

MAUI AGRICULTURE PROJECT LEASES 2026



Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

Orientation

Presented
by **DHHL**
Staff

Date
May 2,
2026

Email:
dhhl.housing@hawaii.gov

<https://dhhl.hawaii.gov/current-projects/>



WHAT TO EXPECT TODAY



Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

- **Welcome / Opening Remarks**
- **History of DHHL & Funding**
- **Information about Honokōwai & Pulehunui**
- **Designated Successorship / Transfers**
- **What's next**



DHHL.HAWAII.GOV



CHAIR WATSON

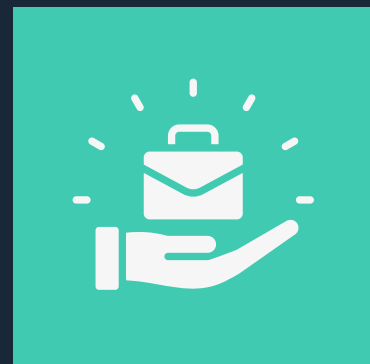
"With these projects, we are not merely constructing homes but nurturing communities that reflect our culture and shared vision for a better tomorrow."



Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

PRINCE KŪHIŌ JONAH KALANIANA'OLE

Prince Jonah Kūhiō Kalaniana'ole was a beloved Hawaiian prince and U.S. congressional delegate who championed Native Hawaiian rights and authored the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act, shaping the future of homesteading in Hawai'i.



**Authored Hawaiian Homes
Commission Act**

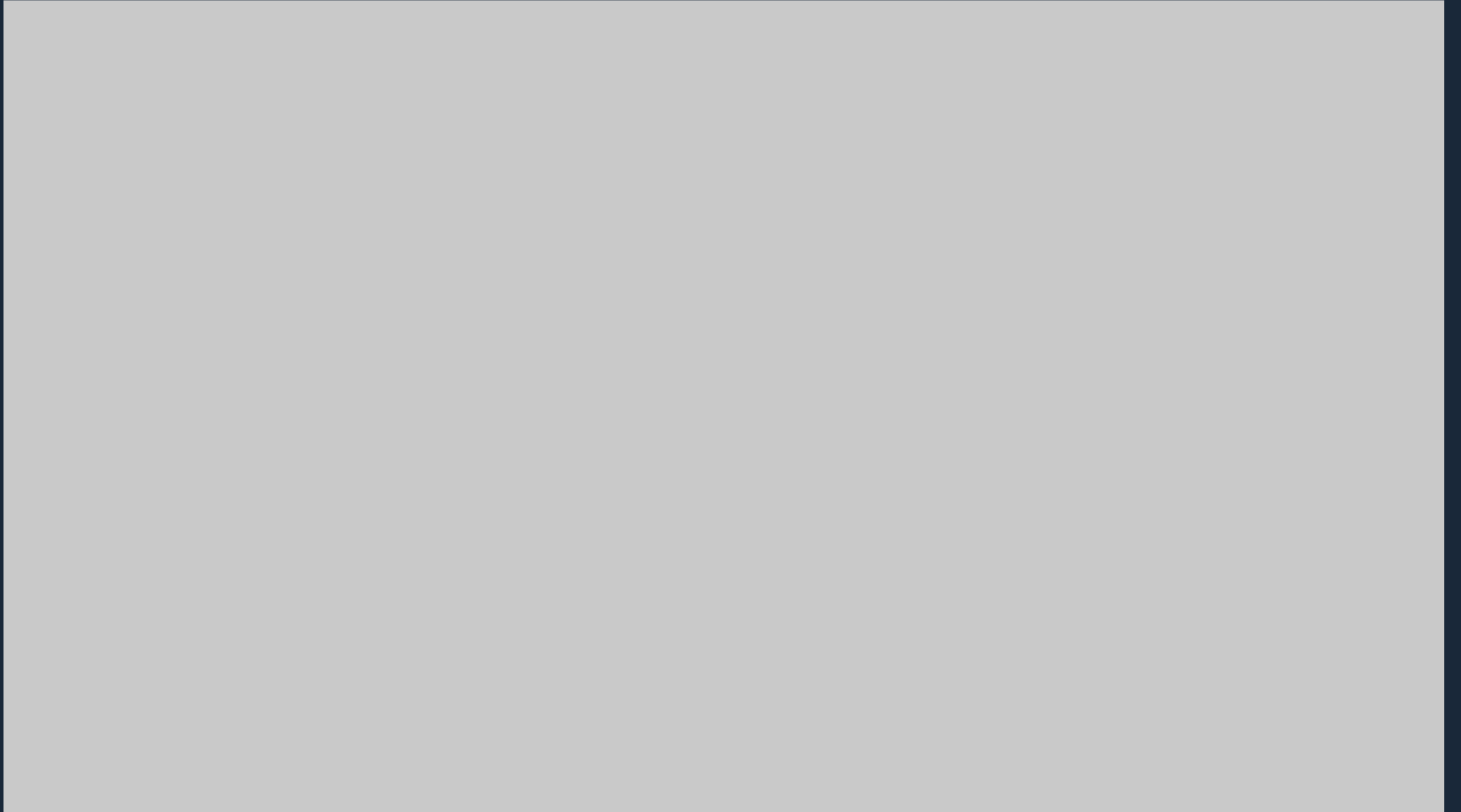
**U.S. congressional delegate
for Hawai'i**

**Advocated for Native
Hawaiian rights/culture**



<https://dttl.hawaii.gov/current-projects/>

PROVIDING HOPE





HISTORY OF DHHL AND FUNDING

MAKING IT WORK WITH WHAT WE HAD



Over the past 100 years, approximately 10,000 leases have been awarded—an average of about 100 per year. While each lease represents a meaningful opportunity for a family, this pace also reflects the long-standing challenges of delivering homestead access at scale. It underscores both the progress made and the continued urgency to accelerate efforts for future generations.





HOPE IS HERE FOR YOUR FUTURE



WE ARE THRILLED TO AWARD 7,000 LEASES IN 2025 & 2026

There is strong hope that more beneficiaries will receive their homestead leases, opening the door to stability and opportunity. A homestead is more than shelter—it creates a foundation for well-being, reduces stress, and empowers families to build, provide, and pass down values and culture. With each lease awarded, future generations are better positioned to care for one another and sustain a legacy of health, stewardship, and self-sufficiency.



