

2.5 Goal | Responsible Stewardship of Wahi Kūpuna and Historic Properties

Why is it important?

Wahi kūpuna can be places revered and protected by ‘ōiwi throughout history or places where kūpuna lived and worked for generations [and where kanaka continue to work and live](#) like loko i‘a, lo‘i, complexes of hale, or natural features (such as pu‘u, springs, wetlands, viewpoints, etc.) that are tied to mo‘olelo about events that physically shaped South Maui. These places are important because of their connection to the living culture of ‘ōiwi of Maui today. The term historic properties include places not necessarily tied to ‘ōiwi like buildings, features and landmarks reflecting modern historical importance. Often, they possess unique architectural character or tell a story about the recent history of South Maui.

This Plan will help the community engage in responsible stewardship of wahi kūpuna and historic properties to create and retain a strong sense of place in South Maui, for residents and visitors alike. It is important to steward these resources because they create a physical link to our past, [as well as a bridge to the future](#), and can contribute to the community’s health, livability, and overall quality of life. This Plan fosters collaboration and coordination on future development to protect, preserve and restore wahi kūpuna and historic properties. If cared for properly, these resources will allow traditional cultural practices to continue, contribute to sustainability, and encourage economic diversity.

How will setting this goal affect our future?

With this goal, South Maui is committed to preserving and caring for historic, cultural and natural resources.

Cross-cutting topics:

- Historic Preservation
- Cultural Resources
- Environment
- Land Use
- Community Design
- Other Services and Facilities
- Agriculture

Policies

2.5.1 | Require development projects seeking county permits or exemptions to provide continued access to kuleana lands, and preserve and protect access to areas both mauka and makai for any lands where native Hawaiian rights were customarily and traditionally exercised for subsistence (including fishing, hunting and gathering), cultural or religious purposes. Applicable laws include Section 7-1, Hawai'i Revised Statutes; Article XII, Section 7, of the Hawaii State Constitution; and the Hawaii Supreme Court's PASH opinion, 79 Haw. 425 (1995).~~Ensure new development projects provide continued access to kuleana lands protected under Section 7-1, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, as well as continued access for cultural practices including fishing, hunting and gathering to areas both mauka and makai.~~

2.5.2 | ~~New~~dDevelopment projects shall engage in consultation with Native Hawaiian Organizations, and those who have genealogical ties, (and those with generational ties, cultural practitioners and knowledgeable individuals connected or)~~to the area~~ associated with the project area and provide evidence of this engagement to the appropriate reviewing agency.

2.5.3 | Identify, preserve, protect, and restore ~~significant~~ wahi kūpuna and significant historic properties in South Maui.

2.5.4 | Protect dark skies, mauka and makai public view corridors and scenic vistas, including traditionally significant views and views to and from the shoreline.

2.5.5 | Promote awareness and elevate the importance of wahi kūpuna and historic sites in South Maui by installing signs and markers that include information about the sites and a code of conduct to prevent damage ~~or,~~ desecration or overuse of the area.

2.5.6 | Ensure existing government trails are preserved during the discretionary review and entitlement process, including changes in zoning, community plan amendments, state land use district boundary amendments, the review of environmental assessments and impact statements, development in the Special Management Area and Shoreline Area, and the review of subdivisions, by consulting with the Department of Land and Natural Resources Na Ala Hele program, and other government agencies as appropriate.

2.5.7 | Healthy ~~mature trees, particularly~~ native trees, ~~must~~ shall be preserved and incorporated into the landscape plans of subdivisions, roads, and any other construction or development. If they must be removed first consult with Native Hawaiian Organizations prior to possible removal, for safety, then agreements ~~should~~ shall be made to ~~provide~~ offer wood or other useful elements to Hawaiian cultural practitioners or non-profit organizations or artisans from the particular area first for sustainable cultural use.

2.5.8 | Use traditional ecological knowledge, in coordination with cultural practitioners and in consultation with those who have generational knowledge (‘ike kūpuna) in the design of new development and redevelopment projects, and environmental restoration efforts.

2.5.9 | Encourage ~~voluntourism that increases awareness of wahi kūpuna and South Maui’s history.~~ trained volunteers to help increase cultural awareness, cultural appreciation and cultural respect of wahi kūpuna and South Maui’s history at the discretion of area cultural practitioners and ‘ike kūpuna.

2.5.10 | When wahi kūpuna or other historic properties are located within ~~or adjacent to~~ a project area, require restoration or preservation of the site(s) and require mitigation of potential adverse impacts on cultural resources during construction, in consultation with the as directed by State Historic Preservation, Maui County Archeologist, Cultural practitioners, and Native Hawaiian Organization~~Division or other applicable laws and regulations,~~ including site avoidance, adequate buffer areas and interpretation. Particular attention should be directed toward the southern areas and shoreline of the planning region.

Added by CPAC | When wahi kūpuna or other historic properties are located adjacent to a project area within the same parcel require mitigation of potential adverse impacts on cultural resources during construction, in consultation with State Historic Preservation Division, Maui County Archeologist, Cultural practitioners, and Native Hawaiian Organization including site avoidance, and adequate buffer areas. Particular attention should be directed toward the southern areas and shoreline of the planning region.

2.5.11 | Protect and enhance wahi kūpuna during the implementation of transportation projects through early consultation and engagement with those who have genealogical or generational ties to the project area, resource management agencies, and the community.

Added by CPAC | Encourage community stewardship of wahi kūpuna and significant historic properties.

Added by CPAC | Preserve and restore historical roads and paths as cultural resources and require such resources to be available to the public.

Added by CPAC | Support the restoration of Pu’u Hele.

Added by CPAC | Encourage creating and implementing educational onboarding for new residents and homeowners with significant cultural sites or resources on or near their property.

Added by CPAC | Support the establishment of a Cultural Center and Museum (could be more than one) in the South Maui Region to help steward South Maui’s history and tell its story. A community museum can be the caretaker of artifacts, photos and other documents pertaining to the region. A community cultural center can be a gathering place to help preserve, portray and share the arts, crafts, language and traditions of the living ‘ōiwi culture.