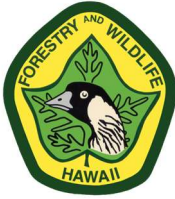
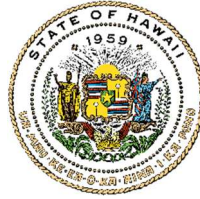


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FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

August 29, 2025

SUBJECT: Section 106 Consultation for "Habitat restoration, monitoring and surveying of endangered yellow-faced bee populations on O'ahu"

To Whom It May Concern:

The Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) is proposing to work on the project listed above with funds from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, DOFAW is consulting with Native Hawaiian Organizations related to historic properties or knowledge of Hawaiian practices. Historic properties include archeological sites, burial grounds, sacred landscapes or features, ceremonial areas, traditional cultural places and landscapes, plant and animal communities, and buildings and structures with significant association.

The Division of Forestry and Wildlife is partnering with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to conduct a review of this project to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800. We would like to invite you to be a consulting party in this review to help identify historic properties in the project area that may have religious and cultural significance to your organization or community, and if such properties exist, to help assess how the project might affect them. If the project might have an adverse effect, we would like to discuss possible ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate potential adverse effects.

The objective of the proposed project is to increase severely declining populations of yellow-faced bees in coastal strand habitat on O'ahu by augmenting and improving existing habitat with fencing and outplanting in locations where populations of *Hylaeus* persist in high-priority, relatively intact coastal strand habitat. This project is part of a broader effort by USFWS and the DLNR to recover yellow-faced bee populations across the state. Funds to support work towards these goals have been provided by the USFWS Coastal Program, State Wildlife Grant, and Section 6 programs. Deliverables for each project have been unique, as is the work proposed here.

The project is proposed for the Kaiwi State Scenic Shoreline (outplanting, outreach signage, and rope & post fencing), TMK (1) 3-9-011:002 (por) (See Figures 1 & 2), and James Campbell National Wildlife Refuge, TMK (1) 5-6-002:009 (por) (See Figures 1 & 3).

Protection and enhancement of habitat through installation of post and rope fencing and out-planting of diverse native flowering plant species will provide more consistent and abundant floral resources throughout the year, making it likely that rare yellow-faced bees could obtain the nectar and pollen resources that they need to build stable populations. Fencing and informational signage will address members of the public inadvertently trampling vegetation on their way to the shoreline, creating trails and breaking up remaining contiguous vegetation that the bees utilize. Campers and beach goers frequently cause nest mortality by moving coral rubble, which the bees nest in, as well as both purposefully and accidentally destroy native vegetation with bonfires.

DOFAW staff would install post and rope fencing to create corridors or trails along which pedestrian traffic can be channeled. Fencing is comprised of approximately 3ft lengths of 4"x4" lumber, anchored into the ground on 16"-48" lengths of rebar. Manila rope (1/2" diameter) is threaded through a hole drilled at the top of each post, and the posts are connected by the rope to create an informal trail. Post and rope fencing will also be used to encircle individual patches of vegetation known to support high densities of bees.

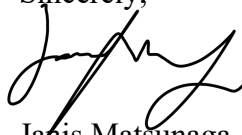
Interpretive signage would be installed along the newly established trails, as well as around individual patches of vegetation, to provide information about yellow-faced bee conservation and management, coastal strand habitat, and the importance of preserving the biological integrity of the unique location. In some instances, signs may be a preferred alternative to fencing. Out-planting of native coastal plant species will be focused on areas where plants are likely to successfully establish, as well as areas where the existing diversity of native plant species is low. Water will be provided to plants following out-planting per the recommendations of DOFAW horticulturalist and botanists.

Once the consultation period is over, and if there are no major concerns presented, DOFAW will proceed with restoration and outplanting. However, if any sites or artifacts are discovered, all work will stop, the proper authorities will be notified, and an assessment of significance will occur.

If you are interested in participating in this undertaking as a consulting party, want to provide comments on the area of potential effects (APE) and any historic properties in the APE, or want to suggest additional key contacts, please respond by October 2nd, 2025, via email to

Janis.N.Matsunaga@hawaii.gov.

