

STATE OF HAWAII

DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

December 15, 2009

TO: Chairman and Members, Hawaiian Homes Commission

FROM: Darrell Yagodich, Planning Program Manager

SUBJECT: Aina Mauna Legacy Program

RECOMMENDED MOTION/ACTION

That the Hawaiian Homes Commission, (HHC) approve the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) Aina Mauna Legacy Program (Exhibit A) subject to, the approval of DHHL's two year and six year program budgets and five year periodic program reviews

DISCUSSION

Background

The Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, 1920 as amended, (HHCA) created a trust responsibility that requires the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands, (DHHL) to make its trust assets productive, that is, to preserve portions of its lands to conserve the native forest, natural habitats, unique cultural resources and enable native Hawaiians to return to these lands to preserve their cultural values and traditions, for future generations of native Hawaiians as envisioned by Prince Kuhio.

DHHL is looking at its responsibility as a land manager not just to provide homes for its beneficiaries, but also to provide for the management and protection of HHCA trust lands under the concept of a self-sustaining legacy program to support both cultural and resource management activities and create homesteading opportunities for the future.

The Humu'ula Pi'ihonua Region on the island of Hawaii is a sensitive area and various Humu'ula plans have been considered by HHC for the development of the region in the past.

The purpose of Aina Mauna Legacy Program is to restore and preserve the trust resources that exist in the region that have been identified in the various development plans. These include but are not limited to the Native Hawaiian Koa forest, sensitive

environmental resources, and other cultural and historic resources. The HHC must ensure that a long term management strategy can be implemented that will sustain the revitalization of the region and provide benefits to existing and future beneficiaries of the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust.

The Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua area is composed of approximately 56,200-acres of Hawaiian Home Lands, (HHL) located on the northeast slopes of Mauna Kea. The Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua lands are the largest contiguous parcel under the jurisdiction of the HHC.

The lands of Humu`ula and Pi`ihonua represent the most important native forest areas remaining in the HHL trust. These lands provide a glimpse into the natural environment and native forests which are disappearing throughout the state. The area serves as valuable habitat to many native and endemic species. The area's proximity to Mauna Kea also makes it a valuable cultural resource.

DHHL believes that the Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua lands have the potential for serving as a sustainable native forest and land unit by simultaneously providing environmental, economic, cultural and social benefits to the trust and its beneficiaries, in perpetuity by linking native Hawaiian cultural knowledge and modern science.

By adopting a sustainable program management strategy as contained in the Aina Mauna Legacy Program, the lands can be conserved and restored while also providing an economic resource for DHHL and its beneficiaries. The time commitment for the Legacy Program and restoration of the land is long term, essentially for the next 100-years and beyond.

To maintain economic sustainability of the Aina Mauna Legacy Program will require that revenues generated from the management of the Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua lands be reinvested to support management and development activities for the entire term of the Program.

Aina Mauna Legacy Program

The Aina Mauna Legacy Program plan considered all previous Humu'ula Plans in formulating a single plan of action known as the Aina Mauna Legacy Program.

The Program will address the following priority issues:

1. Restoration and enhancement of DHHL trust property
2. Provide opportunities for DHHL beneficiaries
3. Preserve natural and cultural resources
4. Reforestation and restoration of the ecosystem
5. Removal of invasive species - gorse, etc.
6. Develop revenue and reinvest to sustain activities
7. Provide educational opportunities
8. Identify and secure partners
9. Identify alternative/renewable energy projects
10. Model for others to engage in ecosystem restoration in a culturally sensitive manner based on partnerships to develop a self-sustaining business model.

The Aina Mauna Legacy Program is a "living document" that is intended to be flexible and is subject to change, as times and needs change. Therefore, the program should be re-examined by the HHC/DHHL on a periodic basis (possibly every 5-years) to ensure that it addresses DHHL's needs in the future.

The Aina Mauna Legacy Program Plan has been reviewed and discussed with the Beneficiary and General community members through public meetings and has been available on DHHL's website. The Program was also included in DHHL's consultation program as detailed in the attached Exhibit A. There have been many letters of support for this innovative legacy program approach to managing large parcels of land that contain a variety of natural and cultural resources see Exhibit B.

Letters of Support Received

Paula Helfrich, Teacher/Archaeologist	August 16, 2009
Queen Emma Land Company - Les Goya, Vice President	September 14, 2009
Hawai'i Forest Industry Association - Heather Gallo, Executive Director	September 15, 2009
Bishop Museum - Napua Harbottle, Botany Collections Manager	September 25, 2009
The Trust for Public Lands - Lea Hong, Hawai'i Islands Program Director	September 30, 2009
University of Hawai'i, CTAHR - J.B. Friday, PhD, Extension Forester	October 1, 2009
Bishop Museum - Tim Johns, President and Chief Executive Officer	October 5, 2009
Hawai'i Audubon Society - Wendy Johnson, First Vice President	October 7, 2009
Ross Wilson Jr. - Member of the Royal Order of Kamehameha	October 12, 2009
Josh Stanbro - Former Hawai'i Project Manager, The Trust for Public Lands	October 12, 2009
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Jim Kraus, Refuge Manager, Hakalau Forest NWR	October 13, 2009
University of Hawai'i, NREM - James Leary, PhD, Invasive Weed Management	October 15, 2009
David B. Kaapu - native Hawaiian	October 21, 2009
Kamehameha Schools - Ulalia Woodside, Manager, Land Legacy Resources	October 22, 2009
Queen Lili'uokalani Trust - LeeAnn E. P. Crabbe, Vice President	October 23, 2009
The Nature Conservancy - Suzanne Case, Executive Director	October 30, 2009
Hawai'i Island Economic Development Board - Jacqui Hoover, Executive Director	October 30, 2009
Conservation Council for Hawai'i - Marjorie Ziegler, Executive Director	October 30, 2009

Big Island Invasive Species Committee - Zeada Pachecano, Manager
Office of Hawaii Affairs - Clyde Nāmu`o, Administrator
Hawai'i Island Chamber of Commerce - Jon Y. Miyata, Vice President
Hawaiian Civic Club of Kona-Kuakini - Gene "Bucky" Leslie, President
John De Fries, native Hawaiian
Army - Pōhakuloa Training Area - Stephen Troute, Community Relations
Royal Order of Kamehameha I, Ali'i Chapter - Alika Desha

November 5, 2009
November 12, 2009
November 13, 2009
November 19, 2009
November 20, 2009
November 20, 2009
November 25, 2009

Implementation

Upon program approval a multi year work plan will be prepared outlining the necessary objectives that will be required to implement the Aina Mauna Legacy Program. The work plan will include formulating a long-range, phased, multi-source funded strategy for the restoration, preservation and development of the Region. It is envisioned that the Chairman will appoint an advisory group composed of DHHL beneficiaries and others that represent a cross section of the island and that they will be involved in the implementation of the program. Actual disposition and procurement will be handled by the respective DHHL offices with the HHC maintaining oversight as the trustee. Eventually as the region is populated a homestead community management model may be adopted and responsibilities may be transferred to the community based entity following DHHL's existing regional planning model.

RECOMMENDATION

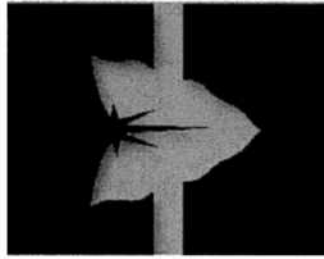
This project represents a new opportunity under the HHCA to provide benefits to the beneficiaries, and will restore, preserve and enhance the natural environment and unique trust resources located in the Humu'ula Pi'ihonua Region in perpetuity for many generations of native Hawaiians.

The Commission's approval of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) Aina Mauna Legacy Program (Exhibit A) subject to, the approval of DHHL's two year and six year program budgets and five year periodic program reviews is respectfully requested.

Aina Mauna Legacy Program

1	Proposed Action or Issue for Discussion	Aina Mauna Legacy Program
	Executive Summary	Executive Summary
2	Notification	Letter to beneficiaries Hilo Consultation 10/14/09
3	Presentation and Feedback	PowerPoint presentation
	Background Information	Hawaii Island Plan
4	Draft Report with Comments Received	Draft report Waimea Consultation 9/23/09 - Responses to Questions and Comments Hilo Consultation 9/25/09 - Responses to Questions and Comments
5	Review Period	30 day review period ends October 26, 2009
6	Final Report	Pre-Final Report
7	Decision-Making	Scheduled for Hawaiian Homes Commission approval on November 17 or December 15, 2009

EXHIBIT **A**



**Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
ʻĀina Mauna Legacy Program
Executive Summary**

In 1921, the federal government of the United States set aside as Hawaiian Homelands approximately 200,000-acres in the Territory of Hawaiʻi as a land trust for homesteading by native Hawaiians. The avowed purpose of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act was returning native Hawaiians to the land in order to maintain traditional ties to the land.

The Hawaiʻi State Legislature in 1960 created the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) for the purposes of administering the Hawaiian home lands program and managing the Hawaiian home lands trust. The Department provides direct benefits to native Hawaiians in the form of homestead leases for residential, agricultural, or pastoral purposes. The intent of the homesteading program is to provide for economic self-sufficiency of native Hawaiians through the provision of land.

In turn, the mission of the DHHL Hawaiian Homes Commission as stated on its website is:

“To manage the Hawaiian Home Lands trust effectively and to develop and deliver land to native Hawaiians. We will partner with others towards developing self-sufficient and healthy communities.”

Enhancing the Legacy at Humuʻula/Piʻihonua

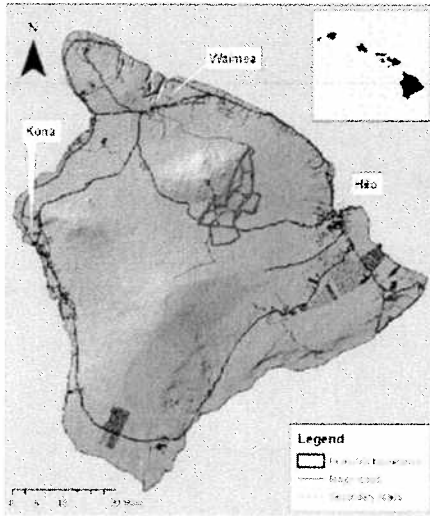
DHHL is looking at its responsibility as a land manager not just to provide homes to its beneficiaries, but also to provide for the management and protection of native lands to support both cultural and resource management activities and create homesteading opportunities for the future.

DHHL seeks to restore portions of the Humuʻula/Piʻihonua lands in perpetuity to conserve these native forests and natural habitats for future generations. In doing so the Department is looking beyond housing and into a more holistic approach for communities and land management.

DHHL believes that the Humuʻula/Piʻihonua lands have the potential for serving as a sustainable native forest and land unit by simultaneously providing environmental, economic and social benefits to the trust and its beneficiaries, in perpetuity by linking traditional cultural knowledge and modern science.

Therefore, the ʻĀina Mauna Legacy Program is to be developed to take into consideration not only the immediate needs of the area, but also traditional cultural knowledge, and how best to manage the legacy for the area for future generations. By creating a sustainable plan for the area, the lands can be conserved and restored while also providing an economic resource for DHHL and its beneficiaries. The time commitment for the Legacy Program and restoration of the land is long term, essentially for the next 100-years and beyond.

ʻĀina Mauna Legacy Program



ʻĀina Mauna Legacy Program Area

ʻĀina Mauna

ʻĀina mauna, or mountain lands, reflects a term used affectionately by elder Hawaiians to describe the upper regions of all mountain lands surrounding and including Mauna Kea.

Native Hawaiian traditions and historical accounts describe the lands of Humuʻula and neighboring Kaʻohe - those areas extending from shore to around the 6,000-foot elevation - as having once been covered with dense forests, and frequented by native practitioners who gathered forest-plant resources, birds and food. The larger ʻāina mauna were frequented by individuals who were traveling to the upper regions of Mauna Kea to worship, gather stone, bury family members, or deposit the piko (umbilical cords of newborn children) in sacred and safe areas; and by those who were crossing from one region of the island to another.

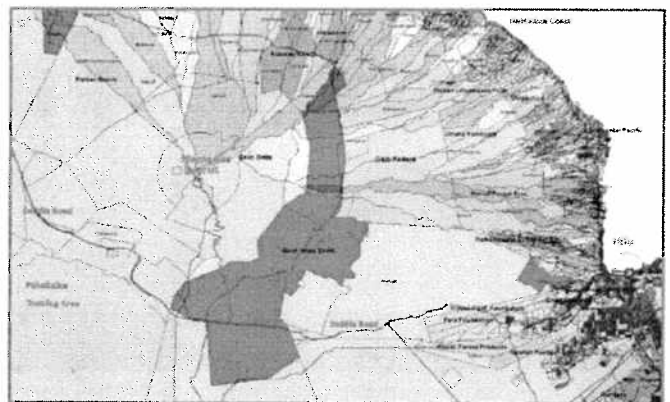
Historically, uses of the Humuʻula/Piʻihonua lands were limited to managed sheep and cattle grazing. The introduction of cattle, sheep, goats and the proliferation of wild dogs on the ʻāina mauna is believed to have started as early as the 1820s. By 1850, the cultural and natural landscape had been significantly altered by roving herds of wild ungulates. Ranching interest, having become formalized, began to establish ranching stations and operations on the mountain lands. Thus, areas once forested soon became open pasture lands.

Parker Ranch held the longest ranching lease to the property, from the early 1900s to 2002, and their lease extended around Mauna Kea to the Puʻuhuluhulu vicinity. Initially, Parker Ranch invested in sheep ranching and then focused on cattle operations until the end of their lease with DHHL in 2002. Since 2002, when existing cattle leases expired, most of these lands have been inactive. Efforts to restore the land's productivity via gorse eradication/control, native bird corridors and koa forest restoration have begun in priority areas.

The Humuʻula/Piʻihonua area is made up of approximately 56,200-acres owned by the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands located on the northeast slopes of Mauna Kea. The Humuʻula/Piʻihonua lands are the largest contiguous parcel under jurisdiction of DHHL. The Humuʻula parcel is approximately 49,100-acres in size and the Piʻihonua parcel, located adjacent to the eastern boundary of Humuʻula, is approximately 7,078-acres in size. ʻĀinahou, comprising approximately 11,124-acres, is the subsection of Humuʻula south of Saddle Road and is currently under license to the State of Hawaiʻi, Department of Land and Natural Resources.

The lands of Humuʻula are characterized by their isolation, high elevation, cool temperatures and lack of infrastructure (roads, potable water, telephone, power, etc.). The area is somewhat isolated with the closest public facilities (schools, hospitals, police and fire services) located in Hilo (25-miles and 40-minutes by car) and Waimea (30-miles and 55-minutes by car).

With elevations ranging from approximately 4,500-to 9,000-foot mean sea level, the lands experience cooler temperatures ranging from an annual mean of 58 °F at the 5,000-foot elevation to 45 °F at the 9,000-foot elevation, with frost conditions occurring during the winter months. Rainfall varies greatly over various portions from an annual mean of 45-inches in the upper elevations to 120-inches in the lower elevations near the Saddle Road.



