



# MĀLAMA I KA HONUA

## Cherish The Earth

JOURNAL OF THE HAWAII CHAPTER SIERRA CLUB

VOLUME 33 • NUMBER 4

OCTOBER-DECEMBER 2001

# Saving O`ahu from Sprawl

## Castle and Cooke's Koa Ridge paves prime ag land

The remaining stretches of agricultural open space you can enjoy between the developed areas of Pearl City and Mililani may soon be history if Castle and Cooke gets per-  
Randy Ching mission to build 7,500 houses along Koa Ridge. Add to that the already approved Waiawa by Gentry, Mililani Mauka, and Royal Kunia projects and you have the urban sprawl in central O`ahu that citizens and planners have been trying to escape.

Castle and Cooke is currently asking the State Land Use Commission to reclassify 1250 acres of agricultural lands on either side of H2 just South of Mililani. They are planning to construct some 7,500 housing units, in addition to a large medical complex. The current development plan for the area calls for agriculture, not housing or commercial projects. After all, the land is mostly prime agricul-



Star-Bulletin photo. Used with Permission

### Koa Ridge: Prime ag land or housing sprawl?

tural land, important open space, and outside of the dedicated growth area of Ewa and the Second City of Kapolei.

Honolulu Mayor Jeremy Harris apparently supports preventing more sprawl in central O`ahu. In his 1998 State of the City Address, the Mayor suggested, "Instead of continuing to allow urban sprawl in central O`ahu, I pro-

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## Requiem for the Refuge?

When Luci Beach, Gwich'in Indian, hears the oil industry's standard reassurance that their plan to drill in Alaska's Arctic National Wildlife Refuge will only impact five percent of it, she asks, "and your heart is what percentage of your body?" Beach's metaphor leaves no room for argument.

The pulse of the Athabascan native people of Alaska, who have relied on caribou for 70% of food supplies, has been felt throughout Hawai`i as they rally support for protecting the Refuge from a misguided federal energy policy that is now before the Senate. Their focus is on recovering Hawai`i Senator Daniel Akaka, who until 1995 voted for wilderness status. The Senator is still undecided as the swing voter on the Bingaman (D-NM) "Clean Energy Bill," but his recent com-

**Steven Lee  
Montgomery PhD**

ments indicate that he is in the pro-drilling camp. Senator Daniel Inouye, unfortunately, has been a long supporter of drilling in the Refuge, claiming Hawai`i needed this source, too.

The case against drilling in the Arctic Refuge is solid. Any drilling or industrial activity will irreparably harm the fragile tundra ecosystem, birthing ground to the famed porcupine caribou herd. The estimated 3.2 billion barrels of oil that are recoverable will hardly dent the

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### WHAT CAN YOU DO?

Send a letter to:  
 Senator Daniel Akaka  
 Box 50144,  
 Honolulu, HI 96850  
 Or contact Senator Akaka:  
 Phone: 522-8970  
 Fax: 545-4683 or email:  
 senator@akaka.senate.gov  
 Protect the Arctic Refuge  
 from drilling!

The Sierra Club, Hawai`i Chapter, is Hawaii's largest grassroots environmental advocacy organization  
**INSIDE: New water monitoring program • Maui sprawl • Hikes and work trips**

# Deadline for next *Mālama* December 1, 2001

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## MĀLAMA I KA HONUA

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The Mālama is now online in PDF format (<http://www.hi.sierraclub.org/Malama/malama.html>).

All members and interested environmentalists are invited to contribute items to Mālama. Articles should be sent via e-mail to: [hawaii.chapter@lava.net](mailto:hawaii.chapter@lava.net).

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The tragic events of September 11th have shaken all of our lives. For some, the attacks have sadly taken loved ones; for many, the attacks have stolen a comforting innocence. As we try to orient ourselves to the unimaginable facts and new realities that are evolving, it can be challenging to connect to our important mission of protecting Hawaii's environment. But these new realities do not diminish our mission in any way--in fact, they should strengthen our resolve.

Hawaii's wild and natural places need our protection. In these times-sometimes filled with uncertainty and chaos--we need to feel strong and solid about something. We are fortunate in Hawaii to be able to experience rugged, stunning beauty to get away from it all and connect with something greater. Hawaii's raw nature avails to us timeless metaphors that offer insight into a changing world. We need these experiences and we need the spaces that provide them, the undeveloped coastline and unbroken wild areas.

Beyond protecting Hawaii's special places, our priority issues reflect progress toward true security and stability that Hawaii requires for prosperity--prosperity of its inhabitants, its land, and its living creatures.

Consider our initiatives to increase renewable energy use and conservation in the state. Today's world makes no guarantee on the availability of cheap oil, unsettling for a state that depends on oil for 95% of its energy needs. The Sierra Club's incessant calls for more clean, local energy sources are just as easily calls for secure energy for our homes and businesses as they are calls to protect Hawaii's environment.

## SECURING A FUTURE

### A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



By building more efficient homes and buildings, by shifting from "sport-utility" gas-guzzlers to alternate forms of transportation, we lessen our dependence on a risky global oil supply. What's more, because of our near total reliance on importing food to the islands, for Hawaii, oil means food.

We have been working to protect agricultural lands from inappropriate sprawl. Not only does this reduce traffic (and commensurate resource consumption), it also protects soils that can nourish Hawaii and its economy through diversified agriculture. Although sugar and pineapple have faded as economic drivers, agricultural land still has values that are not fully appreciated today. Recharging our fragile water supply, providing habitat, and supplying open space for beauty and recreation should not be taken for granted.

Again, it becomes a question of security. Preserving our agricultural lands--if even leaving them fallow or planting forests--preserves the option of food self-sufficiency for Hawaii's residents.

We have all been struck with new fears, new uncertainties, and new challenges. But now more than ever, an open mind quickly recognizes the connections between protecting Hawaii's environment and securing Hawaii's sustainable future.

*Thank you for your support.*

### A NOTE FROM THE CHAIRWOMAN

When asked at the last Chapter Excomm meeting if I still lived in my cabin in the woods of Puna, Hawaii, off the grid, I nonchalantly replied yes. I have lived on the Big Island now for 10 years and I truly feel the benefits have outweighed the personal sacrifice. Sure, I gave up my toaster, rice cooker and hair dryer, but you really do not need much to live sustainably--and very happily--in a pristine rain forest.

When I first arrived, I was told by the utility (HELCO) that I would have to pay \$4390.00 for a hook up and then purchase my poles at \$2000.00 each. What a deal! They do have a program which allows you to finance it over 10 years. As I did not plan on having a mortgage on the cabin, why would I take their option? After the initial investigation into a "solar" system, I had to assess all of my electrical needs. What "things" do you really need? As a consumer for too many years, this was difficult. I found that to have a system to run a TV, VCR, computer, and a few low-wattage fluorescent lights all I needed was a simple arrangement of 4 solar panels, 4 batteries, and an 812

watt inverter. My small system cost about \$2500.00 installed and it is still working today.

Photovoltaic is simply the way to go in Hawaii. Excess energy is stored in a 12 volt battery bank to be used and inverted later for AC appliances (those connected to the grid can now "net meter" their systems, effectively selling back their excess power). Other needs are also easily met "off the grid." My water catchment tank holds 4500 gallons, so even in times of drought I still have sufficient water. Water flows with a 12 volt water pump. Of course, you have to keep the roof and gutters clean and have a filter for drinking water, but it is pure rain water and not chlorinated. My only fossil fuel use is the propane that supplies my hot water, refrigerator and cooking needs. It's actually cost efficient and relatively safe. My life in Puna is quite comfortable now, and more sustainable than ever.



*Roberta  
Brashear*

# CONSERVATION

## MAUI TAKES ON MORE SPRAWL

*Rob Parsons and the Maui Group*

The Kihei-Wailea-Makena area continues to be the center of the debate over whether the county's commitment to "smart growth" includes approval of more exclusive resort developments in water-hungry, traffic-clogged South Maui. Residents are asking for responsible planning, not rubberstamping.

**Wailea Beach Villas:** Special management area exemption for a 104-unit luxury project on the only remaining open beachfront in the Wailea area was approved by the County Planning Commission on July 11. Concerns expressed by the Sierra Club and others led to an earlier deferment to allow developers to address traffic issues, water availability and public beach access. Final approval overlooked sensible coastal protection policies and allowed a private swimming pool within the sensitive shoreline setback area. Parking in the few public parking stalls in the gated parking lot will be regulated by permit passes issued by a guard!

**Wailea 670:** This upscale gated community of 1400 luxury, mostly vacation homes adjacent to the existing neighborhoods of Maui Meadows is the largest project ever proposed for the Wailea/Makena area. Maui Group representatives testified numerous times at Planning Commission hearings and public information meetings. They cite the huge impact the proposed project would have on the resources of the area and the continued need for affordable (not luxury) housing in South Maui. Wailea 670 has announced plans to overcome lack of available County water by drilling wells on private land upslope (1,400') of the project to generate up to 5 million gallons of water a day for this and other South Maui development. This plan appears to violate the Kula Community Plan and existing priorities of water use in the State's water code. The State code gives first priority to water needs of Hawaiian Homes development, agriculture and the existing community. Waiohuli Hawaiian homelands area is counting on well water from the same region to serve its 400 families. Kula Community Plan mandates that water resources developed in that planning district be used in the planning district. No approvals have yet been granted for Wailea 670.

**Makena Resort:** Request to rezone 755 acres of Seibu resort land (mauka of the Prince Hotel) for 1600 timeshare and resort units was deferred by the County Council's Land Use Committee after a standing room only hearing in Kihei. The project's 2 million gallons per day water needs, impacts to ocean water quality and reefs, violation of Community Plan and Land Use Commission conditions, traffic, and continued lack of housing opportunities for the average Maui

family were all concerns listed by Club testifiers and the public. The matter will be reconsidered after more data is available on water resources.

**Baldwin Beach Condo Development, Pa'ia:** The County issued stop-work orders for two of the three "Montana Beach Condominium" houses under construction and an order to vacate was served on the owners of the one completed structure. The three houses occupy a stretch of white sand beach enjoyed by the community for generations and designated as "Park/Open Space in the Pa'ia-Ha'iku Community Plan. A recent legal opinion from the County Corporation Counsel affirmed that the county's long-standing policy of exempting projects with fewer than four buildings from shoreline Special Management Area requirements was "invalid from its inception." and resulted in the stop-work orders. In April, Maui Group Board member Christina Hemming joined Hui Ala Nui O Makena in hiring attorney Isaac Hall to appeal the legality of the development. After four Planning Commission hearings, the message seems to be getting heard that federal, state, and county laws regulating coastal zone development should be followed by the planning department.

**Spreckelsville Village New Plan, Old Problems.** A 220-acre prime agricultural area across from Baldwin Beach was previously proposed by owners Alexander & Baldwin as "Spreckelsville Mauka" - a 420-unit upscale golf course and housing development with a small park. Redesigned as "Spreckelsville Village," A&B now proposes 380 units, a golf course, some senior housing, and a small shopping center and park, and has resubmitted the proposal to the Maui Council's Planning Committee. Water, traffic, urbanization and lack of affordable housing are all concerns.

