



# National Public Lands Day

A National Environmental Education Foundation Program

## Helping Hands for America's Lands



**Kahanahaiki, Makua Military Reservation, Island of O'ahu, Hawaii: Invasive Plant Removal Project**

Last year, volunteers restored a portion of the native mesic forest by removing invasive weeds and re-introducing native palapalai fern, an important understory component of the forest in Makua valley.

National Public Lands Day (NPLD) is the nation's largest hands-on volunteer effort to improve and enhance the public lands Americans enjoy. On Sept. 26, 2009, 130,000 volunteers will build trails and bridges, remove trash and invasive plants and plant trees at more than 2,000 sites across the nation. Along with Department of Defense (DoD), eight federal and many state and local agencies participate in this annual day of caring for shared lands. NPLD takes place on the last Saturday of every September. Learn more at [www.publiclandsday.org](http://www.publiclandsday.org).

The DoD Legacy Resource Management Program joined the NPLD partnership in 1999 to support volunteer habitat restoration projects on military installations throughout the country and has provided financial support for NPLD events for the past 11 years. NPLD projects that take place on military installations are eligible for DoD Legacy funding. This is a competitive funding application process for projects that emphasize habitat and cultural restoration. The sites are awarded up to \$6,500. The application can be downloaded at [www.publiclandsday.org](http://www.publiclandsday.org). Applications are due in May or June each year.



**Naval Submarine Base New London, Groton, Connecticut: Wildlife Habitat Project**

With Legacy/ NPLD funding, site managers organized a volunteer event on Sept. 27, 2008 to install 15 bat boxes throughout the installation to improve habitat for the species.



**Naval Weapons Station Seal Beach, California: Marsh Restoration Project**

For NPLD 2008, Seal Beach site managers helped restore native vegetation to several acres of upper salt marsh habitat and adjacent upland habitat begun in previous years. The restoration areas are covered in non-native vegetation such as fountain grass, fennel, and hottentot fig, and Navy staff removed some of these invasives before the main event, clearing the way for soil preparation work for volunteers. Last year, 125 volunteers removed invasive plants, prepared the soil, and planted 450 native shrubs and other plants.



[www.publiclandsday.org](http://www.publiclandsday.org)

