

Kahuku Wind Power
Habitat Conservation Plan
Mitigation Update Summary

To: Endangered Species Recovery Committee (ESRC) Members

From: Molly Stephenson, Kahuku Wind Power, LLC

Date: September 20, 2024

Re: Update on Mitigation for the Kahuku Wind Project

Kahuku Wind Power, LLC ("KAH") owns and operates the Kahuku Wind Farm, a 12-turbine wind farm on the island of O'ahu ("Kahuku Project"). The Kahuku Project operates under a Habitat Conservation Plan ("HCP"), state Incidental Take License ("ITL"), and a federal Incidental Take Statement (ITS) associated with a Biological Opinion ("BO"). These project documents address the prospective incidental take of the 'ōpe'ape'a (Hawaiian hoary bat; *Lasiurus semotus*), the ae'o (Hawaiian stilt; *Himantopus mexicanus knudseni*), the 'alae ke'oke'o (Hawaiian coot; *Fulica alai*), the koloa maoli (Hawaiian duck; *Anas wyvilliana*), the 'alae 'ula (Hawaiian gallinule; *Gallinula galeata sandwicensis*), the 'a'o (Newell's shearwater; *Puffinus auricularis newelli*), the 'ua'u (Hawaiian petrel; *Pterodroma sandwichensis*), and the pueo (Hawaiian short-eared owl; *Asio flammeus sandwichensis*).

As part of the implementation of the HCP, and in order to provide a net conservation benefit for all covered species, KAH has been working closely with the Department of Forestry and Wildlife ("DOFAW") and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service ("USFWS") to mitigate for all incidental take. The status of the mitigation is summarized below and will be presented on during the September 27, 2024 ESRC meeting.

'Ōpe'ape'a: Currently implementing the Tier 2 Mitigation Plan at Helemano (approved April 2024). Mitigation for Tier 1 has been fulfilled through funding of fencing at Kahikinui Forest Reserve.

Waterbirds (ae'o, 'alae ke'oke'o, koloa maoli, 'alae 'ula): Mitigation obligations have been fulfilled through funding four years of waterbird population monitoring, vegetation control, and predator control at Hāmākua Marsh.

Seabirds ('a'o and 'ua'u): Mitigation obligations have been fulfilled through funding of barn owl predator control on Kaua'i.

Pueo (state-listed only): Mitigation obligations have been fulfilled through funding of DOFAW research and rehabilitation at the Hawai'i Wildlife Rehab Center.