DHHL Humuʻula-Piʻihonua Lands in the ʻĀina Mauna

ʻĀina Mauna Legacy Program



Map Noting Extent of Gorse Infestation
Blue – Humuʻula-Piʻihonua Property
Salmon – Extent to gorse infestation
Pink – Gorse containment area

ʻĀina Mauna Legacy Program

The ʻĀina Mauna Legacy Program serves as a guide as DHHL moves forward in managing the Humuʻula/Piʻihonua area to conserve its legacy for future generations while also serving as an economic resource. The Legacy Program is an extension of prior planning and activities at the site. Findings, recommendations, background information and other references from many of these prior documents are included and edited into this program.

The lands of Humuʻula and Piʻihonua represent the most important native forest areas remaining in the DHHL trust. These lands provide a glimpse into the natural environment and native forests which are disappearing throughout the state. The area serves as valuable habitat to many native and endemic species. The area's proximity to Mauna Kea also makes it a valuable cultural resource. These lands have the potential for serving as a sustainable native forest and land unit by simultaneously providing environmental, economic and social benefits to the trust and its beneficiaries in perpetuity.

The ʻĀina Mauna Legacy Program incorporates prior planning efforts and serves as a policy framework related to the overall use and management of the property; the implementation process will occur after the Legacy Program is adopted. The following principles, areas of focus and goals serve as the foundation to the preparation and implementation of the ʻĀina Mauna Legacy Program.

Legacy Program Mission

The mission of the ʻĀina Mauna Legacy Program and its implementation is to protect approximately 56,000-acres of native Hawaiian forest that is ecologically, culturally and economically self-sustaining for the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust, its beneficiaries and the community.

The vegetation is dominated by an understory of exotic pasture grasses over much of the lands with koa/ʻōhiʻa forest found in the lower portions of Piʻihonua, especially in the lands adjacent to the Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge. Scattered koa and māmane are found over the northern portions of Humuʻula with scattered māmane found in the upper elevations, especially adjacent to the Mauna Kea Forest Reserve. The vegetation on the ʻĀinahou lands generally consists of scattered scrub vegetation of ʻōhiʻa and native shrubs.

A significant vegetative feature on these lands is the gorse plant, a noxious weed which covers between 10,000 - 13,000-acres in the central portion of the Humuʻula lands. In high densities, this impenetrable shrub renders the land nearly useless. Because the gorse seeds remain viable in the soil for up to 70-years, the eradication strategy must be long-term and comprehensive in its approach. The need to eradicate gorse on the property cannot be overstated.

From a biological perspective the māmane forests are important in that they serve as a critical habitat for palila, an endangered native bird. Several endangered or threaten native bird species also are associated with the koa/ʻōhiʻa and koa/māmane forest areas. The ʻĀinahou lands, which serve as a public hunting and game reserve area, also serves as a refuge area for the Hawaiian goose (nēnē).

Goals

Initial goals for the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program include:

Goal 1: Develop an economically self-sustaining improvement and preservation program for the natural and cultural resources (invasive species eradication and native ecosystem restoration) and implementation strategy.

The focus of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program shall be on:

- Restoration and enhancement of DHHL trust resources;
- Identify immediate and future opportunities for DHHL beneficiaries;
- Removal of invasive species - gorse, etc.;
- Conserve natural and cultural resources and endangered species;
- Address reforestation and restoration of the ecosystem;
- Develop revenue generation, reinvestment in land to sustain activities;
- Provide educational and cultural opportunities;
- Identify and secure partners to sustain activities;
- Identify opportunities for alternative/renewable energy projects; and
- Be a lead and/or model for others to engage in ecosystem restoration in a culturally sensitive manner based on partnerships to develop a self-sustaining model

Goal 2: Develop an outreach program to gain interest, participation, and support from the Hawaiian Homes Commission, DHHL Staff, beneficiaries groups, cultural practitioners, natural resource scientists, and the broader community for the Legacy Program and its implementation.

Summary of Priority Issues and Focus of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program

The ultimate long term goal for DHHL is an economically-sustainable, healthy native forest ecosystem at Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua. In achieving this goal, the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program will serve as a guide for managing existing and future activities and uses and to ensure ongoing protection of DHHL's trust property. In preparing the Legacy Program many prior studies and reports dealing with the Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua region were reviewed and incorporated into the Legacy Program.

The `Āina Mauna Legacy Program is a "living document" that is intended to be flexible and is subject to change, as times and needs change. Therefore, the program should be re-examined on a periodic basis (possibly every 5-years) to ensure that it addresses DHHL's needs in the future. The following is a list of immediate actions.

Immediate/Short Term Actions – Summary Listing

1. Form the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program Implementation Advisory Council
 - a. The implementation process will include the Council, Beneficiary and community involvement and participation in advising the Department and Commission
2. Initiate the first rural-development Homestead Area (on south-eastern part of property)
3. Initiate the Humu`ula Sheep Station Adaptive Reuse Plan
4. Initiate Expanded Ecotourism Opportunities
5. Initiate Use of Remote Accommodations
6. Initiate Gorse Eradication (consider all viable gorse eradication opportunities, with commercial timber appearing to be the most viable and beneficial to the Department)
 - a. The activities are combined to highlight the actual benefit of forestry to fight gorse, restore the native forest and generate revenue
 - b. Incorporate Carbon Credit opportunities to DHHL
 - c. Use timber license/lease as DHHL implementation of the Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiative
 - d. Consider a long-term agreement to accommodate multiple planting/harvesting rotations
 - e. Require periodic native forest restoration (i.e. at 5-year intervals) on or outside of leased area

ʻĀina Mauna Legacy Program

7. Investigate and implement additional areas for sustainable koa forestry opportunities. Allows for opportunities for revenue generation; allows for enhanced restoration of native forest
8. Initiate a set-aside of portions of the property for restoration and enhancement purposes
9. Pasture uses (focused on fire fuel mitigation, consistent with Fire Plan – additional acreage) around Keanakolu-Mana, Saddle and Mauna Kea Access Roads
10. Initiate unmanaged-ungulate eradication over entire property. Cattle and other ungulates are vectors for the spread of invasive species (including gorse) and have a negative influence on native forest restoration. Implementing unmanaged-ungulate eradication (primarily sheep, cattle and goats) and allowing management of pigs (so long as the resources are protected) will provide food for beneficiaries, reduce the impacts to the forest resources and generate revenue for the Trust
11. Initiate state, federal and private grant applications to support resource restoration
12. Initiate a Safe Harbor Agreement for threatened/endangered plants, birds and animals over entire site

Disposition of the respective commercial licenses, leases, etc. to implement these actions would be through a broad RFQ/RFP process to select the best qualified applicants (background, experience, financial capability, business plan, etc.) to conduct the respective activities – to the extent permitted by law, preference will be given to native Hawaiians. Homestead and Pasture agreements would be under the typical DHHL disposition process for these types of uses. Any required environmental review would be conducted by the applicant/selectee, based on the details of their specific proposal.

Forests and Forestry Uses on the Site

“Forest” and “Forestry” are used in various contexts in the Legacy Program. At various places, “Native Forest Restoration”, “Commercial Timber to Fight Gorse” and “Sustainable Koa Forestry” are referenced. Each references different aspects of dealing with forests and forest products. After 150-years of sheep and cattle ranching, the formerly dense forest became significantly altered by these activities and the forest landscape was converted primarily to open pasture land.



Native Forest Restoration focuses on restoration and enhancement of portions of the Humuʻula/Piʻihonua lands in perpetuity to conserve these native forests and natural habitats for future generations. This includes the koa/ʻōhiʻa forest ecosystems on the makai portion of the property and the māmane forest on mauka portions of the site.

Commercial Timber to Fight Gorse focuses on eliminating this invasive weed. Gorse is shade intolerant and DHHL field trials show that shade from trees inhibit the ability for gorse to grow and spread. It is anticipated that licensed commercial-scale timber planting (using eucalyptus, sugi, or other trees) will shade the gorse sufficiently to keep it from producing seeds and that each year some portion of the seed bank will be removed. Thus, timber planting can serve both as a gorse eradication mechanism, as well as an income generator.

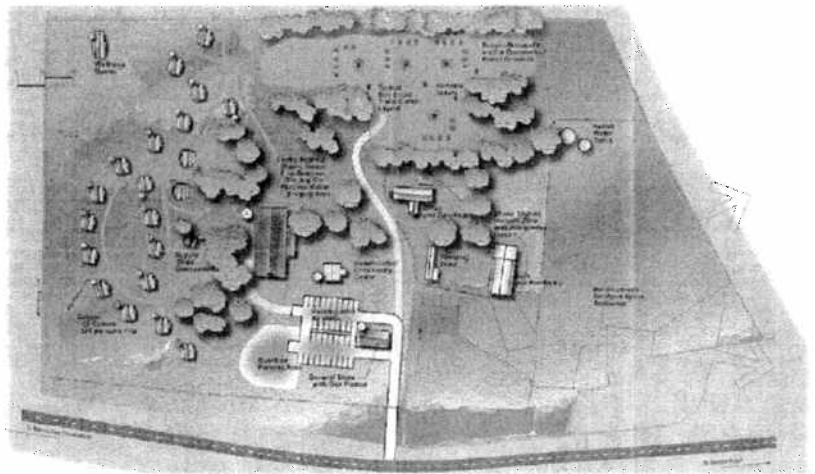
It is important to understand that all suggested crops other than koa are designed to initially eradicate and control the gorse, then support the eventual reforestation of the land back to a native koa forest. Eucalyptus and Sugi should be replaced with native koa where possible once it has been determined that the gorse, and its seed germination, is no longer a threat. Sustainable Koa Forestry approach suggests restoration of koa for future sustainable commercial sales. Koa is one of the predominant tree species found naturally in the Humuʻula/Piʻihonua lands. It is presently the highest value timber crop in Hawaiʻi. It grows easily and well in this area if introduced ungulates are removed. Restoring the Humuʻula/Piʻihonua lands to koa through carefully planned and managed reforestation is its highest and most compatible economic use.

Self-sustaining Funding with Reinvestment into the Property

One of the central focuses of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program is that the activities and programs implemented need to be economically self-sustaining, with the goal to reinvest the revenue into the management of the property. In considering revenue generation, several opportunities exist:

- Use of Humu`ula Sheep Station – Commercial Activities

The Humu`ula Sheep Station Adaptive Reuse Plan proposes a mix of land uses, wherein the property is divided into three principal sub-areas: Historic/Community Center (5.5-to 6.0-acres); Open Campground (2.0-to 2.5-acres) and Commercial (7.0-to 8.0-acres), including commercial, retail, recreational, camping, cabins, lodge and restaurant activities appropriate to a transient or visitor market. Likewise, DHHL could use part of the property for its own administrative/accommodations needs.



- Forest Products and Biomass for alternative energy opportunities (liquid fuel and electricity.)

Several forestry products and alternative energy producers have been identified as possible users of large scale areas for forestry development. Some of these have recently requested use and leasing of nearby State lands for these purposes. To fully implement this opportunity, it is important that timber operations at Humu`ula attempt to capture all possible value from planted trees, such as veneers, lumber, and/or wood chips, as well as fuels and carbon sequestration credits.

Carbon Offsets/Credits are a key component of national and international emissions trading schemes that have been implemented to mitigate global warming. Credits can be exchanged between businesses or bought and sold in international markets at the prevailing prices.

- Ecotourism and Recreation Use

Ecotourism and recreation related activities, a growing sector of the island's visitor industry, have great potential here due to the natural resources of these lands. Other than providing an area, such as the Humu`ula Sheep Station, to service and manage these activities, these uses and activities could be integrated and managed within other proposed economic uses. The Humu`ula Sheep



Station may serve as a central site to stage and coordinate eco-tourism activities over the entire property.

The potential uses and activities include (many of these are noted and discussed in the "Humu`ula Sheep Station Adaptive Reuse Plan"): Biking Tours, Bird Watching Tours, Lodge/Campsites, Hiking Tours, Horseback Tours, Wilderness Resort/Guest Ranch, Nature/Historical Tours, Volunteer "Service" Trips.

- State, Federal and Private Grant Opportunities

Comparison of Legacy Program Mission, Goals and Priorities with the Proposed Immediate Actions

- Restoration and enhancement of DHHL trust resources
- Preservation of Natural and Cultural Resources and Endangered Species
- Address reforestation and restoration of the ecosystem
 - Reinvest the revenue derived from property into management/restoration
 - Consider a term (i.e. 50-year) conservation encumbrance over portions of the property
 - Initiate additional areas for sustainable Koa Salvage opportunities
 - Require interim gorse-eradication timber operator to participate in native forest restoration
 - Incorporate “volun-tourism” (visitors volunteer) support into ecotourism activities
 - Pasture uses (focused on fire fuel mitigation, consistent with Fire Plan - additional acreage)
 - Initiate unmanaged-ungulate eradication over entire property
 - Initiate a Safe Harbor Agreement for threatened/endangered species over entire site
- Identify opportunities for DHHL Homesteading
 - Opportunities for homesteading across the entire landscape of Humuʻula/Piʻihonua lands
 - Initiate the first rural-development Homestead Area
 - Forested areas also provide DHHL with an option for future homesteading
- Removal of invasive species - gorse, etc.
 - Initiate gorse eradication (consider viable options; commercial timber appears most beneficial)
 - Forestry fights gorse and restores the native forest – and, it generates revenue
 - Incorporate Carbon Credit opportunities to DHHL
 - Use timber as DHHL implementation of the Hawaiʻi Clean Energy Initiative
 - Consider a long-term agreement to address multiple harvesting rotations
 - Require periodic native forest restoration on or outside of leased/licensed area
 - Continue the ʻŌiwi Lōkahi o ka Mokupuni o Keawe gorse to charcoal demonstration project
 - Initiate unmanaged-ungulate eradication over entire property
 - Pasture uses (focused on fire fuel mitigation, consistent with Fire Plan - additional acreage)
- Identify and secure partners to sustain activities
- Develop revenue generation with reinvestment in land to sustain activities
 - Initiate state, federal and private grant applications to support resource restoration
 - Initiate implementation of the Humuʻula Sheep Station Adaptive Reuse Plan
 - Initiate expansion of Ecotourism
 - Initiate process for Use of Remote Accommodations
 - Investigate and implement additional areas for sustainable koa forestry opportunities
 - Interim use of commercial scale timber operations (timber as tool to eradicate gorse)
 - Incorporate Carbon Credit opportunities in interim timber operation
 - Consider a term (i.e. 50-year) conservation encumbrance over portions of the property
 - Gorse-eradication timber operator native forest restoration could be “match” for grants
 - Volun-tourism efforts for native forest restoration could be “match” for grants
 - Initiate unmanaged-ungulate eradication over entire property
- Provide educational and cultural opportunities
 - Restored, healthy native forest provides a variety of opportunities for gathering, cultural practices and opportunities to see and understand native forest ecosystems
 - Humuʻula Sheep Station as gateway and staging area – campgrounds used by groups
- Identify opportunities for alternative/renewable energy projects
 - Rural-development homestead area; opportunity for photovoltaic, water catchment/reuse etc.
 - Interim use of commercial scale timber operations (biomass for alternative energy)
- Be a lead and/or model for others to engage in ecosystem restoration in a culturally sensitive manner based on partnerships to develop a self-sustaining model

In Fulfilling the Mission, Goals and Priority Issues, a Proper Balance is Required

We are reminded that the foundation of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program is based on the HHC Mission Statement and the Legacy Program Mission, Goals and Priority Issues. The `Āina Mauna Legacy Program evaluates and balances conformance of competing uses with these overarching principles. Ultimately, and as an over-arching principle, the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program is about and for the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust, the Land and its Beneficiaries.

