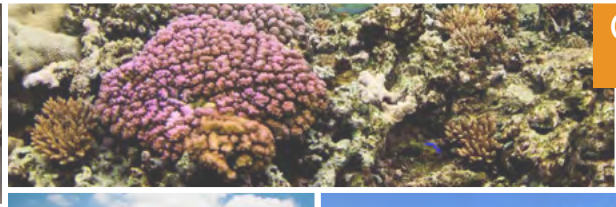




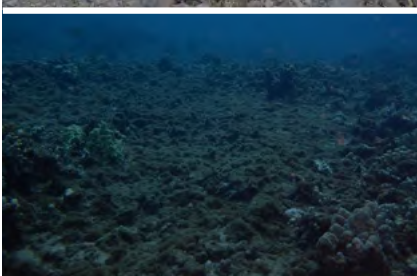
# MĀLAMA I KA HONUĀ

A Quarterly Journal of the SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAII

OCTOBER-DECEMBER  
2019



## PEOPLE + PLANET OVER PROFITS



### This month's issue:

The Case for Climate Litigation in Hawai'i	2
Clean Energy & Air for West O'ahu	4
Swelling Support Stopped the Lahaina Injection Wells Case	6
Group Reports & Outings	10
Meet O'ahu Group's New Staff: Lauren Watanabe	24
2020 ExCom Nominee Bios	27

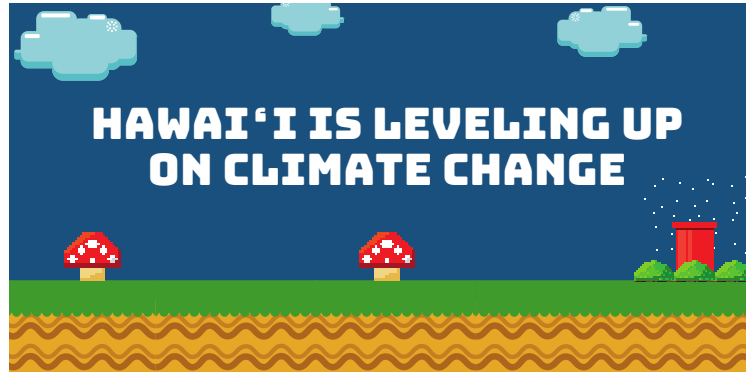


SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAII  
MĀLAMA I KA HONUĀ. Cherish the Earth.



# The Case for Climate Litigation in Hawai'i

by Marti Townsend, Chapter Director



We learned in 2017 that carbon barons knew with scientific certainty in the 1970's that climate change would destroy the planet if we did not stop burning coal, oil, and gas by 2100. Researchers and investigative journalists discovered a trove of internal memos from fossil fuel trade associations and industry front groups that document the ways the industry deceived and misled the public (and policymakers) about climate change. They ran deceptive ads equating climate advocates with chicken little, funded climate denialism educational materials in public schools, and supported climate denying candidates for public office.

While denying climate change to the rest of the world—putting profits over people—the carbon barons were busy:

- **Improving their equipment to protect it from climate change impacts.** One oil company raised its oil rig platforms to account for sea level rise while funding climate denialism to the public,
- **Making billions** from customers who have little option other than burning fossil fuels,
- **Raking in billions of dollars in state and federal tax breaks and subsidies.** In 2016, the fossil fuel industry took in more than \$20 billion in taxpayer money.

Because fossil fuel executives fought so hard against sound climate policies, local climate policies were stalled, the Kyoto Protocol was not adopted by the U.S., and the Paris Climate Accord was stymied. Climate change became a climate crisis while the industry most responsible profited.

Outrageous! They knew. They lied. They profited. Now we are suffering. This is not right

Thanks to the doubt and delay the carbon barons fueled, Hawai'i is now confronting a much tougher transition to climate justice. Sea level

rise alone will cost Hawai'i taxpayers \$15 billion in public roadway relocations and \$19 billion in private structures and land lost to the waves. This conservative estimate does not take into consideration the added expenses to all of us for more intense hurricanes and storm events. We also need to upgrade and relocate sewers, strengthen public disaster shelters, and prevent local food shortages—situations all made worse by the climate crisis.

That is why we think Hawai'i should do as Rhode Island and more than a dozen U.S. cities have done: sue fossil fuel companies for deceptive practices and public nuisance. These corporations are a serious threat to life as we know it on this planet, and have spent billions of dollars to make it harder for us to kick our dependency on fossil fuels.



By suing the fossil fuel industry, Hawai'i can access some of the industry's immense wealth to offset the billions of dollars that local people would otherwise have to pay to protect ourselves from the disruption to our climate. It is time to hold fossil fuel companies responsible for the cost of climate change.

We owe it to future generations to hold them accountable for this wrong doing. Just like we did with Big Tobacco in the 1990's and just like we are doing right now with Big Pharma over the opioid crisis.

**Join our mission for climate justice and stay up to date at [sierraclubhawaii.org/climate](http://sierraclubhawaii.org/climate).**

## COSTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

**\$19 BILLION**

IN LOST PRIVATE STRUCTURES + LAND TO SEA LEVEL RISE

**\$15 BILLION**

IN REPAIRS OR RELOCATION OF COASTAL ROADS FROM SEA LEVEL RISE

**\$300 MILLION**

TO UPDATE HONOLULU'S WATER PIPELINES IN FLOOD ZONES

# The People, United

by Colin Yost, Hawai'i Chapter ExCom Chair

In this bizarre and lopsided Gilded Age of T\*\*\*p, it's fitting that our issue this month explores the theme of "people over profits." Society's relentless pursuit of quantitative growth and concentrated profit is a root cause of, among other evils, unconscionable income inequality, environmental degradation, the tragic plastic industry and, of course, the Climate Crisis.

Fortunately, the challenge of making real progress toward a fair and equitable economy may be less impossible than it seems. Polls suggest that a solid majority of Americans care about policies that serve the common good like universal health care, just wages, clean air and water, affordable housing and habitat protection. Nearly all Democratic presidential candidates are seeking

a mandate for structural reform, and even the Business Roundtable is edging away from its usual devotion to executive and shareholder interests.

More than a "blue wave" we need a "people's flash flood" that renders the Electoral College irrelevant and shoves aside the corrupt sediment and debris that have accumulated over far too many years. We can all be part of the thunder, lightning and deluge that clear the way for a better future, and volunteering with Sierra Club and other environmental and social justice organizations will make a big difference. If you haven't directly participated in a political campaign or testified at the Hawai'i Legislature or City and County Councils, there is no better time to get your feet wet. 2020 is going to be an exciting year!

## GLOBAL CLIMATE STRIKE: HAWAI'I SEPT. 20





## Youth Climate Justice Program

by Lauren Watanabe, O'ahu Group Manager

This Fall, the O'ahu Group is launching a series of activities for youth to get engaged in climate justice issues! We have been casting the net wide and will be on high school, college, and university campuses throughout O'ahu. Our goal is to identify students interested in environmental justice, activism, and local climate change solutions and teach them the tools of campaign building and political change so they can become leaders in the climate justice movement. Through this program, youth will explore the linkages between environmental justice and social justice by recognizing the major contributors to the climate crisis and societal inequality and how they are related.

### Activities Planned (September-November):

#### "Your Story and Climate Change" Co-Creation Lab:

This interactive lab will focus on storytelling, organizing, and solidarity when collaborating on an equitable future and local climate change solutions. Group discussion topics include: the role of personal narratives in organizing and the intersection between environmental, economic, and racial justice when addressing climate change. Breakout sessions will transition into identifying local polluters and campaign building.

#### Climate Justice Meetups:

We will meet with students weekly to further their training in organizing strategies on campaigns they'd like to pursue, whether on campus or in their community. Check-ins will focus on individual leadership development, creative communication strategies, policy advocacy and more.

#### Environmental Justice Tour of Wai'anae:

The Wai'anae Coast houses all the major polluters on O'ahu. This guided tour will highlight the AES Coal Plant, Hawaiian Electric, PVT Landfill, Campbell Industrial Park, and major resorts. We will talk to residents and farmers on the frontlines and strategize how we can work together to transition our communities into thriving economies that provide dignified jobs, ecological resilience, and democratic governance.

#### Local 5 Coalition Youth Summit:

The National Sierra Club has a long history of solidarity with the labor and economic justice movements. We're stronger together—we need working families to help end climate disruption and build an equitable clean energy economy. UNITE HERE Local 5 is one of the strongest, most progressive labor unions in Hawai'i, and will be hosting a Youth Summit Retreat! Participants will learn organizing tools, empowerment, and how to win a campaign.

#### People's Congress:

Through the efforts of the Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action, youth will have a voice and an active role in creating a People's Agenda for the upcoming legislative year.

**Know interested youth? Want to learn more?**

**Email [contact@sierracluboahu.org](mailto:contact@sierracluboahu.org)**

## Clean Energy and Air for West O'ahu

by Lauren Watanabe, O'ahu Group Manager

Hawai'i has only one coal-fired power plant remaining in service, the AES plant located on the Wai'anae Coast of O'ahu. The 180-megawatt AES Hawai'i power plant at Campbell Industrial Park is currently the largest single generator on the Hawaiian Electric (HECO) system, providing 16% of the peak demand on O'ahu. AES is also the largest single source of pollutants on O'ahu. Not only is burning coal responsible for 1/3 of US carbon emissions, it is also leading to as many as 13,000 premature deaths every year and more than \$100 billion in annual health costs. Coal burning is not the energy we want.

Locally, the Wai'anae Coast gets the brunt of it all. In addition to AES at its doorstep, it has the PVT landfill—the only industrial landfill in Hawai'i—in Nānākuli. The PVT Landfill takes in the coal ash from AES everyday and uses it to blanket their day's worth of trash. The ash is part of a mountainous stockpile of coal and other materials that were burned in AES's plant. Coal ash has a slew of toxic chemicals in it like arsenic, lead, and heavy metals, exposure to which increases the risk of cancer. Nearby residents and businesses complain that AES is not doing enough to contain the coal ash, forcing workers to breathe in the material.

This concentration of waste and power plants is creating a public health crisis for workers and residents. The PVT Landfill is as close as 750 feet to residential areas and schools. Many residents suffer from respiratory illnesses and migraines, and U.S. Census data demonstrates that the life expectancy along the Wai'anae Coast is ten years less than the state average.

By law, AES is required to reduce its emissions by 16% by 2020. Instead of making changes to reach that, AES is asking to use up other facilities' emissions quotas and increase their overall share of emissions. The Hawai'i Department of Health is currently considering their permit application.

With the power purchase agreement between AES and HECO set to expire in 2022, we want to ensure that AES shuts down so our home can be "coal-free by 2023." Our campaign goal is to solidify the commitment of AES and HECO to transition Hawai'i from dirty energy to focus on clean energy and battery storage projects.

We are standing with the community to get these polluters out of their backyards. The Sierra Club O'ahu Group also supports the Wai'anae Community's opposition to the expansion of the PVT Landfill and their work to relocate the landfill to an isolated area on the island so no one has to deal with living in close proximity to hazardous toxins. It is time for clean energy sources and the protection of the health of the people not the profits of industry.

**Learn more at [sierracluboahu.org/aes](http://sierracluboahu.org/aes)**

## Mālama Native Trees While Sequestering Carbon

by Randy Ching, Chapter Service Trip Coordinator

The Mālama Tree Crew volunteers were active at Pālehua and Ohulehule Forest Conservancy during the 3rd quarter. Volunteers, including Kamehameha School students, helped plant 30 'ōhi'a trees on July 6 at the Ohulehule Forest Conservancy in Waikane Valley. The Sierra Club is encouraging young people, especially high school and college students, to mālama 'āina and mitigate climate change by planting trees.

In July and August, dozens of volunteers watered, weeded, and mulched at two Mālama Learning Center planting sites where 300 native trees were planted in the spring.

At one site, Butch Haase, of the Moloka'i Land Trust, showed the volunteers how trees, bushes and ground cover plants could be combined to almost eliminate weeds and to conserve soil moisture. The Mālama Learning center will now replant the wiliwili tree site with a much denser collection of native plants to reduce weeding. At the other site, volunteers watered and mulched a recently planted area with 'a'ali'i, 'uhaloa, 'āwe'owe'o, wiliwili and koa.

The Mālama Tree Crew invites you to one of our upcoming service trips and events:

- **Sunday, October 6, Saturday, October 19, and Sunday, October 27: Hāwea Service Project**  
Join us as we weed, water, and clear around trees recently planted by the Boy Scouts with the Livable Hawai'i Kai Hui
- **Sunday, October 20, and Saturday, November 2 & 16: Pālehua Service Project**  
Join us as we weed, water, and clear around recently planted trees.
- **Saturday, November 23 - Sunday, November 24: Pu'u Wa'awa'a Service Trip**  
Join Mark Hanson, the Sandalwood Man, as we work to help reforest this unique area of West Hawai'i.
- **Sunday, December 1: Ohulehule Forest Conservancy Service Project**  
We will be doing another 'ōhi'a tree planting day at this gorgeous site.

I hope to see you at one of the Mālama Tree Crew events. It's a great chance to meet like-minded people and help us in the climate crisis battle. Caring for and planting trees is a fun way to become engaged and reconnect with the 'āina. Be sure to check [bit.ly/SCH-TREES](http://bit.ly/SCH-TREES) for updates and more details on upcoming events.



