



Koki'o (*kokia drynarioides*)

Native Hawaiian Plant Society
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Can't remember the last time you renewed your NHPS membership? Now there's help!

The year on your address label is the last time we received your donation.
We miss you!

Renew now, and continue in the fun of preserving Hawai'i's native plants.



Membership form

Name (please print) _____ Date _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____ Renewal _____

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Donation categories: Individual \$15 _____ Family \$20 _____ Other \$ _____

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Native Hawaiian Plant Society

Nanea Nā Pua O Ka 'Āina Aloha

NHPS Newsletter

June 2009

Hibiscus brackenridgei Ma'o Hau Hele

by Hank Oppenheimer, Project Leader



Ma'o hau hele (*Hibiscus brackenridgei*), Hawai'i's critically endangered state flower.

This long running NHPS project remains an important site for the conservation of our critically endangered State Flower. Several service trips were made since the last newsletter and the fence was inspected each time. The priority weeds remain *koa haole*, Guinea grass, and glycine. Fire remains the biggest threat however, and with a dry summer ahead we hope our efforts to control weeds and reduce the fuel load will be enough to protect the site should the worst happen.

Seeds have been collected from mature plants, and we continue to monitor the seedlings. A newly found mature plant was found outside and away from the enclosure, and it seems there is at least some seed dispersal to new areas nearby. It is encouraging to see regeneration of all the native species in the enclosure including the rare Mauna Kahalawai (aka West Maui) endemic *Schiedea salicaria*, a Candidate for listing as Endangered by the US Fish & Wildlife Service.

With winter rains, some of the annuals were thriving, including a vine, *'anunu* (*Sicyos hispidus*, in the cucumber family) and *kakonakona* (*Panicum torridum* and *P. xerophilum*, two grasses).

We have again observed native animals using the site, including a snail, *Succinea caduca*, and the Blackburn butterfly, *Udara balckburnii*, one of only two native butterflies (there are hundreds if not thousands of native moth species however).

There is an exciting development for the project around the corner! Stay tuned for more news... Better yet, come on out and see for yourself and help! Give me a call if you're interested at (808) 357-2074.

The Mauna Kahalawai (aka West Maui) endemic *Schiedea salicaria* is a candidate for listing as endangered by the US Fish & Wildlife Service. (Below and right)

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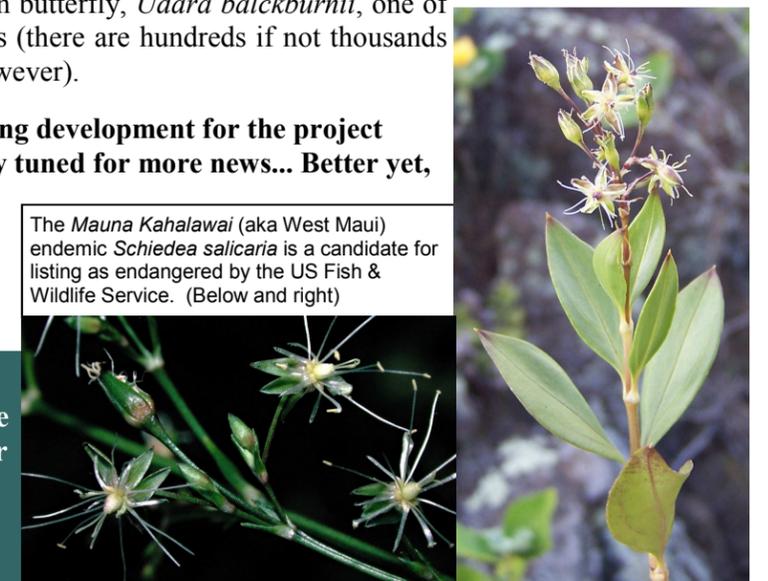
Special Advisor

Fern Duvall

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Shannon Paapanen

Mahalo Nui Loa Duane Ting and his family for their support of this project.



President's Message

by Martha Martin



Martha Martin planting 'āhinahina (Silversword) on a Haleakalā on a Friends of Haleakalā service trip.

Since 1980 the Native Hawaiian Plant Society, (a non-profit 501(c)(3) group, run by all volunteers) has worked to rescue and preserve native Hawaiian plants. Most of our members live on Maui, so our projects are focused here. We cooperate with government agencies, public and private groups, and individuals by planning volunteer work trips. Healthy native Hawaiian plant colonies will support increased numbers of native insects and animals, and benefit the watershed too. The NHPS sponsors public lectures about native plant conservation, and by donating some of our time and money we support events of other groups which share our mission.

If you'd like to volunteer on our Board of Directors, or pitch in on a future work day, please contact any of our officers. We welcome your support.

