



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Hawaii Biodiversity Joint Venture Pacific Islands Office *Program Overview*

The Hawaii Biodiversity Joint Venture is a public-private effort to protect, maintain, improve, and restore the native biological diversity of the Hawaiian Islands.

The mission of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS) is working with others to conserve, protect, and enhance fish, wildlife, and plants and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. This statement acknowledges that working cooperatively with partner organizations, private landowners, and local communities is the best way to approach long-term conservation of our native ecosystems.

The **Hawaii Biodiversity Joint Venture (HBJV)** was initiated with the following goals:

Maintaining natural communities and habitats for native species;

Supporting efforts to cooperatively manage significant native ecosystems on public and private land;

Developing natural resource management techniques to address widespread threats to Hawaii's native ecosystems (such as feral ungulates, weeds, rats, and alien insects);

Restoring former wetlands, native forests and other natural communities on public and private lands; and

Protecting native Hawaiian ecosystems and natural communities through land and water acquisition, as well as management.



The Olaa Kilauea Partnership, on the island of Hawaii, works cooperatively to pool funding and other resources in order to efficiently conduct conservation of large, adjacent parcels of native Hawaiian rainforest by building ungulate exclosure fences, removing feral ungulates and controlling alien weeds.

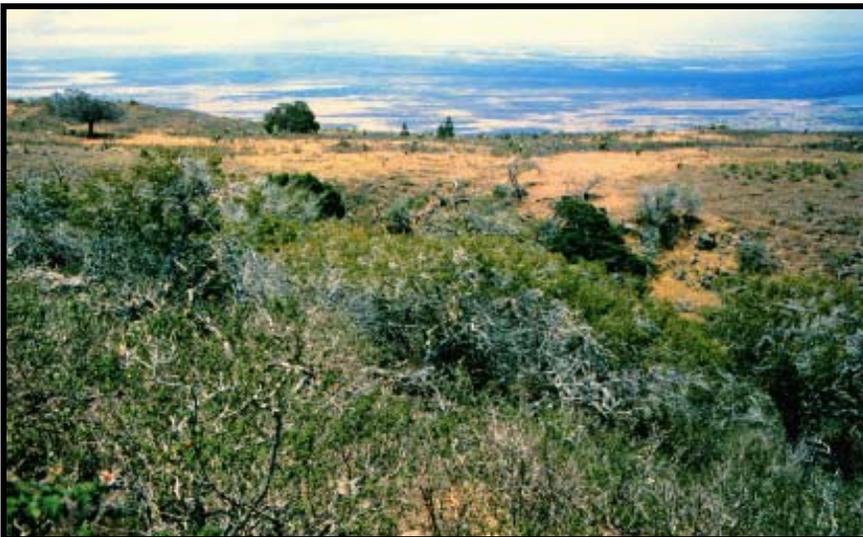
Photo: Tanya Rubenstein, 'Ola' a-Kilauea Partnership

Funding is limited. Projects given highest priority are:

- A. Projects implementing management or research actions that directly contribute to protection or restoration of habitat for multiple endangered threatened, candidate or rare species.
- B. Projects that address key threats to native ecosystems or habitats.
- C. Projects that benefit rare or unique ecosystems or habitats.

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The North Kona Dryland Forest Restoration Group is a multi-party effort to develop and demonstrate cost-effective techniques for restoring native dryland forest.

Photo by Marie Bruegman, USFWS