

**Feedback - Waimea Consultation Meeting - 09/23/09 - Response to Questions/Comments**

Approximately 30 people attended the September 23, 2009 Waimea Beneficiary Consultation meeting at Kuhio Hale. The following are questions and comments raised at the meeting. Each was responded to and, for the most part, the information was noted to already be contained in the report. The responses on the right column reflect the response at the meeting, as well as generally stated in the report.

<b>Homesteading</b>	
Is the lower area, near the road, for homesteading covered in lava?	A small portion of that property has lava, near the road. Homesteads would be built away from the road, so this area would serve as a buffer to the road.

<b>Program Process</b>	
Who were the different parties involved in the process? Who drew up the plan? Who was involved?	<p>The Program is based on several past studies. Ho`okuleana LLC was hired to write the Program and is the consultant for this project.</p> <p>During the development of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program, the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program Advisory Group was formed to provide advice and recommendations in identifying the optimum land use, infrastructure patterns, best management practices and estimated financial requirements to achieve the goals of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program. Group members served as liaisons between their constituents and communities, as well as helped with outreach to their respective communities on behalf of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program.</p> <p>Additionally, the draft Executive Summary is posted on the DHHL website and the draft Program has been circulated to many different entities including native Hawaiian, environmental, and community groups.</p>
What is the timetable for the Program? When will beneficiaries get on to the land?	<p>We would like to bring the Program before the HHC in November. Once it has been approved we would like to begin implementation immediately. The Program identifies 12 Initial Immediate Actions which would begin immediately:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Form the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program Implementation Advisory Council</li> <li>• Initiate the first rural-development Homestead Area (on south-eastern portion of the property)</li> <li>• Initiate the Humu`ula Sheep Station Adaptive Reuse Plan</li> <li>• Initiate expanded Ecotourism opportunities</li> <li>• Initiate use of Remote Accommodations</li> <li>• Initiate gorse eradication (consider all viable gorse eradication opportunities, with commercial timber appearing to be the most viable and beneficial to the Department) on approximately 10,000-acres or other viable gorse eradication opportunities</li> <li>• Investigate and implement additional areas for sustainable koa forestry opportunities</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiate a set-aside of portions of the property for restoration and enhancement purposes</li> <li>• Pasture uses (focused on fire fuel mitigation – additional acreage) around Keanakolu-Mana, Saddle and Mauna Kea Access Roads</li> <li>• Initiate unmanaged-ungulate eradication over entire property</li> <li>• Initiate state, federal and private grant applications to support resource restoration</li> <li>• Initiate Safe Harbor Agreement to address endangered species over the entire property</li> </ul>
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<p>What funding is available? Who will get the money?</p>	<p>One of the central focuses of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program is that the activities and programs implemented need to be economically self-sustaining, with the goal to reinvest the revenue into the management of the property and implementation of the Program.</p> <p>In considering revenue generation, several opportunities exist including expansion of the existing commercial koa sales, adaptive reuse the Humu`ula Sheep Station, Ecotourism and others.</p> <p>The Program will also initiate State, Federal and Private Grant Applications to Support Resource Restoration including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conservation Resource Enhancement Program (CREP)</li> <li>• Partners for Fish and Wildlife</li> <li>• Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)</li> <li>• State Forest Stewardship Program (FSP)</li> <li>• Watershed Partnership Program (Mauna Kea Watershed Alliance)</li> <li>• Army Compatible Use Buffers Program</li> </ul> <p>The Program will seek separate earmarked funds through State and Federal funding sources. Due to limitations in Federal regulations, Na Kupa`a O Kuhio should be considered to take advantage of Federal funding opportunities</p>
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<p><b>Commercial Forestry to Eradicate Gorse</b></p>	
<p>Gorse should be eradicated first! How do you know Sugi and Eucalyptus will work? Why not plant native trees like nāio? Won't native trees work better with the ecosystem?</p>	<p>The Program looks to begin gorse eradication as soon as possible. It will be one of the first actions taken, once the Program is approved. The Program suggests timber to fight gorse but also allows for other viable gorse eradication opportunities.</p> <p>Interim commercial-scale timber planting can serve both as a gorse eradication mechanism, as well as an income generator. Eucalyptus and Sugi have been proposed because they have proven successful in fighting gorse and others are willing to pay</p>

	<p>rent in order to plant and manage the trees. The existing development of these crops in the general area have given rise to increased investment in required infrastructure including marketing and market development efforts by a number of public and private entities.</p> <p>Gorse is a noxious weed species that is threatening natural habitats and agro-ecosystems around the world, including Hawai'i. Eradication of this noxious plant, that has already rendered thousands of acres useless, is an essential component in any land use and management plan for these lands.</p> <p>Gorse has a life span of 30 to 40-years while the seed can remain viable in the soil for up to 70-years after that. DHHL field trials and research projects have shown that shade from trees inhibit the ability for gorse to grown and spread.</p> <p>It is anticipated that commercial-scale timber planting (the initiation of Gorse Eradication Utilizing Commercial Timber - to include biomass for alternative energy on approximately 10,000-acres) will shade the gorse sufficiently to keep it from producing seeds and perhaps kill it. With normal forestry operations, each year some portion of the seed bank will be removed.</p> <p>Shading has proven to be a method for killing gorse, and also generates revenue for the department however, if other viable gorse eradication processes are developed, they will be considered as well. DHHL field trials and research projects have shown that shade from native trees species such as koa are not effective on gorse because they do not produce enough shade.</p> <p>Eucalyptus, sugi or others trees are selected to eradicate and control the gorse; once the gorse eradication process is well underway, the area is to be reforested back to a native koa.</p>
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<p><b>Feral Ungulates</b></p> <p>Wild pigs are part of the ecosystem; won't eradicating them hurt the environment?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unmanaged-ungulates (hoofed mammals such as cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, etc) introduced to Hawai'i can be detrimental to Hawai'i's native ecosystems via the damage they can inflict on both vegetation structure and composition.</li> <li>• Ungulates impact native plants and ground cover, facilitating sediment run-off</li> <li>• Soil disturbance caused by rooting ungulates also facilitates the introduction and expansion of invasive plants and creates breeding grounds for mosquitoes that transmit avian disease to native forest birds.</li> <li>• Feral Ungulates can have high population growth rates</li> </ul>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feral Ungulates are elusive and can jump or circumvent most existing fences.</li> <li>• Four main components in successful Feral Unmanaged-Ungulate population control (primarily sheep, cattle and goats) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Establishment of Barriers to Isolate Populations</li> <li>○ Remove sufficient numbers of animals to prevent unacceptable damage to the land and its resources</li> <li>○ Barrier Installation, Inspection and Maintenance</li> <li>○ Vigilance in Monitoring of Animal Population Increase and Ingress</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Methods for Removal of Feral Unmanaged-Ungulate Populations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Beneficiaries Capture</li> <li>○ Professional Capture</li> <li>○ Professional Eradication</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Ultimately, additional Fencing is required to exclude ungulates from sensitive areas</li> <li>• Additional Roadways will need to be added for access (also serving as beneficial fire breaks)</li> <li>• Implementing unmanaged-ungulate eradication (primarily sheep, cattle and goats) and allowing management of pigs (so long as the resources are protected) will provide food for beneficiaries, reduce the impacts to the forest resources and generate revenue for the Trust.</li> </ul>
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<b>Water</b>	
<p>Where is the water going to come from? Will the current reservoir be used? Can homesteads survive on catchment?</p>	<p>Initial water will come from catchment. The area for homesteading fits within the County's required rain amount for a catchment system. A well will also be explored, although its cost (it could be in excess of \$5 million) makes it not an immediate choice or option.</p> <p>Water Resource Management and Planning will include the following Water Source Opportunities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate reported springs and restoration to supplement water needs</li> <li>• Rainwater Capture/Collection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Catchment (water tanks) for small scale-residential, pasture</li> <li>○ Reservoirs for larger scale collection</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Fog drip to supplement rainwater catchment</li> <li>• Investigate groundwater wells (deep well) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Initial exploratory well above the Sheep Station</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>With more forests won't there be more water?</p>	<p>We believe that increased forest cover will result in water resources benefits. The lands of Humu`ula and Pi`ihonua represent the most important native forest areas remaining in the DHHL</p>

	<p>trust. Based on soil, elevation, and rainfall characteristics, there are an estimated 17,800-acres in Humu`ula and adjacent Pi`ihonua mauka that could be restored back to a healthy, diverse native koa and `ohi`a forest ecosystem.</p> <p>Likewise, there are approximately 10,000-acres across the mauka portions of the property that can be restored to māmane forest, a critical Palila bird habitat.</p> <p>There are strong recommendations to enhance and restore various areas in the overall property because of their importance as habitat, biodiversity and condition (and ability to restore) as native forest. The setting aside, protection and restoration of these areas is critical for the protection, restoration and enhancement of `Āina Mauna.</p>
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<b>Pasture</b>	
<p>What will the process be for pasture areas?</p>	<p>Dispositions of Homestead and Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since homesteading and pasture use are the typical and conventional disposition activities of DHHL, it is recommended that the proposed uses at Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua come under existing DHHL planning, design, development, funding, disposition and management.</li> <li>• These proposed uses can fit in the “queue” for development scheduling and disposition with other Homesteading and Pasture uses</li> <li>• While the Homestead lots will be rurally-developed, due to the areas remote location and lack of traditional infrastructure, the cost of development is likely to be significant and beyond the scope and capacity for the remaining revenue-generating opportunities proposed on the property.</li> </ul>

<b>Other</b>	
<p>Is Parker Ranch liable for gorse since they had the last lease?</p>	<p>The Program is moving forward with gorse eradication as described above. The department is free to pursue remedies outside of the Legacy Program.</p>
<p>Is this Program consistent with the Hawai`i Island Plan?</p>	<p>The `Āina Mauna Legacy Program is consistent with the Hawai`i Island Plan.</p>

**Feedback - Hilo Consultation Meeting - 09/25/09 - Response to Questions/Comments**

Approximately 30 people attended the September 25, 2009 Hilo Beneficiary consultation meeting at the Hilo High School Cafeteria. The following are questions and comments raised at the meeting. Each was responded to and, for the most part, the information was noted to already be contained in the report. The responses on the right column reflect the response at the meeting, as well as generally stated in the report.

