



Defending Papahānaumokuākea!



Sheila Sarhangi

View of the western pali (cliff) of Nihoa from Hikianalia. Photo by Brad Ka'aleleo

Leatherback turtles the size of a Volkswagen Beetle. Laysan ducks, once widespread around the Hawaiian Archipelago. Black coral 4000 years old, the world's oldest organism. These are just some of the 7,000 remarkable species found in Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument.

In August 2016, in response to a movement led by Hawai'i stakeholders – from kūpuna to conservationists, local fishers, and scientists – then-President

Obama expanded the boundaries of Papahānaumokuākea to 200 nautical miles around the existing monument, with the exception of the southeast boundary, for a total of 583,000 square miles, an area more than twice the size of Texas.

Why was additional protection needed? Recent scientific studies show that species found within Papahānaumokuākea have geographic ranges that go beyond the 50 nautical-mile protection, which

was established by President George W. Bush in 2006. For example, 24 species of whales and dolphins occur outside of the original protection area. Three of these species are listed under the Endangered Species Act as threatened or endangered: sperm whales, fin whales, and sei whales.

Moreover, the expanded monument now safeguards more than 75 seamounts, known as underwater volcanoes or mountains. These features form biological hotspots that provide habitat for a wide

U.S. Hosts IUCN World Conservation Congress for the First Time!

Lorraine Garnier

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) held its first-ever World Conservation Congress in the United States, and Hawai'i was the chosen location to bring together several thousand leaders and decision-makers from government, citizen organizations, indigenous peoples, businesses, and academia. The goal of the congress was to combine efforts to conserve the environment and harness the solutions nature offers to global challenges.

Conservation Council for Hawai'i and many others worked for over 5 years to bring the congress to Hawai'i. The inspiring

and successful international gathering was based at the beautiful Hawai'i Convention Center in Honolulu 10 days last September, and featured formal voting sessions for IUCN members, presentations, art, music, culture, food, workshops, field trips, informal cafes and discussions,



Matt Rand and Senator Brian Schatz. Photo by Jonee Peters

receptions, and educational booths.

I exuberantly attended to help man the colorful CCH and National Wildlife Federation shared booth in the Exhibition, which gave me a window into all the work that CCH does. More than 20 CCH staff and volunteers kept the popular booth open for the duration of the congress.

On the evening of the opening reception, then-President Obama stopped in Honolulu on his way to Midway Atoll to announce his decision to expand the boundary of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument to 200 nautical miles around most of the existing monument – a goal many of us had been working toward for many months last year. Celebration was in the air!

I had the pleasure to attend educational sessions, including “Actions for a Sustainable Ocean,” a high-level event with distinguished individuals – such as world-renown ocean scientist



Sylvia Earle and Lorraine Garnier. Photo courtesy of Lorraine Garnier

Sylvia Earle; Senior Vice-President for Oceans at Conservation International

Aulani Wilhelm; and Polynesian Voyaging Society Master Navigator Nainoa Thompson – to discuss climate, fisheries, by-catch, ocean acidification, and other critical issues affecting all island nations. Sylvia Earle said, “The expanded Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument is a place where even the fish are safe. What a concept!”

The second half of the congress was spent at the IUCN Members Assembly, in which Marjorie Ziegler, Julie Leialoha, and I participated as CCH's official voting delegation. We discussed, and voted on motions, IUCN programs, IUCN commission chairs, and the annual budget. Topics such as High Seas Protections; Adoption, Education and Integration of Women and Children in Conservation; Protections of Primary Forests; and Closure of Domestic Markets for Elephant Ivory were among dozens of issues for discussion and action.

One motion dear to my heart was Increasing Marine Protected Area Coverage for Effective Marine Biodiversity Protections calling for the protection of approximately 30% of the oceans by 2030. This motion was adopted by the IUCN voting members, although many countries agreed during discussions that it was probably not enough protection for our oceans to withstand climate change.



Calley O'Neill and her Rama Exhibition. Photo by Marjorie Ziegler



Jonee Peters and Debra Evans at the CCH-NWF booth. Photo by Kathleen King

Marjorie attended a negotiation session to try and reach consensus on elephant ivory – should sales be banned altogether or should sales be regulated? No consensus was reached, and on the



Katrena Kennedy and Les Welsh. Photo by Marjorie Ziegler

floor, IUCN members rejected several motions to regulate the sale of elephant ivory, and voted instead to close domestic markets to elephant ivory. CCH and others passed a state law banning wildlife trafficking in Hawai'i in 2016, and this IUCN motion was especially meaningful. CCH also introduced a successful emergency motion at the congress, calling for immediate action to save Hawai'i's native forest birds.

