

Table of Contents

- 4 Message From our Leaders
- 6 Where We Work / By The Numbers
- 8 Conservation Highlights
 - 8 Protecting Lands, Waters and Ocean
 - 10 Tackling Climate Change
 - 12 Exploring Innovative Solutions
- 14 The Power of Partnerships

The Mission of The Nature Conservancy is to conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends.

Board of Trustees

Duke E. Ah Moo
 Paul D. Alston, Chair
 Kris Billeter
 C. Tana Burkert, MD
 Anne Carter
 Richard (Rikki) A. Cooke III
 Ka'iulani de Silva
 Dave Eadie

Matt Emerson
 The Honorable Judith A. Epstein
 Alan M. Friedlander, Ph.D.
 Benjy Garfinkle
 James J.C. Haynes III
 Sean A. Hehir
 Brett MacNaughton

Kathy M. Matsui
 Janet Montag
 Alicia Moy
 Bradley E. Smith
 Julie Smolinski
 Peter K. Tomozawa
 Richard N. Zwern

Protecting Land. Water. Life.

▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲▲
 To make a gift to TNC,
 please contact Lori Admiral,
 Director of Philanthropy,
 at (808) 587-6249
 or lori.admiral@tnc.org

Ihupani Advisory Council

Christopher J. Benjamin
 Kenton Eldridge

Eiichiro Kuwana
 Duncan MacNaughton

Jean E. Rolles
 Crystal K. Rose

Magical turtle cave on Maui
 © Leighton Lum/TNC Photo Contest 2021



MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADERS

He ‘ōhi‘a nui, pa‘a i ke Kūmakua

A large ‘ōhi‘a tree, steadfast in the Kūmakua
—a strong wind that can fell a lesser tree

As we emerge from yet another year of uncertainty and challenges, our resilience has once again been tested. Merriam-Webster defines resilience as “the ability to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change.” This is what we at TNC Hawai‘i and Palmyra strive for, not just for the health of nature but also that of our families, community and economy.

Our aim in protecting, restoring and actively managing natural areas in Hawai‘i and Palmyra is to enable them to stand up to the impacts of a changing world. By fencing our forest preserves and removing invasive species, we give native plants and animals a chance to recover. When restored, the forest is better able to provide its many benefits to people, including fresh water and clean air.

Our work with coastal communities to protect and restore key coastal areas to increase food species and coral health improves their ability to adapt to changing marine conditions like warming temperatures. At Palmyra, the removal of introduced non-native trees and the replanting of native species increase the atoll’s natural resilience by restoring a connected, functioning ecosystem where the health of the land affects that in the ocean, and vice versa.