Homesteading for Beneficiaries

The `Āina Mauna Legacy Program incorporates several opportunities for homesteading across the entire landscape of the Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua lands. The bulk of the homestead opportunities are anticipated to be phased in once the land has been restored to productive use. This area includes the significant portions of the site that are proposed for sustainable koa restoration.

These forested areas also provide DHHL with an option for future homesteading. Once the koa restoration is accomplished, DHHL will have the opportunity to consider creation of agricultural homesteads using forestry for beneficiaries or homestead sites in the forest. The commercial koa forest management operations can continue, with the DHHL and beneficiaries benefitting directly from the commercial sale of koa.

Similar to many present-day homesteaders having ranches associated with their homesteads or area for agricultural use associated with homesteads, with the restoration and management of the forest here, future homesteaders may incorporate the management of koa forest into their agricultural homesteads.

Ultimately, decision-makers decades from now may decide whether this is appropriate or not – once the forest is restored. The suggestion is that the Legacy Program expands future options, opportunities and choices for homesteading.

A significant portion of the property (4,500-acres) is proposed for immediate homesteading, (with the first area of about 1,000-acres for 100-to 200-homesteads with consideration for alternative layouts.) Much of Humu`ula, however, is not ready to support a “self-sufficient and healthy community” of homesteaders, as the land’s productivity has significantly declined over the past 150-years. 10,000 additional acres may be considered for future homesteading opportunities.

Since the property was not typically used for long term habitation, there are questions as to the demand for homesteads in this area. Humu`ula is a unique environment that historically has been minimally settled. It is important that beneficiaries are made aware and understand the advantages and disadvantages of living in this area. Given that the immediate homesteading area will be a rural development (cinder roads, catchment water, photovoltaic, septic/composting toilets, etc.) and the area is relatively isolated from employment, schools, shopping centers and other DHHL communities, it is not clear what the demand will be for these types of homesteads.

Pasture Use for Beneficiaries

Land reserved for future homesteads (1,000-acres), beyond the first area noted above, is available for interim pasture use. So, whether beneficiaries obtain a homestead or not, there is the opportunity for direct beneficiary benefit and use through additional acreage for pasture use or community pasture.

On the issue of pasture, other specific areas are also proposed for additional acreage for pasture use (consistent with the Fire Plan) – this, too, is proposed to be immediately available for beneficiary use.

This overall area is in the vicinity of 4,000-acres (these land areas are approximate references) - with about 2,000-acres designated for pasture along the Keanakolu-Mana Road and another 2,000-acres on the west side of the Mauna Kea Access Road (below the Radio Tower site and fronting Saddle Road and Mauna Kea Access Road.)



Wild bull with scattered gorse plants

Unmanaged-Ungulate Eradication

Another immediate action recommended in the Legacy Program is the eradication of the unmanaged-ungulates across the property. Cattle and other ungulates are vectors for the spread of invasive species (including gorse) and have negative impacts on the native forest ecosystems and reforestation efforts.

Allowing unmanaged-ungulate eradication (primarily sheep, cattle and goats) and management of pigs (so long as the resources are protected) have multiple benefits: (1) beneficiaries will put meat on their tables, (2) eliminating unmanaged-ungulates will reduce the impacts to the forest resources and (3) the trust will generate some income from the sale of the unmanaged-ungulates.

Forest Restoration and Management = Job Opportunities

Along with this, there are several recommendations dealing with native forest restoration and commercial koa forestry. With respect to restoring koa forests for future commercial opportunities, benefits to beneficiaries are immediate, as well as long-term.

Immediate direct and indirect opportunities are jobs related to the forest restoration, including on-the-ground work, supplying restoration needs and services (whether it is equipment, supplies or services to support the reforestation,) as well as the ongoing monitoring and research associated with the restoration efforts.

Commercial Forestry = Helping Fund Management Needs

Once the forest is restored, DHHL has several options that can directly benefit the beneficiaries and the Trust (beyond the benefit of ongoing forest management employment.)

As required in the Mission, commercial forestry will assist in providing necessary funding to help with the overall management of the property.

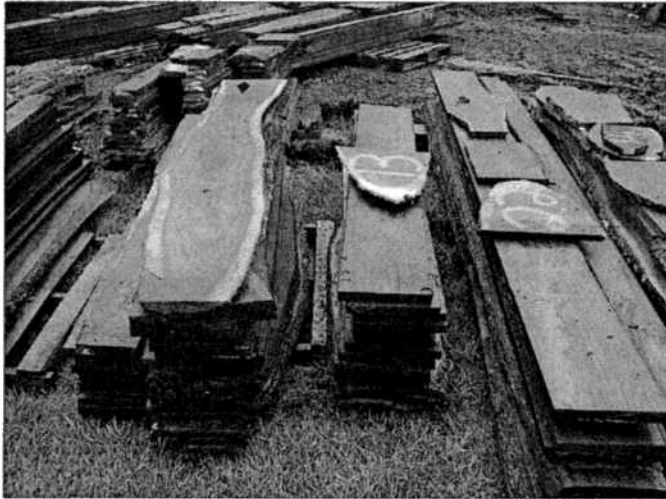
Reforestation Provides Beneficiary Opportunities for Gathering and Traditional Practices

The restored, healthy native forest provides a variety of benefits and opportunities to beneficiaries through gathering, cultural practices and opportunities to see and understand native forest ecosystems. Since the land is DHHL owned, beneficiaries will have significant benefit for the exercise of cultural traditions.

The site (with restoration to healthy native forest) provides beneficiaries cultural practices access as the only site of this type in the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust inventory.

Koa Wood Products for Beneficiaries

Other obvious benefits to beneficiaries are the opportunities relating to use of the koa wood products. With the restored and expanded forest, practitioners and crafters will have a wide range of (cultural and economic) opportunities for a variety of koa wood product production.



Ecotourism – Small Footprint and Limited Impact = Revenue Opportunities for Management

Other necessary components to fulfilling the Mission's mandate of economic self-sufficiency are the recommendations dealing with the adaptive reuse of the Sheep Station and eco-tourism opportunities. These items cover a small footprint on the overall landscape and have limited impact on the resources, but provide necessary funds for the self-sufficient operations of the Legacy Program. Here, too, beneficiaries have the opportunity to participate through direct and indirect jobs.

Associated with this, one beneficiary group, Hui Kako'o `Aina Ho'opulapula, has a vision for the adaptive reuse of Pu'u `Ō`ō Ranch headquarters. They have been actively involved in cleaning and clearing the area. The proposed future use of the site they suggest is consistent with the general recommendations for the "Remote Accommodations".

Gorse Eradication Critically Important – Otherwise Site is Useless

Likewise, another beneficiary group's (`Ōiwi Lōkahi o ka Mokupuni o Keawe) research project focusing on gorse to charcoal is consistent and compatible with the recommendations for gorse control.

The recommendation implementing the use of commercial-scale timber (such as eucalyptus, sugi, or other) to fight the gorse is consistent with recommendations from others (and demonstrated in DHHL's field trials) as an effective way to address gorse on a landscape scale. Other viable gorse eradication opportunities can also be considered.



Koa tree "skeletons" (evidence of former forest) engulfed by gorse

The need for eradicating gorse cannot be overstated. Until this destructive plant is removed, beneficiaries will not see or experience benefits from the property.

To date, gorse has been a nuisance and is expensive to control. The recommendations specifically target the removal of this invasive plant, while also generating revenue to the DHHL for management of the remainder of the land. Once the gorse eradication process is well underway, the recommendation is to revert the land back to koa forest and include it with the other commercial koa forest activities.

RFQ/RFP Process to Select the Best Qualified Applicants for Commercial Agreements

The suggestion of using a broad RFQ/RFP process in the procurement of services for the commercial enterprises does not in any way limit the opportunity for beneficiaries to be involved in the process. Likewise, as a State agency, DHHL is obligated to follow state procurement laws. DHHL has the responsibility to look for the best qualified applicants (background, experience, financial capability, business plan, etc.) that can fulfill the Trust's needs at a reasonable price. The RFQ/RFP process serves to produce that.

Consistent with the fundamental purposes of the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, to the extent permitted by law, it is the goal of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program to support economic development, maximize opportunities for beneficiaries and give preference for native Hawaiian beneficiary involvement at all stages of the program's implementation.

Disposition of Homestead and Pasture leases, licenses and/or RPs would be under the typical DHHL planning, funding, development and disposition processes for these types of uses.

Opportunities for Beneficiaries to Participate and Benefit are Extensive and Diverse

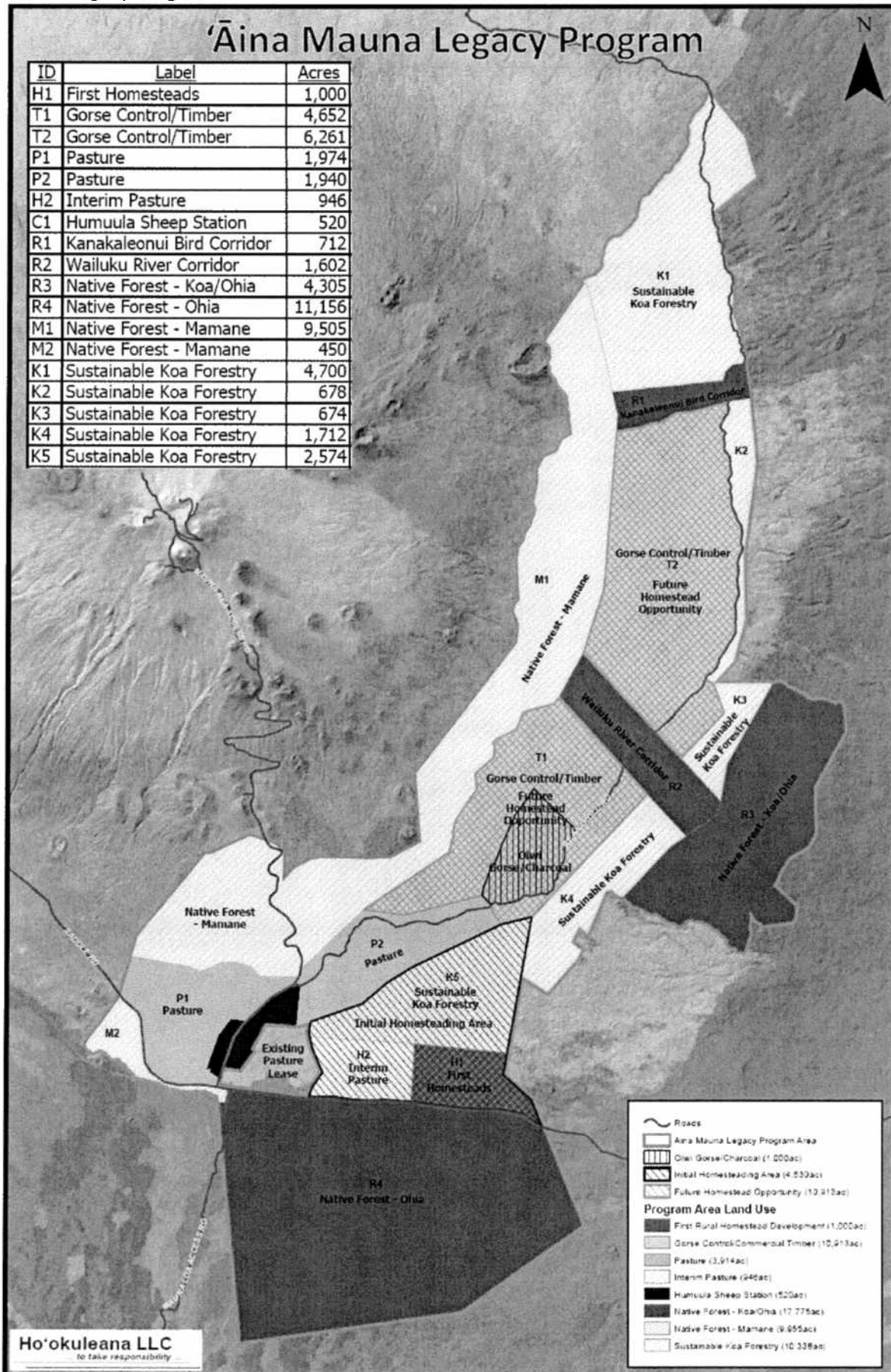
As you can see, the opportunities for beneficiaries are extensive and diverse; and, there are opportunities for beneficiaries within each component of the recommendations, whether it is homesteading, pasture, unmanaged-ungulate eradication, native forest restoration, commercial timber, koa forestry, ecotourism or cultural practices. Some of the benefits are proposed to be relatively immediate, while others will necessarily take time for the real benefit to come to fruition. Additionally, the implementation process will include opportunities for Beneficiary and community involvement and participation at all stages of the process.

`Āina Mauna Legacy Program is All About the Trust, the Land and its Beneficiaries

Restoration of the land upon which native Hawaiians have always depended is key to the success of the beneficiaries. Over the past 150-years the land transformed away from a healthy, dense native forest. It will take generations to restore the land back to this healthy condition. Ultimately, and as an over-arching principle, the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program is about and for the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust, the Land and its Beneficiaries.



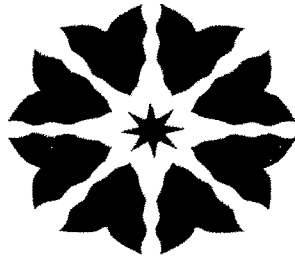
Ola ka `āina, ola ke kanaka
(Healthy/Living Land, Healthy/Living People)
The good of the land results in the good of the people.



Aina Mauna Legacy Program Talking Points

- 1) Historically DHHL's lands at Humu'ula Pi'ihonua have been used for sheep and cattle grazing since the 1820s. (56,200 acres)
- 2) These lands are very remote located on the slopes of Maunakea and the cultural and natural landscape has been significantly altered by the pasture operations which severely impacted the koa forest and the rapid growth of Gorse an invasive species made the lands unsuaceable.
- 3) The HHC is responsible as a Trustee for the management and care of these lands pursuant to the HHCA, 1920, as amended. The lands, its natural and cultural resources are considered as Trust assets.
- 4) The Aina Mauna Legacy Program will revitalize and conserve the native forest, natural habitats and recover lands for homesteading to enable native Hawaiians to return to these lands to preserve their cultural values and traditions, for future generations.
- 5) The economic sustainability of the region will be an important element of the program so that management operations necessary to revive the forest and recover the lands for homesteading will be implemented and managed by a regional entity that reports to the HHC. It is envisioned that the program will span generations to achieve full recovery and restoration of theses lands for their intended purpose.
- 6) The Aina Mauna Legacy Program is part of DHHL's Energy Policy Goal of Malama Aina. The program will use a long term management strategy which will incorporate carbon credits, development of biomass forest resources and other resources that can be developed as part of a diversified renewable energy program than will provide the cash flow necessary to sustain and revitalize the region.

Restoration of the land upon which Native Hawaiians have always depended is key to the success of the beneficiaries.



DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS
BENEFICIARY CONSULTATION

Mai ko kākou mana'o, e hālupa nō kākou
From our ideas, we flourish

`Āina Mauna Legacy Program

As a Hawaiian Home Lands Beneficiary you are being given a unique opportunity to discuss and offer input on the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program involving the lands at Humu`ula and Pi`ihonua. Public meetings will be held on:

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

Kuhio Hale, 64-756 Mamalahoa Highway
Kamuela, Hawai'i 96743
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Friday, September 25, 2009

Hilo High School Cafeteria, 556 Waianuenue Ave.
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720
5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

Please view the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program online at:
<http://hawaii.gov/dhhl/beneficiary-consultation/aina-mauna-legacy-program-plan>

Comments should be mailed by October 26, 2009 to:

**DHHL Planning Office
PO Box 1879
Honolulu, Hawaii 96805**

For further information contact the DHHL Planning Office
(808) 620-9484

**Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Beneficiary Consultation**

`Āina Mauna Legacy Program

We want to apologize to Beneficiaries for the confusion raised concerning the notification for the prior Beneficiary Consultation meeting. The mailing service indicated that letters would be received well in advance of the prior meeting. While many received their letters in time, unfortunately many beneficiaries received their letters after the meeting. Because of this, we are scheduling another Beneficiary Consultation meeting in Hilo.

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

**Keaukaha Elementary School Cafeteria
240 Desha Avenue, Hilo, Hawai`i 96720
5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.**

Information on the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program online at:
www.hawaii.gov/dhhl (click Beneficiary Consultation box)

Comments should be sent by November 13, 2009 to:

Mail to:

DHHL Planning Office
PO Box 1879
Honolulu, HI 96805

Fax Comments to:

(808) 620-9599

Email Comments to:

dhhl.planning@hawaii.gov

For information contact the DHHL Planning Office at
(808) 620-9484

Feedback – Beneficiary Email and Written Comments - Response to Questions/Comments

The following are questions and comments raised in emails and comment letters from beneficiaries. The responses on the right column reflect the responses which are also generally stated in the report.

Eradication of unmanaged ungulates	
<p>So-called eradication of livestock (not ungulates) to be done by different strategies, all to be under management of Beneficiary committee.</p> <p>Unmanaged “ungulates” is the problem created by the now uninformed, inexperienced DHHL management team.</p> <p>This activity should not be conducted with a goal of collecting income for the trust.</p>	<p>The primary goal of the eradication of unmanaged ungulates (hoofed mammals such as cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, etc) is to protect the natural resources on the property.</p> <p>The invasion of non-native species poses one of the greatest threats to Hawai‘i’s native ecosystems and their inhabitants. Unmanaged-ungulates are detrimental to Hawai‘i’s native ecosystems via the damage they inflict on both vegetation structure and composition; impact native plants and ground cover, facilitating sediment run-off. The soil disturbance caused by rooting ungulates also facilitates the introduction and expansion of invasive plants, and creates breeding grounds for mosquitoes that transmit avian disease to native forest birds.</p> <p>A secondary benefit is that there may also be an opportunity for DHHL to raise funds from the process; however, revenue is a secondary benefit, the primary purpose is resource protection.</p>
<p>Any leases and plantings to be done with fencing. Hoping animals will be eradicated and therefore not around to eat the plantings has proven to be erroneous.</p>	<p>We note the need to fence sections of the property in several areas of the Legacy Program. We understand that each of the koa salvage permits have included perimeter fencing to exclude ungulates from the permit areas; these are included to help protect the regeneration of koa seed bank.</p>
Koa Salvage/Sustainable Koa Forestry	
<p>Koa Salvaging project should remain with the current contractor, at a price he feels is just; Beneficiary committee to monitor and make recommendations.</p>	<p>The program recommends that disposition of the respective commercial licenses, leases, etc. to implement these actions would be through a broad RFQ/RFP process to select the best qualified applicants (background, experience, financial capability, business plan, etc) to conduct the respective activities - to the extent permitted by law preference will be given to native Hawaiians. We understand the existing operator has been awarded two of the three harvesting permits granted for koa salvage.</p>
<p>The Sustainable Koa Forest (Initial Homesteading Area) is referred to as agriculture. To call a forest agriculture is ridiculous. Can you image agricultural homesteaders who don’t do</p>	<p>There are scattered koa trees in the area now. Koa planting would begin immediately in the form of koa forest restoration. Koa is one of the predominant tree species found naturally in the Humu‘ula/Pi‘ihonua lands. It is presently the highest value timber crop in Hawai‘i.</p>

<p>anything on it and leave it virgin justifying non-use because you folks call forest agriculture? If it is a Koa Forest, instead of cutting it up for individual homesteaders to use, keep it whole and assign it to the community to control harvest and replant. As a group, they would be better able to arrange for the cutting and selling of wood than on an individual basis. Proceeds would be split among the homesteaders.</p>	<p>Restoring the Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua lands to koa through carefully planned and managed reforestation is its highest and most compatible economic use.</p> <p>The forested areas also provide DHHL with an option for future homesteading, once the koa restoration is accomplished.</p> <p>Dispositions of Homestead and Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs will be through the standard DHHL processes for these types of dispositions.</p>
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Agriculture	
<p>There is nothing offering agriculture opportunities in the present plan. Please allow for possible agriculture opportunities. At this elevation there is also high potential to grow unique crops of particular interest. Beneficiaries constantly express their wishes for more agricultural awards. This was not indicated or considered on the proposal or any designed "agricultural" lots.</p>	<p>The Legacy Program considers a variety of homestead development layouts to address various beneficiary needs: cluster homestead sites with separate agricultural/pasture lots, cluster homestead sites with community agricultural/pasture, homestead lot subdivision or a combination of alternatives.</p> <p>It is envisioned that these alternatives will enable DHHL beneficiaries to have sufficient land for self-sustaining homesteading: land for a home site and related improvements/uses, including land for alternative energy for their use, pasture, agricultural uses, and land available for subsistence farming.</p>

Commercial Activity	
<p>Initiate alternative living: development of cabin-like dwellings for eco-tourism to help restore some of the deforestation - supporting flexibility for the plan.</p>	<p>We agree that the use of remote accommodations cover a small footprint on the overall landscape and have limited impact on the resources, but provide opportunities for ecotourism uses, etc.</p> <p>In the Legacy Program, there are recommendations that require ecotourism operators to have their guests "volunteer" in the reforestation, invasive species control and other implementation activities. It is believed that this will not only assist with the implementation efforts, it will also provide for more meaningful experiences for the guests on the property.</p>
<p>Initiate a Mauna Kea-Loa Museum to educate the public of the fragile state of the area - income generating and self-sustaining.</p>	<p>The Legacy Program includes recommendations for the restoration of the Humu`ula Sheep Station and use of the site as an ecotourism staging area. Because the `Āina Mauna region is such a special and unique place, orienting and educating visitors to this is important. The facility could be considered for a variety of uses, including redevelopment of the property into a lodge, serving as a focal point for education, staging, gatherings, meetings, etc.</p>

Ecotourism and recreation use (red) may be possible but on a limited basis. I do not think any particular group should control this area for their own use or with DHHL funds.	The Program recommends ecotourism uses on various portions of the property, with the suggestion that staging areas be included around the Humu`ula Sheep Station.
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Native Forest Restoration	
Trying to justify forestry and the so-called need to increase the acreage in forestry, island wide, to support whom?	The foundation of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program is the protection and restoration of the DHHL lands at Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua for future generations. These lands represent the most important native forest areas remaining in the DHHL trust. DHHL seeks to restore portions of the Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua lands in perpetuity for future generations.
I would like to commend all of you for taking this step to realizing the goal and intent of the DHHL mission statement. The incorporation of long term planning, acknowledgment of native Hawaiian Forests (māmane at high elevation, koa, and koa/`ōhi`a at montane/mesic elevations) as an important part of what makes Hawaii unique and special, and planning for sustainable healthy native Hawaiian communities is uplifting.	We concur.

Gorse Eradication	
We reside in an island "culture" in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. Each island should be self-sufficient, now. Will putting additional acres in commercial timber at the expense of decreasing lands for food production solve the self-sufficiency need for now and the future? True, we have to address the gorse problem, which, in Sonny Kaniho's words, was allowed by the HHC to get to such a state.	To take advantage of opportunities to further demonstrate the focus on efficient, self-sustainable communities, as well as provide for cost-effective development, the Legacy Program considers a variety of homestead development layouts to address various beneficiary needs: cluster homestead sites with separate agricultural/pasture lots, cluster homestead sites with community agricultural/pasture, homestead lot subdivision or a combination of alternatives. It is envisioned that these alternatives will enable DHHL beneficiaries to have sufficient land for self-sustaining homesteading: land for a home site and related improvements/uses, including land for alternative energy for their use, pasture, agricultural uses, and land available for subsistence farming.
`Ōiwi's request for license was intended to encumber the	The non-profit organization, `Ōiwi Lōkahi o ka Mokupuni o Keawe, currently has a license on 1,000-acres at Humu`ula from DHHL for

<p>whole gorse infected area. `Ōiwi and its partners will sit with DHHL to develop the best plan.</p> <p>We expect to have a concrete plan for processing during this fourth year of the five-year license term.</p>	<p>a gorse research and demonstration project. According to the DHHL License Agreement, the Licensee may not use the premises for any purpose other than strictly a research and development project using the invasive gorse shrub. No other uses are permitted, including grazing rights to demonstrate gorse controlled by livestock. To date, the equipment to process the gorse to charcoal and biofuel has not been delivered and the process has not been demonstrated.</p> <p>It is hoped that as their project becomes successful in using gorse as a product; subsequent conversion to trees will replace gorse as the raw material for their project, thereby perpetuating the gorse control component of the Legacy Program.</p>
<p>Re-growth of gorse to be managed in a variety of ways, not only by chemicals or planting trees.</p>	<p>The goal is gorse eradication, not management. All viable gorse eradication opportunities will be considered. Gorse is a noxious weed species that is threatening natural habitats and agro-ecosystems around the world, including Hawai'i.</p> <p>The importance of eliminating this plant cannot be overstated.</p> <p>Eradication of this noxious plant, that has already rendered thousands of acres useless, is an essential component in any land use and management plan for these lands.</p>
<p>The department plans to put (pink area) pasture lands into commercial operations. They plan to lease it out for commercial purposes with planting trees such as eucalyptus and shoji. This is not restoration of native forest. A better idea would be when the 13,000 acres of gorse are removing or managing, to divide the lands for pastoral pursuits for those lessees homesteading (living) at Humu`ula.</p> <p>Large parcels must be given to lessees due the less than productive pasture and the lack of water during certain times of the year. They will at least have good access to these parcels using the roads that the bio-fuel company is establishing. Why waste it and plant invasive forests for commercial</p>	<p>All viable gorse eradication opportunities will be considered. Gorse is a noxious weed species that is threatening natural habitats and agro-ecosystems around the world, including Hawai'i.</p> <p>The Program looks to begin gorse eradication as soon as possible. It will be one of the first actions taken, once the Program is approved. The Program suggests timber to fight gorse but also allows for other viable gorse eradication opportunities.</p> <p>The goal is gorse eradication, not management.</p> <p>Interim commercial-scale timber planting can serve both as a gorse eradication mechanism, as well as an income generator. Eucalyptus, sugi or others trees are selected to address and control the gorse; once the gorse eradication process is well underway, the area is to be reforested back to a native koa. This area is considered for future homesteading, once the gorse is eradicated.</p>

companies. Planting invasive species is not conserving natural habitats for future generations.	
I am not convinced or believe that the Gorse plant seed will be inactive for 70 years. If the Gorse plant is still a sustainable food for cattle and can live for up to four decades, then why not work with the "Ōiwi Pilot Project" in more depth while still controlling its boundaries from spreading. Wouldn't this be income-generating in and of itself for DHHL short and long term?	<p>All viable gorse eradication opportunities will be considered. Gorse is a noxious weed species that is threatening natural habitats and agro-ecosystems around the world, including Hawai'i.</p> <p>The Program looks to begin gorse eradication as soon as possible. It will be one of the first actions taken, once the Program is approved. The Program suggests timber to fight gorse but also allows for other viable gorse eradication opportunities.</p> <p>The goal is gorse eradication, not management.</p> <p>Interim commercial-scale timber planting can serve both as a gorse eradication mechanism, as well as an income generator.</p> <p>Eucalyptus, sugi or others trees are selected to address and control the gorse; once the gorse eradication process is well underway, the area is to be reforested back to a native koa.</p>
<p>We propose that the homestead community will help with the <i>kuleana</i> of managing the gorse problem (as a part of <i>kuleana</i> for all of Humu'ula) with the DHHL land manager and that we may use diverse native Hawaiian forests to shade out gorse.</p> <p>Sugi pine provides the most shade, around 95-98 percent, but diverse native Hawaiian forest with at least two canopies is a close second and provides approximately 90-95 percent.</p> <p>In addition to shading most forest restoration scientific journals cite the addition of litter fall. This technique has proven effective for controlling non-native grasses in several restoration studies including recent research from Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. Therefore effective control of introduced and invasive plant species is a function of both</p>	<p>The long history of pasture has transformed the property from dense native forest to non-native grasses with limited survival of native plants. In addition, gorse has rendered thousands of acres of the property unusable.</p> <p>All viable gorse eradication opportunities will be considered.</p> <p>Gorse is a noxious weed species that is threatening natural habitats and agro-ecosystems around the world, including Hawai'i. The Program looks to begin gorse eradication as soon as possible. It will be one of the first actions taken, once the Program is approved. The Program suggests timber to fight gorse but also allows for other viable gorse eradication opportunities.</p> <p>The goal is gorse eradication, not management.</p> <p>Interim commercial-scale timber planting can serve both as a gorse eradication mechanism, as well as an income generator.</p> <p>As required in the Mission and goals of the Legacy program to be ecologically, economically and culturally self-sustaining, commercial forestry is considered to assist in a variety of ways, including the opportunity to provide additional funding to help with the overall management of the property.</p> <p>The long-term control of gorse will require significant financial resources that may need to be subsidized by other economic uses.</p>

