Common Sense Conservation

By Jeff Mikulina

Legislative Solutions for 2005

A new year, a new legislature, and a new reason to enact sensible environmental policy at the state level: four more years of the Bush Administration. Accepting that little progress will be made on environmental sustainability in Washington, D.C., we need to double our efforts at the state capitol to forward common sense conservation measures for Hawai‘i. Here’s a preview of the Sierra Club’s legislative agenda for 2005. To stay informed on the progress of these measures, or to find out how you can get your voice heard at the Capitol, contact Jeff at mikulina@lava.net.

Clean Water

Blue Water Bill

This bill—the legislative component of our “Blue Water Campaign”—aims to help prevent the muddy runoff events that seem to occur statewide after every major rain event. The bill clarifies that developers have to take all reasonably precautions to prevent muddy runoff, codify that citizens to bring suit for state water law violations, and increases penalties.

Cruise Ship Discharge

Hawai‘i currently lacks enforceable laws to protect our coastal waters from inappropriate cruise ship pollution discharges. Legislation will set quantifiable pollution limits for wastewater from cruise ships; specify when, where, and under what conditions discharges can take place; create an inspection program to verify compliance with the pollution limits; and set penalties for noncompliance.

Funding Hawai‘i’s Natural Capital

Coastal/Wild Areas Funding

With ongoing development pressure, Hawai‘i’s wild coastline is disappearing. Creating a dedicated funding source, as other states have done, would ensure that the state can proactively protect important coastal lands from inappropriate development. Moreover, landowners of such lands can be justly compensated, avoiding prolonged legal struggles brought by community members over land protection. The Club will be supporting a measure that uses a variety of funding sources to finance a public land acquisition trust fund to protect wild, undeveloped coastline and wild areas.

continued on page 3
Deadline for next Mālama
March 1, 2005

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

All members and interested environmentalists are invited to contribute items to Malama. Articles should be sent via e-mail to: hawaii.chapter@lava.net.

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**Funding the Natural Area Reserves**

Legislation will be introduced to fund Hawai‘i’s Natural Area Reserve system—the best publicly-owned native habitats in the state—with a slight increase the conveyance tax for high-end property conveyances. While sensitive native habitats in the NAR System are degrading due to inadequate management and invasion from non-native pests, sales of luxury homes are skyrocketing—largely to buyers from outside the state. Hawai‘i currently has one of lowest conveyance tax rates in the nation.

**Natural Resource Enforcement**

Ongoing cuts to the Department of Land and Natural Resources budget have drastically reduced the Department’s ability to manage and enforce Hawai‘i’s conservation laws. We will be supporting efforts to restore and increase funding for natural resource protection—specifically for conservation officer positions.

**Fixing the Renewable Energy Requirement**

Last year’s law that set standards for the amount of clean energy that the utility needed to provide (10% by 2010, 20% by 2020) was two steps forward and one big step backward. The law defines certain fossil fuel electricity generators as “renewable” and allows any conservation measure to be counted towards meeting the clean energy requirement. We are supporting a housekeeping measure to ensure that the renewable energy law does what it was intended to do: wean Hawai‘i from imported fossil fuels and increase the amount of electricity from clean, indigenous energy sources.

**Solar Panels on Condos**

It’s a crime that some condo associations prohibit owners from installing energy-saving solar systems on their rooftops. At least it should be a crime. We are supporting a “right to solar” measure that will ensure that association bylaws, covenants, or conditions do not prohibit solar systems.

**Land Use/permitting**

**Repealing Automatic Permit Approval**

Automatic permit approval—a measure passed in 1998—jeopardizes our coastal resources, scenic vistas and native Hawaiian rights. Automatic approval can occur if there is a tie vote by a board, if a deadline passes while an agency is in the middle of hearing public concerns, or if an underfunded agency cannot handle the work load. The Sierra Club is joined by Governor Linda Lingle in supporting a measure to repeal automatic permit approval.

**Protecting Ag Lands from Luxury Sprawl**

We will be supporting legislation that would help to prevent luxury subdivision sprawl by establishing a presumption that a house is not a “farm dwelling” if certain nonagricultural features in a subdivision or development are determined to be present (eg. security gates, country club facilities).

**Fixing the Shoreline Process**

Legislation is needed to fix the process by which Hawai‘i’s shorelines are identified and certified when determining the setback for coastal developments. A bill will clarify that the shoreline is at the highest wash of waves during the season when the highest wave...
The Hawai‘i Chapter has been able to fund a full time Director for the Sierra Club’s office in Honolulu, largely as a result of a planned giving bequest from former Chapter Chair and Chapter Treasurer, Ed Stevens.

Ed hated that the Sierra Club, Hawai‘i Chapter was always coming from poverty. We would have weekly telephone chats about which bills we could pay and what contributions had come in. It was very frustrating, but we both believed in what Sierra Club was doing. We arranged for the Director of Planned Giving for Sierra Club to come to Hawai‘i to do a presentation and invited some of our larger donors to that meeting. Ed committed to making an endowment or bequest for Hawai‘i Chapter.

“Conservation is a cause that has no end. There is no point at which we will say, “Our work is finished.” Rachel Carson.

When author and marine biologist Rachel Carson died of breast cancer at the age of 56 in 1964, she left a substantial bequest to the Sierra Club. This bequest included future royalties from sales of *Silent Spring*, the landmark book that exposed the ecological and health hazards of DDT and other chemical pesticides.

Now each year 17.1% of each unrestricted bequest (Club or Foundation) goes into the Chapter Deferred Gift Pool. Over $783K was distributed to Sierra Club Chapters in 2003. Carson’s gift and Steven’s gift and hundreds of others like it are helping Chapters across the country to do their work at protecting the environment.

If you would like more information on how you can make a bequest to Sierra Club, contact John Calaway, Director of Planned Giving at Sierra Club at (415) 977-5538 or in Hawai‘i, contact Annette Ka‘ohelauli‘i at (808) 235-5431.
In Hawai‘i, it pays to be green. At least that’s what the results of state legislative races suggest. The Sierra Club enjoyed enormous success with its candidates for state legislative races. Nearly every Sierra Club-endorsed incumbent in the State House and Senate (20 of 21 or 95%) won re-election, while a majority of the Sierra Club-endorsed challengers defeated incumbents.

“Statewide, Hawai‘i voters chose the environment,” said Lucienne De Naie, Chair of the Sierra Club, Hawai‘i Chapter. “Most of these races offered clear distinctions between the candidates regarding their position on environmental protection. Simply put, voters value protecting our environment.”

Strong environmental advocates Mina Morita (N. Kaua‘i) and Tommy Waters (Waimānalo) enjoyed wide margins of victory against aggressive challengers. Likewise, ‘green’ legislators Sol Kaho‘ohalahala (Lāna‘i, Moloka‘i, Hāna), Maile Shimabukuro (Wai‘anae, Mākaha), and Cynthia Thielen (Kāne‘ohe MCAB, Kailua) enjoyed solid wins. Former Sierra Club, O‘ahu Group Chair Blake Oshiro (‘Aiea, Pearlridge) squeaked out a win over a well-financed challenger, while former Sierra Club board member Brian Schatz (Makiki, Tanta-
luscious) enjoyed a clear victory over his challenger.

Sierra Club-endorsed challenger Josh Green beat incumbent Mark Jernigan to win the Kailua-Kona House seat. Jernigan earned one of the worst voting records on environmental issues, receiving a score of 14% on the Sierra Club’s 2003 Environmental Scorecard. Similarly, Representative Ryan Yamane, an incumbent whose environmental score from the bottom of all Club-endorsed challengers Ryan Yamane and J. Kalani English (Lāna‘i, Moloka‘i, Hāna) won handily over their rivals. Club-endorsed challenger Steven Fox came within a couple of percentage points of beating Kona Senator Paul Whalen—an incumbent with one of the worst environmental records in the Senate (33% on the Sierra Club’s Scorecard). In the primary, Club-endorsed challenger Clarence Nishihara beat entrenched Waipahu incumbent Cal Kawamoto. Kawamoto was a strong opponent to regulating sewage discharge from cruise ships and repealing automatic permit approval—a law that may allow projects to proceed despite the impacts to Hawai‘i’s environment.

