



Kokia drynarioides

Natural Area Reserve Special Fund

The annual investment by the State in the NAR Special Fund Programs is leveraged by private, county and federal matching funds.

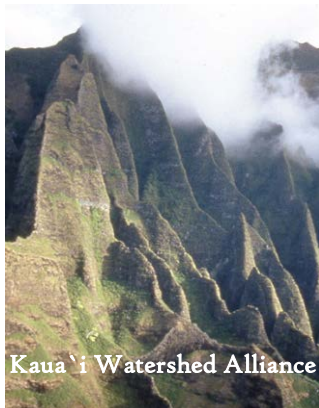


A. sowerbyana

The NAR Special Fund supports the preservation of Hawai'i's most precious ecosystems, watersheds and endangered species.

In 2006, the Legislature determined that the development, sale, and improvement of real estate in Hawaii adds additional pressure on natural areas, coastal access, agricultural production, and Hawaii's water resources and watershed recharge areas. To protect Hawai'i's invaluable ecosystems and water supplies, a dedicated funding mechanism was created for the Natural Area Partnership Program, the Natural Area Reserves, the Watershed Partnerships Program, and the Youth Conservation Corps through the tax paid on conveyances of land (HRS §247-7). These revenues are deposited into the Natural Area Reserve (NAR) Special Fund, established by HRS §195-9, which supports land management actions on six major islands and engages over 60 public-private landowners, partners, and agencies.

The Forest Stewardship and the Legacy Lands Conservation Programs are other conservation programs that are funded with conveyance tax revenues. These complement the NAR Special Fund programs by providing funds for management actions to restore forests or for acquisition of lands with conservation value. These programs demonstrate how efforts within the Division of Forestry and Wildlife utilize different tools to protect the most highly valuable and threatened lands in the State.



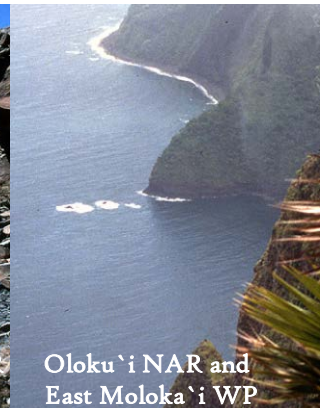
Kaua'i Watershed Alliance



Ka`ena NAR



Mauna Kea Ice Age NAR



Oloku`i NAR and East Moloka`i WP

The Natural Area Reserve Special Fund invests in many critical programs: Natural Area Reserves Management



The Natural Area Reserve System protects the best remaining representatives of Hawai'i's native ecosystems, geological sites, and habitats for rare native plants and animals so that future generations can enjoy, study, and experience our unique natural heritage. Field crews actively defend against threats from invasive species while helping to restore these areas by outplanting and monitoring rare species recovery.

Watershed Partnerships

Watershed Partnerships are voluntary alliances of public and private landowners committed to the common value of protecting forested watersheds for water recharge and other ecosystem services, such as native habitat and species conservation, water quality, education, jobs, and other services, through collaborative management. NAR Special Fund dollars are leveraged with an average 1:1 contribution from federal, county, and private sources.



Natural Area Partnership Program



This innovative program provides state matching funds on a 2:1 basis with private funds to encourage the management of natural resources on private lands permanently dedicated to conservation. With over 30,000 acres enrolled, this program complements the existing NARS by providing long-term protection and management of natural area reserve quality on private lands.

Youth Conservation Corps

This program gives high school and college youth the opportunity to learn conservation skills, teamwork, and the satisfaction of working to preserve Hawai'i's natural heritage. In 2011, the program will involve more than 200 youth, and provide educational stipends to 100 more conservation volunteers, in cooperation with a Federal Americorps grant.



**For more information, please contact Randy Kennedy, Native Ecosystem Protection and Management Manager
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Photos: *A. sowerbyana* (snail): Bill Mull, 'Akohekohe: Frank Howarth, all others: DOFAW file photos