A&B's has proposed a trade off to limit traffic impacts in Paia. An affordable housing project on 80 acres near Paia School that was approved in the 1995 Paia-Ha'iku Community Plan would be abandoned, if Sprecks "Village" project is approved. The Paia School Project District had a 7 acre park and a mix of affordable and market price housing (380 units) including some "self help" lots for low income families. For two years Maui Group members and the majority of the surrounding communities have called for the Spreckelsville area to be removed from the urban Wailuku-Kahului Community planning area and rejoined to the rural Paia-Ha'iku Community planning area (as was the case in the 1980's). A&B's Sprecks proposal would then need to go through a planning process with local residents of the Northshore communities and fit with the strategic plan already developed for the adjoining village of Paia. Contact Maui Conservation Chair, Rob Parsons (wazoo@maui.net) or the Sierra club office 579-9802 for updates on this important issue.

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# NOTES

## MAUNA KEA UPDATE

NELSON HO

Sky and Telescope, the world's largest general public astronomy magazine, has published a significant article (August 2001) depicting the controversy atop our Mauna Kea summit. Burial disturbance, ceded lands issues, destruction of the wekiu habitat, and the new flawed Master Plan are discussed.

The Chronicle for Higher Education, a leading national university-based publication, has also included an extensive article on the overbuilding and mismanagement of Mauna Kea. Distributed to all university administrators nationwide, this article (June 1, 2001) interviewed astronomers, Hawaiians, and environmentalists. To obtain a copy of this and other articles, contact Nelson Ho (933-2650).

For a discussion of closure of the 4x4 road to the top of Pu'u Poli'ahu, check the Aug. 15, 2001 issue of the Hawai'i Tribune Herald.

**Keck 6 and NASA Resolution.** Sierra Club has been involved with Mauna Kea environmental matters since the mid-1970s. After careful examination of the NASA-sponsored Draft Environmental Assessment for the six Keck telescopes, Sierra Club concluded that, given the special cultural and environmental significance of Mauna Kea, the mitigative measures proposed by NASA are insufficient to adequately protect the mountain's upper summit cones and natural ecosystems during construction and operation of the proposed outrigger telescopes. Should NASA decide to proceed with development with only the Environmental Assessment, Sierra Club will seek to participate in a lawsuit to compel NASA to complete an EIS for the proposed expansion.

## HONOLULU CITY COUNCIL PASSES ON COASTAL OPEN SPACE

LISA CARTER

In September, the Honolulu City Council gave the go-ahead to infamous developer (and potential gubernatorial candidate in '02) Andy Anderson for his dream of an upscale gated community along a famous North Shore beach. The area is Kaunala Beach, otherwise known as that awesome surfing spot, Velzyland. Two years ago, the City Council voted to designate the area a beach park, but did not provide the money to purchase the property. Million dollar-plus houses will be built instead. Another selloff of Paradise.

The community has not been quiet about this. They have come out in force at multiple community hearings opposing this land use. The Friends of Velzyland activist group has reached out for help and worked tirelessly to convince the City Council to designate a park. That took some political will from the Council. What happened?

Councilmember Steve Holmes, a stalwart supporter of land conservation on O'ahu, stated, "going through with this development thwarts the previously stated City & County policy to make this a park area." But Holmes was the only

one on the Council who felt this way and who voted in opposition. Even Rene Mansho, the district's Councilmember, says that she wanted a park there but is absolutely confounded on how to scrape up enough money to achieve this. Then, the other Councilmembers got in line and also pleaded similar rock-in-a-hard-place excuses. Actions speak louder than words and if this is the extent of the creativeness of our political leadership then we're in trouble.

Whatever happened to creative financing? This is something that so many other communities across our country have considered and achieved, city after city, state after state. Where is Hawaii in all this? Maui is fortunately debating a ballot measure to amend their County Charter to fund land and park acquisition. Their Charter Commission is considering this now.

So while other places in America are putting aside millions of dollars for land acquisition, and it is even happening in small population bases like ours, we sit around doing nothing but watching Paradise become paved. My children and grandchildren need to experience the real Hawai'i. How can they with concrete everywhere?

Aside from the Sierra Club and the community groups who have formed to help this and other beaches, recent editorials in the Honolulu Advertiser also advises City and State governments to do all they can to preserve Hawai'i's shores: "(G)overnment should continue to buy shoreline access whenever and whenever it can....Such purchases have been wise investments, even if the money wasn't immediately available for complete park development. It is a form of land-banking that should be repeated again and again, around our Islands. Hawai'i has only so much available shoreline. Much of it is in private hands, with public access limited. Whenever possible, the city and the state should go out of their way to buy ocean-front parcels when they become available. Gradually, we can reconstruct a publicly owned 'lei of green' around our Islands, for views, for recreation and for access to the ocean."

Maybe this North Shore beachfront land will get lucky if someone in City government can spend some time and get creative. Hold a forum and really consider alternatives to financing public open space. As the Ka Iwi Action Council's T-shirt reads: "When the beauty of the shoreline is lost we

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pose that we draw rigid and absolute urban boundaries and redirect all future urban growth to the Second City and Primary Urban Center." As the approval process continues, O`ahu residents will witness if Mayor Harris stays true to his vision.

Both the Sierra Club and the Mililani Neighborhood Board (NB 25) have intervened in the Commission's proceeding; that is, we have been granted status as an official party to the deliberations. We can cross-examine the developer's expert witnesses and we can provide our own evidence and expert witnesses to present our concerns. The Commission's proceedings will likely take some months--and hopefully not longer. If no decision has been reached before June 2002, the land reclassification will be automatically approved, thanks to the 1998 law meant to "streamline permitting."

Developing Koa Ridge doesn't make sense--not for those who have to endure the daily gridlock commute, not for those whose children's schools are at capacity, and not for those who appreciate open space on an increasingly crowded island. But beyond the communities that will be impacted the greatest, the development at Koa Ridge has greater implications. How will Hawai'i protect its remaining prime agricultural lands? How will we plan our communities in the future? On the urban fringe, or within existing communities? Is development of remaining open space inevitable, or can we preserve the beauty that visitors and residents cherish? How will we ensure adequate groundwater for our residents and businesses? Through appropriate growth or by developing on top of groundwater recharge areas, forcing the County to desalinate brackish water for future uses?

Here's a summary of the Sierra Club's primary concerns about Castle and Cooke's proposed development:

### **TRAFFIC**

Most central O`ahu residents know too well what they have to endure to commute to Honolulu or elsewhere on the island. Developing Koa Ridge will take gridlock to a whole new level. According to the developer's Traffic Impact Analysis Report, H1 East and West of the Waiawa Interchange will operate at a "level of service" E & F in both directions during the AM and PM peak hours with the project. Level of service F means "forced flow, volumes lower than capacity due to very low speeds, heavy queuing of vehicles, frequent stoppages." What's more, the Impact Report states the following key intersections will have an unsatisfactory level of service: Kam Hwy and Ka Uka Blvd, Kam Hwy and Lumiana St, Kam Hwy and Waipahu St, and Ka Uka Blvd, Moaniani St and H2 South off-ramp. Once they add traffic from planned hous-

ing in Kapolei and Ewa, H1 could turn into the State's largest parking lot.

### **JEOPARDIZING GROUNDWATER SOURCES**

With calls for all on O`ahu to conserve water during this period of prolonged drought, does it make sense to withdraw even more water from our groundwater aquifers? The aquifer that this project will draw from--Waipahu-Waiawa (part of the Pearl Harbor system)--is nearing its sustainable yield (the maximum amount of water that can be withdrawn daily from the aquifer without reducing its level). In fact, the State Commission on Water Resource management recently revised its sustainable yield for Waipahu-Waiawa downward to 104 million gallons per day. The aquifer currently exceeds the allocation milestone set by state of 82 million gallons per day--and this doesn't include all of the projects for central O`ahu that already have their zoning approvals but not their water permits. The Board of Water Supply has raised serious concerns not only about the current water availability, but also about the impacts of paving over an important aquifer recharge area. The Koa Ridge development, especially the makua portions, will pave agricultural areas, thus increasing runoff and decreasing groundwater recharge which will impact sustainable yield. If the aquifer doesn't produce what it is currently estimated to produce, the County may have to start desalination of brackish water, an expensive proposition that all citizens end up financing.

### **DISAPPEARING OPEN SPACE**

The proposed Castle and Cooke development will sprawl over the last open vista between southern corridor and Central O`ahu communities. Koa Ridge will create continuous housing from Honolulu to Wahiawa--instead of discrete, stand-alone communities. Many remember when O`ahu was quilted with fields of sugarcane and pineapple, open space producing value for Hawaii's economy and views of the Waianae's and the Koolau's. Today, buildings, houses, and highways are spoiling the views that make O`ahu special. How soon will it be before a drive to Oahu's North shore resembles a drive through Orange County California?

### **LOSS OF PRIME AGRICULTURAL LANDS**

What is the future of our prime agricultural lands? Are we simply going to cultivate rows and rows of housing where productive agricultural once was? What about expanding the economy with diversified agriculture products? Some 86% of the project site is on agricultural lands of special importance to the state of Hawai'i. Of these agricultural lands of special importance, 76% is classified as prime

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agricultural land and 20% is unique agricultural land. The US Dept. of Agriculture, in fact, is growing concerned with the destruction of farmland throughout Hawai'i. In their position statement on the project, they state: "This project would consume a significant acreage of prime farmlands." Considering the number of land reclassifications they receive, they continue: "Collectively, the impact is significant." Further destruction of healthy farmland jeopardizes opportunity for diversified agriculture, economic expansion in agriculture, and self-sufficiency. Koa Ridge agricultural lands are especially valuable because of their proximity to markets, the harbor and the airport. Finally, developing on agricultural lands increases the speculative value of other agricultural lands around the state, making farming less economically feasible.

### **JUST POOR PLANNING**

Around the country communities are discovering "smart growth," that is, development where infrastructure already exists, implementing (and following) urban growth boundaries, and ensuring water, transportation, and other resources are available before committing to new land uses. The proposed Koa Ridge development is the antithesis

of this concept. No infrastructure currently exists (it is, after all, agricultural land). Schools in the area are reaching capacity and multi-tracking and busing are being considered. The recently expanded Waipahu Wastewater Pump Station does not have the capacity to accommodate the project wastewater and runoff. The entire project is outside of the growth boundaries in the existing development plan, and Koa Ridge Mauka is outside of the designated urban growth boundary in the proposed "Sustainable Community Plan." And as the Mayor has said, the second City of Kapolei has been designated the growth area for O`ahu, not central O`ahu.

