

County of Hawai'i
Department of Finance
Property Management Division
25 Aupuni Street, Suite 1101
Hilo, HI 96720
Telephone: (808) 961-8069

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STEWARDSHIP GRANT PROGRESS REPORT

PLEASE CHECK TYPE OF PROGRESS REPORT: SEMI-ANNUAL

ANNUAL

ENTER INFORMATION IN THE FIELDS PROVIDED.

Interim Report/not
Final Report

1. NAME AND ADDRESS OF ORGANIZATION:
2. PERSON TO CONTACT:
3. CONTRACT NO.:
4. CONTRACT AWARD AMOUNT:
5. PROJECT NAME *(same name used on contract)*:
6. PROJECT PERIOD:
7. PROGRESS REPORT PERIOD:
8. PROJECT LOCATION *(list all TMKs from the contract)*:

9. CERTIFICATION:

The Applicant certifies that the information contained in this report is true and correct to the best of his/her knowledge.

NAME OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:

TITLE OF AUTHORIZED OFFICIAL:

SIGNED: _____

DATE: _____

A. PROJECT OVERVIEW:

B. PROJECT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

C. PROJECT CHALLENGES

D. FUTURE PLANS RELATING TO THE PROJECT

E. PHOTOGRAPHS, MAPS, AND OTHER EXHIBITS *(These must be attached at the end of the report as a Word document. If you attach photos, be sure to caption each photo with a date and subject. If it is a group picture, please identify the group and date photo was taken. No need to name the individuals in the photo. There is no need for the same location maps that were attached in the original application. Maps can be sketches and/or drone photos illustrating before and after activities.)*

MALAMA O PUNA PONC WAI`ELE INTERIM REPORT – Nov. 6, 2023- June 30, 2024

This report details most of the stewardship activities conducted by Malama O Puna at the PONC property “Wai`ele” from FY contract initiation Nov. 6, 2023 to 6/30/24. As only 7 months was provided to conduct 12 months of activities, we are requesting to continue to complete activities that we can by Sept. 30, 2024. We have tried repeatedly to request meetings with the PONC staff to discuss the issues, but have not been granted a meeting. We have approximately \$9,000 left in our budget to complete the proposed activities: 1) a Resource Management report, 2) 2nd Marine Debris Clean-up, 3) periodic invasive species/LFA control, 4) Steering Committee final report, and 5) SMA assessment.

(1) Archaeological Study:

Other activities identified in our FY 2023-24 contract that we cannot perform are a result of an archaeological study that the County did not contract. When applying in August 2022, MOP was informed that the County would contract the archaeological study. That didn't happen and instead MOP was asked to include the archaeological study in their FY 2024-25 application which we did.

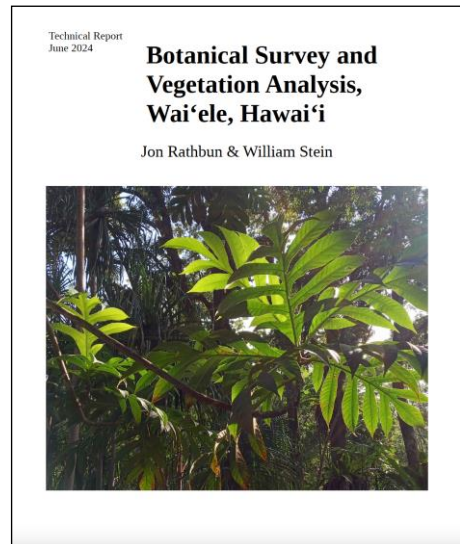
MOP's proposed activities associated with the archaeological study include work hours by Steering Committee member, Keone Kalawe (\$5,500), to assist the archaeological consultant with that survey and to help develop curriculum to train youth in identifying and preserving cultural sites. MOP also proposed signage and coordination of youth volunteers (\$11,000) which cannot proceed until the archaeological study and training curriculum are completed. Lastly, we over-estimated the hours needed by the Steering Committee members to do their initial work on an appropriate governing structure and will have a balance of \$9,000 to roll over to the next contract for their work. That totals \$25,500 to be rolled over to the next contract which includes the archaeological work as approved by the PONC Commission in Sept. 2023. MOP would also like an answer from the County regarding whether they intend to do the land survey or should it remain in the MOP FY 2024-25 application for us to complete that task. The quote may need to be updated due to inflation.

(2a) Botanical Survey and Identification of Invasive Plant Species

The goal to produce a comprehensive vegetation study—complete with assessments of native and invasive plants and maps—was completed, and the final version of the study is attached.

Between 11/23 and 2/24, botanical specialists Jon Rathbun and Will Stein set up their GIS system, determined their transects, and conducted more than three full field days of systematic observations. During this time, in addition to the expected study of vascular plants, they collected preliminary data on marine algae, mosses, liverworts, lichens, fungi, and animals.

From 2/1/24 to 5/14/24 the vegetative study was authored, including research for literature review, methodological



calculations, generation of mapping, composing/editing of photographs, and basic layout.

From 5/14/24 to 6/25/24, the paper underwent extensive review, being proofed by volunteer amateur editors Diga Kern, Norris Thomlinson, and Ann Kobsa. In-kind editing was also contributed by credentialed botanists Rex Palmer and Cindy (Jaya) DuPuis. In addition, the study was reviewed by Leila Kealoha from the Steering Committee Formation group, who will be adding a forward this summer.

