

For immediate release: May 22, 2008

## **LAND BOARD APPROVES PROJECTS FOR LEGACY LAND CONSERVATION PROGRAM FUNDING**

HONOLULU - The Board of Land and Natural Resources (BLNR) has approved the award of \$4.7 million for county and nonprofit land acquisition projects to protect Hawai‘i’s valuable resource lands through the Legacy Land Conservation Program (LLCP).

The LLCP will convey funding from the State Land Conservation Fund to one county and four nonprofits for the acquisition and permanent protection of lands having cultural, archeological and natural resource values.

“Many cultural, natural, and historical resources in Hawai‘i are under threat of degradation or destruction. I am proud that the State is participating in these five partnerships to preserve and protect Hawai‘i’s resources for future generations,” stated Laura H. Thielen, Land Board Chairperson.

The Legacy Land Conservation Commission – a nine-member commission composed of cultural, agricultural and natural resource experts and representatives from each county – advised the BLNR on this year’s project selections.

“The Commission strove to choose the best projects under the priorities of the statute, and we are very happy with the results,” stated Commission Chair Dale Bonar.

The following are summaries of the approved projects:

Wai‘anae Community Re-development Corporation (MA‘O Organic Farms): \$737,300 for the acquisition of 11 acres, in Lualualei Valley, O‘ahu, for the protection of its agricultural values.

County of Hawai‘i: \$1,500,000 for the acquisition of 550.871 acres in Kawa, District of Ka‘u, Hawai‘i Island, for the preservation of watershed, coastal, habitat, cultural, recreational, and open space values.

Kaua‘i Public Land Trust: \$700,000 for the acquisition of 20.532 acres fronting Kahili Beach, North Shore, Kaua‘i, for the protection of its watershed, coastal, and habitat values.

Maui Coastal Land Trust: \$994,724 for the acquisition of 128 acres in Nu‘u Makai, southeast shore, Maui, for the protection of coastal, wetland, habitat, historical, and cultural values.

Ke `Aupuni Lokahi, Inc. (Moloka`i Enterprise Community): \$767,976 for the acquisition of 196.4 acres to be held by Moloka`i Land Trust, in Kawaikapu, Mana`e, Moloka`i, for the protection of watershed, cultural, and scenic values.

LLCP projects are also subject to a consultation process with the Senate President and Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the approval of the Governor. Grant funding for projects that protect lands having value as a resource to the state is available through the Legacy Land Conservation Program on an annual basis.

For more information on the Legacy Land Conservation Program please visit <http://hawaii.gov/dlnr/dofaw/llcp> or call (808) 586-0921.

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