On the last day of the congress, I realized the immense privilege to have had the opportunity to not only represent CCH and Hawai'i – but to actually sit alongside the immensity of our world's people who came here from over 200 countries with the collective hope of protecting our natural resources. These individuals represented millions of people working hard everyday, risking their lives in some cases, to maintain the diversity, ecology, and beauty of our planet.



Denise Antolini and Calley O'Neill's Rama Exhibition. Photo by Marjorie Ziegler



Klaus and Yoshiko Radtke. Photo by Marjorie Ziegler



CCH and NWF staff front row left to right: Marjorie Ziegler, Jonee Peters; back row: Bruce Stein, Simon Hall, Les Welsh, David Burns, and Barbara Bramble. Photo courtesy of NWF

Papahānaumokuākea cont.



Galapagos sharks at Maro Reef.
Photo courtesy of NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries

range of plant and animal communities. Recent expeditions to these deep-sea ecosystems have yielded new species on nearly every survey, including the world's largest sponge found at 7,000 feet and the size of a mini-van.

Obama's designation also elevated the Office of Hawaiian Affairs to a Monument Co-Trustee position, rightfully placing the Native Hawaiian voice at the highest level of decision-making in the governance of Papahānaumokuākea.

Despite this success, many in the Expand Papahānaumokuākea Coalition,

including Conservation Council for Hawai'i, are now back in the trenches to defend the monument. In April, President Trump ordered a review of recent marine monument designations and expansions created since 1996 under the Antiquities Act, including Papahānaumokuākea. Trump has tasked the Secretary of Interior and the Secretary of Commerce to review the need for these vital protections. The review is part of a larger effort that could lead to the reduction of more than two-dozen monuments and sanctuaries designated

and expanded by former presidents, such as Giant Sequoia National Monument in California.

In response, advocates have been hard at work to defend Papahānaumokuākea. To date, more than 10,000 Hawai'i residents, and thousands of additional supporters across the world, have submitted petitions to the Trump administration with a strong message to leave Papahānaumokuākea's protections in place, with the justification that the science backed the need for more protection, the expansion was widely supported by Hawai'i stakeholders, and the Obama administration sufficiently consulted stakeholders for their input on the boundaries.

What's yet to be determined is if President Trump has the legal authority to rescind monuments established under the 1906 Antiquities Act. Some say he does not have that kind of power and this will likely be tested in court.

At press time, the coalition is awaiting the administration's decision.

Expand Papahānaumokuākea Coalition members front row left to right: Narrissa Spies, Sheila Sarhangi, William Ailā, Sol Kaho'ohalahala, Isaac "Paka" Harp; back row: Coti-Lynne Haia, Dr. Bob Richmond, Matt Rand, Seth Horstmeyer, Kawika Riley, Hoku Cody, and Ekolu Lindsey.
Photo courtesy of Sheila Sarhangi



Fun at the 2016 Annual Awards and Membership Meeting

Wayne Tanaka

Photos by Christopher McDonough

On October 22, 2016, members and supporters of the Conservation Council for Hawai'i joined special guests from the National Wildlife Federation and the office of Senator Brian Schatz for an evening of delicious food, music, and thought-provoking presentations at the Japanese Cultural Center in Honolulu.

The CCH 2016 Annual Awards and Membership Meeting capped off a year of particularly historic events, including the convening of the International Union for Conservation of Nature World Conservation Congress at the Hawai'i Convention Center, and then-President Obama's expansion of Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument, which became the largest (at the time) marine preserve in the world. CCH was a strong supporter of the efforts leading up to these proud moments for Hawai'i and the United States, along with a number of meeting attendees including NWF, The Pew Charitable Trusts, and Expand Papahānaumokuākea Coalition. Accordingly, there was much cause to celebrate that night.

Uncle Sol Kaho'ohalahala of Lāna'i Island graciously opened the meeting with a Hawaiian 'oli (chant) to welcome guests and set the tone for the evening. NWF President and CEO Collin O'Mara followed with a humorous and hopeful keynote address highlighting the power of coordinated advocacy between NWF and its affiliates, such as CCH, to influence decisions in Washington, D.C., and better ensure the protection of public lands and natural resources. Members and guests then bid a fond farewell to departing board members Julie Leialoha, Ryan Belcher, and Rick Barboza, and welcomed (with a unanimous vote of

approval) our new board members Anne Walton, Rachel Sprague, and Les Welsh.