BREAKDOWN OF \$600 ENCUMBERED ↘

INFRASTRUCTURE

\$511.2M

ACQUISITION

\$52.8M (new acreage: 555.94ac)

FINANCING AND BENEFICIARY SERVICES:

\$36M

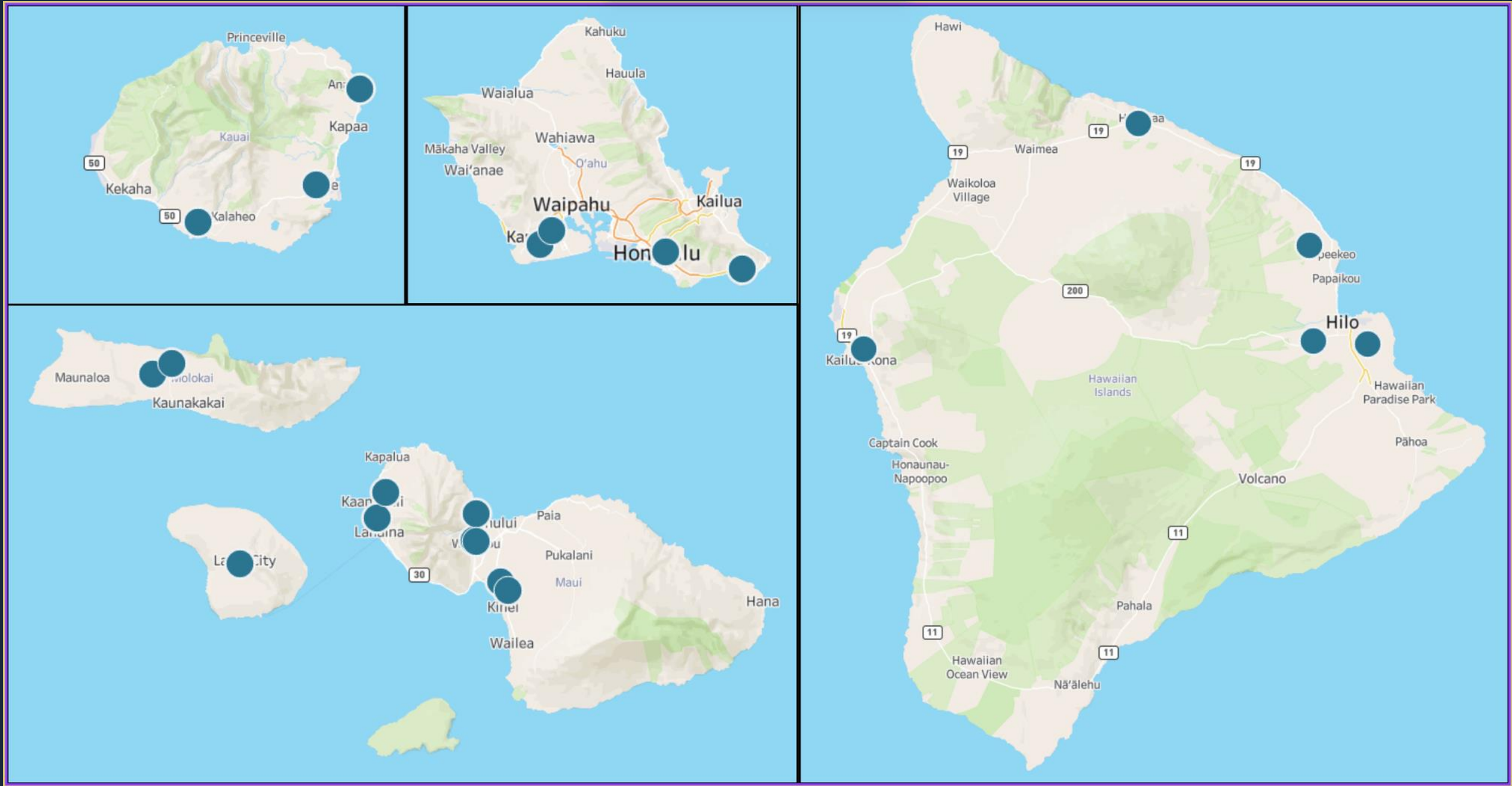


Statewide Lot Development Projects Leases

County	2022 Leases	2024 HHC	2025 Completed
Hawai'i	440	1,684	408
Maui	572	1,514	1,212
Honolulu	1,520	1,790	725
Kauai	190	1,297	82
Scattered Lots Statewide	0	107	45
TOTAL	2,722	6,392	2,472

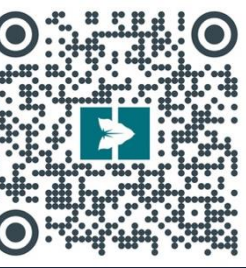
**\$600M encumbered by 12/31/2025. Currently \$120M expended.*

PROJECT LOCATIONS



STATEWIDE PROJECTS

Scan QR code to learn more about DHHL's current projects.





1. DHHL **acquires** the land



2. DHHL builds **Site Infrastructure**



3. Private Developer **builds housing**



4. DHHL Beneficiary **pays for house, land lease at \$1/year**



DHHL

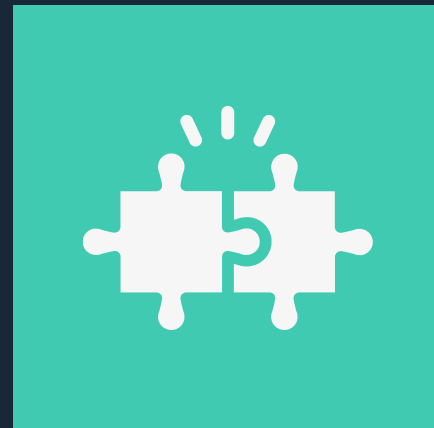
PILINA: RELATIONSHIPS THAT CONNECT US



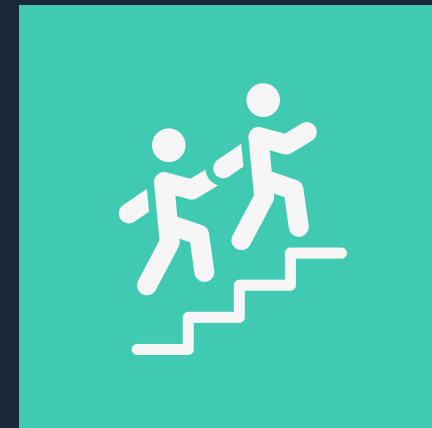
Pilina reminds us that strong relationships are the foundation for providing hope to our beneficiaries—connecting families, strengthening communities, and creating opportunities for a brighter future for generations to come.



