

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



Amy Hodges, Executive Director

1/17/25

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

PRINT NAME AND TITLE

DATE

**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:

Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, Inc.

Maui Nui Marine Resource Council

Amount of State Funds Requested: \$ 155,482

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

Hui O Ka Wai Ola (HOKWO) requests funding to sustain its water quality monitoring program, active since 2016 and essential for protecting Maui's coastal ecosystems and marine biodiversity. HOKWO fills gaps in state capacity by providing continuous, quality-assured data on key pollutants, including nutrients and turbidity, at 39 sites across leeward Maui. With Maui's waters frequently exceeding Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH) water quality standards, HOKWO's testing protocols align with DOH's to ensure reliability. This data supplements DOH efforts and expands understanding of coastal conditions, offering insights into pollution hotspots and trends. HOKWO's data is publicly accessible and supports community stakeholders in developing policies and conservation strategies. Following the 2023 wildfires, HOKWO's monitoring was vital for assessing environmental impacts and guiding recovery. Long-term monitoring is essential for tracking changes, protecting coral reefs, and preserving cultural, economic, and environmental resources. Funding ensures the continuation of this proven program, safeguarding Maui's waters for future generations.

Amount of Other Funds Available:

State: \$ 0

Federal: \$ 0

County: \$ 33,353

Private/Other: \$ 30,281

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

\$ 0

Unrestricted Assets:

\$ 136,293

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 331204

City:

Kahului

State:

HI

Zip:

96733

Contact Person for Matters Involving this Application

Name:
Amy Hodges

Title:
Executive Director

Email:
amy@mauireefs.org

Phone:
808-866-8563



Authorized Signature

Amy Hodges, Executive Director

Name and Title

1/17/25

Date Signed



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: MAUI NUI MARINE RESOURCE COUNCIL, INC.

DBA/Trade Name: Maui Nui Marine Resource Council

Issue Date: 01/15/2025

Status: **Compliant**

Hawaii Tax#: 33666630-01

New Hawaii Tax#:

FEIN/SSN#: XX-XXX9441

UI#: No record

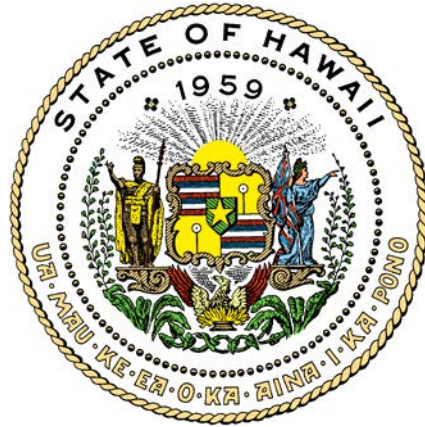
DCCA FILE#: 246930

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

MAUI NUI MARINE RESOURCE COUNCIL, INC.

was incorporated under the laws of Hawaii on 12/17/2014 ; 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 17, 2025

Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

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

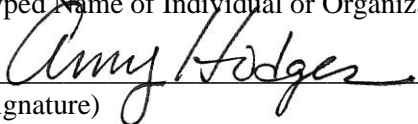
The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies the following:

- 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.

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)


(Signature)

(Date)

(Typed Name)

(Title)



3. Public Purpose

The undersigned hereby confirms and acknowledges that the grant-in-aid will be used for a public purpose pursuant to Section 42F-102, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, Inc.
January 17, 2025

 1/17/25

Amy Hodges, Executive Director
Maui Nui Marine Resource Council

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. Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate (If the Applicant is an Organization)

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, 2024.

See attached.

2. Declaration Statement

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

See attached.

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](#).

See attached.

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;

Maui Nui Marine Resource Council (MNMRC) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting Maui's coral reefs and nearshore waters for future generations. Founded in 2007, MNMRC has a proven history of implementing science-based solutions to address land-based pollution, climate change impacts, and community engagement in reef conservation. Our work is rooted in partnerships with local communities, researchers, and government agencies, ensuring that our efforts are both effective and inclusive. Over the years, MNMRC has earned credibility as a trusted leader in marine conservation, with a track record of successful initiatives, including reef restoration projects, public education campaigns, and the development of programs like Hui O Ka Wai Ola (HOKWO).

This proposal seeks support for MNMRC's HOKWO program, which focuses on water quality monitoring to protect Maui's coastal waters and ecosystems. Established in 2016, HOKWO is co-managed by MNMRC, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and the West Maui Ridge to Reef Initiative. This collaborative approach ensures the program combines community engagement with scientific rigor, aligning with state and local priorities to address pressing environmental challenges.

By monitoring pollutants such as nutrients, turbidity, and other parameters, HOKWO provides reliable, quality-assured data that fills critical gaps in the Hawai'i Department of Health's (DOH) capacity. With over 5000 samples analyzed to date, this data empowers communities, decision-makers, and researchers to protect marine ecosystems, public health, and the economic and cultural resources vital to Maui Nui.