Senator Brian Schatz, recipient of CCH's 2016 Honu Award. Photo courtesy of Brian Schatz

One of the many highlights of the evening was the presentation of the CCH Honu Award to United States Senator Brian Schatz, accepted by Senior Policy Advisor Dale Hahn, for the Senator's strong support for the expansion of Papahānaumokuākea. William and Melva Ailā of Wai'anae, O'ahu presented the award, and joined Uncle Sol, CCH Administrator Jonee Peters, and Expand organizer Narrissa Spies in a few rousing rounds of I Kū Mau Mau, an ancient Hawaiian call-and-response chant of solidarity still used today (as evidenced by the many local attendees who joined in the response).

We enjoyed a delicious dinner of Hawaiian food including tender and juicy kalua pork, mouth-watering poke (raw and seasoned fish), savory-sweet he'e lū'au (octopus cooked with taro leaf and coconut milk), chicken long rice, lomi salmon (a mixture of salmon, onions, and tomatoes), fresh pineapple, steamed sweet potato, and poi. We topped

off dinner with an assortment of decadent artisanal chocolate truffles, fruits, and nuts handmade by award-winning Choco le'a, a repeat supporter of CCH.

As conversation and laughter filled the room, Kevin Chang and members of the locally beloved band Kupa'aina (check them out!) closed out the night by serenading us with their nostalgic renditions of familiar local hits.

Although last year's meeting will be hard to beat, we are already hard at work planning this year's meeting. Please mark your calendars and join us as we reflect on the challenges and accomplishments of 2017 and recognize conservation leaders.

The 2017 CCH Annual Awards and Membership Meeting will take place on October 21, 6-9:30 p.m. at the Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i Mānoa Ballroom in Honolulu. We look forward to seeing you there! Please contact us for more information: (808) 593-0255 or info@conservehi.org.



Dale Hahn, Senior Policy Advisor for Senator Brian Schatz

2016 Annual Awards and Membership Meeting cont.



Rick Barboza and Julie Leialoha



NWF President and CEO Collin O'Mara



Sol Kaho'ohalaha

We extend our gratitude to all of the volunteers, donors, and guests who made our annual meeting so special.

Annual Meeting VIP Table Hosts

Julie Leialoha, National Wildlife Federation, The Pew Charitable Trusts, Mary Valenti, Jane Yamashiro, and Marjorie Ziegler.

Auction, Country Store, and Door Prize Donors

Christine Ahia; Alexandra Avery, The Scent Atelier; Ruthie Belden, Maui Jim Sunglasses; Heidi Bornhorst; Paul Carson, Patagonia; Patrick Ching, Naturally Hawaiian; Erica Collins; Sabrina Collo and Stefano Cianfrini, Sabrina's Restaurant; Puhi and Mendy Dant, Fair Wind Cruises; Mark Fox, The Kōlea • 6

Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i; Jim Franklin, Sunshine Arts Gallery; Che Frausto, AWE (Advance Wildlife Education); Jenny Gapusan, Body Fix; David K. Hayes, The Art of David K. Hayes; David Helvarg, Blue Frontier; Jennifer Homcy, Foundwood; Jack Jeffrey, Jack Jeffrey Photo; John and Lisa Johnson, One Breath Photo; Wendy Johnson, Hawai'i Audubon Society; KAHEA: The Hawaiian-Environmental Alliance; Lizabeth Kashinsky; Kaua'i Juice Co.; Kapua Kawelo; Ed Kenney; KIKO Simple Goods; Kong Lung Trading; Joe Lazar, Hale'iwa Joe's; Charles Littnan and Friends, Hawaiian Monk Seal Recovery Program; Caren Loebel-Fried and Neil Fried; Richard Palmer; Brook and Drena Parker, HawaiianAtArt; Maile Sakamoto, Hawai'i Potters Guild; Sam's Ocean View Restaurant; Mike

Scott, Scott Hawai'i; Laurie Sumiye; Edward Masa Tanaka; Patricia Tummons, Environment Hawai'i; Vim 'n Vigor Kaua'i; Michael Walther, O'ahu Nature Tours; Lynette Williams; Celeste Yamanaka, Patagonia; Aimee Yessis, Kona Brewing Company; Marjorie Ziegler; and Robert Zuckerman, Kahumana Café