<b>Pasture</b>	
What DHHL programs are in place now for agriculture/ community pasture?	According to DHHL, Moloka`i uses a community pasture program and it has been successful. Previous tries at community pasture on Hawai`i Island have apparently not been as successful. However, the Program is open to a variety of scenarios, with community pasture being only one of the options or combinations of options for management.
Has the long term pasture area noted on the map been studied? Is it sustainable for cattle?	The pasture area west of Humu`ula Sheep Station was previously used by Parker Ranch and identified as good for pasture. According to the Ranch, this area was an ideal place for birthing cattle and it was used accordingly.

<b>Commercial Forestry to Fight Gorse</b>	
Are there other ways to eradicate gorse besides commercial timber? The emphasis on commercial timber seems to give a precedent for commercial timber, not other options. Why not use native trees to control gorse?	<p>The Program suggests timber to fight gorse but also allows for other viable gorse eradication opportunities.</p> <p>Interim commercial-scale timber planting can serve both as a gorse eradication mechanism, as well as an income generator. Eucalyptus and Sugi have been proposed because they have proven successful in fighting gorse and others are willing to pay rent in order to plant and manage the trees. The existing development of these crops in the general area have given rise to increased investment in required infrastructure including marketing and market development efforts by a number of public and private entities.</p> <p>Gorse is a noxious weed species that is threatening natural habitats and agro-ecosystems around the world, including Hawai`i. Eradication of this noxious plant, that has already rendered thousands of acres useless, is an essential component in any land use and management plan for these lands.</p> <p>Gorse has a life span of 30 to 40-years while the seed can remain viable in the soil for up to 70-years after that. DHHL field trials and research projects have shown that shade from trees inhibit the ability for gorse to grown and spread.</p> <p>It is anticipated that commercial-scale timber planting (the initiation of Gorse Eradication Utilizing Commercial Timber - to</p>

	<p>include biomass for alternative energy on approximately 10,000-acres) will shade the gorse sufficiently to keep it from producing seeds and perhaps kill it. With normal forestry operations, each year some portion of the seed bank will be removed.</p> <p>Shading has proven to be a method for killing gorse, and also generates revenue for the department however, if other viable gorse eradication processes are developed, they will be considered as well. DHHL field trials and research projects have shown that shade from native trees species such as koa are not effective on gorse because they do not produce enough shade.</p> <p>Eucalyptus, sugi or others trees are selected to eradicate and control the gorse; once the gorse eradication process is well underway, the area is to be reforested back to a native koa.</p>
<p>What would “Commercial forestry” look like? Will trucks be hauling lumber off the mountain or will there be a processing plant? How much revenue can DHHL make thru commercial timber?</p>	<p>The RFQ/RFP process will be designed to provide for the best overall benefit to the department. The recommendation is to solicit proposals for a timber license for the planting and harvesting of commercial non-native tree species (i.e. eucalyptus, sugi or other) that will first serve to fight the gorse, but will also provide valuable wood products for a variety of uses which can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lumber</li> <li>• Wood chips</li> <li>• Veneer</li> <li>• Forest products</li> <li>• Biomass for alternative energy opportunities (liquid fuel and electricity)</li> </ul> <p>Additionally, DHHL would retain rights to any Carbon Credit opportunities.</p> <p>The RFQ/RFP process would be initiated to find interested parties in commercial forestry. The Program does not anticipate allowing a processing plant. Additionally, Best Management Practices and other precaution will be made if hauling lumber off the mountain is anticipated.</p>

<p><b>Native Forest Restoration</b></p>	
<p>What is the plan to restore the māmane forest?</p>	<p>The lands of Humu`ula and Pi`ihonua represent the most important native forest areas remaining in the DHHL trust. Based on soil, elevation, and rainfall characteristics, there are an estimated 10,000-acres across the mauka portions of the property that can be restored to māmane forest, a critical Palila bird habitat. There are strong recommendations to enhance and restore various areas in the overall property because of their importance as habitat, biodiversity and condition (and ability to restore) as native forest.</p>

	<p>The setting aside, protection and restoration of these areas is critical for the protection, restoration and enhancement of `Āina Mauna. Wildlife corridors help provide a contiguous habitat from the lower koa forest to the higher elevation māmane forest to facilitate the migration of native forest birds between these habitats.</p> <p>Additional Fencing, excluding and removing ungulates, would allow existing trees to produce and maintain root shoots and basal sprouts, thereby increasing foliage and subsequent tree processes.</p> <p>Centralized plant propagation, staging and storage facilities will be located at Kanakaleonui Bird Corridor and north of Pu`u `Ō`ō. These propagation centers will be used for both the native forest restoration and sustainable koa forests.</p> <p>Replanting efforts would focus on a mosaic of 'islands' using combinations of native plants grouped together (for example, pūkiawe, pilo, `a`ali`i and `ohelo may be planted together) that will grow outward until they all connect into one diverse native forest.</p> <p>Māmane (mauka areas) trees would then be planted around the existing shrubs so that they can utilize the beneficial traits of the 'islands.'</p> <p>Continued research is necessary to effectively evaluate the various experimental methods of out planting. Experimental plots should be established to be used for this research.</p>
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<p><b>Homesteading</b></p> <p>What is meant by "new model" for future homesteading"?</p>	<p>The Program has been revised to further explain this concept. Instead of "a new model", the language has been revised to "an option".</p> <p>Once the gorse eradication process is well underway, the homesteading area will be planted with koa for reforestation. This area includes the significant portions of the site that are proposed for sustainable koa restoration.</p> <p>The forested areas also provide DHHL with an option for future agricultural homesteading. Once the koa restoration is accomplished, DHHL will have the opportunity to consider creation of agricultural homesteads using forestry for beneficiaries. Homesteaders would be responsible to control ungulates, gorse and other invasive species in the homestead area. The commercial koa forest management operations can continue, with the DHHL and beneficiaries benefitting directly from the commercial sale of koa.</p>
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<p>Who will be able to sign up for homesteads?</p>	<p>Dispositions of Homestead and Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs will be through the standard DHHL processes for these types of dispositions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since homesteading and pasture use are the typical and conventional disposition activities of DHHL, it is recommended that the proposed uses at Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua come under existing DHHL planning, design, development, funding, disposition and management.</li> <li>• These proposed uses can fit in the “queue” for development scheduling and disposition with other Homesteading and Pasture uses</li> <li>• While the Homestead lots will be rurally-developed, due to the areas remote location and lack of traditional infrastructure, the cost of development is likely to be significant and beyond the scope and capacity for the remaining revenue generating opportunities proposed on the property.</li> </ul>
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<p><b>Koa Forestry</b></p>	
<p>Will the initial homesteading area need to be planted with koa? Is there koa there now?</p>	<p>There are scattered koa trees in the area now. Koa planting would begin immediately in the form of koa forest restoration. Koa is one of the predominant tree species found naturally in the Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua lands.</p> <p>It is presently the highest value timber crop in Hawai`i. It grows easily and well in this area if introduced ungulates are removed. Restoring the Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua lands to koa through carefully planned and managed reforestation is its highest and most compatible economic use.</p> <p>Based on soil, elevation, and rainfall characteristics, there are an estimated 10,000 acres in Humu`ula and adjacent Pi`ihonua mauka that could be restored and managed under a sustainable koa forest harvesting regime.</p> <p>A restored sustainable koa forest provides several opportunities and options for future decision-making by DHHL.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A sustainable koa forest would provide jobs and generate income to the DHHL trust.</li> <li>• Once a sustainable koa forestry operation is in place, portions of the property could be considered for future agricultural (sustainable koa forested) homestead opportunities, affording homesteaders a sustainable koa forest as a part of their homestead.</li> </ul>

<b>Other</b>	
What is the elevation?	Elevations range from approximately 4,500 to 9,000 feet mean sea level.
There are three springs on the property? Where are they?	The three springs are reported to be near Pu`u `Ō`ō Ranch.

