a charitable entity.
- **SB 1006 SD1** - Legislatively establishes state water quality standards.

Bills to watch during the rest of the 2011 Legislative Session

We're Supporting:

- **HB 1019 HD1** - Reallocates funding from the barrel tax to the energy security special fund and the agricultural development and food security special fund.
- **HB 1568 HD2** - Creates adequate biosecurity and inspection facilities at Hawai'i's major airports and harbors.
- **HB 1637 HD1** - Makes the 'Ohi'a the state native tree and the kukui the state heritage tree.
- **SB 101 SD1** - Legalizes the traditional method of hand-pounding poi.
- **SB 181 SD1** - Requires all new buildings to contain design components for the later installation of a photovoltaic system.
- **SB 179 SD1** - Includes so-called dietary supplements (energy drinks like Monster and Red Bull) in the HI-5 deposit program.
- **SB 199 SD2** - The SD1 version of this measure expanded Hawai'i's successful net energy metering program to allow more clean energy on the grid.
- **SB 580 SD2** - Establishes two new marine life conservation districts on the island of Maui.
- **SB 699 SD2** - Establishes filing fees to help with the operations of the Office of Environmental Quality Control.
- **SB 722 SD2** - Reallocates funding from the barrel tax to the energy security special fund and the agricultural development and food security special fund.
- **SB 1220 SD2** - Creates a Lana'i community-based fishery resource management area.
- **SB 1363 SD2** - Requires businesses to collect a fee for the distribution of single use bags.
- **SB 1482 SD1** - Requiring the PUC to reduce Hawai'i's dependence on fossil fuels

Do's and Don'ts of Meeting Your Legislator



DO:

- Make an appointment
- Dress neatly
- Introduce yourself
- Stick to the subject at hand
- If you don't know something, say so
- Be honest
- Know something about the official
- Be very cordial to the assistant
- Be on time - but be prepared to wait
- Know the number/name of the bill and something about it
- Call or write in a summary of the meeting afterwards
- Thank the public official for the meeting
- Enjoy your visit - you are one of the few people making change!



DON'T:

- Be angry
- Be hostile (I'm a taxpayer!)
- Threaten (You'll pay for this at the polls!)
- Be afraid to be assertive
- Have a lot of material (it will never be read)
- Lose credibility (it will affect everyone who lobbies on the same subject after you)

Common Pitfalls - Don't Let Them Throw You!

- The public official is late or doesn't show up for your appointment
- Constant interruptions during your meeting
- Public official doesn't have a copy of the bill/proposal or hasn't read it
- Public official takes control of the meeting
- Public official says things like: "It's a lost cause" or "I'm not on that committee."



E-Readers vs. Old Fashioned Books

Which is Greener?

A relatively new phenomenon is the E-Reader, be it Kindle, iPad, or a number of other new competitors coming into the marketplace. When you think about it, these devices would seem to be more environmentally friendly than your typical paper and cardboard book, even a paperback. Should we be buying our loved ones e-readers or traditional books this holiday season?

There is a certain tactile value to “real” books, just feeling the paper, turning the pages. I find that I miss this when using an e-reader. But on the surface, the e-reader would seem to be much more green. In fact, my colleague “Mr. Green” at Sierra Magazine recently explored this dilemma and came to a surprising conclusion, which I will reveal momentarily.

E-reader vs. paper book is a provocative question, one that could just as easily have been “do you prefer flying cars or conventional road going cars” a few short years ago. The key to the answer is that basic tenet of sustainability, life cycle analysis. We must consider not only the trees needed to make paper versus the manufacturing of electronics products, but the shipping costs, fuel, and ultimately, the energy needed to recycle these materials at the end of their days. Not to mention, what ultimately happens to e-waste? Where do the non-recyclable remains end up?

Mr. Green’s conclusion – as well as a recent New York Times piece on the same subject – was that unless you’re a fast and furious reader, the energy required to manufacture and then dispose of an e-reader is probably greater than what’s needed to make a traditional

book. If you're reading 40 or more books per year on your e-reader, that would be the right choice. But if you use it only occasionally, probably better to stick to a "regular" book. This conclusion is reinforced by a study referenced on the website of TerraPass, a carbon offset business. Unfortunately, the study itself is not available for publication but its authors said e-readers are the more environmentally responsible choice only if you are reading in excess of 23 books per year (<http://www.terrapass.com/blog/posts/digital-books-greener-than-real-books>).

The New York Times article also explored this subject, with a slightly different conclusion (<http://green.blogs.nytimes.com/2009/08/31/are-e-readers-greener-than-books/>). Using similar data, an outfit called Cleantech did a study which looked at the question sort of in reverse, saying if you were to read three books a month over four years, the e-reader would significantly outperform conventional paper books in carbon emitted.

Clearly, like many green subjects, ours is a young industry, and as such, definitive answers are hard to come by. At least, subject to interpretation. Either way, I hope that today's generation will read more and watch less, be it through paper or electronic means.

Here's the best answer, though: go to the public library next time you are downtown. Borrow three or four books, finish them all, then return 'em next time you're near the library. This is truly the most sustainable way to read: the good old fashioned public library. At Sierra Club Green Home, we preach "reduce, reuse, and recycle" and library books can be read by dozens of people over their lifetime. And once they are finally too dog-eared and beaten up to grace library shelves, they can be easily recycled since they are generally all paper (even the leather on deluxe bound editions can be recycled).

Originally printed on the Sierra Club Green Home site. Want to read similar articles? Take a look at: www.sierraclubgreenhome.com

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O'ahu Group Report

The SIERRA CLUB O'AHU GROUP held its organizational meeting in January 2011. New members of SCOG ExCom are Linny Morris, a professional photographer and "local girl," and Anthony Aalto. Anthony's computer skills are prodigious and serving as Secretary, he has produced "minutes of meetings within minutes of adjournment" which are circulated while matters and memories are fresh. This is a great gift to SCOG.

Veteran Sierra Club members Dr Steve Montgomery, Wayne Takamine, and Randy Ching are also on the SCOG Executive Committee: Steve serves as Representative to Chapter and Randy serves as Vice-Chair and Outings Committee Member.

There was a vacancy on the SCOG Ex Com and nominations and suggestions were considered at the 17 March 2011 Meeting to fill this position - - giving the us seven members specified in the By-laws.

