

## Maunawili Forest & Lo'i

On the windward side of Oʻahu in Maunawili Valley are more than 1,084 acres of what was once a thriving "breadbasket" for the island. Maunawili Forest & Loʻi support critical waterways, dozens of cultural and historic sites, and fertile agricultural and conservation lands. But this abundant ecosystem is privately owned and in danger of being sub-divided for development. TPL has partnered with over 10 community groups in Kailua – collectively united as Hui Maunawili-Kawainui – and the State of Hawaiʻi to safeguard these vital lands and return them to community-based stewardship for biocultural restoration and sustainable agriculture.

#### **Protecting Historic Lands**

Maunawili Valley, in the Kailua ahupua'a, has long been celebrated in Hawaiian mo'olelo for its association with akua, ali'i, and cultural heroes. The area was one of the favorite homes of the great chief Kākuhihewa, and was the birthplace of chief Kuali'i, who ruled O'ahu in the 1700s.

This cultural landscape is home to many precontact archaeological sites: Kukapoki Heiau, agricultural terraces, 'auwai, habitation sites, burials, alanui, and petroglyphs. This 'āina supported large populations of Hawaiians because of the abundance of water, Kawainui Fishpond nearby, and its renowned fertile soils. Maunawili Forest & Lo'i was once home to a beautiful estate known as "Queen's Retreat," where Queen Lili'uokalani took respite. Inspired by these productive kalo (taro) fields and streams, Lili'uokalani wrote the song "Aloha 'Oe."

#### Wai = Water, Waiwai = Wealth

Vast freshwater networks of wetlands, seven streams, and over fifty springs in Maunawili Valley provide the majority of the water that flows makai into Kawainui. Kawainui was the second largest fishpond in Hawai'i, and is now an internationally recognized wetland of significance and the largest wetland in Hawai'i. Kawainui provides flood control and filters sediment protecting Kailua town and the Kailua Bay ecosystem. Preserving Maunawili Forest and Lo'i will ensure that waterways remain healthy for the benefit of the community and provide important habitat for endemic and endangered waterbirds.

## **Nurturing a Community**

In ancient times, the kalo grown in Maunawili was famed for its sweetness and specifically requested by the ali'i (chiefs). Maunawili was once a vital food producing region for the people of O'ahu thanks to abundant streams and over 160 acres of fertile Hanalei soil – the most productive growing soil in Hawai'i. The Kailua community's long held vision is to restore and revitalize these traditional agricultural lands so they can again feed the community, physically, mentally, and spiritually.

Once acquired, Trust for Public Land will transfer the Maunawili forest and Queen's Retreat lands to the State of Hawai'i Division of Forestry and Wildlife, which will manage the lands as a forest reserve in close partnership with local nonprofits who will steward and restore cultural and historic sites and lo'i kalo.



Trust for Public Land will transfer the agricultural and lo'i lands to community nonprofit ownership. Palawai will be transferred to Ho'okua'āina and Makali'i to Kauluakalana to transform these lands back to 'āina momona (fat, fertile land), perpetuate 'āina-based education, restore traditional lo'i kalo, dryland farming and agroforestry, and increase our island's food security. The City and County of Honolulu and Hawai'i Land Trust will co-hold a Conservation Easement over the land ensuring it is forever protected for these uses.

## **Conservation Funds Needed**

Trust for Public Land is managing the project, facilitating the conservation purchase, conducting due diligence, leading negotiations, and raising over \$30 million in public and private funding to buy the land, cover transaction costs, and support TPL's mission as well as the mission of our nonprofit partners. The fee acquisition funding strategy includes:

U.S. DoD REPI (confirmed)	\$1	1,200,000
C&C Honolulu Clean Water (confirmed)	\$	9,572,000
State of Hawai'i (confirmed)	\$	7,000,000
U.S. Forest Legacy (confirmed)	\$	4,950,000
State Legacy Land (confirmed)	\$	4,072,034

