



MĀLAMA I KA HONUA

A Quarterly Journal of the SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI‘I

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Board of Water Supply Calls on U.S. Navy, EPA, and DOH

By Pulama Long, Intern

The United States Navy has been storing 225 million gallons of fuel inside Kapūkākī ridge, known today as Red Hill, since 1943. Located between the ahupua'a of Hālāwa and Moanalua, the fuel is being stored a mere 100 feet above a primary aquifer that supplies drinking water for a quarter of O'ahu's population. Currently inside the facility are 20 fuel storage tanks, each tank measuring 250 feet deep, carved into the ridge, and 100 feet in diameter. These 20 storage tanks have a long history of leaking fuel into the environment, causing a great threat to the unique water catchment system that O'ahu and its people depend on. The latest major leak occurred in January 2014, when at least 27,000 gallons of fuel were released. This resulted in a 20-year "Administrative Order on Consent" (AOC) between the U.S. Navy, federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH) to study and renovate the storage facility.

On Monday, June 27, 2016 the Honolulu Board of Water Supply called the EPA and DOH to a public meeting to answer questions and address concerns about the handling of the jet fuel leaks at Red Hill. The EPA, via video conference, discussed the progress thus far to a packed room of government representatives, press, and the public.

During the meeting, the Board of Water Supply questioned the EPA's decision to drastically reduce the testing list of Contaminants of Potential Concern in groundwater samples to 12 contaminants from the previously tested 64. The EPA's defense was that the AOC scope of work only addresses chemicals related to jet fuel and not the historical record of contamination that has previously had a negative impact on the environment. DOH did not participate in the discussion on the AOC progress.

FIX IT UP OR



Board of Water Supply, public, and press hear from EPA on the status of the Administrative Order on Consent for Red Hill.

Following the EPA's presentation, several people testified. The public expressed concern regarding the Navy's refusal to guarantee safe drinking water; asked that the ancient tanks be decommissioned; and demanded prompt clean up of contamination. Despite the elevated levels of jet fuel contaminants found in groundwater monitoring since the 2014 leak, no immediate steps toward remediation have been taken.

In our review of the situation, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i can find no justification for exposing the people of Hawai'i to this kind of risk. The U.S. Navy and the industries that rely on these fuel reserves should immediately identify new storage arrangements that comply with today's strict environmental standards and retire these historic tanks. The responsible agencies are not acting quickly enough to clean up legacy contamination and prevent future leaks from occurring. If the U.S. Navy, EPA, and DOH cannot guarantee that the tanks will not leak and they cannot remediate leaks when they happen, then the only reasonable course of action to genuinely protect our water is to retire these tanks.

Brief History of Red Hill Fuel Storage

1943

Construction of 20 fuel storage tanks completed inside Red Hill

2008

Navy groundwater protection plan showed more than 30 leaks in the span of six decades

1998

Navy began testing the bedrock under the storage tanks for chemical contamination



January 2014

Major leak releasing 27,000 gallons of fuel into the environment

SHUT IT DOWN

Waiola o Moanalua Moanalua Culture Project

*By Kirsten Fujitani, Communications
Coordinator*

Traditionally, Moanalua was a breadbasket of the Kona moku of O‘ahu and home to waiola, the water of life. The valley was rich with water, it provided enough to sustain its people, plants, and fishponds. People traveled far distances to take part in the waiola of Moanalua. Today, Moanalua is home to over 50,000 people and is occupied by large military installations. Times have changed but traditions continue to live on through the Moanalua Culture Project.

Started in 2008, the project is working to perpetuate Moanalua’s cultural heritage. The project is directed by Kahu “Roddy” Kamawaelualani Kawehi Akau, whose family has lived in Moanalua for generations and is a direct descendant of the last konohiki of the ahupua‘a. Together with a small staff, they are working to perpetuate the mo‘olelo and traditions of place through various community programs.

Kahu Roddy and the Moanalua Culture Project aim to engage Native Hawaiian youth through a cultural immersion program. As lā‘au lapa‘au, Kahu Roddy hopes to use indigenous knowledge and healing practices to connect at-risk youth with the ‘āina and find tranquility in their work and culture. The project will also be teaming up with the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa’s Mālama ‘Āina program in the fall to remove invasive plant species, plant native species, and restore lo‘i in the valley.

While programs like these help to bring health back into the valley, a fight for clean fresh water continues. Cases like the Red Hill fuel tank leak and the continual diversion of Moanalua’s once rich streams are a detriment to the valley and its inhabitants—plants, animals, and humans alike. Only when it rains, do the valley’s nine streams flow. The project anticipates working with the military in the near future to remove diversions and restore the ever desired waiola back to Moanalua.

Cover photo, Moanalua Valley, Kahu Roddy by Buffy Haars



“The health and well-being of our island home depends upon all of us coming together to protect our water.”

-Kahu Roddy Akau

September 2015

Hawai‘i DOH entered into an “Agreement on Consent” with the U.S. Navy and EPA focusing on the research and monitoring of the facility’s leaks

June 27, 2016

Public meeting hosted by the Board of Water Supply discussing their concerns with the EPA about the lack of adequate solutions for remediation and release prevention

June 3, 2016

Honolulu Board of Water Supply provided comments criticizing the narrow scope of work purposed in the “Administrative Order on Consent”

Young Activists Join in Grassroots Organizing Training

By Joshua Noga, Conservation Program Coordinator and Pulama Long, Intern



STAY TUNED!

A how-to grassroots organizing column by our own Joshua Noga in the next edition!

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i used the King Kamehameha weekend to host their very first grassroots organizing training at Camp Palehua. Young community leaders from three islands took part in the weekend's training which included educational workshops led by Sierra Club National organizing trainers, Annette Rizzo and Whitney Pearson. The workshops focused on developing community outreach skills such as personal storytelling, building a support base, and campaign planning. The camp participants were made up of a diverse group of young, driven leaders and advocates interested in addressing issues of climate change, social justice, student organizing, environmental justice, and decolonization.

Led by Pulama Long and Joshua Noga, the weekend provided important time for the participants to build relationships with each other and strengthen their support on a broader community scale. The students, along with Pulama and Joshua, engaged in critical discussions and shared personal aspirations that influence the work of community organizing. This training weekend was the first in a series, which aims to provide a critical environment to build grassroots movements focused around justice issues and young leadership development.

Kirsten Fujitani Joins the Team

With great pleasure and excitement we welcome Kirsten Fujitani to the Sierra Club of Hawai'i. Kirsten will be focusing on communications in support of our effort to end climate change and secure a healthy, just future for Hawai'i's residents.

Kirsten joins us from The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i where she was part of the Marine Conservation Fellowship Program. In addition to biological monitoring efforts, she focused on communications and outreach initiatives centered around community-based fisheries management and climate change adaptation with local partners. Kirsten also worked to develop a collaborative communications plan for Hawai'i's marine protected species with Hawai'i's Department of Land and Natural Resources and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

Despite the hustle and bustle of Honolulu, Kirsten was drawn to the natural beauty and serenity of Hawai'i's ocean as a young child. A childhood family move landed her in the landlocked expanse of southern Illinois, but her love of the ocean and Hawai'i's rich natural landscapes only grew.

Returning to Hawai'i to study marine biology at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, she immersed herself in community work days and found interest in the integration of contemporary science and traditional knowledge through the Laulima A 'Ike Pono Internship at Paepae o He'eia and several Kupu programs.

Kirsten has a passion for cultivating youth to be the next environmental leaders and empowering people of their place to manage their own resources and take local action to increase resiliency in light of climate change. Kirsten is a graduate of Belleville West High School and the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, (BS 2012) and is interested in pursuing a master's in environmental education.



Planet at the Crossroads

For the first time ever, the World Conservation Congress will be held here in Hawai'i. Hosted every four years by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), it is often called the "Olympics of environmental gatherings." Since the congress' inaugural gathering in 1948, the congress has never been held in the United States.

Thanks to a coalition of local environmentalists, including many Sierra Club volunteers like Steve Montgomery, and an endorsement by President Barack Obama, over 15,000 world leaders, conservationists, and prominent CEO's from around the world will meet in conference in Honolulu from September 1 to 10.

Hosting the IUCN congress in Hawai'i provides an unprecedented opportunity to highlight the islands' endemic biodiversity and local culture and their vulnerability to threats such as climate change and growing development. Although the main congress will be hosted in Honolulu, field trips and other sister events will be held on most neighbor islands.

This year's theme, Planet at the Crossroads, encourages people around the globe to take sustainable action to ensure the well-being and survival of our shared natural environment. At the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris, almost 200 nations agreed on goals for sustainable development and achieving climate neutrality. This congress is the vehicle to move these agreements into action.

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i will be participating in numerous knowledge cafes on freshwater initiatives and social benefits of enjoying nature, hosting a pavilion and leading several special outings (see right for details).

IUCN is also still seeking volunteers. To get involved visit <http://bit.ly/29EQH3s>



JOIN US!

