

FRIENDS OF HALEAKALĀ  
NATIONAL PARK, INC.  
501(C)(3) EIN #99-0330457  
FHNP.ORG

# 2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE FRIENDS OF  
HALEAKALĀ NATIONAL PARK

**HE POUHANA NO  
HALEAKALĀ**  
A SUPPORT PILLAR FOR HALEAKALĀ





## A MESSAGE TO OUR FHNP 'OHANA

*A reflection on 2024, highlighting key achievements and challenges.  
Gratitude to volunteers, donors, and partners for their contributions.*

Aloha pumehana kākou (Warm aloha to all),

As we reflect on 2024, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to the dedicated volunteers, supporters, and partners who have contributed to the work of the Friends of Haleakalā National Park (FHNP). From our board to our regular volunteers, FHNP thrives through the commitment of those who choose to give their time to connect our diverse community to Haleakalā through service and volunteerism.

Despite challenges such as wildfire-related road closures and changes in park staffing, our volunteers continued to show up- removing invasive species, assisting with cultural site stewardship, and supporting native plant restoration through seed collection, propagation, and outplanting. This year also marked important milestones, including the adoption of a refined mission and vision, changes to our board leadership, development of a new website, and expansion of volunteer training programs.

I invite you to explore this report, which highlights the impact of your dedication- from service trips deep within the crater to educational outreach at events in our communities. Mahalo for being a part of our 'ohana, ensuring that this wahi pana (sacred place) thrives for generations to come.

Me ka mahalo nui (With much gratitude),

**ELIZABETH SPEITH**

PRESIDENT





## MISSION STATEMENT

(UPDATED & ADOPTED 2024)

*FHNP fosters strong relationships between Maui's diverse communities and Haleakalā National Park through service, volunteerism, and education. We do this in order to preserve, protect, and promote the ecological and cultural heritage of this special place.*

## FHNP'S VISION

*We envision a diverse community connected to Haleakalā through service.*



***He Pouhana No Haleakalā, A Support Pillar for Haleakalā.***



## OUR LEGACY & VISION

The Friends of Haleakalā National Park (FHNP) began in 1996 through the vision of Mary Evanson. Through our formalized partnership with the National Park Service, we have grown into a vital support pillar—He Pouhana No Haleakalā—for Haleakalā.

For over 25 years, volunteers have been the heart of our organization, contributing thousands of hours to preserve and protect Haleakalā. Our work spans from maintaining historic cabins deep within the crater to supporting native plant restoration and removing invasive species.

Over the decades, we have safely guided hundreds of volunteers into the park and trained countless service leaders to tread lightly while making a lasting difference in this sacred place

Our commitment extends beyond hands-on service. Through our memorial scholarship program, we honor key figures like Don Reeser, Mary Evanson, and Dr. Fern Duvall while supporting young people pursuing studies in ecosystem preservation. Our financial support provides the park flexibility to address needs beyond federal funding, particularly for endangered species programs.

This legacy of service inspired our refreshed mission: "FHNP fosters strong relationships between Maui's diverse communities and Haleakalā National Park through service, volunteerism, and education. We do this in order to preserve, protect, and promote the ecological and cultural heritage of this special place."

Our vision remains clear: "We envision a diverse community connected to Haleakalā through service."

## OVER THE YEARS, FHNP HAS:

- Established and maintained a robust volunteer service program
- Supported native habitat restoration and endangered species protection
- Provided crucial unrestricted funding for park initiatives
- Created memorial scholarships for future conservation leaders





# IMPACT THROUGH SERVICE

This year, our volunteers demonstrated incredible dedication through **10 multi-day service trips** and **4 native plant nursery days**, contributing **over 1,261 hours** to preserve and protect Haleakalā. Often hiking over 10 miles to work sites, volunteers worked tirelessly removing invasive species such as bull thistle and fireweed. They collected seeds from native plants—including 'ūlei, pilo, koa, a'ali'i, and māmane—to support restoration efforts and landscape resilience.

