

**THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE  
APPLICATION FOR GRANTS  
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES**

Type of Grant Request:

Operating                       Capital

Legal Name of Requesting Organization or Individual:    Db:

Uhiwai O Haleakalā

Amount of State Funds Requested: \$ 2,113,830

Brief Description of Request (Please attach word document to back of page if extra space is needed):

Please see attached.

Amount of Other Funds Available:

State:            \$ 309,560  
Federal:        \$ 18,415  
County:        \$ 20,000  
Private/Other: \$ 350,000

Total amount of State Grants Received in the Past 5 Fiscal Years:

\$ 309,560

Unrestricted Assets:

\$ 350,000

New Service (Presently Does Not Exist):     Existing Service (Presently in Operation):

Type of Business Entity:

- 501(C)(3) Non Profit Corporation  
 Other Non Profit  
 Other

Mailing Address:

PO Box 1056

City:

Makawao

State:

HI

Zip:

96768

Contact Person for Matters Involving this Application

Name:  
Andrea Buckman

Title:  
Executive Director

Email:  
andrea@uhiwai.org

Phone:  
808-573-8989

Federal Tax ID#:

State Tax ID#

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Andrea Buckman  
Authorized Signature

Andrea Buckman / Executive Director  
Name and Title

1/19/2024  
Date Signed

## Brief Description of Request

Years of planning and collaboration have gone into efforts to survey, protect, and restore Maui's watershed forests. As evidenced by the catastrophic wildfires on Maui in August 2023 and the recurring cycle of fires on West Maui, Kahikinui, Kihei, Kula and throughout the Hawaiian Islands. This proposal will accelerate implementation of plans to accelerate restoration of critical watersheds, addressing gaps in management of erosion scars, riparian corridors, seed farms, and availability of trained professional staff. Funds here will protect the tremendous investment of taxpayers, volunteers, students, and decision makers by enhancing resilience of existing forest restoration efforts across the Leeward Haleakalā Watershed Restoration Partnership Landscape.

## 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) Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate (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

Andrea Buckman      ANDREA BUCKMAN

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

PRINT NAME AND TITLE

1/19/2024

DATE



STATE OF HAWAII  
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

**CERTIFICATE OF VENDOR COMPLIANCE**

This document presents the compliance status of the vendor identified below on the issue date with respect to certificates required from the Hawaii Department of Taxation (DOTAX), the Internal Revenue Service, the Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR), and the Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA).

**Vendor Name:** UHIWAI O HALEAKALA

**Issue Date:** 01/16/2024

**Status:** **Compliant**

Hawaii Tax#:

[REDACTED]

UI#:

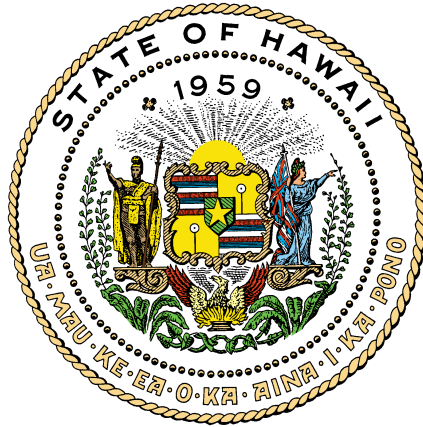
[REDACTED]

Status of Compliance for this Vendor on issue date:

Form	Department(s)	Status
A-6	Hawaii Department of Taxation	Compliant
8821	Internal Revenue Service	Compliant
COGS	Hawaii Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs	Exempt
LIR27	Hawaii Department of Labor & Industrial Relations	Compliant

**Status Legend:**

Status	Description
Exempt	The entity is exempt from this requirement
Compliant	The entity is compliant with this requirement or the entity is in agreement with agency and actively working towards compliance
Pending	A status determination has not yet been made
Submitted	The entity has applied for the certificate but it is awaiting approval
Not Compliant	The entity is not in compliance with the requirement and should contact the issuing agency for more information



## 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

UHIWAI O HALEAKALĀ

was incorporated under the laws of Hawaii on 08/13/2018 ; 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 16, 2024

Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

**DECLARATION STATEMENT OF  
APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS PURSUANT TO  
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISSED 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, Hawai'i 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, Hawai'i 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, Hawai'i 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, Hawai'i 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.

-Uhiwai O Haleakalā

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)

Andrea Buckman  
(Signature)

1/19/2024  
(Date)

Andrea Buckman

(Typed Name)

Executive Director

(Title)

## **Application for Grants**

### **I. Certification**

#### **1. Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate**

If the applicant is an organization, the applicant shall submit one (1) copy of a Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate from the Comptroller of the Department of Accounting and General Services that is dated no earlier than December 1, 2023. Certificate of Compliance is attached.

#### **2. Declaration Statement**

Applicant, Uhiwai O Haleakalā affirms its compliance with Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes. Please see attached.

