

Continued from Brief Description:

increases the public's value of native forests for watershed health; and 4) sharing data (qualitative and quantitative) that tells the story of the impact of community- and place-based watershed management activities and informs future decision-making that is also accountable to 'āina.

Application Submittal Checklist

The following items are required for submittal of the grant application. Please verify and check off that the items have been included in the application packet.

- * 1) Certificate of Good Standing (If the Applicant is an Organization)
- * 2) Declaration Statement
- * 3) Verify that grant shall be used for a public purpose
- * 4) Background and Summary
- * 5) Service Summary and Outcomes
- * 6) Budget
 - a) Budget request by source of funds ([Link](#))
 - b) Personnel salaries and wages ([Link](#))
 - c) Equipment and motor vehicles ([Link](#))
 - d) Capital project details ([Link](#))
 - e) Government contracts, grants, and grants in aid ([Link](#))
- * 7) Experience and Capability
- * 8) Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

Cheryl Ka'uhane
Lupenui

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Ka'uhane Lupenui
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Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui, President &
CEO

01/20/2023

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

PRINT NAME AND TITLE

DATE

Application for Grants

If any item is not applicable to the request, the applicant should enter "not applicable".

I. Certification – Please attach immediately after cover page

1. Certificate of Good Standing (If the Applicant is an Organization)

If the applicant is an organization, the applicant shall submit one (1) copy of a certificate of good standing from the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs that is dated no earlier than December 1, 2022.

2. Declaration Statement

The applicant shall submit a declaration statement affirming its compliance with [Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes](#).

3. Public Purpose

The applicant shall specify whether the grant will be used for a public purpose pursuant to [Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes](#).

The Kohala Center is a registered 501(c)3 that seeks to (re)turn ancestral knowledge and research into daily 'āina-based practices across fields of conservation, education, agriculture and leadership. All programs serve the general public in accordance with Section 42F-102, Hawai'i Revised Statutes. The purpose for the grant, services to be supported by the grant, target group, and cost of the grant and the budget are described in Sections II thru IV and sub-section VII.4, below.

II. Background and Summary

This section shall clearly and concisely summarize and highlight the contents of the request in such a way as to provide the State Legislature with a broad understanding of the request. Please include the following:

1. A brief description of the applicant's background;

The Kohala Center (TKC) was founded in direct response to requests from island residents and leaders to create greater educational and employment opportunities by caring for Hawai'i Island's natural and cultural landscape. Over the last 22 years, TKC has evolved from creating meaningful career pathways and jobs to strengthening meaningful 'āina relationships with a vision of a state of pono (balance, hope, justice) for Hawai'i indicated by regenerating native forests and food ecosystems from ma uka to ma kai. As a community of practitioners with

Kohala at our center, our mission is to engage respectfully with Hawai'i Island as a model of and for the world. We (re)turn ancestral knowledge and research into daily 'āina-based practices across fields of conservation, education, agriculture and leadership.

2. The goals and objectives related to the request;

This project's primary goal is to sustain the primary source waters for the Kohala District by protecting the forested summit region of 'Eke on Kohala Mountain, encompassed in part by the Kawaihae watershed. The Kawaihae watershed is about 13,959 acres from summit to sea. Near the summit is a 597-acre intact native forest prioritized for management and referred to as the 'Eke unit.

Key objectives for FY2024 based on community involvement in the planning process are:

1) to continue construction of a new, ungulate-proof 'Eke Ecological Unit perimeter fence and the retrofitting of existing fencing; 2) to include indigenous and Kohala-based resource management practices alongside current Western best management practices (BMPs); 3) to engage community in hands-on stewardship activities in the Kawaihae Watershed that increases the public's value of native forests for watershed health; and 4) to share data (qualitative and quantitative) that tells the story of the impact of community- and place-based watershed management activities and informs future decision-making that is also accountable to 'āina.

3. The public purpose and need to be served;

This project will protect and sustain the primary freshwater source and native seed bank for the Kohala District (26,000 people) in the forested summit region of 'Eke on Kohala Mountain. This Forest Action Plan (FAP) priority landscape includes Kawaihae and Honokoa watersheds and totals 22,000 acres from summit to sea. By partnering on watershed restoration to control feral, non-native pigs, educate the public about native forest ecosystems, and engage community members in forest to reef stewardship, the headwaters of 5 important streams will be protected from ongoing threats by invasive, non-native species.

Kohala hydrology is distinctive in that most precipitation comes from water captured by clouds passing through mountain cloud forests. These are vital for recharge of the Kohala Aquifer (KA), which according to the Hawaii Department of Water Supply (DWS) has a total sustainable yield (SY) of 154 million gallons per day (mgd) providing water to 26,000 people in the Kohala District & supporting 100,000 acres of agriculture.