Annual Meeting Volunteers

Catherine Caine, Christopher Evans, Diane Gabriel, Karin Gill, Eileen Herring, Diego Holmgren, Angela Huntemer, Dana Jones, Annette Kaohelauii, Kathleen King, Sharon London, Barbara Mayer, Javier Mendez, Alyssa Miller, Soren Nelson, Maia Presley, Bill Sager, Lynn Sager, Karen Turner, and Les Welsh



2016 Annual Awards and Membership Meeting cont.



Kent Salazar, NWF Western Vice Chair, and Dorothea Doyl



Diego Holmgren, Sharon London, Collin O'Mara, and Krishanti Vignarajah



Rachel Sprague



Artisanal handmade chocolates by Choco le'a



Front row: I'a, middle row: Ka 'O'o, back row: Rick Barboza, Alex Connelly, and Caren Loebel-Fried



Melva and William Ailā, Jr.



Ka 'O'o Barboza, I'a Barboza, and Ami McNeil with keiki crafts



Lorinda and Kawika Riley



Les Welsh and Collin O'Mara



Sol Kaho'ohalahala and Seth Horstmeyer

A Special Mahalo

William and Melva Ailā; Denise Antolini; Kevin Chang and Kupa'āina; Jim Franklin, Sunshine Arts Gallery; Dale Hahn, Office of Senator Brian Schatz; David Hayter, Valenti Print Group; Seth Horstmeyer, The Pew Charitable Trusts; Helga Jervis, Helgaraphics; Sol Kaho'ohalahala; Caren Loebel-Fried; Collin O'Mara and Krishanti Vignarajah; Kent Salazar and Dorothea Doyl; and Les Welsh

High Court Hears Aquarium Trade Case

Summer Kupau-Odo

In October 2012, Conservation Council for Hawai'i, along with divers, cultural practitioners, and others including Rene Umberger, Mike Nakachi, Ka'imi Kaupiko, Willie Kaupiko, The Humane Society of the United States, and Center for Biological Diversity – all represented by Earthjustice – brought a legal action in state court to protect Hawai'i's reefs from the aquarium trade's unlimited, industrial-scale extractions of fish and other wildlife for private profit. The citizens and conservation groups challenged the Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources' (DLNR's) practice of rubberstamping dozens of commercial aquarium collection permits each year without any environmental review, as the Hawai'i Environmental Policy Act (HEPA) mandates.



The case – which turns on the legal interpretation of what types of actions fall within HEPA's reach – is now before the Hawai'i Supreme Court. The high court heard oral argument on March 30, 2017 and actively questioned the attorneys in a hearing that went overtime.



Yellow tang, a popular fish in the aquarium trade. Photo by Mel Malinowski



High mortality rate of yellow tangs and other fish in the aquarium trade. Photo by Teri Leicher

The plaintiffs have stressed the purpose of HEPA is to ensure discretionary agency decision-making is informed and transparent, and have argued DLNR cannot blindly issue aquarium collection permits without HEPA review and then unilaterally declare the aquarium trade causes “no harm” to the environment.

In fact, DLNR has acknowledged such harm exists. For example, in its December 2014 report to the 2015 Hawai'i state legislature regarding the effectiveness of the West Hawai'i Regional Fishery

Management Area, DLNR expressed concern over the drastic decline of the third most heavily collected species by the aquarium trade, the achilles tang, stating “monitoring data suggest there should be concern for the sustained abundance of this species.” Whether DLNR must finally examine this and other impacts of the aquarium trade on Hawai'i's reefs before issuing permits depends on the decision by the Hawai'i Supreme Court.

At press time, the plaintiffs are awaiting a decision by the high court.

Coexisting with Wildlife Marjorie Ziegler

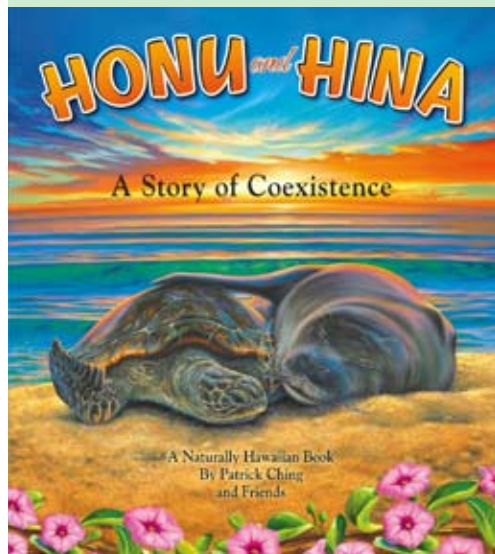


Photo courtesy of Patrick Ching

Conservation Council for Hawai'i is honored to partner with naturalist and award-winning artist Patrick Ching on the Coexistence Project. Patrick is making his book *Honu and Hina A Story of Coexistence* available to schools and libraries across the state. For a donation of \$20 to CCH, we will send a copy of Patrick's book to a 4th grade classroom or a school/public library. Your donation to CCH is tax-deductible, and will help us educate school kids about the importance of sharing our island home with wildlife. Patrick wrote this book to make kids aware of our native seals and turtles and their history in Hawai'i. The book will help children see their role in deciding the future of the living Earth.

