

Appendix C

Forestry Related Assistance Programs

Land Acquisition for Conservation Purposes and Forestry Related Programs

Overview

As diverse as its unique flora, the State of Hawaii has an active community interested in land acquisition for conservation purposes. During the process of acquiring land or a conservation easement, it is common to partner with any number of entities such as Cities, Counties, State Departments, the Federal Government and/or non-profit partners. (*See below*). It is also common to utilize one or more funding sources, as well as utilize Landowner Assistance Forestry Related Programs for long term management of these lands. Some management focuses on conservation while other on sustainable forest products. See below for a fairly comprehensive list of assistance programs in Hawaii.

The entities that make up the Partners each has a mission, specific goals and foci all based on differing criteria and benefits associated with any given land acquisition such as:

- % Forest Canopy and/or Forest Products
- Agriculture Zoned
- Coastal Areas
- Designated Wildlife Habitat
- % Threatened and Endangered
- Culturally Sensitive
- Historic or Archeologically Important
- Open Space and/or Scenic Beauty
- Recreation Opportunities or Public Access
- Watershed, Waterway and/or Water Quality Protection
- Coral Reef Protection
- Highly Threatened Lands or Buffer Zones

This purpose of this Appendix is to provide a list of the prominent land acquisition entities in Hawaii including any plans or priorities. Also included are key issues that impact successful conservation of land. The intent is not to provide an exhaustive list of all issues, species, available data, or research gaps in Hawaii.

Benefits

Acquiring land for conservation purposes can provide a myriad of benefits both to the seller, the buyer, and to the community at large by protecting land from potential future threats. Some of the important benefits that intact ecosystems provide are watershed protection (aquifer recharge & water quality), habitat for native plants and animals, open space access for the community & future generations, forest products and more.

Trends & Opportunities

Many understand the value of strategically targeting specific areas and/or ecosystems for acquisition due to their rarity or imminent threat. While shared actions according to common strategic goals are of interest, other factors can and do impact how decisions are made. Some of these factors are: differences in prioritizing criteria, funding equity/representation among the islands, political influences, incompatible funding timelines and terminology, management

capacity, and others. It is very important that existing and future entities interested in acquisition for conservation purposes understand missions, goals, and methods of others in order to capitalize on partnerships and opportunities to pool funding. It is also important to collaborate on the development of strategic acquisition lists, lobbying special interest groups, staying abreast of future funding opportunities, and continually listening to and communicating with the public.

In November 2007, the Department of Lands and Natural Resources (DLNR) Division of Forestry & Wildlife prepared a Legislative Report entitled “Requesting DLNR to Conduct an Analysis of Incentives to Promote Landowner Protection of Important Mauka Lands”. This report outlines a number of strategies the State can strive to engage in and they are as follows:

- 1) Landowner Assistance Programs (see below)
 - Remove restrictive disincentives
 - Develop a ‘one-stop shop’ interactive website with all assistance programs
 - Revise the Forest Stewardship Program to equal favorable incentives in the State Natural Area Preserve Program (NAPP)
 - Improve the structure and deliverability of the Native Forest Dedication Program currently only found on the Big Island.
- 2) Actively Promote the use of Conservation Easements
 - Model conservation tax credit programs for Hawaii
 - Develop and enact a conservation tax credit
- 3) Real Property Taxes
 - Counties should consider adopting a modified property tax valuation that rewards landowners for maintaining land uses that provide ecosystem Services.
- 4) Quantifying and Mapping Ecosystem Services
 - Support the development of new methods for monitoring biodiversity ecosystem services in Hawaii that have consistent and timely information about trends and changes in the landscape.
- 5) Payment for Ecosystem Services – Possible Pilot Projects in Hawaii
 - Launch landowner demonstration projects that focus on selling ecosystem Services and developing business strategies to make conservation economically attractive.
 - Explore diversified funding sources to pay for ecosystem services, including launching a Hawaii Fund for Conservation.
- 6) Other Market-Based Funding Mechanisms
 - Conservation Development
 - Transferable Development Rights
 - Certification, Eco-labeling, and Niche Markets
 - Ecotourism
 - Conservation Banking

A number of the above have been considered to one degree or another, but clearly more efforts are needed to increase incentives for private landowners to engage in the conservation of land.

Threats

Conversion of forests to non-forest uses can cause deleterious impacts to the function of ecosystems and the benefits that many gain from them. The once plentiful Dryland forests are now the most threatened of all forest types in Hawaii. Many plants, animals and arthropods are

dependent on the unique forests that house them. With population increases comes forest conversion, temperature increases, fragmentation, and loss of ecosystem function. While the acquisition of land provides an immediate halt to forest conversion, it is only a tool that is successful when strategically used in conjunction with a number of other public incentives and continued resource restoration.

Key Issues

- 1) What are top priority forest areas in Hawaii in need of conservation through land acquisition? Need to develop a plan and criteria for identifying priority landscapes in Hawaii by identify each organizations mission or priority landscapes. Where do priorities for conservation overlap?
- 2) Application Deadlines - Several attendees discussed the idea of streamlining application deadlines and perhaps requirements so that the overall process in Hawaii is easier. If two agencies have the same due date is this helpful or an impediment to applicants. Are there ways to make the process more compatible?
- 3) Ranking of Projects - There was some discussion about how projects are ranked and how to make these systems more accessible for inter-agency collaboration. Currently NARS and Legacy are identifying key points that overlap in the application and scoring process to make their programs more compatible.
- 4) Describe Future Plans and Goals
Legacy has plans to amend the 2004 Assessment of Needs so that agriculture lands can be considered. NRCS has a new Healthy Forest Reserve Program.
- 5) Outreach, increase applicants - Create a website that links all of these organizations and clearly describes the timelines and application process for each agency or program.
- 6) Interagency Collaboration - Establish working groups to focus on some of the above issues, for example working out the details on the application process. Establish a regular schedule for meetings such as the Sept. 4, 2009 video conference.

