## **FYI**

# February 2022

#### **Correspondence**

- 1. Memo to Alec Wong, Department of Health, from Michael Nāhoʻopiʻi, regarding Hakioawa Operations and Maintenance Plan 2021 ASO LOG No. 21-049 billing dated January 20, 2022.
- 2. Memo to Alan Downer, PhD, SPHP Administrator, from Michael Nāhoʻopiʻi regarding SHPD Review and Concurrence on KIRC Restoration Project Restoring Coastal Wetlands on Kahoʻolawe Island, Hawaiʻi dated February 8, 2021.

#### **Legislative Testimony**

- 1. Testimony of, Michael Nāhoʻopiʻi, Executive Director, Before the House Committee on Water & Land, Thursday, February 3, 2022, In consideration of House Bill 1577 Relating to the Kahoʻolawe Island Reserve Commission.
- 2. Testimony of, Michael Nāhoʻopiʻi, Executive Director, Before the Senate Committees on Water & Land and Hawaiian Affairs, Tuesday, February 15, 2022, In consideration of Senate Bill 3013 Relating to the Kahoʻolawe Island Reserve Commission.





KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA

JOSHUA KAAKUA, Ed.D Chairperson CARMEN HULU LINDSEY Vice-Chair

SUZANNE CASE
'ĀNELA EVANS
SAUMALU MATAAFA
BENTON KEALII PANG, Ph.D
MICHELLE PESCAIA

Michael K. Nāhoʻopiʻi Executive Director

#### KAHO'OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

811 Kolu Street, Suite 201, Wailuku, HI 96793 Telephone (808) 243-5020 Fax (808) 243-5885 Website: http://kahoolawe.hawaii.gov

# Testimony of MICHAEL K. NĀHO`OPI`I Executive Director

**Before the House Committee on** 

WATER & LAND

Thursday, February 3, 2022 9:30 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 430

#### In consideration of HOUSE BILL 1577 RELATING TO THE KAHO OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

House Bill 1577 appropriates funds for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission and to fund two full-time equivalent positions for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) strongly supports this measure.

In Act 340, the creation of the KIRC and Hawaii Revised Statute Chapter 6K in 1993, the legislature found that "the extensive erosion and other ecological problems, presence of unexploded ordnance, archaeological sites and native and endangered flora and fauna that a management regime was needed to meet the challenges of restoring and presenting the island".

Since the end of the Navy's unexploded ordnance cleanup in 2004, the KIRC has begun a race against time to stem erosion and further degradation of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve. The KIRC has since initiated numerous restoration projects, financed by state funds and various grant opportunities, that has made significant changes to transforming the desolate hardpan into vibrant living landscapes.

The KIRC first began receiving state general funds in the administration's budget in the fiscal year 2018-2019 biennium budget. The initial funding supported 15 FTE staff and operating funds for our Maui office and Kihei Boathouse. In fiscal years 2019 and 2020, the KIRC Cultural Resource Project Coordinator position was restored and \$100,000 in operating funds were added but subsequently were eliminated due to the impact of COVID on the State's economy in fiscal years 2021 and 2022. The KIRC is requesting additional operating funds and personnel to support our efforts to restore the island, protect endangered and rare flora and fauna and ensure the safety of visitors to Kaho'olawe.

The key to the KIRC's restoration efforts is the volunteer workforce that we bring to Kaho'olawe to help with native out plantings, erosion control construction and invasive weed eradication.

The additional funds will finance key support services such as operating the Kaho'olawe base camp facilities, generating power and water, and maintaining vital infrastructure, equipment and vehicles. The additional funds will also support critical safety systems such as medical supplies, safety equipment and emergency transportation.

The additional KIRC positions are critically vital as the KIRC has observed a recent increase in unpredictability and severity of weather and ocean conditions in the waters surrounding Maui and Kaho'olawe most likely due to climate change and global warming, which has resulted in an increased need for additional manpower to safely and effectively operate the KIRC ocean vessel. Additionally, our Kaho'olawe field teams also need additional field support as we have been successful in expanding our restoration efforts to create more native dryland forest habitats, expand beach restoration and shoreline protection efforts, cultivate food sustainability and increase on-island water generation, collection, storage and distribution systems.





