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Stay abreast upcoming events by visiting HFIA’s Online Calendar of Events HERE.

If you would like to provide feedback regarding HFIA’s Membership benefits, Outreach efforts, or to make suggestions for membership opportunities (or to host), please complete THIS SHORT SURVEY.
2024 Hawai‘i State Legislative Session Update

During the 2024 Legislative Session, which is still under way, HFIA’s Legislative Committee has testified on 24 different measures, submitting a total of 41 individual pieces of testimony/comments so far. Measures and resolutions continue working their way through the various senate and House committees and HFIA continues to keep an eye on those relevant to HFIA’s goals and members. Some of the actions the committee has taken this session includes:

- Opposing SB2102, which eliminates biomas from the renewable portfolio standard definition of “renewable energy”.
- Supporting HB2028 and SB2982, which merge the ‘Made in Hawai‘i with Aloha’ branding program with the ‘Hawai‘i Made’ program. Clarifies that calculations to determine whether a non-perishable good labeled "Hawai‘i Made" or "made in Hawai‘i" has met the requirement that at least fifty-one per cent of the wholesale value of the product is added by production within the State.
- Opposing SB2764, which would transfer the State Foundation on Culture and the Arts (SFCA) to the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) and repeals the SFCA Commission.
- Supporting HB2131, which would fund control and mitigation of the effects of the Two-Lined Spittlebug.
- Commenting on HB2758 and SB3237, which would facilitate the control and eradication of invasive species and pests, establish a plant nursery registration program, require the Board of Agriculture to designate certain species as pests for control or eradication and more. HFIA comments urged the language of the measure be amended to include “commercial forests” as a resource impacted by invasive species and pests.
- Supporting SB2143, which would appropriate funds to the Wildfire Management Branch of the Department of Land and Natural Resources Division of Forestry and Wildlife to provide nonprofit organizations with grants for wildfire preparedness and mitigation programming.
- Supporting SB2842, which would establish the Wildfire Mitigation Working Group to advise and make recommendations to state agencies concerning the State's wildfire safety and prevention efforts.
- Supporting HB2020, which expands the definition of "renewable energy producer" used to determine the Board of Land and Natural Resource's disposition of public lands to renewable energy producers.
- Supporting SB2500 SD1, would establish a food and product innovation network within the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Members can read more about any of the above measures by searching them on the Hawaii State Legislature website.

We invite members to follow along with the Legislative Session and participate by helping us help you. If you have not done so already, please take 5-10 minutes to complete the HFIA Member Legislative Survey HERE.
HFIA Members Tour Kaua’i Koa Farm

Kaua’i HFIA members gathered on Saturday, February 3rd, for a tour of Kauai’i Koa Farm. Owners of Kaua’i Koa Farm, Sandy and Krista Brodie, have been long time HFIA members and hosted the group. The work that takes place at Kaua’i Koa Farm, situated on the north shore of Kauai’, includes the germination of select Koa seeds, planting out seedlings and nurturing the growing trees. They also maintain a variety of other endemic plants. Sandy and Krista harvest only naturally downed trees, milling and kiln drying the wood right there on their own property. Sandy also creates finished wood products and Krista markets them. Additionally, Krista grows coffee on the property.

Kaua’i Island Director, Jeremey Campbell, had this to say about the tour:

“It was a very informative and over all a great day. I personally learned quite a bit about the process behind propagating [the] seeds and learned a newfound respect for what goes into these types of forestry projects.

I think the biggest takeaway as a group consensus was that the hardest part of this type of forestry project is finding the markets for the trees to make it worth the effort.

With the renewed interest that some folks are showing, and with the correct planning and follow up with those plans, it won’t be long before there will be many acres of trees that are harvestable on Kaua’i. Those trees will need a market to send them to. One of the ideas posed was trying to form some sort of co-op with a central processing facility to try and focus all of the smaller plats of trees into a pipeline to feed a larger market that could become more sustainable.

It going to be really hard if not impossible to find a market for a few trees here and there, the ultimate end user of the products produced by these types of specialty hardwoods will want a reliable, sustainable source of products so they can know that the material they need is readily available.”