IUCN World Conservation Congress

September 1-10, 2016
Honolulu Convention Center

Sierra Club of Hawai'i Sessions

9/2 Exploration and enjoyment of nature enhances societal benefits and promotes wilderness conservation (11am- 1pm)

9/5 Successful campaigns led by Indigenous Peoples for the restoration of waterways - new partners, new approaches (830-1030am)

Sierra Club of Hawai'i Outings

9/4 Mānoa Cliffs Service Hike

9/10 Wiliwilinui Hike

9/11 Mānoa Cliffs Photography Hike

See O'ahu outings on pg. 10 for more information on WCC outings

Kama'āina rates available (\$150 for 2 day pass)

Register at iucnworldconservationcongress.org/participate/register



Government-Sponsored Report Finds Major Gaps in State's Pesticide Regulations

By Ashley Lukens, Ph.D., Director of Hawai'i Center for Food Safety

For over three years, Kaua'i communities directly impacted by pesticide drift from agrichemical company fields have been asking their county and state governments to take action to protect their health, local wildlife, and important natural resources. In response to these concerns, the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture, along with the Kaua'i County Council, commissioned a \$150,000, year-long fact-finding study on pesticide use by large agribusinesses on Kaua'i, including experimental cultivation of pesticide-promoting genetically engineered (GE) crops.

The final report of the Joint Fact Finding Study Group was released in May 2016, and the findings make it clear that the state's current regulation and oversight of pesticides is inadequate. The report recommends that the state take numerous actions to reduce exposure to pesticides and better understand the threats they pose to human, agricultural, and environmental health.

The report findings also validate growing public concern about public health threats of pesticides in Hawai'i, and call for the protections communities impacted by pesticide drift have been demanding for years. These include establishing policies for pesticide buffer zones (i.e. designated areas where no pesticides can be sprayed) around sensitive areas such as schools, regular monitoring for pesticide drift and residues in Hawai'i's water and soil, and mandatory public reporting of restricted and general use pesticides by large agribusinesses in Hawai'i. These and other measures recommended by the report's authors would go a long way towards increasing transparency about pesticide use in the state, and better protecting the health of community members at risk from exposure.

Pollinators, especially bees, are of course particularly important to the food system, and also serve as indicators of the health of the environment – a significant decline in bees or other pollinators has substantial adverse impacts on agriculture and the environment. It is well known that insecticides sprayed heavily on Kaua'i's seed corn fields – organophosphates and pyrethroids – are highly toxic to bees. Additionally, neonicotinoids, which are another class of highly toxic insecticides, are coated onto the vast majority of corn seed and are known to kill and cause chronic harm to bees, birds, butterflies, and other important pollinators.

Nate's Adventures

Hawai'i Island's Yellow-Faced Bees

By Nate Yuen

I was thrilled to stumble on Hawaiian yellow-faced bees—*nalo meli maoli*—on lehua flowers on Hawai'i Island. The native bees are small, less than a quarter-inch long, and look like black-brown wasps that have a yellow face.

Honey bees, which are much larger, are not native to the Hawaiian Islands—the first hives were brought to O'ahu in 1857. The only bee to reach the Hawaiian Islands on its own is the yellow-faced bee *Hylaeus*. Over eons of time the original founders evolved into 63 known species endemic to the Hawaiian Islands.

When I posted my photos to Facebook, entomologist Karl Magnacca confirmed they were native yellow-faced bees, *nalo meli maoli*. He speculated they were either *Hylaeus difficilis* or *Hylaeus volcanicus*, two relatively common species on Hawai'i Island. In the 1900s famous biologist R.C.L. Perkins, who wrote the monumental work *Fauna Hawaiiensis*, called Hawaiian yellow-faced bees “almost the most ubiquitous of any Hawaiian insects.” Sadly, this is no longer the case. Recent surveys of yellow-faced bees by Magnacca showed that most Hawaiian yellow-faced bee species are in decline, many are extremely rare, and several are possibly extinct. Of the 63 species, seven have been listed as endangered.



Pesticides & Pollinators



An investigation into a bee die-off that occurred in the year 2000 in West Kaua'i concluded that insecticides applied to nearby seed corn fields were likely responsible. Other testing revealed the widespread presence of the herbicide glyphosate in samples of honey from Kaua'i. After assessing the available evidence, the Joint Fact Finding Study Group recommended that Hawai'i's Department of Agriculture establish a program to monitor pesticide residues in bees and their hives, and based on the findings establish regulations to restrict pollinator-toxic pesticides as needed.

Similarly, the report calls upon the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) to initiate a pilot program to test selected terrestrial and aquatic wildlife for pesticide exposure, including feral pigs, raptors like 'io and pueo, turtles, monk seals, invertebrates, algae, and others. Currently, the DLNR does not conduct regular, robust testing for pesticides in wildlife, and therefore reliable exposure data are not available. The program should include testing of animals immediately after a die-off occurs, to better establish whether or not pesticide exposure has occurred, and is responsible for the deaths.

The publication of this report is a watershed moment for Hawai'i, as it shines a light on the glaring inadequacy of the state's oversight of pesticides. Some progress has been made. Thus far, \$500,000 in general state funds have been allocated to implement the report's recommendations, such as establishing new, tougher standards for chronic, low-level exposure to pesticides, though an estimated \$3 million is needed.

Governor Ige has the executive power to implement the recommendations of the report. Earlier this year, 20 mothers from impacted communities across the islands met with the Governor and shared their stories, urging him to use that power. Hawai'i Center for Food Safety in collaboration with Sierra Club of Hawai'i, Earthjustice, and over a dozen grassroots food and environmental justice groups delivered a letter to the Governor upon final release of the report encouraging him to take immediate action.

The time to act is now. The people and the complex ecosystems of our islands cannot wait another day for protection from toxic pesticide exposure.

Hawaiian yellow-faced bees are solitary and do not live in colonies like honeybees. They can be found in a variety of habitats including coasts, dry forests and shrublands, mesic and wet forests, and subalpine shrublands. All depend on an intact community of native plants and are mostly absent from habitats dominated by nonnative plant species. These bees require a habitat with a diversity of plants that flower throughout the year so that a consistent source of pollen and nectar is available. Many species nest in the ground, but some nest in hollow stems of plants; the availability of nest sites is another important habitat requirement for these insects.

Hawaiian yellow-faced bees are threatened by development—especially in coastal areas, fire, feral ungulates such as pigs, invasive ants, and the loss of native vegetation to invasive plant species. Because remnant populations of many species of Hawaiian yellow-faced bees are small and isolated, they are especially vulnerable to habitat loss, predation, stochastic events, and other changes to their habitat. Conservation of these important pollinators will require the active management of natural areas where populations are known to exist.



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 Hawai'i'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. You can view his art and read about his adventures at hawaiianforest.com.

O'ahu Group



Stepping Up Our Game... with professional help

By Anthony Aalto, Chair

The O'ahu Group is entering a new era. We have around 10,000 signed-up members and supporters on this island and we are determined to start leveraging the power of our numbers to exert greater influence over the policies and actions that impact our island environment.

In order to do so we have decided to hire a full-time staff person. We're in the middle of the hiring process, but hope our new Coordinator will be on the job before the end of September. We'll introduce this newest member of our leadership team in the next Mālama.

At the same time we are bringing Gary Gill on board to work part-time for us as a lobbyist at Honolulu Hale. Many of you already know Gary. He's a scion of the Gill family. His father, Thomas Gill, was a leader of the progressive wing of the Democratic Party in Hawai'i and served as both Congressman and Lt. Governor. His uncle, Lorin Tarr Gill, founded the Hawai'i Chapter of the Sierra Club and was the father of environmental education in the state. Bequests from both men have helped preserve thousands of acres of land on the Wai'anae coast.

Gary has a distinguished career in his own right. At the age of 26 he was elected to the first of two terms on the Honolulu City Council and served as its Chair. He has served as Director of the Office of Environmental Quality Control – the highest environmental job in the state. As Deputy Director at the Department of Health he managed the entire Environmental Health Administration. He has also worked as Program Director at the Blue Planet Foundation and as Development Director for the Sierra Club of Hawai'i.

Gary will help mentor our new Coordinator and he will focus on advancing our policy goals. Those goals include:

Public Energy Option – Explore an option for public, non-profit control of the O'ahu branch of HECO, in order to promote an agenda of micro-grids, distributed energy resources, energy storage solutions and all other options that could accelerate the switch from fossil fuels while saving customers money.

AES – Close our last coal-fired power plant or convert it to re-usable fuel.

Divest the ERS – Secure City & County support to press the state Employee Retirement System to divest all fossil fuel stocks from its portfolio within 5 years (county employees' pension savings are invested in the ERS).

HART – Ensure that the rail system is completed and operated as sustainably as possible.

Gentlemen Farms – Revise rules on ag sub-divisions to stop the spread of fake farms.

Envision Lā'ie – Ensure it's never built.

Red Hill – Decommission the Navy's fuel storage tanks which threaten O'ahu's principal aquifer.

North Shore Heritage Designation – Secure federal protection for the North Shore.

Complete Streets – Continue expansion of the protected bike path network.

Affordable Housing/TOD/Infrastructure – Ensure that future housing development is in dense, transit oriented communities with a high proportion of affordable housing.

