

Executive Director's Report

*Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission Meeting
February 24, 2022*

Budget, Finance, and Funding

FY22 Expenditure Report and Budget Variance: None.

Plans, Policies and Procedures

Long-range Scheduling: See the attached long-range schedule.

Administration, Staffing and Personnel

Commissioner Status Update: None

KIRC Staff Status Update: US Fish and Wildlife's national Coastal Wetland Conservation (CWC) Grant includes two-years funding for an Ocean Resource Specialist II position. Staff is planning to include funding for this new position in the next fiscal year's budget but will be starting the recruitment and hiring process now.

Capital Improvement, Reserve Operations and Logistics

Update on COVID Procedures: Working with the Base Camp Manager and after reviewing the latest CDC guidelines about berthing accommodations, staff has been able to revise our COVID sanitation policy regarding the on-island berthing facilities. The current guidance does not require sanitation of the beds, or a seven-day wait period between usage so we will be using both berthing huts during all on-island accesses. Previously, we would leave a hut vacant for a month before reuse. The guidelines state that changing the linen and airing out the facilities are sufficient to reuse the beds. Staff will still be maintaining the bed separation in each of the huts and thereby still limit the numbers accommodated in each hut. With this new COVID guidance staff can house five people in Hut 10 and eight people in Hut 11 during all accesses.

Government Relations

Meeting with Representative Ryan Yamane: ED Nāho'opi'i spoke with Representative Yamane before the holiday break to request he introduce a KIRC funding bill. Working with his staff, he introduced HB1577 which includes \$500,000 in general funds for KIRC operations and request an additional two support workers for field operations.

Meeting with Senator Mike Gabbard: Senator Gabbard had made an announcement to DLNR asking if the department had any bills it wished to introduce outside of the Administration's legislative package. ED Nāho'opi'i responded to this request and ask if he would submit a companion bill to Representative Yamane's KIRC funding bill. Senator Gabbard introduced SB3013 as a senate companion to HB1577.

Meeting with Representative David Tarnas: Meet with Representative Tarnas on a Zoom call to brief him on the HB1577 KIRC funding bill and how important it is to the KIRC's financial future. He was fully supportive of the measure and stated that he will be moving the bill forward and request the House Finance Committee fully fund the bill.

GRANT STATUS UPDATE

Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (Updated February 16, 2022)

STATE FUNDED PROJECTS

IN PROGRESS:

Project: Hakoawa Watershed DOH 5 - Operations and Maintenance
Funder: Hawai'i State Department of Health
Term: 3/29/2021 - 5/28/2022 (\$80,665.12)
Notes: Start date was pushed to FY22; new hire is working out well

UNDER REVIEW:

Project: Reducing Excessive Sedimentation and Habitat Restoration in the Kamōhio Watershed of Kaho'olawe
Funder: Hawai'i State Department of Health
Term: 3 years
Notes: Submitted management plan to DOH for review and approval



GRANT FUNDED PROJECTS

IN PROGRESS:

Project: KIRC Virtual Museum Stage 3
Funder: IMLS, Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services
Term: 8/1/2018 - 7/31/2022 (\$75,000)
Notes: Awarded to rehouse Navy collection and expand Living Library

Project: Marine Debris Removal from Kanapou on Kaho'olawe
Funder: NOAA / NFWF / Fishing for Energy 2019 Initiative
Term: 10/1/2019 - 12/30/2022 (\$76,025)
Notes: Just completed first on island clean-up

Project: Coastal and Upland Wetland Restoration on Kahoolawe, HI
Funder: NAWCA U.S. Small Grants
Term: July 2021 - August 2023 (\$100,000)
Notes: Work has begun in project areas to meet grant objectives

Project: KIRC Live-Stream and VR Expedition Project
Funder: IMLS, Native American/Native Hawaiian Museum Services
Term: August 2021 - July 2023 (\$98,405)
Notes: Need to begin to bill Comms contract to the grant

Project: Enhancing Wetland Soils Using Biochar
Funder: Pacific Birds Joint Venture
Term: August 2021 - July 2023 (\$10,000)
Notes: Biochar plots have been installed

Project: Coastal Wetland Enhancement in Honokanai'a
Funder: USFWS National Coastal Wetlands Restoration Program
Term: January 2022 - December 2024 (~\$355,531)
Notes: Received award letter; will receive NTP after completing Sec 106 and 68-E compliance

Project: Spreading Aloha 'Āina through Community Engagement
Funder: HTA Aloha 'Āina Program
Term: January 2023 - December 2023 (\$40,000)
Notes: Funded at half the request

Project: Marine Science Education and Training from a Hawaiian Perspective on Kaho'olawe: A Pilot Program for Maui Youth
Funder: NOAA PIRO MET Mini-Grant Program
Term: March 2019 - August 2021 (\$15,000)
Notes: Awaiting reimbursement of funds

GRANT APPLICATIONS

SUBMITTED / UNDER REVIEW:

Project: Wildfire Fuel Management On Kaho'olawe
Funder: DOI Fuels Management and Community Fire Assistance Program
Term: January 2022 - June 2024 (\$855,233)
Notes: Submitted 9/10/2021; awaiting notice

Project: Coastal Wetland Enhancement in Honokanai'a on Kaho'olawe
Funder: NAWCA U.S. Small Grants
Term: July 2022 - June 2024 (\$99,300)
Notes: Withdrawn from review on 2/1/2022; project area was the same as defined in the larger USFWS National Coastal Wetland Grant Program award which supersedes the NAWCA U.S. Small Grants

NOT AWARDED:

Project: Supporting KIRC Maui Operations
Funder: NEA Rescue Plan Funding
Term: January 2022 - December 2022 (\$150,000)
Notes: Award notification is expected in Dec 2021 / Early 2022

Project: Sharing the Story of Kaho'olawe's Past, Present and Future
Funder: HTA Kūkulu Ola Program
Term: January 2023 - December 2023 (\$35,000)
Notes: Submitted 10/30/2021

Note: The KIRC applies for grants as either a 170(c)1 nonprofit government entity, (authorized to receive tax-deductible contributions to programs that exclusively serve a public purpose), or via 501(c)3 fiscal sponsor Tri-Isle or Pacific American Foundation.