Land Acquisition and Restoration Entities, Plans & Priorities and Programs

1. County Plans & Priorities

County of Hawaii

Hawaii County General Plan. Provides the legal basis for all subdivision, zoning and related ordinances for the County of Hawaii. It contains Historic, Natural Beauty, Natural Resources, Recreation, Land Use sections and several relevant maps and tables.

<http://co.hawaii.hi.us/la/gp/toc.html>

Community Development Plans (CDP). In conformance with the General Plan requirements, Steering Committees are formed to provide guidance and input throughout the CDP process.

<http://www.hcrc.info/community-planning/community-development-plans>

Public Access, Open Space, and Natural Resources Preservation Commission - This Commission develops two prioritized lists of lands for potential acquisition funding from the Public Access, Open Space, and Natural Resources Preservation Fund. It ranks potential county acquisitions and possible partnerships with the State or nonprofit organizations.
<http://www.co.hawaii.hi.us/finance/ponc.htm>

County of Maui

Maui County General Plan - The principal tool for the county in evaluating public and private projects and their impacts on land use, the economy, environment, infrastructure, and cultural resources. It contains Population, Land use, the Environment and Cultural Resources sections.
<http://www.co.maui.hi.us/index.asp?nid=421>

Open Space, Natural Resources, Cultural Resources, and Scenic Views Preservation Fund - no associated planning or prioritizing. Grants from this fund are considered by the Budget and Finance Committee and awarded by the County Council.
<http://www.co.maui.hi.us/index.asp?nid=592>

Community plans - Nine community plans have been adopted by the Maui County Council. These plans establish the goals, objectives, policies, and implementing actions for each district, and include revised land use designations. <http://www.co.maui.hi.us/index.asp?nid=423>

The Shoreline Access Points Study lists specific parcels that have value as shoreline access points in a spreadsheet format and is available on the Maui County website at:
http://www.mauicounty.gov/departments/Planning/czmp/Shoreline_access_pts.htm

The Pali to Puamana Parkway Project aims to realign the Honoapiilani Highway mauka-ward to reduce shoreline erosion and preserve park and open space areas along the corresponding section of the West Maui shoreline. The final plan will include intended acquisitions of parks and open space. <http://www.mauicoastallandtrust.org/parkway.php>

County of Kauai

Kauai General Plan - A document that contains policies to guide the future physical development of the county and guides land regulation amendments and the review of specific zoning amendment and development applications. Includes Park Site needs, Land use maps, and Heritage maps.
<http://www.kauai.gov/Government/Departments/PlanningDepartment/TheKauaiGeneralPlan/tabid/130/Default.aspx>

Public Access, Open Space, and Natural Resources Preservation Commission - This Commission develops an annual list of recommended priorities of lands or property entitlements to be acquired or for the funding of projects directly related to the act, and to incorporate a countywide community input process into development of this annual list.

<http://www.kauai.gov/Government/BoardsampCommissions/OpenSpaceCommission/tabid/294/Default.aspx>

City and County of Honolulu

Oahu General Plan - Guides long-term development in the City and County of Honolulu. Contains Culture and Recreation, Natural Environment sections.

<http://www.honolulu.gov/planning/OahuGenPlan.asp>

Sustainable Communities Plans - The eight Sustainable Communities Plans provide conceptual, long-range visions and policies to guide the land use and infrastructure decisions for each region. Several of these community plans are scheduled for revision in late 2006.

<http://honolulu.gov/planning/DevSustCommPlans.asp>

Special Area and Neighborhood Master Plans - These plans allow for the identification of the function, organization, and character of specific neighborhoods within a region's Development or Sustainable Communities plan. <http://www.honolulu.gov/Planning/SpecAreaNeighbor.asp>

Clean Water and Natural Lands Commission - This commission has developed criteria for prioritizing annual project applications for land acquisition grants from the Clean Water and Natural Lands Fund. <http://www.honolulu.gov/council/cbc/cwnl.htm>

2. State Plans, Priorities &/or Programs (organized by agency)

Department of Land and Natural Resources

Coastal Erosion Management Plan (COEMAP). COEMAP seeks to improve the current erosion management in Hawaii. Land acquisition is listed as one of the tools for accomplishing this goal. Available at <http://www.hawaii.gov/dlnr/occl/files/coemap.pdf>

Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP). This is a federal-state partnership to encourage conservation and environmentally sound practices on degraded croplands, marginal pasture lands and/or riparian areas. The goals are to reduce sediment and runoff, increase coral reef health and marine diversity in near shore environments, improve endangered species habitats, reforestation of native riparian buffers and declining habitats and reduction and control of invasive species.

Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy & Maps. In order to be eligible for federal State Wildlife Grants (SWF), states must prepare a Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (CWCS). The SWF program provides federal funds for the development and implementation of programs that benefit native wildlife and their habitat. The CWCS includes information on the distribution and abundance of species of greatest conservation need, descriptions of the location and condition of key habitats for the identified species. Available at <http://www.state.hi.us/dlnr/dofaw/cwcs/index.html>

Forest Legacy Program, Assessment of Needs. Amended in 2004. DLNR & US Forest Service - This document assesses Hawaii's forested natural resources and land use trends and outlines priority areas eligible for this Program. Includes Scoring Criteria. Available at: <http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/dofaw/forestry/hflp>

Hawaii Forest Bird Recovery Plan, DLNR & USFWS. Revised in 2006, this plan provides individual species accounts and actions needed Statewide for the recovery of 21 taxa of forest birds in Hawai'i. In some cases the plan identifies specific land parcels where a particular recovery action is needed. Available at http://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plans/2006/060922a.pdf

Hawaii Forest Stewardship Program Five-Year Program Plan (2001-2006). This plan contains information on the Forest Stewardship Program goals and direction, as well as State forest resources, management goals and mechanisms of interest or available through the State Forest Stewardship Program. Available at <http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/dofaw/forestry/fsp>

Hawaii State Priority Plan. This plan for the Forest Land Enhancement Program contains information on State forest resources and management goals and mechanisms. Available at <http://www.state.hi.us/dlnr/dofaw/hfsp/>

(unofficial) **Historic Preserves Program Plan.** In 1993, the Historic Preservation Division completed a detailed plan for a preserves program. Files available at the DLNR, Historic Preservation Division.

Historic Preservation Library, Bibliography Database. Records of federal, state, and local development plans, permit applications, and land use approvals. Where historic properties were thought to be probable, inventory surveys were conducted. Available through the bibliography database at the Historic Preservation Library

State Historic Preservation Plan. This plan is updated through 2001 and was created to provide a vision for historic preservation within the State. It serves as a guide for effective decision making, for coordinating historic preservation activities within Hawaii, and for communicating statewide historic preservation goals, policies and objectives. Available at <http://www.hawaii.gov/dlnr/hpd/presplan.htm>

State of Hawaii Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP). Updated in 2008, the Hawaii SCORP provides the technical basis and planning assumptions for making decisions on State and County programs, County plans, and land use amendments. An update is required every five years for the state to qualify to receive federal Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant funds to expand outdoor recreation opportunities statewide. Available at <http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/scorp>

Water Resource Protection Plan. Commission on Water Resource Management (CWRM). The objective of the WRPP is to protect and sustain ground- and surface-water resources, watersheds, and natural stream environments statewide. The plan is a comprehensive study of

occurrence, sustainability, conservation, augmentation, and other resource management measures. Available at <http://www.hawaii.gov/dlnr/cwrmp/planing/wrpp.htm>

Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Lands of Importance to the State of Hawaii (ALISH). Maps available on the State of Hawaii Office of Planning GIS website. Available at <http://hawaii.gov/dbedt/gis/miscmaps.htm>

Agricultural Water Use and Development Plan. The first two phases of the AWUDP were completed in 2003 and 2004, respectively, and focus on the rehabilitation needs of 10 state and private irrigation systems, estimated existing water demands, and identified projected diversified agricultural water needs through 2024. The AWUDP Phase 3 update is currently underway, and will focus on refining estimates of current and future water demands, including assessment of prime agricultural lands and GIS mapping of major agricultural water systems. Available at <http://www.hawaii.gov/dlnr/cwrmp/planing/awudp.htm>

Incentives for Important Agricultural Lands, Preliminary Report. Act 183, SLH 2005, provides for lands to be classified as important agricultural lands either through declaratory ruling or through a county mapping process. This report provides some information about the designation process and the incentives being proposed by HDOA to encourage the protection of agricultural lands. Updates and report available at <http://hawaii.gov/hdoa/Info/ial/important-agricultural-lands-update>

Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism

Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Plan. Hawaii Coastal Zone Management Program within the Office of Planning. This plan guides local participation in the federal Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program, which enables states to permanently protect coastal and estuarine lands by providing matching funds for community-based projects to acquire interests in property from willing sellers. Available at http://www.geography.hawaii.edu/projects/celcp/hawaii_plan.html

Important Agricultural / Rural Lands Reform. The Office of Planning (OIP) has several power point presentations posted on OIP's vision for rural and agricultural development for the State of Hawaii. Land acquisition is mentioned as a tool for accomplishing OIP's goals. Available on the LUC website: http://luc.state.hi.us/project_ial.htm

Maps Depicting Patterns of Human Settlement and Agricultural Lands. Available on the LUC website: http://luc.state.hi.us/pattern_maps.htm

The Hawaii State Plan. (Office of Planning). Chapter 226, Hawaii Revised Statutes, establishes a statewide planning system that provides a framework for the implementation of State Plan policies, including State functional plans and guidance on county general plans. The State Plan sets out broad policies and priority guidelines in the areas of the economy, physical resources &

environment, and sociocultural development. Twelve State Functional Plans further define the State plan in twelve policy areas. Many of these policy areas relate to land acquisition: agriculture, conservation lands, historic preservation, recreation, water resources. The State Functional Plans were last updated in 1989 and 1991.

The Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Plan. (Office of the Auditor). Through Act 8, SLH 2005, the Legislature created the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Task Force to review the existing State Plan and address the planning needs of Hawaii with a view to year 2050. According to the Hawaii 2050 Sustainability Task Force Report, "the Hawai'i State Plan, the State's Quality Growth Policy, and the State Functional Plans have now been generally recognized as no longer meeting the 21st century needs of State, county, and private agencies facing multiple issues of sustainability." The Office of the Auditor is now in the process of creating the Hawai'i 2050 Sustainability Plan, with the first draft planned for community review in July 2007. Available at <http://www.hawaii2050.org/>

The University of Hawaii

Coastal Imagery. University of Hawaii Coastal Geology Group. Shoreline imagery and information is available for each of the main Hawaiian Islands.

