

## **Molokai & Lanai Local Working Group**

Local work groups are made up of people interested in agriculture and conservation, including farmers, ranchers, industry representatives, native Pacific Island organizations and members, government officials, and agency staff. According to the National Association of Conservation Districts, the local conservation district (the Molokai-Lanai Soil & Water Conservation District – MLSWCD) in this case, may provide leadership in convening and organizing the local work group or the local NRCS District Conservationist. The local work group is an important element of the locally led conservation way of doing business.

The locally led conservation effort is the foundation of the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) conservation program delivery process. The local work group supports the locally led conservation effort by coordinating USDA programs with other Federal, State, tribal, and local conservation programs to provide an integrated solution to addressing natural resource concerns.

**(Used for USDA conservation activities and programs)**

### **I. 2016 Molokai-Lanai Natural Resource Concerns**

- Fire (fuel load)
- Insufficient Water Supply (Quantity / Quality)
- Sediment & Erosion Control (Wind / Rain)
- Habitat Degradation (At-risk species & pollinators)
- Wind (damage to plants)
- Food Safety (deer / pollinators)
- Noxious Weeds (also invasives)

### **II. 2016 Noxious Weeds and Insects – All land uses**

#### **Plants ~**

- Lantana camara, *Verbenaceae*
- Glycine, *Glycine wightii*
- Spiny Amaranth, pigweed, *Amaranthus spinosus* L
- Kiawe, *Prosopis pallida*
- Grasses – Giant Guinea, Buffel, Bermuda
- Black Wattle, *Acacia mearnsii*
- Christmas Berry, *Schinus terebinthifolius*
- Formosa Koa, *Acacia confusa*
- Haole Koa, *Leucaena leucocephala*
- Silver Oak, *Grevillea robusta*
- Cat's Claw, *Macfadyena unguis-cati*

Fireweed, *Epilobium angustifolium*  
Klu, *Acacia farnesiana*  
Apple of Sodom, *Solanum linnaeanum*

**Insects** - Aphids, Mealy Bugs, Scales, Mites (bees), ants, cabbage looper, Thrips, Chinese Rose Beetle, Little Red fire ants, coconut beetle, fruit flies

**Birds** – Franklin, pheasants,

**Animals** - mongoose, coqui frog, cattle egret, deer wild goats, pigs, black buck

### III. 2016 At Risk Species

Bat, Hawaiian hoary Entire (*Lasiurus cinereus semotus*) ope 'ape' a  
Moth, Blackburn's sphinx (*Manduca blackburni*) (Wasp)  
Hawaiian yellow-faced bee (*Hylaeus kuakea*)  
Kamehameha Butterfly  
Tree snails  
Pueo (native)

### IV. Items of concerns

- Cost to implement conservation practices (higher cost from other islands – such as materials to be brought on-island, fuel cost for equipment)
  - Consistent program determinations (ex: fences (game proof, perimeter)
  - Food Safety issues (measures that farmers/ranchers required to implement)
  - Clarification of fuel break for cropland
  - Detection, quarantine and treatment of imports, especially plants but to include animals such as cattle
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- Due to more than sufficient rainfall in the last year, our vegetative fuels are in abundance and fire could be a concern
  - Game proof fencing installed on private large acres forcing deer into other areas impacting farmers
  - Consideration of supporting perimeter fencing to allow more opportunities to raise cattle for the high demand of beef products to boost the economic aspect as well as reducing the fuel loads
  - Lack of staff in NRCS field office

## Eligible Farm Bill Practices recommended for the following land uses

- 1) **Cropland – Conventional/Organic**– access road, pest management, nutrient management, conservation crop rotation, conservation cover, mulching, Conservation crop rotation, contour farming, contour orchard and other fruit, cover crop, critical area planting, deep tillage, diversion, filter strip, field border, firebreak, heavy use area protection, grassed waterway, windbreak/shelterbelt, irrigation regulating reservoir, micro irrigation, sprinkler irrigation, irrigation water conveyance, irrigation water management, pest management, pond, residue management seasonal , roof runoff structure, sediment basin, structure for water control, terrace, trees shrub establishment, tree shrub pruning, upland wildlife habitat, water harvesting catchment, water and sediment control basin, windbreak/shelterbelt renovation, alley cropping, composting facility, atmospheric resource quality management, restoration and management of declining species – **newer practice** – high tunnel system
- 2) **Forest** – forest stand improvement, tree shrub site prep, trees shrub establishment, brush management, herbaceous weed control, fuel break, firebreak – **game proof fence for native plantings**
- 3) **Pasture, Grazed Range, Native Naturalized Pasture** – brush management, pest management, fence, access control, upland wildlife habitat, fuel break, firebreak, restoration and management of declining species, pasture and hay-land planting, prescribed grazing, tree shrub establishment, watering facility, livestock pipeline, tree shrub site preparation, tree shrub establishment,
- 4) **Animal Waste & Management Practices** – AFO, CAFO compliance; waste treatment, waste transfer, waste storage facility, waste facility cover, nutrient management, waste utilization, waste treatment lagoon, composting facility, grassed waterway, diversion