### **TAKE ACTION!**

- Email [hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org](mailto:hawaii.chapter@sierraclub.org) to find out when the next organizing meeting is.
- Sign the petition: go to [hawaii.sierraclub.org/koa/petition.htm](http://hawaii.sierraclub.org/koa/petition.htm) to download the petition and start it circulating.
- Write a letter to the editor of the local papers.
- Testify at the upcoming Land Use Commission hearings (see website for details)
- Log on to [hawaii.sierraclub.org/koa](http://hawaii.sierraclub.org/koa) for

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## **Sierra Club 2002 Calendars Great Holiday Gifts!**

To order, contact coordinators listed below for your island.

**Kaua`i:** Judy Dalton,  
[dalton@aloha.net](mailto:dalton@aloha.net), 246-9067

**Big Island:** Roberta Brashear  
[brashear@hawaii.edu](mailto:brashear@hawaii.edu)  
966-7002

**Maui:** Daniel Grantham  
[dannyg@flex.com](mailto:dannyg@flex.com), 572-4571

**O`ahu:** Arlene Buchholtz  
[snovakz@juno.com](mailto:snovakz@juno.com)  
988-9806

## Silent Auction, Hana Hou!

Once again, the O'ahu Group is planning a silent auction to help raise funds for the group's conservation activities. The Second Annual auction will be held at Bishop Museum's Atherton Hall on November 16th, starting at 5:30 pm. The theme this year is "America, the Beautiful." Many excellent items have already been donated for this event—a great opportunity for holiday shopping! Heavy pupus and beverages will be served. If you have an item or service that you would like to donate, please call Marilyn at 947-2097.

## Ka Iwi Permit Passed

The O'ahu Group testified before the City Council in support of granting a Special Management Area Permit for parking improvements at Makapuu Lookout. The permit passed. The Sierra Club has long been involved with helping to secure protection of this scenic and important shoreline area on O'ahu. The proposed improvements will meet the requirement for the federal highways funding that is being used to purchase the Queen's Beach area. The state has met this requirement while making a sincere and concerted effort to meet concerns expressed by the Hawai'i Kai Neighborhood Board, the Waimanalo Neighborhood Board, the Ka Iwi Action Council and private citizens, by scaling back the parking originally envisioned, eliminating tour bus parking, working to make the parking as unobtrusive as possible and planning the use of primarily Native Hawaiian and locally occurring plants for landscaping.

## Kaunala Gated Community

The O'ahu Group testified against the granting of a Special Management Area permit for a gated community at Kaunala Bay on the North Shore. First, the proposed gated community is out-of-character with the North Shore neighborhood and a public park open to all would be a better use of this resource. The Council was working toward establishing a park before the land was bought by the current developer. The shoreline at Kaunala presented an opportunity to recapture some wild coastline and make it available for generations to come, especially considering that it fronts a world-renowned surf break, Velzyland. Second, the Office of Environmental Quality Control, coastal expert Dennis Hwang, and others have raised serious concerns regarding the project's proximity to the shoreline and the project's impact to nearshore waters with an inappropriate wastewater facility. The houses should be set back from the shoreline much further than the proposed 60 feet—the State Department of Land and Natural Resources recommended over 80 feet. Finally, council members frus-

trated public access by rejecting the Department of Permitting and Planning's recommendation that the developer build a 12-car parking lot to facilitate access to the beach.

## Mayor signs energy bills

Mayor Jeremy Harris signed two energy conservation measures into law that will help reduce the energy loads of future commercial and residential buildings. The O'ahu Group supported the measures and members were present at the signing ceremony with the Mayor.

*Howard Wiig*

## Land Use Commission says environmental review unnecessary

The Sierra Club filed a motion with the Land Use Commission in August asking that Castle and Cooke complete the environmental review process for their Koa Ridge housing project prior to Commission deliberations. The developer is attempting to gain Land Use Commission approval to reclassify 1250 acres of agricultural land in Central O'ahu to urban use for a 7,500-unit development project. The motion cited two Hawai'i Supreme Court decisions that demonstrate that the Land Use Commission is prohibited from acting on the petition until the developer completes the environmental review process. Castle & Cooke conceded in their reply memorandum that an environmental review will be necessary, but they would like to complete it after the Land Use Commission makes its final decision. Hawaii State law, however, mandates an environmental review by undertaken at the "earliest practicable time." The Sierra Club believes the environmental impacts of a project of this magnitude deserve the utmost consideration and the Land Use Commission should know exactly what they are approving before they act. After all, what does Castle and Cooke have to hide from the public? Unfortunately, the Commission rejected the motion in a 6-1 vote.

## O'ahu Group Meetings

The O'ahu Group meets on the third Thursday of every month at 6:30 in room 304 of the YWCA downtown (1040 Richards Street, Honolulu). The next meeting is October 18th. All members are welcome. Call 538-6616 for more information.

## Call for Executive Committee Nominees

The O'ahu Group is looking for a few good leaders to guide the O'ahu Group in the upcoming year. Interested? Contact Randy Ching at [crandy@maryknolls.org](mailto:crandy@maryknolls.org) or 381-2891.



## **NATIONAL PACIFIC ACOUSTIC LAB HEARING (NPAL/ATOC/BOOM BOX)**

The Navy and Scripps Institution of Oceanography want to continue broadcasting very loud low frequency noise from their boom box in the ocean a few miles off Hanalei Bay. NPAL/ATOC sound blasts are useless experiments assumed to determine global warming. Other methods exist that are far more accurate and do not pose a threat to our marine life.

Since three dead whales were found off the California coast in the vicinity of the ATOC sound source a few years ago when experiments were being conducted, we have concern for the safety of humpback whales and other marine life that seek refuge in Hawaiian waters.

The Environmental Impact Study (EIS), claiming that humpback whales would not be adversely affected by the loud noise, was challenged by the Sierra Club and numerous community members at the August 21 Department of Land and Natural Resources hearing for a Conservation District Use Permit to continue the NPAL/ATOC experiments.

The EIS doesn't include any scientific evidence that supports their assertions that whales would be free from harm. It merely states that since they haven't discovered any ill effects then there must be none. They conducted a single, inconclusive test to determine the effect on whales near the sound source on the north shore of Kaua'i which didn't include effects on dolphins, the endangered Hawaiian Monk Seal, the endangered green sea turtle, nor other marine life.

The National Research Council's top scientists gave the strongest condemnation, saying, "The EIS provided no substantial evidence that it would be safe." We hope that the Board of Land and Natural Resources will see the EIS as inconclusive and deny the permit.

## **WAILUA HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT**

The Kaua'i Group wrote a letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in opposition to the project, stating alternative sources of renewable energy would be far less of an impact on Kauai's fragile environment. A meeting is scheduled with state Rep. Mina Morita to discuss the issue.

## **REEF CHECK ON KAUA'I**

The reefs of Anini and Maha'ulepu are among the 3,000 being monitored worldwide via Reef Check, an internationally recognized program supporting community volunteers in coral reef education, monitoring, and management. The Kaua'i Group has partnered with Dave Raney, Hawai'i Coordinator for Reef Check, in monitoring reefs over the past five years to establish reef health baselines. To attend training and reef checks contact Raney ([d\\_raney@aloha.net](mailto:d_raney@aloha.net)).

## **SERVE ON KAUA'I EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

We are seeking candidates for our upcoming Executive Committee election. If you are interested, contact Marge Freeman ([freeman@aloha.net](mailto:freeman@aloha.net)) by Oct. 20 at 822-4605.

## **Members sign-over Bush tax rebates to Club**

Two long-time members who wish to remain anonymous have signed over their IRS Bush checks to the Sierra Club. Noting that Bush appointees at the Department of the Interior and at the Environmental Protection Agency are all former lobbyists from industry, this SC member hopes the Club will be able to use it in the fight to oppose these industrial insiders—all of which have been hacking away at environmental protection programs and actions for years prior to their recent ascendancy to the helms of every level in the federal departments. Said one of the donors: "Since Dubya wants the money spent within the economy to give it a boost, why there is no better spender than the Sierra Club, and certainly no better cause."

It is hoped that other Club members will also consider making this bold statement. Club resources are really stretched thin by all the actions necessary to blunt thrusts at the environment from the Bush administration, and as well, fend off attacks on Hawaii's own environment. Contact Hawaii Director Jeff Mikulina to let your desires be known.

## **Sierra Club goes to Midway**

For those of you who have always wanted to go to Midway Atoll, Sierra Club offers you a chance to participate in a service trip to a really remote and unique place. Veteran Sierra Club Service Trip leader Annette Kaohelaulii, Midway Phoenix, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are organizing a week-long service project to the far reaches of the Hawaiian Archipelago. The dates will be Nov. 24-Dec. 1. If interested, contact Annette at 235-5431 or [annetesadventures@juno.com](mailto:annetesadventures@juno.com). There may be a second trip, if there is interest and work to do.

If you like beautiful, tranquil, turquoise lagoons, long white sand beaches, and many more birds than people, Midway Atoll is the ideal getaway. We'll do trail building along West Beach, among other tasks. You'll see turtles, perhaps monk seals, fairy terns, Laysan albatross, brown noddys, wedgetailed shearwaters, and much more. We'll be housed in a student dormitory.

The fee will be around \$1000. If you have 30,000 Aloha Miles you may be able to use them for your airfare and reduce your fee. You will also need a passport.

## Silver Anniversary Celebration Date Has Changed!

November 3 from 6-10:30 pm is the new date for the Maui Group "Silver Moon Gala" anniversary dinner/dance benefit at the Grand Waikapu. Maui Group members and friends will celebrate 25 years of Sierra Club Maui accomplishments. The event features a gourmet buffet, awards ceremony and music by the popular dance band Espresso with singer Kelly Covington, Alchemy, and slack-key artist Laurie Rohrer & Friends. A fabulous silent auction will offer artworks by Maui notables, designer jewelry, romantic overnight getaways, unique adventure experiences, two brand-new computers, a mountain bike and hundreds of certificates for gifts and services. Special treat to top off a magical evening; from Grand Waikapu's spacious lanai, guests can view a beautiful full moon, rising planets, and stars through the telescope of noted astronomer, Harriet Witt-Miller!

Tickets: \$50 each. Available at Border's Books, Tropical Disc, Ha'iku Pharmacy, Groove 2 Music, Big Bugger (Bugga) & Maui Child Toys & Books; or call event chair Neola Caveny, 579-9769. Group members from other islands are welcome. Event volunteers needed-call Sierra Club Maui office. Those who cannot attend are welcome to send donations to help the Maui Group continue its commitment to effective action protecting Maui's environment. For information on tax-deductible donations, please call Sierra Club Maui office (579-9802.) Reserve your ticket early-ticket sales end October 30.