Part of the August Mālama Tree Crew in Pālehua. Photo by Kristen Brown.

## Endangered Species Under Another Attack

by Tanya Dreizin, Chapter Office Manager

Species around the world are in crisis. Development, deforestation, and climate change are a daily threat to flora and fauna, with an estimated 28,000 (and growing) species threatened with extinction. A UN panel of biodiversity recently released a report, warning that over one million plants and animals are at risk of extinction. This report recommends that nations should accelerate efforts to save wildlife and focus on preserving ecosystems around the world. While some nations are indeed ramping up their conservation efforts, others are moving in reverse. As of August 2019, the Trump Administration has again put profit over the planet, announcing rollbacks which weaken the Endangered Species Act. This has been called "the biggest attack on how the Endangered Species Act works". The 1973 Endangered Species Act (ESA) was signed into law to protect and recover species in peril, along with the ecosystems in which they depend. More than 99% of animals, plants and insects protected by this law have been saved from extinction, including Hawai'i's humpback whales, the bald eagle, grey wolves, and the American alligator.

These rollbacks are not surprising, considering Trump's other environmental and energy policies that have allowed for more mining, drilling, and oil exploration - all of which are industries that contribute significantly to climate change. Under Trump, the new rules of the ESA will make it more difficult to get species listed as threatened or endangered, and for the first time in history, will "allow regulators to calculate economic costs when deciding whether a species warrants protection - for instance, estimating lost revenue from logging operations prohibited in habitat set aside for species".

Here in Hawai'i, where we are considered the endangered species capital of the world, there is growing concern over how our threatened plants and animals will be affected in the future, particularly from the effects of climate change. Many of our native species are threatened by sea level rise, coral bleaching, and loss of habitat. By continuing to rollback on environmental efforts in order to make it easier for corporations to exploit natural resources and destroy habitats, there may be short term economic gain, but we must also consider the long term cost of what it means for species who once are gone, will never return.



# Swelling Support Stopped the Lahaina Injection Wells Case and Saved the Clean Water Act

By **Kecia Joy, Maui Group Manager and Marti Townsend, Chapter Director**

Thanks to the thousands of people who made their voices heard, Maui County will now work to further treat and reuse the 3 to 5 million gallons daily of R1 sewage water from the Lahaina Wastewater Treatment Facility instead of letting it flow into the ocean. This huge victory also helped uphold the Clean Water Act for everyone in the U.S. Now it is up to Maui Mayor Mike Victorino to follow through on the council's directive and withdrawal the County's appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Polluting industries see this case as an opportunity to severely weaken the Clean Water Act by creating an exemption from the Act for discharges that reach waters of the United States indirectly via groundwater. Corporations that use injection wells or other groundwater conduits to dispose of wastewater—like fracking and mining companies—are eager to adopt the loophole proposed by Maui County's lawyers. In service to those polluting industries, Mayor Victorino's Administration tried nearly every Trumpian trick in the book to prevent the County Council from settling this case. Thankfully reason and good judgement prevailed. On September 20, the Maui County Council voted 5 to 4 to approve resolution 19-225, which directs the Maui Corporation Counsel to settle the Lahaina injection well lawsuit and withdraw the County's appeal from the U.S. Supreme Court.

A dedicated group of ocean allies worked hard over several decades to achieve this win. The Sierra Club Maui Group, Surfrider Foundation Maui Chapter, Hawai'i Wildlife Fund, and West Maui Preservation Association, with representation from Earthjustice and Lance Collins, worked to analyze and understand the threats to the reef at Kahekili Beach Park, educate the public and agency officials about the problem posed by these injection wells, and advocate for corrective actions. Only after all other options had failed was a lawsuit filed in the Federal District Court. These allies prevailed before that court, and again before the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. Yet, Maui County attorneys insisted on appealing again all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court.

In August, the allies organized a town hall event at the Maui Ocean Center to discuss this issue with the Maui community. Over 120 people attended the expert panel discussion on the ins and outs of this case and the need to protect the reef at Kahekili beach. This inspired more than 16,000 people to sign an online petition in support of settling the case and upholding the Clean Water Act. Hundreds also called and emailed council members.

On September 3, over 300 community members showed up at the Maui County Council for a pivotal committee hearing on the resolution, most wearing blue and waving signs—demonstrating the wave of public support to settle. The hearing lasted almost 12 hours in a chamber packed to capacity. The audience was moved to tears as people revealed heart-wrenching personal stories about the reef and the harm of the injection wells.



A special mahalo to all of the keiki who engaged with council members and community leaders on this important resolution.

So many people testified that the committee reconvened on

September 6 for deliberation and decision-making. After voting down a motion to retreat behind closed doors for another executive session, the committee heard from experts in ocean science and permitting, including the Hawai'i Department of Health Director Bruce Anderson, who refuted the supposed impacts on individual owners with cesspools. The committee voted in favor of the resolution, taking it to full Council.



Before the full Council, concerned residents and experts again delivered two days of testimony in support of a settlement and again the Victorino Administration used Trump-style scare tactics, confusion, and empty promises to stymie the resolution. On the day of the Global Climate Strike, September 20, before another overflowing gallery, the Council affirmed the resolution and the gallery cheered.



We commend the Council majority for moving towards real solutions for Maui and thank the Governance, Ethics, and Transparency Committee Chair Molina and Council Chair King for their integrity and leadership during these intense and important proceedings. The commitment to fixing environmental problems rather than litigating to challenge time-tested protections is just what the Maui community has been looking for, for many years! Now it is up to Mayor Victorino to heed the clear directive from the Council and the stated will of the people of Maui, so we can end this case and focus on working together locally to protect our water. Help us hold Mayor Victorino accountable by sending him a personal note at [bit.ly/mayor-settle](https://bit.ly/mayor-settle) and be sure to share this link with your networks. You can also sign up for email updates at [mauisierraclub.org/signup](https://mauisierraclub.org/signup).

# What's Coming Up for East Maui Streams

by **Marti Townsend, Chapter Director**

The Sierra Club is working hard to restore streams throughout the Hawaiian Islands that have long been diverted for private profit without sufficient concern for the harm caused to stream ecosystems and the communities that rely on them.

The biggest fight of the 2018 legislative session was Alexander & Baldwin's attempt to get another extension on the year-to-year permits they have been granted for decades on end to divert the streams of East Maui for their own corporate profit. We won that fight thanks to the champions in the senate and the stream huggers in the street. THANK YOU!

Of course, the fight did not stop there. Since the close of the 2018 Legislature, several things have happened. The Intermediate Court of Appeals issued a decision in the case of Carmichael et al vs. Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR), which concluded (improperly in our opinion) that an environmental impact statement was not required for the issuance of month-to-month permits issued every year for public land access to take the public's water out of streams to irrigate private lands. This means that for now at least, the BLNR can issue temporary permits without environmental impact statements for access to streams. That case is on appeal to the Hawai'i Supreme Court. Be on the lookout for an opportunity to watch oral arguments in that case when it gets scheduled. In addition, the Sierra Club filed its own lawsuit challenging BLNR's approval of these temporary permits for yet another year. BLNR failed to (a) ask for basic information about the impact of the stream diversions; (b) provide any protection at all to 12 streams; (c) protect native aquatic life that is harmed by diversion structures; (d) impose any kind of deadline for stream restoration; (e) ensure that A&B was using the water in a reasonable and beneficial manner; (f) cap the amount of water that A&B can take out of east Maui; (f) require that A&B control the spread of invasive species on the public land that it uses; and (g) investigate whether A&B has cleaned up its trash it has left on public land. We want BLNR to do everything in its power to fulfill its legal obligation of ensuring the public's natural resources are well protected. We are not seeing it. Trial is set in our lawsuit for May 2020.

In the meantime, A&B has requested permission to abandon stream diversions in East Maui. It is crucial that we engage in this decision-making process to ensure that A&B does not just walk away from all the concrete, rebar, and PVC piping it put in our streams. It is the Water Commission's job to make sure that A&B restores the streams to their natural condition before abandoning its diversions. Watch for updates on A&B's diversion abandonment permits in the next month or so.



Dry stream bed in East Maui

In October, A&B and Mahi Pono' will once again ask BLNR for permission to divert East Maui streams for another year. A&B and Mahi Pono need some amount of water to cultivate the agricultural lands in central Maui. While we support food production in central Maui, we contend that it is absolutely fundamental that the water taken for that agriculture in no way undermines the stream ecosystems of East Maui.

Last but not least, we expect an environmental impact statement from A&B and Mahi Pono to be released for public comment any day now. It will take a lot of public oversight and citizen science to ensure that this document details all the harms of a 100 years of stream diversions, and outlines all the mitigations necessary to address historic harms and prevent future significant harms in the event stream diversions are justified.

Tune into our Facebook (@sierraclubhawaii) and [sierraclubhawaii.org/east-maui-streams](https://sierraclubhawaii.org/east-maui-streams) for updates on litigation, permits, and public input opportunities.



Water protectors at the Capitol in 2019. Photo by Nick Torrey







As the dog days of summer begin their stay, the O'ahu Group has been doing anything but sit. Our magnificent new staff Lauren Watanabe has been wrangling youth climate concerns into our next generation of climate activists. Top on their list is ensuring shutdown of the final coal plant in the state. She's already helmed the submittal of myriad environmental impact statement comments from shoreline protection to wastewater treatment and public trail access.

Your Executive Committee and key volunteers have been collaborating to keep keen eyes on various development schemes from the Ala Wai Canal Project to the Ala Moana Regional Park and Magic Island improvements and the Waimanalo Bay Beach Park Sports Complex. We've joined members across the island concerned with the protection of sand dunes from Wāwāmalu to Punalu'u.

Never ones to rest on an opportunity to engage with the plans that shape O'ahu's future, the ExCom submitted comments on the East Honolulu Sustainable Communities Plan as well as participating in Primary Urban Center Development Plan's Growth and Change workshops and engagements on sea level rise.

At Honolulu Hale, we've been gaining ground forwarding Bill 25, which updates building codes for new construction to meet new state energy conservation codes regarding energy consumption. Primary bill opponents, entrenched in the fossil fuel industry, continue to push against closing loopholes and implementing real renewable energy standards when it comes to home water heating. Bill 40, addressing single-use plastics, has also kept a forward momentum but isn't in the bag just yet. If you think new homes should have solar hot water and want the beaches of tomorrow to be microplastic free, please reach out to your council member!

Finally, as you'll read, we have a cohort of (mostly) fresh faces in the running for the O'ahu Group Executive Committee elections. Kudos to volunteers and nominating committee for unearthing a fine flock of earth-folk avid to get more involved!

-Hunter Heavilin, Group ExCom Chair

## Bill 40 Update: Single use plastic & foam phase out by Lauren Watanabe, O'ahu Group Manager

Hawai'i is experiencing an epidemic of plastics and expanded polystyrene foam (EPS) polluting our environment and contaminating our bodies. These synthetic chemical products, typically used for a few minutes, never decompose, and break down into small—often microscopic—particles. They absorb surrounding pollutants and enter our waste stream. Not only are they detrimental to wildlife and coral reefs, but also have been detected in humans.

The usage of many types of single-use products are significant risk to human health because they carry heavy chemicals that leach into the food or beverages they contain. Also as the climate crisis threatens our collective future, we need to acknowledge the role that these products play in regard to climate change. The production of plastics and EPS generates and emits greenhouse gases throughout their life cycle, from extracting oil and natural gas, to manufacturing, to end of life processes such as dumping in landfills, recycling, or incineration. If we don't make radical change, plastics will account for 20% of the world's oil consumption.

The good news is, Bill 40 addresses all of these issues by phasing out single use plastics and EPS foodware once and for all! The City and County of Honolulu has an opportunity to protect human safety and welfare and to improve the environmental quality for all life throughout our state. These products threaten our health and our future, time for them to go!

Bill 40 was heard by the City & County Public Safety and Welfare Committee on Aug. 29. Many supporters, advocates, and youth came out to testify and it passed—but there is still a long way to go to get a comprehensive phase out we need. Stay tuned to our social media and website for more bill updates!

**FOLLOW US:**

 **SIERRA CLUB OAHU**

 **@SIERRACLUBOAHU**

**TO STAY UP TO DATE AND INFORMED ON OUR ONGOING WORK!**

## SEE PAGE 10 FOR GENERAL OUTINGS INFORMATION

View the latest hike listings and online registration options at [bit.ly/SCH-outdoors](http://bit.ly/SCH-outdoors).