February discussions revolved around the need for a VISION/POLICY STATEMENT and then actions and activities deriving from such VISION Statement for the SCOG to pursue during 2011. Anthony Aalto wrote an excellent piece in defense of and in support of a VISION Statement, and Chairman Moore submitted a draft VISION/POLICY Statement for consideration, amendment, and adoption on 17 March 2011. By the publication date of this issue of **MALAMA**, SCOG will have chosen one or more specific activities or goals to focus on for 2011.

One idea which caught enthusiastic support from the SCOG ExCom was to offer programs to the public from time to time. Speakers and/or

media presentations concerning issues facing O'ahu will be scheduled at various locations in Honolulu in the coming months. Watch your e-mail for specific details as to time, place, topic, and personality. This format was used effectively in the early years of Hawai'i Chapter, 1966-1976, and again during the 1990's.

One issue concerning many members of SCOG ExCom as individuals, and collectively, is the general KAKA'AKO matter. There are many facets, pressure groups, governmental agencies, property owners, ideas, notions, hopes, and problems surrounding further planning for the development of Kaka'ako - - especially, Kaka'ako Makai (From Ala Moana Boulevard to the ocean.) Wayne Takamine has been the SCOG ExCom point person for this issue during all of 2010 and he continues his concentration presently.

Sincerely,

Willis H A Moore, Chair, SCOG Chapter Chair and Council Representative - 1968-1976

Testimony Recently Submitted by the Oahu Group on House Bill 680

The Sierra Club O'ahu Group (SCOG) strongly opposes HB680 that would abolish the Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council (CPAC) that is the working group created in 2006 state legislature by HCR 30.

The SCOG strongly supported the efforts of the Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council (CPAC) and recognizes

CPAC as the working group responsible for being the community's voice in all planning in Kaka'ako Makai. We also commend the CPAC for doing an exceptional job in creating the Kaka'ako Makai Vision and Guiding Principles as the guiding document for the Kaka'ako Makai Master Plan. The SCOG encourages legislation to require HCDA to include the Kaka'ako Makai Visions and Guiding Principles into the Kaka'ako Makai Area Design Guidelines (Feb. 2002).

The SCOG has been concerned with the actions of the HCDA in the planning of Kaka'ako Makai since the 2006 fallout from the HCDA luxury condominium RFP. The public outcry from this proposal clearly showed HCDA's lack of public transparency and misdirected decision making process for Kaka'ako Makai. The resulting laws that prohibit residential development and sale of state land in Kaka'ako Makai were fully supported by SCOG along with HCR 30 that is the basis for CPAC's role as the working groups to meaningfully participate with HCDA in the planning, acceptance and implementation of all plans for Kaka'ako Makai.

The SCOG was represented in the Kaka'ako Makai Master Planning process, and participated in the second Kaka'ako Makai Master Plan workshop where we witnessed a total breakdown of the planning process under the direction of HCDA Executive Director Anthony Ching. The large majority of the participants found the presentation redundantly and defiantly focused on prohibited high density

residential concepts. The presentation was abbreviated due to the public's strongly voiced discontent. Like many of the participants at the workshop 2, the SCOG questioned the motives and actions of HCDA for the workshop and also the cost allocated to create the ill-proposed and prohibited residential concepts. After workshop 2, it was discovered that \$600,000 was spent by HCDA and with an additional \$125,000 requested and allocated by the authority. It is the SCOG belief that much of the money allocated for the master plan was wasted on the prohibited residential concept designs and for the mainland consultants to be present for the workshop 2 presentation.

During this difficult period, the SCOG has observed CPAC efforts to continue its mission of being the community's voice by holding special meetings with master plan participants to document accounts of workshop 2 and master planning process and create recommendation to HCDA. The SCOG discussed the situation with CPAC representatives was kept informed of CPAC's continued efforts to complete the master plan. This included meetings with HCDA Staff, Lead Consultant MVE Pacific and Townscape to clarify the events leading to the workshop 2 presentations and a CPAC Position Statement to the HCDA Board that gave an account from CPAC's perspective.

The SCOG believes HB680 exists in efforts to limit community involvement in the planning for Kaka'ako Makai. We have seen CPAC persevere under the difficult conditions to maintain its objective to be the community's voice in Kaka'ako Makai planning despite the unpredictable strategies that the HCDA has used to muscle its development plans forward.

The Sierra Club O`ahu Group strongly believes HB680 is a bad bill for community planning in Kaka'ako Makai and confirms its support for the Kaka'ako Makai Community Planning Advisory Council.

Respectfully,
Sierra Club O`ahu Group

Sierra Club Outings Policy

For all Sierra Club Outings. Sierra Club outings are conducted according to Club policy and under the direction of certified Outings Leaders. Our outings are group activities, and all participants are expected to follow leaders' instructions and to remain with the group for the entire outing. We welcome all Sierra Club members, non-members and visitors on most of our outings; however certain outings may be restricted to members. Firearms, pets (unless specifically allowed), and audio devices with or without headsets are prohibited. Smoking is only permitted at breaks and then only if the smell of smoke cannot be detected by other hikers. Outing Leaders may prohibit smoking if, in their judgement, a fire hazard exists.

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

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

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

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

O'ahu Group Outings

See Page 11 for what to bring and general hiking instructions

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

Saturday & Sunday, January 1-2

Palehua Service Project (S/C)
Leaders and trainees only. Reservations required. Start 2011 with a bang! Work near and stay in the Hokulua Cabin above Makakilo. Build and clear trails around the cabin and enjoy gorgeous views.
Gwen Sinclair 753-0528

Saturday, April 2

Ala Wai Boat Harbor Cleanup (S)
Meet at 8 a.m. at the Harbor Master's Office, between the 3rd and 4th row of boats behind the Ilikai Hotel. Park in street stalls or public lot Ewa of Hilton lagoon. Wear sturdy shoes with gripping soles and bring a hat, thick rubber gloves, sunscreen, and water. All participants under 18 must have a waiver signed by their legal guardian to participate. Please contact the leader for the waiver. Closed toe shoes only. Deborah Blair 955-4168, asst. Joanna Alexander