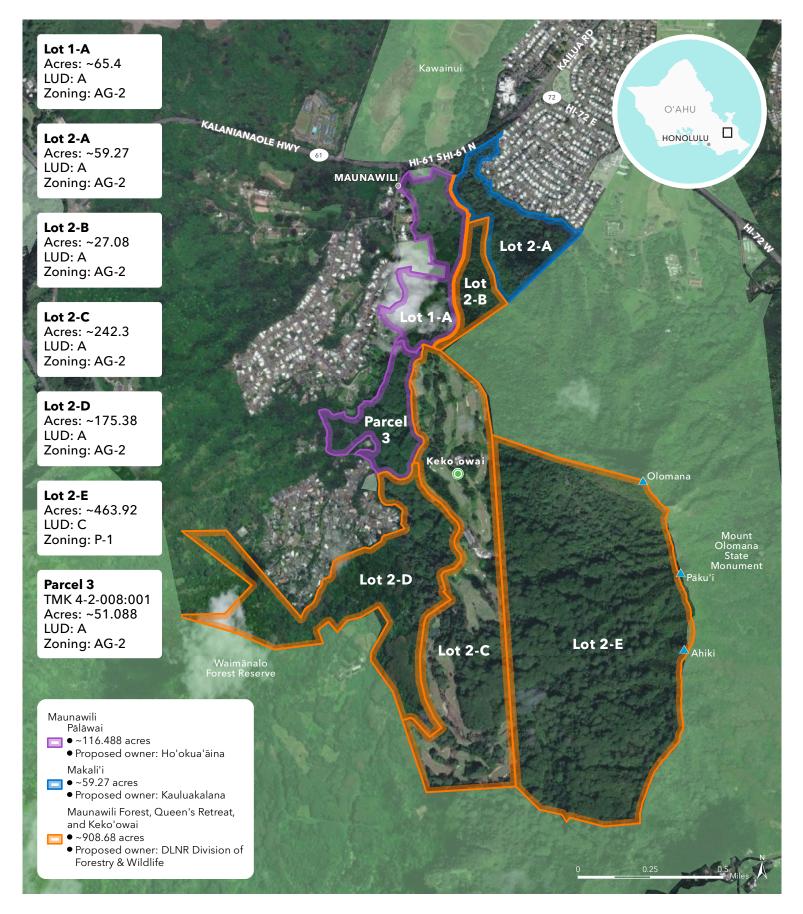


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#### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Reyna Ramolete Hayashi Aloha 'Āina Project Manager 808.470.2136 reyna.ramolete@tpl.org

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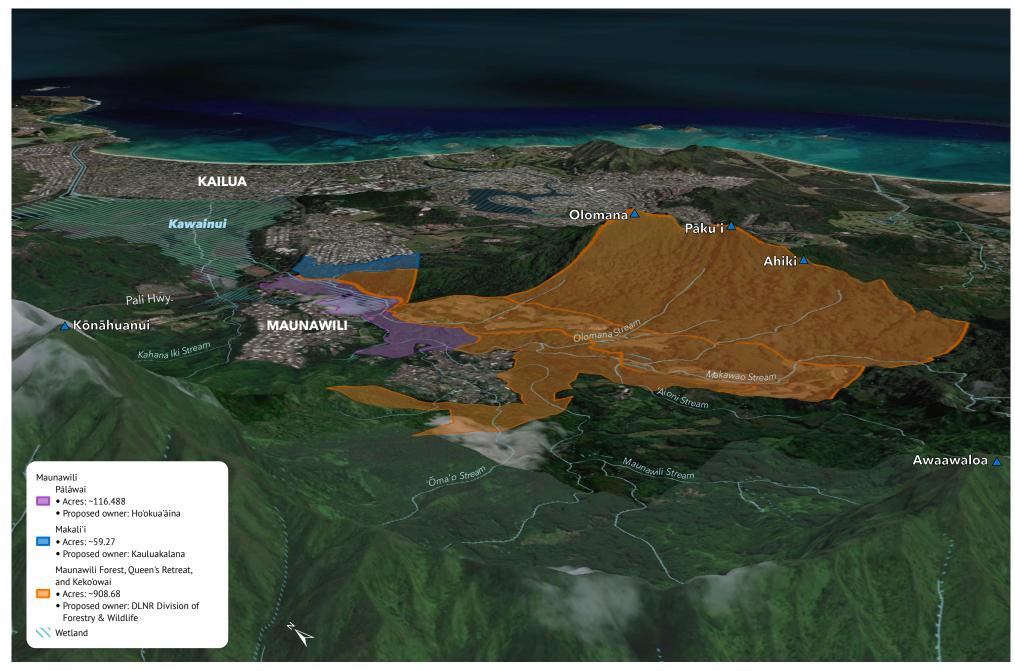