A recent University of Hawaii study identified Kohala as one of the highest priority areas for cost-effective watershed management due to large recharge benefits. Conservation of these

forests was estimated to avoid the loss of approximately 378 billion gallons of water yield & 193 billion gallons of groundwater recharge over 50 years! Kawaihae watershed, which feeds the coastal waters of Pelekane Bay, was identified as a high priority in Hawaii's Unified Watershed Assessment (under the Clean Water Act) due to not meeting clean water & natural resource goals. These watersheds were once thriving ecosystems with clear flowing streams but have been destroyed by domestic & feral ungulates & now are mostly barren, increasing sediment & runoff into the Bay.

4. Describe the target population to be served; and

Over the past few years, TKC has demonstrated success in both “traditional” western conservation-based projects, as well as projects that seek to develop our own and our community’s capacity for Hawaiian cultural and stewardship practices in leeward Kohala. Through this work, TKC has forged strong relationships with the residents (including the Kailapa Community Association), landowners (including the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands and Queen Emma Land Company), and other stakeholders (including the South Kohala Coastal Partnership and Kohala Watershed Partnership) within the Honokoa watershed and Kawaihae 1 ahupua’a and beyond.

We have expanded our capacity to hold kuleana (responsibility, authority) for and greatly deepened our pilina (relationship, connection) to this place. This, in combination with our physical location at a piko (umbilicus, nexus) of Honokoa, uniquely positions us to lead this project and convene our diverse communities including Kohala Watershed Partnership partners, hunters, students, teachers, cultural practitioners, ‘āina-based organizations and accountability partners, residents and visitors, to name a few.

Each phase of our ‘Eke projects enables an expanded network of ‘āina stewards and their communities to contribute to the health and well being of the Kawaihae and Honokoa watershed. Kohala as the hiapo or elder sibling of Hawai‘i Island carries a responsibility to model pono practices and help “raise” its younger siblings, Mauna Loa, Hualalai, Mauna-a-Wākea and Kilauea. By empowering perspectives, practices, and protocols that hold value for ‘āina and kānaka, we have the potential to support the field of ‘āina stewardship beyond Kohala in ways that have yet to become an integral part of western conservation efforts.

5. Describe the geographic coverage.

The Kawaihae watershed is located in South Kohala on the northwest side of Hawai'i Island. The watershed begins in the Kohala cloud forest, including a portion of the Pu'u o 'Umi Natural Area Reserve, on the slopes of Kohala Mountain and extends to the coastline. The watershed totals about 13,959 acres and is owned by the Queen Emma Land Company, State of Hawai'i, and private landowners. The 'Eke unit, proposed in the Kohala Mountain Watershed Management Plan (2007), sits partially in the upper portion of the Kawaihae watershed; it consists of 597 acres of the highest quality forest remaining on Kohala Mountain, rising from pastureland to the summit of Kohala at 5,480-ft elevation.¹

The area contains the headwaters of five important streams, including Keawewai, Waiakamali'i, and Kohākōhau. Keawewai stream, while outside of the target watershed, is a major source of water for Parker Ranch's cattle ranching operations on the leeward side of Kohala Mountain.² Additionally, Kohākōhau stream is a primary source of domestic and agricultural water for Kohala, with a total of 1.427 mgd drawn from two intakes.³ According to the Kohala Mountain Watershed Management Plan, most water quality problems in the upper watershed are related to soil erosion that can be amplified by animal and human disturbances.⁴ These important streams, located in the upper Kohala watershed, are currently threatened by sedimentation as a result of nonnative feral pigs.

III. Service Summary and Outcomes

The Service Summary shall include a detailed discussion of the applicant's approach to the request. The applicant shall clearly and concisely specify the results, outcomes, and measures of effectiveness from this request. The applicant shall:

1. Describe the scope of work, tasks and responsibilities;

The proposed project at 'Eke is a priority for DLNR, the Kohala Watershed Partnership, the Kohala community and The Kohala Center to protect an intact culturally-significant native forest that is a primary water source for the Kohala District.

Since Kohala uplands are a popular hunting and cultural gathering area, we anticipated this project meeting opposition as people feel they will lose hunting grounds and access to gathering plant materials for medicine and other cultural practices. Thus we conducted a series

¹ "Kohala Mountain," 122.

² "Kohala Mountain," 20.

³ "Kohala Aquifer," 14.

⁴ "Kohala Mountain, 59.

of community outreach activities and gathered feedback from hunters, cultural practitioners and other deeply-rooted Kohala community members.

In response to what our communities graciously shared with us, TKC is requesting funding for FY2024 to be able to follow through with some of these important activities including; 1) ungulate-proof fencing; 2) indigenous resource management, 3) community access and involvement and 4) assessment for learning and 'āina accountability

Ungulate-proof fencing: Opinions on fencing are varied, though many people see the merit in this work. One participant mentions that “triggering words like fences and pig removal” might bring up negative feelings due to “embedded trauma.” However, they note that opinions are improving with the realization that this work is “for the future.” Another community member expresses that although some people may not like fencing, “when we want to keep our forests in the best pristine shape that we can... sometimes fencing is necessary.”