The makeup of the new legislature is providing hope to those seeking to improve Hawai‘i’s environment and quality of life.

“We look forward to working with the new legislature in promoting sustainable solutions for both economy and environment,” said De Naie’s opponent, Club-endorsed challenger Josh Green. “We are pleased that we will have some new voices at the capitol that stand this connection.”

“The message is clear: environment is important to residents,” said De Naie.

The one defeat of an incumbent was by Sierra Club-endorsed can Kymberly Pine of ‘Ewa Club-endorsed Kam Tanaka picked up Rep. Brian Blundell’s forseat (Olowalu, Kihei). Tanaka made “preservation and protection of the ‘aina, it’s waters and the environment” a key point of his campaign and spoke openly of the need to regulate the unprecedented growth in his District that was outstripping local infrastructure.

Of the 25 representatives who scored in the top half of Sierra Club’s Scorecard, all who sought re-election won (only Tulsi Gabbard Tamayo stepped down to serve in Iraq). Among the bottom 26 representatives, only 18 are returning to the House (Eric Hamakawa chose not to run for re-election).

Of the seven House members who lost seats, five were opposed to the bottle bill (SB1611 CD1 vote 5/3/04). Viewed another way, 31% of those opposed to the bottle law were defeated (5 of 16), while only 6% of those in favor of the recycling measure failed in their re-election bid (2 of 35).

In the Senate, environmental advocates Gary Hooser (Kaua‘i) and J. Kalani English (Lāna‘i, Moloka‘i, Hāna) won handily over their rivals. Club-endorsed challenger Steven Fox came within a couple of percentage points of beating Kona Senator Paul Whalen—an incumbent with one of the worst environmental records in the Senate (33% on the Sierra Club’s Scorecard). In the primary, Club-endorsed challenger Clarence Nishihara beat entrenched Waipahu incumbent Cal Kawamoto. Kawamoto was a strong opponent to regulating sewage discharge from cruise ships and repealing automatic permit approval—a law that may allow projects to proceed despite the impacts to Hawai‘i’s environment.

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The Sierra Club’s Environmental Scorecard and other information regarding candidates is available online at www.hi.sierraclub.org/vote.

Get The Inside Scoop
Want to attend the next State Executive Committee Meeting? The meeting will be held on November 6th, starting at 9am. We will most likely meet at the Hawai‘i Trail and Mountain Club’s clubhouse in Waimanalo, Oahu, but please confirm with the Chapter office: 538-6616. All members are welcome to attend.

If you’ve been seriously injured, you may be in pain, angry and upset. Know your rights. Get legal help. Consult an experienced attorney.

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Paddling for Blue Water

by Carey Morishige

The first annual Kona Brew’s Blue Water Challenge was a great success! The two-part event was held on Sunday, November 7, 2004 at Kona Brewing Co. in Koko Marina. All proceeds from this event directly benefited the Blue Water Campaign.

The day began with exciting one-man rudderless outrigger canoe sprints in Koko Marina. The sprints brought in some of the world’s best paddlers including Olympic kayaker, Lauren Spalding, and world champion canoe paddler George Cronsteadt all the way from Tahiti. The top male and female paddlers each took home a custom-built rudderless one-man outrigger canoe donated by Kona Brewing Co. and Jamba Juice (respectively).

The awards party and Blue Water Campaign fundraiser began that evening at 5:00pm to the Hoku Award winning sounds of Maunalua. DJ ‘Billy V’, from local radio station KCCN FM100, helped to keep the evening moving, giving away the many door prizes and talking about the Blue Water Campaign. Everyone enjoyed a delicious buffet and relaxed in the laid-back island atmosphere of the waterfront, Kona Brewing Co. Later in the evening participants were treated to the mellow sounds of Two Shades of Blue as guests browsed through the Silent Auction.

The Kona Brew’s Blue Water Challenge could not have been successful without the help and dedication of the many businesses and volunteers that showed their support that evening. The funds raised by this event will be used to support the outreach efforts of the campaign, especially to the neighbor islands. Funding will also be used to allow the campaign to continue its work in keeping Hawai’i’s waters clean and healthy through the Blue Water Hotline, Blue Water Response Team and new legislation.

Mahalo nui to all of you who participated and helped in this event! What an excellent way of showing that by working together, we can help protect Hawai’i’s Blue Water.

Blue Water in 2005

The Blue Water Campaign continues to grow everyday. In one year, the campaign has informed and educated over 1000 students and members of the community, trained over 100 Blue Water Response Team members, received over 60 environmental concerns and complaints, and formed numerous partnerships and working relationships with federal, state, and county agencies, as well as non-governmental organizations! The campaign now boasts new outreach materials such as radio and TV public service announcements, a five minute informational video, a display board, children’s activities, and flyers with many more on the way! The outreach portion of the campaign continues to expand and has already planned meetings and presentations with schools on the north shore, as well as kayakers and other ocean users in 2005.

Word is slowly and steadily spreading about the Blue Water Campaign and 2005 promises to be even better! All of this could not have been possible without the help and support of the campaign’s many volunteers, sponsors and supporters!
What Does “Pledging” Mean?

By Lisa Carter

It is the best and easiest way to support the work that the Hawai‘i Chapter does for us—helping to protect Hawai‘i’s environment. It is the simplest way to put your money where your passion is. It brings the monetary resources directly to the Chapter to further your priorities and does so in a predictable manner.

It means you qualify as a Kahu ‘Āina member, the Chapter’s generous donors who are invited to exclusive events.

And frankly, pledging is a dependable way to estimate our budget accurately and therefore, helps the Hawai‘i Chapter to plan more efficiently.

Sierra Club

Pledge Hui

We’re almost there! Help us reach our goal of $1,000 in monthly pledges to support our Chapter office!

While the support of our membership dues keeps the Hawai‘i Chapter going, we need your ongoing commitment to protect Hawaii’s environment. Please consider joining the Sierra Pledge Hui and making a monthly donation to the Hawai‘i Chapter in order to ensure the continuity of our many programs. Thank you.

Account Holder Name __________________________________________________

Billing Address _________________________________________________________

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Authorization for Automatic Payment
I authorize the financial institution listed below to make automatic monthly payments to the Sierra Club, Hawai‘i Chapter in the amount of $_____________ on the ___ 1st ___ 15th of each month. A record of each gift will appear on the monthly statement issued by your bank or credit card. Sierra Club, Hawai‘i Chapter monthly gift transfers comply with U.S. law. This agreement may be terminated at any time with 30 days written notice to the Sierra Club, Hawai‘i Chapter.

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Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax-deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts.

Please mail form to Sierra Club, PO Box 2577, Honolulu, HI 96803
The big-hearted pledging members of the Chapter give an amount that equals the rent for the office now—that was our goal since we started the pledge program and thanks to you pledgers—WE’RE THERE!! Now we need to work towards paying for our phone bill and copying expenses and with your help, these overhead costs can be covered with your small monthly donation.

How a monthly pledge works is this: A predetermined amount (as small as $10 per month) is automatically taken out of your credit card each month. You choose whether this gets taken out on the 1st or the 15th of the month. It can be cancelled anytime you wish but we hope that you’ll agree how remarkably easy this is for you to give to your favorite cause. Please join us to say “thank you” to the following members who are our pledgers:

**Mahalo to our Hui Ho’ohiki Pledge Members**

**Kula Kai Members**
($10 - $25)

Phil Barnes
Miranda Camp
Lisa Keala Carter
Ann Fielding
Gary Gill
Katherine Harter
Lance Holter
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($25 - $50)

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Pamela Bunn
Avery Freed
Betty Gearen
Catherine Lau
TJ McAniff
Terese McHugh
Isaac Moriwake
Gwen Sinclair

**Wao Kanaka ($50 - $100)**

Randy Ching
Lisa Inama

**Wao Ma’ukele ($100+)**

Torrey Goodman
Robert Stehlik

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**Legislative Solutions continued from page 9**

wash occurs or the vegetation line (whichever is further mauka), increase public notification of shoreline certifications, and prohibit manipulation of the vegetation line.