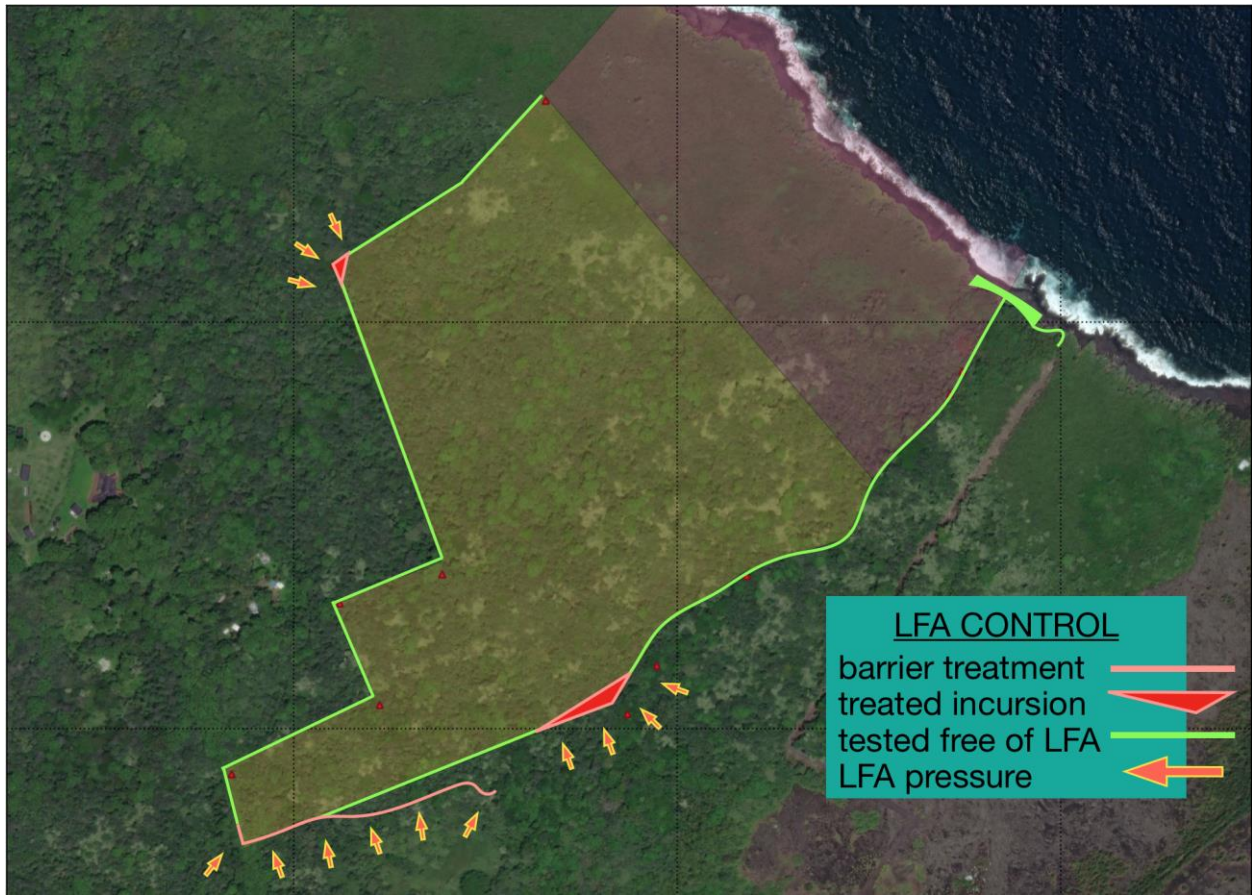
(2b) Resource Management Assessment

Over the course of the summer, and based in part on the vegetation survey findings, Leila Kealoha will conduct a conservation-oriented inventory of resources to be used by the Steering Committee in shaping future management planning.

(3a) Control of Little Fire Ant

The goals for this category were to continue regular LFA barrier maintenance, to test for LFA along the more than 1.5 miles of unestablished boundary, and to treat and ongoingly maintain any infestations discovered. All goals were completed.

Contractor Geoffrey 'Diga' Kern took over barrier maintenance work from volunteer Ann Kobsa who had regularly treated 350m/1148ft of the S Mauka border since January, 2022. This section was tested every 12 weeks using peanut butter on locally-fashioned bamboo testing sticks every 15-18 ft. At places where the LFA had managed to cross the barrier (due to pig activity or falling from extended tree branches), testing sticks were used in grid or transect patterns to determine the extent of the incursion, to be finally marked with survey tape. A Bifenthrin treatment was then applied to the infested terrain. In addition, every 6 weeks an 8 foot strip of Bifenthrin was applied along the entire barrier. Due to early observation of high LFA concentrations along about 1/3 of this trail, which resulted in frequent incursions across the barrier, on 12/26/23 selected "weed" trees were felled to minimize tree-to-tree contact (a known LFA vector). In addition, a secondary 15-18 foot stream of Bifenthrin was applied along these



areas of concentration to slow the spread of LFA populations. By February, 2024, the LFA pressure along this section of border was stabilized, providing time for other work.

As efforts began to locate survey pins and clear border, LFA was encountered by Will Stein and Ann Kobsa who were stung at a remote corner near the Kalaemanu 'haubush' road. The 6000ft² extent of this incursion was tested, treated twice with Avaunt gel bait (alternating between beef liver powder and peanut butter 'masking' material), and re-tested from 2/11 - 5/10. A 6 week Bifenthrin routine was then established and maintained.

As border trail was established, it became possible to test long sections of the property's perimeter, using the above-described technique. This was done on 5/9/24 (1212m/3976ft), 5/10/24 (363m/1191ft), and 6/8/24 (964m/3163ft). In addition, roughly 15,000ft² of highly vulnerable beach-head (because of regular human activity) and 100m of illegal ATV trail were tested. Including the previous testing at the Kalaemanu corner, these efforts amounted to roughly 1.5 miles (2410m/7907ft) of PONC funded testing. All testing was negative, save for one significant incursion at the beginning of the Alanui Kahakai, amounting to roughly 18,000ft². From 5/9 to 5/28 this incursion was tested and twice treated with Avaunt gel bait, with the same technique as described above. Because of the size of this incursion, follow-up testing and a second round of two baitings is projected to be required in the 3rd quarter of 2024.

The remote Hau Forest section of boundary (8% of entire boundary) could not be tested, because the thickness of the forest will require a major effort to penetrate with trail work. However, because human activity is the LFAs main vector, because no LFA were found near

this remote section, and because this area was traversed twice (3/30 and 5/7) with no stings occurring, it is highly unlikely that LFA are present.

In summary, we are extremely fortunate that the interior of Wai`ele is most probably LFA-free. Going into the future, it is recommended that interior work such as the establishment of auxiliary trails be accompanied by LFA testing, in order to verify this tentative conclusion. Continued vigilance will also be required from volunteers and workers to not inadvertently introduce LFA carried on foodstuffs, equipment, or vegetative propagation materials/potted plant keiki.

For 2024-25, LFA maintenance will be transitioning to Hawai`i Environmental Restoration. As Wai`ele gradually experiences more human presence, the more potent chemicals required for initial LFA treatment and stabilization can be transitioned to a less toxic treatment. In consultation with the University of Hawai`i at Mānoa's Little Fire Ant Lab, a plan to use S-methoprene (Tango) gel bait as a LFA buffer at Wai`ele is being developed. For the three existing pressure points (S Mauka trail, Kalaemanu corner, and Alanui Kahakai corner) this plan will implement gel bait treatments (6 weeks) and testing (12 weeks) at the same intervals as at the present. Initial projections indicate this work can be accomplished within the \$5,647.00 budgeted. After the first year of treatments, the frequency of treatment can be halved, although testing must continue at the same intervals. For the rest of the borders, testing every 16 weeks will be sufficient to nip any new incursions in the bud. Diga Kern also recommends that additional tree-to-tree contact work takes place at all three incursion points, in order to minimize costly re-testing and bait treatments. This work will complement the upcoming fencing contract and will maximize effectiveness of the buffers.

(3b) Control of Invasive Plants

Completion of the botanical study in June 2024 provided plant control workers with GIS data to locate and selectively treat aggressive individuals of species such as *Ficus microcarpa*, *Falcataria moluccana*, *Passiflora laurifolia*, *Macaranga tanarius*, and *Schinus terebinthifolius*. This work will be prioritized by Will Stein during the three months of summer, 2024.