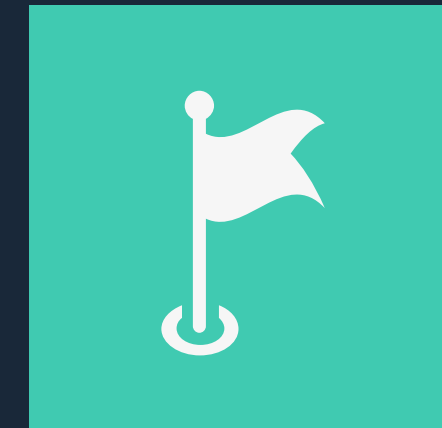
Secure the future through project leases (undivided interest leases)



Collaborate with government agencies to strengthen impact and resources



Partner with service providers to extend our reach on the ground



Collaborate with developers to leverage additional resources

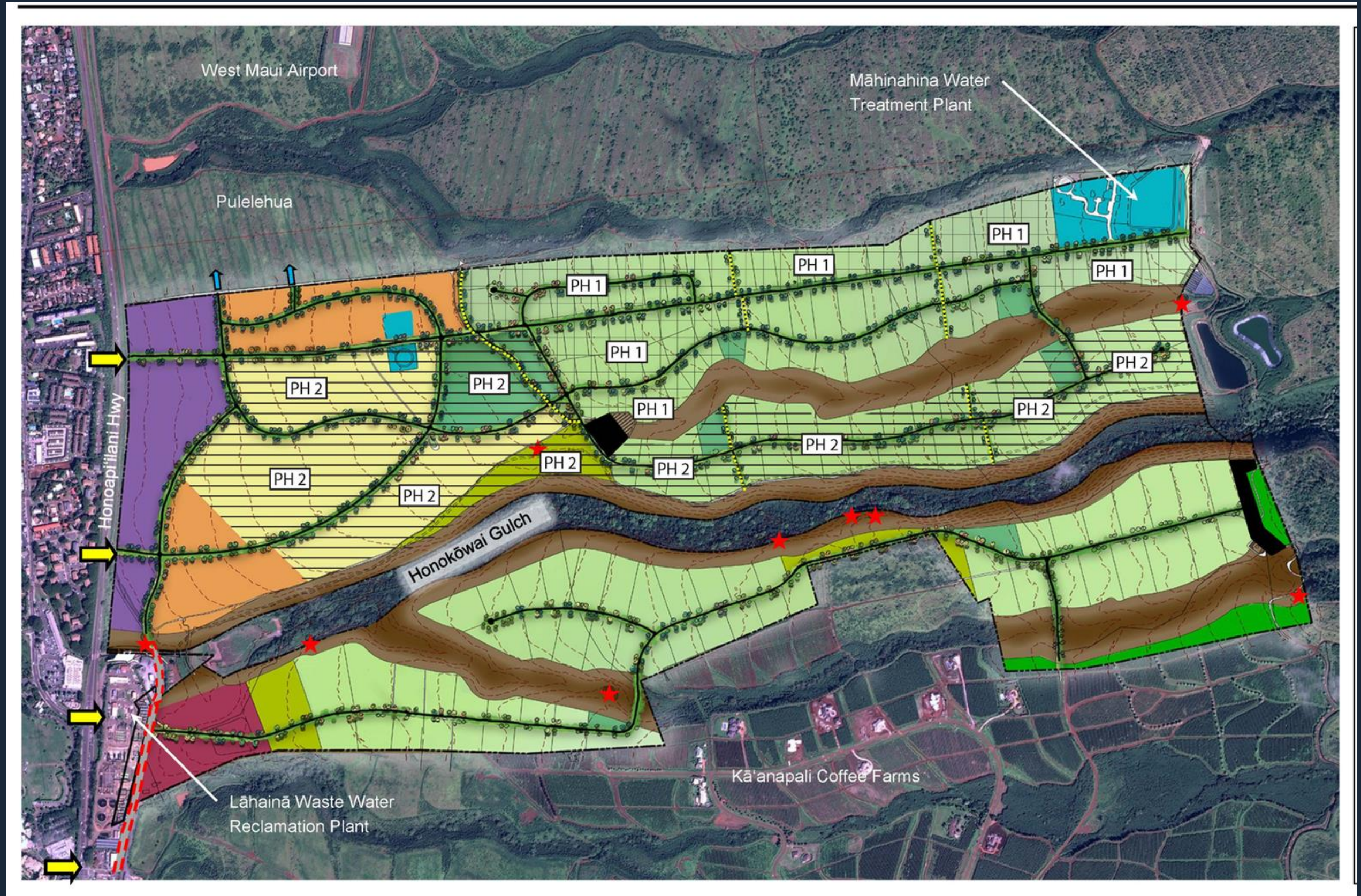


INFORMATION ABOUT HONOKŌWAI & PULEHUNUI

HONOKOWAI PHASE 2



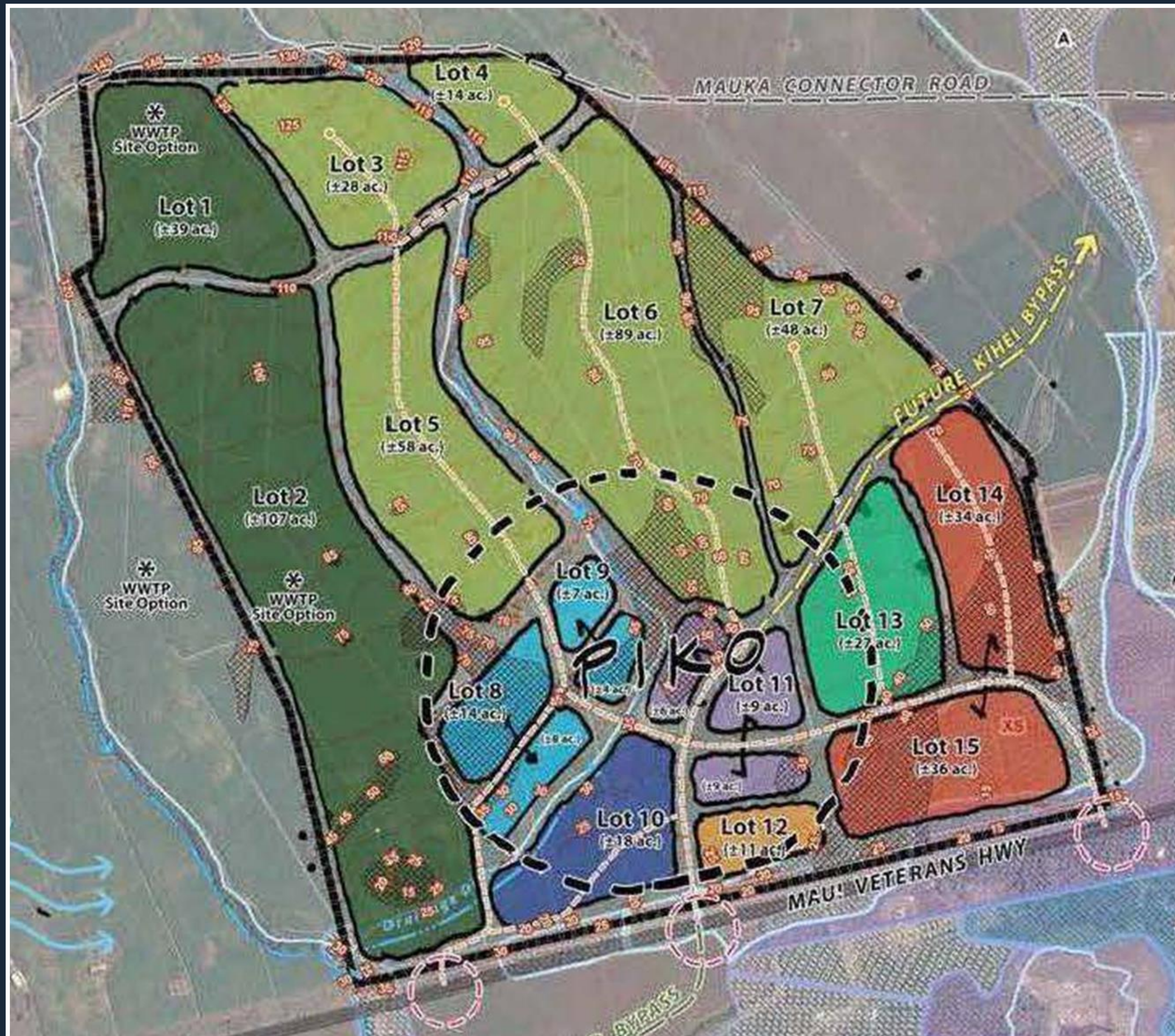
- 40 lots
- 2 acre lots
- Construction starts in 2030