Sunday, April 3

Sierra Seminar: Kaunala West (E/F)
5 mi/Moderate/Contour/Pupukea
Native plants are the highlight on this trail, with beautiful views of central Oahu. Stan Oka 429-9814, Clyde Kobashigawa 262-6092, John Shimogawa 227-9925

Sunday, April 3

Kuaokala (F)
6 mi/Moderate/Ridge/Makaha
Reservations required by March 25. This is a great hike along the Waianae Range that provides wonderful views of Makua Valley and west Oahu. Not for those uneasy about heights. Gwen Sinclair 753-0528, Sherine Boomla, asst. Marie Laberge

Saturday, April 9

MCBH Kaneohe Bay Service Project (S)
2 mi/Moderate/Coast/Kaneohe
Reservations required. Call Annette Kaohelaulii at 235-5431 by April 7. Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay has an award-winning environmental program. Help clear a wetland of mangrove plants to create habitat for Hawaii's endangered water birds. Because MCBH is a secured military facility, we must provide your name to the base in advance, and we will send you a waiver, which you must bring with you. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Sunday, April 10

Photography Hike: Puu Ohia/Tantalus Crater (E/F)
2 mi/Easy/Ridge, crater/Tantalus
Reservations required. The pace of photography hikes is extremely slow. Wet rainforest environment with many native plants. Low light conditions. Bring mosquito repellent and raingear. Clyde Kobashigawa 262-6092, Stan Oka 429-9814, John Shimogawa 227-9925, asst. Marie Laberge

Sunday, April 10

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

Saturday, April 16

Puu Ma`eli`eli (E/F)
3 mi/Moderate/Ridge/Ahuimanu
Reservations required. Meet at 8 a.m. at the First Hawaiian Bank in the Windward City Shopping Center (45-480 Kaneohe Bay Drive, intersection of Likelike and Kamehameha Highways). Elevation gain of 720 feet. The reward at the end is a sweeping view of Kaneohe Bay, from Mokapu Point to Kualoa. A quick workout, about one hour, with a few stops. Bring mosquito repellent and camera. Colleen Soares 748-9215

Sunday, April 17

Kaluanui Ridge (F)
4 mi/Moderate/Ridge/Hawaii Kai
Hike along a windswept ridge. See spectacular views of East Oahu as we climb to the crest of the Koolaus above the Mariners Ridge development. Stan Oka 429-9814, Clyde Kobashigawa 262-6092, John Shimogawa 227-9925, asst. Marie Laberge

Friday - Sunday, April 22-24

Haleakala Service Project (S)
We will be spending the weekend at Kapalaoa Cabin in the center of Haleakala Crater. This trip is for hikers in good physical condition and for those who don't mind "Roughing It". We will have a 7 mile hike in via the Sliding Sands Trail and exit via the Halemau'u Trail. The Kapalaoa cabin was built in the 1930's by CCC Workers and is very rustic with an outhouse and NO shower facilities. The work will include eradicating California Telegraph plant and Plantago. Clyde Kobashigawa 262-9062

Sunday, April 24

Easter Breakfast Hike (F)
1.5 mi/Easy/Ridge/Makapu`u
Bring breakfast to share. Meet at 7 a.m. in the Makapu`u Lighthouse parking lot. We'll hike the old Coast Guard road up to the lookout. Enjoy spectacular views and possible whale sightings. Sherine Boomla 527-8034, asst. Marie Laberge

Saturday, April 30

Hahaione Loop (F)
5 mi/Very strenuous/Valley, ridge/Hawaii Kai
Not for those afraid of heights. We start at the back of Hahaione Valley and ascend to the Koolau summit, traverse the crest of the Koolau to the top of Kuliouou Ridge, hike down the ridge (aided by the 150 steps put in recently by Sierra Club volunteers), turn left at the picnic shelter, and complete the loop to Hahaione St. Randy Ching 942-0145

Sunday, May 1st

Koko Crater Rim Hike (F)
4 mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Hawaii Kai
Once in a lifetime hike! After a leisurely walk in the park amongst groves of fragrant and beautiful plumerias, wonderful views await after a strenuous workout with good balance and some clambering as we circle more than halfway round the narrow rim to the top of Pu'u Ma'i (1208'). Finally we use the very steep rail tracks to drop back down to the cars. Not for those scared of heights! Richard Bailey 723-2213, Ed Mersino 223-5765

Sunday, May 1

Sandy Beach Cleanup (S)
1 mi/Easy/Shoreline/East Oahu
Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Sandy Beach bathroom at eastern side of beach park. Cleanup along highway and coastal areas until 10:30. Call Tred (394-2898) for information. Bags, gloves provided. All participants under 18 must have a waiver signed by their legal guardian to participate. Please contact the leader for the waiver. Closed toe shoes only. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Sunday, May 1

Queen Kapiolani Gardens Service Project (S)
Join the City's Division of Urban Forestry, Aveda Salons, and the Sierra Club in maintaining a native Hawaiian garden. Meet at Queen Kapiolani Garden (bordered by Monsarrat/Paki/ Leahi Avenues) at 8 a.m. Tools will be provided but you are welcome to bring your own trimming or pruning tools! Stan Oka 429-9814, Clyde Kobashigawa 262-6092, John Shimogawa 227-9925

Sunday, May 8

Likeke from Ho'omaluhia Botanical Gardens (F)

O'ahu Group Outings

7 mi/Moderate/Valley/Kaneohe

Meet at Ho'omaluhia visitor's center at 9 a.m. after the gate opens. Start the loop from the park, ascending 400 feet toward the Koolaus. Trek through varying forest conditions with native and introduced plants, and views of Kaneohe Bay. Lunch is at the waterfall near the Koolau golf course. Colleen Soares 748-9215

Sunday, May 8

Beginner hike: Judd Trail (F)

Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m. Wear closed-toe shoes with good traction. Bring a liter of water, snack, raingear. Sunscreen, hat, insect repellent recommended. For those who have not hiked in a long time or would like to learn the basics of hiking. Randy Ching 942-0145, asst. Roxanne Villanueva, Joanna Alexander

Sunday, May 15

Kuliouou Ridge (F)

5 mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Kuliouou

Lots of switchbacks and a gentle grade up to the shelter. Enjoy great views of Waimanalo from the Koolau Ridge after you've made the final steep ascent. This popular trail has been markedly improved by the addition of 150 steps recently put in by Sierra Club volunteers. Jean Fujikawa 203-8508, Sherine Boomla, asst. Chelsea Arnott