Soils of Hawaii, University of Hawaii CTAHR. Descriptions of the soil orders found in the Hawaiian Islands with maps of the soil order locations on each island. Available at: <http://www2.ctahr.hawaii.edu/oc/freepubs/pdf/SCM-20.pdf>

Forage Environment / Vegetative Zones of Hawaii, University of Hawaii CTAHR. Maps based on a 1942 description of the various plant zones on the major Hawaiian Islands; these maps are deemed relevant as a basic indicator of foraging zones. Available at: <http://www.ctahr.hawaii.edu/ctahr2001/InfoCenter/Forages/environment.html>

Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA)

Mission: OHA shall protect and preserve Hawaii lands and their cultural significance by:

- Bridging the ancient use of lands with future land use patterns
- Advocating for land use and transaction practices and regulations congruent with the Hawaiian Sense of Place.
- Creating financially viable Property Involvements.

OHA has a number of programs that are outlined in their 2010-2016 Strategic Plan

<http://www.oha.org/stratplan/>. Their REAL ESTATE VISION, MISSION, AND STRATEGY can be found at

http://www.oha.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=834&Itemid=121

3. Land Trusts, Non-Profits & Joint Ventures. As of June 2010 it is expected that the majority of Land Trusts in the State of Hawaii will merge into one entity named the Hawaii Conservancy. If/When this is complete, it will likely be a high priority to define strategic lands for conservation acquisition. The State looks forward to playing a role in this type of future thinking strategic planning.

Hawaii Island Land Trust (HILT). Hawai'i Island Land Trust (HILT) facilitates the protection of environmentally-sensitive lands (watersheds, floodplains, native habitat), open space, agricultural and ranching lands, cultural sites, and historically significant areas that are important for present and future generations. This includes coastal lands, wetlands, pasture lands, mountain lands and forest lands. We serve only the Island of Hawai'i. Available at <http://www.hawaiilandtrust.org/>

Kauai Public Land Trust (KPLT). Working with others to use land conservation tools to preserve Kauai's places of the heart. Property under consideration by the Kauai Public Land Trust must meet one or more specific criteria for acquisition: Scenic Value & Open Space - is of unique scenic value and is visible to the public; or its development would impair the scenic character of the local landscape or it would threaten scenic view planes. Significant Natural Habitat - in a relatively natural state and large enough to adequately protect the resource; it contains rare, endangered, threatened or other native species. Historical & Archaeological Significance - represents a significant cultural or historic resource, which may be damaged or lost without protection, and is capable of being maintained in perpetuity. Public Recreation & Education - accessible to the general public; is an attractive or educational resource, or is valuable for recreational use. Productive Farmland - zoned for agriculture and is rated as prime ag land. Available at <http://www.kauaipubliclandtrust.org/About.htm>

Maui Coastal Land Trust (MCLT). MCLT operates in the County of Maui and has qualifying criteria for lands it seeks to protect. These criteria include: the property is located in Maui County, protects and preserves coastal areas of Maui, the protection of coastal lands be consistent with the Maui County General Plan, acquisition would protect coastal lands under threat from either existing or foreseeable development within the county, and protection of this property aids sound land use planning, promotes land conservation and encourages careful stewardship of coastal lands. Available at <http://www.mauicoastallandtrust.org/index.html>

Pacific Coast Joint Venture (PCJV). The mission of the Hawaii Wetland Joint Venture (*HWJV*) is to protect, restore, increase and enhance all types of wetlands, riparian habitat and associated uplands throughout the Hawaiian Islands through partnerships for the benefit of birds, other wildlife, people and the Hawaiian culture. Conservation strategies include: securement (acquisition, easements, agreements), restoration, enhancement, management and stewardship of private lands, monitoring, evaluation and research, communication and education. Available at <http://www.pcvj.org/hawaii/>

The Nature Conservancy (TNC) - Hawaiian High Islands Ecoregion Plan - web-based biodiversity conservation planning document by the Nature Conservancy of Hawaii and other partner organizations. TNC's goal is to bring active, protective management to representative, viable, native ecological systems and species of the Hawaiian Archipelago, and to thereby sustain the greatest possible complement of native Hawaiian biodiversity into the future. Working with partners, threats will be abated, health of terrestrial and freshwater ecological systems will be restored and maintained, and the unique biodiversity of the islands will be carried forward as an irreplaceable asset, meeting human needs and fulfilling ecosystem functions that serve all life in the islands. <http://www.hawaiiecoregionplan.info/introduction.html>

The Trust for Public Land (TPL) - TPL is nation-wide with a regional office in Hawaii and has five Conservation Initiatives including: **Parks for People** - TPL works in cities and suburbs across America to ensure that everyone, in particular every child, enjoys close-to-home access to a park, playground, or natural area. **Working Lands** - TPL protects farms, ranches, and forests that support land-based livelihoods and rural ways of life. **Natural Lands** - TPL conserves places of natural beauty that preserve wilderness for our children's children to explore and that support other species with whom we share the planet. **Heritage Lands** - TPL protects places of historic and cultural importance that keep us in touch with the past and who we are as a people. **Land & Water** - TPL preserves lands that protect clean water and the natural beauty of our coasts and waterways. Available at http://www.tpl.org/tier2_kad.cfm?folder_id=3149

Molokai Land Trust (MLT). The mission is to protect and restore the land, natural and cultural resources of Moloka'i, and to perpetuate the unique Native Hawaiian traditions and character of the islands for the benefit of the future generations of all Moloka'i, particularly Native Hawaiians. Values of MLT - Although there are many important principles that guide our work, the MLT emphasizes the following values as core to our efforts: Moloka'i Nui A Hina: reverence and love for Moloka'i's people and the land. Moloka'i Pule O'o: strength in mission through prayer, training and education Moloka'i Aina Momona: promotion and practicing of sustainable land use practices. Moloka'i No Ka Heke: remaining true to core Hawaiian values while embracing new technologies and ideas. William Haase, Executive Director (808)553-5626.