(4) Marine Debris Removal

A major volunteer beach cleanup event was held on 12/31/23. Leading up to the event, paid and volunteer trail preparation, promotion, coordination, and supplies work was conducted to make the event smooth. We teamed with Keone Kalawe for parking, supplies, and roadside-



transfer station pickup; with Clive Cheetham and crew for truck use and transfer station run; and with the Koa`e Community Association for volunteers. Twenty-seven volunteer contributed a total of 96 hours of work, to achieve 1500# of trash hauled from the Beach Rd and the coast, from Wai`ele to Kalaemanu. Following the event, Diga Kern donated a short edited video of the event, uploaded to MOPs YouTube Channel and the the Koa`e Community FaceBook page, with a reach of 64 and 57 views, respectively.

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WPv9ugA9WJw&t=27s>)

A second cooperative Hawai`i Environmental Restoration / Malama O Puna beach cleanup is planned for 7/13/24. A survey of the coast has revealed significant new amounts of flotsam/jetsam between Kalaemanu and Wai`ele, so the cleanup's route and scope will be similar to the 12/31 event. In addition, volunteers will collect `opala left by pakalolo growers in the hau forest near Kalaemanu. This event is projected to capture 1 ton (2000#) of trash with the help of 35 volunteers, 3 paid coordinators, and two trucks.

(5a) Trail Maintenance & Signage

The goals for this budget category were to maintain Wai`ele's three sections of pre-existing trail, to locate boundary survey pins, and to create trails along all borders. All goals were completed.

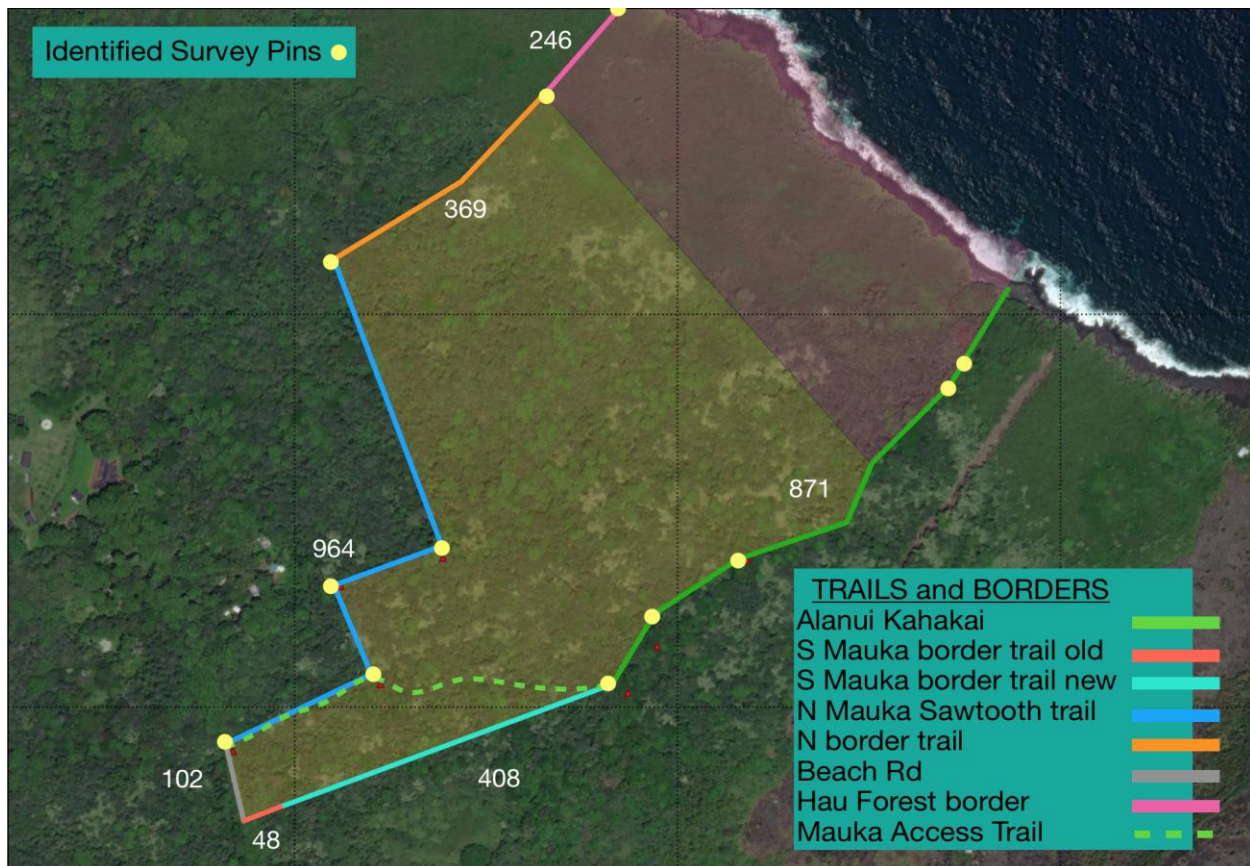
Trail or Border	Date established	Distance (m)	Distance (f)
Alanui Kahakai (makai portion)	prehistoric	871	2858
S Mauka border trail old	late 2022	48	157
S Mauka border trail new	5/3/24	408	1339
NW Sawtooth trail	6/8/24	964	3163
N border trail	4/20/24	369	1211
Beach Rd. (Old King's Hwy)	prehistoric	102	335
Hau Forest border	no trail established	246	807
Mauka Access Trail	2018	540	1772
Total New Trail Funded by PONC, 2023-24		1741	5712

Wai`ele has three sections of pre-existing trail, the Alanui Kahakai, the Makai Access Trail, and the South Mauka Border Trail's old section. In preparation for the 12/31/23 MOP coastal cleanup, a group of two volunteers and one contractor realigned, cleared, maintained, and refreshed red ti plantings along 1411m/4256 ft of access and prehistoric trail. A similar effort involving a larger number of volunteers and contractors will be accomplished during the first 2 weeks of July for the MOP/HER community coastal cleanup event on 7/13/24.

On 1/26/24, work began identifying survey pins along the borders, with the intention of establishing border trails for the property. On 3/30/24, 3 contractors and one volunteer completed the survey pin identification work, resulting in 12 of 17 pins being located. Provisional pin locations were established for the remaining 5 locations, by cross-referencing between GIS data and digital compass orienteering.

Border trail establishment took place between 4/13 and 6/8, with primarily one contractor accomplishing the work. A combination of digital compass orienteering and survey tape flagging allowed gradual determination of straight lines between survey pins. Electric chainsaw, loppers, and hand tools were used to cut living and dead "weed" trees to clear obstructions. Native trees were circumnavigated rather than cut. Fortunately, minimal cutting of canoe plants was necessary. Logs and rocks were moved to the side as needed. In total, over a mile (1741m/5712ft) of new border trail was established. Because of low Little Fire Ant incursion risk and degree of difficulty, the remote Hau Forest (246m/807ft, 8% of entire border) section remains the only section not attempted.

Informational signage needs to be developed after the completion of the archaeological study. The consultant doing this study will also work with Keone Kalawe and produce a curriculum for training youth volunteers in how to identify and preserve



Signage provided by the County through Maxine Cutler has been prominently placed notifying ATV users that their motorized activities are illegal on County property. Property boundary signage has been deferred until after completion of fencing in the 2024-25 cycle.