Sincerely,



Janis Matsunaga
State Entomologist
Division of Forestry and Wildlife
Department of Land and Natural Resources

TMKs affected:

(1) 3-9-011:002 (por)

(1) 5-6-002:009 (por)



Fig 1. Location where restoration activities will take place on O'ahu.

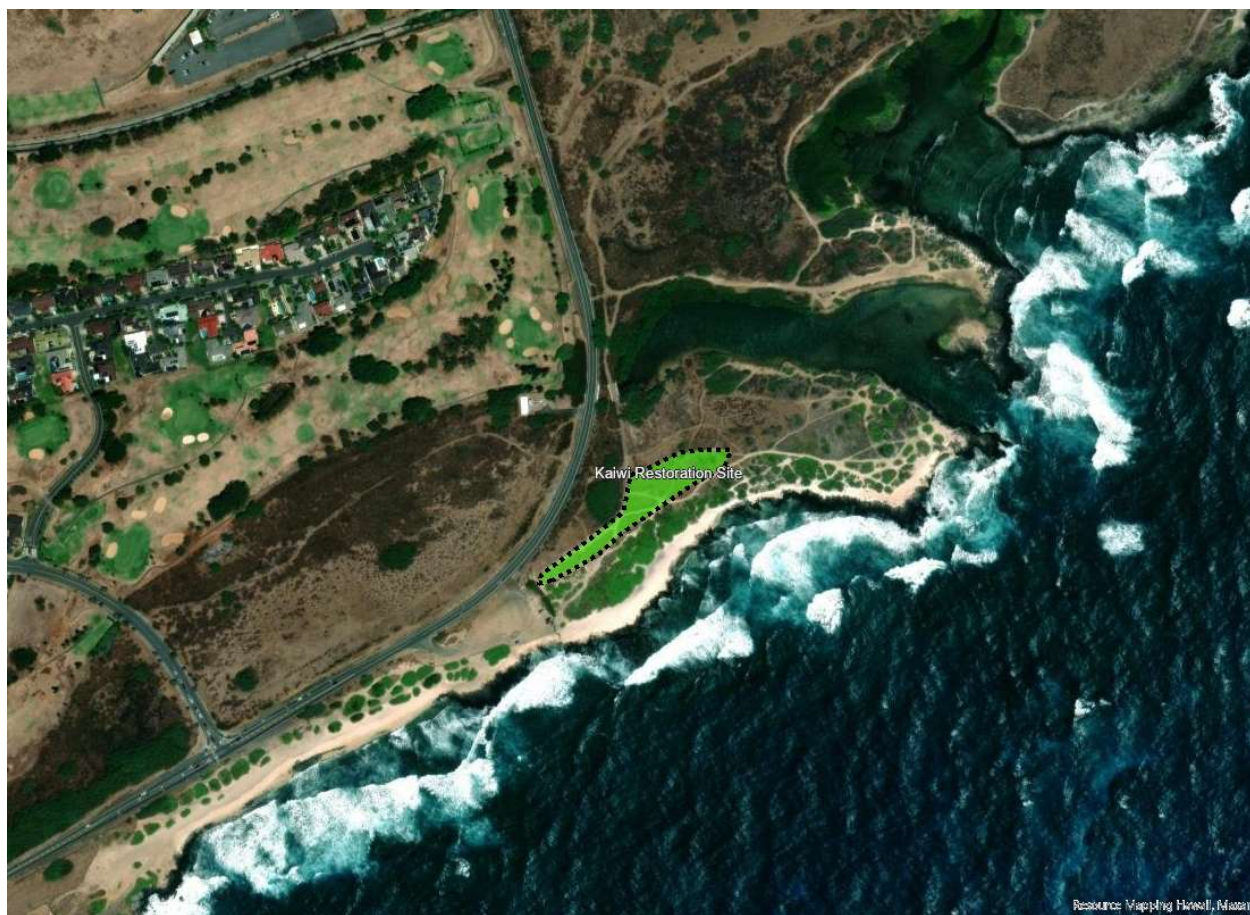


Fig 2. Zoomed in aerial view of the restoration area at Kaiwi.

