

THE THIRTIETH LEGISLATURE
APPLICATION FOR GRANTS
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES

Type of Grant Request:



Operating



Capital

Legal Name of Requesting Organization or Individual: DbA:

Kuilei Cliffs

Amount of State Funds Requested: \$ 45,000

Brief Description of Request (Please attach word document to back of page if extra space is needed):

We are seeking an operating grant to support Kuilei Cliffs, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to restoring and maintaining Le'ahi (Diamond Head). Since 2022, our volunteers worked tirelessly to remove invasive species, replant Hawaiian native plants and trees, clean walkways, reduce fire-proned grasses, and create a safe and beautiful space for the community to enjoy. This grant will help fund essential expenses, including tools and materials for ecological restoration, green waste removal, volunteer support (such as meals refreshments and safety supplies), and outreach efforts to grow community involvement. None of the funds from this grant will go toward salaries- our organization operates entirely through the hard work and dedication of volunteers and staff who donate their time and effort without compensation. Every dollar will go directly toward sustaining our mission to protect and enhance this vital area. Your support will empower us to continue mitigating fire hazards, preventing wildfires, addressing park maintenance gaps, and fostering a healthier, more sustainable environment for residents and visitors. Together, we can ensure Kuilei Cliffs remains a thriving community resource for generations to come.

Amount of Other Funds Available:

State: \$ 0

Federal: \$ 0

County: \$ 0

Private/Other: \$ 26,977

Total amount of State Grants Received in the Past 5 Fiscal Years:

\$ 0

Unrestricted Assets:

\$ 0

New Service (Presently Does Not Exist): ☐ Existing Service (Presently in Operation): ☒

Type of Business Entity:



501(C)(3) Non Profit Corporation



Other Non Profit



Other

Mailing Address:

2121 Ala Wai Blvd Unit 3003

City:

Honolulu

State:

HI

Zip:

96815

Contact Person for Matters Involving this Application

Name:

Mary Demonte Verde

Title:

Co-Founder & Board of Director

Email:

kcdh808@gmail.com

Phone:

347-967-7095



Authorized Signature

Mary Demonte Verde, Co-Founder & Board of Director

Name and Title

1/17/25

Date Signed



STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

CERTIFICATE OF VENDOR COMPLIANCE

This document presents the compliance status of the vendor identified below on the issue date with respect to certificates required from the Hawaii Department of Taxation (DOTAX), the Internal Revenue Service, the Hawaii Department of Labor and Industrial Relations (DLIR), and the Hawaii Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (DCCA).

Vendor Name: KUILEI CLIFFS

Issue Date: 01/16/2025

Status: **Compliant**

Hawaii Tax#:

New Hawaii Tax#: GE-2080523776-01

FEIN/SSN#: XX-XXX0727

UI#: No record

DCCA FILE#: 321739

Status of Compliance for this Vendor on issue date:

Form	Department(s)	Status
A-6	Hawaii Department of Taxation	Compliant
8821	Internal Revenue Service	Compliant
COGS	Hawaii Department of Commerce & Consumer Affairs	Exempt
LIR27	Hawaii Department of Labor & Industrial Relations	Compliant

Status Legend:

Status	Description
Exempt	The entity is exempt from this requirement
Compliant	The entity is compliant with this requirement or the entity is in agreement with agency and actively working towards compliance
Pending	A status determination has not yet been made
Submitted	The entity has applied for the certificate but it is awaiting approval
Not Compliant	The entity is not in compliance with the requirement and should contact the issuing agency for more information

**DECLARATION STATEMENT OF
APPLICANTS FOR GRANTS PURSUANT TO
CHAPTER 42F, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES**

The undersigned authorized representative of the applicant certifies the following:

- 1) The applicant meets and will comply with all of the following standards for the award of grants pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is licensed or accredited, in accordance with federal, state, or county statutes, rules, or ordinances, to conduct the activities or provide the services for which a grant is awarded;
 - b) Complies with all applicable federal and state laws prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, or disability;
 - c) Agrees not to use state funds for entertainment or lobbying activities; and
 - d) Allows the state agency to which funds for the grant were appropriated for expenditure, legislative committees and their staff, and the auditor full access to their records, reports, files, and other related documents and information for purposes of monitoring, measuring the effectiveness, and ensuring the proper expenditure of the grant.
- 2) If the applicant is an organization, the applicant meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is incorporated under the laws of the State; and
 - b) Has bylaws or policies that describe the manner in which the activities or services for which a grant is awarded shall be conducted or provided; and
- 3) If the applicant is a non-profit organization, it meets the following requirements pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes:
 - a) Is determined and designated to be a non-profit organization by the Internal Revenue Service; and
 - b) Has a governing board whose members have no material conflict of interest and serve without compensation.
- 4) The use of grant-in-aid funding complies with all provisions of the Constitution of the State of Hawaii (for example, pursuant to Article X, section 1, of the Constitution, the State cannot provide "... public funds ... for the support or benefit of any sectarian or nonsectarian private educational institution...").