As suggested, DOFAWs Na Ala Hele has been researched as a possible partner for Wai`ele's Alanui Kahakai. Ownership and access of the ancient trail is complicated because the trail straddles two properties and no parking facilities exist. As the Steering Committee forms and begins making management decisions, association with Na Ala Hele and additional signage will re-considered.

(5b) Coordination of Community Volunteers

Over the course of the grant period, Diga Kern has assembled the crews of trail maintenance, survey pin identification, trail-making, botanical, and marine debris removal volunteers and contractors. He has communicated, planned, and coordinated reporting/invoicing/compliance for these activities, keeping track of them on a comprehensive spreadsheet, attached.

Once the curriculum package is developed with the assistance of the archaeological consultant and Keone Kalawe, efforts to bring groups of youthful volunteers on site will commence.

(6) Steering Committee Activities

The three members of the Steering Committee, Keone Kalawe, Iopa Maunakea, and Leila Kealoha have held four meetings since the contract was received in November 2023. The work

have worked at forming a protocol for the composition and selection of a long term Steering Committee developing a model that could be replicated by other PONC stewardship groups. Due to schedules and work commitments, they have not completed their work on this initial stage and plan to have 1-2 more meetings over the summer to take the draft plan they've developed to a final report.

CONCLUSION

For the seven months during which County funds have been available, MOP has expended 52% of its budget towards the below activities. The table does not reflect some expenditures towards the Steering Committee Formation group. The botanical survey is complete, and the bulk of Little Fire Ant control and Trail Maintenance activities are accomplished. In the coming five months, focus will be put on control of invasive plants, continued LFA maintenance, creating of auxiliary interior trails, and a large marine debris removal event. MOP anticipates that this work will all come in below budget, with a some activities rolling over to the FY24-25.

CATEGORY	\$ ACTIVITIES BUDGET	\$ SPENT	% REM-AINING	\$ IN-KIND BUDGET	\$ DON-ATED	% REM-AINING
botanical survey and identification	\$4950	\$4754	4%	\$1000	\$1120	-12%
control of invasive little fire ant	\$3960	\$2936	26%	\$0	\$455	~
control of invasive plants	\$1980	\$0	100%	\$0	\$0	~
marine debris removal	\$990	\$93	91%	\$500	\$1555	-211%
trail maintenance & signage	\$4950	\$2751	44%	\$1000	\$442	56%
coordination of community volunteers	\$4950	\$770	84%	\$2000	\$315	84%
TOTAL	\$21780	\$11304	48%	\$4500	\$3887	14%

MOP continues its tradition of robust volunteer activity, with 86% of its in-kind commitments already being accomplished. In addition to unpaid volunteers, MOP contractors themselves continue to donate a portion of their activities to this important PONC program. By the end of the fiscal year, we project that 60 unique volunteers will have contributed to Wai`ele, contributing roughly 50% more value than budgeted.

F. PROJECT ACTIVITIES FOR CONTRACT NO.

(Use the table format below for details on your project's activities. Use more than 1 page, if needed. See examples in Instructions.)

Type of Activity	Completion Date and/or % Complete	Contractors/Collaborators

F. PROJECT ACTIVITIES FOR CONTRACT NO. (Continued)

Type of Activity	Completion Date and/or % Complete	Contractors/Collaborators

G. PROJECT RECEIPTS (GRANT FUNDS ONLY) FOR CONTRACT NO.

(Please be prepared to provide documentation upon request to the Dept. of Finance.)

HI County Charter 10- 16(g)	Date(s) of Payment	Type of Expense	Vendor	Number of Receipts	Total Amount
TOTAL AMOUNT FOR THIS PAGE					

G. PROJECT RECEIPTS (GRANT FUNDS ONLY) FOR CONTRACT NO.
(Continued)

HI County Charter 10- 16(g)	Date(s) of Payment	Type of Expense	Vendor	Number of Receipts	Total Amount
TOTAL AMOUNT FOR THIS PAGE					

G. PROJECT RECEIPTS (GRANT FUNDS ONLY) FOR CONTRACT NO.
(Continued)

HI County Charter 10- 16(g)	Date(s) of Payment	Type of Expense	Vendor	Number of Receipts	Total Amount
TOTAL AMOUNT FOR THIS PAGE					
TOTAL AMOUNT OF GRANT FUNDS ENCUMBERED/SPENT FOR REPORTING PERIOD					
GRAND TOTAL OF GRANT FUNDS ENCUMBERED/SPENT <i>(For Annual Report Only)</i>					

H. IN-KIND SERVICES AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR CONTRACT NO.

(Use additional pages, if needed. See Instructions.)

Date	Activity	Person/Organization	# of Participants	Calculation of In-Kind Value	Other Resources
TOTAL OF IN-KIND VALUES AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR REPORTING PERIOD					

H. IN-KIND SERVICES AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR CONTRACT NO. (Continued)

Date	Activity	Person/Organization	# of Participants	Calculation of In-Kind Value	Other Resources
TOTAL OF IN-KIND VALUES AND OTHER RESOURCES FOR REPORTING PERIOD					
GRAND TOTAL OF IN-KIND VALUES AND OTHER RESOURCES <i>(For Annual Report Only)</i>					

I. EQUIPMENT INVENTORY \geq \$1,000.00 (GRANT FUNDS ONLY) FOR CONTRACT NO.

(Attach copy of any warranty documents.)

Item Description	Cost	Purchase Date	Model/Serial No.	Location
TOTAL COST				

Wai'ele Steering Committee

Working Papers

June 30, 2024

The work provided is in draft form and represents work done over multiple meetings to establish guidelines for creation of Steering or Guidance Committees to assist with the stewardship of culturally sensitive properties in Hawaii. This effort is specific to the Wai'ele in Puna, but represents ideas and approaches from a consortium of individuals and groups engaged in attempts to steward lands that are of importance to our native Hawaiian population, are critical habitat for indigenous plant and animal species, and which need to be preserved and managed in an inclusive way that draws in the expertise and energies of the communities where these lands are situated.

These working papers lay a basis for a final report which will be developed over the course of a couple more meetings of the Steering Committee. We are sharing these drafts to give the County assurance that this work is being done, it's important and we hope will provide a framework for assisting other communities to form their own stewardship steering committees.

Voting Rights

50% of the votes will come from this category

- Kupuna – 2 votes
- Makua – 2 votes
- 'Opio – 1 vote



25% of the votes will come from this category
(1 person can be two sharing 1 vote)

- Scientific Community Members – 2 votes



25% of the votes will come from this category
(1 person can be two sharing 1 vote)

- Neighbor, Community Member – 2 votes

Wai'ele Advisory Council

(Hawaiian Name for below terms?)

Guidelines & Regulatory Measures

Executive Summary

The purpose of the development of guidelines and regulatory measures are to identify the purpose, scope and authority of an Advisory council to make decisions about land stewardship at Wai'ele, Puna, Hawaii. This document will serve as the guidelines and regulatory measures for the advisory council.