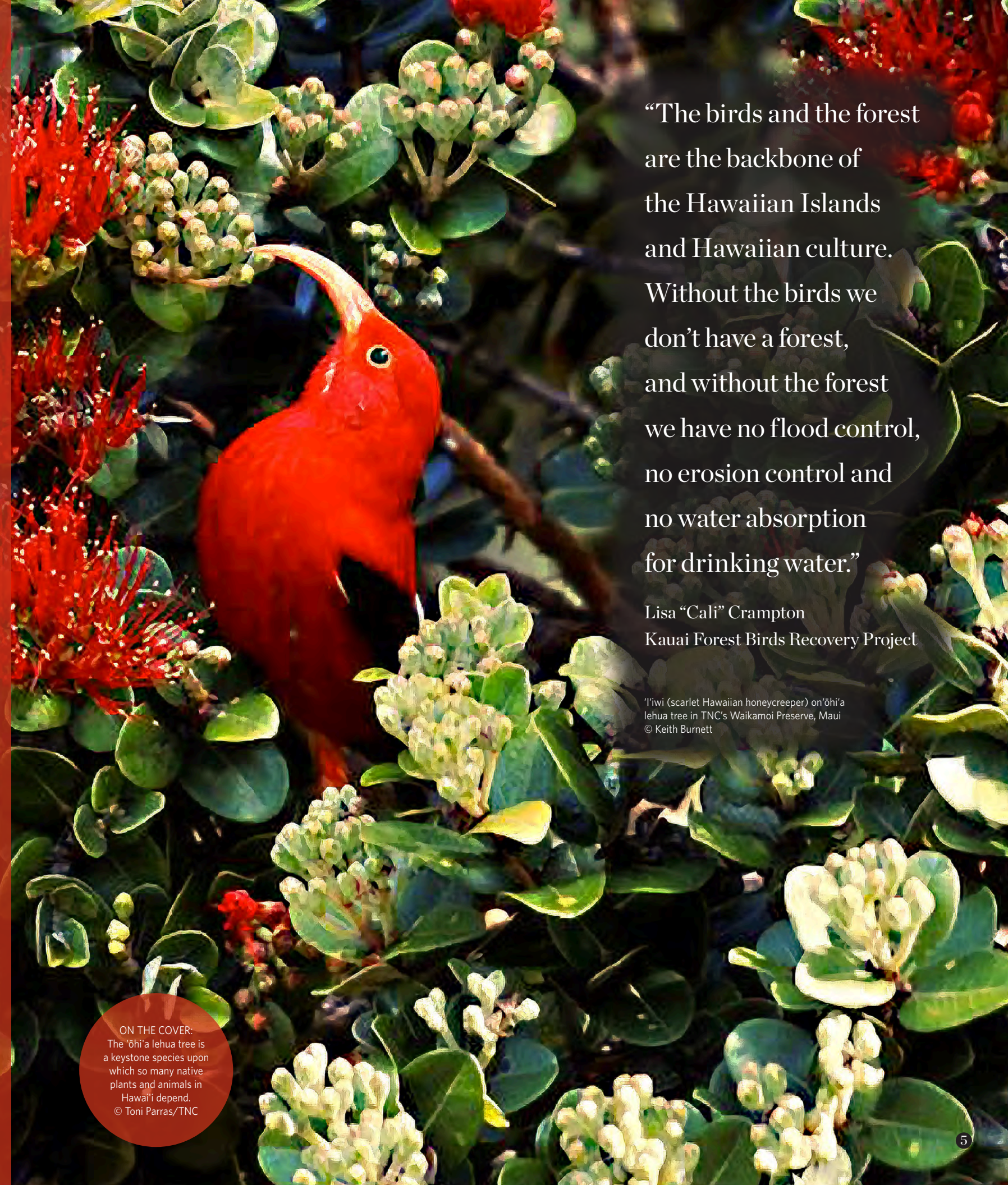
Everything we do is informed by the latest science, grounded in traditional practices and cultural values, and aided by the latest technology and innovation. This powerful combination gives us a fighting chance for a more sustainable future in our islands—and around the world.

All of this would not be possible without you, our ardent supporters. Thank you for your ongoing support to help our land and our people be resilient.

Mahalo a nui loa,
Paul and Ulalia



Paul Alston, Chair, Board of Trustees, TNC Hawai‘i Palmyra; and Ulalia Woodside, Executive Director.
© Richard A. Cooke III



“The birds and the forest are the backbone of the Hawaiian Islands and Hawaiian culture. Without the birds we don’t have a forest, and without the forest we have no flood control, no erosion control and no water absorption for drinking water.”

Lisa “Cali” Crampton
Kauai Forest Birds Recovery Project

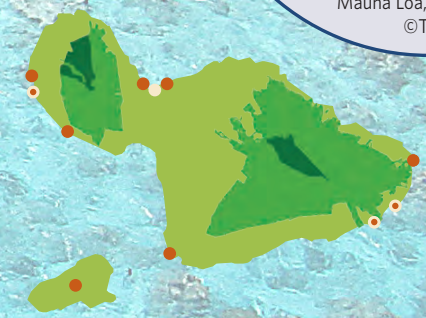
l’iwi (scarlet Hawaiian honeycreeper) on ‘ōhi‘a lehua tree in TNC’s Waikamoi Preserve, Maui
© Keith Burnett

