DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Media Advisory

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR

LAURA H. THIELEN, CHAIRPERSON

For immediate release: February 11, 2010

45 RECOVERY YOUTH CONSERVATION CORPS MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN A DAY OF SERVICE TO RESTORE MAUI'S KANAHA POND

WHEN: Monday, February 15 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

WHAT: News media are invited to photograph, interview 45 RYCC AmeriCorps members during a day of community service restoring Kanaha Pond.

WHERE: Meet at the back entrance of Kanaha Pond on Amala Place, across the street from Kanaha Kite Beach Park. Anyone arriving after 9:30 a.m. should contact Michelle Jones for access instructions

WHO: DLNR Division of Forestry and Wildlife staff and 45 Recovery Youth Conservation Corps (RYCC) members. Throughout the day, RYCC members will remove invasive plants, plant native plants, and remove a fence at the site to improve accessibility for future restoration efforts.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), Division of Forestry and Wildlife was awarded funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to engage 45 youth in protecting and preserving Hawaiʻi's natural and cultural resources as members of the Recovery Youth Conservation Corps. The Corporation for National and Community Service awarded the competitive funding to DLNR.

Kanaha Pond is a 234-acre wetland adjacent to industrial buildings, commercial centers, and the airport in Kahului. Kanaha pond is home to three endangered Hawaiian birds: the Hawaiian coot (ʻalae keʻokeʻo), Hawaiian stilt (aeʻo), and Hawaiian duck (koloa). Over 80 species of migratory shorebirds, waterbirds, and ducks frequent the pond. Native plants including makaloa and kaluha, species favored by Hawaiians for matmaking, are also found at Kanaha.

For more information news media may contact:
Michelle Gorham Jones World Wetlands Day Coordinator
DLNR-DOFAW Phone: 587-4188 (work), 265-3276 (cell)