

O`AHU RC&D COUNCIL

2009 ANNUAL PLAN OF WORK



Council Chairperson

3/4/09

Date



Director, Pacific Island Area

4/15/09

Date

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***MISSION: Helping the land help people
through partnerships and projects.***

***VISION: A healthy and vibrant Island built
around strong communities.***

2009 ANNUAL PLAN OF WORK

ELEMENT Watershed Conservation	GOAL 1	Enhance, improve, and manage water quality and quantities in watersheds throughout O`ahu, by leading or assisting on five watershed projects in the next 5 years.			
	OBJECTIVE 1A	<p>Start the \$1 million dollar Waimanalo watershed project.</p> <p>Partners: Facilitate technical and financial resources with NRCS, HACD, KBAC, Entrix, Army Corps of Engineers 1135 program, HI-Dept of Health Environmental Planning Office (TMDL - Total Maximum Daily Load studies), Hawaii Agribusiness Development Corp. (irrigation studies), and possibly Kamehameha Schools, farmers and ranchers, SWCDs, NRCS, DOH, KBAC, community groups, DLNR, Army Corps of Engineers, AG groups, City and County, Military, others Feds, consulting firms. See partners for potential projects in Kunia and North Shore</p>	Target Date	Accomplishments	
	STRATEGIES	1A.1	Hire a watershed project leader	1-26-09	Completed.
		1A.2	Through outreach, work with partners, ranchers and farmers (see Partners).	Ongoing	
		1A.3	O`ahu/SWCD conservation staff will work with NRCS and HACD conservation staff to identify pollutant sources and determine conservation practices needed to restore watershed health using Hawaii Department of Health and NRCS financial and technical assistance	December	
	OBJECTIVE 1B	Significantly assist partners in developing other watershed projects.		Target Date	Accomplishments
	STRATEGIES	1B.1	Work with current and new partners on their projects and proposals.	Ongoing	
		1B.2	Develop a proposal for a 2 nd watershed project in 2010.	December	

ELEMENT Community & Agricultural Development	GOAL 2	Increase the business, technical, and production capacity of agribusinesses on O`ahu.			
	OBJECTIVE 2A	<p>Increase the local food production on O`ahu by providing 10 -15 local agribusinesses with support.</p> <p>Partners: USDA-RD Agribusiness Training Guidebook; Hawaii Farm Bureau Pest Management USDA outreach grant programs; Kunia Agriculture/Business Project 120k City for three years 2010-2012 CRESS RETAH II</p>	Target Date	Accomplishments	
	STRATEGIES	2A.1	Provide 3 - 4 sub grants from the O`ahu Agricultural Development Program (OADP).	August	
		2A.2	Work to identify an additional \$100K of funding from DOA, C&C, HFB, HCF, agribusinesses and others, to provide an additional 2 - 4 subgrants per year for work with agri-businesses.	Ongoing	
		2A.3	Provide grant development and implementation assistance to 3 - 5 agribusinesses, including the Mililani Ag Park, Hawaii BioCrop and the Waialua Farmer's Coop.	Ongoing	
	OBJECTIVE 2B	<p>Increase the business and technical capacity of 150 - 250 local agribusinesses.</p> <p>Resources: MBA intern, (Kunia Village Project Manager), Coop Development Center Manager-could be 1 or 2 positions, NRCS RC&D Coordinator</p>		Target Date	Accomplishments
	STRATEGIES	2B.1	Create an Agribusiness Training Guidebook that consolidates available trainings for agribusinesses.	September	
		2B.2	Facilitate 3-5 agribusiness trainings for a total of 30 - 50 participants by partnering with the Agribusiness Incubator Program for training and materials, and with the Pacific Gateway for language translations.	Ongoing	

