



'Alekoko Fishpond Wall



'Alekoko Fishpond Wall under Mangrove



B.S. Troop 148 after a Day of Replanting

Past

Present

Future

## How to Help

### Volunteer

Eradicating invasive red mangrove is hard work because of its thick tangle of branches and roots and the muddy ground in which it grows. We need many helping hands to cut the branches and roots and to remove them to the trash bins or chippers. If you can lend a hand, our work will go faster and we will be able to clear more of the Pūali Stream and Hulē'ia River. Our current work site is next to the Niumalu Beach Park. Go to our web-site for details on location, safety instructions and times for our monthly mangrove-clearing days.



### Share

You can give us a helpful boost just by spreading the word about our project to family and friends.

### Donate

Mālama Hulē'ia is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt nonprofit organization. You may make a tax deductible monetary donation to support our mission by writing a check to "Mālama Hulē'ia" and mailing it to P.O. Box 662092, Lihue, HI 96766.

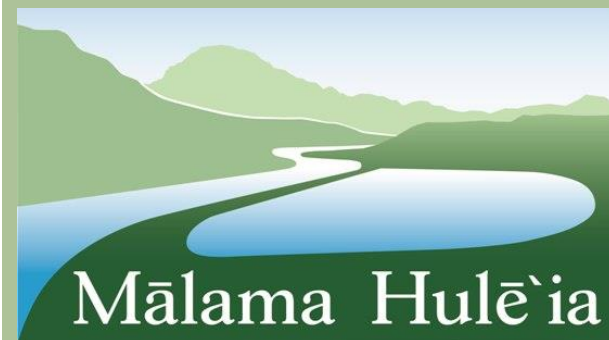
If you prefer to donate on line, please go to our website, where secure donations via PayPal may be made. All major credit cards are accepted.

Donations of services, equipment, supplies and food are also welcome. Please contact Sara Bowen at 808-626-5210.

<http://malamahuleia.org/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/MalamaHuleia>



Mālama Hulē'ia  
P.O. Box 662092  
Lihue, HI 96766



Mālama Hulē'ia

## Our Mission:

Within `Āinakumuwai Hulē'ia  
and Pū`ali, we will eradicate invasive red mangrove and replant with native vegetation.

*Ho`omoe  
wai kāhi ke kāo`o.*

"Let all travel together like water  
flowing in one direction."

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# Mālama Hulē'ia Mission

## Eradicate Red Mangrove

In Hawai'i, red mangrove (*Rhizophora mangle*) is an alien and highly invasive plant species that spreads rapidly and pervasively, completely overgrowing river estuaries, stream banks and adjoining wetlands — wherever fresh and salt water mix and the plant's propagules can float to and take root. Red mangrove was introduced in 1902 on Moloka'i and reached the Hulē'ia about 30 years later. It has been spreading unchecked since then, reaching over 2 miles up the river, choking and slowing the river, surrounding the 'Alekoko Fishpond, and invading the Hulē'ia National Wildlife Refuge. As it spreads, the red mangrove blocks out other forms of life, covering open estuarine habitats with dense jungles of mangrove branches and roots.



## Replant with Native Vegetation

As we clear the red mangrove we will replant with appropriate native and Polynesian-introduced vegetation, using plants that are useful in traditional Hawaiian culture and biologically suitable for the estuarine and riparian environments in which they will be planted.



**Our Vision:**  
An improved 'āinakumuwai that helps local ohana re-establish the Hulē'ia as a vital resource for cultural, recreational, educational and sustainable agricultural activities.

## Re-establish Wildlife Habitats

By eradicating red mangrove, replanting with appropriate native vegetation and promoting traditional ways of tending a watershed, we expect to re-establish the types of wildlife habitats that previously existed when the Hulē'ia Watershed and River productively sustained its residents. We will look for the opening of river inlets and increased water flow to help the migrating, feeding and breeding of native fish ('o'opu, awa, 'anae and āholehole) as well as other native aquatic creatures that once thrived and were abundant sources of food in the Hulē'ia (opae, hihiwai, kuahonu crab, etc.) We will also look for the return of native water birds, including those currently classified as endangered: the Hawaiian stilt (ae'o), coot ('alae ke'oke'o), moorhen ('alae'ula), duck (koloa maoli) and goose (nēnē).



## Revitalize the History and Culture of the Hulē'ia

Memories of what life used to be like along the Hulē'ia River are being lost and need to be recaptured or recreated. Some of the older residents of Niumalu, Kipu, and other neighboring places may still remember what the area was like prior to the mangrove invasion. But there is a much longer history contained in various mo'ō 'ōlelo, oli, place names and other traditions of Hawaiian culture. All of this knowledge should be gathered, preserved and passed to the younger generations who will sustain 'Āinakumuwai Hulē'ia in the future. We aim to make such education an integral part of our effort in eradicating red mangrove.