<p>shade and leaf litter fall. A diversity of trees is also essential in long term planning as leaf litter of this type is beneficial for soil production and healthy ecosystems.</p> <p>In Sugi or eucalyptus plantations there is little to nothing left of any native species in the under-story. Some eucalyptus species even poison the ground so that other species can't grow. It is possible that we may find that if eucalyptus is used at Humu'ula, Hawaiian plants may not be able to grow due to chemical and biological changes in the soil. We already know that gorse acidifies the soil beneath it thereby changing the composition and makeup of those soils. It is unknown if acidified soils might be beneficial or not to native species in the long run such as those within the gorse containment area.</p>	<p>This makes commercial timber planting as a gorse control and eradication mechanism so attractive. Once the gorse eradication process is well underway, the area is to be reforested back to native koa.</p>
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Carbon Credits	
Carbon Credits, at least 80%, shall go to the gorse harvesting and gorse processor which invests in the project.	The goal is gorse eradication, not harvesting/processing. We are proposing that 100% of any benefit from Carbon Offsets/Credits be retained by DHHL in the event certain forestry programs are implemented.
The concept of carbon credits is a question of morality, not one of economics or legality. 'Aina is 'aina, here or there, North America, Europe, Africa, Antarctica, etc., each unique and special. The idea of buying and selling carbon credits to offset atmospheric pollution is reprehensible and is not a righteous action. This is an immoral action that will have far	<p>The focus of the Legacy Program is the restoration of the land. This includes a variety of forestry opportunities.</p> <p>An added opportunity to enhance revenue opportunities is to consider carbon credits/offsets retained by DHHL in the event certain forestry programs are implemented.</p>

reaching consequences and is a human construct to justify the means to an end. This type of thinking is representative of western ideology and fails to incorporate the connectivity of humans and our environment, so thus fails to incorporate Hawaiian values.	
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`Āina Mauna Legacy Program Implementation Advisory Council	
<p>Convene a Beneficiary Committee, two members of which shall sit on the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program Implementation Advisory Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To review proposed beneficiary lease schemes 2) To revise plan for proposed Beneficiary Leases 3) To recommend the best solutions for Beneficiary Lease, Revocable Permit, or License 4) To consider lease/RP/License to others and recommend 	<p>As an integral part of the implementation of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program, the Legacy Program includes the formation of an implementation advisory council (`Āina Mauna Legacy Program Implementation Advisory Council) to provide advice and recommendations to the Hawaiian Homes Commission and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands regarding the implementation of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program.</p> <p>The Council may serve as a forum for consultation and deliberation among its members and as a source of consensus advice to the Hawaiian Homes Commission and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Such consensus advice shall fairly represent the collective and individual views of the Council members.</p> <p>The Council does not have the authority to perform operational or management functions, or to make decisions on behalf of Hawaiian Homes Commission and/or the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. The Council will be advisory only; the Department will have final decision making authority.</p>
<p>The `ōlelo noeau referred to serves the narrow purpose of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program.</p> <p>The HHCA was created to take care of the people now, by providing a place, training, and opportunities for self-sufficiency. If this is the beneficiaries' land for self-sufficiency, the beneficiaries shall have direct participation in the decision-making for these trust lands and should carry the kuleana for stewarding thereof.</p>	<p>The opportunities for beneficiaries are extensive and diverse; and, there are opportunities for beneficiaries within each component of the recommendations, whether it is homesteading, pasture, unmanaged-ungulate eradication, native forest restoration, commercial timber, koa forestry, ecotourism or cultural practices.</p> <p>Some of the benefits are proposed to be relatively immediate, while others will necessarily take time for the real benefit to come to fruition. Additionally, the implementation process will include opportunities for Beneficiary and community involvement and participation at all stages of the process.</p>

<p>I agree and support the plan need for flexibility because of the diverse land and the amount of acreage to be allocated for specific purposes; however, under the condition that the beneficiaries are informed adequately before any change implementation to the program occurs. It is very obvious that flexibility with the plan is foremost importance as it moves forward.</p> <p>Because of its unique and majestic location against Mauna Kea, which significance is the connection or piko of the Big Island, it is my proposed preferences that this land mass development be considered to a group of beneficiaries as a hui that will have stewardship over the various phases of land management.</p>	<p>The `Āina Mauna Legacy Program is a “living document” that is intended to be flexible and is subject to change, as times and needs change. Therefore, the program should be re-examined on a periodic basis (possibly every 5-years) to ensure that it addresses DHHL’s needs in the future.</p> <p>The Legacy Program includes the formation of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program Implementation Advisory Council to provide advice and recommendations to the Commission and DHHL regarding the implementation of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program. The implementation process will include the Council, Beneficiary and community involvement and participation in advising the Department and Commission.</p> <p>The Council serves as a forum for consultation and deliberation among its members and as a source of consensus advice to the Commission and DHHL.</p> <p>The Council does not have the authority to perform operational or management functions, or to make decisions on behalf of the Commission and/or the Department. The Council will be advisory only. The Department and Commission will have final decision-making authority.</p>
<p>I think the department should give more credence to these homesteaders/associations.</p>	<p>The Legacy Program includes the formation of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program Implementation Advisory Council to provide advice and recommendations to the Commission and DHHL regarding the implementation of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program. The implementation process will include the Council, Beneficiary and community involvement and participation in advising the Department and Commission.</p> <p>The Council serves as a forum for consultation and deliberation among its members and as a source of consensus advice to the Commission and DHHL.</p> <p>The Council does not have the authority to perform operational or management functions, or to make decisions on behalf of the Commission and/or the Department. The Council will be advisory only. The Department and Commission will have final decision-making authority.</p>
<p>Homesteading</p>	
<p>Prospective interested lessees for the Villages should determine land use within the area and around them.</p>	<p>A significant portion of the property (4,500-acres) is proposed for immediate homesteading. The Legacy Program describes general ideas about subsequent development with specific design, sizes and layout to be determined during the implementation process.</p>

<p>Village design shall be led by `Ōiwi planners, with funds from DHHL - DHHL consultants stand by and provide assistance when asked. The Village concept is a beneficiary idea and shall be implemented with beneficiary input.</p>	<p>Dispositions and financing of Homestead and Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs will be through the standard DHHL processes for these types of dispositions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since homesteading and pasture use are the typical and conventional disposition activities of DHHL, it is recommended that the proposed uses at Humu`ula/ Pi`ihonua come under existing DHHL planning, design, development, funding, disposition and management. • These proposed uses can fit in the "queue" for development scheduling and disposition with other Homesteading and Pasture uses <p>Since the property was not typically used for long term habitation, there are questions as to the demand for homesteads in this area. Humu`ula is a unique environment that historically has been minimally settled. It is important that beneficiaries are made aware and understand the advantages and disadvantages of living in this area.</p>
<p>It is not reasonable and somewhat offensive to expect beneficiaries to have to wait out their lifetime hoping that they may have an opportunity for homesteading as indicated on the map.</p>	<p>A significant portion of the property (4,500-acres) is proposed for immediate homesteading. The Legacy Program describes general ideas about subsequent development with specific design, sizes and layout to be determined during the implementation process.</p> <p>The opportunities for beneficiaries are extensive and diverse; and, there are opportunities for beneficiaries within each component of the recommendations, whether it is homesteading, pasture, unmanaged-ungulate eradication, native forest restoration, commercial timber, koa forestry, ecotourism or cultural practices.</p> <p>Some of the benefits are proposed to be relatively immediate, while others will necessarily take time for the real benefit to come to fruition. Additionally, the implementation process will include opportunities for Beneficiary and community involvement and participation at all stages of the process.</p>
<p>I am also concerned about how the applicant wait list will be reconfigured to accommodate the new rural homestead residential leases concept development? How would this impact the existing categories with DHHL?</p> <p>There are also deep concerns about the new category of "rural homesteading" and the impact it will have on the applicants wait-list status as to the</p>	<p>Dispositions and financing of Homestead and Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs will be through the standard DHHL processes for these types of dispositions.</p> <p>Since the property was not typically used for long term habitation, there are questions as to the demand for homesteads in this area. Humu`ula is a unique environment that historically has been minimally settled. It is important that beneficiaries are made aware and understand the advantages and disadvantages of living in this area.</p> <p>Given that the immediate homesteading area will be a rurally-developed (cinder roads, catchment water, photovoltaic, septic/composting toilets, etc) and the area is relatively isolated</p>

awarding processes - fairness, etc.	from employment, schools, shopping centers and other DHHL communities, it is not clear what the demand will be for these types of homesteads.
<p>The ideas incorporated in the 'Aina Mauna Legacy report regarding rural homesteading is right on regarding green living. Included with the current ideas we suggest the incorporation of a glass greenhouse built into each home for growing <i>kalo</i>, sweet potato, etc., as well as to moderate temperature, provide healthy living environment, water collection, utilize natural lighting, etc.</p> <p>Growing native Hawaiian plants for cultural uses (clothing, shelter, mats, etc.), to make high quality native Hawaiian products and for restoration across Humu'ula. In concept this allows every family to have their own food supply and work, thus minimizing their need to travel afar.</p>	<p>The Legacy Program considers a variety of homestead development layouts to address various beneficiary needs: cluster homestead sites with separate agricultural/pasture lots, cluster homestead sites with community agricultural/ pasture, homestead lot subdivision or a combination of alternatives.</p> <p>It is envisioned that these alternatives will enable DHHL beneficiaries to have sufficient land for self-sustaining homesteading: land for a home site and related improvements/ uses, including land for alternative energy for their use, pasture, agricultural uses, and land available for subsistence farming.</p>
<p>The sustainability of a Humu'ula homestead community is dependent on meeting the community needs at a local level. The overall homestead (many homesteads) should be designed in a way that supports community and community interaction. This means that education, health care, cultural practices, recreation, carpentry skills, sustainable living (solar knowledge, catchment tanks) must all be available on site. We must also hunt and gather (sustainably of course) in the local area thus controlling to some extent cattle and other non-native fauna.</p>	<p>Since the property was not typically used for long term habitation, there are questions as to the demand for homesteads in this area. Humu'ula is a unique environment that historically has been minimally settled.</p> <p>It is important that beneficiaries are made aware and understand the advantages and disadvantages of living in this area. Given that the immediate homesteading area will be a rurally- developed (cinder roads, catchment water, photovoltaic, septic/composting toilets, etc) and the area is relatively isolated from employment, schools, shopping centers and other DHHL communities, it is not clear what the demand will be for these types of homesteads.</p> <p>Dispositions and financing of Homestead and Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs will be through the standard DHHL processes for these types of dispositions.</p>

Pasture	
<p>Additional parcels for farming, ranching, or forestry shall be awarded on separate lease, without any ties to the original lease.</p> <p>The current "Additional Acreage" strategy enforced by DHHL and the HHC is counter-productive, counter self-sustaining and counter self-determining.</p>	<p>Dispositions and financing of Homestead and Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs will be through the standard DHHL processes for these types of dispositions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since homesteading and pasture use are the typical and conventional disposition activities of DHHL, it is recommended that the proposed uses at Humu'ula/ Pi'ihonua come under existing DHHL planning, design, development, funding, disposition and management. • These proposed uses can fit in the "queue" for development scheduling and disposition with other Homesteading and Pasture uses
<p>I believe that community pastoral and/or community agriculture is a plantation-like concept that will help restore and unify differences while appreciating the need for the crisis in the issues of sustainability and self-sustenance for the State.</p>	<p>According to DHHL, Moloka'i uses a community pasture program and it has been successful. The Program is open to a variety of scenarios, with community pasture being only one of the options or combinations of options for management.</p>
<p>The long term pasture (yellow), interim pasture (striped yellow) should also be given to the homesteaders in smaller parcels, along with the existing pasture leases when they expire. Perhaps homesteaders can use this area to rotate their cattle in dry periods.</p>	<p>Additional acreage propose for pasture use covers approximately 4,000-acres (these land areas are approximate references) - with about 2,000-acres designated for pasture along the Keanakolu-Mana Road and another 2,000-acres on the west side of the Mauna Kea Access Road (below the Radio Tower site and fronting Saddle Road and Mauna Kea Access Road.)</p> <p>These areas proposed for additional acreage for pasture use are consistent with the Fire Plan and are proposed to be immediately available for beneficiary use. Additional acreage pasture use could also be in the form of Community Pasture.</p>
Budget	
<p>The annual budget for wages, equipment, and supplies identified for managing the whole project shall include:</p> <p>1) Training and employing interested beneficiary(ies) whose education has been in related fields, for a long-term position</p> <p>2) Training and employing a beneficiary to eventually manage the whole project</p>	<p>It is suggested that there be three initial full time employees dedicated to implementing and managing the program. These employees can be phased in over time, during the transition from contractor to fully staffed employees. The positions will include a Program Coordinator, Contract Management, Compliance and Grant Specialist and a Field Worker.</p> <p>The Program Coordinator will primarily be working in and on issues related to `Āina Mauna Legacy Program including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervising • Administration • Outreach/Education • Field Work

<p>3) Including one individual to develop educational curriculum and to manage educational retreats, extended excursions, etc. (1/2 FTE) and one to investigate and manage eco-activities (1/2 FTE).</p> <p>4) Conducting Semi-annual status meetings to include all contractors, interested Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua Beneficiary Lessees, `Āina Mauna Legacy Program Implementation Advisory Council and the Beneficiary Committee to provide and discuss up-dates and review progress in the different project areas</p> <p>5) Fees for the Beneficiary Committee</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Performs miscellaneous related duties, as required. <p>The Contract Management, Compliance and Grant Specialist will manage procurement functions for `Āina Mauna Legacy Program staff including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract Management • Contract Compliance • Grant Writing, Management and Compliance • Outreach/Education • Performs miscellaneous related duties, as required. <p>The Field Worker will assist in conducting operations to implement the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program, as part of a team, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fieldwork • Coordinates Volunteer Activities • Outreach/Education • Performs miscellaneous related duties, as required.
<p>The Annual budget does not include new fencing, although new fencing is mentioned.</p>	<p>Fencing is intended and included in many aspects of the implementation, from forest restoration, ungulate eradication and other aspects. The program, at this point, reflects many general uses. As more details of aspects of the Program are detailed, then the budget will further detail specific aspects.</p> <p>The final document includes further revenue and cost estimates, including allocations for fencing.</p>

DHHL/HHC	
<p>Revise Procurement Law or Rule for use by DHHL; First offer to Beneficiary or Beneficiary organizations. Then, public bid process to others.</p>	<p>Revising state law is beyond the scope of this planning process.</p> <p>The program recommends that disposition of the respective commercial licenses, leases, etc. to implement these actions would be through a broad RFQ/RFP process to select the best qualified applicants (background, experience, financial capability, business plan, etc.) to conduct the respective activities - to the extent permitted by law, preference will be given to native Hawaiians. Homestead and Pasture agreements would be under the typical DHHL disposition process for these types of uses.</p>
<p>DHHL and the HHC purpose should be to manage the lands or exchange lands (acre for acre to keep the trust whole, change the law which demands value for value) in order to provide homes and rehabilitative opportunities for the intended</p>	<p>The opportunities for beneficiaries are extensive and diverse; and, there are opportunities for beneficiaries within each component of the recommendations, whether it is homesteading, pasture, unmanaged-ungulate eradication, native forest restoration, commercial timber, koa forestry, ecotourism or cultural practices. Some of the benefits are proposed to be relatively immediate, while others will necessarily take time for the real benefit to come to fruition.</p>