**Protecting Hawai’i’s Species**

**Protecting Hawai’i’s Rights to Biodiversity**

Legislation is needed to address the issue of bioprospecting in Hawai’i—the exploration of wild plants, animals and marine life for commercially valuable genetic and biochemical resources. A bill will call for a moratorium on certain bioprospecting activities and establish a balanced commission to address environmental and cultural concerns surrounding bioprospecting, including equitable benefit sharing.

**Regulating Genetically Modified Organisms**

Legislation is needed to protect Hawai’i’s biodiversity from field testing of genetically modified organisms. Bills will prohibit the use of food crops for the genetic engineering of drugs, industrial chemicals, and other non-good materials until certain conditions are met, assign liability for injury caused by genetically engineered organisms to the person or company engaging in the damaging activity, and regulate the production of pharmaceutical crops and industrial crops and imposed civil penalties for violations.

**Stopping coastal light pollution**

This measure—which was vetoed by Governor Lingle last session—will prohibit large floodlights from shining onto the ocean water. It was introduced at the request of a fisherman who witnessed a decrease in fish where bright lights were. Such artificial lights have been documented as causing the death of hatching sea turtles, fledgling shearwaters, nocturnal flying sea birds and migratory birds. The bill is tailored to prohibit lights that are clearly intended to illuminate coastal waters for aesthetic purposes, not lights for safety or ocean navigation (lighthouses are exempt).

**Playing Defense**

We will likely need to work with the legislature to beat back attempts to weaken the state Water Code, repeal the bottle law, raid environmental funds, reduce protections of the State Land Use Law, weaken the state hazardous waste clean-up law, and allow landfills to be established over aquifers.
Join us on one of these great outings to explore our beautiful island. Note level of hiking proficiency and round trip mileage. Participants must sign liability waiver. Requested donation for members and participants under 18: $1. Donation for others: $5. www.hi.sierraclub.org/Kauai/kauai-hikes.html

See the last Mālama for January 1 & 5 outings or check website.

**Sunday, Jan 9** - Māhā’ulepū-Whale Watching Walk. South side/moderately strenuous/4 miles. Enjoy the majestic, rugged ancient sand-dune area of Māhā’ulepū, home to many coastal plants. Humpback whales in abundance offshore this time of year. We’ll shuttle cars to make this a leisurely one way hike. Alan Rachap 742-1001

**Saturday, Jan 15** - Kuilau Ridge Trail/East Shore/Easy-Moderate/4.5 miles. Valley to ridge scenic hike near Makaleha Mountain through hala, ti, & wild orchids. Vivian Hager 822-3610

**Friday, January 21** - Nounou (Sleeping Giant) Conservation Service Project/East Side/strenuous/4 miles. Tend to endangered native plants in their habitat and enjoy a moon light walk. Sierra Club members only. Bob Nishek 332-515


**Sunday, Jan 23** - ‘Anini Beach Walk and Picnic/ North Shore/easy/3 miles. Have you ever walked the entire length of ‘Anini Beach from one end to the other? Come for the beauty and exercise looking out at the longest fringe reef in the Hawaiian Islands. Karen Tilley 826-0081

**Saturday, Jan 29** - Ho’opi’i Falls/East Side/3 miles/moderate. Discover a little known trail. Walk along a river bed, climb higher through a forest, then down to view two lovely waterfalls. Vivian Hager 822-3610

**Saturday, Feb 5** - Honopū Cliff Trail /Kōke’e/strenuous 8 miles/ Hike along the beautiful ridge line of Honopū Valley at 3,500 foot elevation! We also have a stunning overlook of Nā Pali coastline at end of this scenic trail. Bring camera for incredible photos! Mitch Skaggerberg at 332-0967

**Sunday, Feb 6** - Waimea Canyon Road Cleanup/West Side/ Easy/ 2 miles, Casual morning clean up of Sierra Club’s adopted highway usually requires a little over an hour. Please help keep the gateway to Waimea Canyon clean. Ron Peyton 337-9248

**Saturday, Feb 12** - Wainininau/Kamuela Trail. Kōke’e/ Moderate 4 mile loop. Local guide Les Ventura will point out native forest restoration plants and native birds telling great stories along the way. Nice family hike. Leia Melead 822-2087

**Saturday, Feb 19** - Anahola Coastal Walk/East Shore/Easy/4 Miles. Experience the wild coastline from Anahola to Donkey Beach and back. Explorative hike along secluded beaches and beach forests. Karen Tilley 826-0081

**Sunday, Feb 20** - Full Moon Walk through National Tropical Botanical Gardens/South Side/moderate/3 miles. Opportunity to see these beautiful gardens and learn about propagation of native plants, ending on beach. Sierra Club members only. Bob Nishek 332-515

**Saturday, Feb 26** - Kalalau Trail to “Space Rock”/North Shore/Very strenuous/6.5 miles Spectacular views along Nā Pali coastline to 3.25 mile marker on the Kalalau Trail. Kathy Valier 826-7302

**Sunday, Feb 27** - Nounou (Sleeping Giant) East Side/3 miles/moderate. Hike along all the trails and see incredible sweeping views from the top. Car shuttle for one way hike. Alan Rachap 742-1001

**Saturday, March 5** - Māhā’ulepū Whale Watching Walk. South Shore/ Moderately strenuous/4 miles. Spectacular coastal walk with stunning views each step of the way! This magnificent coastline is both unique and fascinating. See humpback whales off shore. Car shuttle for leisurely one way hike. Mitch Skaggerberg 332-0967


**Sunday, March 20** - Waipo’o Falls/Kōke’e/ Moderately strenuous/2.5 miles. Enjoy this spectacular hike with its awesome views of the canyon not seen from any other Waimea Canyon lookout. Alan Rachap 742-1001

**Wednesday, March 23** - Full Moon National Tropical Botanical Gardens/South Side/moderate/3 miles. Opportunity to see these exquisite gardens and learn about propagation of native plants. We end on the beach under a full moon. Sierra Club members only. Bob Nishek 332-515

**Saturday March 26** - Alexander Dam and Kāhili Mt./South side/Strenuous/10 miles. A chance to explore the mountains behind Kalāheo, ending with views of the south shore from Kāhili Mt. Hikers must sign up by March 1st. Kathy Valier. 8267302.

**Saturday, April 2** - Ho’opi’i Falls/ East Side/3 miles/moderate. Lovely forest trail along a river leading to two beautiful waterfalls. A real treat! Leia Melead 822-2087

**WOMEN ARE ADVISED NOT TO CAMP OR HIKE ALONE ON KAUAI.**
Outings are conducted in accordance with Sierra Club outing policies. Participants need to recognize the authority of the leader and plan to remain with the group for the entire outing. Sierra Club carries no participant accident insurance. In order to participate in one of Sierra Club’s outings, you will need to sign a liability waiver. If you would like to read a copy of the waiver prior to the outing, please call (415) 977-5630, or see www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms.

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

Each participant should carry a minimum of one quart of water, hat/visor, lunch, sunscreen, and insect repellent, rain gear. Wear sturdy shoes with traction. Additional items will be listed with the outing description.

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

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

Saturday, January 8 - Ka‘āha to Kālu‘e Day Hike (E)(C) D = 10 miles, E = sea level
Hot, strenuous, full-day to remote beach. 2 quarts water, etc…swim/snorkel gear. Contact leader Ken Mondal (959-4814); co-leaders Debbi Uchida (985-7303) and Juliet Mondal (959-4814)

Friday-Sunday, January 14-16 - Makalawena Beach Overnight Campout (E)(C) D = 3 miles/day, E = sea level +/- 500’
4x4 vehicles needed to access campsite. Bring water for 2 days, tent and camping equipment, food, etc…. Reservations required. Contact leaders Sarah or Jan Moon (935-3475).

Saturday, January 22 – Näpau Overlook Day Hike (E) D = 10 miles, E = +/-1000’
Meet at Park Visitor Center. 2 liters of water, etc…., binoculars. Contact Leader Ken Mondal (959-4814) for meeting time. Co-leaders Debbi Uchida (985-7303) and Juliet Mondal (959-4814).