		2B.3	Partner with Crop Care Hawaii LLC, to provide integrated pest management training to 20 - 30 agribusinesses.	Ongoing	
		2B.4	Partner with UH Agribusiness Incubator Program and NRCS to create a Cost of Production and Market Analysis of vetiver for conservation plantings.	July	
	OBJECTIVE 2C	Increase the local communities' involvement in supporting locally grown food. Partners: Farmers and ranchers, USDA-FSA, NRCS , City and County, HARC, HFB, Ag Incubator, CREES, DOA, AG groups, community groups, State SBA equivalents, others Fed agencies, SWCDs, UH MBA Program, Northwest Cooperative Development Center, HTA, Hawaii Ag Tourism, Pacific Gateway.		Target Date	Accomplishments
	STRATEGIES	2C.1	Explore possibilities of an online portal for the OADP program, including examples that encourage community members to contribute funds to the program.	Ongoing	
		2C.2	Develop proposal for the creation or enhancement of one Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program on the island.	June	
		2C.3	Assist Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation in building capacity of local farmer's markets by identifying needed funding and technical resources.	September	
		2C.4	Explore partnerships with DOA, HFB, and HRDC in creating an advertising campaign to support local agriculture.	Ongoing	
		2C.5	Investigate working with DOA in providing displays and posters to the local markets (Safeway, Times, Whole Foods, etc.) to tell stories about local foods and the farms they came from.	Ongoing	
	OBJECTIVE 2D	Provide an incubator for agribusinesses by supporting the Kunia Agricultural Village.		Target Date	Accomplishments
	STRATEGIES	2D.1	Work with HARC and Ag Leadership Forum in identifying an IT specialist who will create a blueprint identifying the equipment needed for an Ag Teleconference/Computer training room.	May	
		2D.2	Identify funding through Rural Development, Hawaii Community Foundation, Hewlett Packard, and Dell to match \$40K that has already been obligated for an Ag	July	

			Teleconference/Computer training room.		
		2D.3	Facilitate HARC and the residents of the Kunia Agricultural Village to design and fund the creation of a community garden.	October	
		2D.4	Identify financial opportunities that provide direct support to Kunia Agricultural Village to provide a Project Manager for the Village.	November	
	OBJECTIVE 2E	Facilitate the creation of a model for Hawaii Ag Tourism.		Target Date	Accomplishments
	STRATEGIES		No work planned for 2009		
	OBJECTIVE 2F	Create a Cooperative Development Center to support 2-3 existing and/or new cooperatives.		Target Date	Accomplishments
	STRATEGIES	2F.1	Partner with Northwest Cooperative Development Center in supporting 2-3 coops on O`ahu.	October	

ELEMENT Land Management	GOAL 3	Protect four agricultural areas from being converted to other uses by using conservation easements			
	OBJECTIVE 3A	<p>Assist landowners with farmland conservation easements.</p> <p>Resources: Farmland Protection Program, Legacy Lands Act, City and County Land Protection Program, Department of Defense Sustainable Range Initiative, private landowners, community groups, general public support;</p> <p>Partners: farmers and ranchers, NRCS, LLCC, TPL ADC, DLNR, City and County, land owners, Military, OLT, NSCLT, LTA, community groups, AG groups, SWCDs, others Feds</p>	Target Date	Accomplishments	
	STRATEGIES	3A.1	Provide technical information to landowners and groups about conservation easements	December	
		3A.2	Educate stakeholders about the process	December	
		3A.3	Provide technical assistance to entities navigating the process	December	

ELEMENT Land Conservation	GOAL4	Through partnerships, work with 120 O`ahu farmers and ranchers to improve their use of conservation, in particular to protect soil, water, air, plant, and animal (SWAPA) resources and work with rural and urban households on water and energy conservation.		
	OBJECTIVE 4A	Continue to work with the farmers, ranchers and landowners (that currently number approximately 150) with their active conservation plans that are in various stages of implementation. Continue to work with these clients to help them meet their conservation needs by better using conservation technology. Note: This is part of a voluntary partnership that also includes the O`ahu SWCDs, NRCS, City and County of Honolulu, Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts, and various Hawaii State Departments. Resources: City & County 2009 \$50k, \$50 to \$80k thereafter SWCD-TSP \$40k per year five years; HACD and NRCS staff NRCS FA, EQIP (estimates based on 2008 Farm Bill & HI/O`ahu share) & CTA Watershed projects, staff, partners and grants	Target Date	Accomplishments
	STRATEGIES	4A.1 Employ two ORC&D/SWCD conservation planners and 1 part time Agriculture Engineer Tech to work with NRCS and HACD partners to keep active plans current for planning and implementation annually.	Ongoing	
		4A.2 Use financial assistance tools to help farmers meet their soil and water conservation goals. Work with SWCDs, NRCS and DOH to find farm appropriate funding sources for conservation practice implementation.	Ongoing	
		4A.3 Provide conservation practice implementation assistance to 30 farmers. Provide job sheets, designs and on-the ground guidance as needed. Use NRCS staff support when required for higher authority engineering designs.	Ongoing	
	OBJECTIVE 4B	Work with an average of 90 farms to improve farm stewardship. Some of these farms will be worked with more than once as their respective stewardship skills are increased. Partners: C&C of Honolulu, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Hawaii Agriculture Conservation Districts, NRCS-EQIP.	Target Date	Accomplishments