<p>beneficiaries. That is the purpose for this HHCA rehabilitative program, nothing else.</p> <p>As long as DHHL, on behalf of the HHC stand in court trying to justify why DHHL does not request sufficient funds to implement the HHCA for the intended beneficiaries and make excuses for such, DHHL and the HHC is in violation of their fiduciary responsibilities.</p> <p>DHHL & HHC, as well as the Implementation Advisory Council and the Beneficiary Committee, should focus on sustainable human communities.</p>	<p>Additionally, the implementation process will include opportunities for Beneficiary and community involvement and participation at all stages of the process.</p> <p>Land exchanges are beyond the scope of the Legacy Program. Dispositions and financing of Homestead and Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs will be through the standard DHHL processes for these types of dispositions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since homesteading and pasture use are the typical and conventional disposition activities of DHHL, it is recommended that the proposed uses at Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua come under existing DHHL planning, design, development, funding, disposition and management. • These proposed uses can fit in the "queue" for development scheduling and disposition with other Homesteading and Pasture uses
<p>DHHL and the HHC will continue to violate their fiduciary responsibilities to the rehabilitation of the intended beneficiaries, as long as they insist on providing for the management and protection of "native lands to support both the cultural and resource management activities".</p> <p>When the beneficiaries can finally control the lands and conduct a self-sustaining activity in the area, what income-producing cultural activity does DHHL, HHC and the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program Implementation Advisory Council foresee - bird catching for gathering feathers? Mr. Gumapac was correct when he asked about how these studies incorporated the traditional Ahupua'a concept.</p> <p>The `Āina Mauna Legacy Program is just a discussion for</p>	<p>The opportunities for beneficiaries are extensive and diverse; and, there are opportunities for beneficiaries within each component of the recommendations, whether it is homesteading, pasture, unmanaged-ungulate eradication, native forest restoration, commercial timber, koa forestry, ecotourism or cultural practices. Some of the benefits are proposed to be relatively immediate, while others will necessarily take time for the real benefit to come to fruition. Additionally, the implementation process will include opportunities for Beneficiary and community involvement and participation at all stages of the process.</p> <p>The mission of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program and its implementation is to protect approximately 56,000-acres of native Hawaiian forest that is ecologically, culturally and economically self-sustaining for the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust, its beneficiaries and the community. It is recommended that traditional knowledge and modern science be used in making management decisions.</p> <p>DHHL believes that the Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua lands have the potential for serving as a sustainable native forest and land unit by simultaneously providing environmental, economic and social benefits to the trust and its beneficiaries, in perpetuity by linking traditional cultural knowledge and modern science. The goal of a restored forest is consistent with the DHHL Energy Policy.</p> <p>The restored, healthy native forest provides a variety of benefits and opportunities to beneficiaries through gathering, cultural</p>

the specific area and although it touts cultural and resource management, the plan has no cultural significance or strong points for future beneficiary stewardship, accept references to noted cultural studies.	<p>practices and opportunities to see and understand native forest ecosystems. The site (with restoration to healthy native forest) provides beneficiaries cultural practices access as the only site of this type in the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust inventory. In addition there are multiple economic opportunities for beneficiaries.</p> <p>The Legacy Program recommends a mandatory `Āina Mauna cultural, natural resources and safety briefing to ensure that all visitors receive appropriate information they need in order to better understand and protect `Āina Mauna's cultural and natural resources. Specific contents of the `Āina Mauna cultural, natural resources and safety briefing will need to be determined.</p>
Why did DHHL allow Parker Ranch to return the trust lands without restoring the land or take some responsibility to make it right again the way they first received it? Isn't this irresponsible stewardship and mismanaging of the lands?	The Program is moving forward with gorse eradication as described above. The department is free to pursue remedies outside of the Legacy Program.
What is the overall stance that DHHL is taking with the incoming leadership and any projected information as to next steps with award prioritization? What discussions, if any, about lands that are more realistically available and accessible closer to the town vicinity of Hilo. Lower Pi`ihonua and Honumu areas should be the focus before further management plans are pursued by DHHL. What plans are in place for these attainable areas?	The Lower Pi`ihonua and Honumu areas are outside of the Program area.
Other	
We propose that a solution to current management and resource concerns be solved with the development of human infrastructure (training for the Hawaiian people), that the foundation of homesteads and economic activity be grounded in native Hawaiian culture, we base our decisions locally and thinking of sustainability	<p>The `Āina Mauna Legacy Program will provide a wide range of jobs and provide a wide range of job and training opportunities.</p> <p>The restoration of the `Āina Mauna native forest will require a multitude of conservation oriented jobs. The native Hawaiian community will benefit from the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program via conservation training and jobs which restore the native forest, commercial jobs which reforest and harvest the koa forest, and others, such as ecotourism activities.</p>

keeping in mind that our decisions will have direct effects on our successors so should be made with the greatest of thought.	
We suggest that embracing Hawaiian culture as your guiding principle versus economic opportunity, believing in the Hawaiian people and providing for their success, and follow through on promises will go a long way in healing and bridging this divide.	We concur. The rich cultural history of the area, presents a unique opportunity to link traditional cultural knowledge and modern science in restoring the area back to a healthy native forest, as well as other uses that benefit the Land, Beneficiaries and the Trust.
The Aina Mauna Legacy Program map indicates two things: (a) ID Labels with area description and acreage, and (b) color schemes labels with area description and acreage. Neither of these descriptions and acreage coincides with the color scheme labels, so the viewer is unable to identify what the consultant is really talking about.	The mapping noted on the documents posted on the DHHL website-beneficiary consultation-executive summary and program document have correct color coded maps.
We received our notices after the meeting date.	Due to problems with the initial mailing, an additional beneficiary meeting in Keaukaha.
Will the Mauna Kea access road be relocated since it is cutting through some of the trust land property?	There are no plans to relocate any of the roads.
Would you kindly clarify why the numerous programs and their particular purposes, especially if they don't have an invested interest in the immediate communities of Island.	<p>The Program is based on several past studies. Ho`okuleana LLC was hired to write the Program and is the consultant for this project.</p> <p>During the development of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program, the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program Advisory Group was formed to provide advice and recommendations in identifying the optimum land use, infrastructure patterns, best management practices and estimated financial requirements to achieve the goals of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program. Group members served as liaisons between their constituents and communities, as well as helped with outreach to their respective communities on behalf of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program.</p>

Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

Hawai'i Island Plan



Final Report



May 2002

EXHIBIT "A"

August 16, 2009

Kaulana H. Park
Chair
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, Hawaii 96707

Re: 'AINA MAUNA LEGACY PROGRAM

Honorable Chair and Members of the Commission:

My name is Paula Helfrich and I am a 39-year resident of Hawaii, primarily in Waimanalo, Ewa, and Hawaii Island. I am currently doing research in Myanmar towards a doctoral degree in cultural resource management, although most of my work in recent years has centered around Aina Maunakea.

This summer, my colleagues and I were privileged to present a petition and testimony reinstating the ancient name of Kukahau'ula at the summit cone of Maunakea. For more than thirty years, I have ridden and walked the lands of Maunakea as part of many controversial projects from telescopes to Saddle Road, gorse infestation, ancient trails in Kaohe, paniolo cultural preservation, Umi a Liloa complex, Humu'ula, and Keanakolu among others. I have been privileged to learn from dozens of cultural practitioners, academics, historians and authorities from DLNR and DHHL, as well as private landowners and especially kumu paniolo.

I am so happy to see the good work that has been developed in the 'Aina Mauna Legacy Program centering on Humu'ula and the lands of Keanakolu. This Program has always been an essential component for any kind of coherent cultural resource management of the region, and I am most pleased to offer my enthusiastic support.

I want to encourage continued dialogue by all stakeholders. This 'Aina Mauna Legacy Program has the capacity to preserve, protect, cherish and enable the future for the wa'o kele lands, which must also influence the next steps for the wa'o akua lands above. It is one mountain, 'Aina Maunakea.

With humility and respect,

Paula Helfrich
Teacher/Archaeologist
c/o 117 Thumingalar Housing
Thingangyun, Yangon
Myanmar
Helfrich.paula@gmail.com



QUEEN EMMA LAND COMPANY

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September 14, 2009

Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalanianaʻole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Re: Support for the ʻĀina Mauna Legacy Program

Dear Chairperson Park:

We have reviewed the draft of the ʻĀina Mauna Legacy Program and take this opportunity to offer our support for this aggressive and ambitious project. We encourage the Hawaiian Homes Commission to approve and implement this program.

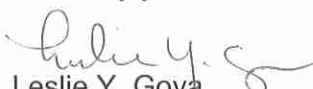
We understand the commitment it takes to restore land back into its former healthy native ecosystem. As an adjoining land owner at Kawaihae on the Island of Hawaii, we have embarked on a native forest restoration program of our own. We are restoring the native ecosystem through planting of native trees and ground cover vegetation which was once abundant in the area, installing fences and protecting stream corridors. Through this ongoing effort, we know that restoration efforts take considerable amounts of time and money. However, like you, we agree that the commitment to this long-term recovery is worthwhile, even though we may not see the true benefits well into the future. We encourage you to stay focused, so future generations will benefit from your efforts today.

Likewise, we believe you have incorporated an appropriate balance and variety of short and long-term uses on the site that will serve immediate and long-term needs. We are pleased to see that certain areas are dedicated for native forest restoration and protection and, at the same time, areas for homesteading and pasture use have been incorporated for the needs of your beneficiaries.

Queen Emma Land Company is part of The Queen's Health Systems which has as its stated mission "... to provide in perpetuity quality health care services to improve the well-being of Native Hawaiians and all of the people of Hawaii." With that mission, we share your commitment to restore your lands and agree with your program's use of the expression, "Ola ka ʻāina, ola ke kanaka"; Healthy land results in healthy people - care for the land, it cares for you.

We believe your program helps to further demonstrate the need for landscape-scale native ecosystem restoration and, in doing so, help to develop self-sufficient and healthy communities. Thank you for this opportunity to provide this letter of support for your ʻĀina Mauna Legacy Program.

Sincerely yours,


Leslie Y. Goya
Vice President



HAWAI'I FOREST INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

P. O. Box 5594 ♦ Kailua-Kona, HI 96745-5594

Phone: 808-933-9411

Email: hfia@hawaiiiforest.org

Website: www.hawaiiiforest.org

September 15, 2009

Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalaniana'ole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Support of `Āina Mauna Legacy Program

Dear Mr. Park,

On behalf on the Board of Directors of the Hawai'i Forest Industry Association (HFIA), I would like to express our support for your `Āina Mauna Legacy Program. HFIA recognizes the importance of efforts that will benefit the social, economic, and environmental resources in Humu'ula/Pi'ihonua. We are particularly concerned about the sustainable management of the native forest resources and support your plans to restore portions of this area to conserve the native forests and natural habitats for future generations.

HFIA supports DHHL's goals to restore and enhance the koa/'ōhi'a and māmane forest ecosystems at Humu'ula/Pi'ihonua. We approve of your plans to initially control gorse by implementing commercial timber practices using sugi and eucalyptus species, then eventually reforesting the land back to a native koa forest. We would also suggest appropriate native understory establishment. Timber planting can serve as an effective way of controlling gorse, as well as providing community economic benefits. This project also provides an opportunity for the use of koa wood products. With the restored forest, woodworkers will have cultural and economic opportunities for a variety of koa wood product production.

HFIA is especially interested in the Legacy Program's goals of providing restoration, educational, and cultural opportunities. We agree that restored, healthy native forests provide many opportunities for gathering, cultural practices, and ways to learn about native forest ecosystems. HFIA has successfully managed a 70-acre dryland forest at Ka'ūpūlehu in North Kona for the past 14 years. We provide youth education and forest stewardship opportunities through our award-winning Ka'ūpūlehu Dryland Forest Volunteer Outreach Program. Over the past five years, over 3,000 volunteers have contributed over 13,000 hours participating in forest stewardship activities. To date, over 5,000 native seedlings have been outplanted and 23 acres are being intensively managed. HFIA has leveraged over \$950,000 through grants and volunteers to match \$600,000 contributed to the project by landowner Kamehameha Schools. We are interested in working with you to bring our forest management and outreach services to benefit the lands and communities at Humu'ula/Pi'ihonua.

We appreciate you keeping us informed of this important community project and look forward to remaining involved in the process. Please feel free to contact me at 808-933-9411 or hfia@hawaiiiforest.org.

Sincerely,

Heather Gallo, Executive Director
Hawai'i Forest Industry Association



BISHOP MUSEUM

Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalaniana'ole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

September 25, 2009

Aloha Kaulana:

I am in full support of the Aina Mauna Legacy Program, for its all encompassing plan to improve, restore and revive the unprofitable lands of Humuula and Pi'ihonua.

I am mostly interested in that part of the DHHL Hawaiian Homes Commission Mission Statement:

“To manage the Hawaiian Home Lands trust effectively”; and your initiative to partner with others towards developing sufficient and healthy communities.

As the curator of the Bishop Museum's botanical collection and a strong advocate for improving the health of Hawaii's environment and natural resources, you can count on me for the following:

To be your advocate and consultant on insuring that The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands preserves the valuable natural resources and native eco-systems upon which the entire State and DHHL beneficiaries rely on.

Sincerely,

Napua Harbottle
Botany Collections Manager
1525 Bernice Street
Honolulu HI 96817-2704
Ph. (808) 848-4177
napuah@bishopmuseum.org

THE TRUST *for* PUBLIC LAND

C O N S E R V I N G L A N D F O R P E O P L E

September 30, 2009

Kaulana Park, Chairman
Halea Kalaniana'ole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Re: 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program

Aloha Chairman Park,

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) conserves land for people to enjoy as parks, gardens and other natural places, ensuring livable communities for generations to come. Nationwide, TPL has five program initiatives: (1) providing parks for people, (2) protecting working lands (farms, ranches, and forests), (3) conserving natural lands (wilderness, wildlife habitat), (4) safeguarding heritage lands (cultural and historical resources), and (5) preserving land to ensure clean drinking water and the natural beauty of our coasts and waterways. In Hawai'i, TPL has worked with public and private partners to conserve over 36,000 acres of land in the State, with a focus on coastal lands and lands important to Hawaiian communities.

TPL's Native Lands Program works at the request of native communities and organizations to protect land important to Hawaiians. TPL considers the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL) an important partner in conserving land for Hawaiians here in Hawai'i. TPL looks forward to working with DHHL to acquire additional conservation lands, which will benefit Hawaiian homestead communities.

TPL supports DHHL's efforts to plan for and manage its conservation and mauka lands. While TPL does not generally comment on specific land use projects, we support the general intent of the 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program which seeks to restore native forest ecosystems and provide sustainable management of the land for the Hawaiian Home Land Trust and its Beneficiaries. DHHL should be commended for its efforts.

Mahalo,



Lea Hong
Hawaiian Islands Program Director

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA

College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
The founding college of the University of Hawai'i, Established 1907

Cooperative Extension Service

Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalaniana'ole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

October 1, 2009

Dear Mr. Park,

I am writing to support the proposal for the 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program for the DHHL lands of Humu'ula and Pi'ihonua prepared by Ho'okuleana LLC. I am the extension forester with the University of Hawai'i Cooperative Extension Service and I am based in Hilo. For the past ten years, a major part of my program has been koa forest management and restoration. In my professional judgment, koa forest restoration on Mauna Kea can be a success both ecologically and economically. My colleagues and I have several projects near Humu'ula, including on Umikoa Ranch, the Laupāhoehoe section of the Hilo forest reserve, Kukaiau Ranch, and Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge. We have shown that the prolific koa regeneration that occurs after logging can be managed by thinning and fertilization to improve potential timber yield. We have shown that grass control and early fertilization can double growth rates of planted koa. By comparing koa growth at Laupāhoehoe with koa growth at Honomalino in South Kona and Keauhou Ranch in Volcano, we have shown that koa growth on the windward side of Mauna Kea is some of the best in the state. We would be happy to work with DHHL both in developing management prescriptions and in designing trials to answer relevant management questions.

Our knowledge of koa forestry in Hawai'i has greatly increased in the past ten years, to the point where we feel confident that koa forest restoration can be economically profitable in the long run. In addition to work done by UH, the USDA Forest Service, the Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, Kamehameha Schools, Forest Solutions, and the Hawaii Agriculture Research Center have all contributed to our current knowledge of koa forestry. For the past several years DHHL has been managing one of the best-run koa harvest and restoration operations in the state and today we can see the beginnings of a young, healthy koa forest.

The 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program addresses the major problems of land management on the mauka lands such as gorse and feral ungulates. It incorporates both economic and environmental aspects and would be a model for other land management agencies and large landowners. I urge DHHL's full support of the project.

Sincerely,

J. B. Friday, PhD
Extension Forester



BISHOP MUSEUM

October 5, 2009

Mr. Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalaniana'ole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Dear Chairperson Park:

Please let me extend our support for your 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program seeking to restore portions of your Humu'ula/Pi'ihonua lands in perpetuity to restore and enhance these native forests and natural habitats for future generations.