Would you like to provide a book to a favorite school or library, or provide books for an entire district or island? If so, please contact us at 808 593-0255 or info@conservehi.org for more information. Please kōkua and help us spread the important message of peace and coexistence. If you mail a donation to support the Coexistence Project, please indicate that your donation is specifically for the project.

Mahalo nui loa to Patrick for his love of wildlife, commitment to conservation, and generosity. To learn more about the book and Patrick's artwork, art classes, workshops, and exhibits, please visit www.patrickchingart.com.



Disney Conservation Fund Grant to Protect Endangered ‘Alae ‘Ula

Charles van Rees

The Keawāwa Wetland and ‘Alae ‘Ula (Hawaiian gallinule) Conservation and Research Project was awarded a \$25,000 grant from the Disney Conservation Fund (DCF) earlier this year. Project partners include Tufts University, which is conducting the research; the Livable Hawai‘i Kai Hui, which owns and stewards ‘alae ‘ula habitat at its Keawāwa Wetland in Maunaloa, East O‘ahu; and the Conservation Council for Hawai‘i, which is engaged in community outreach and events.

The Disney grant supports ‘alae ‘ula conservation on three critical fronts: ecological research, active management, and public engagement under the leadership of Charles van Rees, an advisory ecologist for Livable Hawai‘i Kai Hui and Ph.D. candidate at Tufts University who has been working with the ‘alae ‘ula for 4 years, and Elizabeth Reilly, President of the Livable Hawai‘i Kai Hui.

Project partners are learning more about protecting this endangered waterbird and teaching the next generation to mālama and care for Hawai‘i’s natural treasures. Partners are writing a wetland enhancement plan, restoring Keawāwa Wetland with native plants and removal of invasive plants, increasing habitat



‘Alae ‘ula at Keawāwa Wetland. Photo by Mardi LaPrade

availability and connectivity for ‘alae ‘ula, and conducting educational and outreach activities culminating in a special celebration of World Wetlands Day in February 2018.

The ‘alae ‘ula nearly went extinct in the 1960s, but the establishment of protected reserves by federal and state governments supported a partial recovery. Half of the world’s 600 ‘alae ‘ula now live in these protected wetland areas on the island of O‘ahu. First listed as an endangered species in 1967, it is currently found only on Kaua‘i and O‘ahu because it went extinct on all other

islands. The primary cause of decline has been loss of wetland habitat. ‘Alae ‘ula can be identified by their distinct fire-red frontal shield and yellow bills.

Because ‘alae ‘ula live in small, isolated habitats on O‘ahu, it is important that they are able to move between these habitats to keep their populations healthy. Recent research shows that ‘alae ‘ula use wet areas such as streams, drainage ditches, and small wetlands as corridors to get from place to place. Features such as these are especially important in urban areas where most wetland habitat has been lost.

Restoring habitat at Keawāwa Wetland will result in approximately 1.5 acres of high quality habitat for the ‘alae ‘ula, and the goal is to work with other land managers to restore an additional 3 to 5 acres of habitat throughout O‘ahu.

The ‘alae ‘ula has a special place in Hawaiian culture. The shy waterbird is known in Hawaiian mythology as the trickster who stole fire from the goddess Pele, and was then tricked into revealing its secret to the Hawaiian demigod Maui. It was the favorite bird of Maui’s mother Hina, and it was the bait Maui used when he fished the Hawaiian Islands up from the ocean floor.



Charles van Rees and ‘alae ‘ula. Photo courtesy of Charles van Rees

Flying Like a Seabird in the Wind



Manu o Kū. Photo by Eric VanderWerf

Kathy Muneno

As we walk across the ‘Iolani Palace grounds toward the three large white tents filled with activity, we notice a small crowd gathered just outside the tents, under a tree, looking up, staring. We detour from the bustle, drawn to the silence. My 8 year-old daughter Puana and I step up, our eyes lift up, no idea what we are gazing at because we can’t see anything but branches. Then quietly we hear, “There. There it is. Way up there!” A small white bird, to whom this day is dedicated, is perched high above her (or his) domain – a Manu o Kū.