Sunday, May 15

Photography Hike: Waimea Valley (E/F)

2 mi/Easy/Valley/Waimea

Reservations required. The pace of photography hikes is extremely slow. Bring a lunch for a day of fun. Nominal entrance fee required. Botanical garden with native plants, colorful flowers and foliage. Stan Oka 429-9814, Clyde Kobashigawa 262-6092, John Shimogawa 227-9925, asst. Marie Laberge

Sunday, May 22

Pahole NAR (F)

9 mi/Moderate/Valley/Mokuleia

A 3.6 mile road walk starts in the Mokuleia Forest Reserve parking lot and passes through Peacock Flats campground. We then hike the Mokuleia Trail for a mile and end up in Pahole Natural Area Reserve. Randy Ching 942-0145

Saturday, May 28

Nuuanu Loop (F)

7 mi/Strenuous/Ridge, valley/Nuuanu

Enjoy trekking through the Mauka Trail system on a hike the club did last year. We start at the Kalawahine trailhead, stop at the Nuuanu Reservoir overlook, wander through Pauoa Woods and end up back where we started. Randy Ching 942-0145

Sunday, May 2

Sierra Seminar: Palehua-Palikea (E/F)

4 mi/Easy/Ridge/Makakilo

Reservations required two weeks prior. Not for those uneasy about heights. Native plants, scenic panoramas, and exquisite tree snails are the attraction in this private preserve. Clyde Kobashigawa 262-6092, Stan Oka 429-9814, John Shimogawa 227-9925, asst. Marie Laberge

Saturday, June 4

National Trails Day: Waahila-Kolowalu (F)

3 mi/Moderate/Ridge/Honolulu

Reservations and car shuttle required. We'll hike up Waahila Ridge from St. Louis Heights, then down into Manoa Valley on the Kolowalu Trail. Gwen Sinclair 753-0528, Jean Fujikawa 203-8508, asst. Joanna Alexander

Sunday, June 5th

Kaluanui to Kuli'ou'ou Hike (F)

4 mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Hawaii Kai

On top of the world hike! The narrow undulating rarely traveled segment between Kaluanui and Kuli'ou'ou features some spectacular Ko'olau Summit Ridge walking. After a steep but short climb, wondrous views await on a strenuous trail needing mountain goat balance as we cross to the Kuli'ou'ou Summit (2028'). Finally, we use the very steep Kuli'ou'ou Sidedoor Trail to drop back down to the cars. Not for those scared of heights! Richard Bailey 723-2213, Mariza Silva

Sunday, June 5

Black Point Snorkeling (E/F)

ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST BE ABLE TO

SWIM. Get to know your fish, coral, and limu neighbors at Black Point/Diamond Head. Bring your swim things, 2 liters of water, reef walkers, sun screen, snack, towel, and change of clothes. Sherine Boomla 527-8034

Saturday, June 11

MCBH Kaneohe Bay Service Project (S)

2 mi/Moderate/Coast/Kaneohe

Reservations required. Call Annette Kaohelaulii at 235-5431 by June 9. Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay has an award-winning environmental program. Help clear a wetland of mangrove plants to create habitat for Hawaii's endangered water birds. Because MCBH is a secured military facility, we must provide your name to the base in advance, and we will send you a waiver, which you must bring with you. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Sunday, June 12

Beginner hike: Moleka Trail (F)

Meet at Church of the Crossroads at 9 a.m.

Wear closed-toe shoes with good traction. Bring a liter of water, snack, raingear. Sunscreen, hat, insect repellent recommended. For those who have not hiked in a long time or would like to learn the basics of hiking. Randy Ching 942-0145, asst. Roxanne Villanueva

Saturday, June 18

Sierra Seminar: Ancient Sites of Oahu (E)

Reservations required. Space is limited. We'll carpool and meander our way from Hawaii Kai to Kailua, stopping at heiau's and other points of interest. Light hiking. We may also do some shoreline wading. You'll be informed of meeting place when you register for the hike. Deborah Blair 955-4168, asst. Marie Laberge, Joanna Alexander

Saturday, June 18

OISC service trip (S)

2 mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Kaimuki

Join OISC on Mauuamae Ridge to remove invasive Himalayan Blackberry. We follow the trail for a mile than continue the rest of the survey off-trail traversing through thick vegetation and steep terrain. Volunteers should be in good physical condition and may be required to use herbicide to treat plants. Bring at least 2 liters of water, lunch, sun/ rain protection and wear long sleeves/ pants and proper footwear. To RSVP email OISC oisc@hawaii.edu.

Sunday, June 19

Kapalama Loop (F)

6 mi/Moderate/Ridge/Kapalama

Enjoy great views of Kalihi and Nuuanu valleys on this recently cleared trail. Shaded trail with big native trees, and cool trade winds. A most enjoyable hike. Colleen Soares 748-9215

Sunday, June 19

Photography Hike: Koko Crater Botanical Garden (E/F)

1.5 mi/Easy/Crater floor/Hawaii Kai

Reservations required. The pace of photography hikes is extremely slow. Various plants and flowers from around the world. Plumerias and hibiscus should be in bloom this time of year. Good for macro photography! Stan Oka 429-9814, Clyde Kobashigawa 262-6092, John Shimogawa 227-9925.

Saturday, June 25

Aiea Ridge (F)

12 mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Aiea

A tough but rewarding hike with lots of native plants and spectacular views. Randy Ching 942-0145, Richard Bailey 723-2213

Sunday, June 26

Friendship Garden (F)

2 mi/Moderate/Ridge/Kaneohe

Beautiful scenery from top of ridge overlooking Kaneohe Bay and Kawinui Marsh. Loop trails wind alongside ridge with numerous plants from around the world. Clyde Kobashigawa 262-6092, John Shimogawa 227-9925, Stan Oka 429-9814, asst. Marie Laberge 2 mi/Moderate/Ridge/Niu Valley

Kaua'i Group Report



Photo Courtesy of Ken DaVico

By Rayne Regush

Wailua River Hydroelectric Dam Project Would have Ecological, Cultural Impacts

Wailua Falls, one of the most visited of the island's natural treasures, will be in for some changes if a proposed hydro-power facility becomes reality. A "preliminary permit" application has been filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on behalf of Kauai Island Utility Cooperative (KIUC) to study the feasibility of a developing a dam 1,000 feet upstream from the falls.