2. The goals and objectives related to the request;

Sustain Regular Monitoring Efforts: HOKWO will continue its rigorous, year-round water quality monitoring at 41 coastal sites across leeward Maui, ensuring consistent data collection every three weeks. This frequency allows for timely detection of pollution trends and hotspots, critical for effective environmental management and policy-making.

Monitor in Fire-Affected Areas: Following the 2023 wildfires, HOKWO has prioritized additional monitoring in fire-affected zones, including Lahaina and South Maui. This objective focuses on tracking fire-related pollutants such as ash, sediment, and nutrients, providing essential insights into recovery and resilience efforts.

Enhance Data Reliability and Accessibility: Testing protocols align with DOH standards to ensure high-quality, state-approved data. HOKWO's data is publicly accessible and supports researchers, policymakers, and conservation groups in understanding and addressing water quality issues. Quarterly reports will be published to maintain transparency and foster community trust. Raw data are available to researchers, advocacy groups, and the public at huiokawaiola.com, PacLOOS, EPA Water Quality Portal, Aqualink, and Zenodo.

Engage and Empower the Community: HOKWO will continue to recruit, train, and support local volunteers, including individuals from Native Hawaiian and underserved communities. Volunteers gain hands-on experience in water sampling and data analysis, fostering environmental stewardship and providing pathways for workforce development in conservation and science.

Collaborate with Partners for Broader Impact: HOKWO aims to strengthen partnerships with local and state agencies, advocacy groups, and academic researchers to ensure its data is integrated into broader conservation strategies. By working collaboratively, the program contributes to long-term solutions for reducing land-based pollution and protecting Maui's coastal ecosystems.

Contribute to Long-Term Resilience: HOKWO's monitoring efforts will provide critical baseline and comparative data over time, helping to evaluate the effectiveness of management interventions, support adaptive policies, and build resilience against future environmental threats such as climate change and extreme weather events.

3. The public purpose and need to be served;

Maui's coastal waters are critical to the island's environmental health, cultural heritage, and economic prosperity. Coral reefs and marine biodiversity support industries like tourism and fishing, which are the backbone of Hawaii's economy. Visitors to Hawaii contribute billions annually to the local economy, drawn largely by the islands' pristine waters and vibrant marine ecosystems. However, increasing land-based pollutants such as nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment threaten these vital resources, putting both the environment and the economy at risk.

Regular monitoring by HOKWO identifies pollution trends and hotspots, enabling timely intervention to protect marine ecosystems and public health. The program's data also addresses community concerns about water safety and supports informed policy and conservation efforts to ensure the resilience of Maui's ecosystems.

The Hui O Ka Wai Ola Coastal Water Quality Report 2016–2023 highlights that turbidity levels consistently exceed DOH standards, and nitrate levels often surpass acceptable limits, indicating significant impacts from land-based sources. These findings underscore the urgent need for continued monitoring and mitigation efforts to protect Maui's coastal waters and ensure the sustainability of Hawaii's natural resources, which directly impact its economic well-being.

4. Describe the target population to be served; and

Hui O Ka Wai Ola (HOKWO) serves a diverse range of target populations, including Maui Nui's residents, visitors, and key stakeholders who rely on the island's coastal resources for their livelihoods, cultural practices, and recreation.

Local Communities: HOKWO engages and benefits residents, particularly those in coastal areas, by addressing concerns about water quality and environmental health. Native Hawaiian communities are a key focus, as their cultural practices and traditions are closely tied to the health of the ocean and nearshore ecosystems.

Policymakers and Environmental Managers: The program provides essential, quality-assured data that informs state and county agencies, enabling the development of effective pollution management strategies and conservation policies.

Researchers and Conservation Organizations: By making its data publicly accessible, HOKWO supports academic institutions, advocacy groups, and environmental nonprofits in conducting analyses, developing solutions, and advocating for the health of Maui's waters.

Volunteers and the Broader Community: HOKWO actively recruits and trains community volunteers, providing them with hands-on skills in water sampling and analysis. This not only fosters environmental stewardship but also contributes to workforce development and career exploration in environmental science.

Visitors and the Tourism Industry: With Maui's economy heavily reliant on tourism, the program indirectly benefits millions of visitors annually by protecting the pristine waters and vibrant reefs that are central to their experience and the island's global appeal.

By addressing the needs of these diverse populations, HOKWO ensures that its efforts support the social, cultural, and economic well-being of Maui Nui while building a stronger foundation for environmental stewardship and resilience.

5. Describe the geographic coverage.

Hui O Ka Wai Ola (HOKWO) monitors water quality at 41 coastal sites across leeward Maui, encompassing key areas in West and South Maui. This region includes ecologically and economically significant coastal zones, such as popular beaches, coral reef habitats, and areas vital to tourism, fishing, and cultural practices. Sites extend from Honolua Bay to Papalaua in West Maui, while in South Maui monitoring covers areas from Ma'alaea Bay to 'Ahihi Kina'u in Makena. These sites represent critical ecosystems that are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of land-based pollution, urban development, and climate change.

