

Arti Michelle Clark

Education

B.A. BIOLOGY WITH HONORS | ██████ | UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, HILO

- Major: Conservation Biology, Evolution and Ecology
- Minor: Tropical Forestry
- Related coursework: Biostatistics, Soil Science, Organic Chemistry

Experience

KAUAI PARTNERSHIPS BIOLOGIST GS-401-11 | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE, PACIFIC ISLANDS FISH AND WILDLIFE OFFICE (PIFWO) | 2008 TO PRESENT

Collaborate with private landowners, non-government organizations and the State of Hawaii to implement conservation projects which aid in recovery of listed species and threatened ecosystems in a variety of habitats on Kauai. Work with partners from diverse ethnic and cultural backgrounds to conserve native plants, birds and invertebrates in a range of habitats including, cave environments, coastal areas, mesic and wet forests and montane bogs. Provide coordination and oversight for activities and products associated with on-the-ground planning and implementation of PIFWO Programs, including: the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, Coastal Program and Endangered Species Recovery Program. Identify resource concerns, develop work plans, secure funding, complete compliance (Endangered Species Act, NEPA, National Historic Preservation Act, etc...) and implement projects which conserve Kauai's biodiversity. Geographic Team Lead for the State of Hawaii's Division of Forestry and Wildlife's, Kauai Forest Bird Recovery Project and serve on the Kauai Forest Bird Recovery Working Group. PIFWO's ex-officio representative for the State of Hawaii's, Division of State Parks, Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Park Advisory Council and a member of the Kauai Mongoose Response Working Group.

Accomplishment highlights include:

- Accepted into the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's, Stepping Up to Leadership Program (November 30, 2015-June 6, 2016)
- Recognized as Kauai County MVP 2015 by the Hawaii Invasive Species Council and the Hawaii State Legislature for outstanding efforts in coordinating detection and control of mongoose on Kauai

- Secured over \$2,500,000 in federal and matching/in kind funds through 10 cooperative agreements to benefit over 8,500 acres of important forested habitats for several listed species on Kauai (2009 to present)
- Completed a 5 week detail at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's , Office of International Affairs in Washington D.C. (June – July 2014)
- Recognized as the Kauai Invasive Species Committee Most Valuable Partner for 2014
- Assisted with finalizing the Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, Kokee and Waimea Canyon State Park Master Plan (2014)
- Awarded funding to initiate a captive breeding program for two critically endangered and endemic forest birds not represented in captivity, the Akikiki and Akekee (2014 to present)
- Implemented the first landscape-level fencing project (2000- acre East Alakai Protective Fence Project) on Kauai in partnership with the State of Hawaii, The Nature Conservancy and private landowners, which benefits 29 endangered species and protects the islands primary source of freshwater on private and state lands on the Alakai Plateau (2009-2012)

SOIL CONSERVATIONIST, GS-457-9 | U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE, PACIFIC ISLANDS AREA | 1999 TO 2008

Provided technical assistance to private landowners in the development, application and maintenance of resource management systems. Assisted cooperators with selection of appropriate NRCS conservation programs to implement conservation on their lands and processed program applications, determined program eligibility, ranked projects for funding selection, developed and modified contracts and inspected and certified implemented practices for payment. Ensured that cooperators were in compliance environmental laws and local regulations.

Accomplishment highlights:

- Developed conservation plans for over 9,500 acres of agricultural lands and wildlife habitat
- Contracted over \$1,450,000 in NRCS conservation program, cost-share assistance funds to address resource concerns on Kauai
- Worked with a Kauai Native Plant Society as hoc committee of three to create an exhibit at the United States Botanic Garden Conservatory (USBGC) in Washington D.C. of approximately 60 rare and endangered native Hawaiian plant species. Titled "Our Nation's Crown Jewels: Rare and Endangered Plants of Hawaii", the exhibit ran from September 2003 through March 2004, receiving over 190,000 visitors and resulted in a permanent exhibition room of native Hawaiian plants at the USBGC.

Conferences / Poster Presentations

- Theresa Menard, L. Behnke, T. Menard, J. Sumiye and M. Clark. Herbicide Use Amounts in The Nature Conservancy's Wainiha Preserve and in the East Alakai During 2012, 2013, and 2014, Hawaii Conservation Conference, Hilo Hawaii, 2015
- Michelle Clark, W. Kishida, C. J. Mottley, T. C. Menard and T. Menard. Saving the Hotspot: Rare Plant Conservation on the Island of Kauai, Botany 2012 - The Next Generation, Columbus, Ohio, 2012
- Michelle Clark, R. Agurajuja K. R. Wood. Conservation of Critically Endangered Fern Species on the Island of Kauai: Opportunities and Challenges for Ecological Restoration, Evolution Of Life On Pacific Islands And Reefs: Past, Present, & Future Conference, Honolulu, Hawaii, 2011

Publications

Kishida, W. and M. Clark. 2014. Shining a Light on Kauai's Underground Treasures: The No-eyed, Big eyed Wolf Spider and Kauai Cave Amphipod, Endangered Species Bulletin, Spring-Summer, 2015 (<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/news/episodes/bu-Spring-Summer2014/story3/>)

Clark, Michelle. 2012. New Discoveries Bring Hope for Garden Isles Rare Flora, Endangered Species Bulletin, November-December, 2012 (<http://www.fws.gov/endangered/news/Nov-Dec2012.html>)