

Friends of HVNP Forest Restoration --- Annual Report as of Sept. 16, 2016

NPS-HVNP FY '16 (Oct. 01, 2015 - Sept. 30, 2016)

Mark Johnson continues to be the liaison with Hawaii Volcanoes National Park Natural Resource Management, writing project announcements and scheduling projects since 2007. Patty Kupchak continues to maintain registration and participant lists since 2009. Paul Field Friends board member, FFR liaison presents project reports to the board. Carol Johnson continues to maintain project records, write annual report, turn in volunteer hours and forms to NRM, take photos and write "mahalo" emails sent to participants and staff following each project since 2007.

Projects: 9 (8 at main park, 1 at Kahuku unit)

All projects were held on Fridays in FY'16. The March project was not held due to HVNP staff and committee schedules. The group decided in the parking lot at the June project to cancel due to rain and there was no back up project. No project was held in August due to the centennial celebrations for HVNP Aug. 1 and NPS Aug. 25th. Also, the annual Cultural Festival and a BioBlitz were held on Aug. 27th. A fungus causing rapid ohia tree death has been identified outside the Kilauea section of the park and at the Kahuku unit. Sanitation protocols were adjusted since last year for tools, vehicles, & clothing/shoes. A comment received from David Benitez stated "your groups' consistently are doing an outstanding job with sanitation of gear and personal items, definitely recognized, great job."

Invasive removal: 7 Over **7,875** invasive plants removed plus **180 square meters** kahili ginger treated
1611 uprooted & 82 herbicide treated **blackberry** (*Rubus argutus*)
1514 uprooted & 1567 herbicide treated **faya** (*Morella faya*)
1265 uprooted & 180 square meters herbicide treated **kahili ginger** (*Hedychium garnerianum*)
853 uprooted & 256 herbicide treated **strawberry guava** (*Psidium cattleianum*)
Other uprooted: 3 **buddleia**, 674 **bull thistle**, 14 **cane tibouchina**, 1 **lantana**, 1 **nightshade**, 4 **pyracantha**
Other herbicide treated: 29 pyracantha, 1 **pine tree**

Planting native seedlings: 1 planting of 546 mamane

Seed collection: 1 project, according to Sierra McDaniel we collected 127 grams of ohia seeds which by her calculation is roughly 2,228,070 seeds from 337 trees.

Volunteers:

Participants were from North Carolina, Santiago Chili, all around Hawaii Island & Oahu.
Number of volunteers: 63 (FY'11=69, '12=66, '13=87, '14=73, '15=54)
Number who came to more than one project: 25 (18 came to 4 or more projects)
Number of volunteer hours: 683 hours (FY'11=759, '12=900, '13=890, '14=974, '15=850)
Number of committee hours (estimate, excluding projects): 150 hours

Big mahalos to the following VIP for their continuing enthusiasm, knowledge, and support: Since 2008 Ken & Patty Kupchak. 2009 Gloria & Paul Woofter. 2010 Penny Blair, Grace & Michael Haight. 2012 Paul & Jane Field. 2013 Joan Hughes, Jim Haefner & Alice Lindahl. 2014 Babette & Rich Morrow, Carol Timmons. 2015 Louise Hanna & Bob Kraus, Heidi Hill, Elaine Reed.

Assisting the Native Plant Nursery and Fundraising:

FFR fund expenditures for the NRM vegetation program totaled \$1,646.79. Funds were used for replacement poly film, lumber and hardware for greenhouse maintenance and repair. Materials for seed processing and storage included plastic air tight tubs, humidity meters, moisture removers, and a sealing machine for seed storage. Back pack frames were also purchased so that tubs with plants can be attached and transported to remote areas. Back pack sprayers were converted into back pack units to water plantings.

Written and distributed by Carol Johnson 2016Sept16 to: Committee, Friends HVNP Veg. Forest Restoration VIP, Friends Exec. Director, Office Admin., Board Chair, FFR liaison to board, Sierra McDaniel, Mark Wasser, Caitlin French, David Benitez, HVNP NRM, and Keola Awong at the Kahuku Unit



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