ON THE COVER:
The ‘ōhi‘a lehua tree is a keystone species upon which so many native plants and animals in Hawai‘i depend.
© Toni Parras/TNC

Sand Island, Palmyra Atoll © Graeme Gale

By the Numbers

IN 2021 AND OVER THE YEARS



- Community Network Members
- Research and Monitoring Sites
- TNC Forest Preserves
- Watershed Partnerships

63 BILLION

Gallons of freshwater generated through the protection of TNC's Waikamoi Preserve over the next century

Removing invasive weeds at Waikamoi Preserve, Maui. ©TNC



140

Threatened and endangered species protected in our 14 Hawai'i preserves

Amakihi on Koli'i flower at Waikamoi Preserve ©Eric Nishibayashi



ZERO

Wildfires on our preserves thanks to early detection cameras and ongoing conservation and management efforts.

Fire camera on Mauna Loa, South Kona ©TNC



5,901

Volunteers and students who have supported research and restoration of TNC's Kiholo Fishpond Preserve over the past 10 years.

©Christine Shepard

1,000 MILES SOUTH



Palmyra Island ©Kydd Pollock

1 MILLION

Invasive palms removed from Palmyra Atoll to enable recovery of native forest and restore the land-sea connection

Red-footed booby chick ©Andrew Wright



Protecting Lands, Waters and Ocean

More and more, we are realizing what our ancestors knew intimately—that the health and wellbeing of people depend on that of our lands and waters. Our work bolsters the innate resilience of our native forests, coasts and communities by protecting watersheds and reefs and restoring native species.

Our restoration of wetlands with partners Kāko‘o ‘Ōiwi at He‘eia are supporting the return of native wildlife, reducing runoff onto coral reefs, and increasing food security and coastal resilience for this Windward O‘ahu community. We also helped develop an action plan to guide conservation efforts over the next 10 years.

Grazing and wildfires in West Hawai‘i’s Pelekāne watershed have resulted in hundreds of acres of exposed soil that erodes and flows into Pelekāne Bay, impairing water quality and smothering coral reefs. To bolster resilience and reduce these threats, we are testing nine methods of revegetation for restoring dryland areas.

We’re restoring Palmyra Atoll’s native tropical forest by controlling invasive palms and planting native seedlings. Seabirds prefer nesting in native trees; their nutrient-rich guano feeds the soil and marine phytoplankton, fish and corals. Demonstration of these land-sea connections can help other islands increase their resilience despite ongoing climate changes.

Seabirds nesting in native trees at Palmyra Atoll © Andrew Wright



Revegetation trials are helping us determine the best restoration methods for dryland areas like Pelekāne. ©Michael Burnett/TNC



Replanting native vegetation at Pelekāne © TNC

Restoration of wetlands at He‘eia is bringing back native birds like this ae‘o, or Hawaiian stilt. © Toni Parras/TNC

Partnering to Protect

Gazing at the expansive white sand beach at Kauna‘oia Bay on Hawai‘i Island, you can see why early conservationist Laurance S. Rockefeller designed the Mauna Kea Beach Hotel to fit in with nature. More than 50 years later, Craig Anderson, VP Resort Operations, and Kansas Henderson, Hotel Manager, continue to focus on the environment and community.

“Witnessing firsthand the changes in coral from ocean warming in 2015, we know that water quality and reef restoration are key to coastal resilience, and partnering with TNC helped us understand the next steps toward good stewardship,” shares Kansas. “Increasingly, travelers want to know that their dollars benefit the environment, and TNC’s work helps the hotel educate visitors.”

TNC partnered with the hotel to raise awareness and benefit conservation work in the area. Lori Admiral, Director of Philanthropy, is excited about our partnership with Kansas and Craig, noting “together we will help protect the environment for future generations.”



Craig Anderson
VP Resort Operations
Mauna Kea Beach Hotel



Kansas Henderson
Hotel Manager
Mauna Kea Beach Hotel

Photos courtesy of
Mauna Kea Beach Hotel.



