

KA 'ŌIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ŌIWI

KE KALANA O MAUI



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DIGITAL VERSION STRATEGIC PLAN

QR Code for the full version online of the final Department of 'Ōiwi Resources Strategic Plan soon to be linked to our 'Ōiwi Homepage on Maui County website.

**'ŌIHANA
KUMUWAIWAI 'ŌIWI**

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KA 'ŌLELO MUA PAPA HO'OLĀLĀ MANA'O 'ELIMA MAKAHIKI, 2025-2030

'O ia ke kahua e kū ai ka 'Oihana. Ke ala ia e pono ai ke kanaka a me ka 'āina o ke Kalana.

5 YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-2030

This strategic plan serves as that kahua or foundation – the stones upon which the Department itself will stand. Moving forward, this approach will empower Maui County to make informed decisions that protect and perpetuate its Indigenous resources, enhancing community well-being, cultural vitality, and environmental sustainability for the benefit of all residents.





DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

‘ŌIHANA KUMUWAIWAI ‘ŌIWI

The Department of ‘Ōiwi Resources was established to provide cultural stewardship, guidance, and advocacy for Maui County’s Indigenous resources. These resources include iwi, land, water, cultural practices, language, and the ancestral wisdom that connects Native Hawaiians to their land.

‘ŌIWI DEFINITION

‘Ōiwi resources encompass all elements of the universe observed, remembered, and cared for. From the lofty layers of the heavens, to the verdant lands and the depths of the ocean. Embodying the physical, spiritual and genealogical ties that sustain and define kanaka.



FRAMEWORK

The ocean does not divide us, it connects us.

Kanaka Maoli ancestors for generations have relied upon the ocean as a source of food, have navigated the seas building communities and relationships. So, too, do the oceans of Maui Nui connect our islands and our spirits.

With this in mind, the Department's framework includes core elements that guide our processes in ways that uplift Maui Nui as a whole and as unique communities.

MISSION

To uphold and advance the rights, responsibilities, and stewardship of 'ōiwi resources, ensuring their protection, sustainability, and integration into governance and community practices for the benefit of present and future generations.

The mission of the Department of 'Ōiwi Resources is to protect the cultural resources of Maui Nui, in order to **reinforce community connectivity with Hawaiian knowledge.**

Ho'oniho 'ia mai ke ala no ka pono o ke kumuwaiwai 'ōiwi, i mau ai ka pilina ma waena o ko Hawai'i a me ka 'ike kupuna.

DEPARTMENTAL DIVISIONS



ADMINISTRATION

The people who carry out the work of this department are not merely individuals—they are vessels of ancestral wisdom, guided by the traditional knowledge that continues to shape and uplift the work that is to be done by this department.

KĪPUKA

Safeguard and steward lands of concentrated natural and cultural importance to ensure enduring access to healthy natural resources and spaces where our community may thrive.



KUMUWAIOLA

Champion and preserve the life-giving, life-sustaining elements of the natural world by defending and amplifying the conditions essential to thriving eco-cultural landscapes and vital cultural resources.



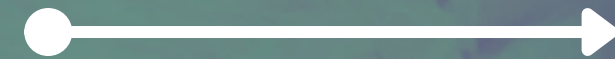
PAI KA LEO

To empower and uplift native Hawaiian voices and reinvigorate the use of Hawaiian language in government and in our larger community in sincerity and fidelity to both official languages of Hawai'i – English and 'Ōlelo Hawai'i.



GOALS & OBJECTIVES

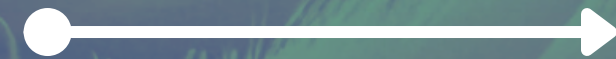
GOAL 1: LOINA HAWAI'I



PROTOCOLS FOR CULTURAL STEWARDSHIP

Reestablish 'ōiwi perspective and narrative in governance processes and 'ōiwi resource stewardship

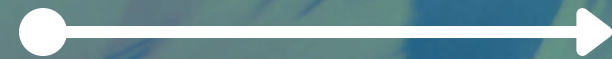
GOAL 2: KŪKALA KAIĀULU



REGULAR COMMUNITY TOUCHPOINTS

Create systems of communication between the community and the Department

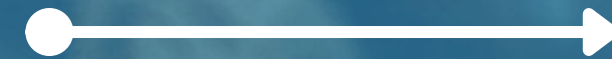
GOAL 3: HE 'UMEKE KĀ'EO



EDUCATION & COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

Reconnect Maui Nui residents, visitors, and community stakeholders to cultural practices, language and values by providing opportunities to learn with and from cultural practitioners and experts