#### **3. Public Purpose**

Applicant, Uhiwai O Haleakalā attest the grant will be used for a public purpose pursuant to Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

### **II. Background and Summary**

#### **1. A brief description of the applicant background**

Uhiwai O Haleakalā (Uhiwai) is a 501c3 nonprofit organization established in 2018 dedicated to restoring and protecting native ecosystems. Our expertise and project focus is on the leeward slopes of Haleakalā, where we grew from the visionary work of Dr. Art Medeiros at Auwahi, the creation of the Leeward Haleakala Watershed Restoration Partnership, and support from numerous funders, community volunteers, scientists, cultural practitioners, and conservation partners across the Pacific. Recognizing the success and growing pains of operating with fiscal sponsorship, Uhiwai o Haleakalā was formed to offer additional capacity, direct relationships with landowners, funders, and community, and expanded services to accelerate restoration planning and funding resources to public and private landowners. Uhiwai can more freely work with the community, and expand restoration efforts from the upper reaches of the watersheds to the coastline, so that the success of LHWRP and its many partners in managing the uplands can be extended to the full reaches of the watershed and coastal waters. In addition, Uhiwai and enter into agreements such as leases, MOU's, Rights of Entry, Loans (such as for equipment/vehicle purchases), and legal agreements on behalf of private and public landowners who otherwise lack the incentive, expertise, and capacity to oversee the many requirements of grants, donations, and training needed to implement forest restoration at meaningful scale. Uhiwai has experience in collaborative watershed planning, restoration, invasive species management, fire prevention, climate change adaptation, erosion control, backcountry helicopter-based restoration efforts, and volunteer and community engagement, with founding members having

nearly 20 years working on this landscape with these landowners, complementary funders, and community groups.

Uhiwai's current projects continue to build upon and implement those initiated through LHWRP the LHWRP Management Plan, with current projects at Kula, Kanaio, 'Ulupalakua, Kahikinui, Nākula, 'Ahihi-Kina'u, Keokea, Kaonoulu, Kihei, and Nu'u. This regional, collaborative, landscape-level approach to addressing broad conservation and community needs offers unique opportunity to accelerate regional reforestation - much needed as we reel from climate change impacts such as fire, drought, erosion, coastal degradation, invasive species establishment, and severe storms. As evidenced from the catastrophic wildfires in Kula and Lāhaina in 2023, we are poised to accelerate and adaptively manage these critical watersheds and native forest resilience, based the number of plans in place with our landowners, fire experts, University of Hawaii colleagues, and agency partners including DLNR and DHHL. We have a number of plans and budgets in place and approved as we have developed the Community Wildfire Protection Plans and multiple proposals for addressing fire prevention and response to protect critical watershed protection fences, native species planted, and invasive species management - much of which has been invested in with public funds from the State and Federal government. To date these plans have been underfunded due to high costs and competition for fire and regional reforestation with the Western Pacific Region of the US, which has consistently outcompeted us in Hawaii due to the relative scale of fire, acres burned and populations affected. However, we realize that Hawaii is a special place, and has no comparison with US states in terms of precious and unique biodiversity, culture, and economy built on enjoying our natural resources.

### ***Mission***

Uhiwai's mission is to protect and restore native ecosystems and watersheds, to improve the quality and quantity of freshwater resources, to perpetuate Hawaiian cultural resources and practices, to support rural economic opportunities, and to engage the community in these efforts.

We prioritize our funding and efforts to on-the-ground restoration efforts, while also offering educational cultural and environmental programs as community engagement and volunteerism is a cornerstone of our efforts to maintain long-term project continuity, funding, and staff.

## **2. The goals and objectives related to the request;**

This proposal will significantly expand our capacity to hire and retain staff to serve LHWRP landowners and the watersheds to the coast by following existing approved plans. Securing a professional operations base, increasing staffing capacity, training, and professionalism (= retention), acquiring vehicles and tools to diversity and complete the suite of services and landscapes we operate across safely, increase our capacity for volunteerism and expand efforts to address carbon sequestration and climate change by working with the visitor industry, diversify and expand native seed sources, and finalize contracts for propagation of 20,000 native species to be planted in current restoration projects on the leeward slopes of Haleakalā.