Water/Non-potable Water – Create purple pipe infrastructure to allow re-use of non-potable water and to promote water conservation.

Opala/Landfill/Plastic bags – Press for a zero landfill policy. To close the Honolulu County plastic bag loophole and ban Styrofoam containers.

Ag & Food – Press the county to complete the Important Ag Land designation process and encourage farming, especially food farming, as a way of protecting the land and boosting food resiliency.

Climate Change – Encourage adoption of best-practice measures to prepare for sea level rise.

We Still Need YOU!

Needless to say the professional staff will not be able to cover all of these efforts, and indeed that is not the idea. They are supposed to complement and assist our volunteer activities. They will be helping to organize campaigns and teach skills that will make it possible for you, our members, to lead or participate in these efforts. So if any of these campaigns interest you and you want to get involved, please drop us a line at SierraClubOahuGroup@gmail.com or call us at 234-9779.

Plastic Bag Loophole

As an example of an ongoing volunteer-led campaign: our Conservation Chair, Leilei Shih, has been coordinating with other environmental groups like the Surfrider Foundation and has been lobbying Council Members and the Mayor. As a result it looks like we may have success with our plan to close the plastic bag loophole which is allowing some retailers to continue to offer their customers one-time-use disposable plastic bags which are fouling our environment.

World Conservation Congress

We will be active participants in the WCC. Leilei is organizing a Knowledge Café during the Congress on the theme "Exploration and enjoyment of nature enhances societal benefits and promotes wilderness conservation." More information can be found here: <https://portals.iucn.org/congress/session/9742>. Sierra Club Outings leaders will also be leading three hikes during the Congress. The idea is to let Congress participants experience what it is we are all working to conserve. These hikes are open to the public and you can find out more here: <https://portals.iucn.org/congress/update/18341>



SEE PAGE 10 FOR GENERAL OUTINGS INFORMATION

As of January 2014, reservations are required for outings. Register online at sierraclubhawaii.org/get-outdoors

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

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

Sunday, August 07

Kamananui (Moanalua Valley) Hike (F)

11 mi/Strenuous/Valley & Ridge/+-1500 ft

Reservations required by August 5. We'll meander through this lovely valley looking at historic sites before crossing the stream many times on our way to a steep climb to the Ko'olau summit, where we'll enjoy a spectacular view of Kāne'ohe. Leader: Gwen Sinclair 753-0528, <gwsinclair@gmail.com>

Saturday, August 13

MCBH Kāne'ohe Bay Service Project (S)

Reservations required. Contact Dan Anderson at 690-0479 or <danderhi@gmail.com> by August 12. We will be working with Environmental helping clear wetlands of mangrove plants to create habitat for Hawai'i's endangered waterbirds. Because MCBH is a secured military facility, we must provide your name to the base in advance. We'll send you a waiver which you must bring with you. Leader: Deborah Blair 955-4168

Sunday, August 14

Mid-morning hike: Manana Ridge (partial) (F)

4 mi/Easy-Moderate/Ridge/~500ft

Enjoy a ridge trail that is partly shaded and has some lovely views and perhaps breezes. We'll eat lunch at the picnic table, then venture a little further to where native plants predominate before returning the way we came. Only the last half mile on the way in is steep. Reservations required. Meet at Church of the Crossroads parking lot at 10 a.m. Leader: Charlotte Manly 393-2017, <cmanly@hawaii.rr.com>

Thursday**, August 18 to Sunday, August 21

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

Leader: Clyde Kobashigawa <clydekobashigawa@hawaii.rr.com>

We will be working with NARS clearing mainly kāhili ginger. We will access the area via Volcanoes National Park where it is an easy 1/2 mile hike from Thurston Lava tube to the work site. This is a relatively new NARS site that is dominated with the alien kāhili ginger and a great way to see how it evolves into a truly native Hawaiian Natural Area Reserve. There are native birds above in the native 'ōhi'a lehua forest trees. Our accommodation will be at a house in Hilo at the NARS base yard. ***This trip requires a Thursday evening departure.*

Saturday, August 22

Central O'ahu Trail Reconstruction Service Project (S)

6 mi/Strenuous

Join us in reconstructing a great historic trail in central O'ahu. The trail the was cut out of a steep hillside and over the years soil, rocks and plant debris have fallen on it creating a steeply angled tread. We will dig out the worse sections returning it to much more hikeable trail. Because of the steepness of the hillside there is some inherent danger involved so no children under 15 will be permitted. Bring digging tools: pulaski, hazel hoe, rake or shovel. Bring at least two liters of water, lunch and rain gear. Limited to 12 participants. Meet at 8:00 a.m. Reservations required. Contact leader for meeting place. Leader: Ed Mersino <mersino@hawaii.edu>

Sunday, August 21

'Āhuimanu Loop

2 mi/Moderate

Be prepared to walk gently over a few ancient rock walls which mark former taro lo'i of this once productive area. The short trail meanders along the Ahuimanu stream to the base of the Ko'olau Mountains. Meet at 9 a.m. at the First Hawaiian Bank parking area in the Windward City Shopping Center, located at the intersection of Likelike and Kamehameha Highway in Kāne'ohe. Wear long sleeves, long pants, closed-toe shoes with good traction, and bring mosquito repellent and rain gear. Leader: Colleen Soares <csoares48@gmail.com> 748-9215

Sunday, August 28

Sandy Beach Cleanup (S)

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at Sandy Beach bathroom at eastern side of beach park (bathroom closer to Makapu'u). We will cleanup along highway and coastal areas until 10:00 a.m. Bags and gloves provided. All participants under 18 must have a waiver signed by their legal guardian.

O'ahu Group Outings



No one under 18 will be allowed to clean on the highway and will spend their time cleaning the beach and park area. Closed-toe shoes only. No slippers or sandals of any sort. Call Tred 394-2898 for information. Deborah Blair 955-4168

Saturday, September 03

Queen Kapi'olani Garden Service Project (S)

Queen Kapi'olani Garden has become a popular destination to photograph and learn about native hawaiian plants. It is known for its large variety of native plants that are grown in an urban setting. You will have an opportunity to help us expand our native Hawaiian garden and perhaps learn about several of our more unusual specimens. Meet at Queen Kapi'olani Garden (bordered by Monsarrat, Paki, and Leahi Avenues) at 8 a.m. Tools will be provided. Reservations required. Leaders: Stan Oka 429-9814, Clyde Kobashigawa, John Shimogawa, Susan Tom; assisting Curtis Kawamoto

Sunday, September 04

Mānoa Cliff Service Project (S)

3 mi/Moderate/Contour

Reservations required. The Mānoa Cliff Trail contours the cliffs above Mānoa. There are beautiful views and a variety of native plants. We will help clear an area rich in native plants. We will work about 2 hours, stop at noon for lunch, and return to the cars between 1:30 and 2:00 p.m. Bring garden gloves if you have them. Leader: Colleen Soares <csoares48@gmail.com>, 748-9215

Saturday, September 10

Wiliwili (F)

5 mi/Strenuous/Ridge

Reservations required. The beginning of the hike starts off as a nice stroll but then expect a very steep climb to the Ko'olau Summit where we will enjoy great views of O'ahu. Leader: Jean Fujikawa <jean.fujikawa@gmail.com>

Sunday, September 18

Kahana Valley Hike (F)

6 mi/Moderate/Valley

Reservations required by September 9. This loop trail leads us up into the back of Kahana Valley. Our lunch will be at a refreshing pool with a set of rapids at one end. It's great for cooling off before we leave the valley. The return loop crosses the stream (plan on getting your feet wet) and passes down the opposite ridge. Along the way are some WWII bunkers, a dam, and a gauging station. Lots of mosquitoes, so long sleeves and long pants recommended. Leader: Gwen Sinclair <gsinclair@gmail.com>, 753-0528

Sunday, September 25

Mid-morning hike: Kuli'ou'ou Ridge (partial) (F)

4 mi/Moderate/Contour/~800ft

Mostly shaded, this is a good hike for a hot month. We'll hike up to the picnic tables for lunch and a little beyond for a view. Reservations required. Meet at Church of the Crossroads parking lot at 10 a.m. Leader: Charlotte Manly 393-2017, <cmanly@hawaii.rr.com>

SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS POLICY

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

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

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

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

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



Kaua'i Group Report

By Greg Peters

Review of Dairy Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Kaua'i Group is actively involved in the current review of the draft environmental impact statement (EIS) for the industrial dairy proposed for Māhā'ulepū Valley. We are working to ensure that the EIS provides an honest and complete assessment of the project's impacts and that meaningful mitigation measures are mandated to ensure that the project will not negatively impact Māhā'ulepū's land, water, and neighboring communities.

It is our sincere hope to see locally-based agriculture thrive once again on the south shore, but to ensure its future permanence we must follow a sustainable model.



Comments Submitted for Moloa'a Shoreline Site Inspection

In the spring, Kaua'i Group provided comments to the Department of Land and Natural Resources regarding the need for a site inspection of the Moloa'a Bay shoreline by the state land surveyor. We believe an inspection is warranted due to evidence that conflicts with the previously conducted shoreline survey. Examples include the high wash of the waves extend at least eight feet mauka of the survey pins near the beach access easement and a post that was identified on a map certified in 2013 should be added to the current survey map, since public access is so critical.