## 10

Multi-day service trips to Hōlua, Kapalaoa, Kīpahulu, Palikū and Kaupō areas

## 1,261+

Volunteer hours contributed in 2024 during service trips

## 65

Individuals volunteered at least 5 hours of their time on FHNP sponsored service opportunities

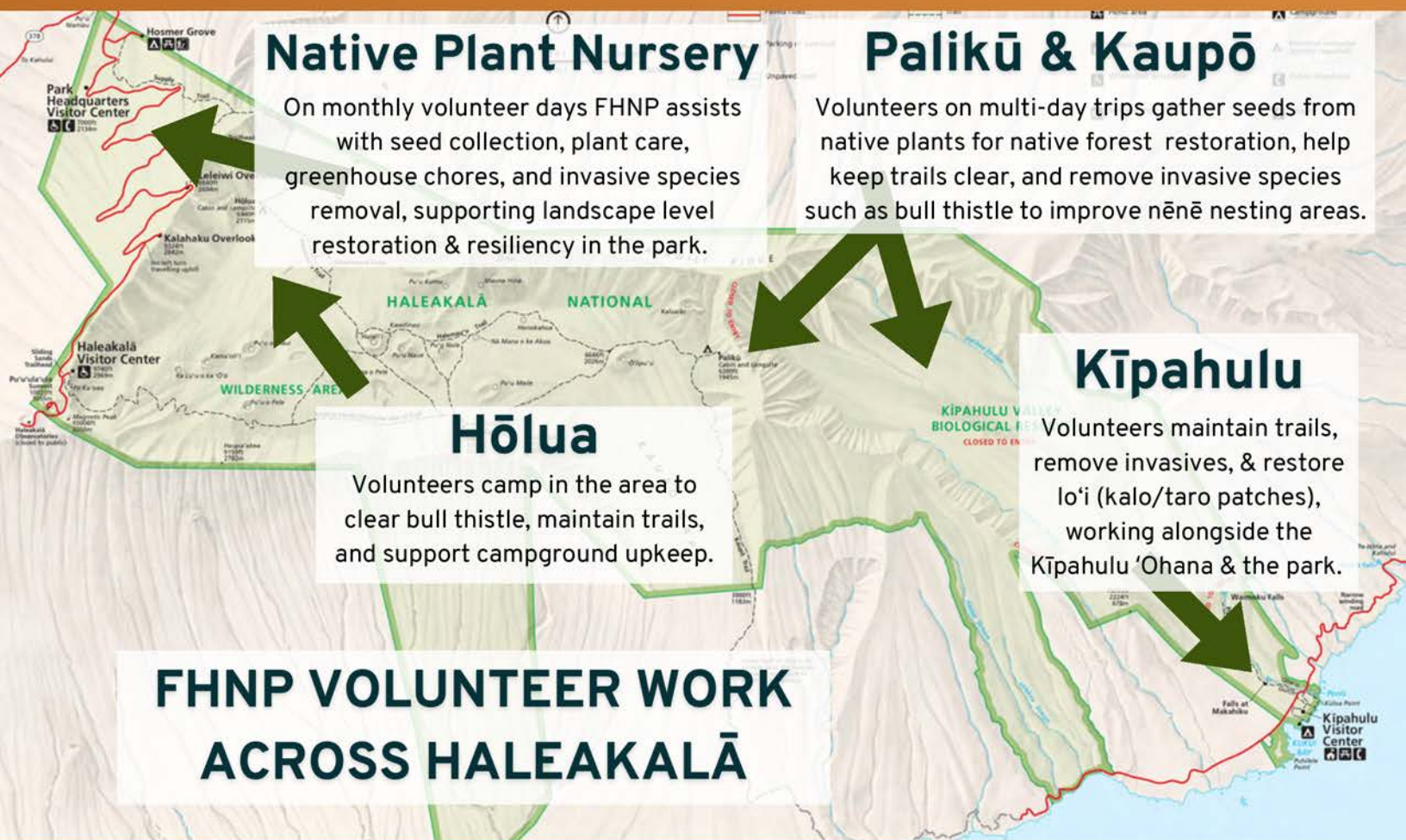
## 2024 TOP VOLUNTEERS

Matt Wordeman- 155 hrs  
Andy Fox -116 hrs  
Ivy Campbell- 81 hrs  
Michael Feeney- 72 hrs  
Michael Fleenor- 64 hrs  
Derek Takeno- 63 hrs  
Ben Calhoun- 58 hrs  
Elizabeth Speith- 56 hrs  
Grant Matthews- 56 hrs  
Douglas Rompasky- 55 hrs  
Eleanor Himes- 48 hrs

Minori Inoue- 45 hrs  
Pete Conmy- 43 hrs  
Laura Miller- 40 hrs  
Ann Schultz- 34 hrs  
Helen Watler- 33 hrs  
Brandon Long- 32 hrs  
Gordon Li- 32 hrs  
Jess Wilson- 32 hrs  
Deb Cartwright- 31 hrs  
Eleu Zane- 31 hrs

**Mahalo nui loa for your dedication!**





## Native Plant Nursery

On monthly volunteer days FHNP assists with seed collection, plant care, greenhouse chores, and invasive species removal, supporting landscape level restoration & resiliency in the park.

## Palikū & Kaupō

Volunteers on multi-day trips gather seeds from native plants for native forest restoration, help keep trails clear, and remove invasive species such as bull thistle to improve nēnē nesting areas.

## Hōlua

Volunteers camp in the area to clear bull thistle, maintain trails, and support campground upkeep.

## Kīpahulu

Volunteers maintain trails, remove invasives, & restore lo'i (kalo/taro patches), working alongside the Kīpahulu 'Ōhana & the park.

# FHNP VOLUNTEER WORK ACROSS HALEAKALĀ

## Strengthening Native Ecosystems

### 7 Native Hawaiian Plant Seed Collected

FHNP volunteers are deepening their pilina (relationship) with native plants by collecting seeds for park restoration. By gathering seeds from 'ūlei, pilo, kūkaenēnē, koa, a'alī'i, māmane, and 'ōlapa, we help the park expand native forests and increase resiliency in the face of disasters.