**Feedback - Hilo (Keaukaha) Consultation Meeting - 10/14/09 - Response to Questions/Comments**

Approximately 35 people attended the October 14, 2009 Hilo Beneficiary consultation meeting at the Keaukaha Elementary School Cafeteria. The following are questions and comments raised at the meeting. Each was responded to and, for the most part, the information was noted to already be contained in the report. The responses on the right column reflect the response at the meeting, as well as generally stated in the report.

<b>Homesteading</b>	
<p>How big are the homesteads lots going to be?</p>	<p>A significant portion of the property (4,500-acres) is proposed for immediate homesteading. The concept is to develop the first rural-development Homestead Area for DHHL beneficiaries in the south-eastern portion of the property. The Legacy Program describes general ideas about subsequent development with specific design, sizes and layout to be determined during the implementation process. Preliminary design concepts call for a subdivision layout encompassing approximately 1,000-acres with a total of approximately 100 to 200-homesteads sites and other community uses.</p> <p>To take advantage of opportunities to further demonstrate the focus on efficient, self-sustainable communities, as well as provide for cost-effective development, the Legacy Program considers a variety of homestead development layouts to address various beneficiary needs: cluster homestead sites with separate agricultural/pasture lots, cluster homestead sites with community agricultural/pasture, homestead lot subdivision or a combination of alternatives.</p> <p>It is envisioned that these alternatives will enable DHHL beneficiaries to have sufficient land for self-sustaining homesteading: land for a home site and related improvements/uses, including land for alternative energy for their use, pasture, agricultural uses, and land available for subsistence farming.</p> <p>The Legacy Program also calls for an additional 10,000-acres that may be considered for future homesteading opportunities after the gorse in the area has been eradicated.</p>
<p>Who is going to finance the homesteaders for the homestead lots? What about families who have residential homesteads now but have always wanted this type of opportunity for a homestead?</p>	<p>Dispositions and financing of Homestead and Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs will be through the standard DHHL processes for these types of dispositions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since homesteading and pasture use are the typical and conventional disposition activities of DHHL, it is recommended that the proposed uses at Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua come under existing DHHL planning, design, development, funding, disposition and management.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• These proposed uses can fit in the “queue” for development scheduling and disposition with other Homesteading and Pasture uses</li> </ul> <p>Due to the area’s remote location and lack of traditional infrastructure, the cost of development is likely to be significant and beyond the scope and capacity for the revenue generating opportunities proposed from the property, so the implementation will be through the typical homestead development process of the Department.</p>
Under which category will the homesteads fall (residential, agriculture, pastoral)?	The Program envisions all three types of homesteading being available for consideration.
How long before the homestead awards are given out?	<p>We would like to bring the Legacy Program for approval by the HHC in November. Once it has been approved we would like to immediately begin implementation.</p> <p>The Legacy Program describes general ideas about subsequent development with specific design, sizes and layout to be determined during the implementation process. Dispositions and financing of Homestead and Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs will be through the standard DHHL processes for these types of developments and dispositions.</p>

<b>Pasture</b>	
How big are the pasture lots going to be?	<p>Additional acreage propose for pasture use covers approximately 4,000-acres (these land areas are approximate references) - with about 2,000-acres designated for pasture along the Keanakolu-Mana Road and another 2,000-acres on the west side of the Mauna Kea Access Road (below the Radio Tower site and fronting Saddle Road and Mauna Kea Access Road.)</p> <p>These areas proposed for additional acreage for pasture use are consistent with the Fire Plan and are proposed to be immediately available for beneficiary use. Additional acreage pasture use could also be in the form of Community Pasture.</p> <p>The Legacy Program describes general ideas about subsequent development with specific design, sizes and layout to be determined during the implementation process. Dispositions and financing of Homestead and Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs will be through the standard DHHL processes for these types of dispositions.</p>
Beneficiaries are allowed 300 acres of quality pastoral and 1,000 acres of additional acreage, how does that fit with only 4,000 acres of pasture?	Since 2005 the Department has taken an active role at looking into the needs of Beneficiaries in regard to pasture use. The Honokaia model assesses how much land Beneficiaries need for pasture and distributes pasture land accordingly. Thus, it is incumbent upon the lessees to utilize their land accordingly.

	Dispositions of Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs will be through the standard DHHL processes for these types of dispositions.
The proposed pasture lands are marginal.	<p>The Pasture Recommendations at Humu`ula for Controlling Wildfire Fuels report indicates ideal grazing areas south of the gorse infestation and along Keanakolu Road where fuels would be reduced, gorse movement would be minimized, best AUY's exist, and natural recovery of adjacent lands could continue. Best AUY analysis in this report was based upon the 1997 Summary Appraisal Report for former Parker Ranch lease GL 201 and conversations with Parker Ranch employees.</p> <p>Additionally, the pasture area west of Humu`ula Sheep Station was previously used by Parker Ranch and identified as good for pasture. According to the Ranch, this area was an ideal place for birthing cattle and it was used accordingly.</p>
If the goal is to feed people, cattle are not the best thing. Maximize the use of the land by having food crops. Cattle do not mix well with native forests.	The Program envisions a variety of uses on site including agriculture, pasture and native forest restoration. Fencing and management will be an integral part of the program in order to prevent the various uses from impacting each other.

<b>Commercial Timber</b>	
How long before sugi/eucalyptus is planted will it be harvested? When will we see results? Will the land be "tied up" in commercial timber for 75-100 years?	<p>The Program suggests timber to fight gorse but also allows for other viable gorse eradication opportunities.</p> <p>Interim commercial-scale timber planting can serve both as a gorse eradication mechanism, as well as an income generator. Eucalyptus and Sugi have been proposed because they have proven successful in fighting gorse and others are willing to pay rent in order to plant and manage the trees. The existing development of these crops in the general area have given rise to increased investment in required infrastructure including marketing and market development efforts by a number of public and private entities.</p> <p>Gorse is a noxious weed species that is threatening natural habitats and agro-ecosystems around the world, including Hawai'i. Eradication of this noxious plant, that has already rendered thousands of acres useless, is an essential component in any land use and management plan for these lands.</p> <p>Gorse has a life span of 30 to 40-years while the seed can remain viable in the soil for up to 70-years after that. DHHL field trials and research projects have shown that shade from trees inhibit the ability for gorse to grown and spread.</p> <p>It is anticipated that commercial-scale timber planting (the initiation of Gorse Eradication Utilizing Commercial Timber - to</p>

	<p>include biomass for alternative energy on approximately 10,000-acres) will shade the gorse sufficiently to keep it from producing seeds and, depending on the species selected, perhaps kill it. With normal forestry operations, each year some portion of the seed bank will be removed.</p> <p>Shading has proven to be a method for killing gorse, and also generates revenue for the department. However, if other viable gorse eradication processes are developed, they will be considered as well. DHHL field trials and research projects have shown that shade from native trees species such as koa are not as effective on gorse because they often do not produce enough shade. Using native overstory species such as `ōhi`a and koa as an option to eradicate gorse is also limited by the high elevations of the gorse infestation areas. Frost in these areas frequently kill out-planted native species that are not frost tolerant, such as koa. Creating an overstory that is frost tolerant and creates heavy shade will both eradicate gorse and create a more favorable environment for future conversion to a native forest. Such an overstory will maximize frost-free days.</p> <p>Eucalyptus, sugi or others trees are selected to eradicate and control the gorse; once the gorse eradication process is well underway, the area can then be gradually reforested back to a native species.</p>
<p>Will native birds live in sugi or eucalyptus?</p>	<p>The commercial forestry to eradicate gorse and the sustainable koa forest areas will create an environment friendly to certain bird and bat species. Since the program’s goal is to restore the area to native koa forest after the gorse has been eradicated, it is essential that the program be allowed to take proactive management steps which in some cases may cause a temporary loss of habitat for bird species.</p> <p>Because the activities proposed in the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program could affect habitat for threatened and/or endangered plants, birds and animals, it is recommended that a blanket Safe Harbor Agreement be developed and incorporated into the Legacy Program. Since one of the goals of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program is the restoration of habitat, as well as planting of trees that could attract native birds and bats, the Safe Harbor Agreement can protect DHHL from future impacts to the habitat and the species.</p>
<p>What are carbon credits and how would they be used? The credits should be for the entity that plants the trees not the Department.</p>	<p>Carbon offsets can best be described as an act of paying a third party for reducing ("offsetting") greenhouse gas emissions when one is unable or unwilling to reduce one’s own emissions. Some countries (or companies) seek to trade emission rights in carbon emission markets, purchasing the unused carbon emission allowances of others.</p>