## 25th Anniversary Picnic a Success

The Maui Sierra Club Executive Committee extends a hearty "mahalo" to all those volunteers, community members and local businesses who made our 25th Anniversary Picnic a huge success. Over 200 adults and children attended. Special thanks to Tropical Orchid farms, Big K-mart, Dan Judson, Down to Earth, Star Market-Kihei, Mana Foods, Nagasaki Fish Co., the Water Man, and Maui Soda & Ice Works for their generous donations of refreshments and prizes. Mahalo nui loa to the Wailuku Garage Band for lively entertainment and Bobbie Becker, Harriet Witt-Miller, David Tracy-Metz, Brian Parker, Neola Caveny and Marty McMahan for sharing their time and talents. Director Jeff Mikulina helped present awards to Maui activists Ed Lindsey and Mark Sheehan.

## Silver Anniversary Awards Salute Heroes

The Maui Group's quarter century of accomplishments have been made possible through the dedicated efforts of numerous Group members and allies. During its upcoming silver anniversary gala, the Group plans to present some special service awards to thank some of the many who have offered their time and talents to protect Maui's environment.

Those being honored: Dana & Isaac Hall, Aloha 'Aina award. For nearly two decades the Halls have contributed their legal expertise and expert research to defending Maui's lands, waters and cultural sites; Lorna Jean Harrison, Malama 'Aina Award. Lorna has quietly and tirelessly organized and

led countless service outing projects over the past 20 years, protecting Maui's native plants and ridding the island of alien pests; Dr. Rick Sands and Anthony Ranken, Esq., Malama Kahakai award. Rick and Anthony led a successful 10-year long SPAM (State Park at Makena) campaign to preserve Maui's famed Big Beach while serving on the Maui Group Excomm. Both were founders of MG ally, Maui Tomorrow. Mary Evanson: Lifetime achievement award for her numerous conservation efforts that have proven so effective.

In addition, the five founding members of the Maui Group will be honored: Dr David Brown, Bud Aaronson, the late John Bose, Dr. James Fleming and noted biologist Cameron Kepler. The Silver Anniversary Gala will give old and new members a chance to relive Maui Group's colorful past through a series of historical displays from group archives.

## Stream Flows

Native Hawaiian Legal Corp petition to amend stream flow standards (ask for increased stream flows) on 27 East Maui streams has been accepted by the State Commission on Water Resource Management and research on existing stream flows, health of native stream life and needs of rural users are underway. The Maui Group supports this effort to bring more balanced planning to resources held in the public trust.

## East Maui Water for South Maui Development?

Many private and public wells are being permitted or proposed without adequate knowledge of Maui's sustainable water resources. An impartial carrying capacity study for Maui's water is needed before the County's East Maui Water Development Plan (10 wells along the 1,000' elevation in Ha'iku pumping water through a 36' pipeline to central and south Maui) is made the solution to Iao aquifer water shortages. MG has long called for protection of East Maui water resources and will challenge the County's plan, if necessary. Uncertain rainfall patterns connected to global climate changes make responsible water resource planning a necessity for the future. To make a tax-deductible contribution to future legal costs, people may call the Sierra Club office.

## Coastal Preservation

Working with the Chapter's Malama Kahakai campaign, Maui Group continues to build support for a national park along 6 miles of Keone'o'io shoreline (La Perouse Bay). Rep. Patsy Mink needs to know if residents and visitors want a park. A Guided hike of Keone'o'io with renown naturalist, Ann Fielding, will be offered on Nov 11. Postcards also available to support the effort. Call 579-9802 or [laluz@maui.net](mailto:laluz@maui.net)

Join Maui Group in supporting a master plan for the 128 acres of Pu'u Ola'i/Oneloa (Big Beach/ Makena State Park). Sierra Club activists have worked with other community groups for over 20 years to see South Maui's most famous coastline protected for responsible public use. Come to Oct. 27 beach cleanup and tour and learn more.

*Terry Reim*

*Lucienne deNaie*

## **Chairperson's Report** *Phil Barnes*

Moku Loa Group is making progress in taking more proactive stands on issues facing our Big Island aina. It seems that all of us who are working to preserve the environment are caught up in fighting one damaging proposal after another. It is refreshing to work in conjunction with others to shape a vision for our island. The county General Plan draft currently under consideration is a good example of this positive movement. Under the present Planning Director, Chris Yuen, the ten-year revisions to the General Plan have taken a forward-looking approach that includes protecting some undeveloped areas from future development. We have been a part of this process and are happy to be able to support this new trend taken by the Planning Department.

Under the guidance of Sarah Moon, our Program Committee has created an active schedule of presentations to inform our members of various activities that impact our island.

Executive Committee elections are scheduled for November. Send a bio to Edith Worsencroft if you are interested in running for the Board ([edith\\_wo@yahoo.com](mailto:edith_wo@yahoo.com)).

We just wrapped up another successful garage sale, raising over \$500 for our many activities. Many thanks to Diane Fournier for her efforts in heading up the sale. Thanks to Susan Hicks for again allowing us to use her house as the venue for this yearly sale. Thanks to the volunteers who helped with this event: Sue Bostick, Cheryl Shine, Sarah Moon, Roberta Brashear, Edith Worsencroft, and others.

## **ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Our annual membership meeting will be Friday, Dec. 7, at 6 pm at Pavilion #1 of Wailoa River State Park. Jay Griffin, Sierra Club Coastal Organizer of the "Keep It Wild" campaign, will give a presentation on our coastal initiative for all of the Hawaiian Islands. This year we plan to have the meal catered and use the meeting as a fundraiser. We are planning a silent auction, and sales of Sierra Club merchandise, including calendars, tote bags, and backpacks, to help you with your holiday shopping. If you have goods/artwork/crafts to donate to the auction, contact Roberta Brashear (966-7002); or would like to help with the event, call Phil Barnes (965-9695).

## **KEKAHA KAI STATE PARK TASK FORCE** **JANICE PALMA-GLENNIE**

The Kekaha Kai State Park Task Force, which includes state and community reps and adjacent landowners, recon-

vened recently to discuss implementation of the park's conceptual plan. Developer WB Kukio presented its proposals for providing amenities at the northern (Manini'owali/Kuki'o) section of the park. To proceed with its vast development adjacent to Kekaha Kai, WB Kukio is required, through the Awake'e land swap agreement, to provide certain conveniences for the park, such as comfort stations and public access into the park.

Helping the State fund facilities is a good thing, but plans to re-route a paved public access road to the south of Pu'u Kuili in Awake'e (planned to remain the most "wilderness" of the park's sections), raises a red flag. The park wraps along the coast northward to Manini'owali (Kua Bay), cradling the more mauka sections of Manini'owali and Kuki'o 1 and 2, where hundreds of gate-protected residences are on the drawing board. Skirting public access away from private residences has proven tempting to developers hoping to sell their luxury units as "exclusive." Unsettling visions of skewed, Hapuna-esque park use are evoked when private parties are asked to plug the public into a land use plan. Sierra Club's Kekaha State Park Task Force members will be keeping tabs on this new proposal, while DLNR officials have promised to keep these questions in mind as final decisions are made.

**Footnote:** The Hawai'i State Film Office is currently updating its website, where Kekaha Kai State Park was advertised as a premier filming location. The State will bend over backwards--and its own rules--to get "free" promotion in the hope of reaping tourist dollars. Please contact the State Film Office {[tel] 808-586-2565; [fax] 808-586-2572}, and Sherry Samuels at DLNR {[tel] 808-587-0296; [fax] 808-587-0311} to ask that Kekaha Kai's unique designation as a non-commercial, non-exclusive wilderness park be honored by eliminating the park from the Film Office website and any future use as a for-profit, private filming location.

## **OUTINGS LEADER TRAINING: MAKALAWENA BEACH OVERNIGHT CAMPOUT**

Want to share your love of the outdoors? If you're curious about becoming a Moku Loa Group Outings Leader, come join our workshops on a remote Kona beach, November 2, 3 and 4. Call Outings Chair Sarah Moon (935-3475) for more information.

# O`AHU GROUP OUTINGS

OCTOBER - DECEMBER 2001

## Saturday, October 6

*Pahole Natural Area Reserve Service Project 3mi/Moderate/Ridge/Mokuleia* Reservations Required. Want to learn about rare native plants in a gorgeous location and get a feeling of accomplishment? We'll be building trails, helping control invasive plants, and outplanting native plants on this service project. Second meeting place is at Waialua High School at 8:45 a.m. Sherine Boomla 739-3936

## Sunday, October 7

*Kawainui 5mi/Moderate/Valley/Haleiwa* A great hike through a valley with lush vegetation and many stream crossings. Lunch and a swim at a superb swimming hole. Leaders: Gwen Sinclair 734-3214; Sherine Boomla 739-3936

## Saturday, October 13

*Ala Wai Boat Harbor Cleanup* Help make the harbor a point of pride and encourage the return of sealife. We will work from the docks, using scoopers and nets. Meet at 8 am at the Harbor Master's Office, between the 3rd & 4th row of boats behind Ilikai Hotel. Park in street stalls or public lot ewa of Hilton lagoon. Wear sturdy shoes with gripping soles and bring a hat, thick rubber gloves, sunscreen, and water. Joanna Yin 734-5323; Sharon Moran 277-2549

### ALL SIERRA CLUB OUTINGS

Sierra Club Outings are conducted according to Club policy and under the direction of certified outings leaders. Our Outings are group activities and all participants are expected to follow leaders' instructions and to remain with the group for the entire outing. We welcome all Sierra Club members, non-members and visitors on most of our outings; however certain outings may be restricted to members. Firearms, pets (unless specifically allowed), and audio devices with or without headsets are prohibited. Smoking is only permitted at breaks and then only if the smell of smoke cannot be detected by other hikers. Outing leaders may prohibit smoking if, in their judgement, a fire hazard exists. Bring with: a liter of water (2 liters for strenuous hikes), lunch, sunscreen, insect repellent, rain gear/jacket and day-pack. Boots, shoes with traction grooves (heeled footwear are best--no loafers), or tabs are required. No bare feet or sandals of any type will be allowed on O'ahu outings. Sign in on the roster and pay the donation. You will also need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please see [www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms](http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms) or call 415-977-5630. In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, it is customary that participants make carpooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ride sharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel.