Ha'ikū School

By Becky Lau



Established plantings at Ha'ikū School. (Above) River rock signs by Shiela Kawaiāea. (Below)

The plantings at Ha'ikū Elementary School have grown in increments starting about twenty years ago with a few plants in front of the Office. Three major projects over the years have added a lot of plants: The Bruce Turnbull Sculpture Garden, the plantings on the makai side of the school along the fence, and the new parking lot project. The fence and parking lot projects were made possible by Marion Zajac who obtained a generous grant from *Foodland* and coordinated Community Work Day volunteers. Attractive river rock signs identifying plants were made by Shiela Kawaiāea.

Over the past four years dedicated NHPS members—especially Martha Martin, Muffie Davis and Jennifer Rose—have worked to keep the weeds at bay and add new plantings. Now this project serves as a fine example to other schools that might wish to landscape with native plants.

We work Sunday mornings around 8:30 am and sometimes Monday mornings. Come anytime and stay as long as you want! Contact (808) 575-2369.

Kanahā Pond

By Lorna Hazen



Volunteers propagate 'ākulikuli for Kanahā Pond (above). Plantings mature at the State DLNR Nursery (below)

In September 2008, the *State Department of Land & Natural Resources* began the first year of a four-year project to remove 20 acres per year of non-native trees from Kanahā Pond and replant with native Hawaiian vegetation. Contractor Decoite Tree Service cut and chipped twenty acres of *kiave*. Then contractor Hui Ku Maoli Ola from Honolulu propagated and out-planted 'ilima-papa, 'ōhelo kai, 'ākulikuli and pōhuehue. Almost all of these plants have survived to date.

NHPS and AmeriCorps volunteers propagated 18,500 'ākulikuli plants from cuttings, and, along with POI and AmeriCorps, have out-planted 7,500 of them. There are approximately 11,000 'ākulikuli left to plant.

Out-planting will continue through the summer. Because of the dry weather, in order for these plants to survive, a heavy dose of water is needed at planting. Hopefully planting will be completed by September 2009. **Chris Alexander of the DLNR may be available Saturdays for volunteer groups of five or more. Call Chris at (808) 873-3983. NHPS volunteers work every Thursday morning from 8am-11am. Contact Lorna Hazen at (808) 572-6338.**



Upcoming NHPS Events

Lecture Series

November 6 (Friday) 7pm

Hank Oppenheimer, Maui Nui Coordinator of the Plant Extinction Prevention Program (PEP) will present an overview of the Program—the species, threats, and efforts to save them from extinction. PEP works to save the rarest of Hawaiian plant species, those with fewer than 50 wild individuals. Lecture Location: Hannibal Tavares Community Center Pool Room, Pukalani

Special Service Trips

August 8 (Saturday)

Kanahā pond
Contact Lorna Hazen (808) 572-6338

September 12 (Saturday)

Fleming Arboretum, Pu'u Mahoe
Contact Irene Newhouse (808) 264-6977

October 10 (Saturday)

Waihe'e Refuge, Maui Coastal Land Trust
Contact Irene Newhouse (808) 264-6977

November 14 (Saturday)

Waikapū Hi-Brack Exclosure
Contact Hank Oppenheimer (808) 357-2074 or email hmo3500@hotmail.com

December 12 (Saturday)

Waikapū Hi-Brack Exclosure
Contact Hank Oppenheimer (808) 357-2074 or email hmo3500@hotmail.com

Regular Service Trips

Kanahā pond

Every Thursday from 8:00 AM to 11:00 AM
Call Lorna Hazen (808) 572-6338 or email lornajack@clearwire.net

Ha'ikū School

Every Sunday at 8:30 am
and some Monday mornings.
Contact Becky Lau (808) 575-2369

Kahului Library

Contact Lorna Hazen for dates/times
808/572-6338 or email lornajack@clearwire.net

Kahului Library

Maintenance of the Kahului Library courtyard plantings continues. We recently added *Hedyotis littoralis*, kukupu fern, 'ēkaha (bird's-nest fern), palapalai fern and 'ihi (*Portulaca molokiniensis*).

Pruning of the 'ūlei and 'ākia made the wall mural by internationally-recognized Maui artist, Tadashi Sato (1923-2005) visible from the courtyard seating area. Major trimming of the *naio* has allowed more light into the garden.

We'd like to thank head librarian Sana Daliva for her help in coordinating our garden projects. Stop by to read your favorite book and enjoy the lovely Hawaiian garden setting.



Mahalo to:

Cook Kwee's Maui Cookies for donating cookies for our member meetings.

Maui County Parks and Recreation for the use of Hannibal Tavares Community Center Pool Room.

Harry Eager of the *Maui News*.

Exclosure Partners: Hawai'i State DLNR and Duane Ting and Family.