Timeline	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Goal	Objectives	Objectives	Objectives	Objectives
Provide safe, sanitary, professional operations base for watershed restoration staff; transition from home-office and current inadequate operations base; secure long-term lease/ROE to stabilize and centralize operations	Secure 2-3 40' containers to securely house valuable equipment, tools, vehicles, and technology essential for conservation	Purchase/convert 3 office containers, creating sufficient space and storage dedicated to management staff, field staff, and outreach/volunteer staff.	Install/contract water, sanitation, trash service at operations base; complete vehicle and gear cleaning station; complete water catchment, solar power, dedicated tools, and safety gear installation at 2 restoration sites	Provide safety training for staff (helicopter, pesticide use, GIS, 4x4/ATV safety, rappelling, firearms, Wilderness first aid, chainsaw, etc. depending on availability and staff need. Develop protocol for continuing training program with conservation partners
Increase access and safe transport of staff, volunteers, equipment and supplies to field sites - triple capacity	Purchase dedicated vehicles to fill gaps in access (flatbed, ATV/UTV, compact truck, 4x4 SUV, trailer)	Complete safety checks, insurance, required modifications for 4x4 vehicles, emergency gear for each	Increase helicopter budget to improve safe, efficient access to remote field sites for seed collection, fire/greenbreak planting, fence installation, and planting	Accomplish capacity to safely access 2-3 field sites at once, versus one site so that more and more diverse work can be completed
Improve watershed function and monitoring	focus invasive species management and plantings on riparian	Develop additional seed sources and seed farms to increase	Initiate Acacia replacement efforts in the ahupua'a of Kaonoulu to	Collect and deliver diverse species of native seeds; contract

	corridors and erosion scars within fenced project sites; install erosion mitigation materials	availability of seeds for fire response and large-scale reforestation efforts across LHWRP	transition invasive wattle forest to native koa forest; install weather stations	propagation of 20,000 native seedlings within fenced sites; install remote cameras to monitor fences, stream crossings, and progress
Update technology to meet current software, monitoring, outreach needs	Purchase 2 computers (1 desktop and 1 laptop) dedicated to GIS, data management, and mapping; Purchase large screens for team planning and efficiency; Upgrade GPS and radio units w/software; purchase large printer to create large maps and outreach materials safety, communications, and monitoring	Purchase 2 computers (1 desktop and 1 laptop) dedicated to outreach/design ; maintain/install associated software and training to support staff in developing in-house capacity to create, edit, print, and share outreach and reporting materials, staff and volunteer gear, and to diversify our outreach methods	Acquire safety and security at operations base and field sites by installing solar-powered security cameras, cameras to monitor plants, streams, fires, and vandalism;	Purchase drone and train staff to reduce time spent monitoring fences, rappelling, and surveying steep areas on foot; better monitor and replicate plantings, invasive species management, and land cover changes
Adapt to increased climate change impacts and weather anomalies by increasing fence	Increase fence inspections to monthly and after severe storm events (on-foot and by air); purchase and securely	Contract/complete fence construction of 4 new seed farms at 'Ulupalakua Ranch; complete fences	initiate adopt-a-grove program to encourage carbon offset, cultural preservation, and fire	install greenbreaks along 5 miles of existing restoration sites; focus propagation and seed

inspections, firebreaks, and seed farms	store basic fence materials and tools for emergency repairs that are increasingly frequent.	for sites dedicated to new seed farms accessible to volunteers and visitors	prevention; engage 2+ visitor industry sites in South Maui to develop and refine program	collection on fast-growing common native species to plant at density and create resilience
Improve protection and planning for stream corridors and dryland forests of South Maui	increase firebreak and invasive species management at Pu'u-o-kali to reduce fire risk and protect critical remnant wili wili forest on DHHL	Work with 'Ulupalakua Ranch to maintain 3 dry forest exclosures and seed source sites containing dry forest species	Work with Kaonoulu Ranch and Hawaii Agricultural Research Center to improve availability of fusarium-resistant koa and koaia for S. Maui; increase seed availability	Develop and refine plans for fire and erosion mitigation, planting, and stream corridor restoration extending to the lower elevations of the leeward watersheds
Establish sources of freshwater in areas underserved by County systems and/or subject to frequent drought and fire	Complete retrofitting of two existing reservoirs at Kahikinui, Maui to significantly enhance water availability during fires	Install fog drip capture systems in the uplands at 2 sites to support ranchers, farmers, conservation efforts, and fire response capacity	install water catchment tanks in remote restoration sites to improve irrigation and seedling survival; reducing erosion	plant quick-growing koa and koaia trees to restore natural fog capture, sequester carbon, fix nitrogen, and create shade for additional plantings
Increase Uhiwai's internal professionalism and business capacity	Bookkeeping, accounting services; merchandising, consultation, fundraising; business plans to funding	legal counsel, insurance, liability, staff/board training	professional development and staff retention; support continuing education and accreditation	increased pay minimums for skilled staff in high-risk remote field situations