#### KŪKULU KE EA A KANALOA

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# Testimony of MICHAEL K. NĀHO`OPI`I Executive Director

**Before the Senate Committees on** 

WATER AND LAND and HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS

Tuesday, February 15, 2022 1:00 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 016

#### In consideration of SENATE BILL 3013 RELATING TO THE KAHO OLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION

Senate Bill 3013 appropriates funds for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission and to fund two full-time equivalent positions for the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission. The Kaho'olawe Island Reserve Commission (KIRC) strongly supports this measure.

In Act 340, the creation of the KIRC and Hawaii Revised Statute Chapter 6K in 1993, the legislature found that "the extensive erosion and other ecological problems, presence of unexploded ordnance, archaeological sites and native and endangered flora and fauna that a management regime was needed to meet the challenges of restoring and presenting the island".

Since the end of the Navy's unexploded ordnance cleanup in 2004, the KIRC has begun a race against time to stem erosion and further degradation of the Kaho'olawe Island Reserve. The KIRC has since initiated numerous restoration projects that has made significant changes to transforming the desolate hardpan into vibrant living landscapes. These projects and all KIRC operations and staffing were initially financed from a federally funded trust fund and various grant opportunities, and recently with State funds.

The KIRC first began receiving state general funds in the administration's 2018-2019 biennium budget. The initial funding supported 15 FTE staff and operating funds for our Maui office and Kihei Boathouse. In fiscal years 2019 and 2020, the KIRC Cultural Resource Project Coordinator position was restored and \$100,000 in operating funds were added, but subsequently were eliminated due to the impact of COVID on the State's economy in fiscal years 2021 and 2022. The KIRC is requesting additional operating funds and personnel to support our efforts to restore the island, protect endangered and rare flora and fauna and ensure the safety of visitors to Kaho'olawe.

The key to the KIRC's restoration efforts is the volunteer workforce that we bring to Kaho'olawe to help with native out plantings, erosion control construction and invasive weed eradication. The additional funds will finance key support services such as operating the Kaho'olawe base camp facilities, generating power and water, and maintaining vital infrastructure, equipment and vehicles. The additional funds will also support critical safety systems such as medical supplies, safety equipment and emergency transportation.

The additional KIRC positions are critically vital as the KIRC has observed a recent increase in unpredictability and severity of weather and ocean conditions in the waters surrounding Maui and Kaho'olawe most likely due to climate change and global warming, which has resulted in an increased need for additional manpower to safely and effectively operate the KIRC ocean vessel. Additionally, our Kaho'olawe field teams also need additional field support as we have been successful in expanding our restoration efforts to create more native dryland forest habitats, expand beach restoration and shoreline protection efforts, cultivate food sustainability and increase on-island water generation, collection, storage and distribution systems.