### O`AHU GROUP OUTINGS INFORMATION

Unless otherwise stated in the Outing description, participants meet at 8:00 a.m. at the back porch of the Church of the Crossroads, 2510 Bingham Street. Do not leave your car in the church parking lot. Participants in windward outings which are designated with an asterisk may also meet at 8:15 am at the First Hawaiian Bank parking area in the windward City Shopping Center. (Intersection of Likelike and Kamehameha Highway in Kaneohe). Requested donation for participants age 14 and under and Sierra Club members with a membership card is \$1; donation for all others is \$3. Participants under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

*Miconia Removal Service Project-Manoa 2mi/Strenuous/Ridge&Valley/Various locations* Help remove evil miconia in Manoa or Maunawili. Bring insect repellent & rain gear. Work area is off trail and brushy; long pants/shirt & clear lens eye protection needed. Bring a machete IF you are handy with one. Information: Kapua Kawelo or Joby Rohrer 656-7641 (w)

## Sunday, October 14

*Manoa Cliffs Fern Hike 3mi/Easy/Contour/Tantalus* Reservations Required. Ever wanted to know the names of all those ferns you see on trails? Our interpreter will give us a quick lesson on identifying ferns. Leaders: Denby Fawcett 734-7017; Maile Sakamoto

*Manana Family Hike 4mi/Easy/Ridge/Pearl City* 9:00 a.m. meeting at mauka end of Komo Mai Dr. in Pacific Palisades. Pleasant hike through big trees and out on a ridge with great views. Suzan Harada & Reese Liggett 732-4489

## Sunday, October 21

*\*Kokokabi 4mi/Moderate/Ridge/Kailua* Ascend a scenic ridge between Kailua and Kaneohe, with a view of Kapaa Quarry. Leaders: Atomman Kimm 536-7458; Betsy Weatherford 526-3986

*Kaena Point Natural Area Reserve Service Project 1/2mi/Easy/Coast/Mokuleia* Reservations Required. Kaena Point needs your help to remove invasive plants that endanger this rare and beautiful native coastal ecosystem. Sunscreen, hats and even raingear are all recommended. It is likely that we will see spinner dolphins and possibly albatross or an endangered Hawaiian monk seal. Meet at 8:30 a.m. at Camp Erdman. Leader: Randy Ching 381-2891

## Saturday, October 27

*Make a Difference Day Project - Kaiwi Coast 1-2mi/Easy/Coast/Hawaii Kai* Bring hat, sunscreen, plenty of water, snack, sunglasses, work gloves, closed shoes (no sandals). No pets. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at Queen's Beach parking lot. Pau at noon. Mike Gawley 779-3645; Sue Garner 988-0481; Arlene Buchholz 988-9806; Betsy Weatherford 526-3986

## Sunday, October 28

*\*Waiabole Valley 5mi/Moderate/Contour/Waiabole* Take a stroll through this lovely, interesting valley. Leaders: Ed Mersino 455-8193; Mel Yoshioka 587-0879 (w)

## Saturday, November 3

*Kaena Point Natural Area Reserve Service Project 1/2mi/Easy/Coast/Mokuleia* See October 21. Sherine Boomla 739-3936

## Sunday, November 4

*Annual Leader Certification Training Seminar/Hoomalubia Botanical Garden/Kaneohe* (mauka end of Luluku Road). 9:00

# O'ahu Outings

a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (bring a bag lunch). For all current Outing Leaders and those thinking about it. It's important to get together once a year. If you are thinking about starting leader certification or just coming to learn about becoming a Sierra Club leader, call Reese Liggett at 544-9553 to register. Certified leaders need not register. Enjoy great speakers, an important program, and good camaraderie.

## Saturday, November 10

*Miconia Removal - Manoa* See October 13 for details. Information: Kapua Kawelo or Joby Rohrer 656-7641 (w)

## Sunday, November 11

*Waihupe Gulch 3mi/Moderate/Valley/Aina Haina* This short valley hike ends up on a small ridge in the back of the valley, giving a majestic view from a grove of Cook Island pines. Ed Mersino 455-8193, Arlene Buchholz 988-9806

*Hauula Loop Family Hike 2.5mi/Easy/Ridge/Hauula* 9:30 a.m. meeting at Hauula Beach Park. Pleasant hike up and down through big trees, nice vistas from ridge. Children must be able to hike or ride in kid carrier. Tie on shoes, back pack, rain gear, water and snack required. Leaders Reese Liggett & Suzan Harada 732-4489.

## Friday, November 16

Oahu Group Silent Auction See page 8 for details.

## Saturday, November 17

*\*Kawaewae Heiau Service Project* Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the First Hawaiian Bank parking lot in Windward City Shopping Center in Kaneohe. This 1/2 day project involves the removal of vegetation to help in the restoration of this sacred site. Enjoy great views of Kaneohe Bay and the Koolau Range. Bring plenty of water, a snack, rain gear, insect repellent, gloves, and tools (sickles, pruners, hand saws, gas weed trimmer). Gwen Sinclair 734-3214

## Sunday, November 18

*Pabole Natural Area Reserve Service Project 3mi/Moderate/Ridge/Mokuleia* See October 6 for details. Leader: Annette Kaohelauii 235-5431

## Sunday, November 25

*Mokuleia 8mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Mokuleia* We'll hike hills and a high gulch to reach stunning views of Makua Valley and the west Oahu coastline. Atomman Kimm 536-7458, Randy Ching 381-2891

## Saturday, December 1

*Makapuu Full Moon Hike 1mi/Easy/Ridge/Makapuu* Meet at 6:00 p.m. at the trailhead. Our annual outing to watch the moon rise from the Makapuu Lookout. Bring snacks to share and a flashlight. Leaders: Adam Liss 732-5660, Sue Garner 988-0481, Maile Sakamoto 946-5712, Dave Iacobucci 239-4596

*Pabole Natural Area Reserve Service Project 3mi/Moderate/Ridge/Mokuleia* See October 6. Arlene Buchholz 988-9806

## Sunday, December 2

*Palehua Palikea Family Hike 3mi/Moderate/Ridge/Makakilo* Reservations required. 9 a.m. meeting at intersection of Kikaha and Umena Streets high in Makakilo. We'll drive on Waianae Range, then hike a ridge trail with great views and native plants. Tie on shoes, backpack, rain gear, water and snack req. Reese Liggett, Suzan Harada 732-4489.

## Saturday, December 8

*Miconia Removal - Manoa* See October 13 for details. Information: Kapua Kawelo or Joby Rohrer 656-7641 (w)

## Sunday, December 9

*Sierra Seminar: Geology of Leeward Oahu* Escape the Honolulu Marathon traffic by joining the car caravan to Leeward Oahu, where we'll learn about the geology of the region. Leader: Joanna Yin 734-5323

## Sunday, December 16

*Kaena Point Natural Area Reserve Service Project 1/2mi/Easy/Coast/Mokuleia* See October 21. Sue Garner 988-0481

## Sunday, December 23

*Kabuku to Turtle Bay Holiday Scavenger Hunt and Coastal Walk 4mi/Moderate/Coast/Kabuku* Take a break from the seasonal bustle to visit this lesser-known stretch of coastline. We'll be scavenging for common and not-so-common beach detritus along the way. Prizes for the winners! Join us for refreshments afterward. Leaders: Ed Mersino 455-8193, Gwen Sinclair 734-3214

## Sunday, December 30

*Makabuene 7mi/Moderate/Ridge/Hawaii Kai* (See Bill Gorst for route details) This dry ridge trail begins at a heiau and leads us to an ironwood grove at the summit. Leaders: Mel Yoshioka 587-0879, Bob Moore 942-2734

## Saturday, January 5

*Kaena Point Natural Area Reserve Service Project 1/2mi/Easy/Coast/Mokuleia* See October 21. Sherine Boomla 739-3936

## Sunday, January 6

*Kealia 7mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Mokuleia* We'll zigzag up the ridge overlooking Dillingham Airfield and the North Shore until we reach a lookout over Makua Valley. Gliders, parachutists, and paragliders will be visible along the route. Atomman Kimm 536-7458, Mel Yoshioka 587-0879

*Maunawili Trail Family Hike 3mi/Easy/Contour/Maunawili* 9 a.m. meeting time at parking lot at hairpin turn descending Pali Highway toward Kailua. Lovely hike along this trail built by Sierra Club volunteers in the '90s. We'll snack at the big ironwood trees, maybe spot a tropic bird gliding next to the pali. Tie on shoes, back pack, rain gear, water and snack req. Reese Liggett & Suzan Harada 732-4489.

# SERVICE PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

## **Kalaupapa National Historical Park, Molokai**

*This service project is limited to Sierra Club members who have been on at least one other Sierra Club three-day service project.* This trip allows participants to visit the Hansen's Disease settlement on the north shore of Molokai. The Kalaupapa National Historical Park was established in 1980 to preserve and interpret the natural and historic aspects of the area and to maintain the community for the residents. We will help restore habitat and eradicate alien plants. Accommodations include a facility with electricity, hot showers, flush toilets and kitchen. Free time activities may include going to the beach and visiting the old settlement of Kalauao and St. Philomena Church which was built by Father Damien.

## **Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge, Kauai**

This refuge is at a beautiful, windswept setting at the northernmost tip of the island of Kauai. This service project usually involves the removal of alien plants and the planting of native coastal vegetation that seabirds use to build their nests. This helps to improve the habitat for the seabird's nesting and breeding. Seabirds, whales, dol-

phins, turtles and Hawaiian monk seals are often seen. Accommodations are on the lower level of the Visitor Center on the Refuge property. Amenities include electricity, a kitchen, folding futons to sleep on, modern restrooms and a hot shower. Free time activities may include hiking on the refuge or along the Na Pali Coast.

## **Manuka Natural Area Reserve, Hawaii**

Manuka contains one of the few relatively undisturbed ancient native lowland forests in Hawaii. The work may include clearing alien weeds from a 150-acre kipuka on the slopes of Mauna Loa. We will stay in a three-bedroom cabin at 1,600 feet elevation at Kiolakaa with hot showers, flush toilet and a gas range, but no electricity. There is bed space for five and plenty of tent space on the lawn. Free time activities may include bird watching and hiking. Instead of the Manuka Natural Area Reserve, we **may** be asked to work in the Pu'u Maka'ala and Kahauale'a Natural Area Reserves near Hilo, with accommodations in Hilo. These are also very beautiful and interesting preserves.

## **Nene o Molokai, Molokai**

The Nene o Molokai Foundation has acquired several wetland properties for bird habitat. The work may include clearing alien vegetation in preparation for the planting of native Hawaiian plant species for a nene goose habitat. Accommodations are at a beach house and include bathrooms with hot showers, kitchen, space for sleeping (either on beds or on the floor), and a beautiful oceanfront lawn large enough to pitch a tent if you prefer. Free time activities may include hiking, guided tours of historic sites and wetland bird habitats, and visiting the Kanemitsu Bakery in "downtown" Kaunakakai.

# 2001 OAHU SERVICE PROJECT SCHEDULE

Oahu Group Service Projects provide an excellent opportunity for environmental volunteers to experience unique places that are often closed to the public. To apply for any Oahu Group Service Project, mail a \$25 per person deposit check, payable to the leader listed first in the schedule, to his/her address listed below. Reservations cannot be made by phone or e-mail. Trip fees will range from about \$175.00 to \$200.00 and will cover the cost of round trip airfare, ground transportation, meals and a portion of the leaders' expenses. It is important to make your service project deposit early, as many trips fill quickly.

On a service project, we normally work for the preserve for two days and have one day free for hiking or other recreational activities. The participants will share in the preparation of meals and clean up.

*Participants will live together in facilities that are probably more cramped and rustic than they are used to. Therefore, it is important that the participants have a cooperative and positive attitude and willingness for teamwork. All trip participants are subject to approval by the leaders based upon the participant's experience, disposition, and physical condition. Deposits will be returned to any participants who are not accepted. On popular service projects, leaders will have the option to give preference to Sierra Club members and Oahu residents.*

You are welcome to contact the leaders for more information.