Puana has long known about the Manu o Kū as a beautiful white bird that soars high above our home. She also hears stories from her navigator father Nainoa of how the Manu o Kū helps guide Hōkūle‘a and other voyaging canoes to land. He would tell her and her twin brother Na‘inoā of how the Manu o Kū flies out to sea at sunrise to fish, how beautifully it glides low over the ocean



Puana Thompson. Photo by Kathy Muneno

dipping its wings, then as the sun begins to set, how it rises high above the water and hones in on its island home. So, they understand, if it’s morning and you see a Manu o Kū flying, guide the voyaging

canoe in the opposite direction to find the island. If you see it in the evening, follow that bird!

For today, at the 2nd Annual Manu o Kū Festival, this gorgeous and important bird becomes more. It becomes familiar, we grow closer to this bird revealed in so many different ways by so many experts, agencies, and organizations under these tents, engaging all our senses. We grown-ups find a wealth of information – verbal, written, in video and song – and children, like Puana and her friend, make Manu o Kū crafts, draw them, color them, eat them (in the form of a cookie), wear them (in the form of a hat and a mask), bring them to life (as a finger puppet), and on and on. They are engaged and joyful for hours, long after I leave for work and Nainoa arrives to take over. And by the end, Puana becomes a Manu o Kū flying like a seabird in the wind.



Celebrating Kū's Bird!

Jonee Peters

On May 20, 2017, hundreds of bird lovers gathered at the Coronation Lawn of 'Iolani Palace to once again celebrate the Manu o Kū (white tern) – the official bird of the City and County of Honolulu and an indigenous bird associated with the Hawaiian god Kū. Participants enjoyed educational activities, games and prizes, crafts, a native species costume contest, a spotting scope, bird tours, entertainment, snacks, refreshments, and sweet treats from Meadow Gold Dairies of Hawai'i.

Mahalo nui loa to everyone for making the festival such a success!



Brooding Manu o Kū. Photo by Rich Downs



Hula Hālau Nā 'Ōpio A Me Nā Kūpuna O Ko'olau. Photo by Lara Perrin



NWF Ranger Rick leading the costume contest parade. Photo by Lara Perrin



Keiki scoping Manu o Kū nest. Photo by Lara Perrin

Festival Partners

Aloha 'Āina Conservation Fund - Honolulu Zoo; American Bird Conservancy; Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum; Center for Biological Diversity; Conservation Council for Hawai'i; Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Wildlife; DLNR Kaulunani Urban and Community Forestry Project; Expand Papahānaumokuākea Coalition; Friends of Midway Atoll National Wildlife Refuge; Hawai'i Audubon Society; Hawai'i Nature Center; Hawai'i Wildlife Center; Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary; Hawai'i's Thousand Friends; Hui Manu o Kū; Kapi'olani Community College Ecology Club; Meadow Gold Dairies of Hawai'i and Dean Foods; Nā Pūeo; National Wildlife Federation; Pacific Rim Conservation; Polynesian Voyaging Society; Society of Conservation Biology Hawai'i Chapter; The Friends of 'Iolani Palace; The Outdoor Circle; The Wildlife Society Hawai'i Chapter; and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Sponsors and Donors

'Alalā Project; AlohaHawaii.org; Christopher McDonough Photography; Festival partners; Helgaraphics; HPC Foods; Jeanie and Murray Kilgour; Kaua'i Forest Bird Recovery Project; Keiki Kruisers; Klaus and Yoshiko Radtke; Laura Thompson; Meadow Gold Dairies of Hawai'i and Dean Foods; Mignardise; Pacific Birds Habitat Joint Venture; Patagonia; Samurai, Inc; Robert West Sound System; Special Event Equipment, Inc.; and The Friends of 'Iolani Palace

From the Executive Director



Marjorie Ziegler

Aloha, everyone. Mahalo nui loa for supporting the Conservation Council for Hawai'i. We are grateful for your

kōkua. CCH is a small organization, and your donation goes a long way and makes a positive difference. We hope you will renew your membership or make a special donation to CCH today, so we may continue protecting Hawai'i's native flora and fauna on your behalf.

I apologize that it's been a while since you last received an issue of Kōlea. We hope to get back on a regular newsletter mailing schedule in 2018, so you will be hearing from us more often.