Manta ray © Kaikea Nakachi

Tackling Climate Change

Coral reefs and forests provide some of the best natural protections against the impacts of climate change, among them sea level rise and drought. Our work focuses on restoring these systems in a way that ensures their health for generations to come.

In partnership with DAR, NOAA and the University of Hawai‘i, we completed the first statewide plan to guide coral restoration and build resilience on reefs impacted by bleaching, focusing on five priority areas—Hanauma Bay and Waikiki on O‘ahu, Kealakekua and Ka‘ūpūlehu in West Hawai‘i, and Olowalu on Maui.

- On Kaua‘i, we removed invasive animals and weeds from thousands of acres of the Alaka‘i Plateau and Wainiha Valley, an area 15 times the size of Central Park. Native forests are vital to curbing and adapting to climate change; when healthy, they store carbon and supply most of the state’s freshwater.
- In preparation for more frequent and intense climate-related storms, TNC worked with insurance industry partners to develop reef insurance as a cost-effective tool to repair reefs after suffering hurricane damage. We are now working with the state and private sector on a policy for Maui’s reefs for the 2022 hurricane season.

Coral restoration can help repair reefs and build resilience after damaging events, such as bleaching and hurricanes. © David Slater



Hinalele Falls, Wainiha Valley © John De Mello

Passion for Nature



Hiking Italian Dolomites © Ken Robbins

Dr. Tana Burkert and Dr. Ken Robbins have enjoyed getting outdoors in the ocean and mountains since they were very young.

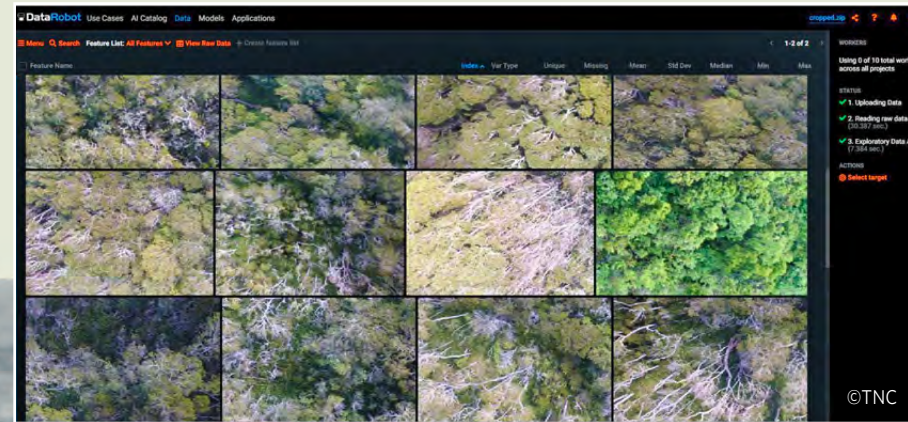
“The warmth of the sun on our faces, the embrace of the ocean, and the majesty of the trees rejuvenate the spirit” explains Tana, whose Native Hawaiian roots reinforce her link to nature and support of TNC Hawai‘i’s work. For Ken, the very first Earth Day in 1970 was a spark that kindled a connection to supporting environmental causes throughout his life.

“Donors like Tana and Ken help us manage the risks of climate impacts,” says Lori Admiral, Director of Philanthropy. “Twenty-plus years since their first donation, their giving has grown from annual gifts to board participation and Legacy Club membership by including TNC in their estate plan. We are inspired every day by Tana and Ken’s passion to care for nature.”

Exploring Innovative Solutions

To keep up with the pace of threats impacting nature, we must constantly innovate. Aerial imagery, satellite technology and artificial intelligence allow us to gather data to make informed and impactful decisions. This year's efforts also lay the groundwork for the future development of new technology.