**Federal and State of Hawai'i Incentive Programs
For Land Management on Private Lands
April 20, 2010**

- This chart is intended to facilitate comparison of programs and provide contact information. It is neither complete nor authoritative.
- Some programs provide funding to both State and Private lands.
- Most cost-share programs **reimburse** landowners for a portion of their costs; payments are limited by (a) % or ratio of payment to match, (b) standard rates (caps) for eligible practices or (c) annual or project total maximums.
- Most programs have guidelines for what can qualify as the "match" for the cost-share. Funding from one program usually cannot match funding from another unless one program is non-Federal and the other is Federal.
- Generally, Federal and state cost-share payments need to be reported in tax returns and may or may not be taxable; search for "Cost-Share" in www.timbertax.org or www.timbertax.org/publications/aghandbook/aghandbook.asp

Program name & Administering Agency	Purpose of Program	Eligibility Criteria	Incentives and/or Cost Share Levels	Time-Frame	Other Requirements	Contact
State of HI Forest Stewardship Program (FSP) <i>Division of Forestry & Wildlife (DOFAW)</i>	Complete range of forest management activities, including: conservation, restoration, timber production, and plan development.	Private and privately leased "non-industrial forest landowners" (10-year minimum contract); minimum 5 contiguous acres in the FSP project.	50% cost-share, limited to \$75,000/year.	10 years of cost-sharing with a post 10 or more year maintenance period. Minimum 30-year contract if involves timber production.	Pre-proposal and land management plan required; payback provisions may be required for timber harvest. Onus on grantee to obtain any necessary permits, including EA's or CDUP's.	Sheri S. Mann (808) 587-4172 sheri.s.mann@hawaii.gov www.state.hi.us/dlnr/dofaw/hfsp
Urban & Community Forestry - locally known as "Kaulunani" <i>DOFAW USDA Forest Service (FS) funds</i>	Tree-planting in urban and community settings; educational programs; technical tree-care programs; Arbor Day activities.	Public or private lands with public access. No personal landscaping allowed.	Up to 50% cost-share. \$10,000/year is standard amount but exceptions are made for special projects.	Usually 1 year.	Must be a non-profit, tree advocacy or civic group, educational institution, and/or local or state government agency	Teresa Trueman-Madriaga (808) 672-3383 ttm@hawaii.rr.com www.state.hi.us/dlnr/dofaw/kaulunani
Watershed Partnership Program <i>DOFAW</i>	Cooperative projects that benefit on-the-ground activities protecting land for watershed conservation and implementing existing management plans negotiated under the Partnerships.	Landowner must inter into a MOU or agreement adopting the exiting management plan scope.	No mandatory cost-share requirement, but leveraging funds is encouraged.	Year-to-year as funds are available.	EA may be necessary. Onus on grantee to obtain any necessary permits. Reporting necessary.	Lisa Ferentinos (808) 587-0058 Lisa.ferentinos@hawaii.gov www.state.hi.us/dlnr/dofaw/vppp

<p>Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) <i>DOFAW, USDA -Farm Service Agency, NRCS</i></p>	<p>A federal-state natural resources conservation program that addresses state and nationally significant agricultural related environmental concerns. Participants remove cropland and marginal pastureland from agricultural production and convert the land to native grasses, trees and other vegetation.</p>	<p>Land must be physically and legally capable of being agriculturally productive. AGI limitation as defined by the Farm Bill does apply, however a case-by-case exemption is available for environmentally significant lands</p>	<p>▪ Annual rental payment ranging from \$43 to \$225/acre/yr. Plus State bonus \$17/acre/year. ▪ 50% cost-share for practices and mid-contract management. ▪ SIP up to \$100/acre. ▪ PIP additional 40% reimbursable payment for select practices.</p>	<p>5 year enrollment period to sign-up 15,000 acres in Hawaii. Participants are required to enter into 15 year contracts with the State of Hawaii and USDA</p>	<p>http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/dofaw/forestry/crep</p>	<p>Irene Sprechter, DLNR-DOFAW (808) 587-4167 Melissa.Sprechter@hawaii.gov http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/dofaw/forestry/crep</p> <p>Connie Laumann, USDA-Farm Service Agency (808) 441-2704 ext. 145 Connie.Laumann@hi.usda.gov</p> <p>Mike Whitt, USDA-NRCS (808) 541-2600 ext. 153 Michael.Whit@hi.usda.gov</p>
<p>North American Wetland Conservation Act (NAWCA)</p>	<p>preserving and/or restoring wetland ecosystems that contribute to waterfowl habitat recovery</p>	<p>CE or Fee title</p>	<p>50/50 match</p>	<p>Up to \$75,000 a year – apps due late Oct. Up to \$1m apps due Feb?</p>	<p>Jane Rubey - State Coordinator Hawaii Wetland Joint Venture 808-217-6658 Rubey@pcjv.org</p>	<p>Jane Rubey - State Coordinator Hawaii Wetland Joint Venture 808-217-6658 Rubey@pcjv.org</p>
<p>Partners for Fish & Wildlife US F&WS</p>	<p>(1) Restore natural habitats and provide long-term benefits to threatened and endangered species; or (2) satisfy the needs of wildlife populations on National Wildlife Refuges</p>	<p>Private lands and Hawaiian Homelands</p>	<p>Up to 50% cost-share; technical assistance also provided</p>	<p>10-year minimum commitment</p>	<p>Projects cannot be used to fulfill mitigation requirements Onus on grantee to obtain any necessary permits.</p>	<p>Benton Pang (808) 792-9443 http://naeficislands.fws.gov/org/organic_partners.html http://partners.fws.gov/pdfs/05partnersgrants.gov.pdf</p>
<p>Safe Harbor Agreements US F&WS & DOFAW</p>	<p>Proactive natural resource management to benefit endangered and threatened species.</p>	<p>Private and public lands</p>	<p>Provides regulatory assurances that future property-use restrictions will not be imposed</p>	<p>5-15 year commitment</p>	<p>Activities must meet "net conservation benefit" criteria for species</p>	<p>Chris Mullen (808) 792-9400 http://endangered.fws.gov/recovery/harborqae.pdf</p> <p>DOFAW – Julie Kolomyski 587-4149</p>
<p>Coastal Program US F&WS VIA DOFAW</p>	<p>Focused efforts in bays, estuaries and watersheds around the U.S. coastlines. The purpose is to conserve fish and wildlife and their habitats to support healthy coastal ecosystems.</p>	<p>Provides funding for 22 high-priority coastal ecosystems. See website for a list of those.</p>	<p>Generally 3 to 1 match.</p>	<p>Projects cannot be used to fulfill mitigation requirements or for land purchase, but funds are available to facilitate purchase i.e. appraisals & due diligence needs. Subject to Yellow Book appraisal and review.</p>	<p>Projects cannot be used to fulfill mitigation requirements or for land purchase, but funds are available to facilitate purchase i.e. appraisals & due diligence needs. Subject to Yellow Book appraisal and review.</p>	<p>Michael Whitt 808-541-2600 x153 www.fws.gov/coastal/CoastalProgram/ http://ecos.fws.gov/coastal_grants/viewContent.do?viewPage=home</p>
<p>Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP) USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)</p>	<p>Restoration of unique native habitats, especially for threatened and endangered plant and animal species; priority habitats for Hawaii include native forests.</p>	<p>Private or leased land; state and county lands also eligible</p>	<p>Up to 75% cost share Up to 100% cost-share</p>	<p>5-10 year contract 15-year contract</p>	<p>Primary goal may not be commercial production. Onus on grantee to obtain any necessary permits.</p>	<p>Gwendolyn S. Gilbert Phone: (808) 541-2600 Ext. 122 Email: gwen.gilbert@hi.usda.gov</p> <p>Michael Whitt 808-541-2600 x153</p>