PŪLEHUNUI



- 200 lots
- 2 acre lots
- Construction starts in 2030





RESOURCES

WALK WITH YOU



Through strong partnerships with service providers, DHHL helps provide the resources and support needed to guide families through the process with confidence.

Why Agriculture?

- **Hawaiian Homes Commission Act**
- **Rehabilitation of a People**

HOPE FOR THE FUTURE

PRINCE JONAH KŪHIŌ KALANIANA'OLE

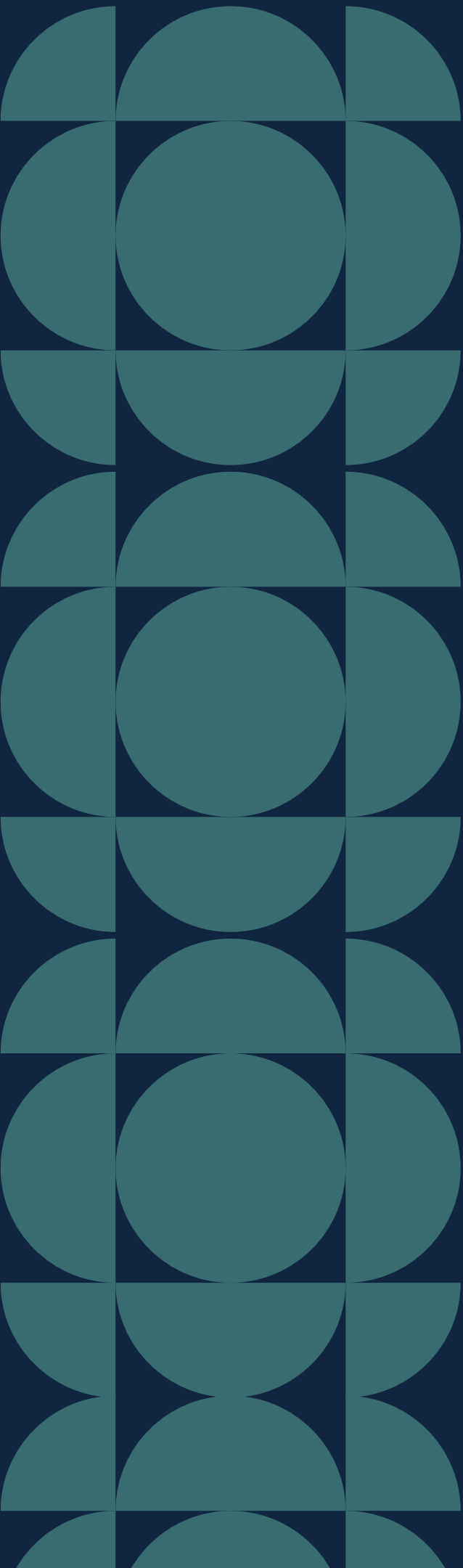


“After extensive investigation and survey on the part of various organizations organized to rehabilitate the Hawaiian race, it was found that the only method in which to rehabilitate the race was to place them back upon the soil.”



Why Agriculture?

- **Resilience** – less dependent on imports
- **Sustainability** – protect ‘āina and plan ahead
- **Food Security** – feed ‘ohana and share abundance



What is a Subsistence Agricultural Lease?

- Smaller lot (less than 3 acres)
- A farm plan is NOT required
- 2/3 cultivation of the ag lot is NOT required
- You can cultivate crops and raise small animals
- You can cultivate crops and build a home
- You can cultivate crops, raise livestock and build a home
- You are NOT required to build a house, so there aren't any financial qualification requirements

Agricultural Resources

DHHL Contact

Lehua Abrigo

Planning Office

Agriculture Program Specialist

lehuanani.k.abrigo@hawaii.gov

(808) 730-0348

CTAHR Contact

Nāone Gwen Morinaga-Kama

Jr. Extension Agent

DHHL – Mokupuni o Maui

gkama@hawaii.edu

(808) 463-4365

Ola nō ka mahi'ai i kahi
kū'ō'ō.

*A farmer can subsist on
small, broken potatoes.*

As long as there are
potatoes, even small or
broken ones, a farmer
gets along.