## VETERAN'S DAY WEEKEND

November 10 to 12, 2001

- **Kalaupapa National Historical Park, Molokai** — *This service project is limited to Sierra Club members who have been on at least one other Sierra Club three-day service project.* Leaders: Leader: Annette Kaohelaulii, 45-403 Koa Kahiko Street, Kaneohe, HI 96744, e-mail: [annettesadventures@juno.com](mailto:annettesadventures@juno.com) ; Co leader: Bob Butchart; phone: 235-0582
- **Manuka Natural Area Reserve, Hawaii** — Leader: Betsy Gagne, 47-682 Hui Kelu Street, #8, Kaneohe, HI 96744, phone: 239-4280, [betsy-h-gagne@exec.state.hi.us](mailto:betsy-h-gagne@exec.state.hi.us); Co-Leader: Sharon Reilly; phone: 386-7029

## MARTIN LUTHER KING WEEKEND

January 19 to 21, 2002

- **Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge, Kauai**— Leader: Sharon Reilly, 1967 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Honolulu, HI 96816; phone: 386-7029; email: [shareilly@aol.com](mailto:shareilly@aol.com) ; Co leader: to be announced later

## PRESIDENT'S DAY WEEKEND

February 16 to 18, 2002

- **Nene o Molokai, Molokai** — Leader: Sue Garner, 2110 Brown Way, Honolulu, HI 96822; phone: 988-0481; email: [sgarner@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:sgarner@hawaii.rr.com) ; Co leader: to be announced later

## EASTER WEEKEND

March 29 to 31, 2002

- **Kilauea Point National Wildlife Refuge, Kauai** — Leader: Mel Yoshioka, 94-260 Kaholo Street, Mililani, HI 96789, work phone: 587-0879; email: [kh6tb@hawaii.rr.com](mailto:kh6tb@hawaii.rr.com) ; Co leader: to be announced later

promote activism

# KAUAI GROUP OUTINGS

**Saturday, October 13** *Waipo'o Falls/Kokee/ West Side/Moderate/ Good Family Hike/4 Miles* Pleasant hike with great views. See the irrigation system that brings water from Kokee down to Kekaha. See the replanting of *Pritchardia* palms. Les Ventura, 332-8216

**Sunday, October 14** *Hanakoa Falls/North Shore/very Strenuous/14 Miles* This most scenic hike is for the very fit and well equipped hiker. Hiking permit from State Parks required. Bob Nishek, 332-5158

**Saturday, October 20** *Kuilau Ridge Trail/East Side/Moderate/4.5 Miles* Starting from the Keahou Arboretum near Kapaa, this trail offers great rewards without a lot of effort. Glorious views and bird songs reward the hiker along this trail. Ron Farrar, 823-8716

**Sunday, October 21** *Wilderness Bike Ride/Koke'e/moderate/10 mile ride* Bring your bicycles up to Waimea Canyon Road where we will ride along the fairly level contour road west of the highway. Minimal cars and maximum wilderness. Bring cameras for wildlife. Les Ventura 332-8216

**Saturday, October 27** *Alakai Swamp via Pihei Trail/ Kokee/ West Side/Strenuous/8 Miles* View the recovery of the Alakai Swamp since the construction of the board walk. See native Koa, Maile, Mokihana ferns, birds, and a variety of native flora only seen on this trail. Kathy Valier, 826-7302

**Sunday, October 28** *Wailua River Cleanup by Kayak/East Side/Moderate/4 Miles* On "Make a Difference Day" the Kauai Group will clean along the banks of the Wailua River in kayaks provided by Wailua Kayak and Canoe. We'll also walk to a lovely waterfall. Judy Dalton, 246-9067

**Tuesday Evening, October 30** *Sleeping Giant Conservation/East Side/Moderate/4 Miles* Sleeping Giant has two species of endangered plants (*Monroidendron* and *Hibiscus* clayi) On this full moon hike we will monitor those plants in their native habitat. Leader, Bob Nishek, 332-5158

**Wednesday, October 31** *Halloween Full Moon Hike, Bon Fire, and Beach Cleanup/East Shore/Easy/2 Miles* We'll enjoy a bonfire and a moonlight walk along the shore after cleaning Nukoli'i Beach. Judy Dalton, 246-9067

**Saturday, November 3** *Kawai'koi Stream Trail/Kokee/ Moderate/4 Miles* A fairyland of ferns and moss along a mountain stream. Some shallow stream crossings. One of the loveliest hikes on the island. Bring a friend with a four-wheel drive. Judy Dalton, 246-9067

**Sunday, November 4** *Okolehau Trail Service Trip/North Shore/Strenuous/5 Miles* Help maintain our beautiful adopted trail that follows the crest of a ridge running up Hinimanu Mountain. Leader, Kathy Valier, 826-7302

**Saturday, November 10** *Waipo'o Canyon, Black Pipe, Halemanu Loop/Kokee/West Side/Strenuous/ 6 miles* See waterfalls, the canyon from various angles, forest restoration, and the Kekaha Plantation irriga-

tion system running underground and over ravines. Les Ventura, 332-8216

**Saturday, November 17** *Okolehau Trail/North Shore/Strenuous/5 Miles* This week we will enjoy the fruits of our labor after doing trail maintenance on the 4th. Enjoy the panoramic views along the ridge. Kathy Valier, 826-7302

**Sunday, November 18** *Anabola Beach Park to Kealia Beach Coastal Walk/East Shore/Moderate/4 Miles* A very scenic hike along the coastline. We'll start out at Anabola and end up at Kealia Beach by parking cars at both ends. Leader, Judy Dalton, 246-9067

**Sunday, November 25** *Halemanu unnamed Trail Loop/Kokee/ Moderate Family Hike/4 Mile Loop* See local fauna, methyl plum groves, leased property with vacation summer homes in isolated areas. Les Ventura, 332-8216

**Thursday, November 29** *Maha'ulepu Full Moon Walk/ South Shore/ Moderate/4 miles* Incredible views every step of the way on this coastal hike which starts out at Shipwreck Beach in the afternoon and ends with the full moon glistening on the ocean along Maha'ulepu. Judy Dalton, 246-9067

**Saturday, December 1** *Ditch Trail/Kokee/West Side/Strenuous/6 Miles* While hiking the ditch trail you may never catch sight of a ditch, however, you will see waterfalls, canyons, and ridges. Leader, B. Nishek, 332-5158

**Sunday, December 9** *Waimea Canyon Road Cleanup/West Side/Easy/2 Miles* Our casual morning cleanup of our adopted highway, about an hour and a half, ends with a swim at Salt Pond Beach Park, depending on weather. Help keep our highways clean. Ron Peyton, 337-9248

**Saturday, December 15** *Mohihi, Camp Ten, Waipo Loop/Kokee/ West Side/Strenuous/6 Miles* This hike is mostly flat but with some hills. See irrigation systems, Mohihi Stream, *Pritchardia* palms, Kailua trees, and methyl plums. 4X4 cars and trucks appreciated to pool into the area. Les Ventura, 322-8216

**Saturday, December 22** *Kukui Trail down to Waimea Valley and out in the valley to Waimea Town/Kokee/Very Strenuous/11 miles* 11 miles of downhill will take out your knees, so this hike is only for the fit. Views of the canyon in all directions. The hike of a lifetime. Les Ventura, 332-8216

**Saturday, December 29** *Full Moon Beach Walk from Ha'ena to Ke'e Beach/North Shore/Easy/3 Miles* An easy three-mile walk round trip to see the sun set beyond Na Pali and if the night sky is clear watch the moon rise on our return. Kathy Valier 826-7302

**Tuesday, January 1** *Start out the New Year on the right foot by taking a hike with us!* This outing is yet to be announced so look for it the end of December on our website: [www.bi.sierraclub.org/Kauai/kauai.html](http://www.bi.sierraclub.org/Kauai/kauai.html) or in *The Garden Island* newspaper. Or call Judy Dalton 246-9067



# MOKU LOA GROUP OUTINGS

*Outings are conducted in accordance with Sierra Club outing policies. Participants need to recognize the authority of the leader and plan to remain with the group for the entire outing. Sierra Club carries no participant accident insurance. In order to participate in one of the Sierra Club's outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, see <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/> or call (415) 977-5630. In the interests of facilitating the logistics of some outings, participants should make car-pooling arrangements. The Sierra Club does not have insurance for car-pooling and assumes no liability for them. Each participant should carry a minimum of a quart of water, lunch, sun screen, rain gear and wear sturdy shoes with traction. Additional items will be listed with the outing description.*

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

## **Saturday, October 6 - Old Government Trail; Kaloli Service Trip (S) D = 4 mi, Sea level.**

Hike and clear brush and debris on this historic trail in Puna, the Old Government Trail, from Paradise Park part way to the Shipman Beach (Haena) area. This is part of an ongoing project with Puna trails. Bring gloves, water, lunch and hand tools for clearing brush. Meet at 8 am at the end of Kaloli in Paradise Park and turn left at the bottom on Old Government Road. Contact Roberta Brashear (966-7002).

## **Saturday, October 13, Kalopa Service Trip (S) D = 0, E = 2250'**

We are trying to eliminate invasive alien plants in the Kalopa Native Forest. Wear sturdy shoes, bring rain gear, mosquito repellent, water, lunch, gloves and tools suitable for uprooting plants with stubborn roots. Meet in Hilo, 8:30 am, parking lot across from the Bayfront Shell station, or at Kalopa at 9:30 am. Contact Edith Worsencroft (963-6317); co-leader, Sue Bostick (935-1737).

## **Sunday, October 21 - Ninole Cove to Honu'apo (E) D = 6 miles, E = 100' +/- 50'**

Ninole Cove is a small public beach park below the parking lot of Sea Mountain Golf Course. Three villages (Ninole, Kawa and Honu'apo) were swept away by the 1868 tsunami. See migratory birds and a large number of springs. Bring sun screen, hat, sun glasses, 2-1/2 quarts of water, and sturdy shoes. Call 982-9287.

## **Saturday, October 27 - Kalopa Old Jeep Road & Gulch Trail (E)(F) D = 3 miles, E = 2500' +/-500'**

We will hike uphill along the old jeep road to the highest elevation in the park, then return via the gulch trail, passing through 70-year-old groves of eucalyptus, silk oak, blue

gum, paper bark and ironwood. These trees, planted in the 1930s by the CCC, have recently been under consideration for harvesting. Wear sturdy shoes; bring rain gear, mosquito repellent, water and lunch. Meet at parking lot across from Bayfront Shell station at 8:30 am, or at Kalopa Park at 9:30 am. Call Edith Worsencroft (963-6317).

