Aloha mai kākou,

Since taking the reins as Mālama Loko Ea Foundation’s (MLEF) Executive Director last year, our efforts have been focused and organized around three clear themes.

- First, our priority has been to expand our educational programs and tap into our local schools, with a goal of connecting our haumāna to Loko Ea, as a learning laboratory.

- Second, we have taken up the responsibility of developing and implementing a restoration plan utilizing best fishpond practices. In early 2016, MLEF contracted renowned fishpond expert, Graydon “Buddy” Keala. A restoration plan was developed that reflects both the landowners and Mālama Loko Ea Foundation’s strategic goals. Ultimately our long term goal calls for harvesting fish to provide a sustainable food source to our community within the next few years.

- Finally, we have kuleana to expand our engagement with the community. Our vision is to engage our local keiki, ‘ohana and kāpuna to reconnect with this wahi pana.

As Mālama Loko Ea continues to grow its educational programs and operations, there is still much work to be done. In traditional times, it took the efforts of the entire community to maintain this sacred fishpond.

We invite the North Shore residents, businesses, University of Hawai‘i academic and scientific community to share in the hana and restoration of Loko Ea as a functioning aquaculture system.

I look forward to seeing you at our monthly lā hana every 3rd Saturday of the month, please feel free to contact me at rae@lokoea.org.

Rae DeCoito
Executive Director
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**History of Loko Ea**

The loko i’a fishpond traditionally named Loko Ea is a rare, cultural site nestled in the quaint town of Hale’iwa on the North Shore of O'ahu. It is located in the ahupua’a of Kawailoa, a traditional land division from mountain to sea and in the moku, land district, of Waialua. The area is traditionally known for its profusion of fresh water springs.

Famous was the moku of Waialua for its abundance and fertility, where mahi’ai farmers and kanaka lawai’a fishermen could sustain their families with bountiful harvests. Loko Ea is indeed an ancestral place of importance, a significant Wahi Pana to the people of Waialua. The site is associated with ancient deities, cultural practices and historical events. This fishpond once helped to sustain its community by providing aquatic food resources like native fish and seaweed. Now, centuries later, Loko Ea has unfortunately taken on an unprecedented amount of stress due to surrounding developments, mismanagement of resources and lack of continuous cultural practices.

Today, Loko Ea is on a path to restoration.

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**Our Mission**

Our mission is to perpetuate the Native Hawaiian culture through education, land stewardship, and community building, while sustainably restoring our precious natural resources.

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**Our Vision**

The vision of Mālama Loko Ea is to connect the present to the past.
In partnership with Leilehua High School, the Waiola Project, falls under the Kupuohi Education Program and is a project where students visit the pond monthly; record their observations on weather, fish behavior, water, and then perform basic water quality tests.

**KUPUOHI EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Our Kupuohi Education program strives to teach students, pre-k to post college, about sustainability, S.T.E.M., language arts, Hawaiian Culture, and land-stewardship with exciting hands-on, experiential activities. Our goal is to inspire students to learn about and care for their environment while developing their sense of place.

We work to accommodate all the groups who want to visit Loko Ea.

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**WAIOLOA PROJECT**

In partnership with Leilehua High School, the Waiola Project, falls under the Kupuohi Education Program and is a project where students visit the pond monthly; record their observations on weather, fish behavior, water; and then perform basic water quality tests.

**EACH YEAR OVER 2,000 STUDENTS VISIT LOKO EA!**

To request more information or if you would like to take your group on a fieldtrip to Loko Ea, please complete the online fieldtrip application or email info@lokoea.org for a PDF Application.
KULĀIWI NANI RESTORATION PROGRAM

Loko Ea is one of two fishponds located in the Kawaiola‘ahupua‘a that provided fish for reigning ali‘i or chiefs. From 2008, with support from Kamehameha Schools, we were inspired to restore it to a state of health and balance. MLEF is dedicated to restoring a healthy flourishing ecosystem to Loko Ea through our ongoing habitat restoration program, Kulāiwi Nani. Removal of invasive grass species throughout the pond has been ongoing since 2008, reopening waterways, allowing the native vegetation to thrive, in turn, restoring a balanced ecosystem to the area. Our program initiative plays a vital role not only to Loko Ea itself, but also to the greater Waialua bay where marine life rely heavily on the natural food source provided by the nutrient rich water of Loko Ea.

MLEF Restoration Plan

Further dredging of the Big Pond  
Restore Keiki Pond to Function Correctly  
Fix the Mākahā  
Return Loko Ea to be a Source of Food for our ‘Ahupua‘a

KULĀIWI NANI means...