'Ōlelo No'eau #2491

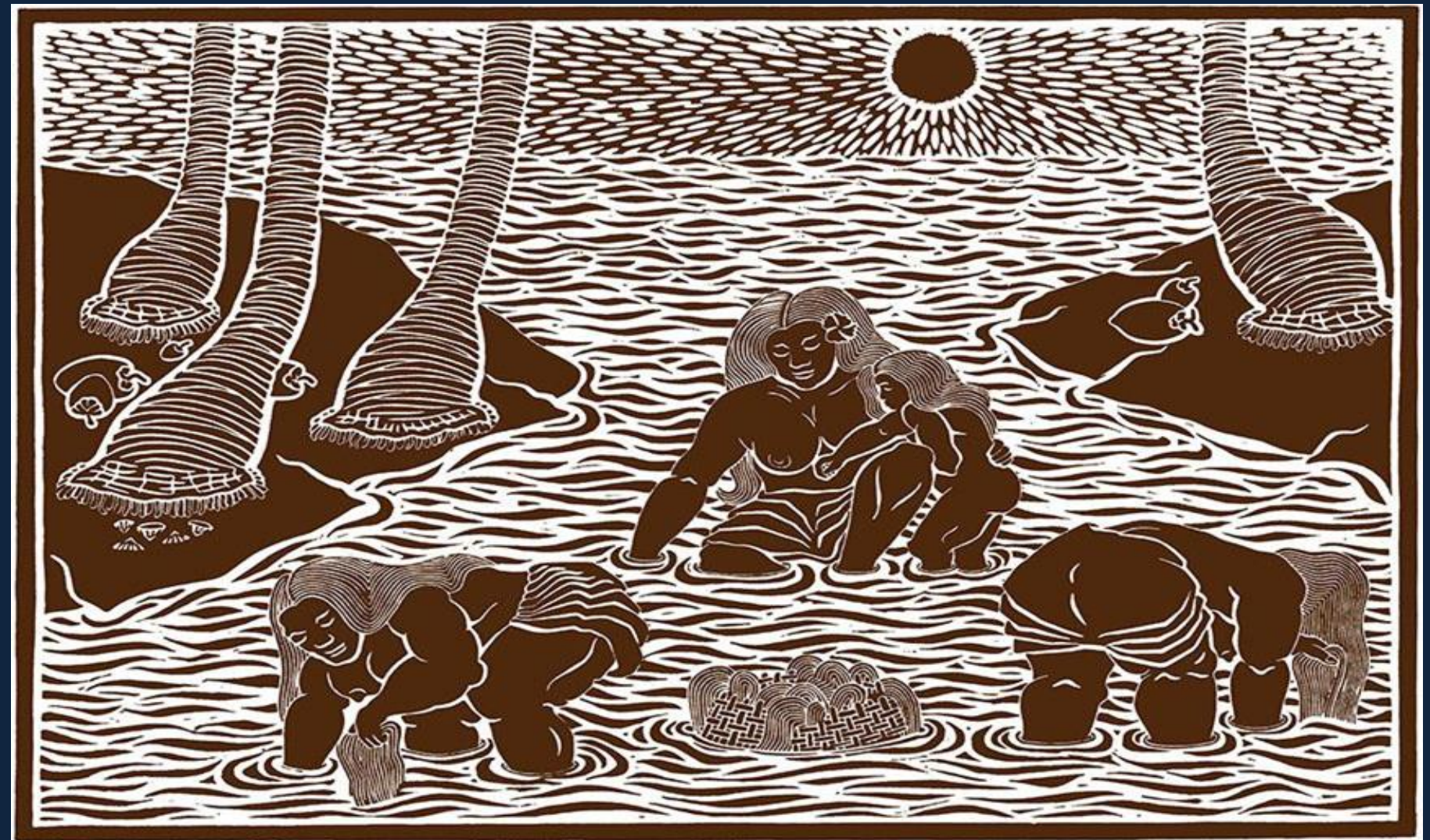




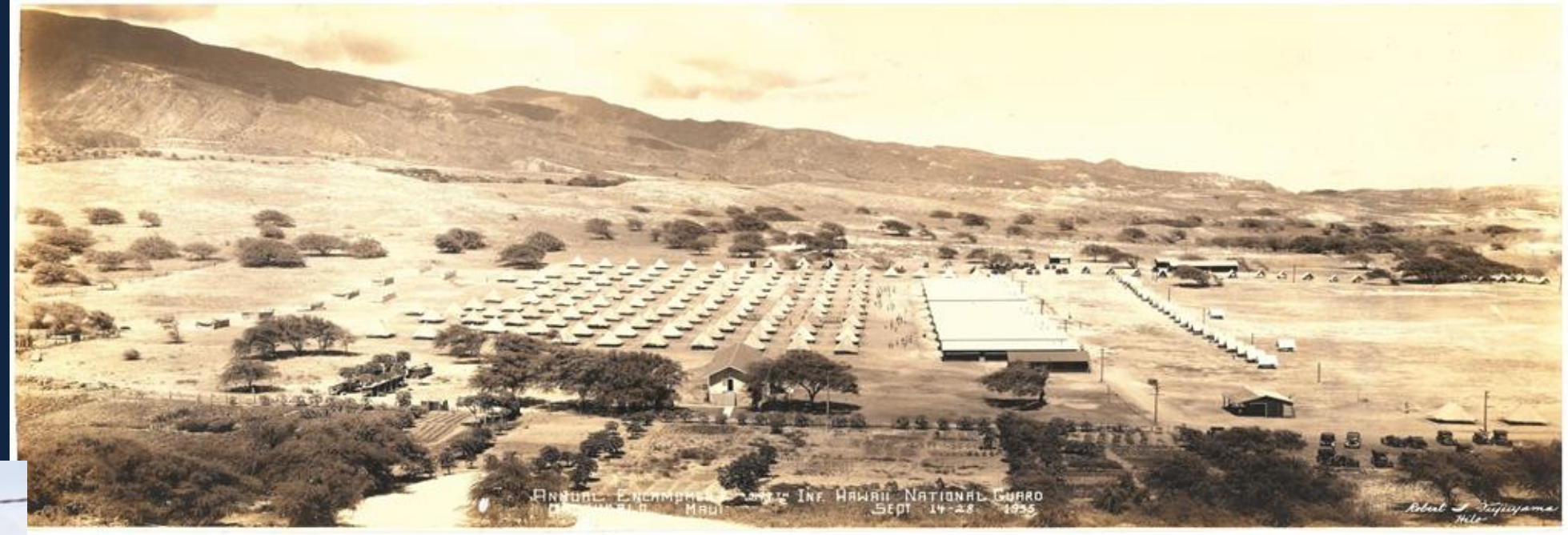
**Kēōkea Homestead Farm
Lots Assn.**

Kēōkea Homestead Farm Lots Assn.

Future project - Kēōkea Kai Limu Hui - Restoration of limu resource at Kēōkea Kai at Kula Kai - South Maui); and revitalization of Kēōkea Kai loko i'a (fishpond).



Paukūkalo Hawaiian Homes Community Assn.



Paukūkalo residents Gracey Gomes (from left), Janice Herrick and Leiana Sing-Keliikoa stand outside the former National Guard armory that operated in their neighborhood for decades. HJI / COLLEEN UECHI photo



COOPERATIVE EXTENSION
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA
COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE AND HUMAN RESOURCES



'Ohana Garden & Grindz

Where families learn, garden, prepare healthy foods, eat, and have fun together



To learn more, contact us today:

- Maui: Heather Greenwood, heather8@hawaii.edu
- Molokai: Angela Mangano, angelchef.ogg@gmail.com
- Kauai: Bridgette Orsatelli, lawaivalley@aol.com
- Big Island: Dodi Pritchett, dodipritchett@me.com



Mahalo to our funders:
US Department of Agriculture (USDA-NIFA-RHSE 2021-46100-35334) &
Maui County Office of Economic Development

Pūlehunui Hawaiian Homestead Assn.