Last year was an amazing year with then-President Obama expanding Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument and the United States hosting the International Union for Conservation

of Nature World Conservation Congress in Hawai'i. Beginning in January of this year, CCH tracked and testified on more than 50 bills and resolutions relating to Hawaiian wildlife and the environment. We have much to do before the 2018 session, including networking with progressive organizations and building coalitions.

We thank all of you who continue to support our work in so many ways. We also thank the Laurence H. Dorcy Hawaiian Foundation for a generous grant to CCH to launch our "Habitat for Hawaiian Birds" project. We thank the Disney Conservation Fund for a grant to protect the endangered 'alae 'ula (see article in this issue). We also thank the Estate of Gordon H. Damon for a generous bequest presented to CCH by his nephew Hugh Damon. We thank Kim Miller and the Estate of Odette Cecile Rickert for a generous bequest to CCH. And mahalo nui loa to CCH members Hannah Kihalani Springer and Ann Kobsa for their generous support

and all they do for the 'āina.

We are currently recruiting new CCH members. You, our loyal members,



Caring for the 'apapane. Photo courtesy of the Maui Forest Bird Recovery Project

are key to our work. We couldn't do it without you. If you have family members, friends, or colleagues who support wildlife conservation in Hawai'i, please invite them to join CCH, or better yet, buy them a gift membership in celebration of the upcoming winter holiday. Mahalo nui loa!



'Aole Rats!

Marjorie Ziegler

Since their introduction to the Hawaiian Islands, three rat species – black/roof, Norway, and Polynesian/Pacific – have decimated populations of native plants and animals. Rats are opportunistic feeders – they eat the adults, chicks, and eggs of seabirds, waterbirds, and forest birds; sea turtle eggs and hatchlings; and kāhuli tree snails. Both rats and mice compete with native birds for plant seeds, fruits, and flowers, and harm native plants by stripping bark and eating stems. Invertebrates, such as native crickets and happyface spiders, make up a large



Endangered kāhuli tree snails eaten by rats. Photo courtesy of O'ahu Army Natural Resources Program

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Mōlī (Laysan albatross) trying to defend its nest. Photo by Mark Rauzon

"Kepler (1967) reported that Polynesian rats destroyed the eggs of smaller seabirds and actually ate into the backs of incubating Laysan albatrosses on Green Island at Kure Atoll. He observed more than twenty rats feeding on a single albatross one night; the bird was dead the following morning." Source: Andrew J. Berger, Hawaiian Birdlife. University of Hawai'i Press 1972.

proportion of the diet of rats and mice. On a larger scale, rats can change the species composition of native forests and other natural areas, thereby altering entire ecosystems.

Protecting Hawaiian plants, animals, and ecosystems are our kuleana (responsibility). We need to do more to

control non-native species. Hawaiian plants and animals are intertwined with Hawaiian culture. Perpetuation of the culture is contingent on species ability to provide for Hawaiian material, intellectual, and spiritual activity. Without effective rodent control on a landscape level, these valuable cultural and natural resources may not be around for future generations. The status quo is not an option. We must not lose our unique Hawaiian environment and culture to introduced pests.



Endangered kāhuli tree snails. Photo by Nathan Yuen

CCH Members to Elect Board Members

At this year's annual meeting on October 21, 2017, Conservation Council for Hawai'i members will vote on three candidates to serve on the CCH Board of Directors for a 3-year term.



Photo by Evan Tector

JULIE LEIALOHA

Julie has served on the CCH Board of Directors for many years, including as president, vice-president, and treasurer. She is a graduate of The Evergreen State College, earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Science. Julie has over 35 years of professional natural resource management experience in Hawai'i. She served 6 years as a Hawai'i representative with the Western Pacific Regional Fishery Management Council (WESPAC). She has also served as a conservation alternate representative on the Papahānaumokuākea Reserve Advisory Council (RAC) and is currently a member of the Hawaiian Monk Seal Recovery Team.



Photo by Christopher McDonough

STEVEN LEE MONTGOMERY, PH.D.

Steven Lee Montgomery has been active in conservation issues in Hawai'i since 1970, especially with CCH. As a field biologist and expert on Hawaiian entomology, he has discovered approximately 30 previously unknown insects and plants, including "killer" caterpillars, happyface spiders, and the wēkiu bug. His work has been featured in *National Geographic* and *Hana Hou*, and he uses knowledge of Hawaiian forest life to lead hikes and help CCH edit and publish wildlife education posters.