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

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

### Saturday, October 5

*Photography Hike: Pu'u Ōhi'a/Tantalus Crater* (E)

Tantalus, easy/2 miles, ridge/crater

Reservations required at least one week prior. Contact Curtis for reservations with first and last name and phone number. The pace of photography hikes is extremely slow. Wet rainforest environment with many native plants. Low light conditions. Bring mosquito repellent and raingear. Leaders: Curtis Kawamoto, [curtis96815@gmail.com](mailto:curtis96815@gmail.com); John Shimogawa, 227-9925; Clyde Kobashigawa

### Sunday, October 13

*Family Snorkeling* (F)

Beach to be determined. We will snorkel and learn about Hawai'i's coral reef ecosystems, fish, invertebrates, and algae. All participants must be able to swim. Bring your snorkel gear, swimsuit, towel, 2 liters of water, change of clothes, and snack. Leader: Sherine Boomla, [boomla@hawaii.edu](mailto:boomla@hawaii.edu)

### Sunday, October 13

*Pālehua 'Elepaio Enclosure "Akupu" Service Project* (S)

Reservations required at least one week prior. Contact Clyde for reservations. Space is limited as we will be working in a sensitive area where the endangered native 'elepaio is nesting and there are native plants growing which we don't want to damage. We will probably hear and see 'elepaio as we work in the area, so bring a camera as well. Pack a lunch and/or snack and definitely mosquito repellent. Bring gloves and hand tools for weeding alien plants in the enclosure. Leaders: Clyde Kobashigawa, [clydekobashigawa@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:clydekobashigawa@hawaii.rr.com); John Shimogawa, 227-9925; Susan Tom; Curtis Kawamoto

### Sunday, October 20

*Mālama Tree Crew: Pālehua Service Project* (S)

Reservations required at least 2 days prior. Meet at Makakilo Community Park (92-1140 Makakilo Drive) at 7:45am. We will water, weed and mulch 400 native trees in the Mālama Learning Center planting site. Bring water, snack/lunch, and sunscreen. Leader: Randy Ching, 942-0145, [randy.ching@sierraclub.org](mailto:randy.ching@sierraclub.org)

### Sunday, November 3

*Keālia Trail - Family Friendly* (F)

Mokulē'ia, easy/2 miles, 1200 feet elevation gain

The first mile is up switchbacks, cresting turnaround at picnic table. Great panoramic views of North Shore. Whale watching possible with early-season arrivals. Francolin and pheasant should be visible. We will see great examples of native dryland *lonomea*, *alahe'e*, *naio* and *wiliwili*. Meet at the trailhead parking lot at 8am. Leader: Dan Anderson, 489-1695, [danderhi@gmail.com](mailto:danderhi@gmail.com)

### Sunday, November 3

*Ka'ena Point Trail and Natural Area Reserve*

Mokulē'ia, easy/5.2 miles, 50 feet elevation gain

This is one of the last coastal trails offering unique geological, biological and ocean environments of Hawai'i. We will hike 2.5 miles on a flat dirt road and train roadbeds through the last large dune system on O'ahu to NAR enclosure. In ancient times this was the jumping-off point for souls joining their ancestors. Dry and arid, there are unique plants, cliff, shore and wildlife to see. Whale and albatross watching possible with early-season arrivals. We will find turtles and seals resting onshore and nearshore waters. Meet at the trailhead parking lot at 1pm. Leader: Dan Anderson, 489-1695, [danderhi@gmail.com](mailto:danderhi@gmail.com)

### Sunday, November 10

*Makiki-Tantalus Hike*

Makiki, easy/4 miles

Hike along two to three trails along the Makiki-Tantalus trail system. Partial shade. Some indigenous and native plants. Good views of the valleys and the coastline. Leader: Sherine Boomla, [boomla@hawaii.edu](mailto:boomla@hawaii.edu)

### Sunday, November 17

*Pālehua Service Project-Trail Clearing* (S)

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

### Sunday, November 17

*Sandy Beach Cleanup* (S)

We will clean up along highway and coastal areas until 10am. Bags and gloves provided. All participants under 18 must have a waiver signed by legal guardian. No one under 18 will be allowed to clean on the highway and will spend time cleaning the beach and park area. Closed-toe shoes only. No slippers or sandals of any sort. Meet at 8am



at the Sandy Beach bathroom at eastern side of the beach park (the bathroom closer to Makapu'u.) Call Tred at 394-2898 for information. Leader: Deborah Blair, 392-0481

## Saturday, November 23 to Sunday, November 24

*Service Trip: Pu'uwa'awa'a Tree Planting, Hawai'i Island*  
We'll spend one night, two days in the Forest Reserve planting native trees, weeding and maybe gathering seeds. The accommodations are primitive. Leader: Randy Ching, 942-0145, randy.ching@sierraclub.org

## Sunday, December 1

*Ohulehule Forest Conservancy Tree Planting (S)*  
Tree planting in Waikāne Valley. Meet at the Church of the Crossroads at 7:45am or Waiāhole Poi Factory at 8:15am. We will work in the Ohulehule Forest Conservancy until 4 pm. Bring 2 liters of water, lunch, gloves, sunscreen and insect repellent. Wear hiking boots, long pants, long-sleeved shirt, hat. Leader: Randy Ching, 942-0145, makikirandy@yahoo.com

## Saturday, December 14

*Kahuku Shoreline to Turtle Bay*  
Kahuku, moderate/5 miles, beach  
Reservations required. We will meet at 8am at the helicopter tour area at Turtle Bay Resort to leave cars and start at the Kahuku Golf Course at 8:30am to hike north along the coast. We pass by the James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge and learn about the area. With a little luck, we will see some of the numerous birds that live there. The hike continues on to the beach for a look at some historic

saltpans. We will swim and lunch on the beach before continuing on to Turtle Bay. Bring plenty of water, a hat, and sunscreen. Leader: Colleen Soares, csoares48@gmail.com

## Saturday, December 14

*MCBH Kāne'ohe Bay Service Project (S)*  
Reservations required. Due to new MCBH regulations, all participants must register with DBIDS minimum one week before outing to secure access to base. Contact Dan Anderson at 489-1695 or danderhi@gmail.com. We will be working with Environmental Division helping clear wetlands of mangrove plants to create habitat for Hawai'i's endangered waterbirds. Because MCBH is a secured military facility, we must provide your name to the base in advance. We'll send you a waiver which you must bring with you. Leader: Deborah Blair, 392-0481

## Sunday, December 29

*Photography Hike: Pālehua-Palikea (E)*  
Makakilo, moderate/2 miles, ridge  
Reservations required at least one week prior. Contact Clyde for reservations with first and last name and phone number contact. Space limited, so make your reservations early. The pace of photography hikes is extremely slow. Pack a camera, lunch and/or snacks, and water. Not for those uneasy about heights. Due to safety concerns, only adults will be accepted. Native plants, native happy face spiders, scenic panoramas, and native tree snails are the attraction in this preserve. Leaders: Clyde Kobashigawa, clydekobashigawa@hawaii.rr.com; John Shimogawa, 227-9925; Curtis Kawamoto; Susan Tom; Stan Oka

## SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS POLICY

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

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

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

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

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



## Deficient FEIS for Keālia Mauka Homesites Approved by Rayne Regush, Group Co-chair

In August, the State Land Use Commission accepted a Final Environmental Impact Statement for a proposed 235-lot residential subdivision on 53 acres of prime agricultural land, despite red flags. Now, Keālia Properties LLC can seek Land Use Commission approval to amend the Land Use District boundary from agriculture to urban, unless community input can effectively challenge it.

Supporters of the project, whose single-minded goal is to increase housing, are ignoring the disproportionate burden on the adjacent 38 Keālia Town Tract homes, a rural neighborhood built in the early 1920's. These marginalized residents, some who are lifetime and multi-generational descendants of Keālia sugar plantation workers, will be assaulted by the crush of this high-density development.

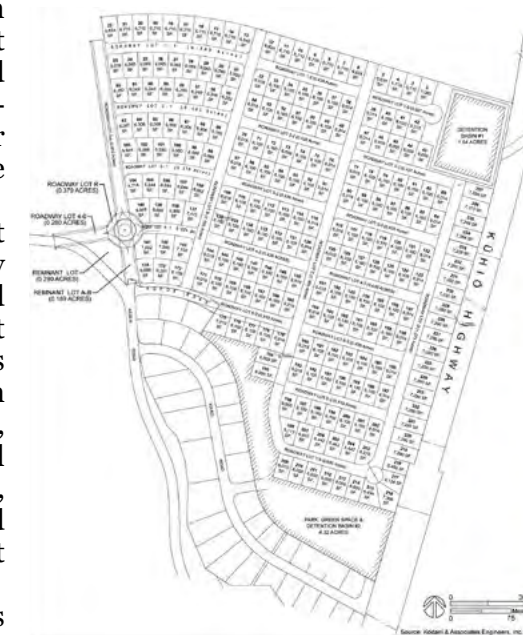
The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) did not adequately respond to many significant concerns raised during the Draft EIS review process. Most negative impacts could be resolved if access to the subdivision did not rely solely on historic Keālia Road. For reasons unknown, the State Department of Transportation will not allow direct access to Kuhio Highway, from an existing cane haul road, located opposite one of four entrances to 29-lot Keālia Kai community.

Direct impacts to Keālia residents at Hopo'e and Ka'ao Roads from traffic related noise, pollution and congestion were not assessed in the FEIS. Also, with Keālia Road being the only access to the project, any accident or roadway blockage will impact public safety as police and first responders will be unable to reach the subdivision for other emergencies. The broader consequence of the proposed density is the regional impact from the increased traffic congestion through Kapa'a along Kuhio Highway.

Project supporters fail to recognize that Keālia was not identified for urban expansion in any of the County General Plan narratives since the 1960's. The FEIS blatantly disregarded current General Plan (GP) policy-setting guidelines and priority objectives:

- locating residential growth in and near job centers
- encouraging the development of Lihu'e as Kaua'i's primary urban center
- supporting new housing units in Neighborhood General and Neighborhood Center (not Residential Community, such as Keālia)
- protecting rural character; expanding farm worker housing units
- managing development in a manner that respects the unique character of place

During the recent GP update process, Keālia was not discussed at public meetings as a "buildout area" and the the plan does include any textual guidance or specificity identifying Keālia for growth. However, meetings between the Keālia Mauka Homesites representative, former Mayor and former Planning Director were ongoing during the GP update from 2016 to 2018. The lack of transparency and deliberate omission of the project from the GP is a breach of public trust, further evidenced by the County's Departmental Determination DD-2016-70 (Boundary Interpretation for General Plan Designation).



This document (Appendix A in the FEIS) provides no citations from previous General Plans to corroborate the assertion that for close to 35 years Keālia was earmarked for residential development.

Justification for urban expansion relies solely on the highly interpretive General Plan Land Use Maps. The Keālia "Residential Community" area shown in yellow depicts a slightly expanded margin beyond Keālia Town Tract, whereas the 53.4-acre project is three times larger in size. The yellow area also obliterates Kamole Road where there are 7 homes and erroneously encompasses the upscale Keālia Kai Ag-subdivision lots #1-A, 1-B & 2.

The Kaua'i Group strongly supports opportunities for new housing, but this location, the high-density, existing traffic congestion, and significant inconsistencies with the General Plan, make the Keālia Mauka Homesites project inappropriate. Read the FEIS at: [bit.ly/luc-kealia](http://bit.ly/luc-kealia)

At press time, the public hearing for the state land use district boundary amendment has not been scheduled. This will be a critical opportunity for public input. You can sign up to receive emails for LUC public hearing notices at [luc.hawaii.gov/agenda-request](http://luc.hawaii.gov/agenda-request).



# Kaua'i Group Report & Outings

## Push for an EIS: KIUC's EA for the Blue Hole Diversion is Insufficient

After fourteen years of diverting public trust water without a required water lease from the State, Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative has come forward with an Environmental Assessment in its quest for a 65-year lease to use water from Wailua's Blue Hole Diversion to power two 100-year old hydroelectric plants that deliver about 1% of the island's electricity.

Historically, the former Lihu'e Plantation developed an extensive ditch system which diverted nearly 100% of Waialeale and Waikoko Streams for sugarcane production and for the Upper and Lower Waiahi hydropower plants.

Over the recent decade, the State Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) granted short term revocable permits to Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative (KIUC). It goes without saying, diverting almost 100% of its stream flow for over a century has vastly altered the ecosystem of the Wailua watershed, and negatively impacted the cultural, farming and gathering practices of our host culture.

Along the way KIUC has faced stiff and credible opposition to its diversion practices and its questionable adherence to state and federal laws:

- Hawai'i Revised Statute 171-58 requires KIUC to file a full Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), not a less thorough EA. There are significant spiritual, cultural, environmental and public trust impacts that can only be addressed with an EIS.
- In response to KIUC's first effort to secure a 65-year lease in 2002, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) filed a contested case and rejected KIUC's inadequate Cultural Impact Assessment in 2010 and 2017. OHA has still not accepted the CIA which is a lease requirement.
- An EA is inadequate to address the federally protected critical habitat for Kaua'i's endemic snail species which would be impacted.
- The Blue Hole Diversion is located in the Lihu'e Forest Reserve and the publicly accessible State Conservation District. Consequently KIUC is bound by law to prepare a Habitat Conservation Plan with an Incidental Take Permit, and must obtain a Conservation District Use Permit. Neither has been done.

When KIUC goes before the BLNR to make their case for a 65-year lease, the Sierra Club Kaua'i Group will be there, advocating for an EIS and restoration of the long neglected mauka to makai stream flow to revitalize Kaua'i's Wailua watershed.

**Correction, July 2019 Kaua'i Group Report:** Grove Farm promised Ulupono Initiative 30 million gallons of water per day from the Waita Reservoir should be 3 million gallons.

## UPCOMING OUTINGS:

SEE PAGE 10 FOR GENERAL OUTINGS INFORMATION

Join us on one of these great outings to discover the natural treasures of our island. Mileage is total miles.

