

## Lāna'i Culture & Heritage Center Lāna'i Community Stewardship Program Kuahiwi a Kai Hunting Data July 1, 2021 to March 31, 2025

## Lāna'i Community Stewardship Program Highlights

Total months running: 46

Total number of ungulates removed: 3434 (as of March 31, 2025)

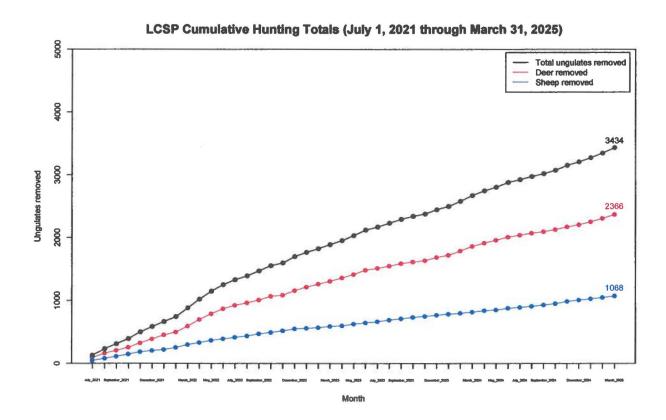
Total number of axis deer removed: 2366

Total number of mouflon sheep removed: 1068

Total number of resident hunters registered for 2024-2025 hunting season: 100+

Total number of resident hunters registered during program: 120+

Total number of volunteer events during program: 18+



## LANAI COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION P.O. BOX 630735 LANAI CITY, HI 96763

Good Evening Budget Chair Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, and all Council members:

I want to thank you for coming to Lana'i to hear and consider our community needs. Unfortunately, I am unable to attend the meeting this evening.

My name is Linda Kay Okamoto and I am the current president of the Lanai Community Association and I am speaking on their behalf. As many of you may already know, our Lanai Community Association, also known as the LCA, has served our community for many years. The association began in the 1940s to serve the entire community but especially the youth and the elderly. The association is non-political; however, we do have to go to other organizations such as the county to receive funding for our community.

The LCA currently has 3 major activities: The Pineapple Festival, the Christmas Tree Lighting Festival and most recently the Saturday morning market. In addition to the 3 main activities, we have a scholarship program and support other activities in the community. The organization has been run by an all volunteer Board of Directors and Officers. As our activities have grown, we have now hired a part time administrator to keep everything moving.

Tonight I am focusing on the Pineapple Festival, as it continues to be our most popular event, not only for Lanaians, but for Maui residents and visitors, also. We are asking for a continuing grant of \$52,000.00 for the coming year to support the festival. The festival is growing and also making some changes. This year we will have a complete area for children including Inflatable Jumper/Bounce Houses and a petting zoo. Our largest change will be the fireworks. We are having to pass on the fireworks show, which has always been one of the highlights of the event, because of the growth of our residential area and out of caution for fires. We will be changing to a drone light show, substantially more expensive.

For those who aren't that familiar with our Pineapple Festival, besides a fun and educational experience for our community and visitors, we give an opportunity for members of our community to receive an economic benefit. We have about 50 vendors, some just for educational purposes, but many are raising funds for their nonprofit group or for their own family.

We currently have a grant to continue our Saturday Market and Christmas Festival also. Both activities contribute to the economic stability of our community members.

I also would like to comment on the process of grants. For small non-profits writing a grant and doing all of the paperwork of quarterly reports year after year can be overwhelming. For ongoing activities, quarterly reports are ok, but for special events, they can be very time consuming. I understand the need for accountability, but would like to see the process simplified wherever possible.

Thank you for your time tonight and throughout the years.

Linda Kay Okamoto, President

Lh Kay Obennoto

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