Mahalo to Sandy and Krista Brodie for hosting HFIA, to Jeremy Cambell for stepping in when HFIA staff could not be present, and to all who attended the tour.
**Go Native**

If you don’t have copy yet, the *Go Native* guide is available for purchase on [Amazon.com](http://amazon.com) or at the following locations:

- Basically Books (Hilo, Hawai‘i)
- Big Island Book Buyers (Hilo, Hawai‘i)
- Elemental Plants (Honokaa, Hawai‘i)
- Waimea General Store (Waimea, Hawai‘i)
- Kona Bay Books (Kailua Kona, Hawai‘i)
- The Vanillerie (Kailua Kona, Hawai‘i)
- Bess Press/daShop (Honolulu, O‘ahu)
- Native Books (Honolulu, O‘ahu)
- Talk Story Bookstore (Hanapepe, Kaua‘i)

Contact Aspen via email [hfia.outreach@hawaiiforest.org](mailto:hfia.outreach@hawaiiforest.org) to purchase your copy on Hawai‘i Island
The 2024 Hawaii’s Woodshow

Mahalo to all who participated in the 2023 Hawaii’s Woodshow, which was the largest show since before Covid and had a successful opening reception which saw an overwhelmingly positive turnout. We hope to see the same, or further success during this year’s Woodshow. Thanks to the Woodshow Committee’s hard work, 2024 Woodshow dates and venue have been secured well in advance this year. The 2024 Woodshow will be held at the Blaisdell Center in Honolulu in late November – the confirmed opening dates will be announced soon.

More pieces from the 2023 Hawaii’s Woodshow can be viewed online [here](#).
New to the HFIA website is the option to purchase HFIA merchandise. Set up to utilize print-on-demand, patrons can select from several predetermined items on which the HFIA logo can be printed. The purchase of any item helps to support HFIA’s mission of promoting healthy and productive forests and a sustainable forest industry through forest management, education, planning, information exchange, and advocacy.

Available now are the 2023 Hawaii’s Woodshow T-Shirts and our 2024 Hawai’i’s Woodshow Wall Calendar!

We will be adding additional items so please be sure to visit our website regularly.

https://shop.hawaiiforest.org/
HFIA Annual General Membership Meeting

The Annual General Membership meeting was held at The Vanillerie in Kailua Kona on Friday, April 5th. While it was a small group, with no guest speaker this year, it was an enjoyable evening consisting of:

   Welcome, by Nick Koch
   Forester’s Prayer, recited by Tai Lake
   Special Recognition of HFIA directors, staff and contractors, by Nick Koch
   President and Vice President’s Message, read by Nick Koch on behalf of President Guy Cellier and Vice President Irene Sprecher
   Dinner & Dessert
   2024 Board of Directors Election Results, announced by Nick Koch

The evening meeting was preceded by a private tour of The Vanillerie. Special mahalo to The Vanillerie General Manager, Hayden McKloskey.

Members mingle before the start of the meeting.

Members and guests enjoy a social dinner hour.

Director Nick Koch recognizes HFIA directors, staff and contractors for their contributions to HFIA.

Director Nick Koch announces the results of the 2024 Board of Directors Election.
Annual Field Trip: Kawika Tropical Fruit Orchard

On Saturday April 6th a small group of HFIA staff, contractors, and guests was hosted by HFIA member David Longacre for a tour of his property, Kawika Tropical Fruit Orchard. The day consisted of a two-hour tour of the forest, Dave highlighted various notable species, followed by casual lunch on the lanai.

Dave Longacre describes his property as: “Kawika Tropical Fruit Orchard is a true regenerating forest, even though its component vegetation is only partially native. The 12-acre lot was grass/cane with no woody vegetation when purchased in 1996. Planting for a commercial fruit orchard commenced in 2000, and the lot now contains approximately 520 species of vascular flora. Much of that is trees, including many with known commercial applications as well as new introductions that merit further examination and trial. Some of the flora at this site is not known to exist anywhere else in the State. The land is fenced, gently sloped and laced with walking paths in order to provide intimate viewing of the flora.”

For those who couldn’t attend the field trip, enjoy these photos as a virtual tour:
A 10-year-old Orchid
Clinostigma, a Palm Native to Samoa.

Timber Bamboo

“Blue Marble”
Female Burmese Grape

Backyard fish pond with Mosquitofish.
2024 Board of Directors Elections Results

This year we had three Director seats up for reelection. Mahalo to all candidates who ran:

Jeremy Campbell*
Irene Sprecher*
Aaron Hammer*
Doug Gordon
Reid Anderson

*Incumbent

Jeremy Campbell was automatically reelected to his Kaua’i Director seat as there was no other candidate and the two at-large seats were won by Irene Sprecher, and Doug Gordon.
Aaron Hammer served two years on HFIA’s board of directors and while he wasn’t reelected to the board, he intends to remain engaged and involved with HFIA committees and looks forward to helping host HFIA and HFI wood turning workshops this fall as a part of the Locally Grown Christmas Tree Project. We are thankful for his work on the Board and for his continued commitment to HFIA.

Reid Anderson was nominated and ran for an at-large seat during his first year as an HFIA member. For this we recognize his enthusiasm. We look forward to Reid’s continued participation in the Hawaii’s Woodshow and hope that he will run for the board of directors again in the future as he brings a fresh perspective and would represent a younger generation that is largely missing from HFIA’s overall membership.