Outings focus on (C) Conservation/Interpretive, (E) Educational, (F) Family/fun, and/or (S) Service.

Check [bit.ly/SCH-Kauai-Hikes](http://bit.ly/SCH-Kauai-Hikes) for schedule updates.

Requested donation for members and participants under 18 is \$1. For all others \$5.

### Saturday, October 5

*Po'omau Canyon Vistas Hike (C/E/F)*

Koke'e State Park, intermediate/5.5 miles, + 900 feet  
We will explore vistas of Po'omau Canyon, which feeds into the Waimea Canyon, from both sides as we hike this partial loop hike. This hike includes a "hikers dream lunch spot" with views of gorgeous waterfalls, the colorful walls of Po'omau Canyon, and on occasion, even goats with a little bit of an adventure, get to this spot. Leader: Julio Magalhães, 650-906-2594

### Saturday, October 12

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

East side, easy/1.5 miles  
We'll meet at Lydgate Beach Park for a picnic dinner and walk along a pristine beach. Learn how this beach was saved from being destroyed by a 6-foot high, 3/5-mile long sea wall fronting Wailua Golf Course that the County had started to build back in 1996. The beach began to erode and sections became impassable to walk along. It took 3 months of intensive effort to get the DLNR to issue a cease and desist order, forcing the County to remove the non-permitted sea wall. Leader: Judy Dalton, 808-482-1129

### Saturday, October 19

*Waimea River Walk and Float (C/F)*

Strenuous/11 miles one way, part of this floating, -2250 ft, downhill  
Start at Kukui Trailhead and hike down into Waimea Canyon and along the old Waimea River jeep road. Bring floatable tubes to inflate and float down the river for over a mile, passing through a tunnel. End at outskirts of Waimea town and shuttle back to Kukui Trailhead. Leader: Ken Fasig, 808-346-1229

### Sunday, October 20

*Mo'alepe Trail to Kuilau Ridge Picnic Area (C/E/F)*

East shore, moderate/6 miles, +800 feet elevation  
A beautiful hike through farmland and forest, with glorious mountain views and ever-present birdsongs. This trail offers great rewards without a lot of effort. Leader: Julio Magalhães, 650-906-2594

### Saturday, October 26

*Māhā'ulepū Coastal Hike (C/E/F)*

Po'ipū area, moderate/4 miles roundtrip, mild elevation change on a rocky trail  
Spectacular coastal walk, breathtaking views along this magnificent coastline! Leader: Lee Gately, 661-373-4834

### Saturday, November 2

*Spalding Monument & Kalalea Mountain Vistas Hike (C/E/F)*

East side, moderate/6 miles, +800 feet elevation  
A hike with many facets that include a monument to a sugar company owner, lovely views down onto the colorful coast near Keālia, a fine forest, and unique views and perspective on Kalalea Mountain, which is popularly called "King Kong" mountain and looms above Anahola. Leader: Julio Magalhães, 650-906-2594

### Wednesday, November 6

*Māhā'ulepū Coastal Hike (C/E/F)*

Po'ipū area, moderate/4 miles roundtrip, mild elevation change on a rocky trail  
Spectacular coastal walk, breathtaking views along this magnificent coastline! Leader: Lee Gately, 661-373-4834

### Sunday, November 10

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

South shore, moderate/4 miles, mild elevation change  
Start out mid-afternoon from Shipwreck Beach walking along the coast to Māhā'ulepū. Enjoy the setting sun and a full moon rise. Spectacular coastal walk. We'll shuttle cars for an easy trip back to the trailhead. Bill Snyder, 808-652-1718

### Saturday, November 16

*Wai Koa Loop Trail (C/E/F)*

North shore, easy/4.5 miles, +200 feet elevation  
We'll pass through the Kīlauea Forest and then the largest mahogany plantation in North America. Then, the trail opens up and we'll enjoy impressive views of Mount Namahana, which means "the twin branches" in Hawaiian, and hike near lovely farms and ranches. Leader: Julio Magalhães, 650-906-2594

### Saturday, November 23

*Māhā'ulepū Coastal Hike (C/E/F)*

Po'ipū area, moderate/4 miles roundtrip, mild elevation change on a rocky trail  
Spectacular coastal walk, breathtaking views along this magnificent coastline! Leader: Lee Gately, 661-373-4834

### Saturday, November 30

*Waimea Canyon Rim Vistas & Exploration Hike (C/E/F)*

West Side, intermediate/8 miles, +1800 feet elevation  
Explore lovely panoramic views of the Waimea Canyon and ocean beyond as well as the upper reaches of Waipo'o Falls on this intermediate level loop hike including the Pu'u Hinahina Trail, Cliff Trail, Canyon Trail, Black Pipe

# Kaua'i Group Outings

Trail, Halemanu-Koke'e Trail, Kumuela Trail, and return on Canyon Trail. Leader: Julio Magalhães, 650-906-2594

### Saturday, December 7

*Māhā'ulepū Coastal Hike (C/E/F)*

Po'ipū area, moderate/4 miles roundtrip, mild elevation change on a rocky trail  
Spectacular coastal walk, breathtaking views along this magnificent coastline! Leader: Lee Gately, 661-373-4834

### Tuesday, December 10

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

East side, easy/1.5 miles  
We'll meet at Lydgate Beach Park for a picnic dinner and walk along a pristine beach. Learn how this beach was saved from being destroyed by a 6-foot high, 3/5-mile long sea wall fronting Wailua Golf Course that the County had started to build back in 1996. The beach began to erode and sections became impassable to walk along. It took 3 months of intensive effort to get the DLNR to issue a cease and desist order, forcing the County to remove the non-permitted sea wall. Leader: Judy Dalton, 808-482-1129

### Saturday, December 14

*Nāpali Coast Trail to Hanakāpi'ai Falls (C/E/F)*

North shore, upper intermediate/8 miles, +1800 feet  
Hike begins at Ke'e Beach and follows the Kalalau Trail with its stunning coastal views for 2 miles to Hanakāpi'ai Beach, then continues inland 2 more miles to the waterfall. The scenery and views are spectacular and the waterfall is lovely; this trail is a personal favorite. The irregular trail from the coast to the waterfall is quite a wild adventure with some water crossings. Leader: Julio Magalhães, 650-906-2594

### Saturday, December 21

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

Strenuous/7 miles  
Spectacular hike through forests of Koke'e, Black Pipe Trail, Canyon Trail, Po'omau Canyon Lookout. Cross over Waipo'o Falls for a view of Waimea Canyon to the ocean. Leader: Ken Fasig, 808-346-1229

### Saturday, December 28

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

East shore, moderate/5 miles, +250 feet elevation  
We will explore the coast and enjoy the lovely views afforded by the east shore between Keālia and Anahola. The first part of this outing is easy on the bike/walk path up until Donkey Beach. The rest is unpaved and moderately rated. Leader: Julio Magalhães, 650-906-2594

### Tuesday, December 31

*Māhā'ulepū Coastal Hike (C/E/F)*

Po'ipū area, moderate/4 miles roundtrip, mild elevation change on a rocky trail  
Spectacular coastal walk, breathtaking views along this magnificent coastline! Leader: Lee Gately, 661-373-4834





## More Hawaiian Hoary Bat "Take" Allowed at Auwahi Wind Farm

The Land Board approved an amended Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) for the Sempra wind energy farm in Auwahi on August 23. The Sierra Club Maui Group had issued comments in the federal Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement covering four wind farms in Hawai'i.

Sempra's original HCP from 2012 allowed for 21 bats to be killed by the wind turbines during the 25 year life span of the facility, but 46 were estimated to have been killed already after seven years. The amended HCP allows for another 119 bat deaths beyond the original 21.

The bats roost during the day but forage after sunset. It has been established that bats can detect and avoid the rotating blades if their speed is high. For that reason, the HCP calls out different minimum wind speeds for operation during parts of the night and the year. Not running at all at night would reduce the deaths to zero, or close to it.

It is disappointing that the Land Board did not require the company to reduce the "take" by extending the hours with a high minimum wind speed, and to extend the cutoff additionally until there is a significant drop in bat deaths. Wind energy production is renewable and a valuable contributor to Maui's electricity needs but optimal output has to be weighed against the consequences to endangered native species. The Hawaiian Hoary Bat is the only native Hawaiian land mammal.

## BLNR Case and the East Maui Streams

The Sierra Club's case against the BLNR, asking the board to provide stewardship for the State land watersheds that it is constitutionally required to protect, continues. This includes preventing harm to native aquatic species and preserving the lands for cultural practices and recreational uses. Hawai'i's native 'o'opu fish and 'opae shrimp depend on free flowing streams for survival.

However, the BLNR has not had information on actual stream volumes and connectivity - per stream - or on environmental maintenance of the East Maui lands, but still issued repeated permits to Alexander & Baldwin (A&B) to extract huge volumes of water while letting invasive species expand and crowd out the native plants. The Water Commission ordered restoration of ten streams. Inspection by intrepid hikers has found that in many cases the flow has not been completely restored, while in others there are cement, metal troughs or pipes that form barriers to the migration of the 'o'opu when the larvae travel to the ocean to mature and then return up the streams as hinana. That is not restoration.

The Sierra Club feels that the tenant - A&B - should be compelled to clean up and restore the lands, including removal of invasive species and debris. The BLNR should not grant permits for additional water use

to A&B before determining the amount of water flowing in each stream, its condition and its carrying capacity - how much water can be diverted without damaging the natural environment?

## Global Climate Crisis

The Maui Group supported the Youth Climate Strike on May 24 and worked closely with youth groups and environmental organizations on the September 20 Global Climate Strike, with a rally and march starting at the university campus.

## Anaergia EIS

As reported in the July-September issue of the Mālama, the Maui Environmental Court ruled that it was invalid for the company Anaergia to produce an Environmental Impact Statement for its proposal to build a power plant on the site of the Kahului Wastewater Reclamation Facility; that is the responsibility of the County. Anaergia is appealing the ruling.

## Energy Forum

Maui Electric Company, Maui Tomorrow and the Sierra Club Maui Group organized a community forum on the future of renewable energy on Maui on June 26 with a standing room only crowd that had many questions for the panelists.



## Renewable Energy RFP

The Sierra Club provided comments to the draft Request for Proposals for phase two of bids for energy production projects on Maui. In particular, we stressed the benefits of smaller, distributed solar farms with battery storage over large centralized ones. Smaller units can be placed closer to where the power is consumed, reducing the need for new transmission lines and making the grid more resilient to disruptions in one of the plants. We also asked for more than one community meeting to review each proposal so that more people are able to participate in learning and providing their preferences.

## SEE PAGE 10 FOR GENERAL OUTINGS INFORMATION

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

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

We always welcome more hike leaders! Contact [sierraclubmauigroup@gmail.com](mailto:sierraclubmauigroup@gmail.com) if you are interested.

Check [bit.ly/SCH-Maui-Outdoors](http://bit.ly/SCH-Maui-Outdoors) for updates to the schedule.

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

## Wednesday, October 9

*Nursery Planting for Pu'u Kukui Preserve (C/E/S)*

We will plant native seeds - collected earlier - at the Pu'u Kukui Preserve nursery to provide seedlings for outplanting later in West Maui. This is part 2 of a 3-part series of collaborations with the Pu'u Kukui Preserve. Directions will be provided at registration. Leader: Rob Weltman, [robw@worldspot.com](mailto:robw@worldspot.com)

## Friday, October 11

*Wailea 670 Archaeology Hike (C/E)*

South Maui, 2-3 miles  
Explore a hidden world above Wailea resort. Visit Hawaiian habitations, shrines and pathways. Rugged terrain. Closed shoes/boots, long pants and good balance a must. Bring water, hiking stick and camera. Meet 4pm at top of Kaukahi Rd in Wailea. Limit 18. Leader: Lucienne de Naie with guidance by Hawaiian cultural practitioners. Register at [laluzmaui@gmail.com](mailto:laluzmaui@gmail.com) or 214-0147

## Friday, October 18

*Waihe'e Ridge Reforestation Outing (C/E/S)*

This outing is organized by the West Maui Watershed Partnership. Our work for the day will involve some combination of invasive species control (pulling/treating strawberry guava, Clidemia hirta, molasses grass and other weeds), out-planting of native plants, and/or collection of native seed for future out-plantings. We will eat lunch on the trail under trees, work a little more, then head back down the trail. Wear sturdy, closed-toe shoes with good tread, long-sleeved shirt and long pants. Bring at least 2L water, a rain jacket, sun protection, lunch, snacks and backpack to carry everything. Meet at 9am at the gravel parking lot below the trail head, just outside Camp Maluhia, done around 2:30pm. Leader: Rob Weltman, [robw@worldspot.com](mailto:robw@worldspot.com)

## Sunday, October 20

*Hana'ula Ridge Service Outing & Hike (C/E/S)*

Mā'alaea, 1-2 miles  
Help Maui Cultural Lands maintain native plant habitat on state land near Kaheawa Wind Farm. Hike to 'ōhi'a forest nearby. Panoramic views. Bring lunch and gloves. Be prepared for rain/mist and chilly temperatures. Meet 8:30am at Maui Ocean Center parking lot (Carl's Jr. end). Four wheel drive vehicles needed for access, please contact leader if you have 4WD. Limit 10. Leader: Lucienne de Naie, [laluzmaui@gmail.com](mailto:laluzmaui@gmail.com) or 214-0147