HOKWO's geographic coverage also includes specific focus areas impacted by the 2023 wildfires, such as seven sites in Lahaina and four in South Maui below the Kula fire zone. Monitoring in these areas provides essential data on fire-related pollutants and their long-term effects on coastal waters and coral reefs.

This comprehensive geographic scope allows HOKWO to identify pollution trends, assess changes in water quality, and provide actionable data to guide conservation and management efforts. By maintaining consistent monitoring across leeward Maui, HOKWO supports the resilience and sustainability of the island's coastal environments for all who rely on them.

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;

Hui O Ka Wai Ola (HOKWO) will implement a comprehensive water quality monitoring program to assess and safeguard the health of Maui's coastal waters. The scope of work includes:

Monitoring Activities: HOKWO will conduct water quality monitoring at 41 coastal sites along leeward Maui every three weeks (17 sampling sessions annually). Each session includes sampling for 13 key parameters such as ocean salinity, pH, temperature, total nitrogen, nitrate-nitrite nitrogen, ammonium, total phosphorus, phosphate, silicates, dissolved oxygen (DO), turbidity, and other indicators of water quality.

Data Analysis and Reporting: Collected samples will be analyzed following Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH) Quality Assurance protocols. Data will be reviewed quarterly by HOKWO's quality assurance team before being uploaded to the program's public website and shared with DOH and other stakeholders.

Volunteer Management and Training: HOKWO will engage and support its volunteer network through hands-on training and biannual refresher sessions, ensuring consistency and accuracy in data collection.

Outreach and Engagement: Results will be shared with the public and stakeholders through reports, presentations, and online platforms to foster community involvement and inform policy and conservation strategies.

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

July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026: Water quality monitoring conducted at 41 sites on leeward Maui every three weeks, totaling 17 sampling sessions annually.

Quarterly: Data from the previous quarter will be reviewed by the quality assurance team. Verified data will be uploaded to the HOKWO website and provided to DOH for integration into statewide water quality assessments.

Q2 and Q4: Volunteer refresher training sessions will be conducted, ensuring volunteers remain proficient in sampling and analysis techniques. Trainings will align with individual volunteer anniversaries for optimal participation.

Monthly: HOKWO Steering Committee and Tech Team meet to review programmatic progress and operations, inclusive of data, volunteer, and equipment statuses.

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

Adherence to DOH Standards: All sampling and analysis follow strict Hawai'i DOH-approved Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPP) to ensure data integrity and reliability.

Data Verification: A dedicated quality assurance team reviews all data to identify anomalies or errors before final reporting. This ensures accuracy and consistency across all datasets.

Ongoing Evaluation: Feedback from volunteers and stakeholders will be regularly collected to refine training, improve protocols, and enhance program effectiveness. Annual internal reviews will assess progress toward program goals, and any necessary adjustments will be implemented.

Partnership Review: Collaboration with DOH and other partners ensures the program remains aligned with state and local priorities, and feedback is integrated into program planning.

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.

The following metrics will be used to assess program effectiveness and reported to the expending agency:

- **Sampling Completion:** Percentage of planned sampling sessions successfully conducted. Target: 100% of 17 sessions annually, 697 samples.
- **Data Accessibility:** Quarterly publication of quality-assured data on the HOKWO website, and submission to DOH.
- **Volunteer Retention and Training:** Number of volunteers retained, recruited, and participating. Target: 90% retention annually
- **Impact on Management:** Instances where HOKWO data is cited or used in policy, research, or conservation decisions.
- **Public Engagement:** Number of website visits, downloads of reports, and public or stakeholder presentations delivered annually. Target: 2+ presentations quarterly.

These measures will ensure the program’s progress is tracked objectively and transparently, providing clear accountability for the use of grant funds and its contributions to the health of Maui’s coastal ecosystems.

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](#))

See Attached.

2. The applicant shall provide its anticipated quarterly funding requests for the fiscal year 2026.

Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	Total Grant
\$ 23,322	\$ 23,322	\$ 54,419	\$ 54,419	\$ 155,482

3. The applicant shall provide a listing of all other sources of funding that they are seeking for fiscal year 2026.

County of Maui EP&S Proviso
County of Maui EP&S Green Grants
Hawaii Community Foundation: Maui Strong Fund
Hawaii Community Foundation: Laulima Grants
Private Site Sponsors: Wailea Community Association and Napili Bay and Beach Foundation

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.

None.

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 2026 for program funding.