Establishment and Authority of Malama O Puna

1. Establishment

Malama O Puna is a 501 c(3) nonprofit established in ? in the land management and stewardship practices of Wai'ele, Puna, Hawaii.

Malama O Puna is a Hawai'i non-profit corporation and 501(c)(3) volunteer service organization which focuses on the environment. Our mission is to assure critical habitat for native species and open space for future generations through environmental ed. **Insert MOP Mission**

2. PONC (land ownership)

- a. Who are they and what they do
 - b. Stewardship agreement with Malama O Puna
 - c. Wai'ele Description
- ##### 3. Management/Stewardship plan development
- a. MOP is working on the creation of the Stewardship plan
- ##### 4. Viability
- a. The PONC Commission awarded Malama O Puna a Stewardship grant to develop an advisory committee to engage lineal and cultural descendants in the stewardship of Wai'ele.
 - b. The focus is about the protection and preservation of the natural and cultural resources, promoting sustainable land management practices, engaging the local community and enhancing ecological and cultural resilience

Establishment and Authority of Wai'ele Advisory Council

1. Establishment and Authority of the Advisory Council

- a. The Wai'ele Advisory council was established to address the needs and challenges related to:
 - a. Cultural preservation: to raise awareness of the cultural significance of Wai'ele and the surrounding region and promote activities that preserve and celebrate our cultural heritage
 - b. Environmental stewardship: to advocate for and implement sustainable land and resource management practices that protect the environment and support our local economy
 - c. Community engagement: fostering collaborations to build partnerships among various stakeholders including local residents, government agencies and nonprofit organizations to achieve **our common goals**
- b. The council was formed to provide to strategic guidance, facilitate collaboration and ensure that initiatives in the region align with the values and goals of lineal and cultural descendants and our local community
- c. Malama O Puna wants to ensure that individuals with ancestral ties to Wai'ele direct the planning of long term maintenance and stewardship activities. To that end we have been working with three individuals who will help create a steering committee that is fully inclusive of current community as well as honoring those families and ohana with ancestral connections to the Wai'ele. Keone Kalawe, anticipated to be recognized by SHPD as the lineal descendent of the Wai'ele, is already recognized as the foremost ancestral representative of the area. He is involved with the maintenance and preservation of the KSBE's Kahuwai adjacent to the Wai'ele. In addition, he is recognized as a direct lineal descendants of the area of Cape Kumukahi. Iopa MaunaKea also has ancestral ties to Wai'ele. He has also taken as his kuleana the management and preservation of many areas along this section of the Puna coast including the adjacent areas to the Wai'ele. With the help of the former President of Malama O Puna, Iopa founded the Men of Pa'a, an organization known for its extensive community service. Leila Kealoha also maintains close ancestral ties to the lands along this section of the Puna coastline. Leila is the President/Chair of Pohaku Pelemaka, a nonprofit that works with 'ohana representing the lands from Kalapana to Kumukahi. With the involvement of these native Hawaiians with ancestral ties to this section of Puna's coastline, we will be guided in the development of a steering committee that will direct the long-term maintenance planning and annual stewardship activities. During the twelve-month grant period and in addition to assisting in stewardship activities as noted above, these three individuals will: 1) Research the ancestral families who still maintain a presence in the community surrounding Wai'ele and who may wish to participate in the Steering Committee,

2) Identify community members other than the three consultants and Malama O Puna board members who have an interest in serving on this committee, 3) Set up a process that ensures all persons appointed to the Steering committee agree to respectful behavior as members of the Steering Committee, 4) Set up a protocol for deciding who will be members of the Steering Committee, 5) Identify how the Steering Committee will function with regard to holding regular meetings, time and place for such meetings, and establish rules of behavior for the meetings. 6) Identify the scope of services to be provided by the Steering Committee (e.g. review and approve annual stewardship applications, assist in specific tasks related to stewardship, establish a vision and mission for a comprehensive management plan.)

2. Mission, Vision, and Executive Summary

Mission:

The mission of our Hui Pa'a Stewardship Advisory Council is to honor and perpetuate the cultural heritage of Wai'ele, Halepua'a, Puna Makai through sustainable stewardship practices guided by the wisdom of our ancestors.

Vision:

Our vision is to create a thriving ecosystem in Wai'ele, Halepua'a, Puna Makai where the land, water, and community flourish in Iokahi, guided by the principles of Aloha 'Aina and the expertise of cultural practitioners and educators.

Executive Summary:

The Hui Pa'a Stewardship Advisory Council is a collaboration between Malama O Puna; Ke Aloha 'Aina Foundation, LLC; Kalawe 'Ohana; Kuamo'o Legacy Foundation; and Kauhale Kanaka O Puna that aims to preserve and revitalize the cultural and ecological integrity of Wai'ele, Halepua'a, Puna Makai. Our program is rooted in the principle of Aloha 'Aina which emphasizes holistic approaches to land stewardship, and Kanaka Maoli and community well-being.

The advisory council for stewarding Wai'ele, Halepua'a, Puna Makai plays a crucial role in guiding and overseeing the sustainable management of the land. Overall, the advisory council serves as a collaborative forum for stakeholders to come together, share perspectives, and work towards the shared goal of preserving and perpetuating the cultural and ecological integrity of Wai'ele, Halepua'a, Puna Makai for present and future generations.

Through this initiative, we will engage cultural practitioners and educators to steward best practices for Wai'ele, Halepua'a, Puna Makai. Our activities will include:

- **Cultural Workshops and Education:** Hosting workshops led by cultural practitioners to share traditional knowledge and practices related to land stewardship, agriculture, and resource management.

- **Restoration Projects:** Implementing restoration projects guided by cultural protocols to rehabilitate degraded areas, restore native vegetation, and enhance biodiversity.
- **Community Engagement:** Facilitating community events and kokua opportunities to foster a sense of stewardship and collective responsibility for the Wai'ele, Halepua'a, Puna Makai.
- **Monitoring and Assessment:** Conducting initial and regular assessments of the ecological health of Wai'ele, Halepua'a, Puna Makai, utilizing traditional ecological knowledge and modern scientific methods.
- **Capacity Building:** Providing training and support for community members interested in becoming stewards of the land, empowering them to take an active role in conservation efforts.

By integrating the values and practices of Hui Pa'a with the expertise of Malama O Puna and local cultural practitioners, we aspire to create a resilient and regenerative landscape that serves as a model for sustainable land stewardship across Wai'ele, Halepua'a. Together, we will honor the legacy of our ancestors while ensuring a vibrant future for generations to come.

Core Values

Kanaka Maoli practice the traditional core values of our kupuna and the customary practices within Wai'ele. This includes 'ohana, which emphasizes the importance of family, both immediate and extended.

Aloha/Malamaa: Embrace and practice the spirit of aloha in all interactions, fostering love, compassion, and respect for oneself, others, and the environment.

Kuleana (Responsibility): Acknowledge and honor our responsibility to care for the land, community, and future generations, recognizing that we are stewards of our cultural and natural heritage.

Ho'okipa (Hospitality): Extend warmth, welcome, and hospitality to all, creating inclusive spaces where everyone feels valued, supported, and empowered.