	<p>Carbon Offsets/Credits are a key component of national and international emissions trading schemes that have been implemented to mitigate global warming. Credits can be exchanged between businesses or bought and sold in international markets at the prevailing prices.</p> <p>An added opportunity to enhance revenue opportunities is to consider carbon credits/offsets retained by DHHL in the event certain forestry programs are implemented.</p>
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<b>Gorse</b>	
<p>How did the gorse get here? Did ranchers use it?</p>	<p>Early diary records note gorse on Mauna Kea is at Pi`ihonua Mauka (Pu`u `O`o ranch - from diary of ranch manager August Haneburg): <u>Friday, February 20th, 1891</u>: "... uprooted Australian weeds [gorse] in Sheep Padd II and Horse Padd II" and another reference from W.D. Alexander, 6/1892 quotes "The present manager has been at much labor and expense in extirpating two pests, which are said to have been accidentally introduced from New Zealand, viz. the Scottish thistle and the gorse".</p> <p>Gorse is native to Northwest Europe but has become a major pest species in various parts of the world, including New Zealand. There is a long history of gorse in Hawai`i. It was apparently brought to Hawai`i in the 19th century as a hedge plant by a Scottish immigrant, and possibly utilized in the previous sheep operation at Humu`ula. It was first collected wild by J. R. Rock on Maui in 1910. On the island of Hawai`i it is found in pasture and scattered forest lands on Mauna Kea at elevations between 2,000 and 7,000 feet.</p>
<p>Are you working on gorse eradication right now?</p>	<p>Annual DHHL efforts to control gorse have been underway since 2003. A variety of contracts to control gorse include chemical, mechanical and biological efforts. Due to limited resources, focus has been on controlling outlying areas and containing the main infestation from spreading further. DHHL field trials and research projects have also shown that shade from trees inhibit the ability for gorse to grown and spread. DHHL has planted portions of the perimeter of the Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua lands with trees to begin establishing a boundary to limit the spread of the weed</p> <p>In addition, `O`iwi L`okahi o ka Mokupuni o Keawe has a license over 1,000-acres within the containment area to conduct a research project processing the heaviest infestations of gorse into charcoal and biofuel.</p>
<p>As the gorse is eradicated where will it go?</p>	<p>Gorse will not be allowed to be removed from the site to prevent its spread to other areas of the island. All gorse eradication techniques will require the gorse to be dealt with and disposed of onsite.</p>

<p>Money should not be the driver for getting rid of the gorse.</p>	<p>As required in the Mission and goals of the Legacy program to be ecologically, economically and culturally self-sustaining, commercial forestry is considered to assist in a variety of ways, including the opportunity to provide additional funding to help with the overall management of the property.</p> <p>The long-term eradication of gorse will require significant financial resources that may need to be subsidized by other economic uses. This makes timber planting as a gorse eradication mechanism so attractive. It can serve as both a gorse eliminator and income generator.</p> <p>The environmental and cultural benefits of forestry, e.g. clean water and air, soil augmentation, wildlife habitat, and traditional forest uses are well known if not well quantified. Economic returns from commercial forestry in Hawai`i are not well quantified either, as a fully modernized industry is still developing. In combination, however, these multiple values from forest lands will represent significant value to DHHL trust lands.</p>
<p>Can gorse be used as a revenue generator?</p>	<p>Commercial forestry is considered to assist in a variety of ways, including the opportunity to provide additional funding to help with the overall management of the property.</p> <p>The non-profit organization, `Ōiwi Lōkahi o ka Mokupuni o Keawe, currently has a license on 1,000-acres at Humu`ula from DHHL for gorse control work. They have been working on a process in which burning harvested gorse produces carbon. Their studies and research are ongoing. It is hoped that as their project becomes successful in using gorse as a product, subsequent conversion to trees will replace gorse as the raw material for their project, thereby perpetuating the gorse eradication component of the Legacy Program.</p>
<p>There is nothing in the Program regarding the `Ōiwi Lōkahi o ka Mokupuni o Keawe Gorse Project.</p>	<p>`Ōiwi Lōkahi o ka Mokupuni o Keawe’s gorse demonstration project is referenced several times in the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program and the 1,000-acres currently under license with the Department is noted on the Program map and incorporated into the Program. They have been working on a research process in which burning harvested gorse produces charcoal and other carbon products, as well as a biofuel. Their studies and research are ongoing.</p>

<p><b>Native Forest Restoration</b></p>	
<p>Are other trees besides koa being considered for forest restoration?</p>	<p>Besides Koa the program is proposing the planting of māmane and `ōhi`a trees as well as a variety of native understory plants. One method being used onsite currently is “island planting” which creates pockets of diverse native species which can spread across the site that eventually grow together into a diverse forest.</p>



<p>Why will Pi`ihonua be “tied up” in a Conservation Easement for 50 years?</p>	<p>As a means to assist in the funding of the restoration and enhancement of these areas, the department may negotiate encumbrances such as easements and/or leases with various entities.</p> <p>A conservation easement is a legal agreement voluntarily entered into by a property owner and a qualified conservation organization such as a land trust or government agency. The easement contains agreed upon conditions on the use or development of land in order to protect its conservation values. These easement restrictions vary greatly for each agency or organization.</p>
<p>Has there been a study on the area’s ecosystems?</p>	<p>A variety of extensive studies have been done on the property and surrounding areas. Of particular note, the Biological Sensitivity Analysis delineates areas containing endemic faunal sensitivity within the Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua area. The assessment gives a brief description of each area and outlines the endemic vertebrate resources that should be factored into any master planning of the areas delineated.</p> <p>Additionally, studies on geography, geology, soil, endangered/threatened species, vegetation, and cultural resources have all been done and are included by reference in the Program.</p>

<p><b>Roads</b></p>	
<p>Are the roads shown on the map really there? Are they all open (not locked)? Who owns the Mana/Keanakolu Road? Only Beneficiaries should be allowed to access the area.</p>	<p>The map shows Saddle Road, Mauna Kea Access Road and the Mana/Keanakolu Road all of which are used currently. All roads are open although it is advised to use a four-wheeled vehicle on the Mana/Keanakolu Road. A gate project by the Land Management Division is currently underway to install gates at strategic locations to limit unauthorized access to the Program area.</p> <p>The Mana/Keanakolu is considered a “road in limbo”, that, while considered a public road, ownership has not been established between the State and the County.</p> <p>The legal ownership of the road is beyond the scope of the Program but as stated above the road is believed to be a “road in limbo”, and as such it is a public road which cannot be automatically be gated off.</p>

<p><b>Other</b></p>	
<p>What happened to homesteading in the Pi`ihonua Makai Area? Is it residential or agriculture?</p>	<p>Residential lots have been awarded in the Pi`ihonua Makai Area. The Pi`ihonua Makai area is outside of the Program area.</p>

<p>The Department needs to change its policy regarding the selling of leases.</p>	<p>This is out of the realm of the `Āina Mauna Program, however the concern is noted and has been passed on to the Department.</p>
<p>Has the Department looked into having Beneficiaries take on a Konohiki role?</p>	<p>As an integral part of the implementation of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program, the Legacy Program includes the formation of an implementation advisory council (`Āina Mauna Legacy Program Implementation Advisory Council) to provide advice and recommendations to the Hawaiian Homes Commission and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands regarding the implementation of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program. Additionally, the implementation process will include the Council, Beneficiary and community involvement and participation in advising the Department and Commission.</p> <p>The Council may serve as a forum for consultation and deliberation among its members and as a source of consensus advice to the Hawaiian Homes Commission and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Such consensus advice shall fairly represent the collective and individual views of the Council members.</p> <p>The Council does not have the authority to perform operational or management functions, or to make decisions on behalf of the Hawaiian Homes Commission and/or the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. The Council will be advisory only. The Department and Commission will have final decision-making authority.</p> <p>This rich cultural history of the area, presents a unique opportunity to link traditional cultural knowledge and modern science in restoring the area back to a healthy native forest, as well as other uses that benefit the Land, Beneficiaries and the Trust.</p>
<p>We need to understand the Hawaiian names of the area and what they mean. There is a reason why the ahupua`a look like they do. We need to understand why.</p>	<p>We concur. The cultural and historical research conducted by Kumu Pono Associates documents descriptions of Ka`ohe, Humu`ula, and Pi`ihonua. The study provides readers with documentation pertaining to the traditional, cultural and historical setting of the `āina mauna on the Island of Hawai`i.</p>
<p>This Program is something that the Department needs to do and has needed to do for a long time. While we may not agree with all of it, we need to do something and this is a first step.</p>	<p>We concur. The mission of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program and its implementation is to protect approximately 56,000-acres of native Hawaiian forest that is ecologically, culturally and economically self-sustaining for the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust, its beneficiaries and the community.</p> <p>Initial goals for the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program include:  Goal 1: Develop an economically self-sustaining improvement and preservation program for the natural and cultural resources (invasive species eradication and native ecosystem restoration) and implementation strategy. The focus of the `Āina Mauna Legacy</p>

	<p>Program shall be on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Restoration and enhancement of DHHL trust resources;</li><li>• Identify immediate and future opportunities for DHHL beneficiaries;</li><li>• Removal of invasive species - gorse, etc.;</li><li>• Conserve natural and cultural resources and endangered species;</li><li>• Address reforestation and restoration of the ecosystem;</li><li>• Develop revenue generation, reinvestment in land to sustain activities;</li><li>• Provide educational and cultural opportunities;</li><li>• Identify and secure partners to sustain activities;</li><li>• Identify opportunities for alternative/ renewable energy projects; and</li><li>• Be a lead and/or model for others to engage in ecosystem restoration in a culturally sensitive manner based on partnerships to develop a self-sustaining model</li></ul> <p>Goal 2: Develop an outreach program to gain interest, participation, and support from the Hawaiian Homes Commission, DHHL Staff, beneficiaries groups, cultural practitioners, natural resource scientists, and the broader community for the Legacy Program and its implementation.</p> <p>The creation of this Program is the first step in achieving these goals.</p>
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**Feedback - Beneficiary Email and Written Comments - Response to Questions/Comments**

The following are questions and comments raised in emails and comment letters from beneficiaries. The responses on the right column reflect the responses which are also generally stated in the report.

