

---

---

# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO WORK WITH  
THE UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE TO IMPLEMENT A  
NATIVE PLANT SEEDING PROJECT IN MILILANI MAUKA TO RESTORE  
THE ECOLOGICAL DAMAGE FROM THE NOVEMBER 2023 WILDFIRES.

1           WHEREAS, plants native to Hawaii are essential to a  
2 sustainable ecosystem because many are drought-tolerant and  
3 require less maintenance through fertilizing and pruning; and  
4

5           WHEREAS, planting native species helps maintain and  
6 preserve the critical biodiversity that makes Hawaii unique; and  
7

8           WHEREAS, non-native grasses and shrubs are highly flammable  
9 and perpetuate devastating wildfires; and  
10

11           WHEREAS, non-native plants such as grasses and shrubs that  
12 have been introduced into the island ecosystem are accustomed to  
13 wildfires and easily reoccupy lands that have been recently  
14 scorched by wildfires; and  
15

16           WHEREAS, in November 2023, wildfires damaged 2.5 square  
17 miles of the critical ecosystem in Mililani Mauka, including the  
18 Oahu Forest National Wildlife Refuge and Koolau Mountains; and  
19

20           WHEREAS, Mililani Mauka's impacted lands featured a native  
21 forest of koa trees, uluhe fern, and twenty-two federally  
22 designated endangered or threatened species that will be  
23 vulnerable to invasive species takeover during ecosystem  
24 recovery; now, therefore,  
25

26           BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
27 Thirty-second Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
28 Session of 2024, the Senate concurring, that the Department of  
29 Land and Natural Resources is urged to work with the United



1 States Fish and Wildlife Service to implement a native plant  
2 seeding project on the lands impacted by the November 2023  
3 wildfires in Mililani Mauka to protect the area from the threat  
4 of similar devastation in the future; and

5

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
7 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Fish and Wildlife  
8 Administrators and Project Leader of the Pacific Islands Fish  
9 and Wildlife Office of the United States Fish and Wildlife  
10 Service, Chairperson of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,  
11 Administrator of the Division of Forestry and Wildlife of the  
12 Department of Land and Natural Resources, and Administrator of  
13 the Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement of the  
14 Department of Land and Natural Resources.