## Maunawili Forest & Lo'i proposed consolidation & subdivision

## KAILUA, KO'OLAUPOKO, O'AHU HAWAI'I

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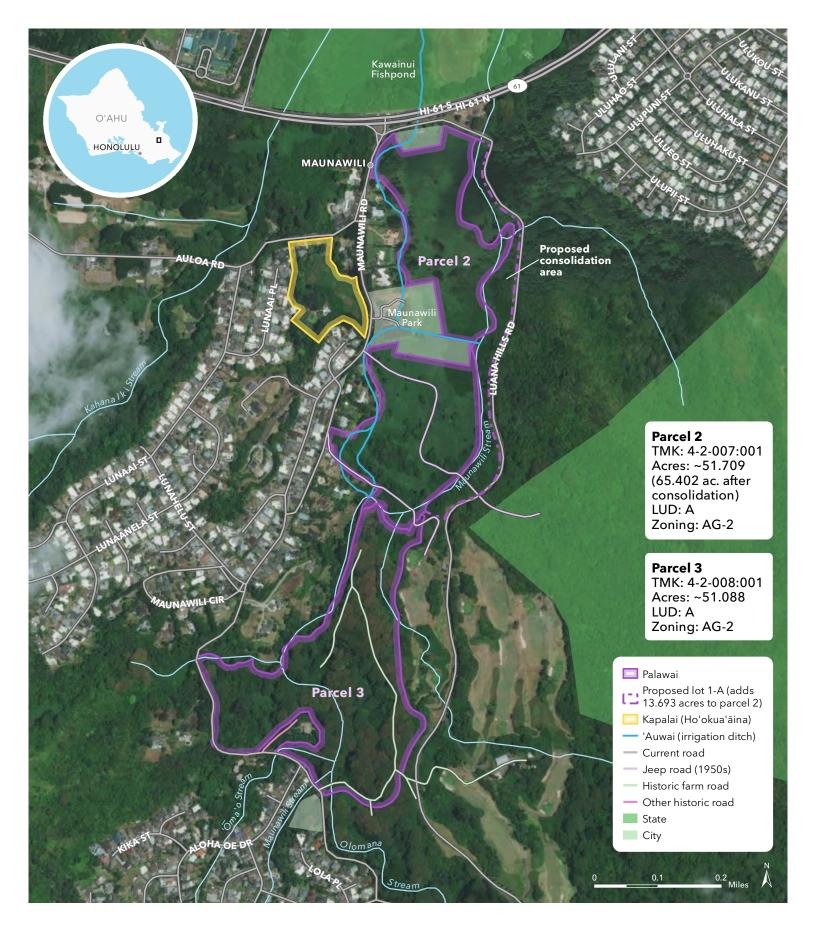




## Maunawili Forest & Lo'i proposed consolidation & subdivision KAILUA, KO'OLAUPOKO, O'AHU, HAWAI'I

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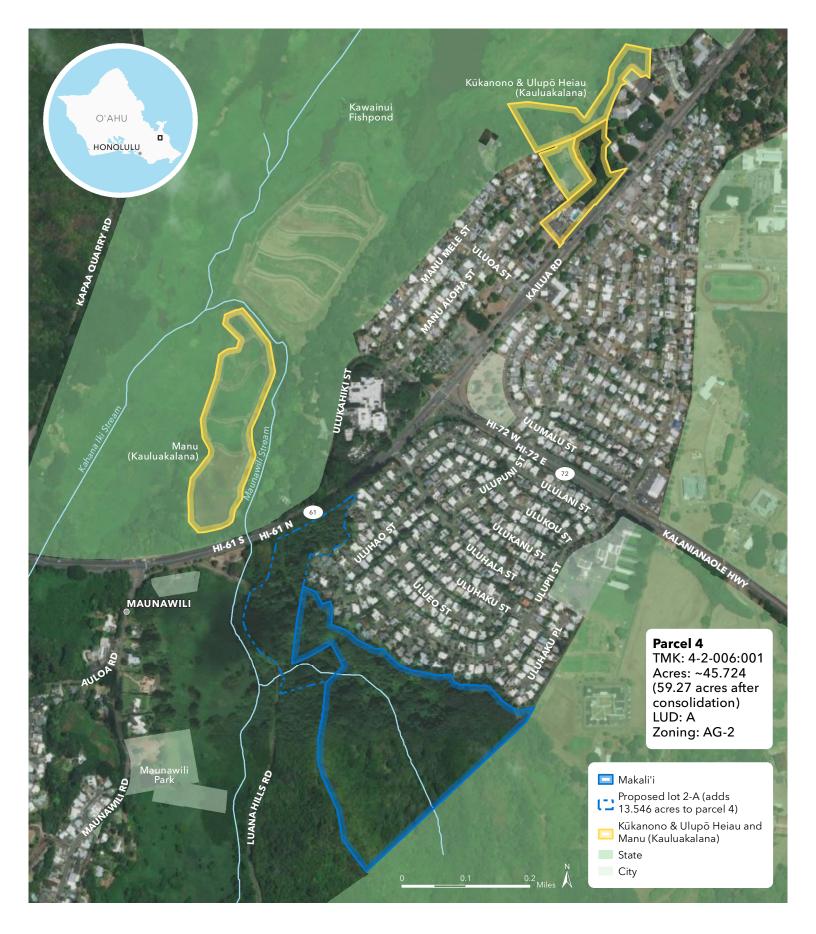


# Palawai, Kihuluhulu, & Kalaekoa

KAILUA, KU ULAUPUKU, U AITU HAWAIT



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## Makali'i Kailua, ko'olaupoko, o'ahu hawai'i



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