1. The public purpose and need to be served;

The costs to our community economically, culturally, and ecologically due to significant underfunding of watershed reforestation efforts, fire prevention and response, and development of water resources are inconceivable; as evidenced by the recent Maui forest in August 2023. The public has significantly contributed to watershed and native forest restoration efforts on leeward Haleakala over years of volunteerism at Auwahi, community planning across the slope for fire and forest restoration, by engaging in educational opportunities and increased social media awareness and civic engagement, and through tremendous dedication of taxpayer funds to fence and protect critical native habitat, watersheds, and coastal waters. The public deserves their investment to be honored and protected. Building upon already established and approved management plans, we are poised to accelerate restoration of leeward Haleakala's watersheds, with even more urgency as we all absorb and pay for the impacts of climate change on our roads, access, recreation, water supply, public servant risks, loss of jobs and economic diversity, and self-sufficiency. The community is aware of and engaged in conservation and restoration more than ever. By increasing our capacity to fulfill the immediate needs of our program and priorities identified in these numerous plans, we can provide the community with more accountability, more volunteer and outreach opportunities, more access to native plants and cultural practice materials, and more reforestation being accomplished in the remote and dangerous landscape of leeward Haleakala. Protecting these unique resources from the increasing risks and costs to agriculture, ranching, beach access, nearshore fisheries and erosion from feral animals is a clear path to gaining a foothold in this uphill battle. We owe it to our community to honor and implement the plans that have been created by teams of professionals and community groups. If we do not accelerate our efforts to preserve what's left and reverse the trend of degradation of our natural resources, our public will be even further limited in future generations in their ability to enjoy, understand, and thrive within this precious and imperiled landscape. The public deserves and has demonstrated demand for more preventative measures and less reacting when it's too late.

2. Describe the target population to be served;

Our organization focuses on facilitating and implementing restoration efforts at a scale and level of integrity consistent with the statewide organization of watershed partnerships. We are able to engage public and private landowners in these efforts, operating as a liaison between Federal, County and other sources of funding, taking the burden of financial and field oversight off of willing participants. LHWRP was formalized in 2003, and is dedicated to restoring the watershed forests above 3,500ft. for collective benefit. We directly serve landowners by creating site-specific plans that are complementary and timed along with regional collaborative restoration efforts. We provide expertise in planning, implementation, and funding.

Residents of upcountry Maui, the Hawaiian community at Kahikinui, residents of S. Maui, and farmers, ranchers, and business owners are served by addressing and filling gaps management of natural resources. We hope to continue to restore areas at a pace and scale that will significantly reduce erosion and improve watershed forest function and resilience, contributing to wetland, beach, stream improvements and flood prevention. These efforts contribute to reducing road closures, accidents, access limitations due to erosion/flood/fire. We also serve our conservation professionals and cultural practitioners by enhancing resource availability, increasing training, professional development., pay and benefits; providing educational opportunities to students, visitors, future professionals and decision makers. Maui is a globally significant location in terms of irreplaceable biodiversity, culture, and natural beauty.

3. Describe the geographic coverage.

Uhiwai works with the landowners of the Leeward Haleakala Watershed REstoration Partnership and others, entrusted with protecting and restoring over 40,000 acres across the vast bands of forest that once blanketed the slopes. This proposal focuses on sites that are currently in management and require additional resources to effectively reduce the common risks that address landowners across the region. Project sites are further defined below:

'Ulupalakua Ranch - install seed farms for regional restoration efforts and expand volunteer engagement; preserve and maintain existing seed sources

DHHL-Kahikinui - Planting green breaks along five miles of fence within existing core watershed forest

DHHL- Waiohuli (Pu'u-o-kali) - reduce fire risk by maintaining firebreaks; secure and enhance seed source availability for future lowland dry forest restoration efforts along stream corridors of S. Maui

Kaonoulu Ranch - Implement and document Acacia replacement to convert invasive wattle forest to koa forest

Install/expand diversity of additional seed farms for seeds and cultural practices

Install/expand freshwater availability in restoration sites and fire-prone areas of LHWRP

These efforts, while centered in a particular landowner's property, are intended to serve the collective landscape, following the regional management plans and current projects. Our focus for this funding is intended to provide additional watershed protection for the stream corridors of S. Maui, frequented by fire, drought, flooding, and reduced economic, agricultural, recreational and subsistence capacity

### **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, and timeline; See above

Scope of work includes:

Establishing a secure, operations base and professional work environment and workforce, including training, pay commensurate with risk and level of technical certifications and unique skills to retain and advance staff and restoration professionals.

Provide training for staff and develop bi-annual programs; work with partners to improve efficiency, safety and consistency

Collect seeds, propagate 20,000 native seedlings, and focus plantings on reducing erosion and fire risk, increasing biodiversity and riparian corridor/watershed function

Increase region-specific native seed source availability by enhancing and installing native seed farms, diversifying collection efforts, and replicating seed sources and nursery. Diversify seed storage to protect resources in anticipation for fire and already fenced landscape-level restoration projects

Increase capacity for fencing, climate change impact response, emergency materials and supplies, and remote base camp capacity.

Secure vehicles to safely and effectively access remote, rough, steep, sites, including trailer to haul seedlings and helicopter loads; replace old and unsafe ATV/UTV to safely access steep and remote sites more nimbly and quickly

Increase freshwater availability for restoration using fog drip, strategic planting, water catchment and irrigation to enhance seedling survival.