Opinions on pigs are seen through a variety of cultural lenses. Pigs are culturally important to Hawaiians, as they “came with kānaka” and are “part of tradition.” They are a source of food for hunters and their families; as one hunter put it, “[Pigs are] an animal that I’ve learned to love and respect and survive off of.” When informed that pigs spread Rapid 'Ōhi'a Death (ROD), one participant said, “... that hits really close to home... yes, 100% removal in that area, if that’s what we need to do in order to preserve that.” Many agree that pig removal ought to be done in a sensitive manner. Several hunters who regularly hunt in Kohala have offered to help remove pigs from the 'Eke Unit, so as not to waste meat and to avoid setting snares which are seen as cruel.

During FY2024 TKC will 1) continue to build a new perimeter, ungulate-proof fence towards a goal of completing approximately 3,000 meters of fencing to fully enclose the 'Eke Ecological Unit; 2) continue to retrofit existing fencing lines to ensure they are ungulate-proof towards a goal of approximately 1,800 meters of retrofitted fence; and 3) host quarterly meetings and sites visits to continue work with the landowner, Queen Emma Land Company, DLNR, and subsistence hunters to develop and build support for an Ungulate Removal Plan which will include strategies such as a designated hunting period for hunters connected to 'Eke and crew live trapping, hunting, and installation of one-way gates on the perimeter fence.

Indigenous resource management:

Kānaka 'Ōiwi cultural values and practices pertaining to 'āina-based management were invoked by many community participants. The need to kilo 'āina, to make conscious observations within the landscape, is particularly important. As one community member stated, “... we got to lean

heavily on kilo; what is our observations telling us?" A practitioner says we must kilo "from ma uka to ma kai... on both ends to see what is taking place," because everything from the ocean to the mountains is "interconnected." Another practitioner sees the value in combining modern methods with kilo 'āina practices, explaining, "no longer can we as human beings be in the space to kilo 24 hours a day.

Thus, TKC will 1) engage selected project partners once a quarter who will share research practices and skills including kilo (a Hawaiian observation methodology), while providing on-site training to our field crew in native plant species identification, surveying techniques, and other monitoring aspects; 2) conduct monthly kilo across three categories: lani, honua and mea ola monthly and include discussions and analysis after each field day; and 3) create a forum and data management system for sharing and recording of kilo observations, trends, and findings gathered from 'āina accountability partners, kūpuna (elders), and loea (experts) as they share their wisdom, knowledge, and experience of Kohala Mountain towards creating new place-specific models for environmental management and action planning

Community access and involvement

Community members regularly voiced interest in being kept up-to-date on work being done in Kohala, with small community meetings being seen as beneficial by participants. Many folks shared their interest in lending a hand when possible. Access to the forest, whether for gathering materials, hunting, or simply connecting with 'āina, is a major concern for many. As one participant puts it, "...I know it's always going to be an interesting balancing act to try to do what's best for 'āina but also respect community at the same time."

Thus, TKC will 1) host quarterly hoā'āina (companions with our environmental kin) stewardship experiences as a means for community members to engage in watershed restoration activities such as seed collection, site preparation, invasive weed removal, native plant propagation, and outplanting of native species; and 2) utilize multiple mediums to increase public awareness of the importance of nonpoint source pollution on water quality in Kawaihae/Pelekane watershed

Community members will build relationships with 'āina (land, biocultural resources) and recognize their stewardship kuleana (responsibility, privilege) through activities and exposure to the important names, cultural features, and stories of Kohala. Community members will learn about the native plant species that make up this biodiverse landscape and about the work happening to protect our cloud forest and restore the riparian corridor, sustaining water sources. Community members will come to a realization that they are not just pulling weeds or planting trees, they are engaged in the sacred process of rebuilding a forest, and the skills they learn can be used to steward and care for their own forested areas.

2. Provide a projected annual timeline for accomplishing the results or outcomes of the service;

The following is a timeline of project activities by quarter for 2023 to 2024:

Timeline	Activity
Quarter 1: 07/01/2023- 09/30/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Purchase pickup truck and install aftermarket tires and lift kit ● Continue 'Eke perimeter fence building construction ● Conduct monthly kilo sessions at 'Eke followed by data recording meetings ● Develop kilo data management system ● Host meeting/site visit with hunters to begin developing ungulate removal plan ● Host hoa'āina day experience for community ● Host meeting/site visit with practitioners and partners to share, implement, and evaluate indigenous stewardship practices ● Conduct assessment for learning session
Quarter 2: 10/01/2023- 12/31/2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue 'Eke perimeter fence building construction ● Conduct monthly kilo sessions at 'Eke followed by data recording meetings ● Maintain and adjust kilo data management system ● Host meeting/site visit with hunters to develop ungulate removal plan and build support ● Host hoa'āina day experience for community ● Host meeting/site visit with practitioners and partners to share, implement, and evaluate indigenous stewardship practices ● Conduct assessment for learning session
Quarter 3: 01/01/2024- 03/31/2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue 'Eke perimeter fence building construction ● Conduct monthly kilo sessions at 'Eke followed by data recording meetings ● Maintain and adjust kilo data management system ● Host meeting/site visit with hunters to begin developing ungulate removal plan ● Host hoa'āina day experience for community ● Host meeting/site visit with practitioners and partners to share, implement, and evaluate indigenous stewardship practices ● Conduct assessment for learning session
Quarter 4: 04/01/2024- 06/30/2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue 'Eke perimeter fence building construction ● Conduct monthly kilo sessions at 'Eke followed by data recording meetings ● Maintain and adjust kilo data management system ● Host meeting/site visit with hunters to begin developing ungulate removal plan ● Host hoa'āina day experience for community ● Host meeting/site visit with practitioners and partners to share, implement, and evaluate indigenous stewardship practices ● Conduct final assessment for learning session