LEGEND

- Pūlehunui South
- Maui Veterans Highway
- Intersection (Potential)
- Internal Access Roads (Assumed Primary)
- Future Kihei Bypass (Concept)
- Future Keālia Pond Bypass (Concept)
- Mauka Connector Road (Concept)
- Prevailing Wind Direction
- Drainage Gulch
- Rocky Area / Not Recently Farmed
- Field Roads
- Man Made Objects
- Elevation Contours (5-ft intervals)

Flood Zones

- XS - 0.2% Annual Chance Flood
- A - 1% Annual Chance Flood
- AE - 1% Annual Chance Flood (BFE)
- AO - Flood Depths of 1-3'
- VE - Coastal Flood Zone, Wave Hazard (BFE)

Proposed Land Uses

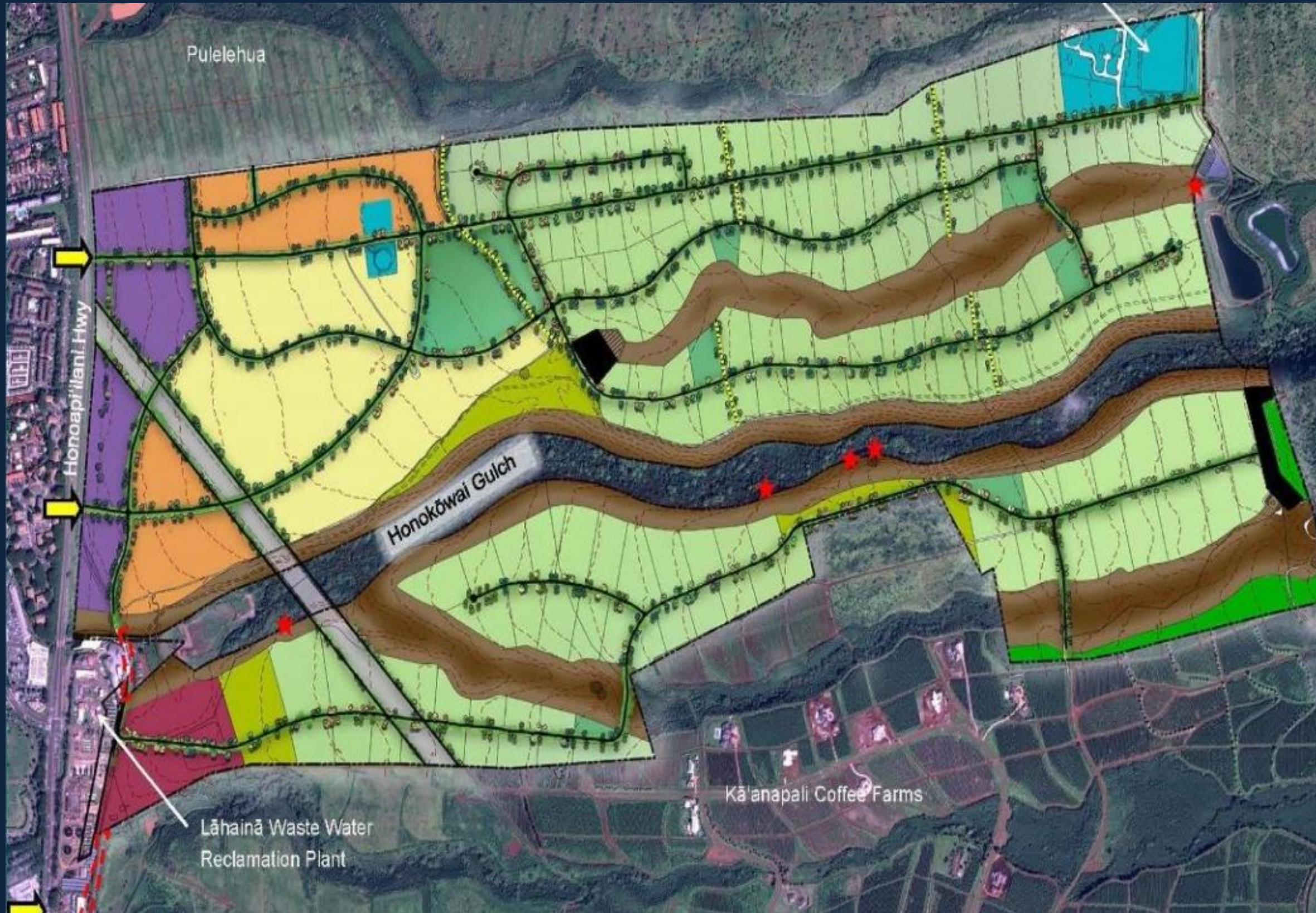
	Farms	(±146 ac.)
	Ag Support	(±24 ac.)
	Subsistence Ag/Homesteads <small>(2+ acre lots, approx. 80-100 lots)</small>	(±238 ac.)
	Beneficiary Gardens	(±27 ac.)
	Commercial Enterprises	(±70 ac.)
	Farmers Market	(±11 ac.)
	Culture & Arts	(±18 ac.)
	Education	(±33 ac.)
	Roads	(±31 ac.)
	Open Space/Existing Gulch	(±48 ac.)
Total Land Area		646 ac.

* WWTP Site Option (Other wastewater alternatives being evaluated)

Figure 3-3: Pūlehunui South Conceptual Plan
PŪLEHUNUI REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE MASTER PLAN
 Department of Hawaiian Home Lands | Island of Maui
 North | Linear Scale (feet) 0 500 1000
 Revised 7/3/2018



Honokōwai Subsistence Agricultural Lots



-  Homestead Residential: Single Family
-  Homestead Sub-Ag: 1 to 2 acre lots
-  Homestead Residential: Multi-Family
-  Homestead Supplemental Agriculture
-  Community Use: Agriculture
-  Community Use: Parks
-  Community Use: Commercial
-  Conservation: Gulches and Buffers
-  Industrial
-  DOT's Proposed Lahaina Bypass
-  County Facilities
-  Walking Pathways
-  Future Access Easement
-  Cultural Sites
-  Non-DHHL Lands
-  Roadways
-  Access Point

Na ke kanaka mahi'ai
ka imu o nui.

*The well-filled imu
belongs to the man
who tills the soil.*

'Ōlelo No'eau #2239



CTAHR-DHHL Agricultural Education Program



COLLEGE OF TROPICAL AGRICULTURE
AND HUMAN RESILIENCE
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT MĀNOA



HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS
HAWAIIAN HOMES COMMISSION · DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

CTAHR Kula AG & Research Center
Phone: (808) 463-4365
Nāone Gwen Morinaga Kama
gkama@hawaii.edu



DESIGNATED SUCCESSORSHIP / TRANSFERS

SUCCESSORSHIP TO APPLICATION RIGHTS

- Section 10-3-8 of the Hawaii Administrative Rules. *Successorship of application rights.*
- Allows for the successorship of application rights *only upon death* to a qualified relative who is at least 18 years of age and *50% Hawaiian*:
 - Husband or wife;
 - Child;
 - Grandchild;
 - Father or Mother;
 - Widow or widower of child;
 - Brother or sister;
 - Widow or widower of a brother or sister;
 - Niece or nephew.

Applicant Dies Without Designating Successor



A qualified successor to APPLICATION rights is:

At least 18
years of
age, 50%
Hawaiian;

Husband or
wife;

Child;

Grandchild;

Father or
Mother;
Widow or
widower of
child;
Brother or
sister;

Widow or
widower of
a brother
or sister;
Niece or
nephew.

Applicant Dies

without designating successorship

Once every calendar year the department publishes a notice listing deceased applicants who have passed without naming qualified successors. (An applicant may name only one successor per lease application)

Notices are published in the following newspapers typically near the end of November each year: Honolulu Star-Advertiser, Maui News, The Garden Island, Hawaii Tribune-Herald, and West Hawaii Today.