- ✔ As populations of Axis deer and pigs have exploded in recent years on Maui, we paired heat-seeking infrared technology with drones to detect these invasive ungulates in real time. Working with ground crews, we can locate and remove these animals, which are extremely destructive to the health of native forests.
- ✔ Using artificial intelligence and high-resolution aerial imagery, we are detecting and removing invasive weeds like Australian tree fern and Himalayan ginger, which can quickly overwhelm and destroy the understory of native forests. This promising technology allows us to rapidly and cost-effectively monitor and manage invasive weeds across Hawai'i.
- ✔ We guided the Ka'ūpūlehu Marine Life Advisory Committee through the collaborative FishPath process to develop a management plan for harvesting when the 10-year rest period expires in 2026. Developed by TNC and partners, FishPath melds the latest fisheries science with traditional knowledge and practices to support sustainable fishing.



The Ka'ūpūlehu community's proposed Sustainable Fisheries Management Plan supports traditional harvest while maintaining healthy fish populations.
© John De Mello

Partnership for Solutions

Since 1999, the Hawai'i Community Foundation (HCF) has combined efforts with TNC to protect the overall well-being of the islands and its people.

"Climate resilience, food systems, and natural resource protection and revitalization are all of high concern to us," says Dana Okano, Program Director at HCF. "We trust TNC to help us find solutions to the most challenging questions of conservation."

HCF's partnership and support across the islands has been critical to safeguarding Hawai'i's spectacular diversity of life. Through its innovative funding approach, HCF has partnered with TNC on projects such as Rapid Ōhi'a Death monitoring, gathering data to stop the spread of the fungal disease ravaging thousands of Ōhi'a across the state.

"Cultivating a thriving community is what drives our work at HCF—and the environment is a critical component of our overall well-being," shares Micah Kane, CEO and President of HCF. "Partnering with TNC helps ensure that our communities can continue to appreciate and rely on Hawai'i's special places, from our forests to our reefs, for generations to come."



Dana Okano, Program Director
Hawaii Community Foundation (HCF)



Micah Kane, CEO and President
Hawaii Community Foundation (HCF)

Photos courtesy of HCF.



Volunteers help with fishpond wall restoration at Kiholo Preserve © Nancy Erger

The Power of Partnerships

All the work that we do embraces the value of *laulima* (“many hands”), or cooperation, as we work with others to achieve shared goals. Our partnerships with community, state, federal and other nonprofits inspire us every day and help deliver conservation impact in Hawai‘i and Palmyra. Here are a few examples.

- ✦ As a key partner in the Hawai‘i Conservation Alliance, we are on track to release “The Conservation of Native Biocultural Resources in Hawai‘i: 2021 Status Report,” one of the most comprehensive reports on the conservation status of Hawai‘i’s native biocultural legacy to date.
- ✦ We launched a major funding push this year to expand “Birds, Not Mosquitos.” This effort, in partnership with TNC California, links our pilot mosquito removal efforts on Palmyra with regional mosquito control in Hawai‘i to prevent the extinction of our most critically endangered forest birds.
- ✦ In partnership with the State’s Forestry Program, the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and the Kaua‘i Invasive Species Committee, we protected an additional 9,400 acres of watershed forest, and we continue to support new fencing projects and to respond to the threat of Rapid ‘Ōhi‘a Death.

- ✦ Inspired by Maui’s Hui O Ka Wai Ola volunteer citizen science group, Hawai‘i Wai Ola assesses water quality at 30 sites around Hawai‘i Island, testing for land-based pollutants that impact human health and marine life, and complementing the efforts of the Department of Health.
- ✦ The South Kohala Coastal Partnership, a group of more than 50 government agencies, businesses, nonprofits (including TNC), community groups, and academic partners, united to develop and implement climate-smart conservation strategies to protect coastal resources on Hawai‘i Island’s Kohala Coast.
- ✦ For more than 20 years, TNC and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have collaborated to protect and restore Palmyra Atoll. From TNC’s initial 680-acre land purchase, USFWS expanded the protected area to a whopping 13,220,887 acres, approximately three times the land area of Hawai‘i.
- ✦ Thanks to internship programs such as Kupu Hawai‘i Youth Conservation Corps and TNC’s Marine Fellowship, our staff and partners get some much-needed help to keep our ocean and forests healthy while mentoring future conservation leaders.