“beautiful homeland”
**KAIÄULU ENGAGEMENT PROGRAMS**

**VOLUNTEER ALAKA‘I**

MLEF now offers a leadership role for volunteer alaka‘i. Volunteer alaka‘i will receive free professional training and workshops, including water quality testing, environmental parameter data collections, GPS, mākāhā maintenance, tide and moon systems, native plants and fish identification, and predator eradication. MLEF volunteer alaka‘i will lead service event and educational activities, participate in proper maintenance of Loko Ea, conduct surveys as needed, and become very familiar with the history and mo’olelo of Kawailoa, Uko’a, Loko Ea, mauka to makai, fishpond operations and traditional resource management.

**BENEFITS INCLUDE**

- Receive free professional training and workshops
- Hands on experience in education, leadership, safety and community engagement
- Build resume and career opportunities
- Make career connections
- Make an impact, serve the planet
- Make new friends
- Join a community of conservation minded individuals

For more information contact kaeo@lokoea.org

**PŪPŪKAHI CERTIFICATION PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

- Understand the history and mo’olelo of Kawailoa, Uko’a, Loko Ea, mauka to makai, fishpond operations, and resource management.
- Become familiar with the conservation and maintenance needs of Loko Ea Fishpond.
- Follow pre & post event checklist to ensure safe and efficient activity.
- Conduct introduction, orientation and safety protocol.
- Lead a minimum of 6 meaningful service learning experiences per year for 2 years through culturally focused activities for volunteer, school, and community groups each year.
- Work with other Alaka‘i and MLEF staff and interns collaboratively.
- Conduct surveys as needed + prepare an event summary citing areas of improvement of overall visitor experience.

**KAÍÀULU means...**

“community”
Everyone is welcome at our Lā Hana - Community Workdays!

Community members of all ages are invited to our monthly Lā Hana to help with restoration activities at Loko Ea. The day begins with cultural protocol (oli and pule) and Hawaiian values; LAULIMA, ALOHA, MĀLAMA ‘ĀINA, + LŌKAHI are instilled and practiced throughout the day. Volunteers will learn about the history of Waialua and Loko Ea Fishpond and participate in meaningful work projects to help restore our 400 year old loko i’a.

You’ll make new friends while seeing the results of your work with the ‘āina that very day. Our Lā Hana are once a month, on the 3rd saturday of each month, though you should check our upcoming list of community work days to confirm. We start at 8:00am and conclude with lunch provided by us!

Please RSVP online at www.lokoea.org.
I learned here that everyone has a chance to work to protect our land and help our natural species.

-- Xaiver, Grade 6

**Volunteer Demographics**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Total ‘a‘a</th>
<th>Wahine</th>
<th>Native Hawaiian ‘a‘a</th>
<th>Kane</th>
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<td>11,363</td>
<td>4,817</td>
<td>56%</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total ‘a‘a hours</th>
<th>51,133</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

From 2009 to present
There are three different levels a fishpond can operate at when producing fish for a community: extensive, semi-intensive, and intensive. Hawaiian fishponds traditionally were managed as extensive systems with yields in the hundreds of pounds per acre per year. In the 1960’s Loko Ea was managed in extensive fashion. Fish sales were at low levels. In the 1980’s, the move from extensive to semi-intensive production was achieved, crossing the 1,000 pounds of fish per acre per year mark. In 1983, Loko Ea produced about 7,200 pounds of fish. In 1984, the amount of fish sold decreased, about 5,850 pounds, but revenue was increased as a higher priced fish began to be harvested and sold.

Today, after the MLEF Restoration Plan is completed, Loko Ea has the potential to produce about 2,400 pounds of fish per year.
Board of Directors

JAMES ESTORES
PRESIDENT

BENSON W.K. LEE, JR
VICE PRESIDENT

DOREEN RABAGO
DIRECTOR

KALANI FRONDA
DIRECTOR

ROWENA ESTORES
SECRETARY/TREASURER

Advisors

KIMI MAKAI'AU
FISCAL SPONSOR, ALU LIKE

GRAYDON "BUDDY" KEALA
LOKO I'A CONSULTING

‘O ke kahua ma mua, ma hope ke kūkulu.

“The foundation first, and then the building.”
On behalf of the Board of Directors, staff, and volunteers of Mālama Loko Ea Foundation, we wish to thank those who contributed to Mālama Loko Ea Foundation. Your support will aid in our continued efforts to Mālama Loko Ea through land stewardship and education.

mahalo palena ‘ole

Omyidar ‘Ohana Foundation of HCF
We intend for this snapshot of Loko Ea in 2015-2016 to provide an understanding of where we have come from, where we currently stand, and where we plan to be so that our community, our kaiāulu, have the opportunity to stand with us, the opportunity to protect, to educate, to perpetuate, our wahi pana; Loko Ea.