December 29, 2021									
HUAKA'I SUMMARY									
Date of Report:	01/19/22	Da	ites of H	uakaʻi:		Dece	ember		
						29, 2	2022		
Name of Submitter:	Davianna	Ph	one:			808	-222-		
	McGregor			972	8				
Location: Hakioawa	,					I			
Final # of Participants: 2									
Participant Groups:	Protect Kahoʻo	law	e 'Ohana	– Hōʻola	ʻĀina				
STATUS ON STEWARDSHIP						olete. etc	c.)		
Place - Description of Work F			AUG	Aug	Sept	Dec			
	,		12-13,	20-21,	23-26	29,			
			2021	2021	2021	2021			
Ka 'Ai A Kanaloa – Marine Debris C	lean-up		yes	No	Yes	No			
Ka 'Ai A Kanaloa – Marine Monitor			YES	No	Yes	Yes			
Archaeological/Culture Site Monit	oring and		NO	No	Yes	No			
Management	17-1 1 17 17	Α.	VEC	37	37	N.T.	_		
Practice of Hawaiian Arts and Scie Kanaloa Culture Plan	nce: Kukulu Ke Ea	A	YES	Yes	Yes	No			
Ala Loa			NO	No	No	NO	-		
Trail Stabilization			NO	No	No	No	-		
Maintenance of Hakioawa Facilitie	s & Infrastructure		YES	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Kilohoku and Kilo Pae Honua			YES	Yes	Yes	NO			
Native plant restoration			NO	Yes	Yes	Yes			
<b>Project:</b> Ka 'Ai A Kanaloa – Marine				an clear. B					
Monitoring				Looks like			owing but		
PROJECT: Maintenance of				verall Haki new liner o			a Tank that		
Hakioawa Facilities &				in Novem					
Infrastructure				ailuna wat					
				top. Never		eed a bigge	er cover.		
				unctioning					
<b>Project:</b> Native plant restoration		Plantings looking great! A lot of new natives poppint out. Photos of plantings are below.							
		Jou	i. F 110t05 0	i piantings	are below	<u> </u>			
HEALTH & SAFETY: Describe	briefly and atta	ch Ii	ncident R	eport, if a	applicabl	le. NONE	ī.		
No incidents				. , ,					
UXO Encountered: NONE									
CONDITIONS:									
Ocean: Calm Weather and sea	ıs; <b>Weather</b> : cal	m <b>T</b>	<b>'rails</b> – o	nly hiked	l up to W	/ailuna. t	rails are		
clear	,	_		,	1	-, -			
<u>l</u>									



First Aid - no report	
VECTOR CONTROL	
NOTES:	Mahalo KIRC for support

LUA	Panel Clear of Debris?	Light Working?	Fan Working?	Lock Working?	Chip Supply (50# Bag)	Notes
#1 Lānaʻi Side – Mauka	No Report					
#2 Lānaʻi Side – Makai	No Report					
#3 Hawaiʻi Island Side - Right	No Report					
#4 Hawaiʻi Island Side - Left	No Report					

FINAL ITINERARY						
DAY/DATE	LOCATION & ACTIVITY					
DAY 1	2 participants landed via Pualeleiki at 6:00am. Participants inspected					
December 29	the plantings in Hakioawa and the drip system from the Hakiowa					
	valley floor up to Wailuna. Participants inspected the Wailuna liner					
	cover. Participants were picked up at 9:30am by Pualeleiki and					
	returned to Kīhei. Photos of plantings are below.					

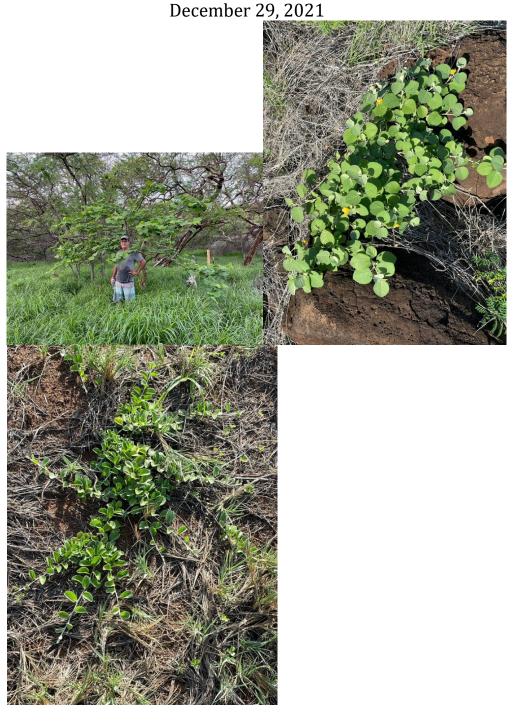


Post Huaka'i Report for December 29, 2021

#### FINAL PARTICIPANT LIST 0 (F **PARTICIPANT LIST for December 29, 2021 Participant Safety** CHAPERONE/ Identification Kākoʻo Assigne GROUP A G **LAST** First Responder **FIRST NAME** First Aid / CPR NAME Access Guide Water Safety (Nickname) Ε KUA Lopaka X 1 Aiwohi Α PKO Χ Anna 2 Palomino Α PKO