Laulima (Collaboration): Embrace the power of working together harmoniously, recognizing that collective effort and collaboration yield greater impact and success than individual actions.

Pono (Righteousness): Uphold integrity, honesty, and ethical conduct in all endeavors, striving to do what is right and just for the well-being of all.

3. Advisory Council Defined
4. Guidelines & Regulatory Measures will act as the governing document of the Wai'ele Advisory Council. Guidelines & Regulatory Measures describes the objectives and roles of the Advisory Council including procedural requirements regarding the appointment of council members, requirements for the conduct of council members, meetings, and other requirements. All Advisory Council activities shall be conducted pursuant to Guidelines & Regulatory Measures. **EDIT?**

- a. The Wai'ele Advisory Council's core function is to provide the land stewardship and management decisions for Wai'ele.

Scope and Powers

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Wai'ele advisory council is to serve as the guiding voice for making management decisions within Wai'ele. To provide strategic guidance and

oversight for the conservation and sustainable management of Wai'ele ahupua'a natural and cultural resources. The council aims to ensure that initiatives within the region align with community values and priorities while promoting cultural preservation, environmental stewardship and community engagement.

1. Cultural Preservation: safeguard cultural heritage, works to preserve the cultural and historical significance of the Wai'ele regions, by integrating traditional knowledge practices into stewardship activities
2. Promote cultural awareness: develop educational programs and events to raise awareness about the region's culture heritage and its importance to the community

2. Scope of Mana'o

The Wai'ele Advisory Council will share its 'ike on various subjects and areas including: cultural, physical, biological, economic, educational, and community issues impacting Wai'ele and the surrounding region. The Wai'ele Advisory Council shall share its mana'o within the limitations of its powers found in Section 3 below.

3. Limitation of Powers

Malama O Puna recognizes the collective 'ike of the Wai'ele Advisory Council and the thoughts and opinions will be used as the final decision making process. As such, the Wai'ele Advisory Council is authorized and empowered to perform operational and management functions. In addition, the Wai'ele Advisory Council is authorized and empowered to govern, enforce, dictate, or mandate, policies, plans, decisions, or acts, as it relates to MOP and PONC. Lineal descendants will ultimately have the final say when it comes to culturally sensitive issues, i.e., lwi kupuna, etc

Membership

1. Number of Members

The Wai'ele Advisory Council shall consist of a minimum of three (3) members and a maximum of seven (7) voting members. There needs to be an odd number of members at any given time for voting purposes and there is no tie-vote. There are no non-voting members. Malama O Puna may have a representative present at meetings to share mana'o.

2. *Selection process*

The selection process will consist of each applicant filing out an application form. The existing advisory council and the land management agency or organization representative will use a weighted process to review each applicant. It is important to have a balanced membership on the council. The advisory council shall consist of no less than three (3) lineal descendants to begin this process, then it will include two members of the community. The community members shall have one representative from the scientific community and one community member who has been vested in the area of Wai'ele and who has been serving as a kokua.

- a. Lineal descendants: may include one (1) each of the following:
 - i. Kupuna
 - ii. Makua
 - iii. 'Opio
- b. Two community members: scientific community, members vested within the community doing kokua work. The latter of the two will be referred to as a "General member."
- c. Application

3. *Alaka'i/kumu*

- a. One member shall serve as the person who will lead the council meetings
- b. The council will designate a secondary person to lead the meetings in the event the alaka'i/kumu is not available

4. *Member terms*

- a. Lineal descendants
 - i. Kupuna- 4 years
 - ii. Makua- 3 years
 - iii. 'Opio- 2 years
- b. Community members
 - i. Scientific-3 years
 - ii. General member- 2 years
- c. Designated beneficiaries
 - i. Each member of the council shall designate a secondary beneficiary to attend or participate in meetings and decision making in the event they are not able to attend meetings
- d. In the event there is a vacant seat, the council is responsible for filling that seat as soon as possible. In this circumstance, there shall be no meetings or decision making until the vacant seat is filled

5. *Additional terms*

- a. At the conclusion of a members term, such member may apply for an additional term
- b. Lineal descendants may serve two consecutive terms. Lineal descendants may serve two terms, then have a break in a term, then apply for another term after the break
- c. If there are no new candidates available for the lineal descendant members seat, then the existing member may serve an additional term on a year-to-year basis
- d. Community members may serve two consecutive terms

6. *Termination*

Advisory council members may be terminated if they exude the listed conditions below and may be grounds for dismissal at the discretion of other advisory board members:

- a. Does not abide by the core values guiding the Wai'ele advisory council
- b. Conviction or judgment for violation of federal, state, or county, laws, regulations, or administrative rules, relating to the protection of land, environment and/or cultural resources
- c. Is determined the have abused his/her position as a member of the advisory council (including, but not limited to, use of the advisory council information for person gain; use of the advisory council position to advance personal agenda or to harm another member of the advisory council or community; misrepresentation of, or spreading misinformation about the advisory council or MOP, PONC; and refusal to recuse himself/herself if so requested by other advisory council members in a matter in which the member is perceived to have a conflict of interest
- d. Has a change to the professional affiliation(s) and/or circumstances that comprise a significant portion of that members qualifications for being a member of the advisory council
- e. Misses three consecutive meetings without reasonable justification
- f. Disrupts meetings on one or more occasion, in a manner that significantly interferes with the advisory council conducting its business

7. *Resignation*

Members who wish to resign from their position shall give the Advisory council and the MOP coordinator with 30-days written notice so that arrangements can be made to fill the vacancy as soon as possible. If this position is not filled the council will make all attempts to fill the position

8. *Balanced membership*

An advisory council that is balanced in terms of interest, geographic representation, skills, knowledge, and expertise will provide the greatest benefit towards the stewardship of Wai'ele. Accordingly, MOP and the initial advisory council members will select applicants, to the extent feasible, that demonstrate skills, knowledge and expertise in the following key areas, which have been identified as critical to the viability of the stewardship of Wai'ele:

- a. Cultural resources
- b. Natural resources
- c. Biological resources
- d. Archaeological resources
- e. Education resources
- f. Community resources

Administration

1. *Kokua* (Volunteer)

Members of the Advisory Council shall serve without compensation.

2. Malama O Puna

Operation

1. Conduct of members

Advisory council members may not use or allow the use, for other than purposes of the Advisory council, any information obtained through or in connection with his/her Advisory council affiliation that has not been made available to the general public.

2. When speaking to the public or writing about any matter regarding Wai'ele in a document for distribution beyond the Wai'ele Advisory Council member membership, such member shall clearly distinguish those recommendations, opinions, or positions officially adopted by the Wa'iele Advisory Council member as a body from those he or she may have as an individual. In no case shall a member represent his/her individual opinions as those of the Wai'ele Advisory Council member or Wai'ele Advisory Council member .

3. Any Wai'ele Advisory Council member who has a conflict of interest (financial, personal, professional, etc.) in any matter before the Wai'ele Advisory Council member or its Subcommittees or Working Groups, shall declare the conflict and excuse himself or herself from any action on that matter, including discussion and voting actions. The Advisory council Chair will bring it to the council to determine if a conflict of interests

exists or not. If the chair is not present at the meeting, then the vice-chair will consult with the council.