2. Provide a projected annual timeline for accomplishing the results or outcomes of the service; See table above
3. Describe its quality assurance and evaluation plans for the request. Specify how the applicant plans to monitor, evaluate, and improve their results; and

Our projects are guided by existing management plans, completed with collaboration among agencies, community groups, private landowners, conservation colleagues, scientists, and a number of partners and consultants. Our efforts weather stations, research, database and mapping, remote sensing, standard practices proven, participation in conferences and workshops, work exchanges, surveys, participation and social presence increase, use standard professional metrics long-term and consistent with other organizations. Our goal is to uphold and elevate the standards for conservation professionalism, multidisciplinary inclusion, Hawaiian language and cultural integration, hands-on and remote training, safety, efficacy, and community engagement. We track all volunteer efforts, including social media followers, visits, and dynamics. We track all school and private groups engaged, in-kind donations and services contributed to compile leveraged funds. We also report work-exchanges, professional trainings, coursework completed and conference participation.

4. List the measure(s) of effectiveness that will be reported to the State agency.

Measures of effectiveness include tracking and reporting of field efforts and volunteer participation, including GIS, mapping, and other standard measures such as GIS layers, staff time, project summaries and maps per professional standards. Measures of effectiveness will follow the goals and objectives tables, documenting progress each quarter, including leveraged funds and volunteer engagement.

**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 2025.

Quarter 1 \$634,149	Quarter 2 \$634,149	Quarter 3 \$422,766	Quarter 4 \$422,766	Total Grant \$2,113,830
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3. The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are seeking for fiscal year 2025.
 

Uhiwai O Haleakalā has applied for the following grants:

  - USDA Forest Service Community Wildfire Defense Grant Application - 5 year grant to begin in FY25 (\$7,895,360.00) Notification in Summer 2024
  
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.

Uhiwai O Haleakalā has neither applied for nor does it intend to apply for any tax credits.

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 2025 for program funding.

Uhiwai O Haleakalā received the following government grants and contracts within the past three years.

- Partners for US Fish and Wildlife: Seed Farm at Baseyard: \$4,450
- Partners for US Fish and Wildlife: Nu'u Mauka: \$70,000
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program: Nu'u Mauka: \$398,698
- Fence Inspection for Department of Hawaiian Home Lands - Kahikinui: \$22,060
- Department of Land & Natural Resources Watershed Partnership FY24-FY25 for Leeward Haleakalā (in process): \$375,000
- County of Maui Office of Economic Development: \$40,000

A list of all government grants that were ongoing/active between 2021-2023 can be found on the last page of the budgets.

6. The applicant shall provide the balance of its unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2023.  
The balance of unrestricted current assets as of 12/31/23 is \$102,219.24.

## **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.

Uhiwai is guided by a board of non-profit professionals, LHWRP landowners, Community leaders, contractors, and experienced land managers, providing diverse expertise to staff. Uhiwai staff are overseen by guiding principles and plans including the LHWRP Management Plan, DLNR NAR plans, Regional CWPP, WUI Proposals, DHHL regional plans, Kahikinui Community Plans, Kahikinui EA, LHWRP Invasive Species Management Plan, and numerous other local and Federal standard operating procedures. Safety has always been our first priority - for staff, community and for the forest species. We have standard operating procedures, legal guidelines, best management practices for restoration, and substantial professional consultation and collaboration available to us, offering consistency in training requirements, site-specific ecological and cultural knowledge, evolving experience, specialized knowledge of land and landowners, and dedication to the expansion and evolution of the program. Uhiwai staff have long standing experience in writing and managing grants and complex field-based forest restoration projects in the LHWRP landscape as well as internationally. Aloha International Employment, Inc. provides payroll and human resources management for staff. We utilize accounting services, legal counsel, insurance agents, and vendors with expertise in non-profits and a history of serving our local community. Our programs incorporate research, art, culture, education, and community engagement and volunteerism as alternative avenues to (re-)connect more



people locally and globally to the ecological and cultural significance of Maui's native forests. Our developing programs have continually adapted to the changing climate, economy, workforce, and community dynamics, so we can continually serve the landscape and landowners/community with the best and most consistent strategy available. We strive to expand our knowledge and translate to impacts on the ground, which is the focus of this funding. Uhiwa utilizes professional bookkeeping, tax preparation, legal counsel, and training services to protect our organization and the decades of landowner and community contributions to date.

## **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.

Uhiwai O Haleakalā currently shares a 2-acre parcel with Maui Division of Forestry and Wildlife in 'Oma'opio, Kula. Uhiwai's portion, a 1 acre parcel, functions as a baseyard and a native seed garden. The seed garden will help to facilitate larger restoration projects in the future and serve as an education center for students and volunteers. The baseyard has container storage for gear, tools, materials and supplies. The parcel does not have an office space, nor does it have electricity or running water. Solar panels and a water catchment tank have been installed, however, more power and readily available water is needed to have a fully functioning space for staff to work.