Although hydro power is generally perceived to be a "clean and renewable" energy, the environmental consequences associated with dams are far greater than other hydroelectric alternatives. Throughout the mainland, dams and reservoirs are being dismantled due to problems with these ecologically unsound structures.

Proposed several times in the past, this dam project has met with strong public opposition. It involves usage of state land within Wailua River State Park which is contrary to park goals to conserve, enhance, and restore the natural, cultural and scenic resources of the area, thereby benefiting fish and wildlife habitat, recreational uses, scenic resources and native Hawaiian gathering rights.

The FERC application describes a 503-foot-long, 23-foot-high earth-filled, roller-

compacted-concrete dam creating a 35-acre reservoir. It includes a 20-foot high intake structure, penstock, powerhouse, switchyard with transformer, and a 2-mile long transmission line to the Lydgate Beach substation.

Dams alter the natural flow of a river, degrade water quality, alter water temperatures and

oxygen levels, and impact aquatic species with silt and debris and impede or prevent fish migration. Wailua River has unique communities of native terrestrial plants and aquatic animals including four species of oopu (goby), two opae (shrimp), damsel flies and the endangered Newcomb's snail.

The Wailua River Watershed already faces water quality and quantity impacts from increased urbanization, alien species, cattle grazing, increased boating activities, and concrete stream diversions. Development of a Wailua River Watershed Comprehensive Resource Management Plan (CRMP) had been proposed by DLNR but never completed, and stream flow data is lacking as well.

Moving towards energy sustainability cannot be at the expense of environmental, social and economic impacts when other renewable technologies are available on Kauai. Ask KIUC to hold public meetings. Then join the discussion to keep the river intact and the falls free-flowing.

Shrimp Farm Granted Permit to Release 30 Million Gallons of Effluent Daily into the Ocean and Wetlands

In January, the State Department of Health (DOH) approved an NPDES (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) permit allowing the Sunrise Capital, Inc. shrimp farm in Kekaha to discharge up to 30

million gallons of aquaculture waste per day into Class-A coastal marine waters.

Despite Sierra Club testimony to the DOH citing insufficient monitoring protocols and serious concerns expressed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), they failed to require a supplemental environmental review, relying instead on a 1998 assessment for the previous owner, Ceatech, which studied smaller allowable quantities of effluent.

The DOH imposed some additional water monitoring, but the exceptionally large Zone of Mixing (ZOM) was not reduced. Pollution is allowed at high levels within the ZOM. We recommended establishing the ZOM radius to an arc of 100 feet from the point of effluent discharge into the ocean. Instead, water quality readings are being taken more than one mile from shore.

Recreational activities within the ZOM include fishing, surfing, swimming, snorkeling and paddling. When Ceatech was operational, ocean users reported turbidity, odors, dead fish and sharks impacting Major's Bay and other surf spots.

Beach-goers in this vicinity are encouraged to immediately report any apparent water quality violations (such as sightings of dead fish in the drainage ditch, foamy or muddied ocean water, foul air quality, etc.) to the State DOH, Mr. Gary Gill, Deputy Director for the Environment, at (808) 586-4424.

Aquaculture can bring economic benefits to a community. However, at a time when sustainability should be guiding all business decisions, the shrimp waste should be used to create other economically viable products and not be released into coastal waters.

Kaua'i Group Outings

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

Sat. April 9 Ho'opi'i Falls Hike. East Side/moderate/3 miles. (C/F) Beautiful forested hike along a river with views of two waterfalls. Denny and Erica 647-0727
Sun. April 10 Waipo'o Falls at Waimea Canyon. Miles moderately strenuous (C/E/F) Great views not available from the roadside overlooks. Picnic at a lovely ginger pool Allan Rachap 212-3108

Wed. April 13 Waimea Canyon Road Clean Up/Easy/ 2 miles.(S) Afternoon clean up of Sierra Club's adopted highway requires a little over an hour. Please help keep the gateway to Waimea Canyon litter-free. Bob Nishek at 346-0476.

Fri. April 15 Nukoli'i Beach Sunset to Moonlight walk. East Shore/Easy 2.5 miles. (C/E/F) Meet at Lydgate Beach Park & walk on miles of lovely natural, undeveloped coastline. In collaboration with Sierra Club supporter Aveda. Judy Dalton 246-9067

Sun. April 17 Maha'ulepu Sunset to Full Moon walk. South Shore/Moderate 3 miles. (C/E/F) Enjoy a spectacular coastal walk with stunning views starting from Shipwreck Beach to Maha'ulepu to watch the sun setting behind the mountains and a full moon rising above the ocean. Car shuttle for a one-way hike. Bill Snyder 652-1718

Sat. April 23 EARTH DAY BEACH CLEAN UP at Maha'ulepu. South Shore (C/E/S/F) Sierra Club, Malama Maha'ulepu & Surfrider team up to keep this majestic beach looking pristine and

beautiful. Follow Poipu Road past the Grand Hyatt where it becomes a dirt road. Drive to T-intersection and turn right. Continue to parking area and look for banners. Beach clean up starts at 9AM and takes 2 - 3 hours depending on the number of participants. Afterward, relax and enjoy the newly-cleaned beach. Bring hat and water. Bags, gloves & refreshments provided. Bill Snyder 652-1718

Sat. April 30 Alakai Swamp/Kokee/West side/Very strenuous/7 miles. (C/E/F) Mountain rain forest (not a swamp) rising 4,500 feet above the ocean. See primeval habitat for a variety of native plants and birds made accessible with the construction of boardwalks Sierra Club helped create. 4 wheel drives needed to carpool to trail head. Bob Greene 245-9280

Wed. May 11 Nonou (Sleeping Giant) Conservation Service Project. (C/S) East Side/strenuous/4 miles. Tend to endangered native plants in their habitat and enjoy a full moon walk. Sierra Club members only. Bob Nishek 346-0476

Sat. May 14 Nu'alolo trail/ Kokee/ Strenuous/ 9 miles. (C/E/F) Native forest hike with steep sections dropping 2,000 ft. to stunning views of Na Pali coast & Nu'alolo Valley. Bob Greene 245-9280

Sun. May 15 Maha'ulepu/South Shore/ Moderate/3 Miles (C/E/F) Spectacular coastal walk with stunning views each step of the way! Visit the fantastic sinkhole/cave archeological site. Car shuttle for a one-way hike. Allan Rachap 212-3108

Sat. May 28 Honopu Trail/ Koke'e Strenuous/ 4 miles (C/E/F) Ridge hike in Koke'e with panoramic views down to NaPali coast. Stunning views down to Honopu Valley. Bob Greene 245-9280

Sun. May 29 Kuilau Ridge Trail. (C/F) East side/moderate/4 miles. Lush mountain and sweeping valley views to wooden bridge and beyond.