## **Friday, Saturday, Sunday, November 2, 3, 4 - Makalawena Camp-Out and Leaders Training (E). D=3 miles/day E=sea level +/- 500 ft.**

Camp out on one of the finest white sand beaches in Hawai'i. Opportunities for snorkeling, swimming, surfing and birdwatching. 4-wheel drive vehicles needed to access the campsite. Bring water for 3 days, tent and camping equipment, food, etc. RESERVATIONS REQUIRED. Register with leader Sarah Moon (935-3475).

## **Thursday, November 15 - Walking the Wild Wall - The Great Wall of China and Silk Road.**

Presentation by Roberta Brashear; Komohana Ag Complex, 6:30 pm.

## **Saturday, November 17 - Keauhou Overlook (E) D = 5 miles, E = 2700' +/-500'**

We start at the trailhead to Keauhou on Chain of Craters Road in HVNP and encounter varied conditions on this loop trail -- bare 1974 lava, a forested section and an overlook that spans the entire coastline. The final two-mile leg of the trail follows a dirt track to Ainahou Ranch through trees and grasslands. Bring sunscreen, hat and water, but also be prepared for rain. Bring a snack for our break at the overlook. We will meet at the Park Visitor Center at 8:30 am. Contact leader Debbi Uchida (985-7303 for further details.

## **Saturday, November 17 - Old Government Trail; Kaloli Service Trip (S) D = 4 miles, Sea Level See October 6.**

## **Sunday, November 25 - Mamalahoa Trail (E)(F) D = 3 mi, Sea Level +/- 30'**

Hike on historic kerbstone trail built in the 1830s, which courses from the new entrance to Kaloko National Park to the Kona Airport. Wear good shoes; bring sunscreen, hat, one quart of water and a snack. Meet at new entrance to Kaloko National Park at 9:00 am. Contact Scott Mandel (322-0718) for information.

## **Friday, December 7 - Annual Membership Meeting and Party - Wailoa River State Park, Pavilion #1; 6:00 pm.**

# MAUI GROUP OUTINGS

## **PLEASE BE PREPARED FOR OUTINGS.**

Bring food, water, and as conditions require-sturdy footwear, mosquito repellent. A donation of \$5 (\$2 for Sierra Club members) is requested of all hikers over age 14. Hikes are popular. Please register early. Pre-registration and an EMI WAIVER absolutely required for the October 21st hike (listed below). Call in your waiver request well in advance of going to EMI's Pa'ia office. Ask for Jackie at 579-9516.

**PICK UP PERMITS 5 DAYS IN ADVANCE.**

## **Sunday October 7**

*White Cross Wailuku: Strenuous uphill hike with great views.* Long pants recommended. Bring lunch & water. Meet 8 am. Take Main St. toward Iao Valley, then take left fork toward Wailuku Heights, a short distance to large water tank. Park at water tank (trailhead nearby). Limit 10. Call 573-4147 to register. Leader: Mitch Skaggarberg

## **Sunday October 21**

*Makapipi Trail: Nahiku area.* Winding ditch trail covers 2.5 miles between Makapipi and upper Hanawi streams. Native plants, views, pools, waterfalls. EMI waiver required. Limit 20. Register at 573-4147. Meet 8 am Ha'iku Community Center. Leader: Mango Mitch Skaggarberg/co-leader: Lucienne de Naie, 572-8331.

## **Saturday, October 27**

*I LOVE BIG BEACH Clean up and Tour:* A 15-year-long citizen campaign preserved Oneloa Beach and Pu'u Ola'i from development. Now a master plan is needed to ensure this 128 acres of wild coast can be enjoyed responsibly by Maui residents and visitors. Come share your malama & learn how you can help. Clean up supplies and soft drinks provided, plus free bumper stickers. Co-sponsored by Maui Coastal Land Trust & Sierra Club. Meet 9 am at the second parking lot, Makena State Park. Call 572-8331 for more information

## **Saturday, November 3**

*GRAND SILVER MOON GALA- 25th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:* Sierra Club on Maui is celebrating its FIRST QUARTER CENTURY of victories! Join us for a Gala Evening at Grand Waikapu 6:00 pm until 10:30 pm. To donate a gift or service to our silent auction, or volunteer to help, please contact Sierra Club office at 579-9802. To help with advanced ticket sales, contact Neola Caveny: 579-9769.

## **Sunday, November 11**

*Keone'o'io (La Perouse Bay) to Hanamanioa Lighthouse:* Join noted marine biologist Ann Fielding to explore the rare anchialine ponds and many other unique features of this historic coastal trail. Aprox. 4 miles R/T. Wear sturdy shoes and sun hats. Bring water and lunch. Meet 8 am Kam III parking lot, Kihei. Limit 20. A \$5 donation for members and \$10 for non-members is asked. Leader: Lucienne de Naie. Call 572-8331.

## **Saturday November 17**

*Waibou Springs Trail Service Trip:* (In conjunction with Na Ala Hele.) Enjoy a peaceful, 2-mile, easy-to-moderate forest walk in upper Olinda to a lovely fern grotto, and help maintain this upcountry trail. Tools and gloves provided. No registration necessary. Meet 8:30 am in the parking lot across from St Joseph's Church in Makawao. Leader: Tina Dart.

## **Saturday December 1**

*Skyline Vulcanism Hike:* Moderate hike at high elevation. Hike follows Haleakala's chain of craters skyline trail. Incredible views and geological wonders. Dress for cold, windy, sunny conditions. Limit 12. Register 878-4122. Leader: Tina Dart/co-leader: Lance Tanino.

## **Saturday, December 8**

*Christmas Tree Harvest:* Meet for the annual Haleakala National Park Annual Christmas Tree Harvest on the road to Hosmer Grove at 8:30 am. (Joint effort with the Park Service and Friends of Haleakala Park.) Pull and cut alien pine species. Take home a tree and greens. Bring work gloves, hand-saw and/or loppers. No chainsaws. Dress according to weather conditions. Contact: Mary Evanson, 572-9724.

## **Monday December 17**

*Ma'alaea Petroglyphs:* Largest array of petroglyphs on Maui. Short uphill hike (2-mi R/T). Sturdy shoes and long pants recommended. Great views of coast. Meet 9 am in front of Buzz's Wharf, Ma'alaea Harbor; back by noon. No registration necessary. Leader: Lucienne de Naie.

## **Saturday, December 29**

*Waikamoi Cloud Forest Hike:* (In conjunction with The Nature Conservancy.) 3.2-mile hike through rare, native Hawaiian rain forest. Meet 9 am at Hosmer Grove, Haleakala National Park. Reservations required. Limit 12. Call the Maui Group office voicemail at 573-4147. Bring rain gear, good boots.

## **Saturday January 19**

*SIERRA CLUB ANNUAL MEETING:* 11 am to 3 pm, Maui Nui Botanical Garden (Old Maui Zoo), Kanaloa St. Wailuku. Volunteer awards, potluck picnic and family fun. Noon: Featured speaker Chris Yuen, the Big Island's new Planning Director, acclaimed for his innovative approach to community planning. Topic: Better Planning-It's Not Mission Impossible! Q&A, lunch and local updates to follow. Members and non-members welcome. Soft drinks and serving items provided. Bring a folding chair. Mahalo to Maui Nui Botanical Garden and its staff. Setup volunteers needed. Please call 579-9802 to help.

## **HIKE LEADER TRAINING IN JANUARY 2002**

Date & location TBA. Please call 579-9802 if you'd like to be a part of Sierra Club, Maui Group's exciting outings program.

# Malama Kahakai!

*Jay Griffin*

Just like the surf that graces the Hawaiian Islands and incessantly shapes our beautiful coastlines, the Malama Kahakai - "Keep It Wild!" campaign steadily works to save Hawaii's wild and scenic coastlines. In the past few months, several events occurred that indicate much more work is needed before our coasts have adequate protection. Yet, there is abundant good news to report and many promising signs that the public and our elected officials are willing to take the steps needed to preserve our wild coastal lands.

The Malama Kahakai campaign will receive a huge boost at an event tentatively scheduled for late February featuring the marine life artist Wyland. At the request of the Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter, Wyland has agreed to come to the State Legislature during next year's session to promote awareness of the coastal and ocean environments and the efforts to protect these ecosystems. At the event, Wyland will depict the beauty of the coast and oceans through his artwork. The Sierra Club will organize members of Hawaii's conservation community to attend and speak. In addition, we'll invite students from throughout the state to meet Wyland and learn how they can protect our coasts and ocean. If you have any suggestions or ideas for the event, please contact Jay Griffin (537-4388 or [Jay.Griffin@sierraclub.org](mailto:Jay.Griffin@sierraclub.org)). Please make efforts to attend and volunteer for the event. We're planning on a large audience so any help is appreciated.

In July, Governor Cayetano had a guided tour of Maha'ulepu by Grove Farm Company, the current landowner, and engaged in preliminary discussions about its future. Unfortunately, members of Malama Maha'ulepu were not invited to join the tour and share their local knowledge of the area. The Governor most definitely received a biased account of Maha'ulepu. In the end, Grove Farm's initial discussions with the state do not indicate serious intent to do anything at Maha'ulepu at the moment. Because of these events we must remain attentive to the situation at Maha'ulepu and remind the Governor at every opportunity possible how this place could be an amazing part of his legacy.

The City Council chose housing over a park when they approved the Special Management Area (SMA) permit for Anderson's gated community on the North Shore. This approval seriously jeopardizes the community's vision of a county park for this coastal site. Perhaps more troubling were City Councilman Duke Bainum's comments during the hearing that suggested "We just can't go around buying up pieces of coastal property whenever we want." On the surface, he is correct. The City has lots of competing priorities and a limited budget. But a myriad of innovative

funding mechanisms are available to local governments for land acquisition programs. Our leaders have failed to do this even though nearly every planning report produced for state and county governments over the past thirty years has identified protection of coastal open space as a major priority. Bainum and other elected officials need to look no further than Maui County for just such an innovative proposal.

Maui Mayor James "Kimo" Apana has proposed a county charter amendment that would allocate 1 percent of property taxes for a land acquisition fund to buy coastal land and other land for public use. The experience at Palauea Beach and now Kaunala Bay on Oahu show that once development proposals are on the table, property prices sky rocket and preservation options are limited. This policy will create a readily available pool of funds so Maui County and its citizens can work proactively to preserve coastal lands.

On the Big Island, South Kona residents are breathing a little easier after Pacific Star LLC, the developer proposing the Keopuka project, withdrew its lawsuit against the Sierra Club and State Land Use Commission. Pacific Star filed a series of lawsuits in October of last year in response to a ruling by the Land Use Commission regarding Pacific Star's resort proposal. Pacific Star was attempting to gain approval for development of a golf course, 125 luxury houses, and a 100-unit hotel on 660 acres of agriculture and conservation-zoned lands above Kealakekua Bay. The Land Use Commission ruled that the development was clearly not agricultural and would require a reclassification to urban. The Third Circuit Court upheld the Land Use Commission's decision on July 2nd, 2001 when on appeal by Pacific Star. On August 21st, Pacific Star announced they were dropping their second lawsuit. Pacific Star's next move is not clear at the moment; however, it is probably safe to say that the Keopuka project will emerge again in some form.

