

Perspectives of the Forest Panel — Tuesday, August 2, 11:30 am – 1 pm, Ballroom A Moderator: Beth-Ann Kozlovich, Hawai'i Public Radio

Bring your lunch and join us for this panel discussion with a diverse group of forest users representing a constituency dependent on a healthy forest for cultural traditions, water recreation, fishing, conservation research, forest management and commercial endeavors.

Rob Pacheco, Co-Founder & President, Hawai'i Forest & Trail, Ltd. and Kohala Zipline, LLC

After moving to Kona, Hawai'i in 1990, Rob immediately became enraptured with Hawai'i's unique and diverse nature. In 1993, with his wife Cindy, he founded *Hawai'i Forest & Trail, Ltd.*, an award-winning eco-tour company on Hawai'i Island. An avid student of Hawaiian and natural history, Rob has gained a reputation as a well-rounded naturalist, conservationist, and successful entrepreneur. He and his company have been featured in numerous national print and television media. Rob's training and education includes completing the Naturalist Training Program in Boulder, Colorado and studies at the California State University at Chico and the University of Colorado at Boulder. He is the current Hawai'i Island member of the State Board of Land and Natural Resources and a board member of the Big Island Visitors Bureau.



Hi'ilei Kawelo, Executive Director, Paepae o He'eia

Hi'ilei Kawelo is a native of Kahalu'u, O'ahu that has served her community and 'āina through Paepae o He'eia, the non-profit that cares for He'eia Fishpond for 10 years, as an educator, facilities manager, research coordinator, and in the past 4 years as its Executive Director. Raised in Kahalu'u in a fishing family, she has been a student to the art and science of lawai'a, and Kane'ohē Bay her entire life. She is a 1995 graduate of Punahou School, and received a Bachelors of Arts degree in Zoology from the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. She currently serves as the Chair on the Kane'ohē Bay Regional Council and other boards such as Mana Maoli, Papahana Kuaola and Hui Ulu Mea 'Ai.



Kapua Kawelo, Biologist, O'ahu Army Natural Resource Program

Kapua grew up on the windward side of O'ahu, hiking and diving with her family and friends. These experiences fostered her love of Hawai'i's natural resources. Kapua graduated from the University of California at Davis with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Botany. She has worked for the Army's Natural Resource Program on O'ahu since 1995. When Kapua began working with the Natural Resource Program, she was one of only 4 staff, currently there are 50+ staff. This program works in the Waianae and Ko'olau Mountains managing many endangered native Hawaiian plants and animals and the native forests upon which they depend.



Paul Conry, Administrator and Hawai'i State Forester, Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW)

Paul Conry has been with the DLNR Division of Forestry and Wildlife for 21 years, and has served as the Administrator for the past 7 years. Prior to taking the Administrator position, he developed a fondness for the Pacific and tropical resource protection during his four year service with the Peace Corps working as a Research Biologist on the endangered Malaysian gaur for the Malaysian



Department of Wildlife and National Parks. After the Peace Corps, he moved to Guam and worked for the Division of Aquatic and Wildlife Resources. His efforts took him to Hawai'i where he has dedicated his professional and personal life to protecting the precious resources native to our islands. He worked as the Endangered Species Biologist and a Wildlife Program Manager with DOFAW. Paul enjoys hiking, nature viewing and hunting, and one of his personal goals is to work for and see the restoration of koa forests on all main Hawaiian Islands.

Duane DeSoto, Professional Waterman & Founder, President, Na Kama Kai

Duane DeSoto is a kama'aina of Makaha. He was raised in the Kaiakea and thereby developed a passion for the ocean. Duane is the reigning World Longboard Champion and has spent the last 17 years traveling the world as a Professional Surfer. The climax of Duane's career however is not the World Championship or the around the world adventures, it is his development of his foundation, Na Kama Kai. Duane is the CEO and founder of a non-profit that engages youth from ages 2-18 in meaningful cultural and environmental education in the ocean. Since its inception in 2007 Na Kama Kai has serviced local, national and international audiences all through the medium of ocean epistemologies.



Michael Buck, Sustainable Forests Representative, National Association of State Foresters

Mike Buck retired from the DLNR Division of Forestry and Wildlife in 2003 after 28 years. He served as the Hawai'i State Forester and Wildlife Director at DLNR from 1991-2003. Before this position, he moved to Hawai'i and started his career in natural resource protection and management as a resource survey Forester with the Hawai'i Division of Forestry and Wildlife in 1976. He served in this position until 1987 when he transitioned to the Natural Areas Reserves Coordinator and, shortly thereafter as the Resource Management Forester. He is committed to furthering forestry in Hawai'i both personally and professionally and has served on numerous boards and committees including the National Invasive Species Advisory Committee; National Association of State Foresters Foundation; Council of Western State Foresters; and the Society of American Foresters among others. Mike enjoys fishing, tennis, hiking, farming in Waimanalo, and the myriad of exceptional opportunities to interact with Hawai'i's natural resources.



Bill Tam, Deputy Director, Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) Commission on Water Resources Management

Prior to his appointment as Deputy Director (DLNR), William Tam was a private attorney with Alston Hunt Floyd & Ing for 13 years where he specialized in water and natural resources litigation. From 1982-97, he was a Deputy Attorney General for the State representing the Board of Land and Natural Resources and the Commission on Water Resources Management. He is one of the co-authors of the 1987 Hawai'i Water Code, represented the State in the Robinson v. Ariyoshi water rights litigation, advised the Commission through the Waiahole contested case hearing, and worked on conservation and ocean law issues. He taught Hawaiian land law at the UH Law School and from 1976-1982 was a legal services attorney in Waianae and on Kaua'i. He is a graduate of Wesleyan University (1970) and Boston University School of Law (1976). Bill grew up hiking and camping in the wilderness. For two years (1971-1973), he lived in the "bush" in West Africa as a Peace Corps volunteer.