Pursuant to Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes, for grants used for the acquisition of land, when the organization discontinues the activities or services on the land acquired for which the grant was awarded and disposes of the land in fee simple or by lease, the organization shall negotiate with the expending agency for a lump sum or installment repayment to the State of the amount of the grant used for the acquisition of the land.

Further, the undersigned authorized representative certifies that this statement is true and correct to the best of the applicant's knowledge.

Kuilei Cliffs

(Typed Name of Individual or Organization)



1/17/2025

(Signature)

(Date)

Mary Demonteverde

Co-Founder & Board of Director

(Typed Name)

(Title)

Application Submittal Checklist

The following items are required for submittal of the grant application. Please verify and check off that the items have been included in the application packet.

- ☒ 1) Hawaii Compliance Express Certificate (If the Applicant is an Organization)
- ☒ 2) Declaration Statement
- ☒ 3) Verify that grant shall be used for a public purpose
- ☒ 4) Background and Summary
- ☒ 5) Service Summary and Outcomes
- ☒ 6) Budget
 - a) Budget request by source of funds ([Link](#))
 - b) Personnel salaries and wages ([Link](#))
 - c) Equipment and motor vehicles ([Link](#))
 - d) Capital project details ([Link](#))
 - e) Government contracts, grants, and grants in aid ([Link](#))
- ☒ 7) Experience and Capability
- ☒ 8) Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing



AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

Mary Demonte Verde, Co-Founder & Board of Director

PRINT NAME AND TITLE

1/17/2025

DATE

Hawai'i State Legislation Grant-In-Aid 2025

Kuilei Cliffs, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization



I. Certification

1. **Hawaii Compliance Express Certification:**

Please find a copy of the Hawaii Compliance Express Certification for Kuilei Cliffs.

2. **Declaration Statement:**

Please find a completed declaration statement affirming its compliance with Section 42F-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

3. **Public Purpose:**

The purpose of this grant is to support Kuilei Cliffs' mission to restore, maintain, and preserve public spaces for the benefit of the community and future generations. By engaging volunteers and community partners, we aim to improve environmental health, reduce fire hazards/wildfires, and create accessible, safe, and enjoyable spaces for residents and visitors.

The grant will fund critical restoration and maintenance activities, including:

- removing of invasive species and replanting with native Hawaiian plants to protect biodiversity and reduce fire risks;
- weekly cleaning of public areas, including trash removal, scrubbing shower grounds, and graffiti removal;
- maintenance of pathways and parking lots to ensure safe access for all park and beach users;
- volunteer support, such as providing safety tools, supplies needed for restoration efforts, and meal refreshments for all the hard working volunteers; and
- public outreach and education to promote stewardship and community engagement.

The primary beneficiaries of this grant are:

- residents of Oahu, particularly those who utilize Kuilei Cliffs Beach Park / Diamond Head Beach Park area for recreation, exercise, and cultural appreciation;
- tourists and visitors seeking clean, safe and accessible outdoor spaces; and
- the broader Hawai'i community, as the restoration work contributes to environmental conservation and wildfire prevention.

The total cost of the grant request is \$45,000 for the fiscal year. By fostering a sense of community responsibility and sustainability, the grant supports a healthier, more resilient public environment for all.

II. Background and Summary

1. Brief description of Kuilei Cliffs:

Kuilei Cliffs is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to the ecological restoration and community stewardship of the Kuilei Cliffs Beach Park, Diamond Head. Since 2022, our all-volunteer organization has worked to transform the site into a safe, sustainable, and beautiful space for residents and visitors. Our efforts include removing invasive species, replanting native Hawaiian trees, reducing fire-prone grasses, cleaning walkways and parking lots, and creating green spaces ensuring the area remains accessible and enjoyable for all.

