



National Coastal Wetlands Conservation Grant Program (CWC Grant)

BACKGROUND

The project aims to enhance 2.69 acres of seasonal palustrine emergent and scrub-shrub coastal wetlands in Honokanai‘a. Enhancement of the coastal wetland in the project site will involve: the removal of invasive species and the reintroduction of native plants; the construction of waterflow control devices and sediment traps along and across 1.74 acres of road, the excavation of an existing .13-acre silt pond to catch sediment. Benefits of this project will be measured through wetland water retention rates observed via the live stream cameras monitoring the area, water level data loggers, terrestrial surveys during monthly accesses and water quality improvements using a Sonde, a long-term monitoring device. Pre- and Post-project monitoring will include drone imaging to track vegetation changes in the project area. **Grant Life: March 2022-August 2024.**

DELIVERABLES

- Directly enhance 2.69 acres of palustrine emergent and scrub-shrub coastal wetland habitat in Honokanai‘a by removing invasive alien plants, reintroducing native plants, and reducing siltation within 30 months of the project start date.
- Conduct a minimum of 12 monitoring investigations of wildlife species and habitat responses to assess project success within 30 months of the project start date.
- Conduct 24 lectures/outreach events to increase awareness of the proposed project, associated activities and actual outcomes funded by the grant within 30 months of the project start date.

AWARD AMOUNT: \$ 355,531

FUNDER: U.S Fish and Wildlife Services

HIGHLIGHTS

- ✓ Hire a second ORS II for a two-year period.
- ✓ Plant 20,000 plants and removal of invasive plant species.
- ✓ Excavate silt pond and redirect runoff from the road with sandbags.
- ✓ Deploy long term ocean water quality device and a weather station.
- Wetland pilot study with UH Geography researchers and students.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

SPENT
\$161,562.00

BILLED
\$139,000.00

RECEIVED
\$0.00



PROJECT UPDATE: June '23 – Dec. '23

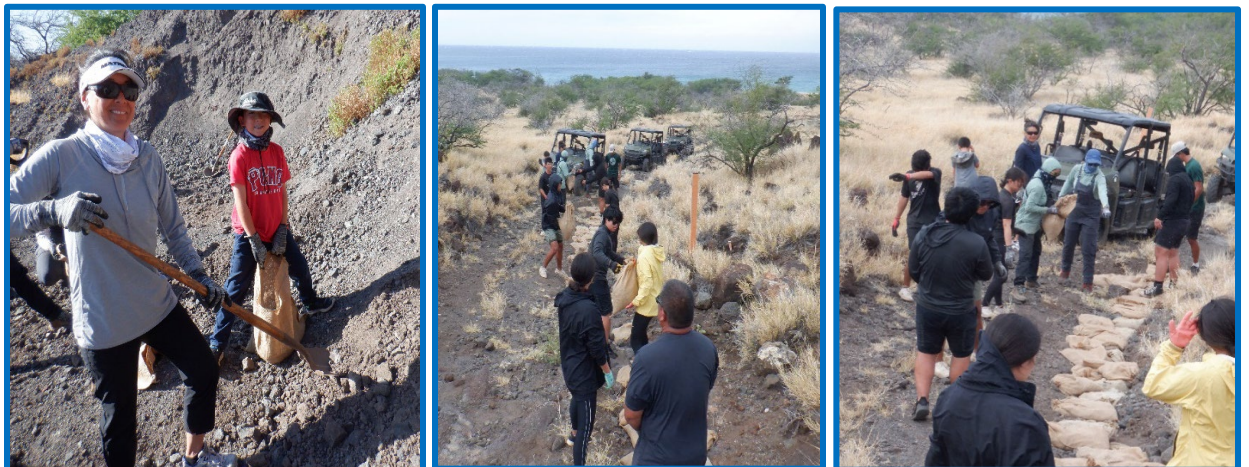
- To date 22,181 native plants have been planted, exceeding the grant obligation by over 2,000. Non-native vegetation removal has continued.
- Excavation of the silt pond was completed; 3 cubic yd of silt was removed and reutilized for compost mix.
- Installation of a sediment trap was placed in Honokanai'a in December to help monitor water quality in correlation to the land based weather station.



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Photos above: Honokanai'a silt pond clearance: before, during and after.



Photos Above: CWC community grant partner, Grace Bible Church, helps with gravel bag filling and road repair in July



Photos Above: Native planting with volunteers continues in the Honokanai'a wetland area.