A qualified successor to a decedent's application rights must submit his or her successorship claim to the Department within 180 days of the last date of publication. (Deadline to submit claims is near the end of May each year.)

HHCA Section 209

SUCCESSORS TO LESSEES

Eligible Successors at 25% Hawaiian

Husband, wife, children, grandchildren, brothers, or sisters.

Eligible Successors at 50% Hawaiian


Father and mother;

Widows and widowers of children;

Widows and widowers of brothers and sisters;

Nieces and nephews.





Lessee Dies Without Designating Successor(s)

Hawaii Administrative Rules Section 10-3-63. *Notice to successors.*

- The department shall publish a notice at least once in each of four consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation in the State (Honolulu Star-Advertiser, Maui News, The Garden Island Newspaper, Hawaii Tribune-Herald, West Hawaii Today)
- Qualified relatives wanting to succeed to the lease must submit a claim within 120 days of the first publication date.
- Publication is typically twice per year around June 30th and December 31st.

HAWAII ADMINISTRATIVE RULES 10-3-63

Lessee Dies Without Designating Successor(s)

Eligible Successors at 25% Hawaiian

Husband, wife, children, grandchildren, brothers, or sisters.

Eligible Successors at 50% Hawaiian

Father and mother;

Widows and widowers of children;

Widows and widowers of brothers and sisters;

Nieces and nephews.



Successors to Application Rights and Leases

- Things to remember...
- The relative you designate as a successor is your decision.
- Discuss your choice of successor to your application rights or to your homestead lease with your 'ohana so your intentions are made clear. Not having the discussion may cause family issues later.
- Make an appointment with the nearest District Office to file a new or updated designation.





WHAT'S NEXT

PROJECT LEASE

OVERVIEW



What is the Offer?

- A Project Lease opportunity in either Honokōwai or Pulehunui.

What is a Project Lease?

- A paper lease that grants you an undivided interest in an area/subdivision, for future lot development
- Allows designation and transfer of lease to a qualified **25% successor**
- Provides time to meet financial or program requirements

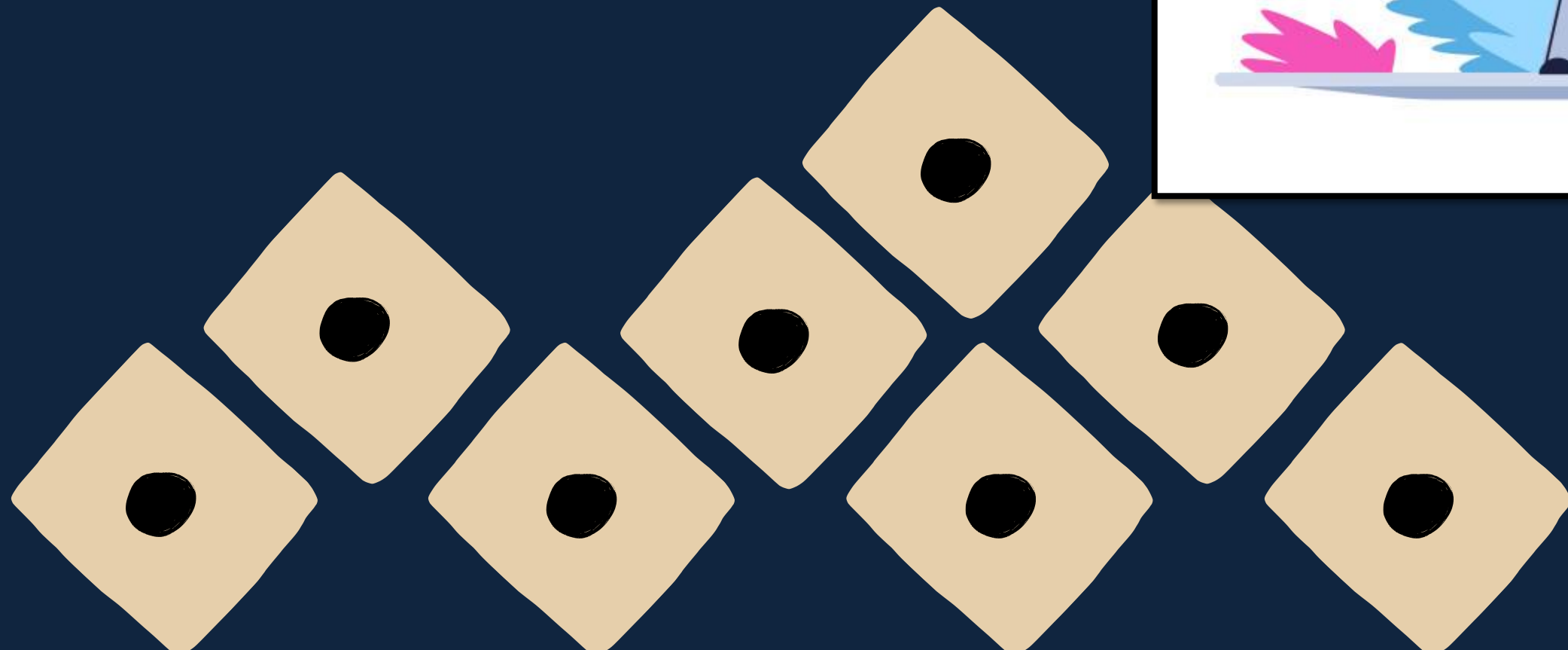
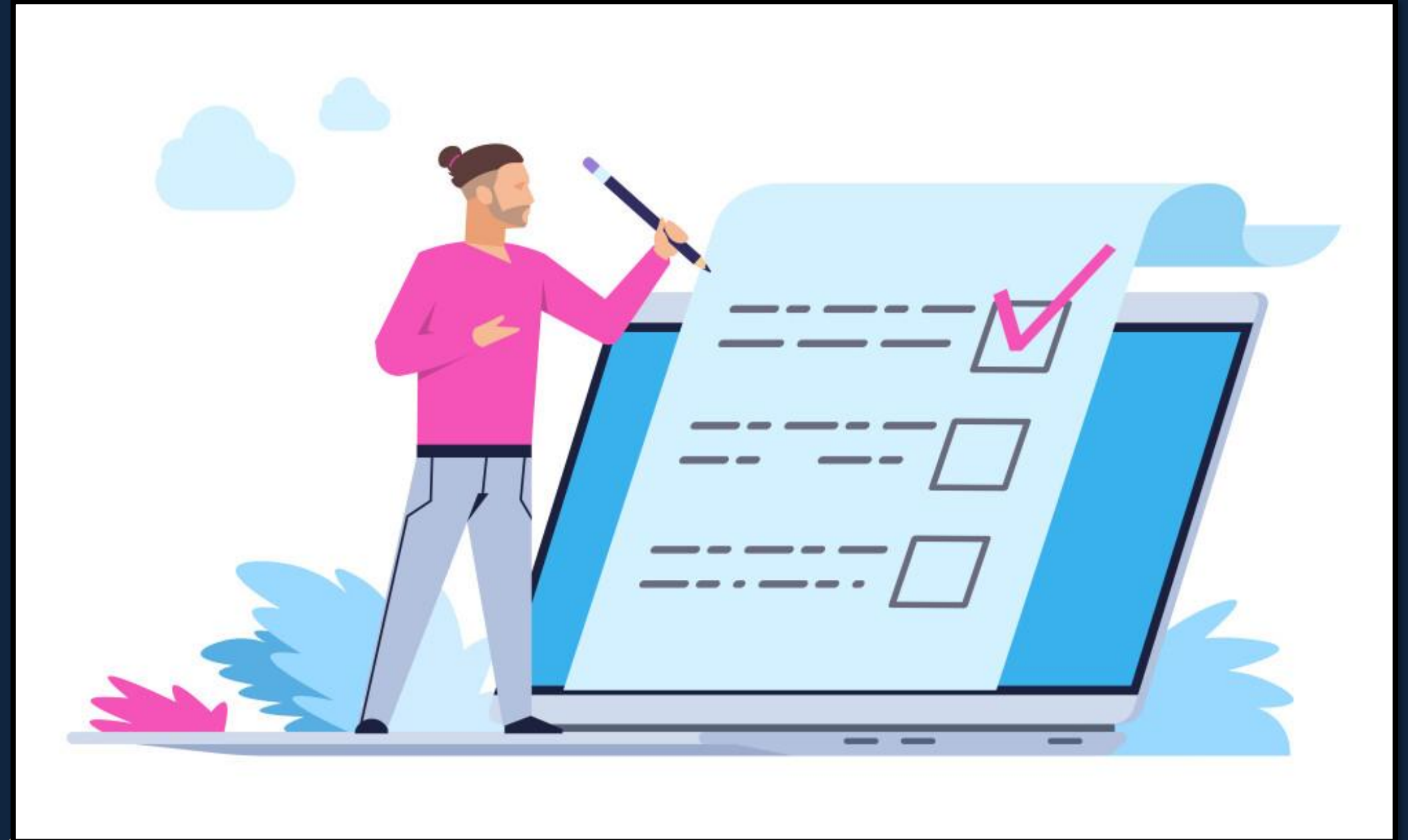
What are the offer requirements?