2. Goals and Objectives:

The primary goals and objectives of Kuilei Cliffs is to restore and preserve the natural beauty and ecological integrity of the area by removing invasive species, planting native Hawaiian vegetation, and creating a sustainable ecosystem that mitigates risks such as brush fires and soil erosion. Our objective is to provide a safe, clean, and welcoming space for the community to enjoy while fostering environmental awareness and stewardship. By engaging volunteers and community members and fostering partnerships to ensure long-term sustainability and creating a model for public-private collaboration, we strive to cultivate a shared sense of responsibility and pride in maintaining this public space for future generations.

3. The Public Purpose and Need to be Served:

Kuilei Cliffs provide a vital community resource for residents and visitors, offering a safe and accessible area for recreation, cultural appreciation, and environmental education. The site's restoration addresses pressing issues such as fire mitigation, soil erosion, and inadequate park maintenance. Kuilei Cliffs fills a critical gap by maintaining the area beyond basic garbage collection. Our work also supports public safety by address hazards such as slippery walkways, invasive overgrowth, and debris.

4. Target Population To Be Served:

The target population includes the local community, residents of O'ahu, and visitors who use the Kuilei Cliffs/Diamond Head area for recreation, exercise, and cultural enrichment. Our programs also engages students, families, and community groups who participate in volunteer opportunities and environmental education activities.

5. Geographical Coverage:

Our work focuses on the Kuilei Cliffs/Diamond Head area, stretching from the cliffs to the shoreline near the iconic Diamond Head Lighthouse in both Mauka and Makai side of Diamond Head. This geographical region is under the jurisdiction of the State of Hawai'i and the City and County of Honolulu. While the site primarily serves the

Waikiki, Kapahulu, Kaimuki, Diamond Head, Waialae, and Kahala, its impact extends to the broader O’ahu population and visitors from around the world.



III. Service Summary and Outcomes:

1. Scope of Work, Tasks, and Responsibilities:

Kuilei Cliffs will:

- remove invasive species and overgrown vegetation every Saturday;
- plant and maintain native Hawaiian plants and grass to stabilize soil and reduce fire-prone areas;
- clean parking lots, walkways, and public spaces, including scrubbing shower grounds, removing graffiti, picking up garbage;
- host weekly volunteer restoration day every Saturday to foster community participation and maintain momentum; and

Kuilei Cliffs Saturday Restoration Day 2025 Schedule		
January Saturday, January 4, 2025 Saturday, January 11, 2025 Saturday, January 18, 2025 Saturday, January 25, 2025	February Saturday, February 1, 2025 Saturday, February 8, 2025 Saturday, February 15, 2025 Saturday, February 22, 2025	March Saturday, March 1, 2025 Saturday, March 8, 2025 Saturday, March 15, 2025 Saturday, March 22, 2025 Saturday, March 29, 2025
April Saturday, April 5, 2025 Saturday, April 12, 2025 Saturday, April 19, 2025 Saturday, April 26, 2025	May Saturday, May 3, 2025 Saturday, May 10, 2025 Saturday, May 17, 2025 Saturday, May 24, 2025 Saturday, May 31, 2025	June Saturday, June 7, 2025 Saturday, June 14, 2025 Saturday, June 21, 2025 Saturday, June 28, 2025
July Saturday, July 5, 2025 Saturday, July 12, 2025 Saturday, July 19, 2025 Saturday, July 26, 2025	August Saturday, August 2, 2025 Saturday, August 9, 2025 Saturday, August 16, 2025 Saturday, August 23, 2025 Saturday, August 30, 2025	September Saturday, September 6, 2025 Saturday, September 13, 2025 Saturday, September 20, 2025 Saturday, September 27, 2025
October Saturday, October 4, 2025 Saturday, October 11, 2025 Saturday, October 18, 2025 Saturday, October 25, 2025	November Saturday, November 1, 2025 Saturday, November 8, 2025 Saturday, November 15, 2025 Saturday, November 22, 2025 Saturday, November 29, 2025	December Saturday, December 6, 2025 Saturday, December 13, 2025 Saturday, December 20, 2025 Saturday, December 27, 2025

- e. collaborate with the State of Hawai'i DLNR and local agencies to align efforts with public land management goals.