## Saturday, October 26

*Hāmākua Coastline Hike (C/E)*

From Māliko Gulch to Pa'uwela, Ha'ikū, 4 miles  
Enjoy views and explore hidden coves along this traditional fishing trail. Bring water, hat, lunch and sturdy shoes. Meet 9am at Ha'ikū Community Center. Limit 15. Leader: Lucienne de Naie, [laluzmaui@gmail.com](mailto:laluzmaui@gmail.com) or 214-0147

## Sunday, November 10

*Wailea 670 Service Day and Archaeology Tour (C/E/S)*

South Maui, 2-3 miles  
Help care for ancient Hawaiian sites in Wailea 670 preserve. All tools provided. Rugged terrain. Closed shoes/boots, long pants and good balance a must. Bring water and hiking stick. Meet 4pm at top of Kaukahi Rd in Wailea. Limit 18. Leader: Lucienne de Naie with guidance by archaeologist Jeanne Schaaf and Hawaiian cultural practitioners. Register with [laluzmaui@gmail.com](mailto:laluzmaui@gmail.com) or 214-0147

## Wednesday, November 13

*Native Planting with Pu'u Kukui Preserve (C/E/S)*

We will plant native seedlings in West Maui. This is part 3 of a 3-part series of collaborations with the Pu'u Kukui Preserve. Directions will be provided on registration. Leader: Rob Weltman, [robw@worldspot.com](mailto:robw@worldspot.com)



## Sunday, November 24

### ‘Āao Valley Hike (E)

Wailuku, 3-4 miles

Take a stroll in ‘Āao Valley and then be prepared to cool off in the clear and refreshing waters of ‘Āao Stream. There will be some uphill sections. Bring water, sunscreen and snacks. Meet at ‘Āao Valley State Park at 8am. Limit 12. Leader: Miranda Camp, mauimiranda@hotmail.com

## Saturday, November 30

### Hāmākua Mālama Day (C/E/S)

Ha‘ikū, 4 miles

Monthly community service outing to remove trash and keep coastal trails open on 267 acres of Hāmākua lands purchased by Maui County. Bring gloves, hand tools, water, hat, lunch and sturdy shoes. Meet 9am at Ha‘ikū Community Center. Limit 15. Leader: Lucienne de Naie, laluzmaui@gmail.com or 214-0147

## Sunday, December 1

### Wailea 670 Hike w/ Archaeologist (C/E)

South Maui, 2-3 miles

Explore the Keauhou ahupua‘a at south end of Wailea 670 cultural preserve and help search for hidden archaeological sites. Rugged terrain, closed shoes/boots, long pants and good balance a must. Bring water, hiking stick and camera. Meet 3pm at top of Kaukahi Rd in Wailea. Limit 18. Leader: Lucienne de Naie with guidance by archaeologist Jeanne Schaaf and Hawaiian cultural practitioners. Register laluzmaui@gmail.com or 214-0147

## Sunday, December 8

### Kanaio Beach (C/E)

La Perouse, 6 miles

Kings Highway from La Perouse Bay to south of major lava flow and snorkel place. Bring lunch, water, hat and sunscreen. Bring bathing suit and snorkel gear (also water shoes for the rocky entry) if you want to snorkel. Meet at Kīhei Community Center at 8am. Leader: Rob Weltman, robw@worldspot.com

## Wednesday, December 11

### Keālia Pond National Wildlife Refuge (C/E)

Keālia, 1 mile

Come see a variety of waterfowl and shorebirds and hear an overview about the refuge. Meet 9am inside the refuge visitor center (turn into driveway at mile post 6 on Mokulele/Maui Veterans Highway and then right to the parking lot). Bring binoculars, suitable closed toe shoes for mud and water, sun protection and water. Limit 20. Leader: Rob Weltman, robw@worldspot.com

## Sunday, December 15

### Launiupoko Heiau & Valley (C/E)

Lots of trails, Hawaiian heiau and sites hidden along the way as we hike up this iconic valley. Bring hat, sunscreen, water and lunch/snack. Meet at 8am at mauka end of Maui Ocean Center parking lot (across from gas station) to carpool or at 8:30am at trailhead off of Wailau Pl. Limit 20. Leader: Miranda Camp, mauimiranda@hotmail.com

## Sunday, December 22

### Mākena Shoreline Hike (C/E)

Mākena, 3 miles

Moderate, pleasant walk on "fisherman's trail," road, sandy beaches, rocky beaches past tidepools to Keoneuli. Beautiful views. Hiking stick useful. Meet 9am in public parking lot for Polo Beach, near the entrance. Almost entirely exposed, so bring sun protection. We'll stop to eat anything we have with us at Keoneuli. Limit 15. Leader: Rob Weltman, robw@worldspot.com

## Saturday, December 28

### Hāmākua Mālama Day (C/E/S)

Ha‘ikū, 4 miles

Monthly community service outing to remove trash and keep coastal trails open on 267 acres of Hāmākua lands purchased by Maui County. Bring gloves, hand tools, water, hat, lunch, sturdy shoes. Meet 9am at Ha‘ikū Community Center. Limit 15. Leader: Lucienne de Naie, laluzmaui@gmail.com or 214-0147

## Sunday, December 29

### Historic Mākena-‘Ulupalakua Road Hike (C/E)

Mākena, 4 miles mostly downhill

Experience this famous historic road that has been closed for all use since 1985. Hike will begin on Kanaio-Kalama Road in Wailea 670, climb a slight grade, and continue downhill to the ocean on old Mākena-‘Ulupalakua switchback road. (We will leave cars at both ends). Bring a hat, sunscreen, water and lunch/snack. Estimated time: 3.5 hours. Meet at 8am in public parking lot across from Keawala‘i church. Limit 20. Leader: Lucienne de Naie, laluzmaui@gmail.com or 214-0147



## Mauna Kea Update by Deborah Ward

At 3am on the solstice in June, DLNR and Hawai‘i County police removed two ahu near the summit and two significant hale far from the construction area, purportedly for safety reasons. This dismissive action, on a day when Hawaiian practitioners were engaged in traditional religious practice, enraged and saddened the Hawaiian community and many residents. In July, early one morning, TMT construction vehicles were to be staged on the northern plateau of Mauna Kea’s summit region. Many members and protectors assembled at the Saddle and Access Road junction to hold signs and exercise first amendment rights that day—the number of kia‘i, protectors, expanded dramatically over the next few hours. The crowd was growing at such a pace that the Royal Order of Kamehameha designated the Pu‘u Huluhulu parking area as a pu‘u honua to allow for a place of peace and safety.



As the days went on, the crowds opposing the construction began to number in the thousands, as many as 5,000 a day. A well-organized small city, bustling with volunteers, medics, legal observers, musicians, university faculty, kupuna, celebrities, and families has grown from this gathering, while the world watches as demonstrations take place on the neighbor islands and across the globe. The Governor’s emergency proclamation, while frightening in scope—like riot gear, sound cannons, rubber bullets, tear gas and batons—was met with kapu aloha, peaceful resistance, and led eventually to the arrest of 34 kupuna sitting quietly in a tent on the Access Road; they were subsequently released less than an hour later.

Taxpayers may be concerned to learn that the TMT promoters have admitted that they are short of funds to

build and are seeking an additional partner to fund \$400 million to construct. The UH lease will expire in 2033, just a couple years after the construction would be completed, and the decommissioning fund would not be fully funded until at least 2050. DLNR did not require a bond, despite the Supreme Court’s queries about financial surety and the 1997 DLNR rules requiring a bond, which is also reiterated in the Comprehensive Management Plan and state statute. As a result, a hui of individuals sued in circuit court. The judge ruled that they needed to ask the BLNR to address the Supreme Court requirement ensuring that the public and the public trust is protected from a failed project which could leave taxpayers footing the bill for cleanup. The Sierra Club has called for a contested case hearing on the request for an NPDES permit to allow TMT construction and stormwater runoff to flow into recreational streams around the island—despite the fact that the EIS and application documents claim that this polluted water will percolate harmlessly into groundwater.

The Hawai‘i County Council has passed a resolution calling for a moratorium on construction and Governor Ige has delegated the consensus building process to Mayor Harry Kim. Meanwhile, Spain has welcomed a permit application for construction on La Palma in the Canary Islands, yet an environmental group, Ben Magec has declared their opposition—citing the large number of telescopes (20) already impacting natural and cultural sites on the summit.

The UH Board of Regents will take up new rules for Mauna Kea on November 6, after the matter was postponed again in August, at a special meeting at the UH West O‘ahu campus.

## Reef Keepers by Rob Culbertson

Our Hawai‘i Island Group has formed up a subset of folks interested in reef conservation issues with the not too original list-serve name of “Reef Keepers”. Our primary issue of late has been to end the historically state sanctioned “aquarium trade”; a tough but ultimately inevitable and doable change, which a critical mass of residents and visitors have been demanding for several decades. Many caring conservationists consider ending this destructive, cruel (though highly profitable) business enterprise the ‘low hanging fruit’ to helping our beleaguered coral reefs, especially when arrayed against the backdrop of global warming and other assorted manmade pollution problems.

Right now, we are awaiting the court mandated Environmental Impact Statement that is supposed to disclose more of the cultural impacts that a prior, industry funded, Environmental Assessment failed to address adequately. Additionally, in response to changing state policy with ‘climate change’ impacts writ large, the new EIS is supposed to factor in the likely elements that science has only recently begun documenting in earnest.



# Hawai'i Island Group Report & Outings

For more background on this important legal benchmark you can visit [forthefishes.org](http://forthefishes.org) or [facebook.com/FortheFishes](https://www.facebook.com/FortheFishes). You can also contact the Hawai'i Office of Environmental Quality Control at 586-4185 or [oeqchawaii@doh.hawaii.gov](mailto:oeqchawaii@doh.hawaii.gov) and ask to be directly contacted when the aquarium trade EIS is posted for public comment.

If this issue resonates with you and you wish to help out for the long haul you can:

1. Contact your respective state legislators and urge them to support a moratorium on aquarium fishing and trade.
2. Submit a Letter to the Editor to your local paper or other media outlet. Here's a recent piece from the affinity group "Beyond Kona" as an example, [beyondkona.com/sustainability-is-maui](http://beyondkona.com/sustainability-is-maui).
3. Spread the word about the new 808-NO-POACH reward tip line for people to report suspected aquarium trade poaching or trafficking. Visit [forthefishes.org/reward](http://forthefishes.org/reward) for more info.
4. Let the Hawai'i Tourism Authority and the Hawai'i Visitors & Convention Bureau know that there is "no aloha for reef wildlife trafficking" by posting comments and photos about the trade on their channels below. Remember, the vast majority of visitors have no idea that the reef animals they travel thousands of miles to see are captured and shipped off to the highest bidder!

- [facebook.com/HawaiiHTA](https://www.facebook.com/HawaiiHTA)
- [facebook.com/Hawaii](https://www.facebook.com/Hawaii)
- [gohawaii.com/social \(#gohawaii\)](https://www.gohawaii.com/social/#gohawaii)
- [#LetHawaiiHappen](https://twitter.com/gohawaii)

## Spraying Paradise by Blake Watson and Cory Harden

Imagine turning the chemical war zones on our county roadsides into places of botanical interest and beauty. This is the vision for a bill to ban the use of certain herbicides by county workers—a bill we hope to see before the Hawai'i County Council soon.

County bans have failed twice, in 2015 and 2016, despite strong public support due to flaws in the bills. Those flaws are addressed in the upcoming bill. The bill covers use of herbicides by the County only, since courts ruled in 2016 that only the State can regulate use by public and private businesses.

The bill gives the county four years to transition to eco-friendly products and methods. The bill also sets up an advisory commission of experts in alternative and non-toxic land management and botany. Ideally, commissioners will have backgrounds in organic landscape management, native plants, natural farming, permaculture, agroforestry, cultural concerns, or silviculture, and represent as many different districts of Hawai'i Island as possible to help adapt methods to local conditions.

There are alternatives for weed control. Mulching, then replanting with native and/or pollinator friendly plantings can work. Avenger herbicide works—it's made of D-limonene, salt and vinegar. A hot water machine by Weedtechnics is used at a Kaua'i resort. Cost: \$15-30,000 with shipping. Goats munched weeds on Maui, in portable fencing along a highway-- watch at [bit.ly/goat-19](http://bit.ly/goat-19). Hawai'i County might try goats first in drainage areas, where the County sprays the heaviest amount of herbicide. Goats could handle the difficult terrain and be out of the way of traffic.

Please watch for updates. Your testimony and messages to council members can help stop the spraying!

