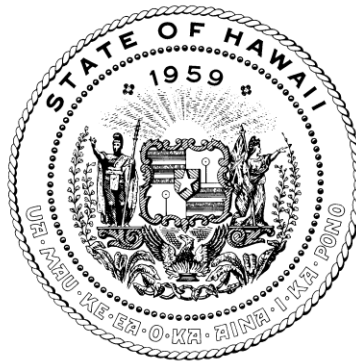


**REPORT TO THE TWENTY-SIXTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2012**

**URGING DLNR TO WORK WITH MOANALUA GARDENS FOUNDATION TO
EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE USE OF
KAMANANUI (MOANALUA) VALLEY FOR EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL
PURPOSES**



Prepared by

**THE STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE**

In response to House Concurrent Resolution No. 173, Twenty-Sixth Legislature,
2011 Regular Session

November 2011

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO WORK WITH MOANALUA GARDENS FOUNDATION TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR THE USE OF KAMANANUI (MOANALUA) VALLEY FOR EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL PURPOSES.

PURPOSE

House Concurrent Resolution 173, adopted during the 2011 Legislative Session, urges the Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) to work with the Moanalua Gardens Foundation to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding for the purpose of helping to protect and preserve Kamananui Valley, one of Hawaii's most treasured cultural and historical areas, for the people of Hawaii. The Concurrent Resolution goes on to request the Department to submit a report of its progress in entering into the Memorandum of Understanding with the Moanalua Gardens Foundation, including findings and recommendations, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2012. This report fulfills that request.

BACKGROUND

Kamananui Valley, also known as Moanalua Valley, was purchased by the Department following the dissolution of the Estate of Samuel Mills Damon in March 2007. Since then, the Department has opened Kamananui Valley to the public for educational and recreational purposes starting in 2008. The pristine 3,700 acre Kamananui Valley is the last remaining undeveloped ahupua'a in urban Honolulu and offers unique opportunities to provide a large number of Hawaii's families and visitors relatively easy access to the Valley's many natural beauties, including wildlife, plants, and cultural artifacts;

The Moanalua Gardens Foundation was established as a nonprofit organization in 1970 by the granddaughters of Samuel Mills Damon, Frances "Patches" Damon Holt, and Harriet "Haku" Damon Baldwin, to protect Moanalua Gardens (Park) and Kamananui Valley from the construction of the H-3 highway and preserve the Park's and Valley's important historical and cultural sites. The Moanalua Gardens Foundation has the knowledge, experience, expertise, and commitment to contribute to the care and stewardship of Kamananui Valley and has expressed its interest in partnering with the Department to conduct educational and cultural programs in Kamananui Valley as a community resource to benefit the public. The Department has been working with Moanalua Gardens Foundation to develop a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to proceed with this partnership.

FINDINGS

1. A draft MOU has been reviewed by the Department's Division of Forestry and Wildlife and the Moanalua Gardens Foundation and approved as to form by the Department of the Attorney General.
2. The MOU has been submitted to the Board of Land and Natural Resources for consideration of approval at its scheduled Board meeting in November, 2011.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Legislature support future funding needs to implement agency and partnership projects for the management of Moanalua Valley.