FY25 County of Maui - EP&S - Proviso
FY25 County of Maui - EP&S - Green Grants
FY24-26 DLNR - Kaulunani Grant
FY24 State of Hawaii - Department of Health - contract
FY24 County of Maui - EP&S - Green Grants
FY24 County of Maui - Office of Innovation & Sustainability - Proviso
FY23 County of Maui - Office of Economic Development - grant
FY23 County of Maui - Office of Innovation & Sustainability - Proviso
FY23 County of Maui - Dept of Housing & Human Concerns - grant
FY22 County of Maui - Office of Economic Development - Proviso
FY22 County of Maui - Dept of Climate Change, Resiliency & Sustain. – Proviso
FY22 County of Maui – Dept of Climate Change, Resiliency & Sustain. - grant

6. The applicant shall provide the balance of its unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2024.

Hui O Ka Wai Ola is co-managed by three organizations with Maui Nui Marine Resource Council (the applicant) holding the program's finances and staffing/HR resources. As such, MNMRC separates HOKWO's unrestricted assets (fbo HOKWO donations) from the rest of MNMRC's funds.

FBO Hui O Ka Wai Ola unrestricted current assets: \$136,293
Maui Nui Marine Resource Council's unrestricted current assets: \$588,495

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.

Maui Nui Marine Resource Council (MNMRC) has over 15 years of experience in marine conservation and community-based resource management, making it uniquely qualified to manage and implement Hui O Ka Wai Ola's (HOKWO) water quality monitoring program. MNMRC has lead efforts including the Maui Coral Reef Recovery Plan, Pohakea Watershed Stormwater Management Plan, the MauiCARES Act Waiwai Initiative, and is a founding member of the Maui Nui Makai Network. A further strength of the HOKWO program is its co-management structure, which combines the expertise and oversight of three respected and established entities: MNMRC, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and the West Maui Ridge to Reef Initiative. This collaborative framework ensures the program benefits from diverse knowledge, strong partnerships, and alignment with state and local environmental priorities. Together, the co-management team provides robust scientific guidance, operational support, and strategic direction, making HOKWO an exemplary model of collaboration in environmental stewardship.

Key Skills and Capabilities:

- **Scientific Expertise:** HOKWO follows rigorous protocols approved by the Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH) to ensure high-quality, reliable data collection and analysis. The program is supported by scientists and a dedicated quality assurance team, ensuring the integrity and accuracy of its results.
- **Community Engagement:** HOKWO relies on a robust network of highly trained volunteers who are engaged in data collection, analysis, and public outreach. MNMRC and its co-management partners have demonstrated exceptional ability to recruit, train, and retain volunteers, creating a strong foundation for long-term program success.
- **Program Management:** MNMRC's proven track record includes managing complex, multi-stakeholder programs like HOKWO and other initiatives focused on coral reef restoration and sustainable resource use. MNMRC has successfully administered federal, state, county, and foundation grants and contracts with a FY24 operating budget of over \$1M. MNMRC performs a complete financial audit through a local external CPA firm each fiscal year.
- **Data Accessibility and Collaboration:** HOKWO's publicly accessible data is used by researchers, policymakers, and conservation organizations, demonstrating the program's value as a trusted resource for guiding environmental management and policy.

Recent Verifiable Experience:

- **HOKWO Water Quality Monitoring Program (2016–Present):** Since its inception, HOKWO has collected and analyzed over 5,000 water samples from 41 coastal sites in leeward Maui. In the past three years, the program has focused on expanding its monitoring capacity to fire-affected areas and responding to community concerns about water quality.
- **Wildfire Response (2023+):** Following the devastating Lahaina and Kula wildfires, and in working under a contract with FEMA through the State DOH, HOKWO expanded its monitoring capacity to fire-affected areas and responding to community concerns about water quality. In Q4 2024 HOKWO assumed heavy metals monitoring at coastal sites adjacent to the Lahaina (Olowalu) temporary disposal site, through coordination with the State DOH.
- **Reef Restoration and Conservation Projects:** MNMRC has led various coral reef conservation projects in collaboration with partners such as The Nature Conservancy and West Maui Ridge to Reef Initiative, demonstrating its capacity to implement science-based environmental solutions.
- **Public Outreach and Education:** MNMRC has conducted educational campaigns, community webinars, and public presentations to raise awareness about water quality and conservation efforts, further solidifying its role as a trusted environmental steward.

By leveraging the combined strengths of its co-management team and its own extensive experience, MNMRC ensures that HOKWO continues to deliver high-impact results in water quality monitoring and coastal ecosystem protection. This collaborative, science-driven approach makes MNMRC uniquely positioned to deliver the proposed services effectively and to meet the needs of Maui's communities and ecosystems.

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.

HOKWO's wetlab is located at the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (HIHWNMS), a supporting partner of the HOKWO program. This wetlab holds the program's sensitive equipment and sample freezer storage. A mobile lab travels with the monitoring teams for in situ measurements including turbidity and salinity. All nutrient testing is performed by the SOEST Analytical Laboratory at UH Manoa, to which frozen samples are shipped via FedEx.