Similar to South Kona, extensive plans for coastal development exist for North Kohala. Fortunately, local citizens formed Kamakani O Kohala Ohana (also known as KAK'O) as a clearinghouse for information and focal point for rallying community support. Their website is [www.kamakani.org](http://www.kamakani.org). At the site, you can find detailed information on the development plans of Chalon International, the primary landowner in the area, and the community's efforts to protect the resources on the North Kohala coastline.

That sums up the events over the past few months related to the Malama Kahakai campaign. There's now a campaign website: [www.hi.sierraclub.org/wild/index.htm](http://www.hi.sierraclub.org/wild/index.htm). Look at the website for more details on the campaign. A section with links to current news items and related issues is currently under construction.

# Malama Maha`ulepu Report

As the summer of 2001 ended, the stock market was down but land conservation was up. *Sierra Magazine* featured beautiful photographs of two dozen new or expanded national monuments totaling more than 6.1 million acres. The **Beryl Blaich** Land Trust Alliance announced that 6,479,672 acres of land had been protected by local and regional land trusts as of December 31, 2000. This is a 241 percent increase over the 1.9 million acres protected as of 1990.

Such successes inspire groups like Malama Maha`ulepu, one of Sierra Club's partners in the campaign to conserve Hawaii's last undeveloped coastal areas. Those millions of acres have been added to the shared wealth of all citizens. They are the places where future generations will encounter the forces of geology, biological diversity, open space, the settlements of past societies, and events of our history. Maha`ulepu, Kaua`i is such a place. At Maha`ulepu the continuum of the life of Hawai`i, natural, cultural and historical, can be experienced in the relatively small acreage of 2900 acres.

The sense of possibilities for the conservation of Maha`ulepu was also upbeat this summer. In an article in the *Honolulu Advertiser* in June, Governor Ben Cayetano declared that Maha`ulepu merited preservation as one of the Hawai`i's "string of pearls." These treasured lands include magnificent wilderness and cultural heritage areas such as the Na Pali coast, Kokee State Park and the Ka Iwi coastline. The Governor reiterated that Maha`ulepu was the top priority on the State's wish list to preserve and protect in a speech to the Environmental Council of the States in August. This is good news, although the Governor also spoke of some possible development at Maha`ulepu--and limited state funds and the president of Grove Farm Company continues to want Maha`ulepu to contain a world-class resort as an anchor for land sales.

*After September 11th*

In face of national and state needs in the aftermath of the calamitous attacks of September 11th, optimism falters. It is replaced by sorrow for victims and a sober uncertainty about ordinary concerns. In all aspects of civic and personal life, there is so much to attend to and to support. Priorities get reexamined. At best, we determine to maintain, to do "the basics."

In land conservation, people's perseverance is the basic. These people hold a common vision that some places are too unique to be lost for urban and industrial expansion. Small actions by persistent people underlie the successful creation of parks, preserves and monuments whether these ultimately occur through government action, land trust brokering, landowner generosity, public contribution or combinations of all of the above.

Therefore, though it feels intrusive to ask at this time, Malama Maha`ulepu asks for your help. Please consider doing the following to contribute to the preservation of Maha`ulepu.

1. Donate \$10.00 or more for our on going operations and educational outreach. Donors will receive a Malama Maha`ulepu bumper sticker.

*Please write checks to Malama Maha`ulepu and mail to Marge Ferguson, Treasurer, 4347 Rice St., Lihue, HI 96766*

2. Let us know if you are willing to circulate a petition of support or have one in your business. (Write to Beryl Blaich, PO Box 1434, Kilauea, HI 96754, 808-828-1438, [blaich@aloha.net](mailto:blaich@aloha.net))

# Protecting Coastal Waters

*Roger Dilts, Ph.D.*

The date was September 9, 2000, and it was a very pleasant morning, with scattered sunshine as to be expected this time of year in the Kona coffee belt, following the evening showers the day before. The phone rings. It's David Frankel; he informs me that he has yet another tip that there is runoff coming from the new project site of Oceanside 1250 Partners, Hokulia. This would be significant since these same investors are proposing to develop more land adjacent to Kealahou Bay-Keopuka Land Development. The community of South Kona is opposed to this planned development and Sierra Club has joined forces with us to aid and empower the local community in its fight to oppose it. David proceeds, and asks me to kayak the five miles or so to the site, and back, take photos and document the runoff. I remind David that I have done this paddle twice in the past couple of months, as a result of such "tips," and I have work to do on the farm. I also remind him that as of three weeks ago, the project site was green with plenty of remediation in place and that it really didn't rain that hard last night (David is calling from Volcano) and furthermore, previous "tips" had resulted in nothing. He replies, if not you, then who is going to give us an accurate report. While there were and are others who could do this, his point hit home that all of this would take time to organize, it would be easier for me to go since I had the boat, the camera equipment, I'm an accomplished free diver and above all else, a trained scientist. I went, and the rest of this story can be found at Keep Kealahou Website, [www.pendragonhawaii.com/kealahou](http://www.pendragonhawaii.com/kealahou). The initial problem that instigated this incident, however, still remains. In an attempt to address this issue, the Sierra Club has hired me as a Water Sentinel water quality monitor for the South Kona coast.

The problem Hawaii faces is that developers who file environmental review documents state that they will employ "best management practices" during construction to minimize environmental impact. There remains an inability, however, to enforce these practices once construction begins since there is often no or very little baseline data that can be used as evidence of a violation of EPA statutes or permits and in Hawaii County the grubbing and grading permitting process is not enforced. In fact, the responsibility for gathering these baseline data is more often than not given to the development corporations or partnerships by the state and county officials, who often claim that they have neither the financial nor physical resources to do to these studies. This in effect, gives "carte blanche" to developers, since without data to prove otherwise, they can proceed with only monetary interests in mind, which often precludes utilizing best management practices.

As a water monitor one of my primary goals will be to help protect the class AA pristine waters adjacent to the Hokulia project, which extend and flow south into Kealahou Bay. In an effort to achieve this goal, I will begin an education campaign about the need for best management practices and our unique near



shore marine environment with Class AA pristine water quality, initiate a volunteer water monitoring program along the South Kona Coast, establish minimal coastline data along the Hokulia project site as well as publicize and utilize Hokulia development and Oceanside 1250 partners' greed as an example in an effort to enforce federal, state and county statutes that protect our environmental resources, our economic development as well as our personal property. I will be publishing updates on our progress throughout the upcoming year and look forward to working with many of you in this regard.

Please contact me if you would like to get involved: [crhawaii@ilhawaii.net](mailto:crhawaii@ilhawaii.net)

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nation's current oil needs, deflating any argument that Refuge oil enhances national security. Further, experts believe it would take a decade for the oil to reach the market.

But beyond hard science and logic, Beach's steadfast resolve of 15 villages in the Arctic tells the real story: "For 1000 generations, we depended on this wildlife for daily food and spirituality. Senator Daniel Akaka is still undecided on drilling and how to protect the Gwich'in Indian human rights, culture and wilderness. We can't allow destruction of more American symbols, like this most sacred Arctic life system."

Senate Energy Committee Chair, Sen. Bingaman, made a statement on September 6th describing his energy policy bill to be used to "mark up" this legislation in committee: "I will not be including any provisions relating to drilling for oil in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. The debate over oil drilling in the Arctic Refuge--a long-standing bone of contention in energy policy--is in many ways a distraction from more important opportunities to bolster our domestic energy security. Oil produced from the Arctic Refuge is not likely to influence the world price of oil, or the prices that U.S. consumers pay for gasoline. I plan to focus attention in the Energy Committee mark-up on a number of issues that will have a greater impact on our domestic production of oil and gas and a larger near-term impact than drilling in the Arctic." The Sierra Club & Coalition of Conservation Voters endorsed Senator Akaka when he held these pro-protection views in 1990, and 607 scientists wrote this year to concur that evidence has mounted for him to sustain the drilling ban.

## Entertainment Books

The Hawaii Chapter is again selling Entertainment books as a fundraiser. The books cost \$30; \$6 of which goes to the Chapter. The Entertainment book contains several hundred coupons for "2 for 1" meals, discounts on hotels, rental cars, movie tickets, dry cleaning, and even a \$40 off certificate for Aloha Airlines. Coupons are good from the time you buy the book (available NOW!!) until Nov 1, 2002. Using just a few of the offers will more than cover the \$30 purchase price. They also make excellent gifts! Please consider supporting the Chapter in this way, and let your friends know. Molly Chang is coordinating the book sales. Her phone number is 523-7614. Leave a message on her answering machine, and she'll arrange to get a book to you.

## Why oil drilling doesn't belong in the Arctic Refuge

- Ninety-five percent of the Arctic coast is open to oil development; the Arctic Refuge coastal plain is the last five percent. The coastal plain should be protected for all Americans to enjoy in perpetuity. The oil companies have enough land to develop.
- Prudhoe Bay is estimated to contain 40 more years of oil for this nation's energy needs, that's plenty of time for the United States to develop alternative energy sources and reduce our reliance on fossil fuels which are very harmful to the natural environment and a leading contributor to global warming, from which we observe harmful impacts already.
- Oil development in the Arctic Refuge will not solve the energy needs of this nation. Even if the U.S. developed all our domestic sources of oil we would still be reliant on foreign oil because the U.S. has such a high rate of consumption. A wiser energy solution must be delineated, not a short-term solution to a long-term problem.
- The unprotected area of the Arctic Refuge coastal plain provides vital habitat for nearly 200 species of animals, including the 129,000 member Porcupine Caribou herd as well as polar bears, grizzlies, wolves and millions of migratory birds, including several being Hawai'i winterers. Allowing this essential, eternal wilderness to be exchanged for a short-term supply of oil is unacceptable.
- Drilling in the Refuge will have no discernable short-term or long-term impact on the price of fuel and will not decrease our dependence on foreign oil. The amount of oil under the Arctic Refuge would never satisfy more than 2 percent of our nation's oil demands at any given time. In fact, if the Refuge were America's only source of oil, the amount of recoverable oil would sustain America's consumption for less than 6 months. The wilderness and cultural values of the Arctic Refuge coastal plain are too precious to give away as a temporary bandage for our need for oil.
- America does need a sound national energy policy, but we simply can't drill our way to lower prices or energy independence. Our energy policy should emphasize decreasing the demand rather than increasing the supply of fossil fuels. There are reliable and sensible means of achieving these ends--such as energy conservation, alternative energies and improved energy efficiency --which can reduce our dependence on oil without sacrificing indigenous cultures and a fragile ecosystem.
- Oil development in the "American Serengeti" cannot be done in an "environmentally sensitive" manner. Since 1996, the Prudhoe Bay oil fields and Trans-Alaska Pipeline have caused an average of 427 spills annually on the North Slope--most commonly spills of diesel and crude oil. Whether an accident or faulty maintenance, the Arctic Refuge coastal plain is too precious to risk from spills such as these.





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