

**Forest Stewardship Advisory Committee**  
**Department of Land and Natural Resources Room 322A**  
**Honolulu, HI**  
**September 22, 2010**

**9:11am**

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

**Members present:** JB Friday (Chair), Laura Brezinsky, Mike Tulang, Katie Friday, Kip Dunbar, Betsy Gagne, Lea Hong, Dayday Hopkins, Craig Rowland, Tanya Rubenstein. **Members absent:** Bill Cowern, John Henshaw, David Clausnitzer. **Staff:** Sheri Mann, Melissa Irene Sprecher. **Guest:** Teresa Dawson

J. Friday requested an addition to the Agenda - Private Landowner Network as presented at the 2010 Hawaii Conservation Conference.

**Meeting minutes** March 19, 2010. Motion to accept the minutes as amended. **Moved by Hopkins, seconded by Tulang. Pass unanimously.**

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**SWARS**

Hawaii completed its Statewide Assessment and Resource Strategy (SWARS) by the national deadline and copies of the document are available via DOFAW's website or hardcopies can be provided upon request. SWARS document will be distributed to all state and local libraries. DOFAW has received some comments on the document already, but we will always welcome comments as the SWARS is a 'living' document and will be updated. This information will be used for Forest Service competitive funding, state admin programs, some NRCS funding, and may have additional influences on other agency programs

- K. Friday, Brezinsky requested a hardcopy of the SWARS. Hopkins would like the document on a CD.

**NRCS / FSP template MOU** – the purpose of the MOU is to improve forestry assistance to landowners under both programs. Committee is interested in continuing to work towards a MOU with NRCS & the Forest Service - discussed how entities can get more forestry projects on the ground. Decided that workshop/training (site visits) with NRCS, DOFAW staff and FSAC would assist with capability building.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**NEW FSAC Members**

It is time to seek new members for the Forest Stewardship Advisory Committee. All Committee members are asked to forward the application to any interested parties. DOFAW will make an announcement and will post the application and forward to potential target groups (private landowners, forestry experts, etc).

### **Forest Stewardship Project Updates**

- The majority of the Neirode FSP project management plan was funded under the NRCS Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP). As such, the Committee would like to continue to provide cost-share assistance for future management plan development, which is not reimbursed under EQIP.

**Motion to approved 75% cost-share for the Neirode Forest Stewardship management plan. Moved by Hopkins, seconded by K. Friday. Motion passes, Brezinsky abstained.**

- The Ahu Lani Sanctuary FSP project is in a similar situation as the Neiorde FSP project, but their management plan practices may be funded through the HI Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). They have requested cost-share reimbursement for their FSP management plan development.

**Motion to approve 75% cost share for the Ahu Lani Sanctuary Forest Stewardship management plan. Moved by K. Friday, seconded by Dunbar. Passed unanimously.**

- Hui Ku Maoli Ola FSP project is still in the contracting phase, and due to the delays in funding approval and contract review we are now in need of an extension on their lease for at least an additional 5 months in order to finalize the agreement. We are waiting to hear from the project managers on how they would like to proceed.

- **General updates were provided for following FSP projects:** Conant, Maui Land & Pine (MLP), and Ola Honua (invasive spp problems), Laupahoehoe (water tank was stolen), Lanaihale (waiting on final report), Ku Ohia Laka (final report received), Ho'olau Aina [KKV] (not sure they are keeping up with invasive spp suppression; we scheduled a site visit 2/7/11 to provide technical assistance)

**Evaluation Form for Future FSP projects:** form includes cost effectiveness (economic productivity). The HI Revised Statutes do allow funds for education (could count mgnt plan development under education). 75% cost-share follows NAPP. 75% to 25% is what the Committee wants for management plan development. Discuss the hold-down rates for management plan. Per practice and management units. Committee to provide additional comments to rules.

**Hold-down cost-share** – Subcommittee to continue to review. Committee wants to include the four practices in Handbook in rules. Other practices to consider offered 'boardwalk construction for wildlife viewing.'

**JB Friday** – will do a survey of landowners that are doing restoration project and see who is visiting the site and for what purpose such as: tours, food plant give a ways, native plant sales, school kids and/or community outreach visits, agroforestry, etc. Are landowners talking to neighbors, and do they know about or are they interested in possible tax breaks with conservation easements. Future networking and demonstrated with current projects and future projects is needed. Minority landowner subscription.

## **Forest Legacy Application Review**

### **Maui Land & Pineapple:**

- It would help to know the sub zones and how many lots are available/thus how many homes could theoretically be developed on these parcels.
- Does DOFAW feel as though this application could be readied and/or close in a reasonable time period if allowed to continue? Sheri said yes given her experience with MLP and the fact that they got a preliminary appraisal in less than 2 weeks.
- Is the project a fit for the FLP program? General consensus – yes.
- Importance – committee agrees it is – 4 to 5 out of 5 points.
- Threatened – feels there is threat between 2 and 5
- Strategic – lots of edge, somewhat fragmented but abuts currently protected lands and a marine protected area. Committee generally agrees pretty high 4 or 5 pts.

### **Motion to accept as a Forest Legacy project moved Gagne, seconded by Tulang**

More discussion included: Current vegetation map and botanical survey is needed and they need to make a better case for threat CE language. The highest conservation value is in the gulches. What will be happen to the lands between the CE portions?

**Vote to pass application moved by Hong. Seconded by Dunbar. Passed unanimously**

### **Kuakaiiau Ranch:**

- The ranch is currently leasing out a portion of the parcel for commercial koa production, and that land is leased.
- TNC owns the CE on the upper portion of the Ranch.
- Importance: 4 (less than MLP)
- Threatened: average to low threat (2 to 4)
- Strategic: average to high. (5). Map is misleading, State lands near are both reserve and leased lands. A lot of those State lands are heavily degraded.
- Questions: Is the lease for the entire proposed CE or just a portion? How long is the lease and what rights are included?

**Motion to accept as a Forest Legacy project, Hong moved, seconded by Hopkins  
Passed unanimously**

### **Ranking the two above projects:**

**Motion to accept MLP as 1, 6 favor in – 3 disagree, Hong moved 2<sup>nd</sup> Hopkins. Motion passes.**

## **Existing Forest Legacy Project Updates**

- Kainalu Forest Watershed – looking to get appraisal in Spring 2011
- Kealakekua Heritage Ranch – in final stages, got the appraisal, phase I, working on phase II, conservation language in final discussions. Could potentially close before the end of the year.

**Next meeting:** January or February on Maui – Ola Honua in Kipahulu

**Meeting closed at 2:23**