3. Describe its quality assurance and evaluation plans for the request. Specify how the applicant plans to monitor, evaluate, and improve their results; and

Assessment for learning and 'āina accountability

Community members are interested in learning more about the scientific pursuits and resulting data taking place in environmental work within Kohala. As one participant said, "I trust data, I trust people, I trust essence, I trust kupuna... we don't think that we are smart enough to manage our own space. And we are." Understanding the rationale behind management decisions is significant for many; for example, another participant asks how the proposed area and size for the 'Eke Unit was determined? A desire to be included and informed of decision-making processes is expressed by many.

Project partners selected for their accountability to 'āina and their specialized knowledge of place, water cycles, native and invasive plant species, and research methodologies will support TKC in our efforts to 1) collect data utilizing a multipronged approach of conventional western science, traditional Hawaiian kilo practice, and game camera to effectively monitor and assess for learning more about our native plant species ground cover and biodiversity, and indicators of improved watershed health; and 2) document and capture data, stories, and process throughout the project to generate relevant tools, reports, and presentations to communicate the learning.

Quarterly assessment for learning sessions will be conducted with the project team to review and constellate the data captured throughout the quarter and previous quarters to begin to understand what 'āina is telling us. Mo'olelo (storytelling and storycatching) will be utilized as a tool for our assessment for learning process. We will look to 'ike Hawai'i recorded in various forms of mo'olelo (mele, oli, 'ōlelo no'eau, etc) to inform our learning while recalling our data and reflections from time spent at 'Eke. These sessions will serve as an evaluation of the current quarter's activities and inform how activities can be refined to accomplish our desired outcomes. TKC will hold ourselves accountable by sharing our learning with the greater community in various formats following our assessments for learning.

Through the process of generous mutual exchanges of experiences, learning, research, food, information, tools, and frameworks, we are better able to communicate with each other as a 'āina accountable community and to communicate outwards to cross-cultural spaces. Additionally, deepened levels of communication will create the conditions for an increase in generative meeting points between Hawaiian and Pacific Islander experts with Western conservationists, scientists, government entities, etc.

4. List the measure(s) of effectiveness that will be reported to the State agency through which grant funds are appropriated (the expending agency). The measure(s) will provide a standard and objective way for the State to assess the program's achievement or accomplishment. Please note that if the level of appropriation differs from the amount included in this application that the measure(s) of effectiveness will need to be updated and transmitted to the expending agency.

Anticipated outcomes: Our long-term outcome is Kohala's cloud forest's natural processes are protected and restored to provide cleaner and more abundant water for the community.

Anticipated shorter-term outcomes we hope to see indication of include:

- Strengthened engagement and sharing within a network of kilo 'āina (environmental observation and data collection practitioners).
- Increased accountability of residents and landowners in Honokoa and Kawaihae watersheds to the diverse communities in the watershed ecosystem, human and non-human alike.
- Strengthened sense of pono in land-, community-, and/or watershed-management.

Qualitative and quantitative measures of effectiveness to be used to assess this project and report to the expending State agency:

1. Ungulate-proof fencing
 - a. # of meters of ungulate-proof fencing constructed and/or retrofitted
2. Indigenous resource management
 - a. Recommended Kohala- and place-based watershed management practices for native forest protection and regeneration based on kilo 'āina data collections and analysis and constellating.
3. Community access and involvement
 - a. # of community members informed of and engaged in project through education, community outreach, hoa'āina stewardship experiences, landowner and partner consultations and other methods of communication (e.g. newsletters, presentations, social media)
4. Assessment for learning and 'āina accountability
 - a. Draft Ungulate Removal Plan completed based on multi-stakeholder participation including those accountable to Kohala and 'āina

IV. Financial

Budget

1. The applicant shall submit a budget utilizing the enclosed budget forms as applicable, to detail the cost of the request.
 - a. Budget request by source of funds (Link)
 - b. Personnel salaries and wages (Link)
 - c. Equipment and motor vehicles (Link)
 - d. Capital project details (Link)
 - e. Government contracts, grants, and grants in aid (Link)

2. The applicant shall provide its anticipated quarterly funding requests for the fiscal year 2024.

Quarter 1: \$93,750

Quarter 2: \$93,750

Quarter 3: \$93,750

Quarter 4: \$93,750

Total Grant: \$375,000

3. The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are seeking for fiscal year 2024.

See attached Budget Request By Source of Funds

4. The applicant shall provide a listing of all state and federal tax credits it has been granted within the prior three years. Additionally, the applicant shall provide a listing of all state and federal tax credits they have applied for or anticipate applying for pertaining to any capital project, if applicable.

