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Plants

Cyanea maritae

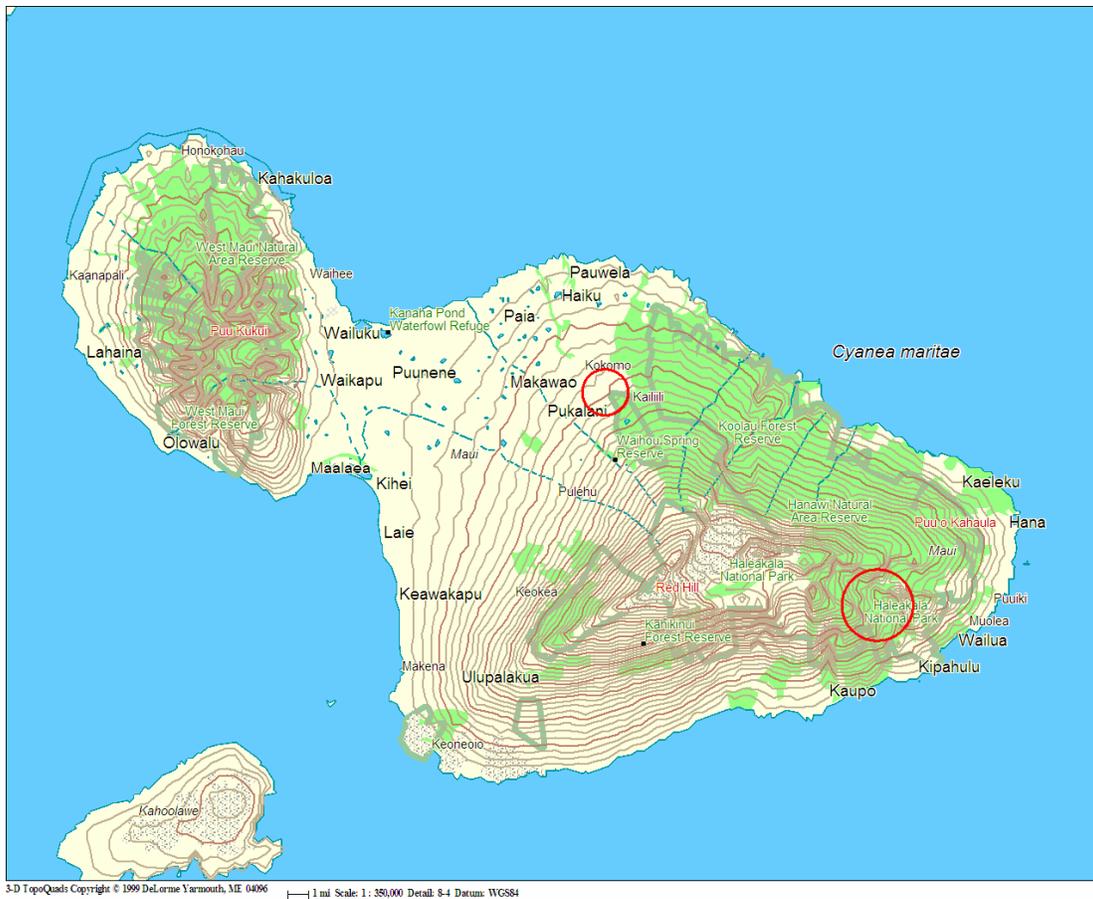
SPECIES STATUS:
Genetic Safety Net Species
Endemism - East Maui

SPECIES INFORMATION: *Cyanea maritae*, a member of the bellflower family (Campanulaceae), is a shrub 2 - 2.4 m tall, with stems branching near its base, producing 2 to 4 strongly ascending branches. It is rarely unbranched. Trunks are armed with prickles, and possessing white latex sap. Little dimorphism is expressed from juvenile to adult. Peduncles spreading, at right angles to stem, and clustered amongst the leaves. It appears that most fruit fall early, and few mature fruits are observed.

DISTRIBUTION: Endemic to windward East Maui.

ABUNDANCE: Less than 20 adult and juvenile plants in two colonies 100 meters apart.

LOCATION AND CONDITION OF KEY HABITAT: Mesic forest on the northwestern slopes of Haleakalā in the Wai'ohiwi watershed. Sterile specimens were collected farther east at Kipahulu Valley in 1919. Alien plants that have degraded these habitats include *Setaria palmifolia*, *Rubus argutus*, *Hedychium gardnerianum*, *Cinchona pubescens*, in addition to many others.



THREATS:

- Feral pigs;
- Grazing and trampling by cattle;
- Fruit predation and stem destruction by rats;
- Competition from alien plant species.

CONSERVATION ACTIONS: The goals of conservation actions are not only to protect current populations, but also establish further populations to reduce the risk of extinction. In addition to common statewide and island conservation actions, specific actions include:

- Survey historic range for surviving populations;
- Establish secure *ex-situ* stocks with complete representation of remaining individuals;
- Augment wild population and establish new populations in safe harbors.

MONITORING:

- Survey for populations and distribution in known and likely habitats;
- Monitor plants for insect damage and plant diseases.

RESEARCH PRIORITIES:

- Develop proper horticultural protocols and pest management;
- Survey *ex-situ* holdings and conduct molecular fingerprinting;
- Conduct pollination biology and seed dispersal studies;
- Map genetic diversity in the surviving populations to guide future re-introduction and augmentation efforts.

References:

Lammers, T. G. 2004. Five New Species of the Endemic Hawaiian Genus *Cyanea* (Campanulaceae: Lobelioideae), *Novon* 14: 84-101.

NTBG. 2000. NTBG Herbarium Database; Sheet #028482, specimen collected 1/7/2000, *Oppenheimer & Duvall H10005*.