Saturday, February 5 – Miloli‘i to Kapu‘a Bay Kayak (E) D = 7-8 miles
Kayaking experience necessary. Leader approval and PFD required. 2 quarts water, etc…. Contact leader Joel Hirsch (929-9393); co-leader Paul Campbell (965-5460).

Saturday, February 12 - Kaloli Service Trip (S) D = 4 miles, E = sea level
Hike, clear brush & debris on historic Old Government Trail in Puna. Bring hand tools, etc.… Contact leader Roberta Brashear (966-7002).

Saturday, February 19 - Lokoaka Trail Service Trip (S) D = 0.5 miles, E = sea level
Clear trails, plant natives. Tools, gloves, water, insect repellant provided. Wear sturdy boots or shoes, protective clothing, swimsuits. Leaders, Sarah and Jan Moon (935-3475)

Saturday-Monday, February 19-21 – Hawai‘i Volcanoes National Park Coastal Backpack (E)(C) D = 17 miles, E = 2700’ down to sea level
Two nights/three days. Participants must arrange carpooling for start/end of hike. Previous backpacking experience, sturdy boots, leader approval required. Contact leader Guy Nicholson (938-2399); co-leader Diane Ware (967-8642).

Saturday, February 26 – Kalōpā State Forest Service Trip (S) E = 2250’
Remove invasive plants. Bring tools, gloves, etc…. Contact leader Roberta Brashear (966-7002) for meeting place, time and more information.

Saturday, March 5 - Red Road, Mango Road, Warm Pond Bike Ride (F) D = 27, E = a few 10’ hills
Bike southern coast at 10 mph. Required: mountain bike, helmet, spare tube, pump, lunch, two liters water, swimsuit. Contact leaders Paul Campbell (965-5460) or Diane Ware (967-8642)

Friday-Sunday, March 11-13 - Kal‘alu‘alu Bay Hike, Mountain Bike & Camping Trip (S)(F)(E)(C) D = 16 miles; E = coastline 4x4 vehicles support all to Kal‘alu‘alu Bay campsite. Service part=pile up trash 1-2 hours/day for later tractor pickup by. Hot, windy conditions! Contact leader Diane Ware (967-8642), co-leader Gloria Amaral (985-8890).

Saturday, March 19 – Hämäkua Ditch Day Hike (White Road) (F)(E)(C) D = 4+ miles; E = +/- 1500’
Leisurely 4-hour hike. Possible muddy conditions. Bring sturdy shoes, rain gear, hat with strap, sunscreen, 2 liters water and lunch. Contact leader Paul Campbell (965-5460); co-leader Sunny LaPlante (964-5017).

Saturday-Sunday, March 25-27 - Hualalai Summit Overnight (E) D = 10 miles round trip, E = 5000’ +/- 2600’
Hike up Hualalai with daypacks. Gear, tents, food are trucked up in support vehicles. Tent camping at 7800 ft. High winds, rain, cloudy weather, low night temperatures possible. Challenging: for experienced hikers only. Participants must sign liability release prior to trip. Reservations required. Group size limited. Fee for central commissary (2 breakfasts, 2 dinners) and trucking is $50.00 per person. Hikers responsible for own lunches. Contact leader Scott Mandel (322-0718); co-leaders Diane Ware (967-8642) and Sunny LaPlante (964-5017).
Sunday, January 2
Ka Iwi Beach Cleanup
2 mi/Moderate/ Shoreline/East O‘ahu
8:00-10:00 a.m. Reservations required. Free t-shirt and refreshments. Start the New Year with a clean sweep of the Ka Iwi coastline. Meet in the parking lot at Sandy Beach at the east end of the restrooms. Lisa Keala Carter 722-8727, Deborah Blair, Arlene Buchholz, asst. Waymond Ngai

Sunday, January 9
Kuli‘ou‘ou Ridge
4mi/Strenuous/Ridge/Kuli‘ou‘ou
Enjoy great views of Waimānalo from the Ko‘olau Ridge after you've made the final steep ascent. Sharon Reilly 842-1995, Randy Ching

Sunday, January 16
Kuaokalā
8mi/Moderate/Ridge/Mākaha
Reservations required by January 9. This is a great hike along the Wai‘anae Range that provides wonderful views of Mākua Valley and west O‘ahu. Not for those uneasy about heights. Ed Mersino 455-8193, Gwen Sinclair

Friday, January 21st, 6:30pm
YWCA Downtown Honolulu.
Appalachian Trail Slide Show. Let Club members Randy Ching and Phil Barnes take you on a photo journey tracing their steps along the complete Appalachian Trail that they completed last fall. Free.

Saturday, January 22
Sierra Seminar: Campbell Wildlife Refuge
2 mi/Easy/Kahuku
Reservations and refundable deposit required. Join us for this interpretive trip to see native Hawaiian and migratory birds. Annette Ka‘ohela‘li‘i 235-5431, Maile Sakamoto

Sunday, January 30
‘Ihi‘hilau‘akea Crater
3mi/Moderate/Ridge/Koko Head
We may spot some humpback whales from above Hanauma Bay as we make our way into a crater to view rare native plants. Sue Garner 988-0481, Betsy Weatherford 526-3986, Bill Aoki 247-4035

Saturday, February 5, 2005, 9am – 12pm.
Blue Water Response Team Training
Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary Conference Room (6600 Kalaniana‘ole Highway, 3rd Floor) Join the Blue Water Response Team, a rapid response statewide volunteer network under the Sierra Club, Hawai‘i Chapter’s Blue Water Campaign. Learn about various water quality issues in Hawai‘i and receive free training on how to spot and document potential water violations. FREE & open to the general public. REGISTER before January 28th by contacting Carey Morishige at 537-9019 or email: bluewatercampaign@verizon.net

Saturday, February 5
Pāhole Natural Area Reserve Service Project
3mi/Moderate/Ridge/Mokulē‘ia
Reservations Required. Want to get a feeling of accomplishment and learn about rare native plants in a gorgeous location? We’re building trails, helping control invasive plants, and outplanting native plants on this service project. Reece Olayvar 456-3049

Sunday, February 6
Family hike: Mānana
4 mi/Easy/Ridge/Pearl City
1 pm meeting at mauka end of Komo Mai Drive in Pacific Palisades. Pleasant hike through big trees and out on a ridge

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

O‘ahu Group Outings Information
Unless otherwise stated in the Outing description, participants meet at 8:00 a.m. at the back porch of the Church of the Crossroads, 2510 Bingham Street. Do not leave your car in the church parking lot. Participants in windward outings which are designated with an asterisk may also meet at 8:15 am at the First Hawaiian Bank parking area in the windward City Shopping Center, (Intersection of Likelike and Kamehameha Highway in Kane‘ohe). Requested donation for participants age 14 and under and Sierra Club members with a membership card is $1; donation for all others is $3. Participants under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.
with great views. Kids must be 4 and up unless you have a child carrier. Suzan Harada and Reese Liggett 732-4489

**Sunday, February 6**
Sierra Seminar: Pu‘u Kaua
5mi/Strenuous/Summit/Kunia
Wow! Look at the stunning native plants on this trail to a striking peak in the center of the Wai‘anae Range. Leader training credit. Arlene Buchholz 988-9806, Sherine Boomla

**Saturday, February 12**
MCBH Kā‘e‘ohe Bay Service Project
2mi/Moderate/Coast/Kā‘e‘ohe
Reservations required. Marine Corps Base Hawai‘i, Kā‘e‘ohe Bay has an award-winning environmental program and have asked Sierra Club to help clear a wetland of mangrove plants to create habitat for Hawai‘i’s endangered water birds. Because MCBH is a secured military facility, we must provide your name & SSN to the base in advance, and we will send you a waiver, which you must bring with you. Annette Ka‘ohelauli‘i 235-5431, annettesadventures@juno.com

**Sunday, February 13**
Kaunala West
5mi/Moderate/Contour/Pūpūkea
Native plants are the highlight on this trail, with beautiful views of central O‘ahu. Gina Goodman 638-7853, Randy Ching