We also raised concern that only a portion of the 1.3 acre shoreline parcel has been surveyed, with half of the beach front including the Maliu Stream mouth area in the conservation district, omitted. There is also evidence that the high wash of the waves is mauka of the stakes within the naupaka perimeter planted in 2005.

Supporting the Comprehensive Conservation Plan for Kīlauea Point National Wildlife Site

Kaua'i Group has been involved in the review of a recently released comprehensive conservation plan for the refuge that maps the direction for the management of the refuge for the next 15 years.

The plan emphasizes enhancing coastal ecosystems, restoring seabird breeding populations, conducting monitoring and research, improving visitor services and environmental education. The document has evolved in its drafting process to address public concerns, one of which was maintaining 24-hour access to Kahili Quarry, also known as Rock Quarry Beach.

Transportation issues are also highlighted in the plan. The changes needed to ease traffic congestion have been separated into short and long-range strategies. The refuge will adopt "an incremental approach and experiment with small-scale operational and infrastructure improvements" in the short-term. Managing the endangered bird populations on and around Kīlauea Point is also high on the list of priorities within the plan. There is also a possibility of expanding the predator-proof fenced areas that already exist.



Kaua'i Group Outings

SEE PAGE 10 FOR GENERAL OUTINGS INFORMATION

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 Sierra Club members and participants under 18 is \$1. Donations for others: \$5. Check our website at: <http://www.hi.sierraclub.org/kauai/index.html> Note: Women are advised not to hike remote trails or camp alone on Kauai.

WANT TO BECOME A SIERRA CLUB HIKE LEADER?

Find out how much fun you could be having by providing the opportunity for others to explore our island, enjoy its beauty, and inspire them to protect it. Please contact <judydalton123@gmail.com> or call 808-482-1129.

Saturday, August 6

Jewel of Kōke'e (C/E/F)

7 miles/strenuous

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

Sunday, August 7

Hanakāpi'ai Falls (C/E/F)

8 miles/strenuous

Panoramic views of our famed Na Pali coastline plus a swim in the pool beneath majestic Hanakāpi'ai Falls. Leader: Jane Schmitt 826-6105.

Sunday, August 14

Tour de Po'ipū Bike Ride (E/F)

Easy to difficult rides to choose from with varying length and elevation gain. Magnificent ocean/mountain views. Bring your own bike. Helmets required. Leader: Allan Rachap 212-3108.

Tuesday, August 16

National Tropical Botanical Gardens Sunset to Walk (C/E/F)

Moderate/2 miles

Hike and learn about plants in lovely gardens. Sierra Club members only. Leader: Bob Nishek 346-0476.

Saturday, August 27

Māhā'ulepū Beach Clean Up (S)

Sierra Club, Mālama Māhā'ulepū, and Surfrider team up to keep this magnificent beach free of ocean debris and litter.



Follow Po'ipū 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. Please bring hat and water. Bags, gloves and snacks provided. 9 AM to noon. Leader: Judy Dalton 482-1129.

Saturday, September 10

Honopū/Kōke'e State Park (C/E/F)

Moderate/4 miles

This unmarked, unmaintained trail travels through native forest to fabulous views of the Honopū valley and spectacular views from high above the Na Pali coast. Leader: Jane Schmitt 826-6105.

Sunday, September 11

Māhā'ulepū and Makauwahi Cave (C/E/F)

Moderate/4 miles

Enjoy the majestic coastline. Visit the world class archaeological cave site. Leader: Allan Rachap 212-3108.

Wednesday, September 14

Waimea Canyon Road Cleanup (S)

Easy/2 miles

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. Leader: Bob Nishek 346-0476.

Thursday, September 15

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

Moderate/3 Miles

Start out in the late afternoon from Lydgate Beach Park walking along the expansive and undeveloped shoreline from Wailua Beach to Nukoli'i Beach to enjoy the sunset and a full moon rise. Judy Dalton 482-1129.

Saturday, September 24

Hanamā'ulu Beach Clean Up (S)

Help protect marine life, the reef and ocean from litter and fishing net entanglement. Sierra Club and Surfrider team up for this effort. Turn makai in Hanamā'ulu on road by the 7-11 store. Look for sign further down the hill on the right going to Hanamā'ulu Beach. Look for banners at beach. 9AM to noon. Bring water. Bags, gloves, and refreshments provided. Leader: Judy Dalton 482-1129.



Maui Group Report & Outings

Chair's Report

Maui Group happily welcomed back executive committee member Stacia Ash – who has been appointed Secretary!

We've been busy weighing in on many important issues as well as planning for our **40th anniversary celebration** - Saturday, October 1 Lae'ula O Kai hale, Kanahā Beach Park.

Our annual plant sale at the Ha'ikū Ho'olaulea "Grower's Market" was a great success and we had a "mahalo" pizza party a couple of weeks afterward to thank 15 of our awesome volunteers.

Its sure to be an exciting and dynamic election year for Maui County, and the Maui Group Executive Committee has made endorsements for seven of the nine Council races and two of the seven State House races. We're excited about these great candidates! Members can contact us for an endorsement list.

Mahalo to all who attended recent hearings on important Maui issues, including submitting testimony for HB 2501, the Show Me the Water Bill, the Hāmākua Coastal Lands County purchase, as well as support for new County Governance structure. It is crucial that the community voices be heard on these important issues.

In June, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency filed an amicus brief supporting a ruling that Maui County's practice of injecting millions of gallons of treated sewage into the ocean violates the Clean Water Act. The EPA weighed in on the side of four Maui community groups, including the Sierra Club, represented by Earthjustice that sued the County in 2012, seeking to protect the sensitive coral reefs at Kahekili, as well as public users of the popular beach park from harmful pollution.

We have had six wonderful outings thanks to Maui Group Outings Chair Rob Weltman, including a service outing to plant native trees and "adopt a forest" at the D.T. Fleming Arboretum, which Sierra Club members can return to mālama 'āina.

If you haven't already, please go to mauisierraclub.org to sign up for our Maui Group e-newsletter and be sure to check out our Sierra Club Maui Hikes page at [facebook.com/groups/SierraClubMauiHikes](https://www.facebook.com/groups/SierraClubMauiHikes) to learn about exciting hikes where you can get involved.

Mahalo nui for being part of all we do.

Sara Tekula

Chair, Maui Group

Outings

SEE PAGE 10 FOR GENERAL OUTINGS INFORMATION

Please register for all hikes with the leader. Check mauisierraclub.org/hikes-service-programs for updates to the schedule.

Sunday, August 7

Makai'iwa Bay and shoreline (C/E)

D=5 miles R/T

Explore this secluded part of Maui's coastline. Some steep terrain. Bring good shoes/long pants/water/lunch. Meet Ha'ikū Community Center 8:30 am. Limit 15. Register with leader: Lucienne de Naie <laluz@maui.net> or 214-0147.

Sunday, August 14

Makamaka'ole

D= 2 miles R/T

Beautiful hike with many stream crossings and waterfall at the end. Bring water shoes, lunch, water, swimsuit. Limit 15. Meet at Waihe'e School parking lot 8:30 am to carpool. Leader: Miranda Camp <mauimiranda@hotmail.com>.

Friday, August 19

Native Plant Hike Palauea (C/E)

D= 2 miles R/T

Enjoy the colorful native wiliwili blooms and other rare and interesting native dryland forest plants. Some rugged lava terrain. Sturdy shoes, long pants and hiking sticks recommended. Meet at 3pm, at mauka end of Kaukahi Rd in Wailea. Limit 15. Leader: Lucienne de Naie <laluz@maui.net> or 214-0147.

Friday, August 26

Nā Hoku (star-gazing) Benefit in Pauwela, Ha'ikū (E/F)

Noted astronomer, educator and author, Harriet Witt shares lore of our Hawaiian night sky on the North Shore. Learn new and amazing things. Meet at 6pm at Ha'ikū Community Center. Bring folding beach chair, warm clothes and shielded flashlights. Donation: \$5 for Members, \$10 non members. Leader: Miranda Camp <mauimiranda@hotmail.com> or 808-264-5640

Saturday, September 3

Makawao Forest Reserve

D = 6 mile RT

Left side of road, 3 mile climb up trails and jeep road, moderately strenuous and muddy.

Maui Group Outings

Meet 8:30am at parking lot across St. Joseph's Church (Makawao Ave.) Limit 18. Leader: Robin West <rwest808@yahoo.com> or call 277-7267.