Karen Tilley 821-8008

Sun. June 5 Ho'opi'i Falls/ East Side/3 miles/moderate. (C/F)You'll be in for a delightful surprise discovering this forest trail along a river featuring two beautiful waterfalls. Judy Dalton and Frank Whitman 443-4315

Sat. June 11 Pihea Trail to Kawaikoi Stream/ Kokee/ Strenuous/ 7.5 miles (E/F) From Pihea lookout, we hike down thru Alakai swamp to picturesque Kawaikoi stream, with panoramic views of Kalalau valley and rare endemic plants and birds in Alakai. Bob Greene 245-9280

Sun. June 12 Maha'ulepu Sunset to Moon Light Walk/South Shore/ Moderate/3 Miles. (C/E/F) Start out in late afternoon from Shipwreck Beach to Maha'ulepu to enjoy the sunset and an almost full moon over the glistening ocean. Spectacular coastal walk! We'll shuttle cars for a leisurely one way hike. Judy Dalton 246-9067

Mon. June 13 National Tropical Botanical Gardens Full Moon Walk.(S/C/E) South Side/Moderate/2 miles. Hike and learn about propagation of native plants in lovely gardens, plus volunteer service. Sierra Club members only. NTGB requires 1 advanced reservations plus 2 hours of volunteer help in the Gardens. Bob Nishek 346-0476

Sun. June 19 South Shore Bike Ride - the "Tour de Poipu" returns. (C/E/F) Moderately strenuous 16 miles of mostly flat, beautiful coastline. Mountain bikes and helmets are required. BYOB or rent a bike. Allan Rachap 212-3108

Sat. June 25 Hanakapi'ai Falls North Shore/ Very strenuous/ 8 miles. (C/E/F) Hike begins at Ke'e Beach along Kalalau Trail with breathtaking views to Hanakapi'ai Beach & to spectacular falls. Bob Greene 245-9280

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

Maui Group Report

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

Sierra Club Annual Meeting: February 13th at the Kaunoa Senior Center in Spreckelsville. 2011 Onipa'a Award to Dr. Lee Altenburg for his work protecting native dryland forests. Other awards given to former Maui Council member Mike Molina, for his championing Maui's plastic bag ban; incoming DLNR chair William Aila, Jr, for his long commitment to environmental issues; and AKAKU Public Access television CEO Jay April, for his efforts to protect free speech on Maui. Aila also served as guest speaker, with a lively panel discussion among all awardees following. Mahalo to Mana foods of Paia for generously donating lunch for the event

Plant Sale: Raised \$800. Mahalo to event chair Lucienne de Naie and volunteers: Lance Holter and cousin John, Neola Caveny, Stacia Ash, Michael Duberstein, Daniel Grantham and Bobbie Best. We couldn't do it without our plant donors: Angela and Frank Rust, Tropical Orchid farms, Barbara Kunishige, Chun's nursery and others.

Earth Month: Look great and support native watershed restoration on Maui during April (Earth Month) by making a Watershed Warrior pledge at Aveda salons throughout Maui. Aveda clients are able to donate to the Sierra Club on their next visit to the salon and may also take part in an organized volunteer outing that focuses on native forest restoration. For details about participating salons in Lahaina and Wailea check the Sierra Club Maui website.

UPDATES ON MAUI CONSERVATION ISSUES- Spring 2011

Ma'alaea Harbor Expansion: Some harbor facilities damaged during March 11 tsunami. State plans to repair bathrooms, electrical systems and other harbor facilities, that completed environmental review five years ago. Plans to expand the harbor appear to be abandoned by the Army Corps in favor of a community driven future plan.

North Shore Heritage Park & Hookipa

Expansion: Plans for expanded park areas are included in the Maui Island Plan update. The council is expected to review the area in Maui Island Plan maps in September of 2011.

East Maui Streams: East Maui communities have won important agreements to provide some restoration of local water supplies. Further actions await court determinations. Community based watershed management planning efforts are ongoing, to provide more water security for the area.

Na Wai Eha Stream Restoration: In March, 2011 Earth Justice appealed the 2010 Water Commission decision to restore only 14 mgd of water to two Na Wai Eha streams. Left out were Iao and Waikapu streams. USGS studies show appropriate levels of stream restoration will prolong the life of Iao aquifer, source of 50% of Maui's public water supply.

Water Use and Development Plan

(WUDP): Maui County Council adopted the WUDP for Central Maui late in 2010. The Plan puts strong emphasis on conservation and reuse of water resources.

Hamakuapoko Wells: Any future use of two county wells with elevated levels of agricultural chemicals DBCP, EDP and TCP remains unknown. The Arakawa administration has expressed a desire to swap the well output for more EMI stream water.

Sustainable Ag: School and community garden programs are expanding on Maui. Major questions remain to be answered regarding future use of former plantation lands and HC&S lands still in sugar production.

Renewable Energy

Kaheawa wind farm above McGregor Pt has received permission to install a second phase of turbines. A proposed wind farm in Auwahi has submitted a substantial draft EIS. MG offered comments on both projects asking for strong protection of native bird and plant species in the windfarm area. MG also asked for clarification about the Auwahi Project's proposed supply delivery and transmission

line roads and their impacts to natural and cultural resources and local neighborhoods.

HECO has pledged to have alternative energy make up 40 percent of its electricity production by 2030, however, it continues to see palm oil as part of the mix. HECO, has imported 1.6 million gallons of palm oil to conduct a 'test phase' – in two O'ahu generators. Palm oil plantations have been linked to deforestation and land-grabbing in Southeast Asia and West Africa, and more climate change.