<p><b>Eradication of unmanaged ungulates</b></p>	
<p>So-called eradication of livestock (not ungulates) to be done by different strategies, all to be under management of Beneficiary committee.</p> <p>Unmanaged “ungulates” is the problem created by the now uninformed, inexperienced DHHL management team.</p> <p>This activity should not be conducted with a goal of collecting income for the trust.</p>	<p>The primary goal of the eradication of unmanaged ungulates (hoofed mammals such as cattle, sheep, pigs, goats, etc) is to protect the natural resources on the property.</p> <p>The invasion of non-native species poses one of the greatest threats to Hawai'i's native ecosystems and their inhabitants. Unmanaged-ungulates are detrimental to Hawai'i's native ecosystems via the damage they inflict on both vegetation structure and composition; impact native plants and ground cover, facilitating sediment run-off. The soil disturbance caused by rooting ungulates also facilitates the introduction and expansion of invasive plants, and creates breeding grounds for mosquitoes that transmit avian disease to native forest birds.</p> <p>A secondary benefit is that there may also be an opportunity for DHHL to raise funds from the process; however, revenue is a secondary benefit, the primary purpose is resource protection.</p>
<p>Any leases and plantings to be done with fencing. Hoping animals will be eradicated and therefore not around to eat the plantings has proven to be erroneous.</p>	<p>We note the need to fence sections of the property in several areas of the Legacy Program. We understand that each of the koa salvage permits have included perimeter fencing to exclude ungulates from the permit areas; these are included to help protect the regeneration of koa seed bank.</p>
<p><b>Koa Salvage/Sustainable Koa Forestry</b></p>	
<p>Koa Salvaging project should remain with the current contractor, at a price he feels is just; Beneficiary committee to monitor and make recommendations.</p>	<p>The program recommends that disposition of the respective commercial licenses, leases, etc. to implement these actions would be through a broad RFQ/RFP process to select the best qualified applicants (background, experience, financial capability, business plan, etc) to conduct the respective activities - to the extent permitted by law preference will be given to native Hawaiians. We understand the existing operator has been awarded two of the three harvesting permits granted for koa salvage.</p>
<p>The Sustainable Koa Forest (Initial Homesteading Area) is referred to as agriculture. To call a forest agriculture is ridiculous. Can you image agricultural homesteaders who don't do</p>	<p>There are scattered koa trees in the area now. Koa planting would begin immediately in the form of koa forest restoration. Koa is one of the predominant tree species found naturally in the Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua lands. It is presently the highest value timber crop in Hawai'i.</p>

<p>anything on it and leave it virgin justifying non-use because you folks call forest agriculture? If it is a Koa Forest, instead of cutting it up for individual homesteaders to use, keep it whole and assign it to the community to control harvest and replant. As a group, they would be better able to arrange for the cutting and selling of wood than on an individual basis. Proceeds would be split among the homesteaders.</p>	<p>Restoring the Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua lands to koa through carefully planned and managed reforestation is its highest and most compatible economic use.</p> <p>The forested areas also provide DHHL with an option for future homesteading, once the koa restoration is accomplished.</p> <p>Dispositions of Homestead and Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs will be through the standard DHHL processes for these types of dispositions.</p>
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<p><b>Agriculture</b></p>	
<p>There is nothing offering agriculture opportunities in the present plan. Please allow for possible agriculture opportunities. At this elevation there is also high potential to grow unique crops of particular interest. Beneficiaries constantly express their wishes for more agricultural awards. This was not indicated or considered on the proposal or any designed "agricultural" lots.</p>	<p>The Legacy Program considers a variety of homestead development layouts to address various beneficiary needs: cluster homestead sites with separate agricultural/pasture lots, cluster homestead sites with community agricultural/pasture, homestead lot subdivision or a combination of alternatives.</p> <p>It is envisioned that these alternatives will enable DHHL beneficiaries to have sufficient land for self-sustaining homesteading: land for a home site and related improvements/uses, including land for alternative energy for their use, pasture, agricultural uses, and land available for subsistence farming.</p>

<p><b>Commercial Activity</b></p>	
<p>Initiate alternative living: development of cabin-like dwellings for eco-tourism to help restore some of the deforestation - supporting flexibility for the plan.</p>	<p>We agree that the use of remote accommodations cover a small footprint on the overall landscape and have limited impact on the resources, but provide opportunities for ecotourism uses, etc.</p> <p>In the Legacy Program, there are recommendations that require ecotourism operators to have their guests "volunteer" in the reforestation, invasive species control and other implementation activities. It is believed that this will not only assist with the implementation efforts, it will also provide for more meaningful experiences for the guests on the property.</p>
<p>Initiate a Mauna Kea-Loa Museum to educate the public of the fragile state of the area - income generating and self-sustaining.</p>	<p>The Legacy Program includes recommendations for the restoration of the Humu`ula Sheep Station and use of the site as an ecotourism staging area. Because the `Aina Mauna region is such a special and unique place, orienting and educating visitors to this is important. The facility could be considered for a variety of uses, including redevelopment of the property into a lodge, serving as a focal point for education, staging, gatherings, meetings, etc.</p>

<p>Ecotourism and recreation use (red) may be possible but on a limited basis. I do not think any particular group should control this area for their own use or with DHHL funds.</p>	<p>The Program recommends ecotourism uses on various portions of the property, with the suggestion that staging areas be included around the Humu`ula Sheep Station.</p>
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<p><b>Native Forest Restoration</b></p> <p>Trying to justify forestry and the so-called need to increase the acreage in forestry, island wide, to support whom?</p>	<p>The foundation of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program is the protection and restoration of the DHHL lands at Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua for future generations. These lands represent the most important native forest areas remaining in the DHHL trust. DHHL seeks to restore portions of the Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua lands in perpetuity for future generations.</p>
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<p>I would like to commend all of you for taking this step to realizing the goal and intent of the DHHL mission statement. The incorporation of long term planning, acknowledgment of native Hawaiian Forests (māmane at high elevation, koa, and koa/`ōhi`a at montane/mesic elevations) as an important part of what makes Hawaii unique and special, and planning for sustainable healthy native Hawaiian communities is uplifting.</p>	<p>We concur.</p>
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<p><b>Gorse Eradication</b></p> <p>We reside in an island “culture” in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. Each island should be self-sufficient, now. Will putting additional acres in commercial timber at the expense of decreasing lands for food production solve the self-sufficiency need for now and the future? True, we have to address the gorse problem, which, in Sonny Kaniho’s words, was allowed by the HHC to get to such a state.</p>	<p>To take advantage of opportunities to further demonstrate the focus on efficient, self-sustainable communities, as well as provide for cost-effective development, the Legacy Program considers a variety of homestead development layouts to address various beneficiary needs: cluster homestead sites with separate agricultural/pasture lots, cluster homestead sites with community agricultural/pasture, homestead lot subdivision or a combination of alternatives.</p> <p>It is envisioned that these alternatives will enable DHHL beneficiaries to have sufficient land for self-sustaining homesteading: land for a home site and related improvements/uses, including land for alternative energy for their use, pasture, agricultural uses, and land available for subsistence farming.</p>
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<p>ʻŌiwi’s request for license was intended to encumber the whole gorse infected area. ʻŌiwi and its partners will sit with DHHL to develop the best plan.</p> <p>We expect to have a concrete plan for processing during this fourth year of the five-year license term.</p>	<p>The non-profit organization, ʻŌiwi Lōkahi o ka Mokupuni o Keawe, currently has a license on 1,000-acres at Humu`ula from DHHL for a gorse research and demonstration project. According to the DHHL License Agreement, the Licensee may not use the premises for any purpose other than strictly a research and development project using the invasive gorse shrub. No other uses are permitted, including grazing rights to demonstrate gorse controlled by livestock. To date, the equipment to process the gorse to charcoal and biofuel has not been delivered and the process has not been demonstrated.</p> <p>It is hoped that as their project becomes successful in using gorse as a product; subsequent conversion to trees will replace gorse as the raw material for their project, thereby perpetuating the gorse control component of the Legacy Program.</p>
<p>Re-growth of gorse to be managed in a variety of ways, not only by chemicals or planting trees.</p>	<p>The goal is gorse eradication, not management. All viable gorse eradication opportunities will be considered. Gorse is a noxious weed species that is threatening natural habitats and agro-ecosystems around the world, including Hawai`i.</p> <p>The importance of eliminating this plant cannot be overstated.</p> <p>Eradication of this noxious plant, that has already rendered thousands of acres useless, is an essential component in any land use and management plan for these lands.</p>
<p>The department plans to put (pink area) pasture lands into commercial operations. They plan to lease it out for commercial purposes with planting trees such as eucalyptus and shoji. This is not restoration of native forest. A better idea would be when the 13,000 acres of gorse are removing or managing, to divide the lands for pastoral pursuits for those lessees homesteading (living) at Humu`ula.</p> <p>Large parcels must be given to lessees due the less than productive pasture and the lack of water during certain times of the year. They will at least have good access to these parcels using the roads that the bio-fuel company is establishing. Why</p>	<p>All viable gorse eradication opportunities will be considered. Gorse is a noxious weed species that is threatening natural habitats and agro-ecosystems around the world, including Hawai`i.</p> <p>The Program looks to begin gorse eradication as soon as possible. It will be one of the first actions taken, once the Program is approved. The Program suggests timber to fight gorse but also allows for other viable gorse eradication opportunities.</p> <p>The goal is gorse eradication, not management.</p> <p>Interim commercial-scale timber planting can serve both as a gorse eradication mechanism, as well as an income generator. Eucalyptus, sugi or others trees are selected to address and control the gorse; once the gorse eradication process is well underway, the area is to be reforested back to a native koa. This area is considered for future homesteading, once the gorse is eradicated.</p>