We applaud your ambitious efforts to protect approximately 56,000 acres of native Hawaiian forest that is ecologically, culturally and economically self-sustaining for the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust, its beneficiaries and the community. We agree that restoration of the land upon which native Hawaiians have always depended is key to the success of the beneficiaries, the Trust and the community.

Bishop Museum has embarked upon our own ambitious restoration and renovation project. Just recently, we reopened the newly restored Hawaiian Hall after three years of its first renovation in over a century. Bishop Museum's mission since founding has been to study, preserve and tell the stories of the cultures and natural history of Hawai'i and the Pacific. We share the commitment to serving and representing the interests of native Hawaiians.

We appreciate the challenge you face in responding to and balancing the many and varied interests concerned with your lands. We see that you have incorporated a diversity of immediate actions that include opportunities for beneficiaries within each component of your recommendations, whether it is homesteading, pasture, unmanaged-ungulate eradication, native forest restoration, commercial timber, koa forestry, ecotourism or cultural practices.

We encourage you to adopt and implement this plan. While we recognize that it will take a considerable amount of time and money, we believe this is an effort that is worthwhile and necessary to make these lands available for native Hawaiian use.

Sincerely,

Timothy E. Johns
President & Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Allen Allison, Vice President of Science
Bishop Museum



For the Protection of Hawaii's Native Wildlife
HAWAII AUDUBON SOCIETY

850 Richards Street, Suite 505, Honolulu, HI 96813-4709
Phone/Fax: (808) 528-1432; hiaudsoc@pixi.com
www.hawaii-audubon.com

October 7, 2009

Kaulana Park
Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalaniana'ole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Dear Mr. Park:

The Hawai'i Audubon Society appreciates the opportunity to offer these comments in support of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' Aina Muana Legacy Program native forest restoration efforts at Humu'ula/Pi'ionua on the island of Hawai'i.

As you may know, the Hawai'i Audubon Society was founded in 1939 and is Hawai'i's oldest conservation organization. Our primary mission is the fostering of community values that result in the protection and restoration of endemic bird species, as well as, native ecosystems through education, science, and advocacy in Hawai'i and the Pacific.

Since the 1990's, Audubon has been supporting gorse eradication and koa forest restoration efforts of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge which lies adjacent to Humu'ula/Pi'ionua. We certainly appreciate the benefit that similar gorse eradication and koa forest restoration efforts at Humu'ula/Pi'ionua would have in restoring the forest bird habitat. These efforts will ensure the critical survival of the endangered Hawai'i creeper and the 'akiapola'au, which now can be seen regularly in the planted koa groves in Hakalau. The 'akiapola'au is one of seven species that forage in koa trees. In fact, 30 of Hawai'i's 35 remaining native forest bird species can be found in koa forests. In addition, 30% of the threatened endangered plant species in Hawai'i are also found in koa forests.

Audubon also supports the long term goal of creating an economically-sustainable, healthy native forest ecosystem at Humu'ula/Pi'ionua. We also believe that the re-examination of ongoing efforts every five years would ensure that required changes could be made to obtain the very best possible sustainable koa forest outcome.

In closing, we note that the Legacy's goals and priorities are consistent with those of the Audubon Society. It is hoped that we will be able to develop a collaborative partnership with DHHL to work together on projects that benefit both organizations and their constituencies.

On behalf of the Hawai'i Audubon Society's Directors.

Sincerely yours,
Wendy Johnson

Ross_Wilson-Support-e-mail-10-12-09

From: Ross Wilson [rossw@current-events.com]
Sent: Monday, October 12, 2009 2:17 PM
To: kaulana.h.park@hawaii.gov
Cc: bob.c.freitasjr@hawaii.gov; PeterYoung@Hookuleana.com
Subject: Kona Support For Aina Mauna Legacy Program

October 12, 2009

Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalaniana'ole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Aloha!

As a native Hawaiian and a member of the Board of Directors of Ahuena Heiau Inc, and a member of the Royal Order of Kamehameha, I appreciate that the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands is working on the Aina Mauna Legacy Program that calls for the restoration of DHHL lands at Humuula on the slopes of Mauna Kae.

Although I can't speak for the groups that I'm a member of, I personally support your efforts with the Aina Mauna program and ask that once the plan is adopted that you immediately work toward its implementation. Your legacy with this program should begin today.

I was raised in Hilo and attended Hilo High School and the lands of Humuula are clearly visible to Hilo residents including my mom and sister and brother.

I have since moved to Kona and I know there are many like me who feel that it is important to restore the native forest on Mauna Kea. After decades of decline, we now have an opportunity to reverse the trend and bring back what was once there.

I am also happy to see the extensive areas for homesteads for native Hawaiians called for in the plan. I am especially happy that native Hawaiians can and should benefit from this program through needed jobs and economic development opportunities especially given today's economic outlook.

I know it will take a lot of time and effort to finally see the results of this plan but it is worth the effort for the generations following us and I ask that you adopt and implement the plan.

Mahalo for your kokua,

Ross Wilson Jr.
75-5751 Kuakini Highway, Suite 202
Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

808-937-3678



Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalanianaʻole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Aloha Chairperson Park,

This letter is sent in support of the Aina Mauna Legacy program.

I have a background in land conservation and environmental consulting in Hawai'i. For five years, I worked as the Hawaii Project Manager with the Trust for Public Land's Hawaii office working on land conservation projects throughout the Islands. In that role, we worked to expand the Hawaiian Islands Program's relationships with local communities and provided technical assistance to local land trusts and conservation groups working on every major island. As a consultant to non-profit conservation organizations, I have helped organizations make long-term plans to build sustainable organizations and land stewardship conservation plans.

I know that it can be difficult to be a large landowner in Hawai'i and find the right balance doing right by the land, the local economy, and local communities. I support your proposal to restore balance and native forests to the land as part of this program. Likewise, I understand the commitment of time and money that it will take to do so. The Aina Mauna Legacy Program strikes me as a thoughtful approach and a beneficial tool to conserve this important legacy for future generations.

I am particularly impressed with the program's attempt to balance present needs of beneficiaries, through areas for initial homesteading, with long-term sustainability elements. This commitment to creating a sustainable plan for the restoration and conservation of the lands, while also providing economic opportunities and use for DHHL and its beneficiaries, seems to combine important, diverse goals in the management of these lands.

I know that implementation of this program will take a great deal of time and energy. It will not be easy, but it seems to me to be the pragmatic and right thing to do for the long haul.

Aloha,
Josh Stanbro
(808) 306-5518



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Big Island National Wildlife Refuge Complex
60 Nowelo Street, Suite 100
Hilo, Hawaii, 96720

October 13, 2009

In Reply Refer to:
2009-10-13-HFNWR

Mr. Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalaniana'ole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Re: **The DHHL Aina Mauna Legacy Program**

Dear Mr. Park:

The purpose of this letter is to express support for the Aina Mauna Legacy Program prepared for the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands by Ho'okuleana LLC. The objective of the plan is to guide the management of DHHL's Humu'ula and Pi'ihonua lands which includes some of the most important native forest areas remaining in the DHHL trust today on Mauna Kea.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service owns and manages the 32,733 acre Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge which neighbors both the Humu'ula and Pi'ihonua parcels. The refuge was established in 1985 and is part of the The National Wildlife Refuge System which comprises the world's largest collection of lands set aside specifically for wildlife and provides habitat for native plants and animals. It is administered by the Department of Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service, the principle Federal agency responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing the nation's fish and wildlife populations and their habitats for the benefit of the American people. The refuge provides habitat for eight endangered bird species, the Hawaiian hoary bat, and at least six species of endangered plants.

Over the past 25 years Hakalau Forest NWR has been responsible for the restoration of over 400,000 native trees and plants at the refuge and has lead control efforts to remove non-native invasive species across over 14,000 acres of refuge lands. In addition, Hakalau Forest NWR is involved in several beneficial partnerships with DHHL including the construction and long-term maintenance of a shared fuel break, two koa restoration/gorse removal projects, and the protection and restoration of a bird corridor at Kanakaleonui. We believe this example of cooperative conservation represents an excellent model for addressing land management challenges on Mauna Kea and elsewhere.


The initial goals and immediate actions outlined in the Aina Mauna Legacy Program including

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the eradication of invasive species and the restoration of native ecosystems are consistent with the goals of Hakalau Forest NWR. These shared goals may provide a framework for additional opportunities to collaborate through partnerships with the National Wildlife Refuge and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Conservation Partnerships Program in the future.

Hakalau Forest NWR supports DHHL's efforts to plan and manage its mauka lands through the Aina Mauna Legacy Program. It addresses key problems faced today by managers of the Mauna Kea uplands including forest restoration, fire prevention, invasive weed and feral animal management. We look forward to continuing cooperation in sound stewardship of the land as neighbors of DHHL and offer our assistance on any matters of mutual interest or concern. If you have questions, please contact me at (808) 443-2300.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Kraus", written in a cursive style.

Jim Kraus
Refuge Manager
Hakalau Forest NWR

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MANOA

College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management

October 15, 2009

Mr. Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalaniana'ole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Subject: Support for the 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program

Dear Mr. Park,

I have reviewed 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program proposal prepared by Ho'okuleana LLC and consider all of the items in this agenda to be highly appropriate for implementation within the Humu'ula and Pi'ihonua areas that are maintained by DHHL. I have been conducting research in these areas over the last five years developing relevant approaches to gorse management and koa restoration. In my experiences, there are very few passive solutions and I strongly feel that our best opportunities for success will come through active land management in agriculture, forestry and conservation. Not only does this program neatly provide guidance to remediate the ecology of Humu'ula and Pi'ihonua, but also more importantly realizes the potential to empower DHHL's constituents with the *kuleana* to become a part of the solution. I support DHHL championing this cause with further development and implementation of this program. As a public servant, please consider my services for contribution to future needs as we progress. Mahalo for your consideration and please do not hesitate to contact me at anytime.

Sincerely,



James Leary, PhD
Assistant Specialist, Invasive Weed Management
Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Email: leary@hawaii.edu
Phone: 808-352-8774

DAVID B. KA'APU
Attorney at Law
Territorial Centre, Suite 201
75-5751 Kuakini Highway
Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740
Telephone No.: (808) 329-1385 Facsimile No.: (808) 329-0512
E-mail: DBK2009@gmail.com

21 October 2009

Mr. Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalaniana'ole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Aloha Chairman Park:

I am writing in support of the Aina Mauna Legacy Program.

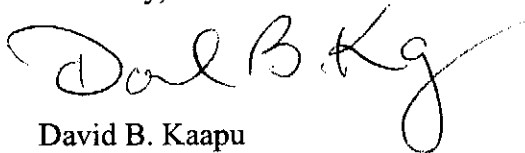
I believe the department has the responsibility to restore this area, while at the same time provide opportunities for native Hawaiians to use these lands. The plan shows a good balance of uses and benefits and has incorporated a variety of means to support the efforts, including ecotourism, commercial uses, timber, etc.

The focus to fight the gorse is also a good thing. Under existing conditions, the land is worthless. The suggestion that timber be used to fight the gorse looks like a good one. Doing so, it also provides rental income to offset other costs of management.

Hawaiian Homes has the opportunity to demonstrate appropriate restoration and management efforts to return health back to these lands. I know it will take a long time and considerable work and money to do so. However, I believe the effort is worth it.

Please approve the Aina Mauna Legal Program and work toward its implementation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David B. Kaapu". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" being the most prominent part.

David B. Kaapu



KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS

October 22, 2009

Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalaniana'ole

91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Re: Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program

Mr. Park,

Kamehameha Schools has reviewed the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program and is in support of its proposal to protect approximately 56,000 acres of native Hawaiian forest in Humu'ula and Pi'ihonua. We expect that the initiatives detailed in the Legacy Program's draft plan, shared with us by Peter Young of Ho'okuleana, LLC, will provide multiple values for Hawaiian beneficiaries and believe this plan to be in alignment with our own land management strategies and our shared visions of a thriving Hawaiian people.

We wish to particularly commend the proposal to contain and control gorse, a habitat-modifying invasive weed. This undertaking will be a critical step in protecting the health of upland natural and cultural landscapes on Hawai'i Island.

Of further importance are the encouraging plans for koa reforestation, a strategy that is known to provide multiple ecosystem service benefits—from habitat for forest birds, to source for cultural practices—while expanding mauka forest cover and attracting clouds and rain to the higher elevations of Mauna Kea.

This proposal represents a sound strategy to protect the suite of natural and cultural resources that are the cornerstones of Hawaiian identity and well-being. We agree wholeheartedly that Kalaniana'ole's vision of healthy, self-sufficient Hawaiian communities is one that will be sustained by healthy, thriving lands.

'O au iho nō me ka 'oia'i'o,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ulalia Woodside".

Ulalia Woodside
Manager, Land Legacy Resources
Kamehameha Schools Land Assets Division



QUEEN LILI'UOKALANI TRUST

Alakea Corporate Tower
1100 Alakea Street, Suite 1100
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813
Telephone: (808) 203-6150 Facsimile: (808) 203-6151

October 23, 2009

VIA EMAIL

Mr. Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Homelands
Hale Kalaniana'ole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Subject: `Āina Mauna Legacy Program

Dear Mr. Park,

We have had the opportunity to review the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program proposed for the Department of Hawaiian Homelands (DHHL) lands at Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua.

We believe this is a fine plan that will benefit generations to come. We commend your efforts on this plan and look forward to seeing this vision realized.

Please contact me if you have questions on this matter at 808-203-6150. Mahalo.

Very truly yours,

LeeAnn E.P. Crabbe
Vice President

CC: Bob Freitas, Jr.
Peter Young

October 30, 2009

Mr. Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalaniana'ole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, Hawai'i 96707

Dear Mr. Park:

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) has reviewed the draft of the 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program and supports the Program's efforts to restore native biodiversity to its Humu'ula / Pi'ihonua properties.

TNC owns or manages approximately 40,000 acres in Hawai'i. We understand that restoring the islands' natural communities is time consuming and expensive, but it is well worth the effort. Specifically, TNC is pleased to see the 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program's goal to conserve native forests and natural habitats on these lands in perpetuity. We are especially interested in the long-term protection of the Pi'ihonua parcel, as it contains some of the most biologically important and healthy forested areas in the region.

TNC is committed to working with conservation partners in Hawai'i to find the best solution for long-term conservation management. It is our hope that this living document is the first step toward enabling a reality that will ensure responsible management practices on the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands' 'Āina Mauna Legacy Lands to maintain the health of these areas for generations to come.

Please do not hesitate to call should you have any specific questions.

Sincerely,



Suzanne Case
Executive Director



Hawaii Island Economic Development Board ISLAND OF OPPORTUNITY

30 October 2009

Mr. Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalanianaʻole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Transmit via e-mail to: kaulana.h.park@hawaii.gov

Aloha Mr. Park,

The Hawaii Island Economic Development Board (HIEDB) is a member-based organization incorporated in 1984. During our twenty-five year history, HIEDB has been committed to providing and promoting private sector support and expertise for balanced growth in Hawai'i County in partnership with both public and private resources.

The efforts to restore and conserve into perpetuity portions of the Humu'ula/Pi'ihonua lands, native forests, and habitats are a firm demonstration of the culturally sensitive and balanced growth sought by HIEDB and its members respectively and collectively.

HIEDB recognizes the multiple near and more importantly, long-term benefits including and not limited to economic, social, environmental and educational opportunities afforded through the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program. We also recognize the over-arching opportunities for long-term, self-sufficiency for beneficiaries of the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and we strongly endorse and applaud these efforts.