Volunteer Vessel, Captain and Crew List								
	Vessel Name	Crew LAST NAME	Crew FIRST NAME	Age				
1.	Pualeleiki	Luuwai	Kauhane	Α				
2.	Pualeleiki	Luuwai	Hiilei	Α				













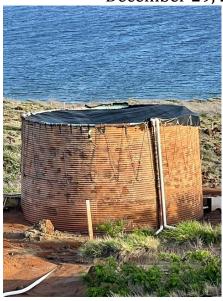














	HUAK	A'I S	UMMA	RY					
Date of Report:	1/17/2022			ntes of lakaʻi:	-1.1901191114 - 17.9099				
Name of Submitter:	Momi Wheeler		P	hone:	(808) 430-2557				
Location:	Hakioawa, Hakioawa	Iki, Wa	ailuna, Puʻu Moaʻula Iki, Lelehune, Puʻu Moaʻula Nui,						
Location:	Honokanai'a, Kealaik	ahiki							
Final # of	7								
Participants:	7								
Participant Groups:	Protect Kahoʻolawe ʻC								
STATUS ON STEW	ARDSHIP PROJEC	TS (In	nitiate, C	Continu	ue, St	tatus, C	Complete, etc.)		
Place – Description			Sept. 23-26, 2021	Nov. :		Jan. 14 - 17, 2022			
Ka 'Ai A Kanaloa – Mari	ne Debris Clean-up		X			X			
Ka 'Ai A Kanaloa – Mari			X	X		X			
Archaeological/Culture	Site Monitoring and		X			X			
Management	10' 77-1 1 77		11			21			
Practice of Hawaiian Art	s and Science: Kūkulu K	e Ea A	X	X		X			
Kanaloa Culture Plan	1.01.1.1111								
Ala Loa Maintenance an		<b>.</b>	N/	37		37			
Maintenance of Hakioav		ture	X	X		X			
Kilohōkū and Kilo Pae H			X X	X		X X			
Hoʻōla ʻĀina - Native pla	ant restoration	T ~~~ . ~							
<b>Project:</b> Ka 'Ai A Kanal Clean-up and Marine Mo		<b>STATUS:</b> Observed a few native sea birds ('ā, 'iwa) and a few koholā offshore throughout our huaka'i. Organized and re-bagged marine debris.							
<b>Project:</b> Practice of Hav Science: Kūkulu Ke Ea A Plan		STATUS: 40 <sup>th</sup> Makahiki season prep for Panina Makahiki; observations of related hōʻailona; honoring of Papa, Kanaloa, Kāne.							
PROJECT: Maintenance of Hakioawa			STATUS: Installed new lele with lama gathered from Pohoiki, Lononuiākea at Hale Mua and Hale o Papa (see Figure 1)						
Project: Kilohōkū and Kilo Pae Honua			STATUS: Hōʻailona WIDE1/14/22 and 1/17/22 early morning, ocean mālie; we observed many plants flowering and/or seeding makai and mauka (i.e. wiliwili, ākulikuli, pōhuehue; ʻaʻaliʻi; naio; alena; ʻilima papa; paʻūohiʻiaka; pili) (see Figure 2).						
<b>Project:</b> Hoʻōla ʻĀina - Restoration	Native Plant	STATUS: With the abundance of rain during this Makahiki-hoʻoilo season, hand cleared weeds around native plants and māla 'ai (see Figure 3). Ensured māla 'ai was receiving water from drip line + ensured native							



#### Post Huaka'i Report for 'Ianuali 14 – 17, 2022

plants planted between Nāmakapili and Ka'ie'ie were receiving water from drip lines (see Figure 4)

**HEALTH & SAFETY**: Describe briefly and attach Incident Report, if applicable.

None, mahalo nā akua!

UXO Encountered: None, mahalo nā akua!