Conservation Grants Innovation Grants (NRCS)	To stimulate the development and adoption of innovative conservation approaches and technologies.	Applicants must be a federally recognized Indian Tribe, State, or local unit of government, non-governmental organization, or individual. Must meet EQIP eligibility standards.	50/50 match; 25% of which can come from in-kind contributions.	http://www.ance.usda.gov/programs/equip/	Michael Whitt 808-541-2600 x153 michael.whitt@hi.usda.gov National Program : Gregorio Cruz Gregorio.cruz@wdc.usda.gov
Conservation Stewardship Program (NRCS)					Michael Whitt 808-541-2600 x153 michael.whitt@hi.usda.gov
Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) NRCS	Provides a voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers that promote agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible national goals.	Private or State owned land 5-10+ year lease: cropland, rangeland, pasture, forest, other farm or ranch land	Up to 75% cost-share	Up to 10 years	Denise Wiedenheft (808) 541-2600 Ext. 106 Denise.wiedenheft@hi.usda.gov
Clean Water Act Section 319 Grants for Dept of Health administers funds via EPA	State Non-Point Source Agencies. Projects focused on reducing non-point source pollution.	State, private, communities, cities, counties, non-profits, etc.	50/50 cost-share	Generally 24 to 36 months	Hudson Slay (808) 586-4436 www.epa.gov/owow/nps/cwact.html
Targeted Watershed Grants EPA	Urban Watershed Capacity Building engages communities to foster an increased connection, understanding, and ownership of their waters.	Must: (1) establish and manage a competitive urban watershed subaward program; and (2) provide urban watershed technical services to subawardees.	75/25 cost-share	Up to 3 years.	http://www.epa.gov/iwg
Doris Duke Foundation / Wildlife Conservation Society	Bring nonprofit conservation organizations and state wildlife agencies together for small but essential projects that address what states have identified as their top conservation priorities				DDF: Douglas Meyer 202-329-3299 (www.ddf.org) environment@bernuthconsulting.com WCS: Darren Long at 406-556-7203 or dlong@wcs.org
Hawaii Tourism Authority					

Acronyms: EA – Environmental Assessment, CDUP – Conservation District Use Permit, EPA – Environmental Protection Agency