4. Conduct of Advisory Council Body

- a. The Wai'ele Advisory Council shall not provide advice or make recommendations regarding Wai'ele to anyone other than MOP. The Wai'ele Advisory Council shall not perform operational or management functions, and has no authority to make decisions or express policy on behalf of MOP. Any advice, correspondence or information that the Wai'ele Advisory Council wishes to share or express to others beyond MOP must be submitted to and be approved by the MOP Coordinator prior to any Wai'ele Advisory Council statement/action.

- b. Any communications (oral or written), i.e., correspondence, press releases, informational releases, news articles, or other written documents, that are intended to represent the Wai'ele Advisory Council as a body must be submitted to and be approved by the MOP Coordinator, in collaboration with MOP's Executive Director or assignee. The following disclaimer shall be placed in documents originating from the Wai'ele Advisory Council. The opinions and findings of this body do not necessarily reflect the position of the Malama O Puna and the County of Hawaii, PONC."

Committees

1. Subcommittees and Groups

- a. The Wai'ele advisory council may have subcommittees and groups to execute initiatives

Land Management Coordinator/Liaison

1. Malama O Puna Coordinator/Liaison-

- a. The Executive Director or designee shall serve as the liaison to the Wai'ele advisory council
- b. The Wai'ele Advisory Council shall work with the Malama O Puna in the stewardship of Wai'ele

Malama O Puna, as the grant and PONC awardees, will play a crucial role in the stewardship and management of the awarded property and the implementation of various conservation and community engagement initiatives. Here are the specific roles and responsibilities they can assume:

Roles and Responsibilities of Malama O Puna:

1. Stewardship and Conservation:

- **Land Management:** Overseeing the maintenance and restoration of the awarded property, ensuring that it is managed sustainably and in alignment with conservation goals.
- **Native Species Restoration:** Implementing projects to restore native plant and animal species, removing invasive species, and enhancing the biodiversity of the area.
- **Environmental Monitoring:** Conducting regular monitoring of the ecosystem to track the health and progress of conservation efforts.

Community Engagement and Education:

- **Educational Programs:** Developing and delivering educational programs and workshops to raise awareness about environmental conservation, cultural preservation, and sustainable practices among local residents and visitors.
- **Kokua Coordination:** Establishing kokua programs to involve the community in hands-on conservation activities, such as tree planting, habitat restoration, and clean-up efforts.
- **Community Events:** Organizing community events, cultural celebrations, and educational tours to foster a sense of stewardship and connection to the land.

3. Cultural Preservation:

- **Integration of Traditional Knowledge:** Collaborating with cultural practitioners to integrate traditional ecological knowledge and practices into stewardship activities.
- **Cultural Heritage Projects:** Supporting projects that document, preserve, and celebrate the cultural history and significance of the area.

4. Resource Management:

- **Grant Management:** Effectively managing the funds received through the grant, ensuring that they are used efficiently and transparently to achieve project goals.
- **Partnership Development:** Building partnerships with other organizations, government agencies, and stakeholders to leverage additional resources and expertise.

5. Advocacy and Policy:

- **Policy Advocacy:** Advocating for policies and practices at the local and state level that support environmental conservation and cultural preservation.
- **Community Representation:** Serving as a representative for the community's interests in discussions and decisions related to land use and environmental protection.

6. Reporting and Accountability:

- **Progress Reporting:** Providing regular reports to the funding bodies, stakeholders, and the community on the progress and outcomes of funded projects.
- **Transparency and Accountability:** Ensuring transparency in the use of funds and accountability in the implementation of projects.

Example Initiatives:

- **Revegetation Projects:** Planting native species to restore degraded areas and enhance habitat quality.
- **Cultural Workshops:** Hosting workshops on traditional land management practices, Hawaiian language, and cultural history.
- **Public Access Improvements:** Enhancing public access to natural and cultural sites in a way that is respectful and sustainable.

By taking on these roles, Malamaa O Puna can ensure that the awarded grant and PONC funds are used effectively to create lasting positive impacts on the environment and community in the Wai‘ele region. Their efforts will help preserve the natural beauty and cultural heritage of the area while fostering a strong sense of community stewardship

2. Communications/Decisions made by the board
 - a. The board will bring the recommendations to the council

Meetings

1. Frequency

The Wai‘ele Advisory Council shall meet on a monthly basis. Special meetings may be called to order, if necessary.

2. Minutes

Minutes will be recorded by a designated member of the council. The minutes will be stored in Google Drive. They can be made available upon written request.

3. Kanaka maoli rules

All advisory council members will abide by and adhere to core values of the council.

Amendments

1. Amendment process

Amendments will be brought to the council by a member and be discussed and voted on by the council members

Ratification

1. Ratification of the Advisory Council

The membership of the Advisory Council member will be consented and agreed upon with execution of the signature below.

_____ Date

Eileen O’Hara,
Executive Director
Malamaa O Puna

Roles and Responsibilities of Malama O Puna:

Puna, as the grant and PONC awardees, will play a crucial role in the stewardship and management of the awarded property and the implementation of various conservation and community engagement initiatives. Here are the specific roles and responsibilities they can assume:

1. Stewardship and Conservation:

- **Land Management:** Overseeing the maintenance and restoration of the awarded property, ensuring that it is managed sustainably and in alignment with conservation goals.
- **Native Species Restoration:** Implementing projects to restore native plant and animal species, removing invasive species, and enhancing the biodiversity of the area.
- **Environmental Monitoring:** Conducting regular monitoring of the ecosystem to track the health and progress of conservation efforts.

2. Community Engagement and Education:

- **Educational Programs:** Developing and delivering educational programs and workshops to raise awareness about environmental conservation, cultural preservation, and sustainable practices among local residents and visitors.
- **Volunteer Coordination:** Establishing volunteer programs to involve the community in hands-on conservation activities, such as tree planting, habitat restoration, and clean-up efforts.
- **Community Events:** Organizing community events, cultural celebrations, and educational tours to foster a sense of stewardship and connection to the land.

3. Cultural Preservation:

- **Integration of Traditional Knowledge:** Collaborating with cultural practitioners to integrate traditional ecological knowledge and practices into stewardship activities.
- **Cultural Heritage Projects:** Supporting projects that document, preserve, and celebrate the cultural history and significance of the area.

4. Resource Management:

- **Grant Management:** Effectively managing the funds received through the grant, ensuring that they are used efficiently and transparently to achieve project goals.
- **Partnership Development:** Building partnerships with other organizations, government agencies, and stakeholders to leverage additional resources and expertise.

5. Advocacy and Policy:

- **Policy Advocacy:** Advocating for policies and practices at the local and state level that support environmental conservation and cultural preservation.
- **Community Representation:** Serving as a representative for the community's interests in discussions and decisions related to land use and environmental protection.

6. Reporting and Accountability:

- **Progress Reporting:** Providing regular reports to the funding bodies, stakeholders, and the community on the progress and outcomes of funded projects.
- **Transparency and Accountability:** Ensuring transparency in the use of funds and accountability in the implementation of projects.