#### **CONDITIONS:**

**NOTES:** 

**Ocean** -1/14/22 to 1/17/22, Kona winds continued so ocean mālie with normal mid-morning wind swell. **Weather** -1/14/22 to 1/17/22, Kona winds so sunny, partially sunny at times, and cool evenings.

**Trails** – Continued trail maintenance and stabilization on both Lāna'i and Hawai'i Island side.

#### HAKIOAWA SITE SUMMARY

LUA	Panel Cl		Light Working?	Fan Working?	Lock Working:	Chip Supply (50# Bag)	Notes
#1 Lānaʻi Side — Mauka	'ae		ʻae	NO	'ae	1	1/16/22 Eric mentioned he was unable to fix fan; might be an electrical issue
#2 Lānaʻi Side – Makai	'ae		'ae	'ae	'ae	1	
#3 Hawaiʻi Island Side - Right	'ae		'ae	'ae	'ae	1	1/16/22 Eric fixed fan, mahalo!
#4 Hawaiʻi Island Side - Left	ʻae		'ae	'ae	'ae	1	He recommended to check-out electric panel to ensure fans continue to work
FIRST AID AED Charged? 'Ae O2 Tank Full and Working? 'A							
VECTOR CONTROL   A few pōpoki							

#### Mana-full Makahiki prep...hōʻailona wide!!!

- Mahalo piha to KIRC for all your kokua!
- 1/14/22 AED was brought to Hakioawa. 1/17/22 AED and radio Pelican cases were brought back to Maui and left with Cassie Smith at the KIRC boathouse.



All 7 'Ohana adhered to the COVID-19 Safety Protocols, Po'o: Overall – Kaliko Baker; Zodiac & Kitchen/Food – J-boy Sanada
State of Hawai'i - All volunteers will:  • Wear masks + physical distance
<ul> <li>Maui County - All volunteers will</li> <li>Follow all Covid-19 Maui Country Travel Guidelines</li> </ul>
Protect Kahoʻolawe ʻOhana
<ul> <li>Transit via 'Ohana Zodiac Covid-19 protocols</li> <li>Mask wearing which includes transfer between vessels</li> <li>Masks may be removed when entering the water to swim to shore</li> <li>On-island</li> <li>Pre-huaka'i orientation by Kua</li> <li>Washing hands</li> <li>Mask wearing + may be removed when outdoors and physically distanced</li> <li>Physical distancing</li> <li>Food Safety</li> </ul>
<ul> <li>All meals served by designated kua</li> <li>All water filtrations serviced by a designated kua.</li> </ul>
Four Lua
<ul> <li>In addition to regular Clivus Multrum guidelines as listed inside each lua, internal and external door handles will be sanitized after use</li> </ul>

FINAL ITINERARY						
DAY/DATE	LOCATION & ACTIVITY					
<b>ʻEkahi</b> 1/14/22 Pōʻalima	<ol> <li>Early morning, PKO zodiac (4 'Ohana) departed Kīhei for Kūheia to drop off water jugs and proceed to Hakioawa to help with off-loading 'Ōhua.</li> <li>Early morning, 3 of 7 'Ohana arrived to Hakioawa via 'Ōhua.</li> <li>2 'Ohana (Kaliko Baker, Momi Wheeler) remain on 'Ōhua, help KIRC offload in Honokanai'a, drive KIRC vehicle(s) from Honokanai'a to stage at Wailuna, and holo makai to Hakioawa.</li> <li>Makahiki Prep and Ho'ōla 'Āina.</li> <li>7 'Ohana overnight in Hakioawa (see Figure 5).</li> </ol>					
<b>'Elua</b> 1/15/22 Pō'aono	<ol> <li>Early morning, 7 'Ohana remained in Hakioawa to finish installing new lele at Hale o Papa.</li> <li>11 a.m., 5 'Ohana holo mauka from Hakioawa to Wailuna, picked up and drive staged KIRC vehicle to Lelehune to meet up with KIRC staff.</li> </ol>					