**HFIA Committee Updates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Committee</th>
<th>Quarter Update</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Executive</strong></td>
<td>While HFIA President Guy Cellier has been on leave this quarter, Vice President Irene Sprecher has been serving as Interim President. The EC has been focused on supporting the Membership Committees efforts to define clearly how HFIA adds value for our communities, our state and our members.</td>
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</tbody>
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| **Membership**                   | The Membership Committee met twice during the first quarter with efforts primarily focused on identifying the various ways in which HFIA adds value to our local communities and to the state and the ways in which HFIA provides value for members.  
Work on streamlining the membership renewal process, as well as improving communications, continues. |
| **Healthy and Productive Forests** | *The Healthy and Productive Forests Committee is still seeking a Chair to spearhead the Committee’s efforts. We are actively looking, but also encourage anyone with keen interest in the committee to reach out - Committee members do not have to be board members.* |
| **Forest Industry**              | This past quarter the Forest Industry Committee was primarily focused on a survey of the economic impact of the Hawaii forest industry (land management/conservation/forestry), particularly jobs. To our knowledge, the last time such a survey was conducted in the State was during the early 1990s. The survey is intended to touch on the following areas:  
• Broad definition of forestry to include ecosystem restoration, wildlife biology, forest recreation  
• Employment in this field(s) – including part-time and/or weekend work  
• Types of jobs and education requirements for work in this field  
• Factors limiting organizational growth in this field |
| **Legislative**                  | The Legislative Committee has been following various measures this session, responding with testimony when appropriate. More details can be found in the article ‘2024 Hawai’i State Legislative Session Update’ on page two of this newsletter. |
| **Education and Training**       | The Education and Training Committee is not highly active at this time, but ongoing education efforts take place at Haloa Aina and Ka’ūpūlehu Dryland Forest. |
Be recognized and respected as Hawaii’s forest industry experts.
- Provide educational opportunities.

*This Committee is currently seeking members.

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<tr>
<th>Woodworking Support and Promote Hawaii’s Woodworking Artists</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Committee Chair Aaron Hammer has explored interest in woodworking exhibition opportunities amongst Maui woodworkers and is brainstorming ideas to meet these desires.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>*This Committee is currently seeking members.</td>
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</tbody>
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**Mahalo to New and Renewing HFIA Members**

**Corporate Members**
Nalu Builds/Nalu Creative, Kevin Coons, Taylor Coons
Haloa Aina Royal Hawaiian Sandalwood, Wade Lee

**Business Members**
Volcano Art Center, Mike Nelson
Pai’ea Millwrights, Logan White
Kawika Tropical Fruit Orchard, David Longacre
Woodcraft By Roy, Roy Tsumoto
*Holualoa Hardwoods, LLC., Kanoa Kimball
Wilson Woodcraft, Loren Wilson
Koality Woods LLC., Michael Sowards
Kauai Forest to Function, Jeremy Cambell
Na Aina Kai Botanical Gardens, Charles O’Neil

**Individual Members**
*Jason Hetzel
Randall Erickson
Thomas Calhoun
Thomas Loudat
Michael Weitzenhoff
Heather Simmons
*Roger Westburg
Richard Powers
Orlo Steele

*New Member
**Hawaii Forest Industry Association Directors:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>At-large</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Company/Role</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>At-large</td>
<td>Guy Cellier</td>
<td>Forest Manager, CN Renewable Resources LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice President</td>
<td>At-large</td>
<td>Irene Sprecher</td>
<td>President, Forest Solutions, Inc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>At-large</td>
<td>Taylor Coons</td>
<td>Managing Director, Nalu Builds/Nalu Creative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>At-large</td>
<td>Wade Lee</td>
<td>Managing Member, Hāloa ‘Āina Royal Hawaiian Sandalwood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Kaua‘i</td>
<td>Jeremy Campbell</td>
<td>Owner, Kauai Forest to Function</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>At-large</td>
<td>Doug Gordon</td>
<td>Woodworker/Owner, Hawaiian Fine Furniture</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Hawai‘i</td>
<td>Nicholas Koch</td>
<td>General Manager, Siglo Tonewoods, LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Oahu</td>
<td>Michael Sowards</td>
<td>Woodworker/Owner, Koality Woods, LLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>At-large</td>
<td>Aileen Yeh</td>
<td>Horticulturist/Owner, Aileen's Nursery/HARC</td>
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**Newsletter Articles Wanted!**

If you have a story to share about your forestry-related business or project, please contact us:

hfia.outreach@hawaiiforest.org, 808/933/9411

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*In 2003 HFIA formed the Hawai‘i Forest Institute, a 501c3 nonprofit organization focused on forest restoration, educational programs, information dissemination, and support for scientific research.

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