**Sunday, February 20**
Kalāwahine Trail to Pacific Heights
7 mi/Moderate/Ridge/Tantalus
We start at the top of Tantalus and hike on Kalāwahine, Pauoa Flats and Nu‘uanu Trails to the back of Pacific Heights. Great lunch spot with view of Nu‘uanu Valley and downtown Honolulu. Randy Ching 942-0145, Gwen Sinclair

**Sunday, February 27**
Waimalu Ditch
6mi/Moderate/Valley/Waimalu
Let’s celebrate on this swimming hole hike. Will your boots get wet? Of course! Ed Mersino 455-8193, Randy Ching

**Saturday, March 5**
Ka‘ena Point Natural Area Reserve Service Project
1-2mi/Easy/Coast/Mokulē‘ia
Reservations required. See January 8 for details. Annette Ka‘ohelauli‘i 235-5431

**Sunday, March 20**
Heleakalā
6 mi/VERY STRENUOUS/Ridge/Nānākuli
7:30 am meeting time. Not for those uneasy about heights. Climb to 1,900 feet in the first hour, then descend 1,000 feet before making the final ascent to 2,200 feet. Bring LOTS OF WATER and sun protection. Randy Ching 942-0145, Dave Iacobucci

**Sunday, March 27**
Makapu‘u Easter Breakfast Hike
2mi/Easy/Contour/Makapu‘u
Our traditional Easter outing. Meet at 7:00 a.m. and bring a breakfast dish to share. Arlene Buchholz 988-9806, Maile Sakamoto

**Saturday, April 2**
Pāhole Natural Area Reserve Service Project
Reservations required. See February 5 for details. Betsy Weatherford 526-3986

**Sunday, April 3**
Family hike: Wailupe Gulch
3 mi/Easy/Valley/‘Āina Haina
Meet at 1 pm at the mauka end of Hao St. in ‘Āina Haina. Mostly woods with gradual ascent to a lookout. Kids over 4 only unless you have a child carrier. Suzan Harada and Reese Liggett 732-4489

**Sunday, April 10**
Kaipapa‘u Ridge
6 miles/Strenuous/between Hau‘ula and Lā‘ie
This loop hike on the Windward side begins at Koloa Gulch and climbs steeply up the side of the ridge between Koloa and Kaipapa‘u Gulches. It then returns down the ridge to complete the loop. Expect a steep slippery scramble of about 1,500 feet of elevation gain and loss with great views along the ridge. Bob Moore 942-2734, Randy Ching
O‘ahu Group Service Projects

O‘ahu Group Service Projects provide an excellent opportunity for environmental volunteers to experience unique places that are often closed to the public. To apply for any O‘ahu Group Service Project, mail a $25 (per person) deposit check, payable to the leader listed first in the schedule, together with your mailing address, phone number and e-mail address. Reservations cannot be made by phone or e-mail. Trip fees are estimated to range from about $210.00 to $235.00 and will cover the cost of round trip airfare, ground transportation, meals and a portion of the leaders’ expenses. It is important to make your deposit early, as many trips fill quickly.

On a service project, we normally work for the preserve for two days and have one day free for hiking or other recreational activities. The participants will share in the preparation of meals and clean up. Participants will live together in facilities that are probably more cramped and rustic than they are used to. Therefore, it is important that the participants have a positive and cooperative attitude and willingness for teamwork.

All trip participants are subject to approval by the leaders based upon the participant’s experience, disposition, and physical condition. Deposits will be returned to any participants who are not accepted. Where there are a large number of applicants, the leaders will have the option to give preference to current Sierra Club members and O‘ahu residents. You are welcome to contact the leaders for more information.

2005 Schedule:

**Easter Weekend**
March 25 to 27, 2005 (Friday to Sunday)
**Manukā Natural Area Reserve, Hawai‘i**
– Leader: Arlene Buchholz, 3138 Paty Drive, Honolulu, HI 96822; 988-9806; snovakz@juno.com and Randy Ching; 942-0145; oahurandy@yahoo.com

**Memorial Day Weekend**
May 28 to 30, 2005 (Saturday to Monday)
**Hakalau National Wildlife Refuge, Hawai‘i**
– Leader: Bob Moore, 1634 Makiki Street, Apt. 906, Honolulu, HI 96822; 942-2734; akepa@earthlink.net; and Mel Yoshioka; (work) 587-0879; mhyosh88@hotmail.com

**Kamehameha Day Weekend**
June 10 to 12, 2005 (Friday to Sunday)

**Labor Day Weekend**
September 3 to 5, 2005 (Saturday to Monday)
**Hakalau National Wildlife Refuge, Hawai‘i**
– Leader: Arlene Buchholz, 3138 Paty Drive, Honolulu, HI 96822; 988-9806; snovakz@juno.com and Sherine Boomla, 739-3936; bsherine@yahoo.com

**Columbus Day or Discoverers’ Day Weekend**

**Independence Day Weekend**
July 2 to 4, 2005 (Saturday to Monday)
**Hakalau National Wildlife Refuge, Hawai‘i**
– Leader: Sharon Reilly, 1779 Akone Place, Honolulu, HI 96819; 842-1995; shareily@aol.com

**Admission Day Weekend**
August 19 to 21, 2005 (Friday to Sunday)
**Kōke‘e Resources Conservation Program, Kaua‘i**
– Leader: Deborah Blair, 1749 Lime Street, Apt. D, Honolulu, HI 96826; 955-4168; deborahblair1@mac.com and Reese Olayvar; 456-3049; olayvar@earthlink.net

Limahuli National Tropical Botanical Garden, Kaua‘i—Leaders: Reese Olayvar, 2137 ‘Auhuhu Street, Pearl City, HI 96782; 456-3049; olayvar@earthlink.net and Deborah Blair; 955-4168; deborahblair1@mac.com

Pictured atop Kaluanui on an October family hike by Oahu Group Outings: Dillon Pries, Alice Liggett, Rebecca Simms, and Anton Pries—what are they grinning about? Why the joy of outings, of course.
October 8 to 10, 2005 (Saturday to Monday)
Kalaupapa National Historic Park, Moloka‘i
– Leader: Sylvianne Yee, 1708 Kumakani Loop, Honolulu, HI 96821; 373-3062; syee@sgi-hi.com and Maile Sakamoto; 946-5712; mailesan@yahoo.com

Veteran’s Day Weekend
November 11 to 13, 2005 (Friday to Sunday)
Limahuli National Tropical Botanical Garden, Kaua‘i
Leaders: Mel Yoshioka, 94-260 Kaholo Street, Mililani, HI 96789; (work) 587-0879; mhyosh88@hotmail.com and Bob Moore; 942-2734; akepa@earthlink.net

Köke‘e Resources Conservation Program, Kaua‘i
This service project is located within the Köke‘e State Park. The work will probably involve the removal of invasive alien plants threatening the rare native ecosystem. The facilities are at the historic 1935 CCC camp buildings with electricity, bunk beds, indoor toilets and hot showers. Since the site is at 3,500 to 4,000 feet in elevation, warm clothes and good raingear are essential. Free time activities may include hiking on one of the many great trails in the park.

Limahuli National Tropical Botanical Garden, Kaua‘i
The garden is located on Kaua‘i’s north shore near Hā‘ena and extends over 1,000 acres of tropical valley covering three distinct ecological zones. The garden is an educational and research facility with extensive plantings of native Hawaiian plants. Ongoing programs in watershed protection and studies in plant and animal stream life are conducted at this site. The work will probably involve removal of invasive exotic plants and replanting the area with native plants. The facilities are in a modern house with electricity, a full kitchen, bunk beds or futons for sleeping, bathroom facilities and hot showers. Free time activities may include walking on the nearby Hā‘ena Beach and hiking on nearby trails.

Manukā Natural Area Reserve, Hawai‘i
Manukā contains one of the few relatively undisturbed ancient native lowland forests in Hawai‘i. The work may include clearing alien weeds from a 150-acre kipuka on the slopes of Mauna Loa. We will stay in a three-bedroom cabin at 1,600 feet elevation at Kiolaka’a with hot showers, flush toilet, a kitchen with a gas range, but no electricity. There is bed space for five, floor space for several more and plenty of tent space on the lawn. Free time activities may include hiking or bird watching.