Tasks will include:

- a. organizing and supervising weekly restoration activities;
- b. coordinate green waste removal and trash disposal;
- c. education volunteers on best practices for environmental restoration; and
- d. tracking and reporting progress metrics

2. Project Annual Timeline: January 2025 – December 2025

- a. Complete Diamond Head Lighthouse Lookout Project (Now – August 2025)
- b. Plant 100 native Hawaiian plants and trees (Now – December 2025)
- c. Continue to remove invasive species on DLNR Mauka side of Diamond Head (Now – December 2025)
- d. Partner with 10 schools, youth clubs, and universities to participate in restoration program in year 2025 (Now – December 2026)
- e. Weekly restoration activities every Saturday from 8am – 12pm (Now – December 2026)
- f. Plan and expand restoration and green spaces (January 2026 – December 2026)

3. Quality Assurance and Evaluation Plans:

To ensure the success of the project, Kuilei Cliffs will:

- a. maintain records of volunteer participation, planted native Hawaiian plants, and invasive species removed;
- b. conduct regular site assessments to monitor ecological improvements and identify new areas for restoration;
- c. solicit feedback from volunteers and community members;
- d. collaborate with DLNR to ensure restoration practices align with conservation standards; and
- e. conduct quarterly reviews to assess progress and adjust strategies as needed.

Kuilei Cliffs Saturday Restoration Day 2026 Schedule		
January	February	March
Saturday, January 3, 2026	Saturday, February 7, 2026	Saturday, March 7, 2026
Saturday, January 10, 2026	Saturday, February 14, 2026	Saturday, March 14, 2026
Saturday, January 17, 2026	Saturday, February 21, 2026	Saturday, March 21, 2026
Saturday, January 24, 2026	Saturday, February 28, 2026	Saturday, March 28, 2026
Saturday, January 31, 2026		
April	May	June
Saturday, April 4, 2026	Saturday, May 2, 2026	Saturday, June 6, 2026
Saturday, April 11, 2026	Saturday, May 9, 2026	Saturday, June 13, 2026
Saturday, April 18, 2026	Saturday, May 16, 2026	Saturday, June 20, 2026
Saturday, April 25, 2026	Saturday, May 23, 2026	Saturday, June 27, 2026
	Saturday, May 30, 2026	
July	August	September
Saturday, July 4, 2026	Saturday, August 1, 2026	Saturday, September 5, 2026
Saturday, July 11, 2026	Saturday, August 8, 2026	Saturday, September 12, 2026
Saturday, July 18, 2026	Saturday, August 15, 2026	Saturday, September 19, 2026
Saturday, July 25, 2026	Saturday, August 22, 2026	Saturday, September 26, 2026
	Saturday, August 29, 2026	
October	November	December
Saturday, October 3, 2026	Saturday, November 7, 2026	Saturday, December 5, 2026
Saturday, October 10, 2026	Saturday, November 14, 2026	Saturday, December 12, 2026
Saturday, October 17, 2026	Saturday, November 21, 2026	Saturday, December 19, 2026
Saturday, October 24, 2026	Saturday, November 28, 2026	Saturday, December 26, 2026
Saturday, October 31, 2026		

4. Measures of Effectiveness:

Kuilei Cliffs will report the following to the State agency:

- a. total number of volunteers;
- b. total volunteer hours contributed;
- c. number of restoration activities conducted;
- d. number of native plants and trees installed; and
- e. documented improvements in site conditions

IV. Financial

1. Budget

- a. The following is a completed budget request by source of funds for Kuilei Cliffs.

BUDGET REQUEST BY SOURCE OF FUNDS

Period: July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025

Applicant: Kuilei Cliffs

BUDGET CATEGORIES	Total State Funds Requested (a)	Total Federal Funds Requested (b)	Total County Funds Requested (c)	Total Private/Other Funds Requested (d)
A. PERSONNEL COST				
1. Salaries	0	0	0	0
2. Payroll Taxes & Assessments	0	0	0	0
3. Fringe Benefits	0	0	0	0
TOTAL PERSONNEL COST	0	0	0	0
B. OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES				
1. Airfare, Inter-Island	0	0	0	0
2. Insurance	5,000	0	0	0
3. Lease/Rental of Equipment	8,000	0	0	0
4. Lease/Rental of Space	0	0	0	0
5. Staff Training	0	0	0	0
6. Supplies	7,000	0	0	6,000
7. Telecommunication	0	0	0	0
8. Utilities	0	0	0	0
9. Weekly Volunteer Refreshment Meals	15,000	0	0	7,000
10. Web presence and social media channel	5,000	0	0	5,000
11. Marketing (Videographer, Content Creator)	5,000	0	0	5,000
TOTAL OTHER CURRENT EXPENSES	45,000			23,000
C. EQUIPMENT PURCHASES	0	0	0	0
D. MOTOR VEHICLE PURCHASES	0	0	0	0
E. CAPITAL	0	0	0	0
TOTAL (A+B+C+D+E)	45,000			23,000
SOURCES OF FUNDING		Budget Prepared By:		
(a) Total State Funds Requested	45,000	Mary Demonte Verde 347-967-7095		
(b) Total Federal Funds Requested	0	Name (Please type or print) Phone		
(c) Total County Funds Requested	0	Signature of Authorized Official 1/16/2025		
(d) Total Private/Other Funds Requested	23,000	Date		
TOTAL BUDGET	68,000	Mary Demonte Verde, Co-Founder & Board of Director Name and Title (Please type or print)		