Sunday, September 11

North side of Waikapū Stream (C/E)

D= 5 mi R/T

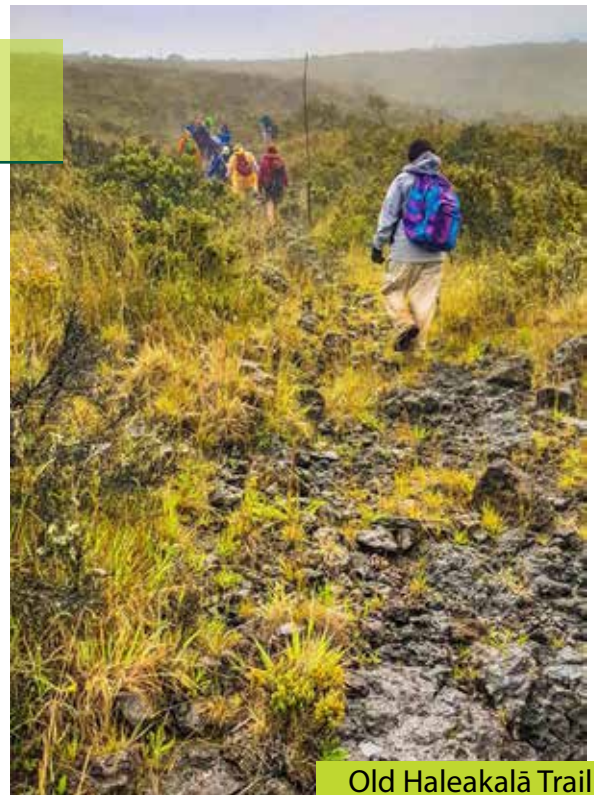
Strenuous hike due to uneven rocky surfaces and many stream crossings along jungle trails. Bring water, snacks or lunch and shoes suitable for wading in stream waters. Meet at 9am at Maui County Building parking lot to carpool to trailhead. Limit 15. Leader: Lucienne de Naie <laluz@maui.net> or 214-0147 to register.

Sunday, September 25

Wahinepe'e Waterfall Hike (C/E)

D=8 mi R/T

Hike historic trail to overlook Honomanū stream and valley. Pools, waterfalls and great scenery. Can be muddy. EMI waiver required (see above). Bring water and lunch. Meet 8am Ha'ikū Community Center. Limit 15. Leader: Kalei Kalyani Johnson <kalei1908@gmail.com> or 344-0006



Old Haleakalā Trail
June 4, 2016 Outing

Makapipi Trail
April 16, 2016 Outing



Wailua Iki Stream
June 12, 2016 Outing

JOIN US!

MAUI GROUP TURNS 40

Saturday, October 1
11am - 3 pm

Kanahā Beach Park Canoe Hale

**Sierra Club Maui's 40th
Anniversary Picnic**

Come celebrate with food, music, and environmental hero awards. Bring potluck desserts or side dishes (main dishes provided).

*To Volunteer, email Lucienne de Naie
<laluz@maui.net>*



Moku Loa Group Report

EPA Weighs In On Maui Sewage Case

By Steve Holmes

In an amicus brief filed in the Federal Court of Appeals 9th Circuit, EPA lawyers supported the decision by Judge Susan Mollway. Maui County appealed after losing to community groups including Sierra Club.

In the brief, the EPA agreed that point source pollutants entering groundwater that is hydrologically connected to the ocean fall under the Clean Water Act. Such discharges require what is called an NPDES permit. Maui County used injection wells near the coast without this permit and polluted coastal waters.

This ruling, if upheld, will have statewide ramifications. At Kealahou, for instance, Hawai'i County has dumped treated sewage into a disposal pit for 20 years. They have no NPDES permit for this. USGS studies show the discharges are reaching the ocean and causing harm. Sierra Club has asked EPA to step in with enforcement given their official legal position. A meeting with a deputy regional administrator has been scheduled for September in Hawai'i as a result.

Another longstanding violation of the Clean Water Act exists in Nā'ālehu and Pāhala, where gang cesspools are still being used even though 2005 marked the federal deadline for their closure. No land has been secured for a treatment plant and Hawai'i County plans to dispose of effluent in a way that would again go into groundwater that flows to the ocean. Sierra Club wants EPA to establish a consent decree that would get Hawai'i County to do water reuse instead.

Foam Fishing

By Cory Harden

A Hawai'i County Council member found polystyrene, popularly known as "Styrofoam," inside a freshly caught fish. A Kona resident gathered over 4,500 signatures on her petition to ban single-use expanded polystyrene containers. Dozens of citizens testified at multiple meetings to support a County polystyrene ban, and few objected. The Kona Sheraton Resort uses over 100,000 non-polystyrene takeout containers a year, at minimal extra cost. Several hundred local governments in the U.S. have banned polystyrene.

Despite the overwhelming evidence, four Council members (including the "foam fisher") killed a bill that would have banned polystyrene take-out containers.

Two years ago, polystyrene measures also failed on Maui. In the State legislature, such bills have failed several times over the past three years.

Why ban polystyrene? According to the National Toxicology Program and National Research Council, the organic compound styrene can "reasonably be anticipated to be a human carcinogen" and it can leach out of polystyrene food containers.

Polystyrene supporters talk about recycling, but New York City couldn't figure out any cost-effective way to recycle single-use expanded polystyrene containers. (2)

Polystyrene waste "...breaks into little pieces and is nearly impossible to clean up." (3) Polystyrene "is one of the primary components of marine debris". (3) It can poison animals or cause them to starve with a belly full of indigestible material.

Lots of polystyrene ends up in landfills. There it "remains intact for hundreds of years and releases pollutants..." (4) Organic material in the waste stream may be rendered unusable for anaerobic digestion or composting, after polystyrene foam waste breaks into tiny pieces and mixes in. (5)

There are alternatives to polystyrene: double-walled paper, recyclable polypropylene, and containers made from potatoes, corn, bamboo, and wood. There's mushroom packaging—put materials like cotton and rice hulls into molds, inject them with mushroom spores, and let them grow for a week or so. Last year the city of Seattle said the number of compostable packaging products jumped from about 70 to about 700 in four years. (4)

Back in Hawai'i County, ban supporters remain undaunted. They have compiled a list of Foam Free Vendors at <http://bit.ly/29A8U1T>.

Notes

(1) Will polystyrene cancer concerns prompt brands to change? The Guardian, August 27, 2014,

<http://www.theguardian.com/sustainable-business/2014/aug/27/styrene-carcinogen-brands-polystyrene-foam-food-packaging>, accessed February 2016.

(2) New York City Bans Expanded Polystyrene Food Containers, Chemical & Engineering News, January 12, 2015, <http://cen.acs.org/articles/93/web/2015/01/New-York-City-Bans-Expanded.html>, accessed February 2016.

(3) Serving Up a Better School Plate, Natural Resources Defense Council website, http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/mbrown/serving_up_a_better_school_pla.html, accessed February 2016

(4) New York restaurants scramble for alternatives after city bans foam packaging, The Guardian, January 22, 2015, <http://www.theguardian.com/sustainable-business/2015/jan/22/new-york-styrofoam-ban-foam-packaging-food-restaurants>, accessed February 2016

Moku Loa Outings



SIERRA CLUB
OF HAWAII
MĀLAMA I KA HONUA

SEE PAGE 10 FOR GENERAL OUTINGS INFORMATION

Saturday, August 6

Manuka State Park Nature Trail (E, F)

D = 1 mile, E = 2250', +/-300'

Bring the family along on an interpretive hike as we learn about the native plants along the trail. The park has nice facilities for a picnic. Bring rain gear, mosquito repellent, water, lunch, and good hiking shoes. Leaders: Linda Larish 967-6337 and Kana Covington 936-6406

Saturday, August 27

HVNP Centennial Cultural Fest and Bioblitz (E,F, C)

D=2-3 miles, E= 4,000'

Join us for a day at the Park's Cultural Festival, combined with a short hike to identify and count native plant species and insects for the Bioblitz event. Leaders: Rich Vogler 328-8387 and Diane Ware 967-8642

Saturday, August 29

Restoration of Mauna Kea Service Trip S, E,C)

D =1-2 miles, E = 1000',

Moderate activity at high elevation.

We will work with the "Sandalwood Man" to restore the dryland forest on the west side of Mauna Kea by planting sandalwood and other native plants. Bring gloves, rain gear, good boots, and a willingness to work. Meet at the Kilohana hunter check-in station. Leaders: Michael and Sunny LaPlante 964-5017 and Rob Culbertson 805-316-1380

Saturday, September 17

Loop Around Kilauea Iki (F)

D = 6.0 miles, E = 3,500', Moderate activity

Take a pleasant walk in Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park. We will begin and end this hike at the Kilauea Visitor's Center. In between, we will hike along Waldron's Ledge to Devastation Trail, then up Crater Rim Trail to Escape Road. From there we will go along Kilauea Iki's rim to Waldron's Ledge again. Leader: Linda Larish 966-6337

Sunday, September 18

Restoration of Keau'ohana Rainforest (S, E, C)

D = 0.5 miles, E = 600', Moderate activity

Join the non-profit group, Mālama O Puna, in its effort to restore the largest and most intact lowland wet forest remaining in the state. You will learn about a unique forest habitat with numerous native plant species. Bring mosquito repellent, work gloves, good boots, and a willingness to work. Leader: Linda Larish 966-6337

Saturday, October 1

HVNP Centennial Ranger Hike to Adze Quarry (E, C, F)

D=3 miles, E= 3700'

Learn about the 1790 eruption and the resulting basalt rocks used by Hawaiians for adze tools. Bring water, rain gear, and sturdy shoes/boots. Leaders: Diane Ware 967-8642 or Rich Vogler 328-8387

A TREASURER FOR TREE HUGGERS

Here's your chance to join the oldest, largest, and most influential grassroots environmental organization in the United States as the **Volunteer Assistant Treasurer!**

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

The Sierra Club's Hawaii Chapter Executive Committee (ExCom) needs your part-time financial and bookkeeping skills on the chapter level.