<p>waste it and plant invasive forests for commercial companies. Planting invasive species is not conserving natural habitats for future generations.</p>	
<p>I am not convinced or believe that the Gorse plant seed will be inactive for 70 years. If the Gorse plant is still a sustainable food for cattle and can live for up to four decades, then why not work with the "Ōiwi Pilot Project" in more depth while still controlling its boundaries from spreading. Wouldn't this be income-generating in and of itself for DHHL short and long term?</p>	<p>All viable gorse eradication opportunities will be considered. Gorse is a noxious weed species that is threatening natural habitats and agro-ecosystems around the world, including Hawai'i.</p> <p>The Program looks to begin gorse eradication as soon as possible. It will be one of the first actions taken, once the Program is approved. The Program suggests timber to fight gorse but also allows for other viable gorse eradication opportunities.</p> <p>The goal is gorse eradication, not management.</p> <p>Interim commercial-scale timber planting can serve both as a gorse eradication mechanism, as well as an income generator.</p> <p>Eucalyptus, sugi or others trees are selected to address and control the gorse; once the gorse eradication process is well underway, the area is to be reforested back to a native koa.</p>
<p>We propose that the homestead community will help with the <i>kuleana</i> of managing the gorse problem (as a part of <i>kuleana</i> for all of Humu'ula) with the DHHL land manager and that we may use diverse native Hawaiian forests to shade out gorse.</p> <p>Sugi pine provides the most shade, around 95-98 percent, but diverse native Hawaiian forest with at least two canopies is a close second and provides approximately 90-95 percent.</p> <p>In addition to shading most forest restoration scientific journals cite the addition of litter fall. This technique has proven effective for controlling non-native grasses in several restoration studies including recent research from Hawaii Volcanoes National Park. Therefore effective control of</p>	<p>The long history of pasture has transformed the property from dense native forest to non-native grasses with limited survival of native plants. In addition, gorse has rendered thousands of acres of the property unusable.</p> <p>All viable gorse eradication opportunities will be considered.</p> <p>Gorse is a noxious weed species that is threatening natural habitats and agro-ecosystems around the world, including Hawai'i. The Program looks to begin gorse eradication as soon as possible. It will be one of the first actions taken, once the Program is approved. The Program suggests timber to fight gorse but also allows for other viable gorse eradication opportunities.</p> <p>The goal is gorse eradication, not management.</p> <p>Interim commercial-scale timber planting can serve both as a gorse eradication mechanism, as well as an income generator.</p> <p>As required in the Mission and goals of the Legacy program to be ecologically, economically and culturally self-sustaining, commercial forestry is considered to assist in a variety of ways, including the opportunity to provide additional funding to help with the overall management of the property.</p>



<p>introduced and invasive plant species is a function of both shade and leaf litter fall. A diversity of trees is also essential in long term planning as leaf litter of this type is beneficial for soil production and healthy ecosystems.</p> <p>In Sugi or eucalyptus plantations there is little to nothing left of any native species in the under-story. Some eucalyptus species even poison the ground so that other species can't grow. It is possible that we may find that if eucalyptus is used at Humu'ula, Hawaiian plants may not be able to grow due to chemical and biological changes in the soil. We already know that gorse acidifies the soil beneath it thereby changing the composition and makeup of those soils. It is unknown if acidified soils might be beneficial or not to native species in the long run such as those within the gorse containment area.</p>	<p>The long-term control of gorse will require significant financial resources that may need to be subsidized by other economic uses.</p> <p>This makes commercial timber planting as a gorse control and eradication mechanism so attractive. Once the gorse eradication process is well underway, the area is to be reforested back to native koa.</p>
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<p><b>Carbon Credits</b></p>	
<p>Carbon Credits, at least 80%, shall go to the gorse harvesting and gorse processor which invests in the project.</p>	<p>The goal is gorse eradication, not harvesting/processing. We are proposing that 100% of any benefit from Carbon Offsets/Credits be retained by DHHL in the event certain forestry programs are implemented.</p>
<p>The concept of carbon credits is a question of morality, not one of economics or legality. <i>Aina</i> is <i>`aina</i>, here or there, North America, Europe, Africa, Antarctica, etc., each unique and special. The idea of buying and selling carbon credits to offset atmospheric pollution is reprehensible and is not a</p>	<p>The focus of the Legacy Program is the restoration of the land. This includes a variety of forestry opportunities.</p> <p>An added opportunity to enhance revenue opportunities is to consider carbon credits/offsets retained by DHHL in the event certain forestry programs are implemented.</p>

<p>righteous action. This is an immoral action that will have far reaching consequences and is a human construct to justify the means to an end. This type of thinking is representative of western ideology and fails to incorporate the connectivity of humans and our environment, so thus fails to incorporate Hawaiian values.</p>	
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<p><b>`Āina Mauna Legacy Program Implementation Advisory Council</b></p>	
<p>Convene a Beneficiary Committee, two members of which shall sit on the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program Implementation Advisory Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) To review proposed beneficiary lease schemes</li> <li>2) To revise plan for proposed Beneficiary Leases</li> <li>3) To recommend the best solutions for Beneficiary Lease, Revocable Permit, or License</li> <li>4) To consider lease/RP/License to others and recommend</li> </ol>	<p>As an integral part of the implementation of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program, the Legacy Program includes the formation of an implementation advisory council (`Āina Mauna Legacy Program Implementation Advisory Council) to provide advice and recommendations to the Hawaiian Homes Commission and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands regarding the implementation of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program.</p> <p>The Council may serve as a forum for consultation and deliberation among its members and as a source of consensus advice to the Hawaiian Homes Commission and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. Such consensus advice shall fairly represent the collective and individual views of the Council members.</p> <p>The Council does not have the authority to perform operational or management functions, or to make decisions on behalf of Hawaiian Homes Commission and/or the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands. The Council will be advisory only; the Department will have final decision making authority.</p>
<p>The `olelo noeau referred to serves the narrow purpose of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program.</p> <p>The HHCA was created to take care of the people now, by providing a place, training, and opportunities for self-sufficiency. If this is the beneficiaries' land for self-sufficiency, the beneficiaries shall have direct participation in the decision-making for these</p>	<p>The opportunities for beneficiaries are extensive and diverse; and, there are opportunities for beneficiaries within each component of the recommendations, whether it is homesteading, pasture, unmanaged-ungulate eradication, native forest restoration, commercial timber, koa forestry, ecotourism or cultural practices.</p> <p>Some of the benefits are proposed to be relatively immediate, while others will necessarily take time for the real benefit to come to fruition. Additionally, the implementation process will include opportunities for Beneficiary and community involvement and participation at all stages of the process.</p>