- b. Personnel salaries by source of funds: Not applicable. This section is not applicable to Kuilei Cliffs, as our organization operates entirely on a volunteer basis. None of our members, including staff and leadership, receive any form of compensation or salary for their efforts. All work performed is driven by community passion, commitment, and a shared vision to restore and maintain Kuilei Cliffs for the benefit of the public.
- c. Equipment and motor vehicles: Not applicable. This section is not applicable to Kuilei Cliffs, as our organization does not possess any equipment that lasts more than a year. Many of our tools are consumable supplies with a lifespan of less than a year, such as hand tools, weed whackers, and other maintenance essentials. Additionally, we do not own motor vehicles, instead, our volunteers generously use their own personal vehicles to transport tools, supplies, and equipment to execute our work. This reflects the resourceful and community-driven nature of Kuilei Cliffs' operations.
- d. Capital project details: Not applicable. This section is not applicable to Kuilei Cliffs as the organization does not have any capital projects underway or planned at this time. Our focus remains on sustaining our ongoing restoration and maintenance efforts through volunteer-driven initiatives and community support.
- e. Government contract, grants, and grants in aid: Not applicable. This section is not applicable to Kuilei Cliffs as the organization does not have any government contract, grants, or grants in aid at this time.

2. The following is Kuilei Cliffs' anticipated quarterly funding requests for the fiscal year 2026.

Quarterly 1	Quarterly 2	Quarterly 3	Quarterly 4	Total Grant
\$17,000	\$17,000	\$17,000	\$17,000	\$68,000

- 3. The following list includes all the other source of funding that Kuilei Cliffs are seeking for fiscal year 2026:
 - a. Hawaii Tourism Authority
 - b. Corporate Partners
 - c. Small Local Businesses
 - d. Private Family Foundations
 - e. Individual Donors

4. Not applicable. This section is not applicable as Kuilei Cliffs has not been granted state and federal tax credits within the prior three years, hence this section is not applicable.
5. Not applicable. This section is not applicable as Kuilei Cliffs has not been granted federal, state, and county government contracts, grants, and grants in aid within the prior three years for program funding.
6. Not applicable. This section is not applicable as Kuilei Cliffs does not have any unrestricted current assets as of December 31, 2024.

V. Experience and Capability

1. Necessary Skills and Experience

Kuilei Cliffs' volunteers possess the skills, knowledge, and dedication necessary to accomplish the goals of this grant request. Our team comprises individuals with diverse professional and personal backgrounds, all united by a commitment to ecological restoration, community building, and public safety.

Since January 2022, Kuilei Cliffs volunteers have dedicated over ~11,000 hours to restoring the area. This includes:

- removing invasive species and planting hundreds of native plants and trees;
- cleaning and maintaining public areas, such as scrubbing shower grounds, picking up trash from homeless encampments, and sweeping walkways; and
- educating community members and visitors on sustainable practices and the importance of maintaining public spaces.

The skills and abilities of Kuilei Cliffs' volunteers includes the following:

- **Environment Restoration Expertise:** Many of our volunteers have experience in invasive species removal, landscaping, and planting of native Hawaiian vegetation. Volunteers are trained on proper techniques for creating firebreaks, stabilizing soil, and managing native ecosystems.
- **Public Safety Awareness:** Volunteer regularly clean public spaces, including walkways and parking lots, to reduce safety risks such as slippery surfaces and overgrown invasives. Our team also works to mitigate potential hazards, such as removing thorny plants like Kiawe woods and reducing fire-prone grasses. One of the Co-Founder is a retired Chief of City & County of Honolulu with extensive experience with public safety.

- **Community Engagement Skills:** Volunteers effectively engage with local residents, businesses, and partner organizations to foster support and participation in restoration activities. They excel in creating an inclusive and welcoming environment for new participants.
- **Project Management Experience:** Co-Founders coordinate weekly restoration days, manage supplies, track progress, and ensure compliance with safety protocols.