Please do not hesitate to advise if we may be of any assistance in helping to achieve the worthy goals of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program.

Mahalo and Best Regards,

Jacquie L. Hoover, Executive Director
Hawaii Island Economic Development Board, Inc.
E-mail: jhoover@hiedb.org

c: bob.c.freitasjr@hawaii.gov ;
PeterYoung@Hookuleana.com



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Conservation Council for Hawai'i

October 30, 2009

Mr. Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalaniana'ole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Dear Mr. Park,

Aloha. Conservation Council for Hawai'i supports the intent of the Department of Hawaiian Home Land's 'Aina Mauna Legacy Program on the island of Hawai'i. We appreciate the Department's proposal to control introduced species, such as gorse, domestic and feral cattle, and feral sheep and goats on its Mauna Kea lands. Left unchecked, these alien species will eventually eliminate all of the natural and cultural values attached to this land.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Marjorie Ziegler



Hawai'i's Voice for Wildlife – Ko Leo Hawai'i no na holoholona lohiu

Telephone/Fax 808.593.0255 • email: info@conservehi.org • web: www.conservehi.org

P.O. Box 2923 • Honolulu, HI 96802 • Office: 250 Ward Ave., Suite 212 • Honolulu, HI 96814

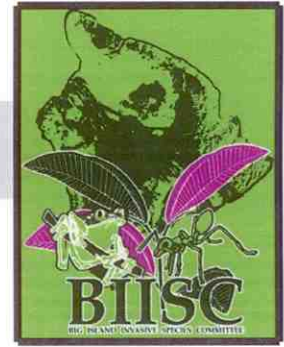
President: Maura O'Connor * Vice-President: George Robertson * Treasurer: Kim Ramos * Secretary: Douglas Lamerson

Directors: Madelyn D'Enbeau * Maka'ala Ka'aumoana * Hannah Springer

Executive Director: Marjorie Ziegler * Membership Director: Beth McDermott

Hawai'i Affiliate of the National Wildlife Federation

Big Island Invasive Species Committee



November 5, 2009

Department of Hawaiian Homelands
c/o Ho'okuleana LLC
25 Kane'ohe Bay Drive Suite 212
Kane'ohe, HI 96734

RE: Support for the 'Aina Mauna Legacy Program

To whom it may concern:

The Big Island Invasive Species Committee (BIISC) is in full support of the 'Aina Mauna Legacy Program. The goals and intentions of this program are in-step with the goals and mission of BIISC to control invasive species within Hawaii County. In addition, BIISC agrees with the overall mission of the legacy program to enhance and restore native habitat in Humu'ula/Pi'ihonua in perpetuity for future generations. BIISC has worked very hard to keep Miconia, a highly invasive pest species, from spreading in the upper Pi'ihonua and N. Hilo districts for the past decade. BIISC sees this legacy program has an additional partnering of agencies to fulfill the overall goal of protecting Hawai'i's unique natural habitat and cultural resources. DHHL has been a strong supporter of BIISC for many years now, and we applaud your efforts to protect native ecosystems with the long term goal of preserving resources for beneficiaries and Hawai'i's people alike.

Sincerely,

Zeada Pachecano
Temporary Manager

Cc: BIISC Executive Committee Members (Roger Imoto, Ann Marie LaRosa, Laura Hillis, Dr. Pat Conant)



STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
711 KAPI'OLANI BOULEVARD, SUITE 500
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

HRD09/4642

November 12, 2009

Peter Young
Ho'okuleana LLC
25 Kāne'ohe Bay Drive, Suite 212
Kailua, HI 96734

RE: 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program, Department of Hawaiian Home Lands.

Aloha e Peter Young,

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) is in receipt of your email requesting comments on the above-mentioned project. The Department of Hawaiian Home Lands (DHHL) has developed the 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program to manage approximately 56,200 acres of its Humu'ula/Pi'ihonua lands located along the northeast slopes of Mauna Kea. The 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program includes plans for invasive gorse removal, koa/'ōhi'a/māmāne reforestation and a variety of commercial initiatives to make the program economically self-sustainable. OHA has reviewed the project and offers the following comments.

OHA supports the concept of the 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program, and believes that it will serve as a model for other long-term land management plans. We commend DHHL for its commitment to restoring the native ecosystems on its properties and for involving its beneficiaries in the process. OHA especially appreciates that economic sustainability is a major component of the program. Long-term restoration and land management plans have a greater likelihood of succeeding if they can fund themselves and not drain the financial resources of the administering agency.

It is our agency's understanding that the foundation of the 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program is based on the program's mission, goals and priority issues. The mission of the 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program and its implementation, as stated, is to protect approximately 56,000 acres of Native Hawaiian forest that is ecologically, culturally and economically self-sustaining for the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust, its beneficiaries and the community.

In accomplishing this mission, we are identifying the optimum land use, infrastructure needs, best management practices and estimated financial requirements to achieve the following Legacy Program goals and priority issues:

- Restoration and enhancement of DHHL trust resources
- Identify opportunities for DHHL Homesteading
- Preservation of Natural and Cultural Resources and Endangered Species
- Address reforestation and restoration of the ecosystem
- Removal of invasive species - gorse, etc.
- Develop revenue generation, reinvestment in land to sustain activities
- Provide educational and cultural opportunities
- Identify and secure partners to sustain activities
- Identify opportunities for alternative/renewable energy projects
- Be a lead and/or model for others to engage in ecosystem restoration in a culturally sensitive manner based on partnerships to develop a self-sustaining model

However, we ask that program officials be careful when selecting alien species to plant within the project site. We have specific concerns with the types of trees that may be used in the Commercial Timber to Fight Gorse initiative. We note that eucalyptus trees are one of the identified trees for the commercial timber project. Eucalyptus is a close relative of 'ōhi'a trees, which are a major pillar of our native forests. Because of their close relation, diseases carried by eucalyptus trees may also affect 'ōhi'a trees. (One example of a disease that affects both trees is the recently introduced 'ōhi'a rust.) If a disease hits 'ōhi'a trees particularly hard, our native forests could be wiped out.

Therefore, we recommend that program managers use eucalyptus seedlings grown in state to avoid bringing in plants that may be infested with new diseases. However, if importation is absolutely necessary, program managers should try to obtain clean planting material and then quarantine the shipment to evaluate whether the plants are harboring new diseases.

Program managers should use the Department of Land and Natural Resources' Weed Risk Assessment Program for all planned alien species introductions, and work closely with DLNR's Division of Forestry and Wildlife and the Hawai'i Invasive Species Council.

OHA also asks whether an environmental assessment will be developed for the 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program in accordance with Hawaii Revised Statutes, Chapter 343 as well as an archaeological inventory survey in compliance with Chapter 6E, HRS. There are at least three important historical Hawaiian ranching stations in this area as well as many individual ahupua'a transecting through this rich area.

This project has the potential to establish good precedent for other large areas of our islands facing similar issues.

Peter Yong
November 12, 2009
Page 3

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have further questions, please contact Sterling Wong by phone at (808) 594-0248 or e-mail him at sterlingw@oha.org.

‘O wau iho nō me ka ‘oia‘i‘o,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Clyde W. Nāmu'o", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Clyde W. Nāmu‘o
Administrator

C: OHA Hawai‘i CRC Office



Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce

106 Kamehameha Avenue
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
Phone: (808) 935-7178
Fax: (808) 961-4435
E-mail: admin@hicc.biz
www.hicc.biz

November 13, 2009

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Mr. Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home lands
Hale Kalaniana'ole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Re: Aina Mauna Legacy Program

Dear Mr. Park:

The Hawaii Island Chamber of Commerce which represents over 300 businesses and has close to 800 members supports the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands Aina Mauna Legacy Program. We feel that it is important for the Department to restore certain lands to conserve those native forests and natural habitats for future generations. What makes this Program attractive is its goals of creating a sustainable plan for the areas of Humu'ula and Pi'honua where the lands can be conserved while also providing an economic resource for the Department and its beneficiaries.

We envision the beneficiaries taking advantage of the opportunities afforded by this Program including homesteading, unmanaged-ungulate eradication, native forest restoration, ecotourism and cultural practices to name a few. This in turn has the potential to foster other opportunities not only for the beneficiaries, but for businesses, our members and the general public.

The success of this program will also help serve as an outstanding model for the successful managing of existing and future activities and to ensure the protection of the Department's trust property. Accordingly, the Hawaii Island Chamber fully endorses this Program.

Very truly yours,

Jon Y. Miyata
Vice President

HAWAIIAN CIVIC CLUB OF KONA • KUAKINI

November 19, 2009

Mr. Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalaniana'ole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

RE: Support for Department of Hawaiian Home Lands 'Aina Mauna Legacy Program

Aloha!

The Association of Hawaiian Civic Clubs (AHCC) is the oldest Hawaiian community-based grass roots organization founded in 1918 by Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole.

The Hawaiian Civic Club of Kona-Kuakini, organized in 2003, believes in being a strong voice at County, State and Federal levels, and supports the AHCC's mission to serve with pono in advocacy of culture, health, economic development, education, social welfare and nationhood.

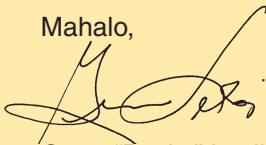
The Hawaiian Civic Club of Kona-Kuakini stands in support of the department's 'Aina Mauna Legacy Program and we applaud the long-term vision to conserve and restore these lands for future generations. DHHL's commitment to reforest important native forest areas will assure the continued health of many native and endemic species.

As President, I am encouraged by the first rural homesteading opportunity for the Humu'ula/Pi'ihonua lands and the economic possibilities it will bring to Native Hawaiians. How wonderful it will be when the agricultural operations planned for 'Aina Mauna, including commercial koa forest management operations, provide a means for Native Hawaiian beneficiaries.

'Aina Mauna Legacy Program has the long-term vision to be the crown jewel for Native Hawaiian beneficiaries for generations to come.

The Hawaiian Civic Club of Kona-Kuakini enthusiastically supports the department's plans for the Humu'ula/Pi'ihonua lands.

Mahalo,



Gene "Bucky" Leslie
President

75-5815 Mamalahoa Highway • Holulaloa, Hawaii 96725



HŌKULI'A

November 20, 2009

Mr. Kaulana Park, Chairman
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalaniana'ole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Subject: Letter of Support for Aina Mauna Legacy Program

Aloha Chairman Park:

Before addressing the merits of the Aina Mauna Legacy Program, let me emphasize how professional and transparent the process of public consultation has been, to date. Both supporters and detractors have been listened to very carefully and through this intense dialogue much has been learned. What unites all parties is our combined love of the land and respect for this special mountain.

In voicing my support for this program let me focus on three key elements:

- 1) **Functionality:** We have a societal responsibility to make these lands productive through reforestation. And, while it won't happen overnight, making the land productive is a core Hawaiian cultural value.
- 2) **Opportunity:** Native Hawaiians will benefit from the added opportunities in homesteading and new careers in forestry and environmental tourism. The restored forest will inspire a return to the appropriate Hawaiian cultural practices, as well.
- 3) **Flexibility:** While immediate approval of the proposed plan is prudent, the plan is framed in a way that preserves flexibility; so in the future as needs change the plan can adapt.

Cease the moment, DHHL and move to approve this plan immediately and effect its implementation. In doing so, you will again be fulfilling your mandate of reconnecting native peoples with their native places.

E Malama Moku o Keawe,



John De Fries
President and CEO

November 20, 2009

Kaulana Park, Chairperson
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
Hale Kalaniana'ole
91-5420 Kapolei Parkway
Kapolei, HI 96707

Re: Aina Mauna Legacy Program

Pōhakuloa Training Area (PTA) supports the Aina Mauna Legacy Program. As an adjoining neighbor to the project site, we appreciate the opportunity to review and comment on your proposal.

We concur with the concept “to protect approximately 56,000 acres of native Hawaiian forest that is ecologically, culturally and economically self-sustaining for the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust, its beneficiaries and the community.” This is a great complement to our environmental efforts here at PTA.

The U.S Army Garrison – Pōhakuloa shares your commitment to protecting the region’s natural and cultural resources. In addition to our mission and vision of being the best military training area in the Pacific, we endeavor to set the standard for environmental stewardship and energy efficiency. The natural and cultural resources personnel at PTA are working diligently to protect the environment in order to allow the Army and the other services to train here.

We note that you emphasize the need for partnerships to implement your proposal. As your neighbor, we see this as an important opportunity and look forward to working with you in this regard. We regularly collaborate with adjoining and neighboring properties and in 2006 The PTA environmental program was selected by the US Fish and Wildlife Service for the Military Installation Conservation Partner Award for natural resource conservation achievements through cooperative work with the Service and others. Our Federal Fire department routinely assists with prescribed burns of gorse infestation at Huum’ula.

We encourage you to continue this program and move forward with its implementation. The plan sets a good example for all of us to follow and we are standing by to assist you in the process of long-term improvements.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephen W. Troute
Community Relations Specialist
Pōhakuloa Training Area



Ali'i Sir Herman K. K. Kana'e, K.G.C.K.
Ali'i Nui & GrandMaster

www.royalorderofkamehameha.org

Ali'i Sir Francis Ching, K.G.C.K.
Kākā'ōlelo Nui

Office of the Kākā'ōlelo Nui
Ali'i Chapter, Heiau O Nā Ali'i
P.O. Box 1924
Kailua Kona, Hawai'i 96745

November 25, 2009

Peter T. Young
President, Ho'okuleana LLC
25 Kāne'ohe Bay Drive, Suite 212
Kailua, Hawai'i 96734

SUBJECT: DHHL 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program

Greetings Mr. Peter Young,

We received the executive summary report for the above program. Please accept our letter of support for the 'Āina Mauna Legacy Program on Hawai'i Island.

The lands of Humu'ula and Pi'ihonua represent the most important native forest areas remaining in the DHHL trust. The Legacy Programs' mission to protect our native forest is an important step in preserving the lands that are ecologically, culturally and economically self-sustaining for its beneficiaries and our Hawaiian community.

The Order of Kamehameha I was established on April 11, 1865 by his Majesty King Kamehameha V (Lot Kapuaiwa) to honor the legacy of his grandfather, the unifier of these islands, Kamehameha the Great. The Order was re-organized by Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole in 1902. One of the Orders major purpose is to preserve and perpetuate the ancient customs and traditions of Hawai'i.

The Royal Order lives in peaceful coexistence with the United States Government, but sees the restoration and preservation of our native lands as a priority, and the only viable option that ensures the life of the land, and its uniqueness of Hawai'i Nei. We will continue to assure that our Native Hawaiian traditional & customary gathering rights in areas such as this is protected. It is our duty.

The uplands of Humu'ula and Pi'ihonua was once rich in natural resources. It provided our ancestors with much fruit and wood materials such as koa, 'ōhi'a and māmane for housing. The lower valleys were suited for cultivation of crops and fresh water fishing. Now this area has been taken over by the gorse weed and we have watched the dwindling of our native fauna through the years. We feel that with proper management, this area will be protected for future generations.

If you find the need for our assistance in the future, do not hesitate to contact us through our website, www.royalorderofkamehameha.org.

Me ka 'oia 'i'o,

Alibi K. Ching

Ali'i Sir Francis K.W. Ching, K.G.C.K.
Kākā'ōlelo Nui

"In the light of our ancestors"

for