



# Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, life is dependent upon a healthy water supply, which flows in a cycle and comes into human contact by way of a watershed; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act (Public Law 83-566) was passed on August 4, 1954, when Congress recognized the serious damage inflicted on our natural resources and economy due to flooding and sedimentation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Act authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to provide technical and financial assistance to entities of state and local governments and tribes (project sponsors) for planning and installing watershed projects, and has been amended several times to address a broad range of natural resource and environmental issues, and

**WHEREAS**, the watershed program is a unique and flexible approach to natural resources planning and management, focusing on proper land use and installation of conservation practices; and

**WHEREAS**, there are over 2,000 watershed projects in the nation, with projects in every state providing multiple benefits to local communities; and

**WHEREAS**, watershed projects have the benefits of reducing flooding, erosion, sediment and agriculture-related pollutants, while improving municipal and rural water supplies, recharging groundwater, and protecting water quality, recreational areas and wildlife habitats; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of Hawai'i has benefited greatly from the many watershed projects in our islands, including the Wai'anai Nui Watershed, Wai'anai Iki Watershed, Kona Watershed, Nā'ālehu Watershed and Pu'ukapu Watershed; and

**WHEREAS**, on August 4, 2004, Hawai'i will join the nation in celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act of 1954,

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE**, Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim August 4, 2004, as

## **WATERSHED PROTECTION AND FLOOD PREVENTION DAY**

in Hawai'i, and urge our residents to learn about the many ways they can contribute to keeping our watersheds healthy and productive.

**Done** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this seventh day of July 2004.

  
Linda Lingle  
Governor, State of Hawai'i