



Coastal and Upland Wetland Restoration of Kaho‘olawe, HI (NAWCA U.S. Small Grants)

BACKGROUND

The purpose of this project is to enhance the temporary wetland sites at Keanakeiki and Lua ‘O Kealialalo through the removal of invasive plants and out planting of natives. Activities are to be completed in partnership with the Maui Nui Seabird Recovery Project, the Protect Kaho‘olawe ‘Ohana Education Committee and KIRC community volunteers. The period of performance runs from February 2025 - June 2025.

DELIVERABLES

- Remove invasive species
- Out plant native species
- Monitor through photo points

AWARD AMOUNT: \$100,000

FUNDER: North American Wetland Conservation Act –USFWS / Ducks Unlimited.

HIGHLIGHTS

Through removal of invasive species, native habitat regeneration is improving. Grant funding is spent on materials and supplies, travel costs, and a portion of PKO access fees.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

SPENT
\$34,056

BILLED
\$100,000.00

RECEIVED
\$100,000.00



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PROJECT UPDATE: February 1, 2025 – June 30, 2025

- Invasive species removal continued at Keanakeiki and Lua ‘O Kealialalo. Remaining clumps of *Cenchrus ciliaris* were dug up. *Xanthium strumarium* (kikania) was removed at Kealialalo.
- Volunteers collected an additional five pounds of *Gossypium tomentosum* (mao) was collected at Keanakeiki.
- To date 6,500 plants have been planted at Keanakeiki and Lua ‘O Kealialalo. 4,500 at Keanakeiki and Lua ‘O Kealialalo and 2,000 at Keanakeiki and Lua ‘O Kealialalo. Survival rates were very low at both sites due to limited rainfall from October to January. Survival and establishment rates should increase with the heavy rains in late January.



Native Makihi (*Cressa truxillenses*) has expanded into the area where Kiawe was removed at Keanakeiki.