<p>trust lands and should carry the kuleana for stewarding thereof.</p>	
<p>I agree and support the plan need for flexibility because of the diverse land and the amount of acreage to be allocated for specific purposes; however, under the condition that the beneficiaries are informed adequately before any change implementation to the program occurs. It is very obvious that flexibility with the plan is foremost importance as it moves forward.</p> <p>Because of its unique and majestic location against Mauna Kea, which significance is the connection or piko of the Big Island, it is my proposed preferences that this land mass development be considered to a group of beneficiaries as a hui that will have stewardship over the various phases of land management.</p>	<p>The `Āina Mauna Legacy Program is a “living document” that is intended to be flexible and is subject to change, as times and needs change. Therefore, the program should be re-examined on a periodic basis (possibly every 5-years) to ensure that it addresses DHHL’s needs in the future.</p> <p>The Legacy Program includes the formation of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program Implementation Advisory Council to provide advice and recommendations to the Commission and DHHL regarding the implementation of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program. The implementation process will include the Council, Beneficiary and community involvement and participation in advising the Department and Commission.</p> <p>The Council serves as a forum for consultation and deliberation among its members and as a source of consensus advice to the Commission and DHHL.</p> <p>The Council does not have the authority to perform operational or management functions, or to make decisions on behalf of the Commission and/or the Department. The Council will be advisory only. The Department and Commission will have final decision-making authority.</p>
<p>I think the department should give more credence to these homesteaders/associations.</p>	<p>The Legacy Program includes the formation of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program Implementation Advisory Council to provide advice and recommendations to the Commission and DHHL regarding the implementation of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program. The implementation process will include the Council, Beneficiary and community involvement and participation in advising the Department and Commission.</p> <p>The Council serves as a forum for consultation and deliberation among its members and as a source of consensus advice to the Commission and DHHL.</p> <p>The Council does not have the authority to perform operational or management functions, or to make decisions on behalf of the Commission and/or the Department. The Council will be advisory only. The Department and Commission will have final decision-making authority.</p>

<b>Homesteading</b>	
Prospective interested lessees for the Villages should determine land use within the area and around them.	A significant portion of the property (4,500-acres) is proposed for immediate homesteading. The Legacy Program describes general ideas about subsequent development with specific design, sizes and layout to be determined during the implementation process.
Village design shall be led by `Ōiwi planners, with funds from DHHL - DHHL consultants stand by and provide assistance when asked. The Village concept is a beneficiary idea and shall be implemented with beneficiary input.	<p>Dispositions and financing of Homestead and Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs will be through the standard DHHL processes for these types of dispositions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since homesteading and pasture use are the typical and conventional disposition activities of DHHL, it is recommended that the proposed uses at Humu`ula/ Pi`ihonua come under existing DHHL planning, design, development, funding, disposition and management.</li> <li>• These proposed uses can fit in the “queue” for development scheduling and disposition with other Homesteading and Pasture uses</li> </ul> <p>Since the property was not typically used for long term habitation, there are questions as to the demand for homesteads in this area. Humu`ula is a unique environment that historically has been minimally settled. It is important that beneficiaries are made aware and understand the advantages and disadvantages of living in this area.</p>
It is not reasonable and somewhat offensive to expect beneficiaries to have to wait out their lifetime hoping that they may have an opportunity for homesteading as indicated on the map.	<p>A significant portion of the property (4,500-acres) is proposed for immediate homesteading. The Legacy Program describes general ideas about subsequent development with specific design, sizes and layout to be determined during the implementation process.</p> <p>The opportunities for beneficiaries are extensive and diverse; and, there are opportunities for beneficiaries within each component of the recommendations, whether it is homesteading, pasture, unmanaged-ungulate eradication, native forest restoration, commercial timber, koa forestry, ecotourism or cultural practices.</p> <p>Some of the benefits are proposed to be relatively immediate, while others will necessarily take time for the real benefit to come to fruition. Additionally, the implementation process will include opportunities for Beneficiary and community involvement and participation at all stages of the process.</p>
I am also concerned about how the applicant wait list will be reconfigured to accommodate the new rural homestead residential leases concept development? How would this impact the existing categories with DHHL? There are also deep	<p>Dispositions and financing of Homestead and Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs will be through the standard DHHL processes for these types of dispositions.</p> <p>Since the property was not typically used for long term habitation, there are questions as to the demand for homesteads in this area. Humu`ula is a unique environment that historically has been minimally settled. It is important that beneficiaries are made</p>

<p>concerns about the new category of “rural homesteading” and the impact it will have on the applicants wait-list status as to the awarding processes - fairness, etc.</p>	<p>aware and understand the advantages and disadvantages of living in this area.</p> <p>Given that the immediate homesteading area will be a rurally-developed (cinder roads, catchment water, photovoltaic, septic/composting toilets, etc) and the area is relatively isolated from employment, schools, shopping centers and other DHHL communities, it is not clear what the demand will be for these types of homesteads.</p>
<p>The ideas incorporated in the ‘Aina Mauna Legacy report regarding rural homesteading is right on regarding green living. Included with the current ideas we suggest the incorporation of a glass greenhouse built into each home for growing <i>kalo</i>, sweet potato, etc., as well as to moderate temperature, provide healthy living environment, water collection, utilize natural lighting, etc.</p> <p>Growing native Hawaiian plants for cultural uses (clothing, shelter, mats, etc.), to make high quality native Hawaiian products and for restoration across Humu‘ula. In concept this allows every family to have their own food supply and work, thus minimizing their need to travel afar.</p>	<p>The Legacy Program considers a variety of homestead development layouts to address various beneficiary needs: cluster homestead sites with separate agricultural/pasture lots, cluster homestead sites with community agricultural/ pasture, homestead lot subdivision or a combination of alternatives.</p> <p>It is envisioned that these alternatives will enable DHHL beneficiaries to have sufficient land for self-sustaining homesteading: land for a home site and related improvements/ uses, including land for alternative energy for their use, pasture, agricultural uses, and land available for subsistence farming.</p>
<p>The sustainability of a Humu‘ula homestead community is dependent on meeting the community needs at a local level. The overall homestead (many homesteads) should be designed in a way that supports community and community interaction. This means that education, health care, cultural practices, recreation, carpentry skills, sustainable living (solar knowledge, catchment tanks) must all be available on site. We must also hunt and gather</p>	<p>Since the property was not typically used for long term habitation, there are questions as to the demand for homesteads in this area. Humu‘ula is a unique environment that historically has been minimally settled. It is important that beneficiaries are made aware and understand the advantages and disadvantages of living in this area. Given that the immediate homesteading area will be a rurally- developed (cinder roads, catchment water, photovoltaic, septic/composting toilets, etc) and the area is relatively isolated from employment, schools, shopping centers and other DHHL communities, it is not clear what the demand will be for these types of homesteads.</p> <p>Dispositions and financing of Homestead and Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs will be through the standard DHHL processes for these types of dispositions.</p>

(sustainably of course) in the local area thus controlling to some extent cattle and other non-native fauna.	
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<b>Pasture</b>	
<p>Additional parcels for farming, ranching, or forestry shall be awarded on separate lease, without any ties to the original lease.</p> <p>The current “Additional Acreage” strategy enforced by DHHL and the HHC is counter-productive, counter self-sustaining and counter self-determining.</p>	<p>Dispositions and financing of Homestead and Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs will be through the standard DHHL processes for these types of dispositions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since homesteading and pasture use are the typical and conventional disposition activities of DHHL, it is recommended that the proposed uses at Humu`ula/ Pi`ihonua come under existing DHHL planning, design, development, funding, disposition and management.</li> <li>• These proposed uses can fit in the “queue” for development scheduling and disposition with other Homesteading and Pasture uses</li> </ul>
I believe that community pastoral and/or community agriculture is a plantation-like concept that will help restore and unify differences while appreciating the need for the crisis in the issues of sustainability and self-sustenance for the State.	According to DHHL, Moloka`i uses a community pasture program and it has been successful. The Program is open to a variety of scenarios, with community pasture being only one of the options or combinations of options for management.
The long term pasture (yellow), interim pasture (striped yellow) should also be given to the homesteaders in smaller parcels, along with the existing pasture leases when they expire. Perhaps homesteaders can use this area to rotate their cattle in dry periods.	<p>Additional acreage propose for pasture use covers approximately 4,000-acres (these land areas are approximate references) - with about 2,000-acres designated for pasture along the Keanakolu-Mana Road and another 2,000-acres on the west side of the Mauna Kea Access Road (below the Radio Tower site and fronting Saddle Road and Mauna Kea Access Road.)</p> <p>These areas proposed for additional acreage for pasture use are consistent with the Fire Plan and are proposed to be immediately available for beneficiary use. Additional acreage pasture use could also be in the form of Community Pasture.</p>

<b>Budget</b>	
<p>The annual budget for wages, equipment, and supplies identified for managing the whole project shall include:</p> <p>1) Training and employing interested beneficiary(ies) whose education has been in related fields, for a long-term</p>	<p>It is suggested that there be three initial full time employees dedicated to implementing and managing the program. These employees can be phased in over time, during the transition from contractor to fully staffed employees.</p> <p>The positions will include a Program Coordinator, Contract Management, Compliance and Grant Specialist and a Field Worker.</p>

