

Legacy Lands Conservation Program

The Hawaii Legacy Land Conservation Program started with a site visit by state legislators to Honu‘apo in 2004 to better understand the threat to this significant natural and cultural resource from private developers. Inspired by discussions with community members from Ka‘u, it was clear that positive action had to be taken to protect and preserve Honuapo for future generations. In response, the Legacy Land Conservation Fund was enacted by the legislature in 2005 to provide consistent funding source enabling nonprofits and government agencies to respond quickly to acquire rare or unique resource lands that are threatened by development. To kick-start the program and to demonstrate its potential, the 2005 Legislature budgeted \$1 million for the acquisition of Honu‘apo and \$3 million for the acquisition of Moanalua Valley on Oahu. These amounts were leveraged with county and federal matching funds and the critical efforts for the Nature Conservancy and the Trust for Public Lands to complete the acquisitions.

From 2006 through 2009, by issuing \$13.6 million in awards, the Legacy Lands Conservation Program has attracted \$28.3 million in matching federal, county and private funds towards the protections of over 6,630 acres of cultural, natural, agricultural, historical and recreational resource lands. For more information on the Legacy Lands Conservation Program, please visit the [LLCP website](#).

This year, the Legacy Land Conservation Program was appropriated over \$3.2 million from the State Land Conservation Fund for land acquisition projects to protect Hawaii's valuable natural resources. Every state dollar will be matched by \$3 in federal, county and private funds, totaling to nearly \$9.5 million that will be used to acquire approximately 752 acres of threatened and unique resource-rich land. For more on this year's approved projects, read LLCP's most recent press release [here](#).