**Federal and State of Hawai'i
Land Acquisition Programs**

Program Name & Administering Agency	Purpose of Program	Eligibility Criteria	Incentives and/or Cost Share Levels	Time-Frame	Other Requirements	Contact
Forest Legacy Program <i>DOFAW via FS funds</i>	Preclude conversion of forestland to non-forest uses.	Private landowner that is a willing seller, currently 75% forested and threatened by development or fragmentation; must fall within designated "Forest Legacy Areas".	Federal funds available to purchase up to 75% of market value of a conservation easement or fee simple acquisition. Carries potential tax benefits.	Applications Due August 20 th Acquisitions Permanent	Subject to competitive prioritization at state, regional, and national levels. Requires FSP Plan; may require EA and CDUP. Subject to Yellow Book standard appraisal and review.	Sheri S. Mann (808) 587-4172 Sheri.s.mann@hawaii.gov www.state.hi.us/dlnr/dofaw/legacy
Recovery Land Acquisition <i>F&WS</i> Via DOFAW	Acquisition of fee title or conservation easement for protecting habitats essential for recovery of listed species before development or other land use changes impair or destroy key habitat values.	Private land willing seller in support of approved species recovery plans.	75% cost-share	Applications Due Acquisitions are Permanent	Subject to Yellow Book standard appraisal and review. Regionally competitive.	Craig Rowland (808)-792-9450 Craig_rowland@fws.gov www.fws.gov/endangered/grants/section6FY2006/RF/P.pdf
National Coastal Wetland Conservation Grant Program <i>F&WS</i>	Provides matching grants to States for acquisition, restoration, management or enhancement of coastal wetlands.	Projects are selected based on ranking factors: 1. Consistent with the National Wetlands Priority Conservation Plan; 2. Located in States with dedicated land acquisition programs; and 3. Located in maritime forests on coastal barrier islands.	Program fact sheet – http://ecos.fws.gov/docs/coastal_gra/ms/web/pdf/1135.pdf		Additional ranking include credit to projects benefiting threatened and endangered species; promote partnerships, and support conservation & recovery. Program will not provide grants to support planning, research, monitoring, or construction or repair of structures for recreational purposes.	Chris Swenson (808) 792-9458 http://ecos.fws.gov/coastal_grants/viewContent.do?viewPage=home
Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) Land Acquisition <i>F&WS</i> Via DOFAW	Acquisition of land that have important benefits for ecosystems that support listed, proposed and candidate species.	Land must be associated with approved HCPs.	25% of estimated project cost; or 10% when two or more States or Territories implement a joint project	Permanent	Nationally Competitive. Subject to Yellow Book appraisal and review.	Heather Hollis Heather_hollis@fws.gov

<p>Army Compatible Use Buffers Program Formerly: Private Lands Initiative Program <i>US Army</i></p>	<p>Available for NGO or state/local agency to purchase a portion of land (titles or conservation easements). Helps the Army meet Endangered Species Recovery Act and prevention of future T&E species listings. Offers landowners an opportunity to establish long-term conservation and wildlife practices and protection by restoring, and enhancing wetlands on private property.</p>	<p>Private landowner that is a willing seller near Army lands. Another source of funds should be identified because this program does not provide funds for an entire purchase.</p>	<p>Possible reduced land taxes.</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Army may use the land for low-impact training.</p>	<p>John Housein (410) 436-6465 John.housein@us.army.mil Hawaii contact: alvin.char@us.army.mil http://aec.army.mil/usaec/inatural/natural03a.html</p>
<p>Wetlands Reserve Program <i>NRCS</i></p>	<p>Participants voluntarily limit future use of the land while retaining the right to conduct common grazing practices: produce hay, mow, or harvest for seed production; conduct fire rehabilitation; and construct firebreaks and fences.</p>	<p>Minimum of 40 contiguous acres. There is no maximum acreage. Private landowners only.</p>	<p>Provides technical and financial support to help landowners with their wetland restoration efforts.</p>			<p>Michael Whitt (808) 541-2600 Ext. 153 michael.whitt@hi.usda.gov</p>
<p>Grassland Reserve Program <i>NRCS</i></p>	<p>Participants voluntarily limit future use of the land while retaining the right to conduct common grazing practices: produce hay, mow, or harvest for seed production; conduct fire rehabilitation; and construct firebreaks and fences.</p>	<p>This is a conservation easement in perpetuity. Easement payments for this option equal the fair market value, less the grazing value of the land encumbered by the easement. These values will be determined using an appraisal process.</p>	<p>10 - 30 year agreements</p>	<p>Required to follow a conservation plan developed by NRCS and the participant to preserve the integrity of the grassland. If restoration is determined necessary by NRCS, a restoration agreement will be incorporated within the rental agreement or easement</p>		<p>Michael Whitt (808) 541-2600 Ext. 153 michael.whitt@hi.usda.gov</p>
<p>Farm and Ranchland Protection Program <i>NRCS</i></p>	<p>Purchase easements or other interests in land from landowners to keep productive farm and ranchland in agricultural uses.</p>	<p>Must be part of a pending offer from a State, tribe, or local farmland protection program; be privately owned; and have surrounding parcels of land that can support long-term agricultural production. Must have a conservation plan for highly erodible land.</p>	<p>Up to 50% cost-share. Possible reduced land taxes.</p>	<p>Permanent</p>	<p>Subject to Yellow Book standard appraisal and review; must be large enough to sustain agricultural production; be accessible to markets for what the land produces; have adequate infrastructure and agricultural support services.</p>	<p>Michael Whitt (808) 541-2600 Ext. 153 michael.whitt@hi.usda.gov</p>
<p>Coastal and Estuarine Land Conservation Program <i>National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)</i></p>	<p>Protects coastal and estuarine lands considered important for their ecological, conservation, recreational, historical or aesthetic values.</p>	<p>Coastal states with approved coastal zone management plans or National Estuarine Research Reserves are eligible for CELCP.</p>	<p>Provides states and local governments with matching funds to purchase significant coastal and estuarine lands, or conservation easements on such lands from willing sellers.</p>	<p>Lands purchased are protected in perpetuity.</p>	<p>Title must be held by appropriate state agency.</p>	<p>Doug Tom (808) 587-2820 dtom@dbedt.hawaii.gov http://coastalmanagement.noaa.gov/land/welcome.html</p>

APPENDIX C: FORESTRY RELATED ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