In August 2023, the HOKWO program lost its West Maui laboratory to the Lahaina wildfire. HOKWO intends to reestablish a wetlab in West Maui, pending the identification of facility availability, infrastructure, and accessibility. Until such time the program continues to function out of the South Maui lab at the HIHWNMS.

Otherwise, MNMRC staff operate via remote work for program administrative functions.

I. 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.

Hui O Ka Wai Ola operates with a structured staffing model that integrates strategic oversight from a Steering Committee, day-to-day management by the Program Manager, field leadership from Team Leads for volunteer sample processing, and quality control provided by dedicated Quality Assurance (QA) Officers. This structure ensures effective program delivery and high-quality data.

Steering Committee:

The Steering Committee provides strategic oversight and guidance, ensuring the program remains aligned with its mission and goals. Its members provide technical expertise and coordinate with the Department of Health to determine where, how, and when water quality is tested, and also what pollutants to look for. The committee is comprised of representatives from organizations that formed Hui O Ka Wai Ola to help ensure the public has access to accurate information on water quality. The committee includes:

- **Tova Callender:** Coordinator of the West Maui Ridge to Reef Initiative. Tova has extensive experience in watershed management and pollution mitigation and plays a critical role in community engagement.
- **Kim Falinski, PhD:** Senior Scientist for The Nature Conservancy. Kim specializes in marine resource management, providing technical expertise in water quality and conservation strategies.
- **Alana Yurkanin:** Maui Marine Program Manager for The Nature Conservancy. Alana oversees marine conservation efforts and provides critical support for field operations and program strategies.
- **Amy Hodges:** Executive Director of Maui Nui Marine Resource Council. With over a decade at MNMRC, Amy's leadership ensures program sustainability and alignment with organizational goals.

Program Manager:

- **Liz Yannell** oversees all aspects of HOKWO, including scheduling, volunteer coordination, fieldwork, and data management. Liz holds a degree in Environmental Studies and brings a background in reef conservation and project leadership.

Team Leads:

- **Ylenia St-Louis:** Ylenia holds a degree in Marine Biology and has hands-on experience in diverse marine ecosystem research. She leads South Maui monitoring

efforts, ensuring data collection adheres to protocols.

- **Jess Erwin:** Jess holds a Marine Biology degree and has significant experience in coral reef research and restoration worldwide. She oversees monitoring activities in West Maui, ensuring accuracy and efficiency.
- **Dana Grad:** Dana holds a Master's in Environmental Science and a Bachelor's in Marine Biology. With extensive experience in monitoring and coastal conservation, she brings a data-driven approach to protecting Maui's coastal ecosystems.

Quality Assurance (QA) Officers:

The QA Officers are integral to maintaining data integrity and ensuring compliance with Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH) standards. The QA team includes:

- **Rebecca Leshner:** Rebecca spent her career in environmental engineering and construction, specializing in design and implementation of groundwater remediation systems and site assessment/remediation of landfill, petroleum, and solvent sites. She brings her experience implementing QA/QC programs for both government and private sector clients to the HOKWO QA team.
- **Kelly James:** Kelly holds a degree in Environmental Science and is a Systems Administrator in the IT industry. She contributes her technical skills in water quality analysis and data verification, ensuring consistency across the program.
- **Kristina McHugh:** Kristina holds a BS in Environmental Science with a minor in Economics from UCSB, and professionally she is a Data & Systems Analyst in the Aerospace industry. Her detail-oriented approach ensures the accuracy, reliability, and compliance of HOKWO's data.

Volunteers:

