



UNIVERSITY
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MĀNOA

College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources
Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Management

10/27/23

To the Community Wildfire Defense Grant Reviewers:

I am writing to voice my support for the Malama Haleakala Foundation's request for CWDG funding. I have been working with various landowners that Malama Haleakala Foundation supports for nearly 8 years in support of their fire-related response, awareness, and risk mitigation efforts. The Maui wildfires clarify how public and private landowners and land managers need to step in both before and after fires to reduce the burden currently placed on suppression agencies. This includes fuels reduction on the landscape and around homes, properly equipping and training managers of large land parcels who have been responding to these incidents for years, and supporting neighboring communities as to be Firewise. Malama Haleakala Foundation's Leeward Haleakala Resilient Landscapes Project and the plan outlined in this current proposal present locally grounded solutions to the challenges identified at the national level by the Cohesive Strategy for Wildland Fire management and adhere to the actions presented in the Community Wildfire Protection Plan for Upcountry Maui.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Clay Trauernicht, PhD

Extension Specialist in Ecosystems and Fire