Summary of Responsibilities:

- Help process financial transactions
- Help prepare financial statements, ExCom reports, and budgets
- Help ensure financial stability and solvency of chapter (sub-entities)
- Monitor, question, and evaluate club activities requiring expenditures
- Assist in administration of fundraising activities, as needed
- Understand and promote the mission of the Sierra Club
- Attend meetings with Treasurer as requested
- Contribute to a sense of camaraderie and teamwork

Please contact Nara Takakawa, Chapter Treasurer, if you have the interest and skills for the position at: hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org

BILL DIGEST 2016

Sierra Club's staff and volunteers followed a wide range of legislation proposed last session. Here's a list of a few key bills that passed/failed:

Passed	Description	Our Position
Ivory Trade Ban SB2647/HB2502	Prohibits the local trade of ivory from various protected species; makes exceptions for Native Hawaiian cultural practices.	Support
Underground Storage Tanks (HB2626)	Prohibits the Health Department from issuing permits for new underground storage tanks within 100 yards of the shoreline. Prohibits renewals of permits beginning January 1, 2045.	Support
Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death (SB2271/HB2675)	Appropriates funds for research to combat the spread of Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death.	Support
Water Loss Audit (SB2645/HB2041)	Establishes program to provide assistance to counties and public water systems to implement water audits of public water systems.	Support
Military Fuel Storage Tank Task Force (HB2646)	Creates a permanent advisory committee to study, monitor, and address issues of fuel releases from underground fuel storage tanks operated by the U.S. military and installed throughout the Hawaiian Islands.	Support
Notice of Violation (SB2163)	Allows officials to deliver notice of violations for water/solid waste pollution via posting on a government website and signs posted on the offending property, when attempts to serve in person/by mail have failed.	Support
Aquatics Enforcement (SB2453)	Allows the court system to require those who convicted of certain aquatic resource violations to complete educational class and perform community service.	Support
Superferry Study (SB2618)	Requires the Transportation Department to conduct a study regarding Super Ferry.	Opposed
Invasive Species (HB1050)	Agriculture Department required to perform specified tasks to address interisland spread of invasive species.	Support
Contested Case Hearings (HB 1581)	Contested case hearings of Commission on Water Resource Management, LUC, PUC, HCDA, and those involving conservation districts are appealed directly to the Supreme Court, with certain exceptions.	Mixed
Water Plan (HB1749)	Sets goals in Hawai'i's water plan to improve water conservation and the use of reclaimed water.	Support
Agriculture Self-Sufficiency Training (HB1997)	Creates agricultural workforce development pipeline initiative to provide training on all islands for teachers and school to promote agricultural self-sufficiency.	Support
DOE Energy Use (HB2569)	DOE must establish goal of becoming net-zero in energy use by 1/2035 and expedite cooling of all public schools.	Support
Failed	Description	Our Position
Divestment (HB1551/SB2155)	Both the study into divesting from fossil fuels and the mandate to end the Employee Retirement Fund's investment in fossil fuels failed to make crossover.	Support
EJ in EIS (HB2770)	Would have required consideration of the "precautionary principle" and certain principles of environmental justice in the environmental review process.	Support
EIS Exemption for Prison (HB2388/SB2917)	Would have exempted the proposal for a new prison at Halawa from Ch. 343, the state statute requiring environmental impact statements for all use of state funds and lands.	Opposed
Kill the Bottle Bill (SB2714)	Would have ended the state beverage container deposit program.	Opposed
Plastic bags working group (HB1507)	Working group to study methods to reduce use of disposable bags.	Support
UST state-fed consistency (HB2743)	DOH implements standards consistent with federal regulations regarding all underground fuel storage tanks.	Support
Red Hill Appropriations (HB2165)	Appropriations to DOH, staffing to monitor compliance with AO regarding Red Hill.	Support

WHO VOTED HOW?

BILL VOTE SUMMARY LIST 2016

Sierra Club's staff and volunteers followed a wide range of legislation proposed last session. Here is a list of final votes on two key bills:

Name	HB2501 East Maui Water	SB2647 Ivory Trade Ban
Senate		
Rosalyn Baker	Yes	Yes w/ reservations
Suzanne Chun Oakland	No	Yes
Donovan Dela Cruz	Yes	Yes
Kalani English	No	Yes w/ reservations
Will Espero	Yes w/ reservations	Yes
Mike Gabbard	Yes	Yes
Brickwood Galuteria	Yes	Yes
Josh Green	No	Yes
Breene Harimoto	No	Yes
Les Ihara, Jr.	No	Yes
Lorraine Inouye	Yes	Yes
Kaialii Kahele	Yes w/ reservations	Yes
Gilbert Keith-Agaran	Yes	Yes
Michelle Kidani	Yes	Yes
Donna Mercado Kim	Yes w/ reservations	Yes
Ronald Kouchi	Yes	Yes
Clarence Nishihara	Yes	Yes
Gil Riviere	No	Yes
Russell Ruderman	Yes w/ reservations	Yes
Maile Shimabukuro	No	Yes
Sam Slom	Yes w/ reservations	Yes w/ reservations
Brian Taniguchi	Yes	Yes w/ reservations
Laura Thielen	No	Yes
Jill Tokuda	Yes	Yes
Glenn Wakai	Yes	Yes
House		
Henry Aquino	Yes	Yes
Della Belatti	Yes	Yes
Tom Brower	Yes	Yes
Romy Cachola	Yes	Yes
Isaac Choy	Yes	Yes
Richard Creagan	Yes w/ reservations	Yes
Ty Cullen	Yes	Yes
Lynn DeCoite	No	Yes
Cindy Evans	Yes	Yes
Beth Fukumoto Chang	Yes	Yes
Sharon Har	Yes	Yes

Name	HB2501 East Maui Water	SB2647 Ivory Trade Ban
Mark Hasem	Yes	Yes
Linda Ichiyama	Yes	Yes
Kaniela Ing	No	Excused
Ken Ito	Yes	Yes
Aaron Johanson	Yes	Yes
Jo Jordan	No	Yes
Derek Kawakami	Yes	Yes
Jarrett Keohokalole	No	Yes
Bertrand Kobayashi	Yes	Yes
Sam Kong	Yes	Yes
Chris Lee	Yes	Yes
Matthew LoPresti	No	Yes
Nicole Lowen	No	Yes
Sylvia Luke	Yes	Yes
Lauren Matsumoto	No	Yes
Bob McDermott	Yes	Yes
Angus McKelvey	No	Yes
John Mizuno	Yes	Yes
Dee Morikawa	Yes	Yes
Mark Nakashima	Yes	Yes
Scott Nishimoto	Yes	Yes
Takashi Ohno	Yes	Yes
Richard Onishi	Yes	Yes
Marcus Oshiro	Yes	Yes
Feki Pouha	No	Yes
Karl Rhoads	Yes	Yes
Scott Saiki	Yes	Yes
Joy San Buenaventura	Yes w/ reservations	Yes
Calvin Say	Yes w/ reservations	Yes
Joseph Souki	Yes	Yes
Gregg Takayama	Yes	Yes
Roy Takumi	Yes w/reservations	Yes
Cynthia Thielen	Yes w/ reservations	Excused
James Tokioka	Yes	Yes
Clift Tsuji	Yes	Yes
Andria Tupola	No	Yes w/ reservations
Gene Ward	Yes w/ reservations	Yes
Justin Woodson	Yes w/ reservations	Yes
Ryan Yamane	Yes	Yes
Kyle Yamashita	Yes	Yes

A&B To Continue to Divert Water from East Maui

To our great disappointment, Governor David Ige signed HB 2501 into law on June 27, 2016. This bill allows Alexander & Baldwin to continue to take water from East Maui, and the Native Hawaiians, farmers and families that depend on it.

“Governor Ige failed to achieve the right balance in this situation,” said Marti Townsend, Director for the Sierra of Hawai‘i. “His decision unnecessarily favors profit-driven water diversions above the best interests of the public. Our laws are written to ensure that our water is held in trust for everyone’s benefit. The Ige Administration should follow those laws, not change them to benefit those that divert public water for private gain, while harming the people and our environment.”

“On this day Governor Ige makes it clear that he does not care about the people of East Maui,” said Mahealani Wendt, a Wailuanui resident representing the East Maui community group that is challenging Alexander & Baldwin’s (A&B) long history of diverting excessive amounts of water from the East Maui watershed. “The court agreed that A&B has been improperly diverting the public’s water, but instead of following the law the politicians are siding with the corporation that has been harming us for so long.”

Back in January, A&B announced that it would permanently close its last sugar plantation, calling into question any need to divert public water from East Maui. A court also ruled in January that Hawai‘i’s Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) had improperly “held over” A&B’s permits for nearly 3 decades in violation of state law.