For updates: <http://www.rainforest-rescue.org>

Ma'alaea Mauka Development: County planners left the area out of the proposed Urban Growth Boundary, but over 1000 new units were still proposed along the traffic bottleneck across the street from the Maui Ocean Center. The fast track project would be 51 % affordable and require little else in any public review. A challenge to the project's EIS by Ma'alaea Community Association and Maui Tomorrow was recently upheld by Judge Joel August. The judge agreed the EIS sidestepped discussions about high salt levels in the project's private wells and didn't look at the suitability of building a private sewage treatment plant a few hundred yards from Ma'alaea Bay, the Aquarium and Ma'alaea shops. A supplemental EIS will need to be prepared.

Big Island Fish Farm Proposal: In September 2010: Hawaii Oceanic Technology, Inc. (HOTI) withdrew its application three (3) off shore fish farming cages. The company plans to resubmit an application for one experimental cage, to raise ahi off the North Kohala coast of the Big Island. Ponoaqua alliance and 300 citizens asked the Corps to hold public hearings before making any decision. HOTI expects to export 90% of the 12 million lbs of tuna it hopes to farm in Hawaiian waters. <<http://www.ponoaqua.org>>

Regulation of Aquarium Fish: Maui County Council passed two bills in 2010 which set more stringent permit requirements on aquarium collecting, for the first time in Hawaii. Bills on this topic in the legislature have not advanced this year.

Maui Group Outings

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

Central Maui (Waiale Development) Maui Group continues to track this large (2500 unit) proposed housing development which would destroy most of the last major sand dunes between Maui Lani and Waikapu. The Maui Island Plan proposes a large open space to protect dunes, burials and cultural sites. The A&B plan protects nearly 100 already disturbed burials on site, but leaves other likely burial areas at high risk of destruction in the proposed urban development area.

Haleakala Solar Telescope (ATST): Local groups have appealed the proposed telescope's Conservation District use permit. For updates <<http://www.kilakilahaleakala.org/>>

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

Wailea 670: 130 acre preserve or 22 acre preserve? What does this unique section of Maui's most endangered native ecosystem deserve? For updates: go to SaveMakena.org

Makena Resort Rezoning: New Makena investors propose nearly 2000 units for the already urban zoned and still AG zoned lands. Meanwhile archaeological studies of the lands continue. MG will continue to monitor plans for this environmentally and culturally important area.

See Page 15 for General Outings Information

MORE HIKES/activities WILL BE ADDED ON WEBSITE. Please take a look at: www.mausierraclub.org

Come prepared for outings. Bring lunch, water, rain gear (if needed), sunscreen and sturdy footwear. Hiking boots where recommended. 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. Check out : <<http://www.mausierraclub.org/>> and click on Hikes and Activities for additional hikes and activities and/or changes. Mahalo!

Hike leaders wanted!!! It is lots of fun. You pick the hikes. CPR and First Aid certification required. The Maui Group reimburses you for First Aid/CPR class cost when you lead your first hike. Please call Lucienne de Naie at 214-0147 or laluz@maui.net.

APRIL HIKES AND ACTIVITIES

April is Earth month! Support native watershed restoration on Maui!

Make a Watershed Warrior pledge at Aveda salons throughout Maui. Aveda clients are able to donate to the Sierra Club on their next visit to the salon and may also take part in an organized volunteer outing that focuses on native forest restoration. For details about participating salons in Lahaina and Wailea check the Sierra Club Maui website. www.mausierraclub.org,

Monday, April 11 Hamakuapoko historical hike. Walking tour of the traditional moku of Hamakuapoko from Baldwin beach to Maliko gulch, following coastal trails wherever possible. From ancient heiau to modern hotspots we get a great sense of the Northshore's history and beauty. Bring lunch/snacks, water, hat, and sunscreen. Meet at 8:00 am at Baldwin Beach park by pavilion. Limit

18. Register Lucienne de Naie laluz@maui.net or 214-0147. (C) (E) D=4 miles.

Saturday, April 16th (11am-3pm). Malama Aina Festival at Whole Foods Market in Maui Mall, Kahului: Join us for a day of FREE fun! Talking about a greener, more sustainable Maui.

Saturday, April 23 Earthday event at Aloha Recycling on Amala Dr. (Across VIP). Free food. Music. Door prizes. MG information booth.

Saturday, April 30: East Maui Taro Festival at Hana Ballpark. 9am-5pm MG info booth. Music.Food. Fun. Free. Volunteer to help. laluz@maui.net

MAY HIKES AND ACTIVITIES

Friday May 6: Hoapili Trail exploration from Kaupo. Follow a section of the traditional trail that once connected Kaupo and Keoneo'io along Maui's rugged Southeastern coast. Meet 8 am at Grandma's Coffee house to caravan to trailhead. Some rugged areas. Bring plenty of water. Hike ends at 2 pm. Limit 18. Hike leader: Lucienne de Naie. Register: laluz@maui.net. (C) (E) D= 4 miles RT.

JUNE HIKES AND ACTIVITIES

Saturday, June 4 Pilale Bay and Halehaku stream exploration hike in honor of National Trails Day. Three to four mile varied terrain hike along valley floor and streams discovering and documenting Hawaiian village remains for neighborhood history project. One short steep climb. Bring footwear suitable for stream hiking. Meet 9 am at Haiku community Center. Hike ends at 1pm. Limit 18. Hike leader: Lucienne de Naie. Register: laluz@maui.net. (C) (E) D=3 to 4 miles RT.

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

Moku Loa Group Report

CHAIR REPORT

BY ROBERTA BRASHEAR-KAULFERS

Aloha and welcome to 2011, a year with a new Governor, Neil Abercrombie, and a new Hawaii 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 a maintaining a safe and healthy environment is also a major concern. We look forward to increased member participation this year to 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 email me and let us utilize your talents. We would like to thank Nelson Ho, past Chair who served us well and invested so much of his personal time the past year. Nelson has stepped down to work on the staff of the Hawaii County Council. We also thank Diane Ware, Al Beeman and Rose Acevedo who have served the past 2 years. Both Diane and Rose will continue to remain active in Moku Loa outings. The MLG board wishes to extend a huge mahalo to Edith Worsencroft- our retiring Newsletter editor, and kudos to Haili Debus who volunteered as Treasurer.