## UPCOMING OUTINGS:

SEE PAGE 10 FOR GENERAL OUTINGS INFORMATION

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

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

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

# Hawai'i Island Group Outings

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

## Friday, October 4

### Native Plant Restoration (C/S)

Pu'u Wa'awa'a, westside

Service outing to help maintain rare and endangered plants in special management zone administered by DLNR. We will work with Mark Hanson again and learn about the special efforts to restore this rare dryland habitat, historically home to the greatest diversity of endemic species in Hawai'i. Bring usual personal gear including gloves, hat and long pants as well as snacks and plenty of water. ROD protocol observed. Leader: Rob Culbertson, 805-316-1380

## Saturday, October 5

### Mauna Loa Strip Road Day Hike (C/E)

4 miles, +/- 1,000 ft

This is a high elevation hike from the top end of the Mauna Loa Strip Rd. We will go about 2 miles, have lunch and return. The trail quickly climbs through alpine shrubs and bare lava with chances for beautiful views if the weather is clear. Bring warm clothes and rain gear with your normal day hike accessories. ROD protocol observed. Leaders: Michael and Sunny LaPlante, 964-5017

## Sunday, October 13

### Pu'u Maka'ala NAR (E)

Ka'u District, moderate/5-7 miles, 4,600 ft

Join us and see the "walking 'ōhi'a" trees in 'Ōla'a forest. Wear good hiking shoes, bring a lunch and at least 2 liters of water. We will meet at Cooper Center in Volcano Village and carpool to the trailhead. Leaders: Linda Larish (text or call) 657-9640 and Roberta Brashear, 966-7002

## Saturday, October 19

### Kīholo Bay Service Project (E/C/S)

North Kona, moderate service at sea level

We will be working with The Nature Conservancy to restore the ancient fishing pond by clearing invasives around and in the pond and possibly planting native species. This is a very rewarding experience with a large local ohana participation. Be sure to bring lots of water and reef-safe sun protection. Service ends by 1pm with potluck lunch and an opportunity to enjoy the bay after. Please register early with leader, Diane Ware at 967-8642

## Saturday, October 26

### Snorkeling at Richardson (C/E)

Keaukaha area, eastside, sea level

Part of our series devoted to appreciating the marine life and our precious coral reefs. Richardson Beach Park is well known and loved by residents and visitors alike; considered the go to place for easy access on the eastside. But is it the case that we are 'loving' this place too much? We especially want to invite participation by experienced water-persons with knowledge and memories of this special place. Together we will investigate and assess the richness of this marine park and its ecology. Bring standard outings needs such as water, sun protection and snacks as well as personal snorkel gear, fish ID cards and underwater camera. Leader: Rob Culbertson, 316-1380 with assistance by Sarah Moon, 935-3475

## Saturday, November 16

### Honua'ula Forest Reserve Hike (C/F/E)

North Kona, moderate/4.5 miles, +/-750 ft

Join us for a first time outing for Hawai'i Island Group to this forest reserve on the slopes of Hualalai. We will join another group with experience of the area. It is described as a Jurassic Park like ecosystem. We will start early. Bring sun protection, boots, water, snacks or lunch. ROD protocol observed. Call leader Diane Ware, 967-8642

## Tuesday, November 19

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

Moderate/4 miles, shoreline, +/-200 ft

Scenic vistas, sea birds and some historic sites depending on which part of the trail we go on atop Hāmākua cliffs. Come join us on this hike along the ocean. Leaders: Michael and Sunny LaPlante, 964-5017

## Sunday December 8

### Pu'u O'o Day Hike off Saddle Road (E)

5-7 miles, 5,700 +/- 100 ft

An easy-paced hike at high elevation will make a cool hike that will go through some native forest kīpukas and return on the same route. Changeable weather means bring warm clothes and raingear along. ROD protocol observed. Leaders: Sunny and Michael LaPlante, 964-5017

## Sunday, December 15

### Kalōpā Nature Trail, Old Jeep Road, Gulch Trail (E/F)

Hāmākua District, easy/4 miles  
We will start by visiting the kōlea, kōpiko and ferns following a trail through Kalōpā State Park's native forest. After a short break, we will continue on the old jeep road to the highest elevation in the park passing through groves of 70 year old eucalyptus, silk oak and paperbark trees. After lunch at the top, we will descend back to the cabins along the Hanaipoe and Kalōpā gulches. Leader: Linda Larish, 967-6337



Royal gramma (above) and yellow tang (right) are two of the most popularly collected aquarium trade species in Hawai'i.



# Nate's Adventures: Native Forest Restoration on Mauna Kea

by Nate Yuen, Chapter Outings Chair

I recently had the pleasure of joining Mark Hanson on a Sierra Club service project to plant and care for sandalwood trees in the Ka'ohē Restoration Area on the western slopes of Mauna Kea at about 7,600 feet elevation.

'Iliahi—sandalwood—was once abundant in the Hawaiian Islands. The trees were cut down by the millions for trade with China from 1790 to 1830. Much of Hawai'i's 'iliahi forests were wiped-out and few large trees exist today. 'Iliahi is a slow growing tree that is difficult to propagate and outplant in the field. The tree is hemiparasitic, meaning its roots like to intertwine with the roots of other trees—forming a symbiotic relationship with its host.



'Iliahi

"The Sandalwood Man", Mark Hanson



In the past 25 years, Mark figured out how to propagate sandalwood trees in the greenhouse and outplant them in the field. In the last five years, his team of volunteers with the Hawaiian Reforestation Program planted over 50,000 high-elevation native trees in multiple locations around Mauna Kea—most of them 'iliahi. So successful has he been growing 'iliahi that he has been dubbed the Sandalwood Man.

While I enjoyed volunteering with the Sandalwood Man, the experience was bittersweet. Sweet because I love 'iliahi trees and the views from Ka'ohē were spectacular. Bitter because I learned that Mark is terminating his reforestation efforts at Ka'ohē over concerns of how the State's Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) is managing the area.

Ka'ohē is critical habitat for the palila, an endangered native bird found only on Hawai'i Island. In 1977, the Sierra Legal Defense Fund sued DLNR for not protecting the last remaining habitat for the critically endangered bird. The birds rely on māmane trees for food which were being destroyed by feral sheep, goats, and pigs. In 1979, the court found DLNR in violation of the Endangered Species Act and ordered the native forest of māmane trees to be restored. The court order kickstarted a series of native forest restoration projects on Mauna Kea, of which Mark's program is a part.



Palila

Photo by Jack Jeffery

Māmane and naio trees with the summit of Mauna Kea in the background



Naio tree attacked by thrips and is dying



Photo by Jack Jeffery

Palila habitat destroyed by ungulates

In addition to being critical habitat for the palila, Ka'ohē is a game management area. The problem is that DLNR prioritizes the interests of hunters over the interests of the palila. Fenced enclosures are needed to prevent sheep, goats, and pigs from destroying the native forest. DLNR has erected fake enclosures that do not enclose any space and allow animals to come and go at will. As a result, they devour any new trees that are outplanted. In other areas where fences actually enclose space, DLNR failed to remove pigs from the enclosure. As a result, pigs ravage whatever native trees

that are outplanted.

Non-native game birds like pheasants, chukars, francolins are released before each bird hunting season. Bird hunters sometimes shoot through native trees, inadvertently killing palila birds in the process.

In the past 3 years, Mark outplanted 6,000 native trees on Department of Hawaiian Homes Land (DHHL) on Mauna Kea. 80% of those trees are alive today. Sadly, the success rate is much less at Ka'ohē. In the past 5 years, 3,000 trees were planted at Ka'ohē but only 100 trees are alive today—a success rate of 3.3%. With such dismal results, Mark has decided not to waste limited time and resources. He is ending reforestation efforts at Ka'ohē and moving to Pu'u Wa'awa'a where the trees have a much better chance of surviving.

To make matters worse, an invasive insect—a thrip—has invaded the Hawaiian Islands and is killing naio trees by the tens of thousands. Naio is also a food source for the palila and is a prime constituent of the native forests at Ka'ohē. Only 700 palila are estimated to remain today. With DLNR prioritizing the interests of hunters over the the palila, the outlook for the birds is not good. Unless DLNR changes how it manages Mauna Kea, the palila bird inches ever closer to extinction.

Mahalo nui Mark for all of your hard work and perseverance. The forests thank you!

**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](http://hawaiianforest.com).

You can help! Join Mark + us in Pu'uwa'awa'a

The Sierra Club of Hawai'i is organizing service projects with Mark Hanson to plant and care for 'iliahi and other native trees at Pu'u Wa'awa'a. Join us November 23-24!

Info & RSVP at [bit.ly/SCH-TREES](http://bit.ly/SCH-TREES)



You could be here - with service trip coordinator, Randy, and Mark!





# Sierra Club of Hawai'i Stands with Kia'i Mauna

Sierra Club statement regarding the Thirty Meter Telescope on Mauna Kea

Since 1977, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i has raised concerns about telescope construction on Mauna Kea, and since 1998 the Sierra Club has called for a full moratorium on all construction at the summit. We renewed this call in 2010 when the University of Hawai'i released its Comprehensive Management Plan for the lands it leases at the summit of Mauna Kea that failed to take any substantive actions to improve conditions on the summit<sup>1</sup>. Today, in solidarity with the many organizations and individuals opposing the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) planned for the northern plateau of this mountain, we are once again calling for a halt to all construction in the Mauna Kea Conservation District.

As the elected leaders of the Sierra Club of Hawai'i Executive Committee, we agree that astronomy is a noble endeavor that can benefit humanity. We acknowledge that some of our members may support constructing the TMT on Mauna Kea. However, we find that in this situation, the benefits of this planned construction are outweighed by the harm that construction would cause to this Conservation District and to the people of Hawai'i who value Mauna Kea for ecological, cultural, and religious importance.

We respect that for Hawaiians, there is only one Hawai'i, one homeland, and only one Mauna Kea. There is no replacement, no alternative, for this particular mountain. As Amnesty International highlights, proceeding with the TMT project on Mauna Kea without the free, prior, and informed consent of indigenous Hawaiians is a human rights violation<sup>2</sup>.

Consistent with its sacred status, Mauna Kea is designated in state law as a conservation district. The summit region of Mauna Kea is home to the largest recorded archaeological and cultural sites in the Pacific, recognized as a state historic district and traditional cultural property, and a national natural landmark in recognition of its unique geologic features. This is a place where nature should dominate, not human-made construction.

Unfortunately, there is a general consensus that 40 years of western astronomy on Mauna Kea has caused significant adverse impact to the natural and cultural resources of this mountain. The TMT Corporation has known about this general consensus since at least 2007<sup>3</sup>. Mercury spills, unlined cesspools, ancient view planes obstructed, and a physically shorter summit are all the direct result of mismanaged telescope construction on Mauna Kea.

To suffer such extensive harm to such a unique and sacred place, it is clear why so many people are moved to physically protect this place from further degradation.

Looking at this conflict from a land use perspective, it does not matter what is proposed for construction—a house, a hospital, a hotel—if it does not comply with the criteria requiring that “natural beauty” be improved, then the project should not be built in a conservation district. Undermining the standards put in place to protect Mauna Kea undermines the strength of all of Hawai'i's conservation areas<sup>4</sup>.

If we are to succeed in creating a future where all of us thrive—from the wekiu bug to the polar bear, from the scientist to the religious leader and every being in-between—then we must listen when our neighbor says “no” to an action that directly harms them.

This principle of equity and justice underscores everything the Sierra Club is doing in the 21st century to protect our planet. From standing in solidarity with Black Lives Matter and LGBTQ equality to advocating in concert with indigenous people for the protection of sacred places around the world, we are embracing this moment of great opportunity to change everything about the way humanity prospers.

International scientific experts confirm that indigenous land management techniques, such as those practiced by kanaka maoli, contain important wisdom that can lead all of Earth forward towards a more sustainable future. Indigenous knowledge, sometimes understood by contemporary observers as religion, is “locally fine-tuned, which is essential for climate change adaptation and long-term community resilience.”<sup>5</sup> Native self-determination and control of lands should be understood as a fundamental part of our climate change strategy.

We embrace the power of science to improve lives, protect our planet, and serve all of humanity. Science is how we understand the miracles of our amazing planet and the universe as a whole. Fortunately to pursue the science of the TMT, there are alternative locations where it could be constructed. We call on the Board of Directors of the TMT Corporation to recognize the injustice of their current course of action by voluntarily withdrawing its construction project from Mauna Kea and pursuing another location.

We also call on Governor David Ige, whom the Sierra Club twice endorsed for election as Governor, to not use emergency declarations to aid the actions of private corporations. Gov. Ige should reserve state power to protect the best interests of the public.

**For all of these reasons, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i stands in solidarity with the kia'i mauna.**

(1) Sierra Club of Hawai'i Mauna Kea Policy, 2010

(2) Amnesty International Calls for TMT Moratorium, July 27, 2019 (The Hawai'i Independent)

(3) Assessment of the Risks for Siting the Thirty Meter Telescope on Mauna Kea, 2007 (The Keystone Center)

(4) Conservation District Use Application for Thirty Meter Telescope Contested Case, November 30, 2018 (Hawai'i Supreme Court)

(5) Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, Tebtebba (Land Use, Climate Change Adaptation and Indigenous Peoples, United Nations University)

## GUIDE TO SANITIZING FOOTWEAR & GEAR

Pesky and destructive species, such as ants, miconia, and Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death (ROD) fungal spores can spread on dirty shoes and other gear, so it's important to clean these items well. The simple actions below help to protect our native ecosystems and prevent the spread of weed plants, harmful pests, and disease-causing pathogens.

### SANITIZATION CHECKLIST

- Thoroughly check footwear and gear for dried mud, debris, and plant seeds.
- Loosen shoelaces to inspect shoe tongues and remove any hiding seeds and bits of dirt.
- Open bags and remove all contents to inspect for hiding seeds, bits of dirt, and tiny animal stowaways (Optional: do this before arriving at the check-in site).
- Have all guides and tour participants follow the three steps below to remove weed seeds, tiny animal hitchhikers, fungal spores, and other microscopic pathogens.