By signing this bill into law, Governor Ige authorizes DLNR to “hold over” permits for water rights. This bill was widely recognized as benefiting A&B, and further curtailing the constitutionally protected water rights of Native Hawaiians and others living in East Maui.

In April, when HB 2501 was at risk of not passing the Senate Water and Land Committee, A&B held a press conference with legislators to announce that it would return water to eight of the hundreds of streams and tributaries it diverts from public land in the East Maui watershed. “A&B’s gratuitous return of water is a slap in the face to our community and it undermines the power of our laws,” added Wendt. “We should never have to rely on corporate charity to fulfill our needs. We have constitutional rights that must be upheld.”

We are not giving up on the effort to restore the streams of East Maui. There are many opportunities coming up for the public to hold A&B accountable. If you would like to join the movement, email us at: hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING FOR “CAPITOL WATCH 2.0” IN THE FALL EMAIL US AT hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org

BLNR Task Force Ponders Revocable Permit Improvements

By Quincy Bedoya, Law Clerk

Thanks to the attention the Sierra Club and others brought to the Board of Land and Natural Resources's practice of issuing temporary permits for long-term uses of public land by Sierra Club members and others, the Board created the Revocable Permits Task Force. The primary goal of the task force was to identify practices and principles that should be applied in updating the Board's process for issuing revocable permits. Though they had the right intentions, the task force's recommendations released in June fell far short of expectations.

Lack of Rules

The biggest disappointment is the lack of regulations to implement the statute allowing revocable permits. Where public resources, like water and certain public lands, are held in trust for the benefit of Hawai'i's residents, the Board has a constitutional obligation to minimize the impact each revocable permits could have on public trust resources, as well as traditional and cultural practices. If the issuance of a revocable permit is likely to adversely impact the public's natural or cultural resources, then it would not only be inappropriate to grant the revocable permit, but illegal. A set of formal rules would hold the Board accountable for their assessment of revocable permits and the impact they might have on our public trust resources.

Vague Guidelines

Some of the recommendations made by the task force were ambiguous. In particular, the task force recommended that the Board determine whether market interest exists in some of the lands disposed through revocable permits. The task force did not, however, explain how this process would happen and who would determine what level of "market interest" would be the needed to justify a long-term lease.

One year trigger for long-term leases

Revocable permits are intended to serve as relatively short-term solutions for those seeking to use public lands. Because of this it is important that when a potential land use may last longer than a year, then the long term leasing process be triggered. As it is now, revocable permits are continuously renewed, sometimes for decades, and serve as a functional equivalent to a long-term lease without the same level of scrutiny required of long-term leases.

The revocable permit process, when used appropriately, has a necessary role to play and effectively serves those seeking to use land or water use rights on a short-term basis. However, if more is not done, to prevent the continued abuse of the revocable permit process and ensure that those who do abuse the process are held accountable, then public trust resources will continue to be mismanaged and the State Constitution will continue to be undermined.

Get NIMBY on LNG

Victory! Hawaiian Electric withdrew its request to use liquefied natural gas (LNG)! Although this is great news, we should continue to keep our eye out for future issues related to LNG. Here are a few reasons why we should steer clear of all things LNG:

1. LNG is bad for the environment. PERIOD.

All LNG imported from North America is fracked. Fracking is the process of extracting LNG from the environment. Fracking causes contamination of drinking water supplies, increases the frequency of earthquakes, and industrializes natural environments where it is mined. And even though burning LNG releases less carbon dioxide than oil, it still has a detrimental effect on our climate because LNG releases methane. Methane is much more efficient at capturing radiation than carbon dioxide. So a smaller amount of it can do just as much, if not more harm to the environment than carbon dioxide released by oil.

2. LNG won't reduce oil consumption.

LNG will compete with oil and both will contribute to more air pollution, a warmer planet, and a more acidic ocean, while diverting funds and attention away from renewable energy production.

3. LNG won't save consumers money.

HECO proposes spending ratepayers' money to build new power plants to burn a fossil fuel that is just as susceptible to market volatility as oil. Of course, investing in new fossil fuel infrastructure is good news for the investor-owned utility and the banks that serve them, but it is bad news for us, the ratepayers. It impossible to legitimately project future cost-savings to consumers from any fossil fuel market.

4. LNG will not improve our energy security.

LNG would be imported just as oil is and will be vulnerable to the same interruptions as oil. The only way to improve Hawai'i's energy security is to use our local abundance of sun, wind, and waves to provide for our electricity needs.

5. LNG distracts from our 100% renewable goals.

How does expanding our dependence on fossil fuels get us closer to ending our dependence on fossil fuels? It doesn't. LNG is a distraction from what we really need to be doing, which is investing in local, renewable sources of energy.

No Aloha for Wildlife Traffickers

By Inga Gibson, Hawai'i Senior State Director for The Humane Society of the United States and Steve Montgomery, Ph.D., Sierra Club Conservation Committee

On June 23, Governor David Ige signed a historic bill enacting the nation's most comprehensive anti-wildlife trafficking measure. Senate Bill 2647, introduced by Senator Mike Gabbard, became Act 125 and prohibits the sale or intent to sell of any parts or products of 17 species including elephants, mammoths, rhinoceros, tigers, great apes, endangered sharks and rays, sea turtles, walrus, narwhals, whales, hippopotamus, monk seals, lions, pangolins, cheetahs, jaguars, and leopards.

Unbeknownst to many, ivory comes from the teeth of certain animals, including elephants, hippopotamus, walrus, narwhal, whales, and even extinct mammoths.

Just as human teeth extend into the gums beyond the visible enamel, ivory is embedded in an animal's skull. A poacher harvests elephant ivory by killing the animal, most often through poisoning or the use of semi-automatic weapons, then uses a chainsaw or machete to saw off the face in order to extract the teeth from the jaw. Rhino's horns are not ivory; they are made of keratin, just like human fingernails, and grow from the face of the rhino. Poachers disable rhinos and hack or saw off the face of the rhino to get all the horn. A few rhinos may initially survive the attack, only to die days or weeks later from infection or blood loss. Poachers kill close to 100 elephants and three rhinos every day. Profits from wildlife poaching fuel transnational criminal activity and fund criminal militia organizations such as Janjaweed and the Lord's Resistance Army. In the past decade, poachers have killed more than 1,000 African park rangers who courageously attempt to defend these animals—many of whom are in danger of extinction.

In Hawai'i, the effort to protect species from wildlife trafficking began in 2013 when the legislature unanimously passed a resolution urging businesses and residents not to buy or sell ivory of unknown or illegal origin and in violation of federal laws. Earlier research had identified Hawai'i as having the third largest ivory market in the U.S. behind New York and California. 89 percent of items for sale across Hawai'i were found to be of unknown or likely illegal origin. O'ahu alone, possessed the highest number of suspected post-1989 trade ban items. Hawai'i's market targeted the millions of visitors to Hawai'i each year, many who were unaware of federal laws prohibiting the trade in endangered wildlife. In addition, research found that ivory dealers in Hawai'i lacked the appropriate required federal documentation, putting consumers at further risk of prosecution.

In 2014, Hawai'i introduced the nation's first bill to prohibit the ivory trade. However, due to strong opposition from local ivory dealers, the bill was defeated in 2014 and again in 2015. Meanwhile, New York, New Jersey, and California prohibited the sale of ivory and rhino horn. Washington State prohibited the sale of ivory and products from 10 other endangered species in late 2015 and in July 2016 Oregon qualified a ballot initiative to protect 12 species.

As part of Hawai'i's preparations to host the World Conservation Congress for the International Union for Conservation of Nature in September 2016, nongovernmental organizations like the Sierra Club asked Hawai'i's State leaders to play a key role in improving the enforcement of the illegal ivory trade.

Why are state laws needed? While the Obama Administration recently strengthened federal rules related to the trade in ivory—which are enforced by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service—federal regulations only affect interstate and international import and export. It is the responsibility of each state to regulate commercial activities within their own jurisdiction.

Act 125, which takes effect on June 30 of 2017, does not prohibit the possession of ivory or other parts and products of listed species, the passing down of family heirlooms, the non-commercial use of such items for education and research, or the use of such items for traditional cultural practices and allows the sale of certain antique items containing less than 20 percent ivory with appropriate documentation.

Thanks to the coalition below of local and national organizations and principled legislative leaders, Hawai'i has sent a strong message to the community, the nation and the world: There is NO Aloha for wildlife traffickers.

Mahalo nui loa to all state legislators for their unanimous passage of SB2647 notably House Leadership under Speaker Joseph Souki, Vice-Speaker John Mizuno, Representative Scott Saiki, Ryan Yamane, Karl Rhoads, Mathew LoPresti and Senate Leadership under President Ronald Kouchi, Senator Mike Gabbard, William Espero, Gil Keith-Agaran, Laura Thielen, and Kaialii Kahele.