Welcome to our 4 new board members: Malie Larish, Janice Crowl, Debbie Ward and Jon Olson, who will be working very hard to keep you informed as we face many environmental challenges ahead. Malie Larish has agreed to take on the role of Treasurer, and Janice Crowl will be coordinating newsletter articles. Debbie Ward, Vice Chair, will represent MLG at the Chapter meetings, and is co-chair of chapter conservation committee.

Moku Loa Group sponsored five awards at the Hawaii Science and Engineering

Fair on February 19, 2011. To find out about these awards and their recipients, check out the Science Fair article in this newsletter.

Moku Loa Group has been responding to numerous issues, including the conservation district rules, mammal hunting rules, high altitude helicopter training on Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa, expansion of military activity at Pohakuloa Training Area, depleted uranium issues and munitions cleanup, and more. Mahalo to Cory Harden for organizing a public program about open ocean fish farming on February 13 in Keaau. We look forward to learning more from Dave Raney at a program to be announced in the spring.

Up and Coming events: National Board of Directors Elections in April 2011. The 23rd ANNUAL EARTH FAIR is coming, sponsored by Hawaii Community College; April 15, 2011 at UH Hilo Campus Center Plaza and Library Lanai. Volunteers are always welcome to help out at the Sierra Club booth and other venues. Contact Roberta if you can help out 966-7002.

For more information check out the Earth Fair website: www.hawaii.hawaii.edu/eday (soon to be updated).

I currently serve as an At- Large member and Vice Chair/Secretary of the Hawaii Chapter as well as the Budget 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 email me at roberta.brashear-kaulfers@sierraclub.org. National issues can also be accessed at the website www.clubhouse.sierraclub.org.

Environmental Scholars Recognized

The Sierra Club's Moku Loa Group recently recognized eight outstanding students for research on Hawaii's environment at the Hawaii District Science and Engineering Fair held Saturday, February 13, 2011 in Hilo.

In the senior research division, Shalila de Bourmont received the Mae Mull Award for research projects entitled "Anti-Carcinogenic Properties of fungal Endophytes Derived from Native



Hawaiian Plants". In the Junior Research Division, Dylan Giardina was recognized with the Wayne Gagne Award, presented each year to the outstanding junior research projects relating to the environment of Hawai'i. This projects was entitled "The Relationships between Water Clarity and Bacteria in Hilo Bay".

In the Junior Research in Physical Science, Nicholas Winters received the Don Worsencroft award for the project " Born Again Batteries: Using Alkaline Batteries to Their Fullest ". Dr. Worsencroft was a Professor of physical science at Hawaii Community College. In the Junior Display division, Lilah Lough was recognized for the display entitled " Whale Migration " with the Ruth Lani Stemmermann Award. Lani Stemmermann was a plant ecologist at UH Hilo and Hawaii Community College who specialized in Hawaiian botany. Moku Loa Group also presented two additional awards for Earth Science and environmental science relating to Hawaii. The recipients were Kamrie Koi and Wen Hui Yang , for a project entitled " Effects of global Warming on the Local Environment of Ka`u ". The students each received certificates and checks for \$50.00. Through these awards, the Sierra Club members hope to honor scientists active in protecting our native ecosystems, and to encourage students to pursue scientific research in topics related to the Hawaiian environment.

Moku Loa Group welcomes contributions to its memorial fund to support the Science Fair and other educational programs for students. Tax deductible donations may be made to Sierra Club Foundation (MLG) and mailed to the club c/o Moku Loa Group P.O.Box 1137 Hilo HI 96721. For more information, contact Deborah Ward at 966-7361.

Update on Mauna Kea

As Sierra Club members know, we have spent many years working to ensure that the natural and cultural resources of Mauna Kea are protected. Members have offered testimony, served on committees, conducted research, written letters, consulted in legislative audits, participated in contested case hearing and successful litigation, and more, over the past thirty years. While some conditions have improved, the expansion of industrialization in the conservation district continues apace.

On the last Friday in February, the Board of Land and Natural Resources approved a permit for the eighteen story Thirty Meter Telescope on the northern plateau, in spite of requests for a contested case hearing on the application. The Sierra Club joined others in calling for the hearing because due process on the comprehensive management plan (CMP) is still in contest; the Sierra Club is a party to a contested case request being considered by the Intermediate Court of Appeals, and we fully expect that the CMP hearing will expose the deficiencies and inconsistencies of the plan, and offer information not considered. The Board ordered that the hearing be conducted by a hearing officer, and we will keep you informed.

Moku Loa Outings

See Page 11 for General Outings Information

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

Saturday, April 2 – Lokoaka Service Trip. Help clear trails in Keaukaha. Please call for specific details. Jan & Sarah Moon 935-3475

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

May 2011 - 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 the next Outings Leader Training scheduled time and location.

Saturday, May 28 - Chain of Craters Road to Ainahou

Ranch (E), D=5.5 miles, E=2,300 ft.

This is a windy hike with spectacular views of the Hilina Pali coast in Volcanoes National Park. We will follow the Keauhou Trail from Chain of Craters road, taking the fork to historic Ainahou Ranch before the trail plunges down the pali's crest to the coast. Expect an informative history of the Ranch and a tour of its beautiful grounds. Bring lunch to eat at the Ranch, rain gear and 2 quarts of water. Leader Linda Burnham Larish (966-6337); Co-Leader Rich Vogler (328-8387)

Friday and Saturday, Jun 10 & 11 Ainapo Cabin Backpack, Kapapala Forest Reserve (E) D = 7.5 miles, E = 5600' +/- 2500' Strenuous hike up an old trail on the slopes of Mauna Loa. Learn about native flora and fauna. Stay two nights in the DLNR cabin. Explore the area on our second day, possibly including a hike toward the summit. Will need a backpack, sleeping bag, eating utensils, sun protection, rain gear, flashlight, lunches and breakfasts. Leaders Diane Ware 967-8642, Roxanne Lawson 965-8002

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

Chapter Directory



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

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At the time of printing, it was too late to include an article about the Japan earthquake and tsunami. Our hearts go out to the people of Japan as they try to cope with the consequences of this terrible natural disaster and the ensuing nuclear catastrophe.

We also mourn for the hundreds of thousands of seabirds killed as a result of the tsunami.

Sierra Club, Hawaii Chapter

April - June 2011

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