Example Initiatives:

- **Revegetation Projects:** Planting native species to restore degraded areas and enhance habitat quality.
- **Cultural Workshops:** Hosting workshops on traditional land management practices, Hawaiian language, and cultural history.
- **Public Access Improvements:** Enhancing public access to natural and cultural sites in a way that is respectful and sustainable.

By taking on these roles, Malama O Puna can ensure that the awarded grant and PONC funds are used effectively to create lasting positive impacts on the environment and community in the Waiele region. Their efforts will help preserve the natural beauty and cultural heritage of the area while fostering a strong sense of community stewardship ([website](#)) ([West Hawaii Today](#)) ([Hawaii Tribune-Herald](#)).

Hui Pa'a Stewardship Advisory Council

Mission, Vision, and Executive Summary

Mission:

The mission of our Hui Pa'a Stewardship Advisory Council is to honor and perpetuate the cultural heritage of Wai'ele, Halepua'a, Puna Makai through sustainable stewardship practices guided by the wisdom of our ancestors.

Vision:

Our vision is to create a thriving ecosystem in Wai'ele, Halepua'a, Puna Makai where the land, water, and community flourish in Iokahi, guided by the principles of Aloha 'Aina and the expertise of cultural practitioners and educators.

Executive Summary:

The Hui Pa'a Stewardship Advisory Council is a collaboration between Malama O Puna; Ke Aloha 'Aina Foundation, LLC; Kalawe 'Ohana; Kuamo'o Legacy Foundation; and Kauhale Kanaka O Puna that aims to preserve and revitalize the cultural and ecological integrity of Wai'ele, Halepua'a, Puna Makai. Our program is rooted in the principle of Aloha 'Aina which emphasizes holistic approaches to land stewardship, and Kanaka Maoli and community well-being.

The advisory council for stewarding Wai'ele, Halepua'a, Puna Makai plays a crucial role in guiding and overseeing the sustainable management of the land. Overall, the advisory council serves as a collaborative forum for stakeholders to come together, share perspectives, and work towards the shared goal of preserving and perpetuating the cultural and ecological integrity of Wai'ele, Halepua'a, Puna Makai for present and future generations.

Through this initiative, we will engage cultural practitioners and educators to steward best practices for Wai'ele, Halepua'a, Puna Makai. Our activities will include:

- Cultural Workshops and Education: Hosting workshops led by cultural practitioners to share traditional knowledge and practices related to land stewardship, agriculture, and resource management.
- Restoration Projects: Implementing restoration projects guided by cultural protocols to rehabilitate degraded areas, restore native vegetation, and enhance biodiversity.

- **Community Engagement:** Facilitating community events and volunteer opportunities to foster a sense of stewardship and collective responsibility for the Wai'ele, Halepua'a, Puna Makai.
- **Monitoring and Assessment:** Conducting initial and regular assessments of the ecological health of Wai'ele, Halepua'a, Puna Makai, utilizing traditional ecological knowledge and modern scientific methods.
- **Capacity Building:** Providing training and support for community members interested in becoming stewards of the land, empowering them to take an active role in conservation efforts.

By integrating the values and practices of Hui Pa'a with the expertise of Malama O Puna and local cultural practitioners, we aspire to create a resilient and regenerative landscape that serves as a model for sustainable land stewardship across Wai'ele, Halepua'a. Together, we will honor the legacy of our ancestors while ensuring a vibrant future for generations to come.

Core Values

Kanaka Maoli practice the traditional core values of our kupuna and the customary practices within Wai'ele. This includes 'ohana, which emphasizes the importance of family, both immediate and extended.

Aloha/Malama: Embrace and practice the spirit of aloha in all interactions, fostering love, compassion, and respect for oneself, others, and the environment.

Kuleana (Responsibility): Acknowledge and honor our responsibility to care for the land, community, and future generations, recognizing that we are stewards of our cultural and natural heritage.

Ho'okipa (Hospitality): Extend warmth, welcome, and hospitality to all, creating inclusive spaces where everyone feels valued, supported, and empowered.

Laulima (Collaboration): Embrace the power of working together harmoniously, recognizing that collective effort and collaboration yield greater impact and success than individual actions.

Pono (Righteousness): Uphold integrity, honesty, and ethical conduct in all endeavors, striving to do what is right and just for the well-being of all.

Wahi pana Steering Committee Model

Tasks:

During the twelve-month grant period and in addition to assisting in stewardship activities as noted above, these three individuals will:

- 1) Research the ancestral families who still maintain a presence in the community surrounding Wai'ele and who may wish to participate in the Steering Committee
 - Reach out to Aunty Didi, Uncle ? Kamoku, Jennifer Waipa
- 2) Identify community members other than the three consultants and Malama O Puna board members who have an interest in serving on this committee,
- 3) Set up a process that ensures all persons appointed to the Steering committee agree to respectful behavior as members of the Steering Committee,
- 4) Set up a protocol for deciding who will be members of the Steering Committee,
- 5) Identify how the Steering Committee will function with regard to holding regular meetings, time and place for such meetings, and establish rules of behavior for the meetings.
- 6) Identify the scope of services to be provided by the Steering Committee (e.g. review and approve annual stewardship applications, assist in specific tasks related to stewardship, establish a vision and mission for a comprehensive management plan
- 7) Each individual will contribute 110-hours each to this project

The recipient of the Steering committee outcomes is ultimately the land & the people who have a kuleana with the land in question

This may look like the following:

Who should be a part of the committee? Maybe this is called an "Advisory council?"

- Committee/Council
 - Kupuna, Makua, 'Opio (lineal & cultural descendants)
 - Scientific community
 - Neighbors that are vetted/vested within the community (people who have been caring for and volunteering for the resources)
- Assign a primary and secondary member in case primary cannot be present

- How long will the terms be? Maybe stagger so that there is overlap and mana‘o, etc is not lost. Ex: Kupuna 3-year term, Makua 4-year term, ‘Opio 3-year term, scientific 4-year term.
- See “Voting Rights” document

What will members do?

- Volunteer their time to serve on this committee/council
- Review Land use proposals for natural and cultural resources on specific ‘aina
- Vote on Land use proposals
-

When

- How often? Follow the PONC meeting schedule? These can be more often if needed?
-

Where

- What designated area will be the meeting space?
-

Why

- The intention is to allow the community and those who live here an opportunity to have a voice and be a part of the process while ensuring the Kanaka maoli voice is heard, uplifted and may in some/most cases be the final voice.
- Waiele will serve as the pilot model and then this can be replicated in other areas

How will the meetings be conducted?

- Roberts Rules?
- Does there need to be a Chair, Vice-chair, and secretary? Who oversees the meetings and who will they report too? Who is in charge of them?
- Voting
 - Ex:
- Where will the notes, agenda, documents, etc be stored?

Ho’olauna

Kuleana

Outcome

1. Completed document that outlines specific details of the above mentioned categories, including a cover letter
2. Protocols of how to execute the steering committee/council