TKC received the following Federal tax credit: Families First Coronavirus Response Act ("FFCRA"), September - November 2020, total \$8,029.22.

TKC did not apply for and does not anticipate applying for state or federal tax credits pertaining to a capital project.

5. The applicant shall provide a listing of all federal, state, and county government contracts, grants, and grants in aid it has been granted within the prior three years and will be receiving for fiscal year 2024 for program funding.

See attached list of Government Contracts, Grants, and/or Grants In Aid

6. The applicant shall provide the balance of its unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2022.

TKC's unrestricted current assets as of 12/31/2022 is \$2,290,287.15.

V. Experience and Capability

1. Necessary Skills and Experience

The applicant shall demonstrate that it has the necessary skills, abilities, knowledge of, and experience relating to the request. State your experience and appropriateness for providing the service proposed in this application. The applicant shall also provide a listing of verifiable experience of related projects or contracts for the most recent three years that are pertinent to the request.

TKC has over 20 years of experience in Hawai'i developing and managing conservation and research initiatives, creating and implementing 'āina-based educational programs, as well as coordinating community and institutional collaborations.

Projects relevant to this application include: (1) creating and maintaining the Pelekane Bay Watershed Restoration Corridor to protect and reforest 300 acres in the upper portion of the Kawaihae 2 Watershed with native plants from 2009-2020; (2) restoring and maintaining 500 acres of degraded forest and protection of globally rare species of native snail and flowering plants in Kanea'a-Ponoholo Biodiversity Preserve (2008- 2019); (3) creating and maintaining a 270-acre cloud forest reserve to protect native biodiversity and a unique concentration of rare and endangered plant species, as well as native forest birds, at the Pu'u Pili Biodiversity Preserve (2008-2019); (4) protecting 2,000 acres of high-yield aquifer recharge areas on windward Kohala Mountain, as well as globally-imperiled montane bog ecosystems, seabird nesting areas, and rare/endangered native plants, at Upper Laupāhoehoe Nui Watershed Reserve (2014 to present); (5) rehabilitating degraded pastures and reforestation of a 2-mile riparian corridor totaling 360 acres on leeward Kohala at the Koai'a Corridor Native Plant Sanctuary & Restoration Project (2017 to present); and (6) collaborating with DHHL and Kailapa Community Association on ecological restoration in the riparian corridors and ma kai area of Ahupua'a o Kawaihae (2017 to present), among others.

In addition, TKC has received multi-year funding from Kamehameha Schools and NOAA-BWET (12 years) for Ke Kumu 'Āina, an educational pathway model and series of learning journeys that return to 'āina as classroom and teacher. Most recently we have created and now utilize place-based, culturally responsive forest-to-reef stewardship tools that source from both 'ike Hawai'i and Western knowledge systems throughout our ecosystems.

Improved health and wellness of ‘āina and kanaka can only be realized through unbroken pilina and continuous aloha over time. By adhering strictly to project timelines and moving on to the next project, we run the risk of ‘āina reverting to an earlier state of degradation. TKC's current programs build on our past accomplishments by deepening our approach and presence in the Ahupua‘a of Kawaihae, Koai‘a Corridor and Sanctuary, and Laupāhoehoe Nui units.

2. Facilities

The applicant shall provide a description of its facilities and demonstrate its adequacy in relation to the request. If facilities are not presently available, describe plans to secure facilities.

TKC operates out of three main facilities: Lindsey House office, Lalamilo baseyard, Kilohana nursery and Keawewai community gathering space. The Lindsey House office is centrally located in Waimea town and houses office and meeting space for administrative and programmatic staff. The Lalamilo baseyard is located on the outskirts of Waimea and is the hub for our Kohala stewardship field crew. The baseyard serves as a storage area for materials and tools, a workspace, and a daily meeting and preparation space before traveling into the field. A three-year lease is in place to rent the baseyard for these purposes. The Kilohana nursery is a native plant nursery located in Keawewai, Kohala nearby to many of Kohala field locations including ‘Eke. The nursery supports our native forest preservation and regeneration activities across Kohala by serving as the main work site for our native seed collection, germination, propagation, and outplanting activities. Kilohana nursery is also located near our Keawewai community gathering space and both serve as one of the locations of our community stewardship hostings. All of these facilities collectively support the work proposed in this project by providing adequate space and equipment for staff and community.

VI. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

1. Proposed Staffing, Staff Qualifications, Supervision and Training

The applicant shall describe the proposed staffing pattern and proposed service capacity appropriate for the viability of the request. The applicant shall provide the qualifications and experience of personnel for the request and shall describe its ability to supervise, train and provide administrative direction relative to the request.

TKC currently employs three Kohala Field Stewardship Technicians with a combined 30 years of experience in Hawai‘i’s agricultural and conservation sector. Technicians will construct new fences and retrofit existing fences at ‘Eke, support exchanges with the landowner and hunters in the development of the ungulate removal plan, and practice kilo and data management throughout the project.