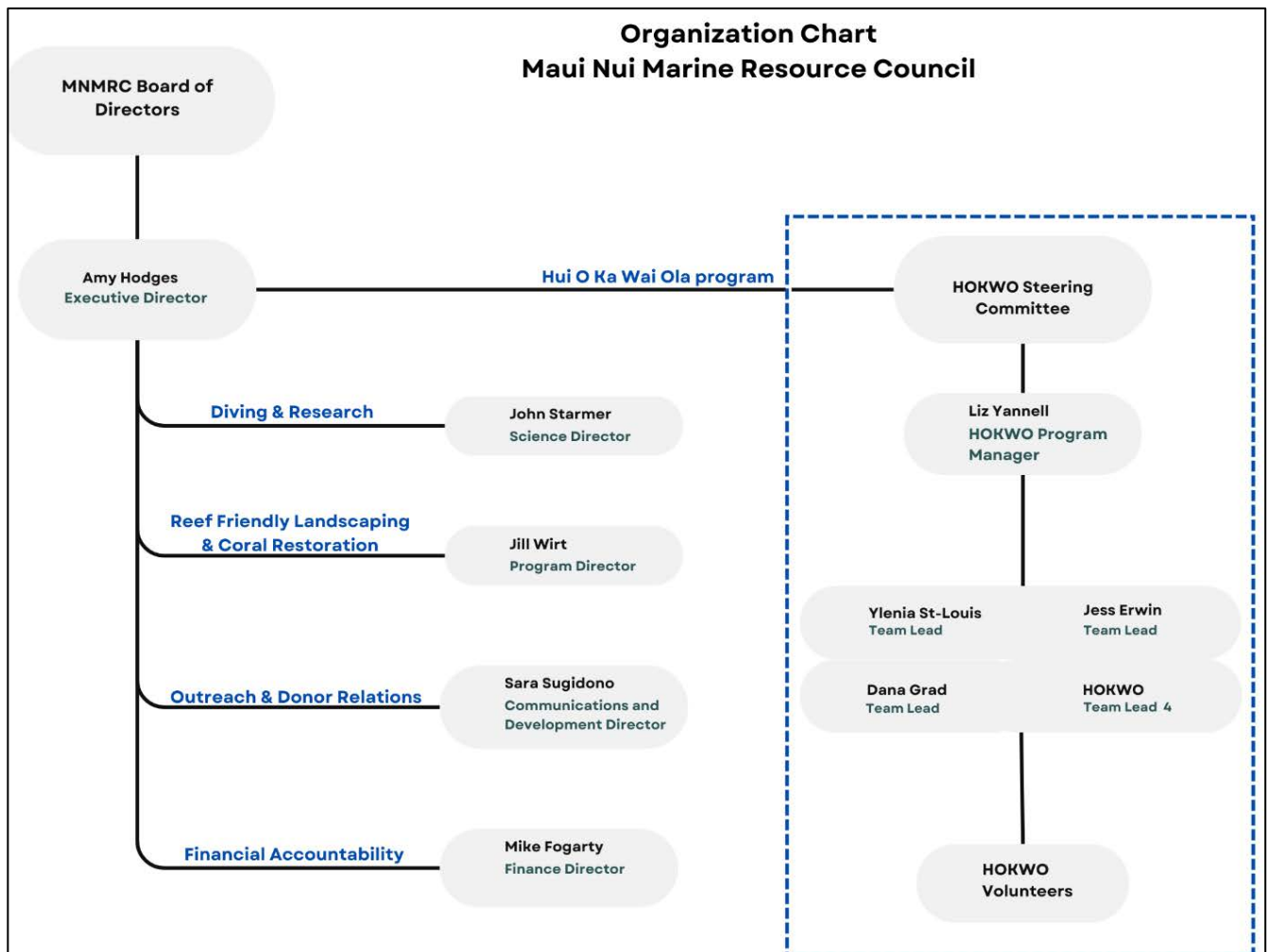
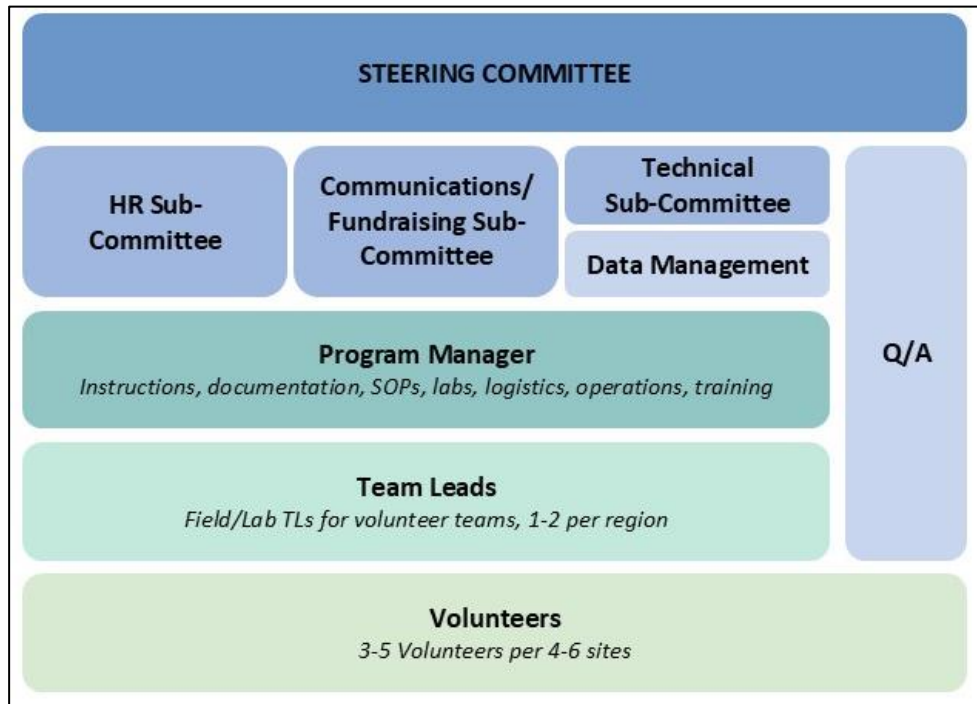
A robust network of trained community volunteers conducts water sampling and field observations. These volunteers are vital to HOKWO's ability to maintain consistent monitoring at all sites.