Animal Rights Hawai'i, Center for Biological Diversity, Conservation Council for Hawai'i, Global March for Elephants and Rhinos, The Humane Society of the United States-Humane Society International, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Natural Resources Defense Council, NSEFU Wildlife Conservation Foundation, Sierra Club Hawai'i, Vulcan Inc., Wildlife Conservation Society

Mounting Support for Monument Expansion

By Marti Townsend, Director

Cultural practitioners, ocean advocates, and scientists have come together once again to urge the President to better protect the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument (PMNM) was established in 2006 by presidential proclamation, recognizing the immense importance of this remote area to the health of oceans around Hawai‘i and around the world. This unique designation was built upon years of grassroots protection efforts at the state and federal level. Now, we have the opportunity to expand these protections to those areas of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands that were left off the original map.

“Protecting this region of Hawai‘i’s ocean is a perfect example of thinking globally and acting locally,” said Marti Townsend, Director for the Sierra Club of Hawai‘i. “We know that climate change is already having a significant effect on our oceans.” Currently, only about 2% of our oceans are fully protected, though scientists are calling for the protection of at least 30% of our oceans to ensure healthy and functioning ecosystems. Expanding PMNM now helps to ensure Hawai‘i’s oceans and our unique ocean-based culture will thrive for generations to come.”

Critics of the expansion “argue that these protections will unfairly restrict Hawaii-based longliners from fishing the area.” But supporters say the expansion will benefit them in the long run. “With decades of close study, we know marine protected areas are the best mechanism to provide fish for the future. This is one of the best things we can do for food security in the state,” said Dr. Richard Pyle, Zoologist in Ichthyology at Bishop Museum.

The current proposal is to expand Papahānaumokuākea from 50 nautical miles to the 200 nautical mile limit of the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands exclusive economic zone, with exception for the waters surrounding Kaua‘i and Ni‘ihau to allow for continued access by small boat fishermen.

“A huge part of Papahānaumokuākea is underwater. When you go there, you have to shift your mindset from one that may be land dominated, to one that is sea dominated. And it changes everything about how you’re experiencing the world,” said Kekuewa Kikiloi, Chair of the Native Hawaiian Northwestern Hawaiian Islands Cultural Working Group.

Public support for expanding PMNM is mounting, with more than 100,000 people signing an online petition in support and more than 200 letters submitted to various public officials.

Public hearings on the expansion are scheduled for August 1st at 5PM at the Filipino Community Center on O‘ahu (94-428 Mokuola St #302, Waipahu, HI 96797). And, on August 2nd at 4PM at the Kaua‘i Community College Performing Arts Center (3-1901 Kaunualii Hwy, Lihu‘e, Hawai‘i 96766). You can learn more, take action, and get involved by visiting: <http://expandpmnm.com/take-action/>



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Backpacking 101: The Journey is the Destination

by Rosebelle Ines, Darian Gill, and Blessie Vergara, High School Hikers

After numerous Sunday planning meetings, nine Sierra Club High School Hikers from Leilehua, Kapolei, Pearl City, and Roosevelt High School set out on a journey to backpack Haleakalā National Park, led by Jamie Tanino, Kelson Lee, Robert Keane, and Fred Nakaguma.

Following our arrival at Kahului Airport, we stopped at our hotel and dropped off all of our heavy gear and did some sightseeing around Maui. We explored the Maui Ocean Center where we saw first hand many sea creatures that are endemic to Hawai'i. We even got to watch a diver talk to the audience from inside a tank full of enormous fish and different types of sharks. After lunch, we went to I'ao Valley, the Hawai'i Nature Center and the Kepaniwai Heritage Garden. We took lots of pictures, saw a lot of freshwater, though we learned about the area's water diversions, and tried to read kanji on the different temples. After all that sightseeing we bought all of our food for camping and prepared our backpacks for Haleakalā.

The next morning, Mr. Nakaguma drove us up to the summit of Haleakalā National Park where we adjusted to the altitude change and, of course, the cold. Before we started our hike we filled up our water bottles one last time and did a bit of re-packing.

The journey to our destination began at Keoneh'ehe'e (Sliding Sands) Trailhead. Mr. Nakaguma and Mr. Keane said their goodbyes and watched as the clouds consumed the backpackers. The air was cold and dry. Repeatedly, we were sprinkled upon by light showers; getting wet was uncomfortable and slightly challenging for us. Going further into the crater, the trail became desolate. No one was on the trail but us... until we encountered a mule pack. Fortunately, the National Park Service rangers who were leading the mule pack had just delivered firewood at the cabin up ahead. Up until this point, we did not know how comfortable the cabin would be. This information gave us newfound optimism, so we pressed on despite the passing showers and fog.

At Kapalaoa Cabin, we cleaned up around the cabin so it was tidier both inside and out than when we arrived. We split up into groups for meal preparation, so group 1 prepared our dinner for the night. After we ate, we witnessed a beautiful moonrise!

The next morning, we set off on the next stage of our journey, Palikū Cabin. We heeded the advice of the National Park Service rangers whom we had met the previous day, carrying six logs of extra firewood since they told us Palikū was low on firewood. This made our already heavy packs even heavier! Along the trail, we went rock climbing and marveled at the sight of the largest Haleakalā 'iliahi of the entire trip. Unexpectedly, when we were halfway up the trail, it rained hard so we were forced to put on our rain jackets. Moments later, it became scary when we heard thunder and saw lightening. Everyone was soaked and freezing cold; the running water made it harder to get down. We were all relieved when

we made it safely to the cabin. As we did at Kapalaoa Cabin the day before, we tidied up around the cabin. Group 2 prepared our dinner and then we bonded through card games such as "Egyptian War" and "Toilet Bowl."

On Day 3, we said goodbye to Palikū Cabin. We all thought that it was the prettiest, but it was also the coldest. On our way to Hōlua Cabin, we performed service work on the trail by removing social off-trails. Once we arrived at the cabin, we cleaned and ate dinner prepared by group 3. We boisterously played cards after dinner, but when Kelson started to passionately play his ukulele, we quieted down to enjoy his performance. The next morning, we woke up at 5:30 a.m. to witness the sun rise above the clouds. To stay warm, we brought our sleeping bags and huddled together outside. This was our last day in the crater. After witnessing the stunning sunrise, we trudged through a seemingly endless series of switchbacks as we climbed our way out of the crater. Once we got to the top, the smile on our faces reflected our feelings of achievement and relief, though there were some injured knees.

As thrilling as the trip was, the group was happy to be out of the crater. We were greeted by Mr. Keane and Mr. Nakaguma who came in clutch with fresh fruits, cold drinks, and other snacks. We couldn't wait to have internet connection and finally have a hot shower! We ate dinner together, stopped at Krispy Kreme for some doughnuts to bring home and headed to the airport.

Overall, this experience was one we will never forget. We had an unforgettable journey through Haleakalā Crater, a place that not very many people get to see. Even though it was tough and uncomfortable at times, we learned a lot about hiking, native species and Hawai'i's unique geology. Mahalo nui Sierra Club for such a great opportunity!



High School Hikers Crew



Off to Palikū



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Victory! NextEra Takeover Rejected

After a lengthy and debated process, the Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission rejected the proposed sale of Hawaiian Electric Industries to Florida-based NextEra Energy on Friday, July 15, 2016. PUC Chairman Randy Iwase and member Lorraine Akiba voted no, while the newly nominated Tom Gorak abstained from voting. Their decision comes almost 20 months after Hawaiian Electric Industries announced that the two companies had agreed to one of the biggest business deals in Hawai'i's history—a proposed sale of HECO for \$4.3 billion.

A broad coalition of local organizations and businesses including the Sierra Club of Hawai'i, Earthjustice, Hawai'i Solar Energy Association, Hawai'i PV Coalition, the Alliance for Solar Choice, and legislators like Representative Chris Lee, Cynthia Thielen, and Matt Lopresti come together to commend the state Public Utilities Commission's (PUC) decision. The group's opposition to the takeover stems from NextEra's unwillingness to transition to renewable energy. NextEra's track record of investing in dirty energy and opposing rooftop solar in Florida did not align with Hawai'i's goal of producing all of our energy from renewable sources by 2045.

"NextEra made this a no brainer," said Isaac Moriwake, Staff Attorney with Earthjustice, who represented the Sierra Club along with Kylie Wager. "Outright rejection of the takeover was the only realistic option. NextEra refused to provide its plans for Hawai'i, other than to give us a 'bigger HECO.' Based on its opposition to clean energy in Florida and failure to chart a different path in this state, NextEra is not what Hawai'i wants or needs."

Virtually every party in the PUC proceeding, including government parties, nonprofit organizations, and industry groups, opposed NextEra's proposal, along with Governor David Ige, who expressed his opposition early. The general public also reflected similar opposition. Polls consistently showed a growing majority opposed the takeover especially in light of NextEra's opposition to rooftop solar.

Through this decision process, the PUC identified factors the commission would like to see from suitors moving forward. These include benefits for ratepayers, the mitigation of risk for Hawaiian Electric, increasing competition in Hawai'i's energy markets and transforming Hawaiian Electric into a more customer-focused, cost-efficient and performance-driven utility.

Within a few days of the PUC rejecting the NextEra takeover, HECO also announced they would be withdrawing their proposal to use liquefied natural gas for power generation. NextEra's financial backing was needed to import liquefied natural gas and build new power plants fit for the gas.