#### STEP ONE

##### SCRUB OFF ALL SOIL & DEBRIS

Removing soil and debris greatly reduces the chances of packing a pest, weed, or disease.



#### STEP TWO

##### SPRAY WITH 70% RUBBING ALCOHOL

70% Rubbing alcohol will kill fungal spores, and bacteria on contact.



#### STEP THREE

##### LET SIT 15 SECONDS BEFORE EMBARKING

Wait 15 seconds before embarking on outing to allow the rubbing alcohol to kill spores and bacteria.



### Rapid 'ōhi'a death has now been found on O'ahu, Kaua'i and Maui, as well as on Hawai'i Island.

It's as important as ever to make sure your gear and vehicles are clean to prevent the spread of the ROD causing fungus—as well as other invasive species. Before (and after) any outdoor activities in Hawai'i's forests—such as hiking, mountain/dirt biking, cultural practices, trail running, and forest bathing—be sure to follow the above steps to be sure you are not contributing to the spread of invasive species and help protect our precious forests!

Learn more at [rapidohiadeath.org](http://rapidohiadeath.org)

## Love your native forests, avoid spreading invasive species

# 5 THINGS you can do

[www.rapidohiadeath.org](http://www.rapidohiadeath.org)

Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death, a newly identified disease caused by a fungus (Ceratocystis) is killing 'ōhi'a, one of Hawai'i's most important and abundant native trees. Hundreds of thousands of trees have been killed on Hawai'i Island and the disease has the potential to affect forests statewide.

**1 AVOID INJURING 'ŌHI'A**  
Wounds serve as entry points for the fungus and increase the odds that the tree will become infected and die from ROD. Avoid pruning and contact with heavy equipment wherever possible.

**2 DON'T TRANSPORT 'ŌHI'A INTER-ISLAND**  
Comply with the new quarantine rule to help prevent ROD from spreading. Don't move 'ōhi'a plants, whole or parts, 'ōhi'a wood, or soil from Hawai'i island without a permit.

**3 DON'T MOVE 'ŌHI'A WOOD**  
Don't move 'ōhi'a wood, firewood or posts, especially from an area known to have ROD. If you don't know where the wood is from, don't move it.

**4 CLEAN YOUR GEAR & TOOLS**  
If you must work around or cut 'ōhi'a, clean tools and gear before and after use, especially when used on infected 'ōhi'a. Brush all soil off of tools and gear, then spray with 70% rubbing alcohol. Shoes and clothes should also be cleaned before and after entering forests. Wash clothes with hot water and soap.

**5 WASH YOUR VEHICLE**  
Wash the tires and undercarriage of your vehicles with detergent and remove all soil or mud, especially after traveling from an area with ROD and/or if you have traveled off-road.



## Meet O'ahu Group's New Program Manager: Lauren Watanabe

Originally from East L.A., Lauren Watanabe is an artist and proud third generation working class Mexican-American. Her identity informs her passion for justice and she channels it into her work and art. After graduating from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, she was a community/political organizer with UNITE HERE Local 5 and discovered her profound sense of purpose in connecting deeply rooted values to movement building. Throughout her time at Local 5, Lauren worked on several campaigns in alliance with diverse community leaders, students, and organizations, as well as created art based protests for actions and rallies.

During some time in L.A., Lauren spent time at a Chicana women's theater collective, whose objective was to organize theater festivals that celebrated the unique voices of women and provided critical spaces to speak their truths. Since moving back to Hawai'i in 2019, Lauren became a member of Hawai'i Playbuilders – a local, community-based theatre company that shares real stories throughout the culturally rich and diverse communities of Hawai'i. She is beyond thrilled to join the Sierra Club of Hawai'i team in the fight for climate justice—to grow a broad-based movement that centers our community in an understanding that everyone's issues are interconnected.

Lauren is also a bike commuter that dreams of an eco-socialist future full of vegan foodies with “Fab 5” realness.



## Kaiwi Coast Shoreline Devastated by Vehicles

by Reese Liggett, O'ahu Group Member

In East Honolulu, as you drive the Kaiwi Coast from Hanauma Bay and Koko Head, just past Sandy Beach Park, is a lovely natural area of sand dunes, native vegetation, beach and shore rocks. Oh...and also a stripped, abandoned car, mound of trash, and 10-15 vehicles parked or marauding among the dunes—some of them there all day and night.

This land, known as Wāwāmalu on most maps, is zoned Preservation and once had two standard blue, Department of Parks and Recreation signs: the usual one for “prohibited activities”, and one that said “no driving on the beach”. The small beach in this zone, known for occasional resting monk seals, is fully tire-tracked. Beaches themselves, of course, are the jurisdiction of the State to the high wash of the waves. But the area around this beach is either owned by the city or leased by the city from the state.



Tire tracks on Wāwāmalu Beach, known monk seal habitat. Photo by Reese Liggett.

Sierra Club members have brought this situation to the attention of the Hawai'i Kai Neighborhood Board. The Hawai'i Kai community is justifiably proud of the coastal scene as you round the bend from Hanauma Bay and Koko Head. It is truly stunning for its crashing waves and mostly unbuilt land. Members of the Hawai'i Kai community led a most successful effort to preclude forever the development of the lands that reach up from the coast—lands Henry Kaiser planned for housing many decades ago.

But...the depredation of the section described above is a festering sore. We can do better. Club members can help in the effort to get this area cleaned up and protected by attending Hawai'i Kai Neighborhood Board meetings (Haha'ione Elementary, last Tuesday of each month, 7pm) and speaking up when the board turns its attention to this glaring situation. Contact [wliggett@twc.com](mailto:wliggett@twc.com) for more ways you can help.

## 2019 IN REVIEW



Annual Maui Group plant sale at the Hā'ikū Ho'olaule'a



Chapter ExCom & friends at retreat in Volcano



Spring Chapter intern, Catherine, speaking at the Youth Climate Strike in March



Kaua'i Group presents Bridget Hammerquist with award



Opening Day at the Hawai'i State Legislature



Kapu Aloha Unity March on Maui



O'ahu Group volunteer, Denise, testifying to the City Council on Red Hill resolution



Maui Group member, Clare, helping student volunteers uncover archaeological sites at Wailea 670



Hawai'i Island Group ExCom, presenting awards to science fair scholarship recipient



Maui Group & allies present petition to Maui County Council asking the county to settle the Lahaina Injection Wells case

Photos by Sierra Club volunteers and staff; photos continued on back cover

## Progress Towards Relocating the Red Hill Tanks

By Jodi Malinoski, Chapter Policy Advocate

The Sierra Club continues to engage in efforts to protect O'ahu's drinking water from the Navy's underground fuel tanks at Red Hill, which are nearly 80 years old, have a history of leaking, and are corroding. The tanks store over 200 million gallons of fuel only 100 feet above an aquifer that supplies drinking water to residents and visitors from Hālawā to Hawai'i Kai.

In May 2019, the Sierra Club formally requested that the state Department of Health amend Hawai'i's Administrative Rules relating to underground storage tanks. Our request to the Department, called a petition for rulemaking, asked the agency to use its legal authority to change its rules to require the relocation of the Navy's Red Hill tanks. Specifically, we asked that the Department not allow field constructed underground storage tanks over 100,000 gallons—read: the tanks at Red Hill—to be operated mauka of the underground injection control line—read: above drinking water resources—beginning January 1, 2028. This rule change, if adopted, would give the U.S. Navy 10 years to plan for and relocate its massive, aging fuel tanks at Red Hill—ensuring the protection of O'ahu's drinking water from fuel contamination.

While we await an official response from the Department regarding our rulemaking petition, in September 2019 the Navy released its Tank Upgrade Alternatives Report. Not surprisingly, the Navy evaluated six tank upgrade options and chose the least expensive and least protective option, recommending to state and federal regulators that the Red Hill tanks undergo minimal upgrades. The Navy wants to keep the original 80 year old single-walled steel tank liner, citing this as the most “practicable” alternative, and points to efforts made to increase tank inspection and groundwater monitoring. To address future fuel leaks it proposes to evaluate the feasibility of installing a water treatment plant that would use carbon to filter toxic chemicals from O'ahu's drinking water. In short, the Navy's recommendation reaffirms that the current plan to upgrade the Red Hill tanks is insufficient and will continue to jeopardize the safety of our water.

The Sierra Club is calling on the Navy, the Health Department, and the Environmental Protection Agency to commit to the only solution that will ensure protection of O'ahu's drinking water, which is relocating the Navy's fuel away from our aquifer. We anticipate state and federal regulators will schedule public hearings on both the Navy's report as well as our proposed rule change before the end of 2019. Join us and let's show decisionmakers that people across Hawai'i support relocating the Red Hill fuel tanks as the only long-term solution to protect O'ahu's drinking water. Sign up for email updates at [bit.ly/SCH-email](https://bit.ly/SCH-email), select “Red Hill”.





Explore, enjoy and protect the planet



## With your help we can clean up our water

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

Keep our water safe. Join Sierra Club.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!



Check enclosed. Please make payable to Sierra Club

Please charge my:  Visa  Mastercard  AMEX

Cardholder Name \_\_\_\_\_

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

F94Q 2400 1

# HAWAII CAPITOL WATCH .ORG

Your up-to-date, easy to navigate source for environmental justice legislation at the capitol

SIGN UP FOR EMAIL UPDATES  
at [bit.ly/sch-cw](http://bit.ly/sch-cw)

## 2020 Executive Committee Elections

### Vote for your Sierra Club leadership!

#### Hawai'i Chapter Executive Committee Candidate Bios

Seats will be filled by the top four candidates.

##### Lucienne de Naie

Lucienne de Naie is a long time Club member who has served as Chair and Vice-chair of the Sierra Club Hawai'i Chapter Executive Committee. She is a researcher and writer whose passion is protection of native plants, streams, watersheds, and cultural sites.



##### Debbie Hecht

Debbie Hecht has lived on the Big Island since 2003. In that time she has worked for the Save our Lands Citizen Committee and served on the Hawai'i Pacific Parks Association and the Sierra Club Hawai'i Island Group Executive Committee for several years. Living briefly in San Diego, she was elected chair of the Sierra Club San Diego Steering Committee in 2014, serving as chair for two years. An avid swimmer, snorkeler, hiker, gardener and tennis player, Debbie has many years of establishing nonprofits, facilitating, mediating, and conservation land planning in Tucson and Hawai'i.



##### Raquel Kamalu

Born and raised on the island of O'ahu, Raquel grew up enjoying the outdoors. She currently works as a sales engineer at Johnson Controls, with a goal of working on energy efficiency and sustainability projects. With the Sierra Club Raquel hopes to become more engaged with her community and protect Hawai'i's wild places, as they are critical to her culture as a Native Hawaiian and she wants to ensure that future generations can continue to enjoy them. New to the Mālama Tree Crew, Raquel is excited to be involved in efforts that promote the return of Hawai'i's native plants.



##### Michael Nieling

Michael is a designer, educator, husband, father, and full-time cyclone of energy. He is the creative director and founder of Ocupop and co-founder of Kunoa Cattle Company. Michael has been helping to define the visual language of our digital experience for nearly 20 years and has directed Ocupop's team in creating some of the most influential logos, campaigns, and user interfaces on the web and beyond. As a leader on the Executive Committee, he looks forward to lending those same talents and experiences to furthering the mission of the Sierra Club of Hawai'i.



##### Sheila Sarhangi

Sheila Sarhangi is a communications strategist who specializes in partnering with communities, nonprofits, foundations, and government agencies to achieve conservation goals. She has worked on a wide range of environmental issues across the Pacific, in Hawai'i, Palau, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, the Northern Mariana Islands and Indonesia, on issues ranging from endangered species protection to community-based fishing rules and public access. Currently, she is focused on protecting biodiversity-rich places to increase their resilience, and communicating solutions to curb the effects of climate change.



**Don't forget - 2020 Executive Committee ballots are electronic ONLY!**

**There will be no paper ballots mailed or in the newsletter.**

All candidate bios are also available online at [sierraclubhawaii.org/excombio20](http://sierraclubhawaii.org/excombio20)

If you have any questions or trouble with your ballot contact us at 808-538-6616 ext. 1 or [hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org).

Elected candidates will be announced in the January 2020 *Mālama i ka Honua*.



## O'ahu Group Executive Committee Candidate Bios

*Seats will be filled by the top four candidates.*

### Tenaiya Brookfield

Tenaiya Brookfield is an exceptional VP with over 10 years experience in business development. She gained international recognition in South East Asia for her work in the hospitality industry. Whilst winning awards for revenue growth she also enacted wide sweeping environmental and social changes across over 130 hotels and 14,000 employees. Returning to her native Hawai'i, she aims to assist in a stronger unification of environmental and economic goals for Hawai'i's long-term prosperity.



### Hunter Heavilin

Hunter Heavilin currently serves as Chair of the O'ahu Group Executive Committee. He grew up in Hawai'i and is pursuing his PhD in Geography at UH Manoa, researching climate change impacts to agriculture in Hawai'i. He works as an agricultural planner and spearheads O'ahu Group's efforts to preserve agricultural land and support local food.



