

**2023 Hawai‘i Conservation Conference – 30th Anniversary
Call for Abstracts**

Aia i hi‘ikua, i hi‘ialo - Reflecting on our Past; Dreaming on our Future

June 27th-June 29th, 2023

Timeline

Official Release: December 1st, 2022

Begin Accepting Abstract Submissions: December 8th, 2022

Session & Abstract Proposal Deadline: February 24th, 2023

Accepted Abstract Notice: April 17th, 2023

Revision Deadline: May 17th, 2023

Deadline for Presenters to Register: June 5th, 2023

The 30th annual Hawai‘i Conservation Conference will be held in person in June of 2023 hosted by the Hawai‘i Conservation Alliance (Alliance). This conference will share cutting-edge science research from the field as well as innovative tools and approaches for addressing critical island conservation issues with a special focus on research and management presentations that affect the natural resources upon which Hawai‘i depends. We welcome presentations on work done within the Hawaiian archipelago across all ecosystems, directly for Hawaiian biocultural resources and recognize that Hawai‘i depends, in part, on global knowledge that can be applied locally. The Conference is intended to support and strengthen exchange and relationships between managers, researchers, environmental educators, community members, cultural practitioners, scientists, and policy makers working collaboratively for improved conservation outcomes. To better reflect the goals of the Conference, the Alliance has updated our abstract evaluation criteria and there are now two evaluation categories for conservation research and conservation management presentations. Please review these criteria carefully and be prepared to select the category that best fits your work.

Call to Action: We ask all authors to challenge themselves to see how their work fits in and enhances conservation in Hawai‘i through the tracks listed below.

We are accepting oral presentations, symposium, and forum delivered in English and in ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i (Hawaiian Language). During the submission process, please indicate ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i or other bilingual session requests by checking the box labeled “‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i (Hawaiian Language) or other bilingual sessions” in the abstract submission form.

CONFERENCE THEME

Aia i hi'ikua, i hi'ialo - Reflecting on our Past; Dreaming on our Future

This 'ōlelo no'eau speaks of a return into the presence of loved ones after being separated, as well as the idea of the devotion we carry to the living resources of our islands. As we celebrate our 30th anniversary of the Hawai'i Conservation Conference, we return to an in-person gathering to reflect on our past and dream of our future together.

Aia i hi'ikua, i hi'ialo translates to carried on the back; carried in the front. Hi'ialo is looking to the past- things that are revealed to us already, hi'ikua is looking to the future.

Mary Kawena Puku'i provides the following interpretation: "When one has gone to a far place where he cannot be seen by loved ones, he is said to be in Hi'ikua; and when one is where he can be seen daily, he is said to be in Hi'ialo... said of a favorite child, who is carried in the arms or on the back. Also said of the 'aumākua."

CONFERENCE TRACKS

1. Managing Conservation Reliant Species and Habitats into the Future

Hawai'i is an epicenter of species imperilment, where conservation-reliant species are facing various threats that cannot be eliminated, but only managed and continuing species-specific management efforts may be needed for a very long time. This track invites proposals that reflect on past lessons learned and application to future management of these critical species into the future:

- Addressing extinction threat and low likelihood of "recovery" for listed species
- Loss of native species
- Large scale and permanent impacts of climate change
- Native species translocations
- Showcasing bright spots in management of these species and areas

2. Understanding and Addressing Longstanding Problems and Needs

Hawai'i faces many long-standing conservation issues from the past that are extremely difficult to reverse. We invite proposals that explore research, tools, and stewardship approaches that

highlight the evolution of understanding and addressing these needs that may include, but are not limited to:

- Urgent needs and opportunities in terrestrial, aquatic, and marine biosecurity
- Species resilience and preserving in the conservation community
- Implementing large-scale projects to address global and local threats
- Addressing established invasive species: management, eradication, adaptation
- Competition for limited resources, especially in times of increasing need
- Innovative policy solutions
- Techniques to better manage urban and high trafficked ecosystems

3. Opportunities for Conservation Collaboration Across Sectors

Recognizing the need to build and maintain meaningful partnerships and foster new innovative collaborations to address our conservation needs of the future, this track encourages presentations that foster communication and exchange within the conservation community across various sectors, which include, but are not limited to:

- Building and sustaining partnerships in conservation
- Working across boundaries, interdisciplinary, cross-sector collaborations and approaches
- Diversified funding strategies and innovative sustainable financing mechanisms
- Growing an inclusive culture of conservation across sectors
- Connecting action to policy

4. Advancement in Conservation Research and Management

This track will explore the latest in emerging research, innovative conservation management techniques and application of results, and studies that demonstrate development of novel technology of application of the technology to address conservation issues. Topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Tackling challenging emerging issues such as species translocation and assisted colonization, genetic modification, permanent phase shifts etc
- Improvements in propagation techniques
- New findings in phylogenetics and taxonomic groupings
- Conservation genetics applications and innovations
- Cutting edge surveillance and monitoring technologies

5. Growing the Workforce of the Future through Education and Capacity Building

Engaging youth and emerging professional and providing them with the training and tools needed to become the future conservation leaders in the field is a priority. With a growing interest in conservation of natural resources this track will explore innovative conservation capacity building and educational programs that advance the conservation workforce of the future.

- Building and illuminating conservation career pathways
- Knowledge exchange across generations for familial and institutional succession planning
- Innovative capacity, education, training programs

6. Collaborative Community-Based and Culturally Grounded Management

Conservation work in Hawai‘i benefits from values derived from many worldviews and cultural connections to the places we work. As such there is also a wealth of knowledge tied to the history and people of these places upon which to draw from to increase our conservation success. This track will focus on both the foundations of community based and culturally integrated conservation, as well as examples innovations. Session proposals may include, but are not limited to

- Community co-management of biocultural resources
- Rebuilding and growing biocultural foundations in conservation
- Indigenous languages in conservation practice
- Cultural values and practice in contemporary resource management
- Indigenous approaches to science and resource stewardship