- Submit the interested response form by the due date.

RESPONSE FORM

DUE DATE

May 22, 2026



Deferrals



If You Are No Longer Interested



Check "Not Interested" on the Response Form and return it.



You will remain on the Maui Islandwide Agricultural waitlist



You will **not** be moved to the bottom of the applicant list.



You may be eligible for future offers.

Important Dates

Response Form Due Date

- May 22, 2026

Project Selection Meeting – Invitation Only

- June 20, 2026



Contact Information

Project Team

- Kauai Stephens
- Shanti Gomes

Support Team:

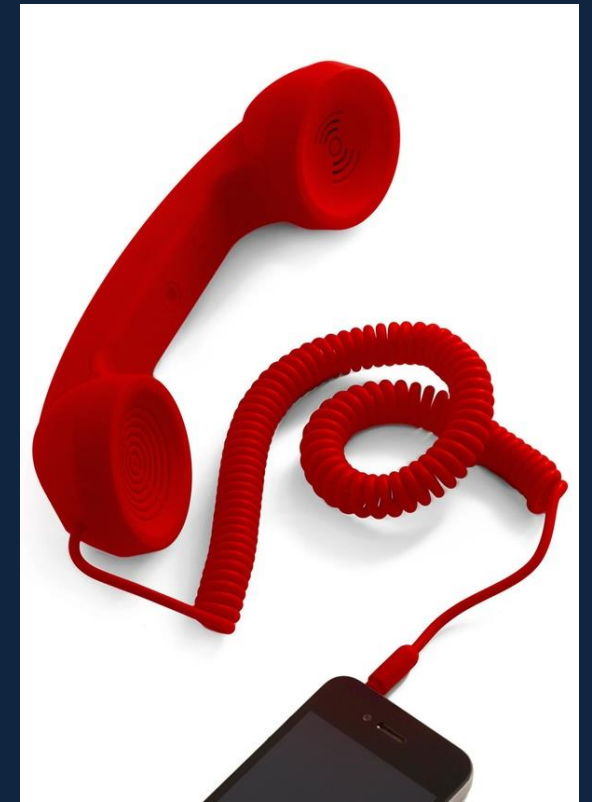
- Shauna Mau
- Erin McCabe
- Moana Freitas

Contact Number

- (808) 730-0311

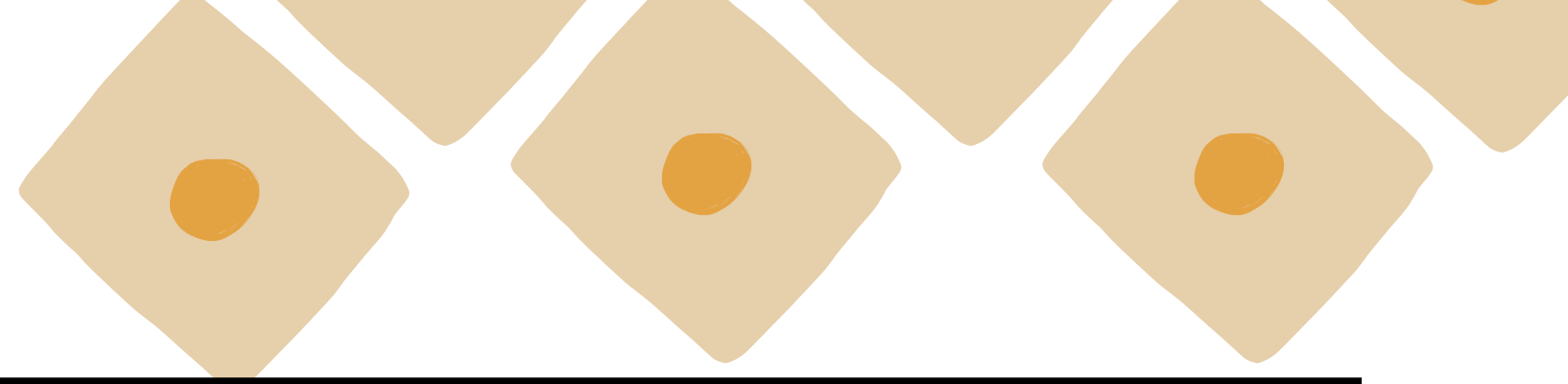
Email Address

- dhhl.housing@hawaii.gov



MAHALO

Partners





OPEN HOUSE

<https://dhhl.hawaii.gov/current-projects/>

MAHALO FOR YOUR TIME!

Grateful for the opportunity to share more about the work of Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and its mission. Mahalo for allowing me to share, and for your support as we continue to advocate for the resources needed to move this mission forward—because when DHHL succeeds, all of Hawai‘i succeeds in expanding affordable housing for our people.

Presented
by **DHHL**
Staff

Date
May 2,
2026

Email:
dhhl.housing@hawaii.gov