Hakalau National Wildlife Refuge, Hawai‘i
The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which manages this refuge, is creating makai-mauka corridors of native vegetation across open pasture lands which native forest birds can use in their migrations up and down the slopes of Mauna Kea. The service projects usually involve the removal of alien plant species and the planting native species. Accommodations are at a well-equipped cabin at the 6,200-foot elevation with electricity, running water, a flush toilet, a hot shower, kitchen, and bunk beds with mattresses. Participants need to bring their own sleeping bags. At this high elevation, cold inclement weather is always a possibility, so proper warm clothing and footwear and good quality raingear are mandatory. Raingear can be borrowed from the Refuge. The free time activity may include a hike in a koa-‘ōhi’a forest to observe native forest birds, some of which are on the endangered species list.

Kalaupapa National Historical Park, Moloka‘i
Located on Kalaupapa Peninsula at the base of 1,600-foot high sea cliffs, this national historical park was once the site of total isolation for the victims of Hansen’s Disease. This national park includes the settlement of Kalaupapa, the archaeological remains of the settlement of Kalawao, a volcanic crater, the Kalaupapa Lighthouse and acres of open land. Accommodations will include small bedrooms with twin beds for three people each, indoor bathrooms, hot showers and kitchen and dining facilities. The work will be determined at a later date. Free time activities may include a tour of the peninsula.

Service Project Descriptions:
The Hawai‘i Service Trip Program (HSTP) is the action-oriented arm of the Sierra Club philosophy; that the active protection of our natural environment is a primary and essential task. This philosophy has special significance in Hawai‘i.

Although each trip is unique they all follow a general format. Ten to twenty people work on a project in a wilderness area for a day at a time or up to two weeks. The trip is divided between work and recreation. This may include exploring the area, swimming, or just relaxing. We uphold a wilderness conservation ethic and stress togetherness, hard work, responsibility and good times. As a general rule, a Service Trip completes a useful project and leaves lasting impressions on its participants.

Service Trip participants pay a $200, $150 for students, fee to cover administration costs; the rest comes from the Service Trip Program through donations and fund raisers. Often expenses have been supported by the agencies such as the Hawai‘i State Division of Forestry, the Hawai‘i Department of State Parks, the National Park Service, and The Nature Conservancy. However the cost to a trip participant may vary.

Any person with an open mind and love for Hawai‘i’s wilderness areas, a willingness to work hard, and an ability and desire to live in wilderness conditions is appreciated on our trips. In addition, one must be in reasonable physical condition to work and live in the wilderness and still enjoy it.

**Upcoming Trips:**

**January 2-8, 2005**  
Waikamoi, Maui  
Contact: Jamie Tanino  
Restoring the popular Waikamoi Loop Trail off the Hāna Highway.  
Cost: $200 per person, $150 for students (includes all transportation, food and lodging).

**March 20-26, 2005**  
Makaloa or Kahakuloa, Maui  
Contact: Jackson Bauer (jbauer@alumni.hpu.edu)  
Trail restoration in remote areas of Maui.  
Cost: $200 per person, $150 for students (includes all transportation, food and lodging).

**June 12-18, 2005** (tentative)  
Makaloa or Kahakuloa, Maui  
Contact: Jackson Bauer (jbauer@alumni.hpu.edu)  
Trail restoration in remote areas of Maui.  
Cost: $200 per person, $150 for students (includes all transportation, food and lodging).
Calendar:
Monthly meetings will continue to be held at Moanalua High School on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM. The fall hiker’s workshop was held on October 2, 2004 at Hanauma Bay and the annual Halloween Camp was again held at Ho’omaluhia Botanical Garden on October 23-24, 2004. Both events were well attended and details are listed below. We are planning a leadership training camp at Coconut Island in February to bring our hike leaders and school advisors up-to-date on current national requirements for Sierra Club Outings. This year’s Ecology Camp will be during spring break (March 20-25) and will take students and staff to the Island of Moloka‘i for 6 days. The year will end with our usual “End of the Year Banquet” where we will recognize outstanding achievement of student and adult participants.

Fall Hiker’s Workshop:
This year’s workshop focused on the coastal strand and the coral reef ecosystems and their significance to the sustainability of this near shore environmental resource. Over 100 participated in this one-day series of workshops and activities. Fred Nakaguma introduced students to the coastal plants in a tour of the park’s unique flora. Carey Morishige introduced students and teachers to our Blue Water Campaign through an interactive group presentation and an excellent power point program. The intricacies of the coral reef system and the geological history of the bay was presented by the Hanauma Bay staff in their new education center. These sessions were followed by a hike up to the top of Koko Head Crater overlooking ‘Ihi‘lau‘akea Crater and offering a spectacular view of the Ka Iwi coast and Diamond Head. After lunch schools headed down to the bay for a refreshing swim and some great snorkeling.

Halloween Camp:
This year’s festivities were hosted by Erron Yoshioka and his Moanalua Science Club. We held this annual event at Ho‘omaluhia Botanical Garden’s Kahua Nui campsite. Schools set up camp and renewed friendships continued on page 22
Kaua‘i Group Report

by Judy Dalton

Pāpa‘a Beach access lawsuit
The County of Kaua‘i was sued by the owner of the land adjacent to Pāpa‘a Bay back in July when the County claimed that there was a government road leading through the property down to the beach. On Nov 5th The Garden Island newspaper reported that a federal court judge declaring the County hadn’t made any attempt to claim the road as a public right-of-way through legal action dismissed the lawsuit. The Administration may need some encouragement to continue working on access through the property to Pāpa‘a Beach.

Portion of Wailua Beach leased for commercial use
The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) has been leasing a 5,300 sq ft parcel of Wailua Beach land adjacent to the old Seashell Restaurant for only $130 a month. Since the month-to-month lease is revocable, we would like to see a transfer of the lease to the County of Kaua‘i for public use. According to the DLNR’s hierarchy of use guidelines the public has priority over commercial interests on state lands.

County and State agencies fail to enforce
An unpermitted wall blocking access to Wainiha Beach continues to exist since the owner has not responded to our Planning Department’s violation notices to remove the obstruction. The DLNR hasn’t followed through to correct any of the violations either. This same property has illegal plantings on the beach that have created a steep slope and drop-off. The vegetation has also encroached down to the water’s edge causing a hazardous narrowing of lateral access for people trying to walk along the beach.

Peter Young, of the DLNR, inspected violations at the site including rat poison and compost used for the illegal plantings on the beach, both of which are on the verge of being dumped onto the spectacular reef fronting the property with the advent of winter storms. The Department of Health Clean Water Branch is unable to act until the compost and contaminants are washed into the ocean.

DLNR Rules and State Statues are inconsistent
5th Circuit Court Judge Masuoka affirmed a DLNR shoreline certification decision on a Wainiha shoreline parcel (Lot 2) stating that Hawai‘i Revised Statutes (HRS) and Hawai‘i Administrative Rules (HAR) are consistent. In fact, they are not since the Rules do not reflect the Statute. HAR gives precedence to the vegetation line while HRS mandates that equal weight be given to both the debris line and vegetation line, whichever one is more mauka.

When the decision was appealed, Judge Masuoka failed to overturn the prior ruling in Diamond vs. State of Hawai‘i. The next stop is the Hawai‘i Supreme Court. In the meantime, the Planning Commission has granted a building permit for this property instead of waiting for the Supreme Court decision. The County is allowing construction to occur in a known high wave hazard area, which can lead to beach loss.

A forgotten trail cleared
By Kathy Valier
My connection with ‘Ökolehao trail began in the mid-80s when I included a description of it in a small hiking booklet. It is a gem of a trail that few people know about with its views of Hanalei Bay and waterfalls. After Hurricane ‘Iniki when many trees blew down across it and only hunters were keeping a narrow path open, the State no longer maintained it as State tax revenues declined in the 1990s. Funding for trail crews evaporated and I was concerned that we would lose one of the few trails on the north shore, so I suggested the Sierra Club adopt it. For 8 long years we hauled weed whackers up the 1,200’ climb to clear the trail. The rewards were cool breezes, panoramic views, and a chance to be among the native plants near the top.