Since COVID, Uhiwai operations and administration have been based from the home offices of two leadership staff. This proposal addresses the clear limitations obstructing our efforts due to conditions outside of our control. It is imperative to complete the basic spatial, utility, sanitary, and professional operational needs outlined in this grant. Grant funding has become increasingly difficult to secure for vehicles, including used vehicles. We have customized trucks and UTV in the past, and after over 10 years, need to replace them as we currently rely on a Toyota Tundra, which is useful for many sites, but not safe/small enough/big enough to traverse the narrow access roads, to haul all the gear for camping, planting, and complex backcountry heli ops. There is no redundancy, so we are very protective of this vehicle, and would be able to access sites much more safely and efficiently with the vehicle list provided.

Technology improvements are needed to meet the fast pace of technological advancements. By updating and replacing outdated computers and equipment, digitizing long-term efforts, enhancing security, remote monitoring, and diversification of field effort, we will be elevated to maintain consistency with other conservation groups and to meet the quickly changing needs of our restoration areas as they experience climate change.

Backcountry facilities include numerous helicopter landing zones across the LHWRP landscape. We utilize Windward Aviation only due to their experience in conservation and at our sites, as well as their safety standards. We work with them to ensure the

platforms, clearings, camp sites, and remote landing zones are adequately maintained. We have four platforms in place in remote locations at Kahikinui and Nu'u, which are maintained annually.

Many years of restoration work have resulted in quite a number of tools, supplies, PPE, propagation supplies, generators, weed whackers, saws, etc. We have capacity to safely implement our current projects at this time, and are continuously seeking funding to provide newer, updated, improved camping gear, safety gear, outerwear, and tools for the crew and volunteers. We have a small fridge, a food truck/seed storage area, 3 Matson containers and a garage at our baseyard housing equipment.

We have seed farms in place or under construction in Makawao, Kula, Keokea, 'Ulupalakua Ranch; Kahikinui, and Nu'u, and one nursery dedicated to growing and housing native plants. We have longstanding relationships with Native Nursery and utilize their professional propagation services for the majority of our plant propagation. We are in the process of retrofitting a large greenhouse in Nu'u, installing a site in Keokea, and have a small propagation project in Makawao and Kula.

We currently have 5-year ROEs with many LHWRP landowners, with three in progress/being updated. We have a substantial library, and basic office needs such as a laser printer. We have a solar power system installed and a second in the works for our current temporary spaces at the DLNR baseyard.

We have been working on this landscape since 2004, and are dedicated to these landowners, projects, partners, and forests. We have survived two recessions, three fiscal sponsors, and establishment of an independent 501c3 during a pandemic. We are here to serve our community for the long run, but are in dire need of the basic equipment, access, staff, services and supplies to adequately address the scale and significance of the projects already underway. Managing areas with existing protection is essential, as well as developing seed sources to facilitate propagation and planting. We are poised to implement this, and have funding in place supporting each of these efforts at some level. With GIA funding we can be sure to provide our State with the resilience, professionalism, and effectiveness it deserves.

## **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.

Executive Director: Andrea Buckman brings over 19 years of experience in natural resource management to the program, starting as a volunteer at Auwahi to becoming the Program Manager for LHWRP and the Executive Director of Uhiwai. She oversees all aspects of the

organization from coordinating compliance, planning, budgeting and project implementation with the landowner, residents, partners, contractors and vendors. She is supported and guided by colleagues, organizations, scientists, cultural practitioners, and a dedicated Board in order to maintain the input, oversight and guidance needed to oversee this dynamic and important program

**Project Coordinator:** (Uhiwai will hire Kaimi Konaaihele upon receipt of funding; he is currently a contract hire pending secure funding). Kaimi Konaaihele was the Land Manager for 'Ulupalakua Ranch and an Executive Committee member for LHWRP. He brings with him a wealth of experience in ranching, natural resource management, GIS, fencing, water systems, fog drip capture, graphic design, and project management. He resides in Kihei and oversees contractors, sources and procures materials and is responsible for project compliance, budgeting, and reporting.

**Program Assistant:** Audrey Tamashiro-Kamii has worked with conservation programs for 15 years starting with East Maui Watershed Partnership (EMWP), Tri-Isle Resource Conservation & Development Council, Inc. LHWRP and currently Uhiwai. She is responsible for HR in coordination with Uhiwai's PEO, bookkeeping, ensuring the organization is in compliance with IRS and state regulations, assisting the ED with grant writing and reporting.

**Outreach Liaison:** Jenifer Castelo has a dynamic work history with extensive experience in advertising, marketing, branding, and project management. She is responsible for all communications and outreach with the media, community leaders, organizations, programs, schools and the visitor industry, the launch and maintenance of the volunteer and fundraising online platform and all marketing, branding associated with this grant.