	STRATEGIES	4B.1	Employ a minimum of two ORCD/SWCD Conservation Planners and a PT Agricultural Engineer Tech to develop 30 new conservation plans or contracts; conduct follow-up visits (annual status reviews) on 30 active conservation plans and prepare plan revisions on an estimated 10 to 15 (as needed).	Ongoing	
		4B.2	Work with SWCDs, DOH and NRCS to match farmers to the appropriate financial assistance tools to achieve their conservation goals. Assist 10 to 15 farmers into NRCS Farm Bill financial contracts (EQIP, WHIP, WRP) and 2 farmers into DOH financial contracts (Waimanalo Watershed Project). Assist additional farmers into ORCD financial contracts as applicable (Ag Development Program).	Ongoing	
	OBJECTIVE 4C	Improve the awareness and use of high value, innovative conservation technologies to 150-200 participants, primarily farmers Partners: NRCS, Crop Care Hawaii, UH, HARC, HACD; NRCS-National Conservation Innovation Grant (CIG)- Cover Crop \$500,000 in 2009 and 2010, NRCS-PIA CIG projects and USDA-RD projects that have a conservation aspect, Waialua High School, Future Farmers of America.		Target Date	Accomplishments
	STRATEGIES	4C.1	Conduct or participate in 10 field days throughout Hawaii to demonstrate innovative conservation technologies	Ongoing	
		4C.2	Assist partners like NRCS, HFB, FSA, UH-Extension with their field days	Ongoing	
	OBJECTIVE 4D	Expand the use of USDA programs, especially to underserved groups such as immigrant farmers, limited resource farmers, socially disadvantaged farmers, beginning farmers/ranchers etc., through outreach events. Work with 80 new individuals by identifying opportunities for presentation of information and the technical assistance resources that are available. Partners: USDA-NRCS-PIA, USDA-FSA, and USDA-RD		Target Date	Accomplishments
	STRATEGIES	4D.1	Build capacity to meet the needs of underserved communities in conservation & or agriculture by continuing and creating outreach partnerships.	Ongoing	

		4D.2	Continue to work with 1st and 2nd generation immigrant farmers by developing and incorporating translations of materials (e.g. CIG, FSA, HFB), facilitate outreach efforts funded through USDA, DOA, HFB etc.	Ongoing	
	OBJECTIVE 4E		<p>Improve the ability of rural and urban households to obtain information on strategies and methods for water and energy conservation specific to their environment.</p> <p>Resources: RD Energy Audit program and grants and loans, NRCS PIA and partners</p> <p>Partners: RD Energy Audit program to improve farm energy efficiency and extend the technique to urban areas; Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, SWCDs and other agricultural groups; City and County, NRCS, Hawaii Departments of Health, Department of Agriculture, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Department of Forestry, DBEDT Energy Director.</p>	Target Date	Accomplishments
	STRATEGIES	4E.1	Customize web site with information and links to other energy partners on water and energy conservation, such as the Hawaiian Energy Company O`ahu (HECO) and resource groups such as the Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS).	July	
		4E.2	Explore funding opportunities that support projects for water and energy conservation.	Ongoing	
		4E.3	Develop partnerships with HECO, BWS, NRCS, HFB, CCH and others to secure funding and develop joint advertising campaigns.	December	