Jake Merkel, Kohala Stewardship Field Supervisor, has over 20 years of experience in watershed conservation across Hawai'i Island. Prior to joining TKC, Mr. Merkel worked for the Natural Area Reserve System of Hawai'i on fence building, ungulate removal, native revegetation, invasive weed removal, and community outreach and education. Mr. Merkel and his family are residents of Waimea. Mr. Merkel directly supervises and leads activities for the crew of Kohala Field Stewardship Technicians. He will lead the fence building and ungulate removal plan portion of the project and train crew members as needed. Mr. Merkel will participate and support the indigenous stewardship practices, community stewardship, and assessment for learning activities.

Mia Akau-LaClair, BA, Community and Resource Relations Manager, has over 15 years of combined experience in community engagement in native communities, long range planning, and grant management. Ms. Akau-LaClair has unique experience working across multiple government sectors including federal, state, county, and tribal, as well as non-profit. She holds a BA in Environmental Policy and Planning (Minor in English) from Western Washington University. Ms. Akau-LaClair is a kilo practitioner and a native of Kohala with ancestral ties and intimate knowledge of this place and community. Ms. Akau-LaClair will be responsible for managing the project and project budget; planning and coordinating meetings with partners and community members; designing and hosting ho'a'āina experiences; oversee kilo practices and data management, evaluation activities, community outreach and reporting.

Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui, MBA, is TKC's president and chief executive officer. She has over 30 years of combined experience in executive management, program development and evaluation, community engagement, building place-based leadership, and developing Hawaiian educational pathways. Ms. Lupenui was previously the chief executive officer of the YWCA O'ahu. As a Hawai'i State Board of Education member Ms. Lupenui worked with communities on key policy-making including the adoption of Hawai'i-based, system-wide learning outcomes (Nā Hopena A'o or HĀ) and the establishment of the first Office of Hawaiian Education. Ms. Lupenui holds a BA in International Business from the University of Hawai'i and an MBA from Tulane University. Ms. Lupenui will be responsible for overall program oversight and quality control,, contributing to ho'a'āina stewardship experiences design and delivery, and program evaluation.

Shelby Kāhele Nahale-a, BA., Special Projects Liaison, currently supports TKC's Ke Kumu 'Āina pathways including research, design, implementation, and evaluation of 'āina-based engagement opportunities for communities to learn to become active stewards of our natural resources from forest to reef. She has 20 years of experience in education in Hawai'i, with a particular focus on Hawaiian language and culture-based education and organizational development. Prior to joining TKC, Ms. Nahale-a was the interim director of the Laupāhoehoe Community Public Charter School. She has been a school teacher, coordinator, program director, and former executive director of Kāko'o Ka 'Umeke, Inc. Ms. Nahale-a will lead the design and delivery of ho'a'āina experiences and support assessments for learning.

J.J. Kaimana Chock, BA, 'Āina-based Education Specialist, supports strengthening 'āina-kānaka

(land-people) relationships through place-specific ho‘olauna, kilo, hana, and mo‘olelo practices. He has more than 10 years of combined experience as an educator in Hawaiian language and culture. He also has extensive experience in researching, translating, and indexing nineteenth and early twentieth century Hawaiian language newspapers and land documents, with a focus on mele (songs, poetic compositions) and mo‘olelo. Mr. Chock holds a BA in Hawaiian Language from the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa. Mr. Chock will lead the assessment for learning process and oversee the public communications for the project.

Anianikū Chong, BA, Digital Storyteller, has over five years of experience as a visual storyteller. Born and raised in the small town of Waimea, his life and values are reflected in the work he creates. His passion for storytelling has led him all over the world to capture stories of ‘āina, community, and ‘ohana. Mr. Chong will assist with public communications and production of outreach materials in various formats including emails, newsletters, and social media.

KaMele Kopplin, BA, Salesforce Assistant, has three years of experience as a Horticulturalist and Nursery Assistant. She is currently working to obtain her Salesforce Administrator and Nonprofit Certifications in Salesforce. Mrs. Kopplin holds a BS in Ecosystem Science and Sustainability and a Minor in Plant Health from Colorado State University. Mrs. Kopplin will be responsible for managing the data for the project including development and maintenance of the kilo database, community stewardship registrations, waiver forms, and reflections, in addition to supporting planning and logistics for all gatherings for the project.

2. Organization Chart

The applicant shall illustrate the position of each staff and line of responsibility/supervision. If the request is part of a large, multi-purpose organization, include an organization chart that illustrates the placement of this request.

See attached TKC Organization Chart.

3. Compensation

The applicant shall provide an annual salary range paid by the applicant to the three highest paid officers, directors, or employees of the organization by position title, not employee name.

President & Chief Executive Officer: \$100,000-\$130,000

Vice President: \$75,000-\$100,000

Director: \$65,000-\$80,000

VII. Other

1. Litigation

The applicant shall disclose any pending litigation to which they are a party, including the disclosure of any outstanding judgement. If applicable, please explain.