## Invasive Species Control

# 11,000+

Invasive  
Plants  
Removed

FHNP volunteers removed over 11,000 invasive plants in 2024, continuing our legacy of regular weed control in key areas of the park. By tackling **heterotheca** (8,013), **fireweed** (1,052), and **bull thistle** (2,320), we help protect native ecosystems and ensure a healthier future for Haleakalā.







## COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Throughout 2024, FHNP strengthened its community presence through strategic participation in key Maui events, each connecting different audiences to Haleakalā's mission. Our signature **'Ua'u Night** in May drew 222 visitors for an evening focused on Haleakalā's critically endangered seabirds. We extended our reach through participation in major environmental events (**Earth Day, Arbor Day**), cultural celebrations (**Hana Taro Festival, Lā 'Ulu**), and community gatherings like the **Kīpahulu Heritage Walk**, which welcomed 110 visitors.

At our **Annual Meeting**, Dr. Hanna Mounce with Maui Forest Bird Recovery Project (MFBRP) inspired attendees with plans for

'**ālālā** (Hawaiian crow) reintroduction on Maui. The '**ālālā** is extinct in the wild, and we were excited to learn how MFBRP plan to bring it back into the forests of Haleakalā. Park staff Tom Arnold recognized our volunteers' countless contributions during the meeting.

## COMMUNITY SURVEY

'We conducted a community survey in 2023 which revealed key insights about our Friends' 'ohana: they are deeply committed to environmental stewardship and value connections with fellow volunteers while learning new skills. The survey showed members prefer **digital communications** - especially monthly email updates - and **evening/weekend activities**. In 2024, the board began implementing changes to reflect these preferences.

# FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

In 2024, FHNP received \$7,304 in revenue and had expenses of \$9,220. Our total assets at year-end were \$35,395, maintaining a healthy financial reserve.

## 2024 Highlights

The **Hawai'i Community Foundation** supported our resilience following the Maui wildfires with a **\$500 grant** for operational support. Our community showed their continued commitment through the popular **Adopt-a-Nēnē program**, which **raised \$810** to support endangered species protection.

## Supporting Park Resilience

The park faced significant challenges in 2024, including closures from the Crater Road Fire. The combined impact of this fire and reduced visitor fees following the 2023 Maui fires resulted in a nearly **30% reduction in the park's regularly available budget**. While Haleakalā Conservancy serves as the main philanthropic partner of the park, FHNP works in concert with both the Conservancy, Hawai'i Pacific Parks, and the park to support service-based initiatives, key programs, and endangered species protection. Through careful stewardship of our resources and continued community support, we remain committed to our role in addressing these challenges.

## 2025 Financial Infrastructure Updates

We're strengthening our financial systems to better serve our donors and the park. While continuing to use Network for Good for donations through 2024, we're preparing to launch an **enhanced donation management system** with our new website in 2025. These improvements will make supporting our mission more seamless.

For a comprehensive understanding of FHNP's financial standing, please refer to the full Treasurer's Report located at the end of this report.





Emmi-Lin Felten



Nyla Mullen



Lucia McKinnon

## EVANSON - REESER - DUVALL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Friends of Haleakalā National Park Scholarship annually honors three founders of the organization and conservation leaders- Don Reeser, Mary Evanson, and Dr. Fern Duvall- by awarding scholarships to young people entering or continuing studies that contribute to the knowledge and preservation of natural, and particularly endangered, ecosystems.

Three 2024 graduates of Maui high schools were selected as awardees for the 2024 Friends of Haleakalā National Park Memorial Scholarship:

- **Emmi-Lin Felten** (Kamehameha Schools Maui) – Attending Pacific University Oregon
- **Nyla Mullen** (King Kekaulike High School) – Attending University of Hawai'i at Mānoa
- **Lucia McKinnon** (Seabury Hall) – Attending University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Each recipient was awarded \$1,000 to support their academic journey in fields related to the study and preservation of the natural environment.

“

*"Many experiences growing up have given me reasons to love the natural world as well as respect it. I've been looking into the possibilities of working at a national park because so many interests have sparked from visiting Haleakalā National Park since I was young"*

Nyla Mullen

”





Elizabeth Speith



Peter Conmy



Laura Miller



Matt Wordeman



Mele Stokesberry



Andy Fox



Mary Santa Maria



Mike Jacob



Kīʻope Raymond

## FHNP 2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

After 20 years of dedicated leadership as President, service trip leader, and volunteer extraordinaire **Matt Wordeman** has transitioned to the roles of Treasurer and Webmaster, continuing his invaluable service to FHNP. In 2024, we welcomed Elizabeth Speith as our new President, supported by Co-Vice Presidents Laura Miller and Peter Conmy.

Our **2024 volunteer board of directors** brings together diverse expertise and deep commitment to Haleakalā:

- Mele Stokesberry continues her role as Secretary
- Andy Fox coordinates our service trips
- Mary Santa Maria leads our nursery service programs
- Kīʻope Raymond and Mike Jacob serve as Directors

## STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITY MODEL

This year marked an important evolution in how we engage with our **community**. We returned to our founding vision as a **donation-based organization**, removing membership dues to ensure all are welcome to participate in our mission. Those who contribute \$30 or more are recognized as "**Friends**," though our programs and volunteer opportunities remain open to everyone who shares our commitment to Haleakalā. To support this transition, we updated our **bylaws** to reflect this more **inclusive engagement model** while maintaining beloved programs like **Adopt-a-Nēnē**.