With improved funding and more trail crew on staff now, the State will hopefully resume maintenance of the trail. Many thanks to Bob Nishek for his loyal support in the project and all the others who showed up to run equipment or carry gas cans or clear debris from the trail. The Club has kept this north shore trail from fading into obscurity.

NOTE: We are much indebted to Kathy for her dedicated contribution. You can join Kathy on a hike up ‘Ökolehao Trail. See our Outings (page 9).
Updates On Maui Conservation Issues

Mālama Kahakai: Legacy Beach Campaign Update

Rep. Ed Case has invited several other House members to tour proposed National Seashore sites on Maui at Keoneʻoʻio and the North shore. Local Maui activists will join the Congressmen for the site tour, which is expected in the next several months. The purpose of the tour is to encourage other House members to support Rep Case’s bills to create national seashores in both areas.

North Shore Heritage Park/ Pā‘ia By-Pass

2 community meetings held and a third scheduled for Jan 2005 to work towards a cooperative vision of open space/transportation corridor planning for Maui’s North shore. County planning Dept & Council as well as A&B Properties (major landowner in area) and diverse community groups all participating.

Goal:
Base upcoming Community Plan update for the area on broad community input that reflects local desire to connect preservation of space and creation of transportation corridors AND alternatives (including lite rail) on the North shore. Legislature set aside $36 million for Pā‘ia bypass in the last session. Agreement on future route is essential, if community wants bypass to go ahead. Nearly 1,000 postcards have been signed to support a North Shore Heritage Park.

Pali to Puamana Park-Way

Maui Group supports a public/ private campaign to create an eight-mile long coastal park along the West Maui shoreline from the Pali tunnel to the beginning of Lahaina town. Present Honoapi'ilani Hwy to move inland and lands seaward of the new road would be park. County Council recently approved funding for the first 100-acre section in Ukumehame.

Keoneʻoʻio/ʻAhihi-Kīnau

Slow progress. Keoniʻoʻio/ʻAhihi-Kīnau task force members working on management plan. A Ranger is now on duty and educational kiosks are proposed. Plans for National Seashore will be uphill to accomplish under Republican Congress and White House

Makena Resort Rezoning Proposal

Rezoning request hung up in legal technicalities. Big local election issue… Victorious South Maui Council candidate Michelle Anderson opposes the rezoning while her opponent, Ron Vaught, supported it. Council expected to vote in early 2005 after another round of heated public testimony.

Water Issues

In October Maui Tomorrow and Hui o Na Wai ʻEha presented photographs & videos of “dumped” stream waters from ʻĪao, Waikapu, Waiʻehu and Waiheʻe streams in Central Maui. EarthJustice filed a petition with the state Water Commission to return “wasted” waters to streams. State Water Commission held a well-attended public hearing Oct 28 on applications for use of water from ʻĪao Aquifer. MG supports efforts to bring back natural flows & native stream life to Maui’s legendary streams.

GMO “Pharming”

GMO activists continue to show the provocative film “Future of Food” to Council members, community service organizations et al., to build public support for county ordinance requiring GMO open field locations to be known and monitored.

Kahului Harbor “Improvements” -Super Ferry

Kahului Harbor area is heavily used by canoe paddling teams and surfers. Super ferry program would require new docking construction and shut off majority of harbor area waters from public use. Hundreds have attended the two public hearings held on the issue. All called for the state to do a thorough Environmental Impact Study (EIS) on the proposed ferry service and the structural changes to the harbor it will require. SC supports this same position.

West Maui Development

30 new projects/16,000 new units proposed with additional 45,000 residents. Most would override 1996 community plan and convert ag lands to luxury estates. MG working with Maui Tomorrow and other activists to advocate for a better plan that minimizes impacts. Maui County Council recently turned down Puʻunoua, a
Aloha everyone. We’ve made it through election day; unfortunately for the environment, the national picture may seem a little bleak right now. Locally, we were quite successful with many of our Moku Loa Group endorsed candidates being elected. Mahalo to all of you who made phone calls and got out the VOTE! Your vote does count.

The Outrigger Telescope Project: Another View
By Dr. Gregory Brenner, Pacific Analytics – Natural Resource Consultants

I am a natural resource consultant who was asked to assist in the preparation of the EIS being produced by NASA for the Outrigger Telescope project. I have a PhD in entomology and a Master’s degree in statistics, and have been providing natural resource consulting services for more than fifteen years. I was the lead government scientist during the 1997/98 arthropod assessment of the Mauna Kea Science Reserve, and was hired by the Bishop Museum to compile and analyze the data, and to prepare the final reports for that assessment. I lived on the Big Island for five years studying the ecology of native Hawaiian arthropods. I have been studying the high altitude ecosystem on Mauna Kea since 1997 and have been monitoring Wēkiu bug populations quarterly for the past three years.

While we all have our biases, of which we often are not even aware, I attempt to limit my own bias by relying on scientific data and remaining objective in my analyses. My motivation is a sincere desire to promote arthropod conservation, and I have dedicated my professional career to working toward that goal.

A recent article that appeared in the Spring Sierra Club Newsletter criticized me and my participation in the Outrigger Telescope project. The project involves adding four to six 1.8 meter outrigger telescopes to the twin Keck 10-meter telescopes to enhance the scientific capabilities of the world’s largest telescope. The initial proposal and design for these outriggers involved the disturbance of Wēkiu bug habitat. I contacted the project managers and offered my services to help them change the design to one that minimizes impacts to Wēkiu bugs.

Determined to prevent further harm, a team of scientists asked my help in making modifications that reduced the amount of habitat disturbance by almost ninety percent. In addition, recommendations made in my mitigation report (available at: http://www.statpros.com/Wekiu_Bug/html) were embraced by the project and incorporated into their plans.

A commitment has been made by the Keck Observatory in both the permit application and in the Draft EIS (available at: http://planetquest.jpl.nasa.gov/Outrigger/outrigger_index.html) to incorporate all of my recommended protection measures as provisions in all construction contracts, and to provide oversight of contractor activities to ensure compliance. In addition, Wēkiu bugs and their habitat will be monitored during the construction and for ten years after to detect impacts. For that monitoring effort, I developed non-lethal Wēkiu bug traps that cause only a two percent mortality, compared with one hundred percent mortality of traditional trapping methods.

Quarterly monitoring reports are already available to the public, and will continue to be, to make the process completely open to view. In addition, NASA has committed to funding a study of Wēkiu bug ecology if the outrigger project is approved.

Studying insects has given us a growing appreciation of their place in the ecology of our world. Astronomy has given us a new perspective our place in the universe. As astronomers make spectacular discoveries that bring us closer to a unified description of all creation—the origins of matter and life in the cosmos—they are also learning to protect the gifts of life Mother Nature has given us here on earth. I feel that the astronomers I have worked with have increased their awareness, and will protect the ecosystem on Mauna Kea while they build their tools to explore space.

In Memoriam: Annette Felix

Moku Loa Group has lost a dear friend and enthusiastic outing leader. Annette Felix died on October 5 after a long battle with cancer. She was a dedicated outing leader, backpacker and a true friend of the environment. She was passionate about her hikes and had been working on a hiking guide book which included descriptions of many of her favorite hikes in Hawai‘i. She will surely be missed and our thoughts go out to her family. Aloha.
Annual Pā‘ina Silent Auction Fundraiser a Huge Success!

Thanks so much to everyone who helped make this year’s annual O’ahu Group Pā‘ina the most successful in our history! We had tremendous support from community artists, businesses, friends and members of the Sierra Club.

Special thanks to: Steph Chang, who kept us organized and on schedule; my mom Renee, who flew in from Minnesota to help me survive; to Ellyn Tong, who donated the fabulous invitation design; to Laura Edmunds and friend for their lovely hula performances; to Reese Liggett, a.k.a. head bartender; to Randy Ching for his boundless energy throughout the event; to Stephanie Karle for the fantastic auction display; to Christine Ogura for her organized assistance; to Carey Morishige who perservered on the credit card operative; to the many volunteers who made this event happen; to Joe Teipel for his humorous live auction performance; and to Jeff Mikulina for his generous encouragement.