<p>position</p> <p>2) Training and employing a beneficiary to eventually manage the whole project</p> <p>3) Including one individual to develop educational curriculum and to manage educational retreats, extended excursions, etc. (1/2 FTE) and one to investigate and manage eco-activities (1/2 FTE).</p> <p>4) Conducting Semi-annual status meetings to include all contractors, interested Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua Beneficiary Lessees, `Āina Mauna Legacy Program Implementation Advisory Council and the Beneficiary Committee to provide and discuss up-dates and review progress in the different project areas</p> <p>5) Fees for the Beneficiary Committee</p>	<p>The Program Coordinator will primarily be working in and on issues related to `Āina Mauna Legacy Program including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supervising</li> <li>• Administration</li> <li>• Outreach/Education</li> <li>• Field Work</li> <li>• Performs miscellaneous related duties, as required.</li> </ul> <p>The Contract Management, Compliance and Grant Specialist will manage procurement functions for `Āina Mauna Legacy Program staff including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contract Management</li> <li>• Contract Compliance</li> <li>• Grant Writing, Management and Compliance</li> <li>• Outreach/Education</li> <li>• Performs miscellaneous related duties, as required.</li> </ul> <p>The Field Worker will assist in conducting operations to implement the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program, as part of a team, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fieldwork</li> <li>• Coordinates Volunteer Activities</li> <li>• Outreach/Education</li> <li>• Performs miscellaneous related duties, as required.</li> </ul>
<p>The Annual budget does not include new fencing, although new fencing is mentioned.</p>	<p>Fencing is intended and included in many aspects of the implementation, from forest restoration, ungulate eradication and other aspects. The program, at this point, reflects many general uses. As more details of aspects of the Program are detailed, then the budget will further detail specific aspects.</p> <p>The final document includes further revenue and cost estimates, including allocations for fencing.</p>

<p><b>DHHL/HHC</b></p>	
<p>Revise Procurement Law or Rule for use by DHHL; First offer to Beneficiary or Beneficiary organizations. Then, public bid process to others.</p>	<p>Revising state law is beyond the scope of this planning process.</p> <p>The program recommends that disposition of the respective commercial licenses, leases, etc. to implement these actions would be through a broad RFQ/RFP process to select the best qualified applicants (background, experience, financial capability, business plan, etc.) to conduct the respective activities - to the extent permitted by law, preference will be given to native Hawaiians. Homestead and Pasture agreements would be under the typical DHHL disposition process for these types of uses.</p>
<p>DHHL and the HHC purpose should be to manage the lands or exchange lands (acre for acre</p>	<p>The opportunities for beneficiaries are extensive and diverse; and, there are opportunities for beneficiaries within each component of the recommendations, whether it is homesteading, pasture,</p>

<p>to keep the trust whole, change the law which demands value for value) in order to provide homes and rehabilitative opportunities for the intended beneficiaries. That is the purpose for this HHCA rehabilitative program, nothing else.</p> <p>As long as DHHL, on behalf of the HHC stand in court trying to justify why DHHL does not request sufficient funds to implement the HHCA for the intended beneficiaries and make excuses for such, DHHL and the HHC is in violation of their fiduciary responsibilities.</p> <p>DHHL &amp; HHC, the Implementation Advisory Council and the Beneficiary Committee, should focus on sustainable human communities.</p>	<p>unmanaged-ungulate eradication, native forest restoration, commercial timber, koa forestry, ecotourism or cultural practices. Some of the benefits are proposed to be relatively immediate, while others will necessarily take time for the real benefit to come to fruition.</p> <p>Additionally, the implementation process will include opportunities for Beneficiary and community involvement and participation at all stages of the process.</p> <p>Land exchanges are beyond the scope of the Legacy Program. Dispositions and financing of Homestead and Pasture Leases, Licenses and/or RPs will be through the standard DHHL processes for these types of dispositions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since homesteading and pasture use are the typical and conventional disposition activities of DHHL, it is recommended that the proposed uses at Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua come under existing DHHL planning, design, development, funding, disposition and management.</li> <li>• These proposed uses can fit in the “queue” for development scheduling and disposition with other Homesteading and Pasture uses</li> </ul>
<p>DHHL and the HHC will continue to violate their fiduciary responsibilities to the rehabilitation of the intended beneficiaries, as long as they insist on providing for the management and protection of “native lands to support both the cultural and resource management activities”.</p> <p>When the beneficiaries can finally control the lands and conduct a self-sustaining activity in the area, what income-producing cultural activity does DHHL, HHC and the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program Implementation Advisory Council foresee - bird catching for gathering feathers? Mr. Gumapac was correct when he asked about how these studies incorporated the</p>	<p>The opportunities for beneficiaries are extensive and diverse; and, there are opportunities for beneficiaries within each component of the recommendations, whether it is homesteading, pasture, unmanaged-ungulate eradication, native forest restoration, commercial timber, koa forestry, ecotourism or cultural practices. Some of the benefits are proposed to be relatively immediate, while others will necessarily take time for the real benefit to come to fruition. Additionally, the implementation process will include opportunities for Beneficiary and community involvement and participation at all stages of the process.</p> <p>The mission of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program and its implementation is to protect approximately 56,000-acres of native Hawaiian forest that is ecologically, culturally and economically self-sustaining for the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust, its beneficiaries and the community. It is recommended that traditional knowledge and modern science be used in making management decisions.</p> <p>DHHL believes that the Humu`ula/Pi`ihonua lands have the potential for serving as a sustainable native forest and land unit by simultaneously providing environmental, economic and social benefits to the trust and its beneficiaries, in perpetuity by linking</p>



<p>traditional Ahupua'a concept.</p> <p>The `Āina Mauna Legacy Program is just a discussion for the specific area and although it touts cultural and resource management, the plan has no cultural significance or strong points for future beneficiary stewardship, accept references to noted cultural studies.</p>	<p>traditional cultural knowledge and modern science. The goal of a restored forest is consistent with the DHHL Energy Policy.</p> <p>The restored, healthy native forest provides a variety of benefits and opportunities to beneficiaries through gathering, cultural practices and opportunities to see and understand native forest ecosystems. The site (with restoration to healthy native forest) provides beneficiaries cultural practices access as the only site of this type in the Hawaiian Home Lands Trust inventory. In addition there are multiple economic opportunities for beneficiaries.</p> <p>The Legacy Program recommends a mandatory `Āina Mauna cultural, natural resources and safety briefing to ensure that all visitors receive appropriate information they need in order to better understand and protect `Āina Mauna's cultural and natural resources. Specific contents of the `Āina Mauna cultural, natural resources and safety briefing will need to be determined.</p>
<p>Why did DHHL allow Parker Ranch to return the trust lands without restoring the land or take some responsibility to make it right again the way they first received it? Isn't this irresponsible stewardship and mismanaging of the lands?</p>	<p>The Program is moving forward with gorse eradication as described above. The department is free to pursue remedies outside of the Legacy Program.</p>
<p>What is the overall stance that DHHL is taking with the incoming leadership and any projected information as to next steps with award prioritization? What discussions, if any, about lands that are more realistically available and accessible closer to the town vicinity of Hilo. Lower Pi`ihonua and Honumu areas should be the focus before further management plans are pursued by DHHL. What plans are in place for these attainable areas?</p>	<p>The Lower Pi`ihonua and Honumu areas are outside of the Program area.</p>
<p><b>Other</b></p> <p>We propose that a solution to current management and resource concerns be solved with the development of human infrastructure (training for the Hawaiian people), that the</p>	<p>The `Āina Mauna Legacy Program will provide a wide range of jobs and provide a wide range of job and training opportunities. The restoration of the `Āina Mauna native forest will require a multitude of conservation oriented jobs. The native Hawaiian community will benefit from the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program via conservation training and jobs which restore the native forest,</p>

<p>foundation of homesteads and economic activity be grounded in native Hawaiian culture, we base our decisions locally and thinking of sustainability keeping in mind that our decisions will have direct effects on our successors so should be made with the greatest of thought.</p>	<p>commercial jobs which reforest and harvest the koa forest, and others, such as ecotourism activities.</p>
<p>We suggest that embracing Hawaiian culture as your guiding principle versus economic opportunity, believing in the Hawaiian people and providing for their success, and follow through on promises will go a long way in healing and bridging this divide.</p>	<p>We concur. The rich cultural history of the area, presents a unique opportunity to link traditional cultural knowledge and modern science in restoring the area back to a healthy native forest, as well as other uses that benefit the Land, Beneficiaries and the Trust.</p>
<p>The Aina Mauna Legacy Program map indicates two things: (a) ID Labels with area description and acreage, and (b) color schemes labels with area description and acreage. Neither of these descriptions and acreage coincides with the color scheme labels, so the viewer is unable to identify what the consultant is really talking about.</p>	<p>The mapping noted on the documents posted on the DHHL website-beneficiary consultation-executive summary and program document have correct color coded maps.</p>
<p>We received our notices after the meeting date.</p>	<p>Due to problems with the initial mailing, an additional beneficiary meeting in Keaukaha.</p>
<p>Will the Mauna Kea access road be relocated since it cuts through some of the trust land?</p>	<p>There are no plans to relocate any of the roads.</p>
<p>Would you kindly clarify why the numerous programs and their particular purposes, especially if they don't have an invested interest in the immediate communities of Island.</p>	<p>The Program is based on several past studies. Ho`okuleana LLC was hired to write the Program and is the consultant for this project. During the development of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program, the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program Advisory Group was formed to provide advice and recommendations in identifying the optimum land use, infrastructure patterns, best management practices and estimated financial requirements to achieve the goals of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program. Group members served as liaisons between their constituents and communities, as well as helped with outreach to their respective communities on behalf of the `Āina Mauna Legacy Program.</p>