GOAL 4: KAHE WAI OLA



GRANT & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Create grant and funding opportunities and strategic partnerships with the purpose of preserving and stewarding the 'ōiwi resources of Maui County

GOAL 5: HE ALI'I KA 'ĀINA



'ĀINA SERVANTSHIP

Establish processes for natural resource advocacy, responsible land servanthship and resource restoration

GOAL 1: LOINA HAWAI'I

PROTOCOLS FOR CULTURAL STEWARDSHIP

Reestablish 'ōiwi
perspective and narrative in
governance processes and
'ōiwi resource stewardship

- Support bilingual government initiatives in Maui County
- Provide county departments with cultural sensitivity training with specific focus on the treatment of ancestral burial sites, remains, and conduct in sacred spaces
- Support archaeological and cultural consultation to all county departments and divisions
- Strengthen pilina between county and ancestral burial sites (establish appropriate protocol for access, develop a repository to house and preserve artifacts from culturally sensitive areas and ensure appropriate and respectful care use, and access of cultural materials and artifacts)
- Uplift appropriate use of place names
- Prioritize indigenous perspective and native Hawaiian worldview across Maui Nui
- Blessings and Pule as foundational practices
- Empower cultural leaders across Maui Nui to execute cultural protocol as appropriate

GOAL 2: KŪKALA KAIĀULU

REGULAR COMMUNITY TOUCHPOINTS

Create systems of
communication between the
community and the
Department

- Newsletter and Website Updates to provide transparency on initiatives
- Social Media to strengthen online engagement
- Community Engagement through workshops and community forums/meetings
- Public Intake Forms to streamline feedback, reporting process, and request for services
- Native Hawaiian Resources and 'Āina Organization networking and centralizing directories for cultural stewardship

Goal 3: HE 'UMEKE KA'EO

EDUCATION & COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT

Reconnect Maui Nui residents, visitors, and community stakeholders to cultural practices, language and values by providing opportunities to learn with and from cultural practitioners and experts

- Hālau of 'Ōiwi Arts will provide a space dedicated to cultural learning from community practitioners
- Educational Events and Workshops that align with important dates, events, and programs to the lāhui both in-person and online in collaboration with other Maui educational institutions
- Arts, Culture, and 'Ōiwi Resources Stewardship conferences - to create more opportunities for training and sharing of ancestral wisdom and to support the loea (knowledge bearers) of our community
- Expanding 'Ōlelo Hawai'i opportunities countywide
- Establishing and uplifting a multidisciplinary workforce and career pathways in various industries through an 'Ōiwi lens
- Train and certify cultural-archaeological professionals
- Develop social service programs rooted in 'Ōiwi healing practices

GOAL 4: KAHE WAI OLA

GRANT & FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Create grant and funding opportunities and strategic partnerships with the purpose of preserving and stewarding the 'ōiwi resources of Maui County

- Become a funding hub to infuse and distribute monies into the community that align with 'Ōiwi initiatives
- Identify and solicit funding on behalf of our 'Ōiwi serving community organizations
- Develop strategic partnerships and collaborative opportunities across Maui Nui, to include both federal, state, private, and non-profit stakeholders
- Seek additional financial resource avenues to support initiatives that align with 'Ōiwi Resources mission and objectives
- Seek and provide assistance and subsidy for displaced Native Hawaiian families

GOAL 5: HE ALI'I KA 'ĀINA

'ĀINA SERVANTSHIP

Establish processes for
natural resource advocacy,
responsible land servanthship
and resource restoration

- Wahi Pana Legislation - To work with the Mayor, administrators, county department heads, and legislators of the council to establish a process for zoning county-owned lands as WAHI PANA (protected spaces with specific protocols for access)
- Guiding responsible usage for WAHI PANA zoned lands and their caretakers
- Establish protective legislation for culturally sensitive lands, properties, artifacts, and other culturally-sensitive materials of public and private lands
- Support 'āina organizations and responsible 'āina servanthship practices across Maui Nui
- Advocate for legislation to protect indigenous intellectual rights
- Sacred Source Advocacy to support legislation to recognize the elements of our natural environment as sacred sources worthy rights of nature protections.

CONCLUSION

The County of Maui now bears the important responsibility of having established the Department of ‘Ōiwi Resources, the first of its kind across the archipelago of Hawai‘i. In the spirit of this kuleana, the Department undertakes these first steps of setting forth its steadfast foundation so that future generations might build hale upon it. Found within those hale will be the processes, knowledge bases and value systems that empower responsible stewardship of ‘ōiwi resources.





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