#### Field Staff:

**Natural Resource Manager:** (Uhiwai will hire current contractor Fernando Juan upon receipt of funding). Fernando Juan worked with Auwahi and LHWRP for 8 years. He has experience in GIS, helicopter operations, fencing, planting, native and invasive species identification and management, construction/maintenance of operations bases and remote field platforms and helicopter landing pads. He is a resident of Kihei and knows the LHWRP partners, vendors, contractors, and conservation organizations well.

**Operations Manager/Volunteer Coordinator** (Uhiwai will hire current contractor Donna Borge upon receipt of funding): Donna Borge has implemented and managed conservation programs for AmeriCorps and KUPU. She was also the Operations Supervisor for Pu'u Kukui Watershed Preserve. She is responsible for scheduling of helicopter flights, working with the Field Crew Leader on logistics, procurement for field/outreach materials, gear and supplies, overseeing field staff training, internship program development, and coordinating volunteer groups.

**Field Crew Leader:** Russell Lenihan oversees the field crew and, the field crew safety program, plans and leads the day to day field operations to execute deliverables which may include native

seed collection, storage, propagation and outplanting, control of invasive species, monitoring of rare species, fence construction and maintenance, data collection, and education to community members at volunteer events. He resides in Makawao, manages our current baseyard in Kula, is an experienced heavy machine operator, and an arborist with fence building background.

Restoration Assistants: Jodi Kalama is an experienced plant propagator, and supports the field efforts through managing invasive species, surveying project sites for native and non-native species, planting, and outreach. He has management experience, lives in Makawao is and currently part-time.

Isaiah Auwelo is a new hire, experienced in plant propagation through the Kamehameha Schools program. He is tech savvy, a fast learner, and assists with propagation, planting, invasive species management, and technical aspects of the program.

We plan to recruit and hire at least two more field staff to adequately manage more than one site each day.

**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.

Landowners - LHWRP Executive Committee

Uhiwai Board - Voluntary - Robert Santos, Andy Graham, Akua Po

Uhiwai Staff:

Executive Director - Nat'l Resource Manager, Project Coordinator, Field Crew Leader

Program Assistant - Operations/Community Engagement Manage - PR/Outreach Liaison

Field crew leader - field staff

**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.

Uhiwai's Board is composed of volunteer members.

Position	Annual Salaries
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Executive Director	\$120,000-\$150,000
Project Coordinator	\$115,000-\$140,000
Natural Resource Manager	\$105,000-\$125,000

**VII. Other**

**1. Litigation**

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 2024-25 the activity funded by the grant if the grant of this application is:

- (a) Received by the applicant for fiscal year 2024-25, but
- (b) Not received by the applicant thereafter.

Uhiwai is a quickly developing organization, gaining traction and experience operating independently. With this new flexibility and self-sufficiency a primary goal is to triple our funding by implementing community-based donor programs, including professional fundraisers/grantwriters/event managers/donor development expertise. This grant will fill a number of gaps in capacity that are difficult to secure funding for. While everyone loves planting, funding vehicles, operations, office supplies, etc. is difficult; This funding would enable Uhiwai to leverage other funds, bringing continuity of staff, enhanced restoration, and increased efficiency to our core watershed conservation efforts.

If Uhiwai O Haleakalā does not receive funding in the following fiscal year, Uhiwai will continue to apply for fire and restoration related grants to sustain operations and prioritize hiring professional fundraising/donor development services. Work on the land never stops, and continuity of funding, access, staff, and site management is critical so that the many years of planning and funding are not reversed by a single storm, fence breach, disease, or fire. We would inform our colleagues at other Watershed Partnerships and our landowners, as well as initiate more community donations and merchandising, experiences, etc. so that the advancement this funding provides will not be reversed or impeded. We will continue to build on our outreach programs to do seed collection, invasive species control and native seedling plantings with volunteers, and increase opportunity to invite in-kind donations. Uhiwai's long-term goal is to establish an endowment with funding sufficient to maintain base operations and staff annually, enabling funding to go to projects and forest restoration efforts.

Grant opportunities are as follows:

- USDA Forest Service Community Wildfire Defense Grant (annual)
- USDA Forest Service Wildland Urban Interface Program (annual)
- Natural Resources Conservation Service Programs such as Environmental Quality Incentives Program (annual)
- Department of Land and Natural Resources Watershed Partnership Program (FY26-FY27)
- County of Maui annual grants such as Office of Economic Development, Department of Water Supply Watershed Protection Program

Private donors include: Makena Resort, Dorcy Foundation, Hawaii Community Foundation, and individual donors.



BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - PERSONNEL SALARIES AND WAGES Period: July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Applicant: Uhiwai O Haleakala

POSITION TITLE	FULL TIME EQUIVALENT	ANNUAL SALARY A	% OF TIME ALLOCATED TO GRANT REQUEST B	TOTAL STATE FUNDS REQUESTED (A x B)
Executive Director	100%	\$137,280.00	50.00%	\$ 68,640.00
Project Coordinator	100%	\$125,840.00	50.00%	\$ 62,920.00
Natural Resource Manager	100%	\$114,400.00	50.00%	\$ 57,200.00
Operations/Community Engagement Manager	100%	\$91,520.00	50.00%	\$ 45,760.00
Field Crew Leader	100%	\$91,520.00	75.00%	\$ 68,640.00
Field Crew	100%	\$74,880.00	75.00%	\$ 56,160.00
Field Crew	100%	\$74,880.00	75.00%	\$ 56,160.00
Field Crew	100%	\$74,880.00	75.00%	\$ 56,160.00
PR/Outreach Liaison	100%	\$91,520.00	50.00%	\$ 45,760.00
Program Assistant	100%	\$80,080.00	50.00%	\$ 40,040.00
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
<b>TOTAL:</b>				<b>557,440.00</b>
<b>JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS: 50% of all manager and admin staff and 75% of all field staff. (Executive Director, Project Coordinator and Natural Resource Manager spend a large amount of time of the 50% FTE in the field with the Field Crew)</b>				



Applicant: Uhiwai O Haleakalā

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
40' containers for storing fence materials on site	3.00	\$10,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	30000
Office Trailers	3	\$30,000.00	\$ 90,000.00	90000
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	6		\$ 120,000.00	120,000

**JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:**

40' containers to securely house valuable equipment, tools, vehicles, and technology essential for conservation.  
Purchase/convert 3 office containers, creating space and storage dedicated to management staff, field staff, and outreach/volunteer staff.

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
4x4 ATV	2.00	\$40,000.00	\$ 80,000.00	80000
Compact Truck 4WD	1.00	\$50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	50000
Flat Bed Truck	1.00	\$50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	50000
Trailer to transport ATV/supplies/seedlings	1.00	\$8,000.00	\$ 8,000.00	8000
			\$ -	
<b>TOTAL:</b>	5		\$ 188,000.00	188,000

**JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:**

Purchase dedicated vehicles to fill gaps in access (flatbed, ATV/UTV, compact truck, 4x4 SUV, trailer) allowing for safe transport in rugged terrain.

Applicant: Uhiwai O Haleakalā

FUNDING AMOUNT REQUESTED						
TOTAL PROJECT COST	ALL SOURCES OF FUNDS RECEIVED IN PRIOR YEARS		STATE FUNDS REQUESTED	OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS REQUESTED	FUNDING REQUIRED IN SUCCEEDING YEARS	
	FY: 2022-2023	FY: 2023-2024	FY:2024-2025	FY:2024-2025	FY:2025-2026	FY:2026-2027
PLANS						
LAND ACQUISITION						
DESIGN						
CONSTRUCTION			100000			
EQUIPMENT			120000			
<b>TOTAL:</b>			<b>220,000</b>			

**JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:**

Construction: Installation of 2 reservoirs x \$40,000 each. Equipment: 40' containers to securely house valuable equipment, tools, vehicles, and technology essential for conservation. Purchase/convert 3 office containers, creating space and storage dedicated to management staff, field staff, and outreach/volunteer staff.

**GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID**

Applicant: Uhiwai O Haleakalā

Contracts Total: 1,017,518

	<b>CONTRACT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>EFFECTIVE DATES</b>	<b>AGENCY</b>	<b>GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)</b>	<b>CONTRACT VALUE</b>
1	Partners for US Fish and Wildlife: Kaupō	10/1/20-9/30/22	US Fish and Wildlife Service	U.S.	\$25,000
2	Partners for US Fish and Wildlife: Seed Farm at Baseyard	5/11/21-8/31/21	US Fish and Wildlife Service	U.S.	\$4,450
3	Partners for US Fish and Wildlife: Nu'u Mauka	10/1/21-9/30/23	US Fish and Wildlife Service	U.S.	\$70,000
4	Environmental Quality Incentives Program: Kaupō	8/3/18-12/30/24	Natural Resources Conservation Service	U.S.	\$82,310
5	Environmental Quality Incentives Program: Nu'u Mauka	8/22/23-12/30/28	Natural Resources Conservation Service	U.S.	\$398,698
6	Kahikinui Fence Inspection	6/15/23-6/30/24	Department of Hawaiian Home Lands	Hawaii	\$22,060
7	Watershed Partnership FY24-FY25 (in process)	1/1/24-6/30/26	Department of Land & Natural Resources	Hawaii	\$375,000
8	Preparing for Planting Capacity Expansion to Restore Leeward Haleakalā Watershed	9/27/23-9/26/24	Office of Economic Development	County of Maui	\$40,000
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