### Nate Hix

Nate Hix is currently the Director of Living Wage Hawai'i and is a passionate environmental justice advocate. He is focused on establishing a carbon pricing program in Hawai'i, as advocated for by the UN's IPCC report to eventually eliminate our contribution to climate change. With the help of the Sierra Club and its members, Nate intends to leave the average resident better off financially as we transition to a carbon neutral economy.



### Victor Gregor Limon

Victor makes maps. He is a graduate student and research assistant at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa's Department of Urban and Regional Planning. He has interned for the city's Office of Climate Change, Sustainability, and Resiliency, where he mapped more than 500 infrastructure projects to evaluate for climate adaptation and equity.



His current research interests include urban climate modeling, remote sensing technologies, and coral reef bleaching events.

### Dana R. Lyons

Dana R. Lyons practices real property, commercial, and environmental law in Hawai'i, advocating for and advising clients on issues of sustainable and resilient business strategies. Mr. Lyons is also a forest steward, as co-manager of a 20-acre forest preserve on the Big Island of Hawai'i, dedicated to the preservation of native 'ōhia lehua rainforest. He enjoys spending time with 'ohana, hiking, swimming, gardening, reading, writing, and practicing aloha 'āina.



### Lori Mallini

Lori Mallini is an environmental policy advocate with a passion for protecting the places she lives and loves. She is a graduate from Hawai'i Pacific University with a Bachelor's in Environmental Studies with a focus on environmental policy. Lori has volunteered with Sierra Club as a hike guide, Get Out the Vote efforts, and most recently as a policy advocate during the 2019 legislative session, where she championed bills relating to recycling and waste.



### Soo Schake

Soo currently works as an Organizing Assistant for Faith Action for Community Equity, an interfaith nonprofit advocacy organization committed to social justice. She is also a part-time student at UH West O'ahu majoring in Public Administration and has been active in the YPDA's Environmental Justice committee since last year. Soo is passionate about protecting Hawai'i's natural environment and ensuring that changes be made on the policy level to create a sustainable future for all.



SIERRA CLUB  
OF HAWAII'  
O'AHU GROUP

## Kaua'i Group Executive Committee Candidate Bios

*Seats will be filled by the top three candidates.*

### Jesse Brown-Clay

Jesse Brown-Clay was raised in Wailua, Kaua'i. A lifelong passion of malama 'āina led Jesse to obtain a BS degree in Ecology from the Evergreen State College in Washington. Jesse is a project manager for Zero Waste Kaua'i working on effective solutions for waste management issues. He also works on voter turnout issues amongst local youth and a budding agroforestry project in Wailua. Jesse's goals are to help develop healthy resilient systems and communities on Kaua'i.



### Judy Dalton

Judy Dalton has served on the Kaua'i Group Executive Committee for 24 years and on the Chapter Executive Committee for 17 years. She facilitated the cease of construction of a 3/5-mile-long beach-destroying seawall fronting the Wailua Golf Course in 1996, initiated the formation of Mālama Māhā'ulepū in 1999, and succeeded in legally challenging the Planning Commission to increase coastal setbacks for the Kealia Kai subdivision at Kuna Bay (Donkey Beach).



### David Dinner

David Dinner has served on the Kaua'i Group Executive Committee for 10 years. He also served as president of 1000 Friends of Kaua'i, co-chair of the People for the Preservation of Kaua'i, and co-chair of Citizens for Responsible Government. He is currently active in the Kaua'i Community Coalition which is devoted to community education, particularly their candidate forums and affordable housing events.



SIERRA CLUB  
OF HAWAII'  
KAUAI GROUP

## Nina Monasevitch

Nina Monasevitch is an advocate for marine conservation. She has archived 29 years of research documenting the state of the ocean ecosystem. Nina serves on the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council and served as a Board member of the Hawai'i National Marine Sanctuary Foundation. She also served on the Kaua'i Group Excom in 1987. Nina co-founded a nonprofit organization advocating for whales. Nina is committed to continue being a voice for our ocean planet.



## Voting Instructions

### Voting online is easy, here's how:

- All current members will receive an email from Sierra Club of Hawai'i around **October 21** containing a link with your personalized ballot.
- Do not share this link as it corresponds to personal membership numbers.
- *If you do not receive your emailed ballot link by **October 25** contact us at [hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org) or 808-538-6616 ext 1.*
- Once you open the email, write down your access key and password code, click the link and follow the prompts to complete your ballot.
- You will be prompted to vote in elections for the Chapter and your group.
- All candidate bios are also available online at [sierraclubhawaii.org/excombio20](http://sierraclubhawaii.org/excombio20).

**Ballots must be completed by November 22**

**Mahalo nui for your support!**



## Maui Group Executive Committee Candidate Bios

*Seats will be filled by the top four candidates.*

### Dr. Paul McCurdy

Dr. Paul is a Maui veterinarian working with pets, birds and fish. The South Florida native has a degree in Marine Biology and graduated from veterinary school in New Zealand after spending time studying coral reefs in the South Pacific. Paul is an avid diver, hiker, mountain biker and surfer who wants to help protect Maui's environment. He was appointed to a vacancy on the Maui ExCom in 2018 and looks forward to continuing that service.



### Charlene "Char" Schulenburg

Charlene was raised in Hawai'i, graduated from Maui's St. Anthony High and California's Santa Clara University. She has a background in media production and event and property management. She has volunteered for many years with organizations that help children, homeless families and the Kihei community. Char hopes to assist the Sierra Club's efforts on wetlands protection. She is active in many campaigns to protect natural and cultural resources in the South Maui area.



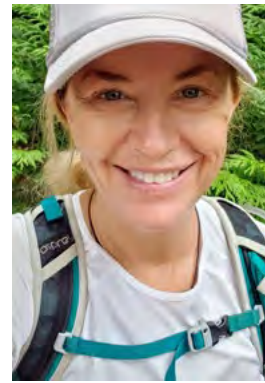
### Jeanie Stewart

Jeanie is a life member of the Sierra Club who served as the first chair of the Delaware Chapter in the 1990's. She teaches at Kihei Charter School and has a passion for outdoor education, hiking and protecting our native plants and animals. Jeanie was appointed to a vacancy on the Maui ExCom in 2019 and looks forward to continuing that service.



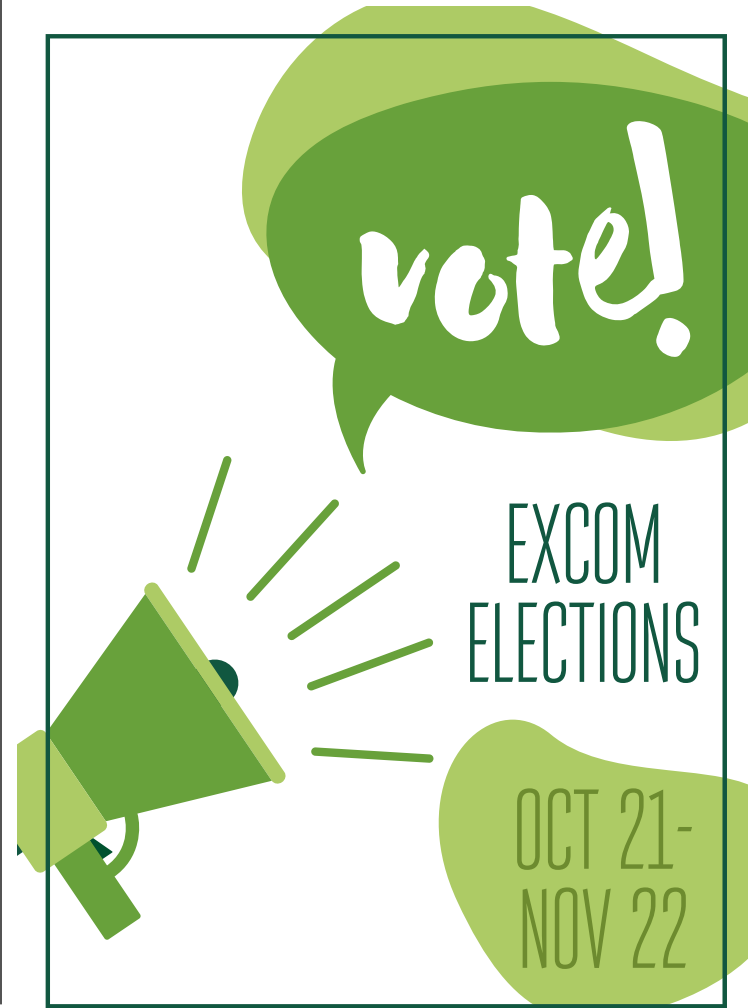
### Michelle Walton

Michelle is a dedicated hiker who enjoys getting out in nature, hiking and exploring different parts of the island. She wants to be part of the solution for Maui's future, and would like to serve on the Sierra Club's board to help the Club's efforts to protect the natural environment, landscapes and native wildlife.



### Rob Weltman

Rob is a retired software engineer with a lifelong love for the outdoors and for preserving and securing an environment that will sustain the plants and animals of our shared earth and the people who walk it. He sees bringing people of all ages and backgrounds into nature to experience the outdoors first hand a key element of building broad support for the action required to safeguard our natural resources. Rob has been the chairperson of Maui Group since 2016.

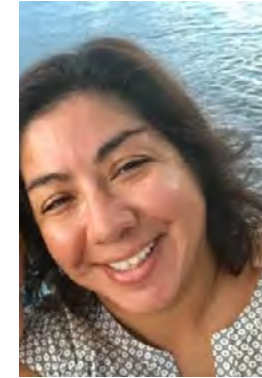


## Hawai'i Island Group Executive Committee Candidate Bios

*Seats will be filled by the top four candidates.*

### Rose Acevedo

Rose is a dedicated mother, partner, traveler, outdoor enthusiast and team member. A Volcano resident since 2011, she works as an elementary school teacher in the Ka'u district. With a Master's degree in teaching from UH Hilo, Rose has been employed by the Hawai'i Department of Education since 2006 and is very active in the Hawai'i State Teachers Association. She was an outings leader from 2007-2011 and an ExCom member from 2008-2011 and looks forward to serving again.



### Amanda Clausen

Amanda is a lifelong lover of the earth and sea, and has worked internationally as an environmental educator and wildlife biologist. She enjoys her work as a catalyst for human-to-ecosystem connection, and she's a passionate student and teacher of cultural perception of environment. Amanda has worked for a number of nonprofits, schools, and communities globally to promote sustainable lifestyle and to advocate for our environment. She holds a bachelor's degree in ecology from Western Washington University.



### Dr. Marianne "Georgie" Fong, MS, ND

In high school, Dr. Fong wanted to become a cardiac surgeon, an ambition sprung from her love for living creatures. Over the decades, her love has expanded into all living things in nature and on earth. Dr. Fong became a vegan 20 years ago, horrified of the destruction animal agriculture has on the environment. To take action, she joined Earthjustice, believing the path was through the courtroom. As lawsuits are tedious, and often slow, she continues to her fight with several additional organizations who work diligently to save the planet.



### Emily Garland

Emily Garland, of Hilo, is a lifelong environmentalist. She is passionate about living simply and sustainably and helping others do the same. Emily, 36, grew up in Edmonds, Washington and has lived in an assortment of places, including Alaska, Oregon, California, Washington, D.C., New Zealand, England, Toronto and Cambodia, where she served as a Peace Corps Volunteer. Emily graduated from Linfield College with a bachelor's degree in mass communication and creative writing. Emily is a writer, editor, teacher and communications manager and has worked for several environmental nonprofits.



### Dr. Joe Kassel

Dr. Joe Kassel lives Honokōhau and has been a Naturopathic Physician and Licensed Acupuncturist since 1988. He has worked at Bridge House for over 16 years, runs a private practice, and volunteers with the Mauna Medic hui. He has worked on environmental and social justice issues since he was eleven, beginning with a school boycott for desegregation and in the 1980's through Oregon Tilth and the Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides. Locally, he worked on the Kona Development Plan, groundwater preservation, Mauna Hualalai preservation, county GMO restrictions, and Pōhakuloa impacts and more.







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

P.O. Box 2577  
Honolulu, HI 96803

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Honolulu, HI  
Permit No. 1284

sierraclubhawaii.org • facebook.com/sierraclubhawaii

MĀLAMA I KA HONUA "Cherish the Earth" | A Quarterly Journal of the SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAII | OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2019

# 2019 IN REVIEW



High school hikers at the Waikoloa Dry Forest Reserve



Sierra Club staff and volunteers lead high school students from Japan and Hawaii around State Capitol, teaching about sustainability



Debbie Ward, Hawaii Island Group ExCom Chair, and Kalia Avery



Hawaii Island Group hike along newly formed beach at Pohoiki



Kumu Brad Lum doing opening protocol at Mālama Mākua access day



Marti Townsend & other Ka Iwi Exploration participants



Annette Kaohelaulii presents Art Medeiros with the Ed Stevens Lifetime Achievement Award



Water protectors hui up before hearing on HB1326, the Water Theft Bill



Sierra Club, Earthjustice, & allies after court rules state must do more to uphold the solar water heater mandate



Kauai outings participants hiking through Waimea Valley

**Mahalo for a great year!**  
Photos by Sierra Club volunteers and staff