Steve served as vice-chair of the Hawai'i Land Use Commission and as a director of the National Wildlife Federation. He also served on NWF's International Committee, which prepared him to lead the push to host the IUCN World Conservation Congress in Honolulu in 2016.



Photo courtesy of Lisa Hinano Rey

LISA HINANO REY

Lisa Hinano Rey is passionate about protecting the precious cultural and natural resources of the Pacific Islands. She has conducted research on the ecology of Hawai'i and Raiatea, French Polynesia. She has engaged in environmental projects at several levels, including policy, education, outreach, regulation, and compliance, and through hands-on community-based restoration. Her passion is driven by the beauty of Oceania, which compels her to be a lifelong learner so that she can help to preserve and protect the land, the ocean, and the culture. Lisa works for Keala Pono Archaeology and owns her consulting company, 4 Real Environmental.



*Leave a Legacy
and Keep Them Singing*

'Anianiau. Photo
by Jack Jeffrey

Please make a bequest to the Conservation Council for Hawai'i and help protect nature for future generations. Your bequest can be as simple as the following statement in your will or trust: "I bequeath \$_____ (or _____ percent of my estate) to the Conservation Council for Hawai'i."

Support our efforts to recover critically endangered Hawaiian plants and animals. Help protect our natural resources and perpetuate the Native Hawaiian culture. Help prevent invasive species from taking over our islands. Help us make sure government agencies and elected officials consider future generations in their decision-making. Your gift does all this and more.

Consult your attorney and contact Marjorie Ziegler at 808 593-0255 or mz@conservehi.org for more information. Mahalo nui loa.

Women in Conservation

Koalani Kaulukukui

More than 150 women conservation leaders gathered in Shepherdstown, West Virginia for the National Wildlife Federation's first-ever Women in Conservation Leadership Summit over the weekend of March 17-19, 2017. Held at the National Conservation Training Center, the summit was filled with inspirational and informative discussions, friendship and network building, and refreshing walks through the snow.

Be 100% present . . . Speak your truth . . . Be proactive and offer solutions . . . Stop asking permission . . . Reflect . . . Take up space. These were some of the important concepts and themes that not only ran throughout the summit, but

that each of the women committed to carry forward in our everyday lives to continually better ourselves and train new leaders.

We learned, discussed, and practiced leadership skills like "global listening," or listening by focusing on words, body language, gestures, and tone to fully understand and be present in conversations with others. We sought to understand how our social identity and implicit bias shape our leadership styles and those around us, and to embrace our own personal and organizational strengths and realities to become better leaders. We shared ways leadership roles for women can be created and supported,

such as through mentorships and training opportunities.

It struck me that Hawai'i is already ahead of the United States in that Hawai'i's women seem to be at the forefront of environmental protection and conservation. Conservation Council for Hawai'i is a strong example of this with Executive Director Marjorie Ziegler at the helm, supported by Jonee Peters. I extend a mahalo nui loa to each and every one of Hawai'i's women conservation leaders for the important work you do every day!



WOMEN IN CONSERVATION
LEADERSHIP

Women in Conservation Leadership Summit
March 17 – 19, 2017



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Deanna Spooner
with our 'Ō'ō bird
tote bag.

'Ō'ō bird water
bottle.

Order Form *Your purchase supports wildlife conservation in Hawai'i. Mahalo nui loa!*

(Prices include shipping and handling)

	Quantity	Amount Enclosed
'Ō'ō Tote Bag – large market bag, black, made from recycled plastic bottles (\$20)	_____	\$ _____
'Ō'ō Water Bottle – matte black, 24-oz, food-grade (\$25)	_____	\$ _____
Plushies		
Ākohekohe (crested honeycreeper) with sound (\$15)	_____	\$ _____
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Nēnē (Hawaiian goose) with sound (\$15)	_____	\$ _____
Seal no sound (\$10)	_____	\$ _____
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Note Cards		
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E Komo Mai!

You and your family and friends are invited to the Conservation Council for Hawai'i

2017 Annual Awards & Membership Meeting

Saturday, October 21st
6pm – 9:30pm

Mānoa Ballroom, Japanese Cultural Center
2454 South Beretania Street
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96826

\$50 per person
\$1,000 VIP Table for 10

Purchase tickets or RSVP by Saturday, October 14th
CCH: 808 593-0255 or info@conservehi.org



Join us for a Hawaiian buffet, no-host cocktails, entertainment, silent auction, holiday gift sale, and door prizes.
Celebrate the **Year of the Hawaiian Monk Seal** and this year's conservation achievements and heroes.