Not applicable.

2. Licensure or Accreditation

The applicant shall specify any special qualifications, including but not limited to licensure or accreditation that the applicant possesses relevant to this request.

Not applicable.

3. Private Educational Institutions

The applicant shall specify whether the grant will be used to support or benefit a sectarian or non-sectarian private educational institution. Please see [Article X, Section 1, of the State Constitution](#) for the relevance of this question.

Not applicable.

4. Future Sustainability Plan

The applicant shall provide a plan for sustaining after fiscal year 2023-24 the activity funded by the grant if the grant of this application is:

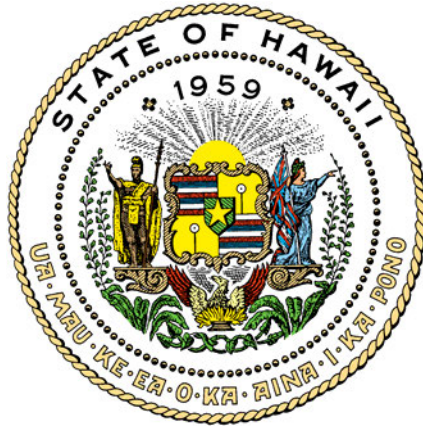
- (a) Received by the applicant for fiscal year 2023-24, but
- (b) Not received by the applicant thereafter.

The 'Eke project will improve forest conditions to benefit both land and people. As revered kumu or elder, Pualani Kanakaole Kanahale, notes, "Trees house the seeds and/or spores for regeneration. They are a food source and a vital system for the continuum of life and life cycles." Once 'Eke is completely fenced and the primary threat and disturbance of feral pigs removed, the conditions that support natural regeneration of native species will be improved. Then the native forest ecosystem can do what it is meant to do to sustain itself and provide the rain, seed bank and other elemental/environmental kin that are the stepping stones for future forest expansion.

To ensure water for future generations, this project manages both the supply-side through restoration and demand-side through proper stewardship. Ongoing educational activities conducted by TKC will prepare the next generation of forest and water stewards as we return ancestral knowledge and research into daily practice.

To ensure protection of the forest from the threats of non-native species and the long-term sustainability of water sources, The Kohala Center will develop plans to guide invasive weed management and monitoring activities simultaneous to the current project activities.

The Kohala Center and the Kohala Watershed Partnership will continue to address Forest Action Plan priorities and Kohala Watershed Partnership management plan objectives by implementing conservation activities and indigenous stewardship practices guided by the various plans in the 'Eke region. This project is an expansion of Kohala Watershed Partnership efforts to sustain the quantity and quality of water, and the Kohala Watershed Partnership plan identifies additional projects for future work in the region that build on the successful completion and sustained management of the proposed 'Eke fenced management unit.



Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

CERTIFICATE OF GOOD STANDING

I, the undersigned Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs of the State of Hawaii, do hereby certify that

THE KOHALA CENTER, INC.

was incorporated under the laws of Hawaii on 10/02/2000 ; that it is an existing nonprofit corporation; and that, as far as the records of this Department reveal, has complied with all of the provisions of the Hawaii Nonprofit Corporations Act, regulating domestic nonprofit corporations.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, at Honolulu, Hawaii.

Dated: January 19, 2023

Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

**DECLARATION STATEMENT OF
APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS PURSUANT TO
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES**

The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies the following:

- 1) The applicant meets and will comply with all of the following standards for the award of grants pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is licensed or accredited, in accordance with federal, state, or county statutes, rules, or ordinances, to conduct the activities or provide the services for which a grant is awarded;
 - b) Complies with all applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability;
 - c) Agrees not to use state funds for entertainment or lobbying activities; and
 - d) Allows the state agency to which funds for the grant were appropriated for expenditure, legislative committees and their staff, and the auditor full access to their records, reports, files, and other related documents and information for purposes of monitoring, measuring the effectiveness, and ensuring the proper expenditure of the grant.

- 2) If the applicant is an organization, the applicant meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is incorporated under the laws of the State; and
 - b) Has bylaws or policies that describe the manner in which the activities or services for which a grant is awarded shall be conducted or provided; and

- 3) If the applicant is a non-profit organization, it meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is determined and designated to be a non-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service; and
 - b) Has a governing board whose members have no material conflict of interest and serve without compensation.

- 4) The use of grant-in-aid funding complies with all provisions of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii (for example, pursuant to Article X, section 1, of the Constitution, the State cannot provide "... public funds ... for the support or benefit of any sectarian or nonsectarian private educational institution..."). Pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for grants used for the acquisition of land, when the organization discontinues the activities or services on the land acquired for which the grant was awarded and disposes of the land in fee simple or by lease, the organization shall negotiate with the expending agency for a lump sum or installment repayment to the State of the amount of the grant used for the acquisition of the land.

Further, the undersigned authorized representative certifies that this statement is true and correct to the best of the applicant's knowledge.
The Kohala Center, Inc.