State of HI Legacy Land Conservation Fund DOFAW	Provides for the acquisition of lands, including easements.	Lands for watershed and habitat protection, parks, coastal area, natural areas, agricultural production, cultural or historical sites, recreation and public hunting	County agency or nonprofit land conservation organization grant recipients must provide match funds of at least 25% of the total project costs.	Permanent	Intended for state agencies, counties, and non-profit land conservation organizations seeking funding to acquire property.	Molly Schmidt (808) 586-0921 Molly.e.schmidt@hawaii.gov www.hawaii.gov/dlnr/dofaw/ http://www.pciiv.org/home/
Pacific Coast Joint venture						Hawaii Branch Coordinator - Jean Rudy 808-217-6658 rubby@pciiv.org www.pciiv.org/home/
National Fish & Wildlife Foundation / Walmart "Acres for America"						http://www.nfwf.org/AM/Template.cfm?Section=Charter_Progams_List&Template=/PageDisplay.cfm&PageID=32&ContentID=1974
CLEAN WATER AND NATURAL LANDS FUND County Programs						www.co.honolulu.hi.us/CountyPrograms lbowman@honolulu.gov
Natural Areas Partnership Program (NAPP) DOFAW	Protection, restoration and enhancement of significant native resources or geological features	Private landowner who is a willing seller with intact native Hawaiian ecosystems, essential habitat for endangered species, and areas within the protective (P) subzone of the Conservation District; applicant may be cooperating entity managing such lands.	Up to 67% cost-share. Possible reduced land taxes.	Permanent dedication through transfer of fee title or conservation easement.	Development of long-range agreements and management plans; requires EA. Onus on grantee to obtain any necessary permits.	Randy Kennedy (808) 587-0054 randall.w.kennedy@hawaii.gov www.state.hi.us/dlnr/dofaw/napp

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**Federal and State of Hawai'i
Tax Related Incentive Programs**

Program Name & Administering Agency	Purpose of Program	Eligibility Criteria	Incentives and/or Cost Share Levels	Time-Frame	Other Requirements	Contact
Endangered Species Tax Deduction <i>US. Fish & Wildlife Service</i>	Federal Tax deductions for practices that conserve/protect T&E species.	Must have a T&E spp. in the area and there must be an approved recovery plan for it. See www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/recovery/plans.htm			The amount of the deduction cannot exceed 25 percent of the taxpayer's gross income from farming.	http://www.fws.gov/endangered/ See Ch. 5 under Conservation Expenses in http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p225.pdf
Tree Farm Designation <i>DLNR - DOFAW</i>	Sustained production of forest products in quantity sufficient to establish a business	Private property or minimum 20 year lease	"Right to Harvest" law applies. Land will be taxed based on Agriculture zoning.		Management Plan approved by DLNR Board.	Michael Constantinides (808) 587-4186 www.capitol.hawaii.gov/hrcurrent/Vol03_Ch0121-0200D/HRS0186/HRS_0186-0002.htm
Federal income taxes <i>Internal Revenue Service</i>	Planting for timber production Timber sales	Private enterprises Private enterprises	Deduction or amortization of planting costs - up to approximately \$10,000 Long-term capital gains treatment	Amortize over 7 years Timber held over 1 year	Must establish basis	www.irs.fed.us/r8/spf/coop/taxation/ www.timbertax.org/
Property tax treatment <i>City & County of Honolulu</i>	Tree Farming	Private Property or minimum 20-year lease; minimum 10 acres	Agricultural Property Tax Reduction (1-5% of fair market value, depending upon length of dedication)	1, 5 or 10-year dedications	HRS 186 Tree Farm Designation (see above)	Real Property Assessment Division (808) 527-5510 or 5539 www.co.honolulu.hi.us/rpa/chapter8.pdf Scroll down to page 24 in pdf - "Section 8-7.3 -Dedication of Lands for Agricultural Use"
Agricultural Property Tax Reduction	Commercial tree farms	Private property or lease; minimum 5 years acceptable previous agricultural land use; agricultural condominiums not eligible	Tax assessment 50% of fair market value	20-year dedication; 10-year dedications might be allowed for short-rotation tree farms.	Tree farm management plan and other information.	Real Property Assessment Division (808) 241-6222 http://www.kauai.gov/realproperty
Agricultural Property Tax Exemption <i>Kauai County</i>	Tree farms	Private property or lease; minimum 10 acres; land in urban district not eligible	\$1000/parcel/year with a 10 year dedication and \$500/parcel/year with a 20 year dedication.	Harvesting must take place 6-25 years after planting		
Agricultural tax rates <i>Hawai'i County</i>	Commercial tree farming ("Fast Rotation Forestry" and "Slow Rotation Forestry")	Private property	Agricultural Property Tax Reduction; rates based on crop and productivity	Depends on dedication and time frame		Real Property Tax Division - Appraiser (808) 961-8354 www.hawaiipropertytax.com Click "Forms & Instructions," then "Miscellaneous," then "Agricultural Use" links

<p>Native Forest Dedication <i>Hawai'i County (Kauai County was removed from this program in 1999)</i></p>	<p>Preservation, restoration, and conservation of native forest (defined as at least 25% tree cover and 60% cover of native forest species)</p>	<p>Private property or lease of at least 20 yrs, minimum 3 acres</p>	<p>Low tax assessments, same as for pasture</p>	<p>20 year agreement to use land as native forest</p>	<p>Forest management plan; written affidavit from recognized forestry professional that restoration plan is likely to succeed within the designated time period</p>	<p>Mike McCall, Wes Takai (808) 961-8260 www.hawaiipropertytax.com Click "Forms & Instructions," then "Miscellaneous," then "Native Forest Dedication"</p>
<p>Property tax treatment <i>Maui County</i></p>	<p>Tree farms (not specifically addressed in Code, but could be considered "crop")</p>	<p>Private property or lease; minimum 5 years' acceptable previous agricultural land use</p>	<p>Tax assessment 50% of fair market value</p>	<p>20-year dedication; 10-year dedications might be allowed for short-rotation tree farms</p>	<p>Petition Director of Finance</p>	<p>Real Property Tax Division (808) 270-7297 http://ordlink.com/codes/maui/index.htm Scroll down to "Article 7. Valuations, then click "3,48,350 Dedicated Lands;" links</p>

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