“[Working on the Vanishing Mural] has truly been the highlight of my art career—being able to learn about and illustrate our beautiful reefs, and the incredible work being done by The Nature Conservancy [to protect them].”

– Artist Jana Ireijo, on partnering with TNC and the Maui Ocean Center Marine Institute to show how climate change impacts reefs and inspire action.



© Maui Ocean Center

Charitable Giving that Benefits You and Nature

Are you thinking about the best way to provide for your family and nature? Many people have a financial plan, but they don’t have a charitable giving plan that could reduce taxes or provide income. We invite you to connect with our philanthropy team to create a long-term giving plan based on your values and to ensure that people and nature thrive.

IRA

If you are 70½ or older, you can make a Qualified Charitable Distribution from your IRA to TNC. Your donation may count toward your Required Minimum Distribution and be excluded from your taxable income.

SECURITIES

Gifts of appreciated stock or mutual fund shares held for more than one year can offer a tax-efficient way to give. You may be able to both receive a charitable income tax deduction and reduce capital gains taxes.

REAL ESTATE

If your vacation home, rental property or other real estate no longer fits your lifestyle or is a potential tax burden, consider donating it to TNC. We will handle the sale, and you may be able to receive a charitable income tax deduction and reduce capital gains taxes.

BEQUESTS

Through your will or trust, you can name TNC as the beneficiary of specific assets, a portion of your estate or your residual estate.

BENEFICIARY DESIGNATION

It’s free and easy to name TNC as a primary, partial or contingent beneficiary of your retirement account, bank or brokerage account, life insurance policy or Donor Advised Fund.

GIFTS THAT PAY INCOME

There are gift options that provide you and/or your loved ones with income for life, may provide tax savings, and support nature in the future. We can help you decide on a gift that’s right for you.

To discuss gift options or notify us of a legacy gift in your estate plans, please contact Lara Siu at (808) 587-6235 or lsiu@tnc.org.

The Nature Conservancy cannot render tax or legal advice. The information provided above is general in nature and is not a representation as to the actual tax consequences of a particular contribution to TNC. Please consult your professional financial adviser before making a charitable gift.

Hikers on Wiliwilinui Trail Koolau mountains, East O’ahu © Katie Erbak





Our work in Ka'u Preserve (seen in the distance) helps capture freshwater on Hawai'i Island. © Shalan Crysedale/TNC

In Hawai'i, the environment *is* the economy.

That's why these leading companies invest in The Nature Conservancy. They understand that our environment and economy are intrinsically linked: Native forests collect fresh water, coral reefs protect our coastline, and native species are fundamental to a living Hawaiian culture.

We want to thank and recognize the members of the Corporate Council for the Environment for their commitment and generosity. To learn how your company can join the Corporate Council, please contact Lori Admiral at lori.admiral@tnc.org or (808) 587-6249.

Corporate Council for the Environment

Kuleana Member: \$25,000+

Mauna Kea Beach Hotel
ALOHA Collection

Ho'omau Member: \$15,000+

Alexander & Baldwin, Inc.
Shidler Family Foundation
Zipline Franchising, LLC

Mālama Member: \$10,000+

Hawaiian Electric Industries
Macy's
Skyline Eco-Adventures, LLC

Laulima Member: \$5,000+

Bank of Hawaii
The Cades Foundation
Decision Research Corporation
First Insurance Company of Hawaii Charitable Foundation
Haleakala Ranch Company
The Howard Hughes Corporation
Kosasa Family Fund of Hawaii Community Foundation
The MacNaughton Group Foundation
Merriman's
Pacific Islands Institute
Ulupono Initiative

Kōkua Member: \$2,500+

Armstrong Foundation
BQF Hawaii
Cat Clinic of Issaquah
Dentons
Hawaii Petroleum, Inc.
Hunt Companies
Kualoa Ranch Hawaii, Inc.
Par Hawaii Refining
PBR Hawaii & Associates
William Yeoward Crystal

Corporate Friend: \$1,000+

Jhamandas Watumull Fund