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)

Cheryl Kahane Lupenui
Digitally signed by Cheryl Kahane
Lupenui
Date: 2023.01.20 10:50:24 -1000'

(Signature)

Cheryl Kahane Lupenui

President & CEO

(Date)

(Title)

(Typed Name)

BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

Applicant: The Kohala Center, Inc.

BUDGET CATEGORIES	Total State Funds Requested (a)	Total Federal Funds Requested (b)	Total County Funds Requested (c)	Total Private/Other Funds Requested (d)
A. PERSONNEL COST				
1. Salaries	150,393			
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments	0			
3. Fringe Benefits	45,118			
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	195,511			
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Airfare, Inter-Island	0			
2. Insurance	0			
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment	0			
4. Lease/Rental of Space	10,200			
5. Staff Training	2,000			
6. Supplies	15,000			
7. Telecommunication	0			
8. Utilities	0			
9 Contract Services	2,500			
10 Honorarium	2,500			
11 Repairs and Maintenance	4,000			
12 Meetings & Events	5,000			
13 Printing	0			
14 Indirect	63,289			
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	104,489			
C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES	10,000			
D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES	65,000			
E. CAPITAL	0			
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	375,000			
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	375,000	Mia Akau-LaClair 808-887-6411		
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested		Name (Please type or print) Phone		
(c) Total County Funds Requested		Cheryl Ka'uhane <small>Digitally signed by Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui Date: 2023.01.20 14:01:19 -10'00'</small>		
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested		Lupenui 01/20/2023		
		Signature of Authorized Official Date		
TOTAL BUDGET	375,000	Cheryl Ka'uhane Lupenui, President & CEO		
		Name and Title (Please type or print)		

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - PERSONNEL SALARIES AND WAGES Period: July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024

Applicant: The Kohala Center, Inc.

POSITION TITLE	FULL TIME EQUIVALENT	ANNUAL SALARY A	% OF TIME ALLOCATED TO GRANT REQUEST B	TOTAL STATE FUNDS REQUESTED (A x B)
Kohala Field Stewardship Technician (1)	1	\$43,680.00	35.00%	\$ 15,288.00
Kohala Field Stewardship Technician (2)	1	\$43,680.00	35.00%	\$ 15,288.00
Kohala Field Stewardship Technician (3)	1	\$43,680.00	35.00%	\$ 15,288.00
Kohala Cloud Forest Field Supervisor	1	\$59,280.00	35.00%	\$ 20,748.00
Community & Resource Relations Manager	1	\$66,300.00	35.00%	\$ 23,205.00
President & CEO	1	\$124,800.00	5.00%	\$ 6,240.00
Special Projects Liaison	1	\$62,504.00	25.00%	\$ 15,626.00
ʻĀina-Based Education Specialist	1	\$57,000.00	25.00%	\$ 14,250.00
Digital Storyteller	1	\$50,000.00	25.00%	\$ 12,500.00
Salesforce Assistant	1	\$47,840.00	25.00%	\$ 11,960.00
				\$ -
				\$ -
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				\$ -
TOTAL:				150,393.00

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

Applicant: The Kohala Center, Inc.

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
Set of 4 off-road tires, lift kit, and labor to install	1.00	\$10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$10,000.00
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:	1.00		\$ 10,000.00	\$10,000.00

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS: The aftermarket equipment is needed to outfit the standard pickup for daily use on the extreme and rugged terrain of Kohala Mountain. The lift kit will provide adequate clearance for the truck to prevent bottoming out and damage to the undercarriage. The tires will prevent slipping and getting stuck on steep inclines/declines.

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
2023 Ford F-150 4x4 Supercrew Cab Ecoboost Pickup	1.00	\$65,000.00	\$ 65,000.00	\$65,000.00
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:	1.00		\$ 65,000.00	\$65,000.00

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS: A high performance and reliable five passenger 4x4 pickup is needed to transport the TKC field crew to the 'Eke project site and other remote locations on Kohala Mountain to perform stewardship activities and host hoa'āina experiences. The truck will replace a 2004 Dodge pickup that needs constant repair leading to missed field days and inability to continue project work.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID

Applicant: The Kohala Center, Inc.

Contracts Total:

\$708,317.00

	CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)	CONTRACT VALUE
1	C.68706 Watershed Partnerships Planning Grant 20-21: 'Eke feral pig removal, invasive ginger removal, monitoring, and outreach	5/18/20-06/30/22	Department of Land & Natural Resources	State	\$157,935.00
2	Landscape Scale Restoration Grant Program: Protecting 'Eke Source Waters	7/1/20-06/30/25	USDA, Forest Service	Federal	\$300,000.00
3	C.70099 Watershed Partnerships Planning Grant 22-23: 'Eke fence maintenance and outreach	12/27/21-6/30/26	Department of Land & Natural Resources	State	\$74,882.00
4	C.7099 Supplement #1: 'Eke Ungulate Removal and Monitoring	12/12/22-6/30/26	Department of Health & EPA Nonpoint Pollution Program	Federal	\$175,500.00
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ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

