

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Looking to *ahupua‘a* for lessons in sustainability

KAMUELA, Hawai‘i—[April 7, 2010]—Botanist Kawika Winter presents five major lessons of the *ahupua‘a* system that can be applied to contemporary sustainability issues in Hawai‘i and the world as a whole in a *Puana Ka ‘Ike* (Imparting Knowledge) lecture in Kona and an *Eia Hawai‘i* presentation in Hilo.

Winter will discuss “Ahupua‘a Restoration: Melding Science and Culture to Produce Models of Sustainability” from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on Friday, April 30, at the Keauhou Beach Resort Kahalu‘u III in Kona and in Hilo from noon to 1:30 p.m. on Monday, May 3, at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo UCB 127.

Winter is the director of Kauai’s Limahuli Garden and Preserve (a branch of the National Tropical Botanical Garden) where he is also in charge of the longstanding Ha‘ena Ahupua‘a Project. Goals of the project are to restore the culture, the ecology and the community of Ha‘ena back to a collective state of health.

“The ahupua‘a system of resource management is the traditional model of sustainability that existed here in these islands for at least a millennium,” Winter said. “This management system harnessed ecosystem services which provided for a large and healthy population while at the same time maintaining ecosystem integrity and high levels of biodiversity.” Winter advocates applying this proven system of sustainability in a modern context—Hawai‘i’s current situation of shipping in upwards of 95 percent of food and energy.

Winter was born on Oahu and raised in Waialae and Waikiki. He has a master’s degree in botany from the University of Hawai‘i at Manoa, and is currently a doctoral candidate there focusing on theoretical ethnobotany. Winter learned of ahupua‘a management from the late *kumu hula* John Ka‘imikaua and other *kūpuna* including Eddie Kaanaana.

For more information on Winter’s presentations, contact Natalie Deisroth at 808-322-0088, ext. 100, or e-mail info@kohalacenter.org. For lecture schedules and webcasts of previous lectures, visit <http://kohalacenter.org/puanakaike/about.html> and www.keauhouresort.com/learn-puanakaike.html.

The Puana Ka ‘Ike and Eia Hawai‘i lecture series are presented in partnership with Kamehameha Investment Corporation/Kamehameha Schools, The Kohala Center, Kīpuka Native Hawaiian Student Center at the University of Hawai‘i at Hilo, Keauhou Beach Resort, and Hawai‘i Tourism Authority.

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[photo caption]

Kawika Winter to lecture on the *ahupua'a* system of resource management.