## LOOKING FORWARD

As we enter **2025**, Friends of Haleakalā National Park is embarking on ambitious initiatives to deepen our community's connection with Haleakalā. A new focus this year is our **'ōhi'a seed collection program**, where volunteers will learn to identify and collect seeds from different varieties of this keystone species. This initiative not only supports forest recovery but also builds crucial knowledge among our volunteer corps about Haleakalā's native flora.

Our commitment to hands-on stewardship continues to grow through a full calendar of **service opportunities**. With **multi-day service trips** and **nursery days** planned for every month of 2025, we aim to maximize our impact at Kīpahulu, Palikū, Kapalaoa, and Hōlua. Our volunteers engage in vital work including **native seed collection**, **invasive species removal**, and **lo'i maintenance** in partnership with Kīpahulu 'Ohana. Our goal is to see every service opportunity filled with dedicated volunteers, multiplying our ability to care for the park's resources.

**Partnerships** remain central to our mission, particularly our collaboration with the **Haleakalā Conservancy**. We're committed to supporting the **Youth Conservation Corps** program through fundraising efforts in 2025, investing in the next generation of environmental stewards. This partnership exemplifies our commitment to fostering long-term stewardship of Haleakalā.

To better serve our community, we're modernizing our digital presence with a **new website launch** in 2025. This platform will streamline donations and volunteer coordination while replacing our print newsletter with regular blog posts, allowing us to share timely updates about our work and impact. Through these improvements, we aim to strengthen the connections between our volunteers, donors, and partners.

By building **stronger connections**, expanding **volunteer leadership**, and supporting **habitat restoration** and **endangered species protection**, FHNP remains committed to caring for Haleakalā and inspiring others.



## Balance Sheet Friends of Haleakalā National Park, Year End 2024

<b>Balance Sheet Friends of</b>				
<b>Haleakalā National Park</b>				
<b>Year End 2024</b>				
approved 1/6/20225				
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Temporary Restriction</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>ASSETS YE 2024</b>				
Current Assets				
Cash in savings and checking	\$36,000	\$0	\$36,000	
Supplies	\$50	\$0	\$50	
Prepaid Expenses	\$50	\$0	\$50	
Fixed Assets	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Equipment	\$75	\$0	\$75	
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$36,175</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$36,175</b>	
<b>LIABILITIES YE 2024</b>				
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$591</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$591</b>	A
<b>NET ASSETS YE 2024</b>				
Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$38,089	\$0	\$38,089	
Change in Net Assets	(\$1,914)	\$0	(\$1,914)	
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$35,584</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$35,584</b>	
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS</b>	<b>\$36,175</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$36,175</b>	
Notes: A - checks written in 2024, but not yet cashed at YE				



## Statement of Activities of Haleakalā National Park, Year End 2024

<b>Statement of Activities Friends of Haleakalā National Park</b>				
<b>Year End 2024</b>				
approved 1/6/2025				
	<b>Unrestricted</b>	<b>Temp. Restr.</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Notes</b>
<b>Revenues and Gains</b>				
Public Contributions	\$7,301	\$0	\$7,301	A
Program Service Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	B
Investment Income	\$3	\$0	\$3	
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	\$0	\$0	\$0	
<b>Total Revenues, Gains, Other Support:</b>	<b>\$7,304</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$7,304</b>	
<b>Expenses</b>				
Program Services	\$4,621	\$0	\$4,621	
General Administration	\$4,599	\$0	\$4,599	
Fund Raising	\$0	\$0	\$0	
Net Assets Released from Restrictions	\$0	\$0	\$0	
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$9,220</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$9,220</b>	
<b>Increase in Net Assets:</b>	<b>(\$1,916)</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>(\$1,916)</b>	
<b>Notes:</b>				
A: Por on from Adopt-a-nene approx. \$810				
B: Merchandise : T shirt sales				