2. Facilities:

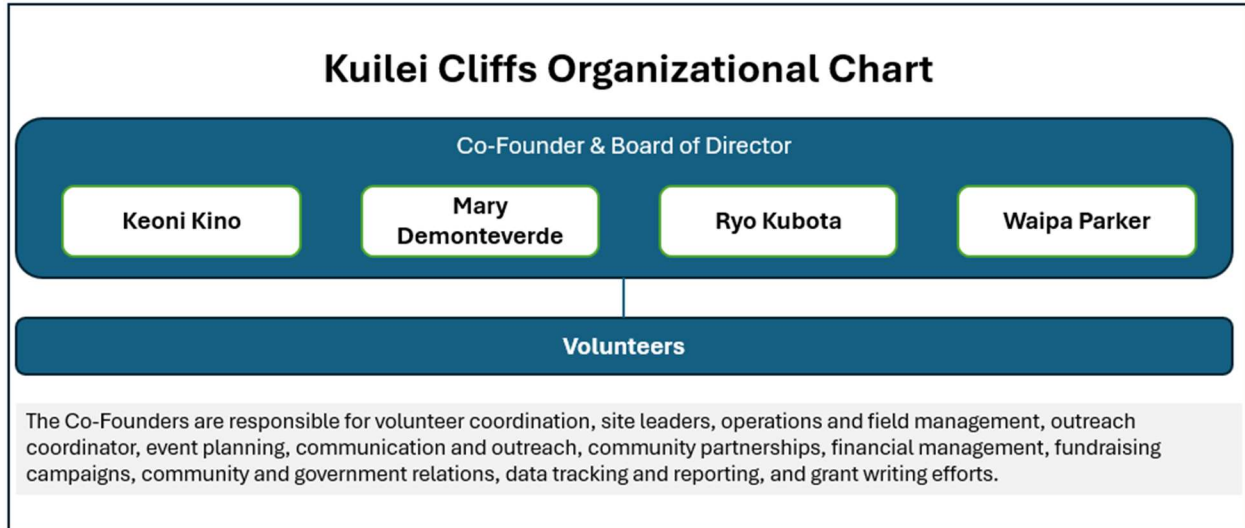
Kuilei Cliffs does not have any facilities available now and we will continue to reassess the need for facilities in the future.

VI. Personnel: Project Organization and Staffing

1. Proposed Staffing, Staff Qualifications, Supervision and Training:

Not applicable. This section is not applicable to Kuilei Cliffs as we are not proposing staffing patterns and proposed service capacity appropriate for the viability of the request.

2. Organization Chart



3. Compensation:

Kuilei Cliffs is a fully volunteer-based organization, and none of our volunteers, including our officers and directors, receive any form of compensation. Kuilei Cliffs does not have any employees, and all the work we do is carried out through the dedication and commitment of our community volunteers.

VII. Other

1. Litigation:

Not applicable. Kuilei Cliffs does not have any pending litigation to which they are a party, including the disclosure of any outstanding judgement.

2. Licensure or Accreditation:

Not applicable. Kuilei Cliffs does not have or require any specific qualifications.

3. Private Educational Institutions:

Not applicable. The grant will not be used to support or benefit a sectarian or non-sectarian private educational institution.

4. Future Sustainability Plan:

If funding is received for fiscal year 2026 but not thereafter, Kuilei Cliffs will continue to build on its existing community-driven foundation to sustain our activities. Kuilei Cliffs will continue to rally and recruit volunteers from the local community, schools, businesses, and other organizations to maintain our operations. Our proven ability to grow and engage volunteers ensures continuity of our efforts. We will host fundraising events, seek donations from local businesses, and apply for grants from other public and private entities to bridge the funding gap. Additionally, we will expand our partnership network to include environmentally conscious organizations and sponsors that align with our mission. We will prioritize the use of cost-effective tools, donated materials, and volunteer-driven labor to minimize operational costs. Our work will continue to focus on low-cost, high-impact activities such as removing invasive species, planting native vegetation, and maintaining the area through volunteer coordination. We will strengthen partnerships with State of Hawai'i DLNR and other government agencies to explore long-term support mechanisms. We will engage with local residents and businesses to ensure ongoing community support and participation sustaining Kuilei Cliffs. Kuilei Cliffs' deep-rooted commitment to volunteerism and community engagement positions us well to sustain our operations beyond fiscal year 2026, ensuring the continued preservation and enhancement of this vital area for future generations.