The evening was a huge success, and the Sierra Club O’ahu Group is lucky to have such strong support!

The O’ahu Group will now be able to continue its mission next year—to organize and support local grassroots conservation work and advocacy.

**Oahu Members:**

*Vote on page 23!*

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**Sierra Club members do it outside!**

JOIN US!

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☐ Check enclosed, made payable to the Sierra Club

Please charge my ☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa

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Cardholder Name________________________________
Card Number____________________________________

Membership Categories:   Individual     Joint
INTRODUCTORY           ☐ $25
REGULAR                 ☐ $39 ☐ $47

Contributions, gifts and dues to the Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include $7.50 for a subscription to SIERRA magazine and $1.00 for the Hawai`i Chapter Malama newsletter.

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Boulder, CO 80322-2968
on Saturday morning and then used the afternoon to explore the park and do some community service work at the lake. Fishing and hiking were also offered during the afternoon. Over 180 students participated in this event from seven different schools. The evening program included a costume contest and a pumpkin-carving contest followed by spooky stories and a fright hike.

**Leader/Advisor Training Program:**

John Cummings is chairing a group of seasoned hike leaders who are putting together a weekend leadership training camp. We will be offering this camp at Coconut Island, which has excellent accommodations that can be made available to non-profit groups. The dates are Feb 19-21, 2005. Preference will be given to High School Hikers and Hawaii Service Trip leaders but space may be available for other interested club members. Sierra Club has put together an extensive training program for hike leaders and we are adapting it to our local conditions to bring our leaders and advisors up-to-date on all the new Sierra Club requirements.

**Ecology Camp:**

Details of this year’s ecology camp were distributed at the August ExComm Meeting. This is going to be an advanced version of our usual program. It is going to involve a six-day trip to Moloka‘i and focus on subsistence living practiced by many of the island’s residents. We are hoping to involve many of these residents in our program. We will base-camp at the Waiālua Pavilion on the Southeast shore of the island. Day trips will include Mo‘omomi sand dunes, Hālawa Valley, Kahinapōhaku Fish Pond and of course Kalaupapa. We are planning to take about 40 participants at a cost of $16,000. We have been busy trying to raise the money for this through grants and local fund raising efforts. If you would like to support this effort you can send your donation to High School Hikers, c/o Bob Keane, 94-481 Alamea Pl., Mililani, HI 96789. Please contact Bob at 623-3208 or keaner001@hawaii.rr.com if you have any questions.

**Maui Group Report**

“fast track” housing project on West Maui ag lands that have no public water or sewer system and lie along a severely congested highway. Developers promised the project would supply badly needed “affordable” housing. MG conservation chair, Lance Holter, did the math and found the developers were minimizing services, lot and house sizes while maximizing profits.

**Mayor’s Cruise Ship Task Force**

has been studying the industry for nearly a year. A draft report on the possibility of doubling the volume of cruise ship passengers appeared to minimize environmental impacts and emphasize economic benefits. Public hearings this month were attended by many citizens who felt the industry needed to be regulated and monitored to avoid ongoing environmental impacts to both water and air quality.
Sierra Club, O‘AHU GROUP Executive Committee Election
Four (4) Positions - Those elected will take office in January 2005

In order for your ballot to be valid and to ensure the secrecy of the ballot, please do the following:
1. Two voting boxes are provided. Joint memberships should use both boxes. Single memberships must use only one box or the ballot will be invalidated.
2. If your ballot does not contain your address label on the back, please include your name and address on the ballot–only current Sierra Club members are eligible to vote. Your vote remains strictly confidential.
3. Stamp and mail ballot in a separate envelope to Sierra Club, Hawai‘i Chapter, P.O. Box 2577, Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96803. Ballots must be received by Friday, January 21, 2005.

The Executive Committee establishes GROUP policies, coordinates activities, sets the Group budget, raises funds, recruits members, makes political endorsements and works on conservation issues. The nominating committee has nominated the following candidates for four (4) Ex-Comm positions.

THIS BALLOT IS FOR O‘AHU MEMBERS ONLY

☐ Single  ☐ Joint

Randy Ching has been a member since 1992, an outings leader since 1993, a member of the Outings Committee since 1995, O‘ahu Group treasurer for four years, and has served on both the O‘ahu Group Executive Committee and the Chapter Executive Committee. He has been an enthusiastic volunteer at most of the events sponsored by the club. He hopes to revive the O‘ahu Group by involving members in specific events and finding potential leaders from the group.

Betty Gearen is a long-time resident of Hawai‘i and began working for the Sierra Club early last year, bringing organizational skills, leadership ability, and a strong desire to help the club reach its goals. “Working with others of like-mind has been liberating and inspiring. I have seen how change can occur with dedicated effort, vision, and leadership and I want to be a part of the process.”

Robert D. Harris is currently an attorney with the law firm of Damon Key Leong Kupchak Hastert. His interest in preserving Hawai‘i’s natural beauty has led him to work at Earthjustice and the environmental division of the Hawai‘i Attorney General’s office. Having served previously on the O‘ahu Group’s Executive Committee, he would be honored to use his skills and knowledge to serve again.

Michael Kliks has been a member of, and contributor to, the Sierra Club in California, Louisiana, and Hawai‘i for most of the past 40 years, participating in both trail/habitat and office/hallway activities including, most recently, serving for almost a year as an appointed interim member of the O‘ahu Group Executive Committee. His principal areas of professional and environmental interest are zoonotic diseases resulting from the penetration and spread of alien infectious organisms into new and widespread populations of native plants and animals.

Steven Tom graduated from Cornell University with a BS in Resource Economics and worked in the D.C. area for an environmental consulting company that provides regulatory support to EPA. He also volunteered as a fundraising officer for the D.C. Sierra Club’s Inner City Outings Program, spearheading the grant-writing campaign and organizing fundraising events. Since moving to Honolulu this summer, he has participated in the Hawai‘i Service Trip Program on the Big Island and the O‘ahu Group’s Silent Auction.

Amanda Curtis is a cardiac nurse and avid traveler who enjoys anything outdoors, whether it is hiking, sailing, water sports, team sports or running. Her personal interest in environmental conservation and recycling led her to volunteer with Sierra Club. Currently she is working on the bottle law redemption implementation and solid waste reduction goals of Council Bill 87. She hopes to continue pushing curbside recycling and waste reduction as a member of Oahu Group Executive Committee.
In spring ‘04, Dr. Wally Johnson (Montana State University) and his team of volunteers attached temporary radio transmitters to 20 Kōlea on O‘ahu. The birds migrated in late April, and 6 of them were found on breeding grounds in Alaska during May and June. All 6 Kōlea were from a wintering ground on the windward side at Hawai‘i State Veterans Cemetery near Kāne‘ohe. These recent findings are a valuable addition to our understanding of where O‘ahu’s Kōlea are going in the summer to raise their keiki.

Johnson is planning another round of Kōlea Watch radio-tagging in April ‘05. Can you help with a donation? Any amount will be most welcome. However, if you contribute $150 or more you can “adopt” a Kōlea and name your bird. You’ll also be informed if/when/where “your” plover is found in Alaska! Donations (to pay for transmitters and other expenses associated with Kōlea Watch research next spring) can be sent to: Hawai‘i Audubon Society, 850 Richards Street, Honolulu, HI, 96813-4709. Checks should be made payable to the Hawai‘i Audubon Society and earmarked “Kōlea Watch”. Mahalo nui!

If you need more information on Kōlea Watch radio-tagging, or if you would like to see some of the 2004 Kōlea on their wintering grounds, contact Annette Ka‘ohelauli‘i at 235-5431. The O‘ahu Group donated money for a Kōlea Watch radio last spring and the name of their bird is Sierra. So far, Sierra has eluded the watchful eyes of the Kōlea Watchers in Hawai‘i State Veterans Cemetery.


Watch for an announcement about a public lecture by Dr. Wally Johnson in April 2005. He will be on O‘ahu doing more radio tagging and banding of Kōlea.