	<ol> <li>Early morning, 2 to 3 'Ohana holo mauka from Hakioawa to Wailuna, pick up and drive staged KIRC vehicle(s) to Moa'ula Iki – Kūheia to meet up with 6 'Ohana. Note, Lopaka Aiwohi will also holo mauka and spend the day mauka.</li> <li>Afternoon, 5 'Ohana drove KIRC vehicle(s) along with KIRC staff to clear Moa'ula Iki area for Makahiki.</li> </ol>
	5. Mid-afternoon, 5 'Ohana drive KIRC vehicles from Moa'ula Iki to Honokanai'a and overnight. Note, 5 'Ohana remained in Honokanai'a and departed via 'Ōhua 1/17/22.
	6. 2 'Ohana ( <i>Lopaka Aiwohi, J-boy Sanada</i> ) remained in Hakioawa until 1/17/22.
'Ekolu	<ol> <li>Lopaka Aiwohi, and J-boy Sanada will continue with Ho'ōla 'Āina projects in Hakioawa.</li> </ol>
<b>1/16/22</b> Lā Pule	2. 5 'Ohana participated in KIRC work project, cleaned ala loa from Honokanaenae to Kealaikahiki for Makahiki, and remained in Honokanai'a.
'Ehā	<ol> <li>Early morning, 'Ōhua picked-up 5 'Ohana and Dawson staff in Honokanai'a and departed to Hakioawa.</li> </ol>
<b>1/17/22</b> Pōʻakahi	2. 'Ōhua arrived in Hakioawa, assisted with PKO zodiac crew transfer, and picked-up Lopaka Aiwohi, and J-Boy Sanada.
	3. 7 'Ohana depart via PKO zodiac and 'Ōhua leaving no one on island by 12 pm.

					Participant Safety Identification					
#	LAST NAME	FIRST NAME (Nickname)	A G E	GROUP	KUA	Access Guide	Water Safety	First Responder	First Aid / CPR	NOTES
1.	Baker	Kaliko	A	Moʻolono	X	X	X		X	ʻŌhua
2.	Aiwohi	Lopaka	Α	Moʻolono	X		X			ʻŌhua
3.	Sanada	J-boy	A	PKO	X	X	X		X	Zodi captain
4.	Baker	Kaipulaumakaniolono	A	Moʻolono	KIT (Kua in Training)	X	X		X	Zodi crew
5.	Beyer	Keli'i	A	MIT (Moʻolono in Training)			X			Zodi crew
6.	Nāhuewai	'Ika'aka	A	MIT	KIT					Zodi crew
7.	Wheeler	Momi	A	PKO	X	X			X	ʻŌhua



	Captain and Crew List								
#	Vessel Name   Crew - Last Name   Crew - First Name				NOTES				
1.	ʻŌhua	White	Lopaka (Captain)	A					
2.	ʻŌhua	KIRC staff		A					
3.	PKO Zodiac	Sanada	J-boy (Captain)	A					
4.	PKO Zodiac	Beyer	Keli'i	A					
5.	PKO Zodiac	Baker	Kaipulaumakaniolono	A					
6.	PKO Zodiac	Nāhuewai	ʻIkaʻaka	A					



Figure 1. Hale o Papa, left photo (courtesy of Momi Wheeler) and Hale Mua, right photo (courtesy of Kaliko Baker)



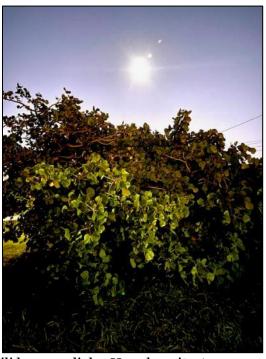


Figure 2. Wiliwili by moonlight, Honokanai'a (courtesy of Momi Wheeler)



Figure 3. Native Plant friends, before and after hand clearing weeds (courtesy of Lopaka Aiwohi)





Figure 4. Māla 'ai (courtesy of Momi Wheeler)



Figure 5. Family Photo (courtesy of Momi Wheeler)