

NAME: Susan Frett
AGENDA ITEM: C.1) Subarea 1: Mā'alaea/Keālia
DATE RECEIVED: 8/25/2023 via email

Dear South Maui CPAC,

On behalf of Pacific Whale Foundation (PWF) and its 10,000 supporters and members we are asking that the South Maui CPAC designate the Mā'alaea Mauka/Pohakea Watershed Lands, owned by Hope Builders Inc, be designated as Open Space rather than Agriculture.

This area has been subject to wildfires, high erosion rates, stormwater runoff and non-native/invasive vegetation contributing to sedimentation in Mā'alaea Bay. The recent wildfires across Maui have sadly demonstrated that we all need to be proactive to protect our homes, businesses, towns, infrastructure and ecosystem from the threat of wildfire. With the total loss of Lāhainā harbor we must ensure the protection of Mā'alaea harbor.

By designating this area as Open Space the land can be specifically managed for fire hazard and erosion and also allow for agricultural activities.

Sincerely,
Pacific Whale Foundation

Susan Frett
Conservation Manager
Pacific Whale Foundation