This staffing model integrates strategic oversight, operational expertise, and community engagement to ensure the program meets its objectives while maintaining scientific integrity and public trust.

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.

Hui O Ka Wai Ola supervision hierarchy diagram



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.

MNMRC Executive Director: \$106,101

MNMRC Communications & Development Director: \$82,400

MNMRC Science Director: \$79,560

II. 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.

No pending litigation.

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.

Hui O Ka Wai Ola operates under rigorous scientific and regulatory standards, ensuring its work meets the highest quality benchmarks for environmental monitoring and data reliability. Special qualifications and accreditations relevant to this request include:

- **Hawai'i Department of Health Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) Compliance:** HOKWO's monitoring protocols adhere to DOH-approved Quality Assurance Project Plans, ensuring that all collected data meets state and federal standards for accuracy, consistency, and reliability. The program's uniquely qualified compliance underscores its credibility and its capability to contribute valuable data to inform state environmental policies and decisions.
- **State-Approved Data Contributions:** HOKWO's data is incorporated into the DOH's Integrated Report, which assesses water quality across Hawai'i. This inclusion demonstrates the program's recognized role in supplementing state monitoring capacity and providing actionable insights for water quality management.
- **Team Expertise:** HOKWO's staff and volunteers are trained extensively in field sampling, data analysis, and environmental monitoring techniques, ensuring compliance with scientific standards. The program also benefits from the expertise of its Steering Committee members and Quality Assurance Officers, who bring advanced qualifications in marine science, environmental policy, and community-based conservation.

- **Established Partnerships:**

As a co-managed program under Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, The Nature Conservancy, and the West Maui Ridge to Reef Initiative, HOKWO leverages the resources, expertise, and credibility of these respected organizations to enhance its capacity and ensure operational excellence.

These qualifications ensure HOKWO's capacity to deliver high-quality, reliable data that addresses critical gaps in water quality monitoring and supports effective coastal management strategies.

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.

The grant will not be used to support or benefit a sectarian or non-sectarian private educational institution.

4. Future Sustainability Plan

The applicant shall provide a plan for sustaining after fiscal year 2026 the activity funded by the grant if the grant of this application is:

- (a) Received by the applicant for fiscal year 2026, but
- (b) Not received by the applicant thereafter.

Hui O Ka Wai Ola has developed a comprehensive plan to ensure the program's sustainability beyond fiscal year 2026, even if subsequent grant funding is not received. The plan includes the following key strategies:

Diversified Funding Streams:

HOKWO will expand its funding sources to reduce dependency on a single grant. This includes:

- Applying for grants from additional state, federal, and private funding programs, including NOAA, EPA, and local foundations.
- Cultivating private donor support through targeted fundraising campaigns, community association buy-in, and leveraging MNMRC's established donor base.
- Exploring corporate sponsorships via Adopt-a-Site with site-associated businesses, such as those in the tourism and sustainability sectors, local businesses, developers.

Volunteer-Driven Model:

HOKWO's reliance on a well-trained volunteer base ensures low operational costs. By continuing to recruit and retain volunteers from diverse community sectors, the program can maintain monitoring coverage even with limited financial resources.

Fee-Based Services:

HOKWO will explore offering fee-based services, such as water quality assessments for private landowners, resorts, and community organizations. This approach can provide a supplemental revenue stream while contributing to the program’s mission.

Partnership Support:

HOKWO’s co-management structure with Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, The Nature Conservancy, and the West Maui Ridge to Reef Initiative ensures access to shared resources, technical expertise, and administrative support. These partnerships will help sustain program operations through cost-sharing and collaborative initiatives. Additional strategic partners could be incorporated based on funding and programmatic needs moving forward.

Community and Stakeholder Engagement:

By strengthening relationships with local government agencies, policymakers, and community organizations, HOKWO can secure in-kind support, such as shared equipment or logistical assistance. Enhanced outreach efforts will also build public advocacy for program sustainability.

Streamlined Operations:

HOKWO will evaluate its operations to identify cost-saving measures while maintaining the integrity of its monitoring program. This may include optimizing sampling schedules or consolidating resources without compromising data quality.

Through these strategies, HOKWO will remain a vital resource for Maui’s coastal water quality monitoring, ensuring the continued protection of marine ecosystems and the communities that rely on them. This multi-pronged approach reflects the program’s commitment to long-term sustainability, even in the absence of future grant funding.

BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, 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	73,864		15,805	18,615
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments	14,773		3,161	3,723
3. Fringe Benefits	13,602		3,060	3,261
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	102,240	0	22,025	25,599
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Sample Analysis lab fees	24,778		10,285	3,273
2. Sample Shipping	1,331		543	51
3. Supplies	13,142		500	1,358
4. Volunteer Relations	3,000			
5. Lab + Storage Space Rental	3,198			
6. Digital Data Hosting	163			
7. Insurance	785			
8. Accounting & Audit Services	6,844			
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	53,242	0	11,328	4,682
C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES				
D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES				
E. CAPITAL				
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	155,482	0	33,353	30,281
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	155,482	Amy Hodges 808-866-8563		
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested	0	Name (Please type or print) Phone		
(c) Total County Funds Requested	33,353	1/17/2025		
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested	30,281	Signature of Authorized Official Date		
TOTAL BUDGET	219,116	Amy Hodges, Executive Director Name and Title (Please type or print)		

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - PERSONNEL SALARIES AND WAGES

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, Inc.

POSITION TITLE	FULL TIME EQUIVALENT	ANNUAL SALARY A	% OF TIME ALLOCATED TO GRANT REQUEST B	TOTAL STATE FUNDS REQUESTED (A x B)
HOKWO Program Manager	1	\$ 58,344.00	72.81%	\$ 42,478.31
HOKWO Team Lead 1	0.125	\$ 7,620.93	55.37%	\$ 4,219.61
HOKWO Team Lead 2	0.125	\$ 7,235.20	56.47%	\$ 4,085.81
HOKWO Team Lead 3	0.125	\$ 6,460.00	52.77%	\$ 3,408.95
HOKWO Team Lead 4	0.125	\$ 6,460.00	43.14%	\$ 2,786.88
MNMRC Executive Director	1	\$ 106,100.80	15.91%	\$ 16,884.92
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
				\$ -
TOTAL:				73,864.49
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS: HOKWO staff carry out the core functions of data collection and oversight, maintain lab standard and adherence to protocols, and participate in the field with volunteers. The MNMRC Executive Director participates in the HOKWO Steering Committee, performs all grant related administration, performs and is responsible for financial oversight, budgeting and expenditure tracking, and manages all HOKWO staff.				

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, Inc.

DESCRIPTION EQUIPMENT	NO. OF ITEMS	COST PER ITEM	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:				NA

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

DESCRIPTION OF MOTOR VEHICLE	NO. OF VEHICLES	COST PER VEHICLE	TOTAL COST	TOTAL BUDGETED
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
TOTAL:				NA

JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS:

BUDGET JUSTIFICATION - CAPITAL PROJECT DETAILS

Period: July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026

Applicant: Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, Inc.

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:2023-2024	FY:2024-2025	FY:2025-2026	FY:2025-2026	FY:2026-2027	FY:2027-2028
PLANS						
LAND ACQUISITION						
DESIGN						
CONSTRUCTION						
EQUIPMENT						
TOTAL:			NA			
JUSTIFICATION/COMMENTS: NA						

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS, GRANTS, AND / OR GRANTS IN AID

Applicant: Maui Nui Marine Resource Council, Inc.

Contracts Total: 1,792,321

	CONTRACT DESCRIPTION	EFFECTIVE DATES	AGENCY	GOVERNMENT ENTITY (U.S./State/Hawaii/ Honolulu/ Kauai/ Maui County)	CONTRACT VALUE	
1	Proviso: Env. Monitoring HOKWO: \$49,816	1/1/25-12/31/25	Enviro. Protect & Sust.	Maui County	225,000	*
2	Green Grants: Env. Monitoring. HOKWO: \$16,890	1/1/25-12/31/25	Enviro. Protect & Sust.	Maui County	105,824	*
3	Kaulunani Grant: Lahaina Urban Forest	4/24/24 - 3/31/27	DLNR	State	174,093	**
4	HOKWO water monitoring in West Maui	12/22/23 - 12/21/24	Dept. of Health	State	179,110	
5	Green Grants: Coral Restoration	7/1/24 - 6/30/25	Enviro. Protect & Sust.	Maui County	38,344	**
6	Proviso- Env.Protect. HOKWO: \$58,079	1/1/24 - 12/31/24	Off. Innovation & Sust.	Maui County	325,000	*
7	Visitor Education re: Maui's environment	1/1/23 - 12/31/23	Off. Economic Develop.	Maui County	100,000	**
8	Proviso - Env.Protect. HOKWO: \$44,253	1/1/23 - 12/31/23	Off. Innovation & Sust.	Maui County	225,000	*
9	Erosion Prevention: feral ungulate control	3/29/22 - 3/31/23	Dept. Housing & Human	Maui County	56,414	**
10	Proviso: Visitor Education	1/1/22 - 12/31/22	Off. Economic Develop.	Maui County	100,000	**
11	Environmental Protection. HOKWO: \$55,193	1/1/22 - 12/31/22	Climate, Resilience & Sust.	Maui County	225,000	*
12	Environmental Protection	1/1/22 - 12/31/22	Climate, Resilience & Sust.	Maui County	38,536	
						* funds multiple programs including HOKWO
						** no HOKWO program inclusion