



KULA COMMUNITY WATERSHED POST-FIRE RESPONSE: A CASE-STUDY



**KULA
COMMUNITY
WATERSHED
ALLIANCE**

PRESENTED BY:

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SARA TEKULA, KULA COMMUNITY WATERSHED ALLIANCE
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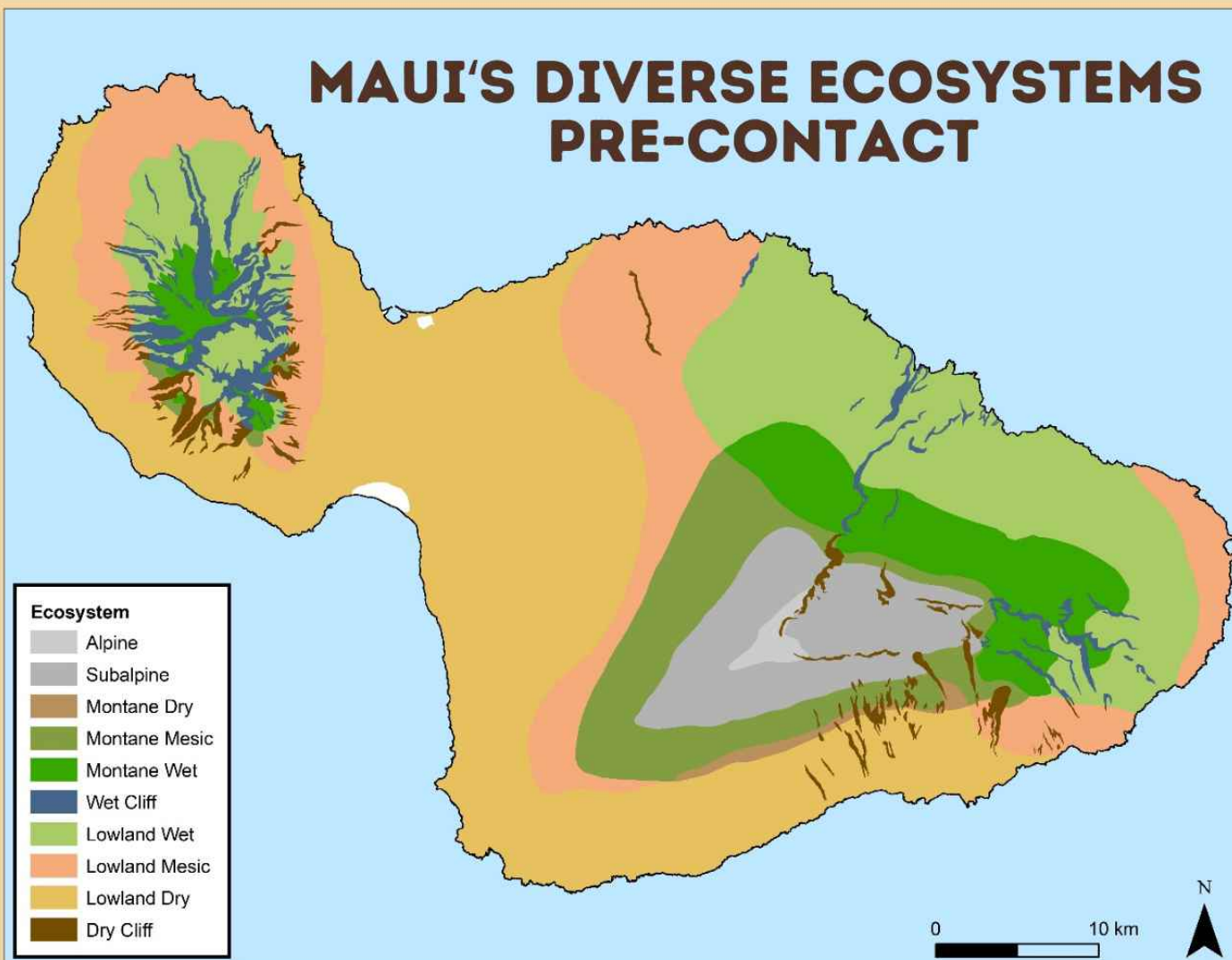


'A'OLE E 'ŌLELO MAI ANA KE AHI UA ANA IA.

FIRE WILL NEVER SAY THAT IT HAS HAD ENOUGH.

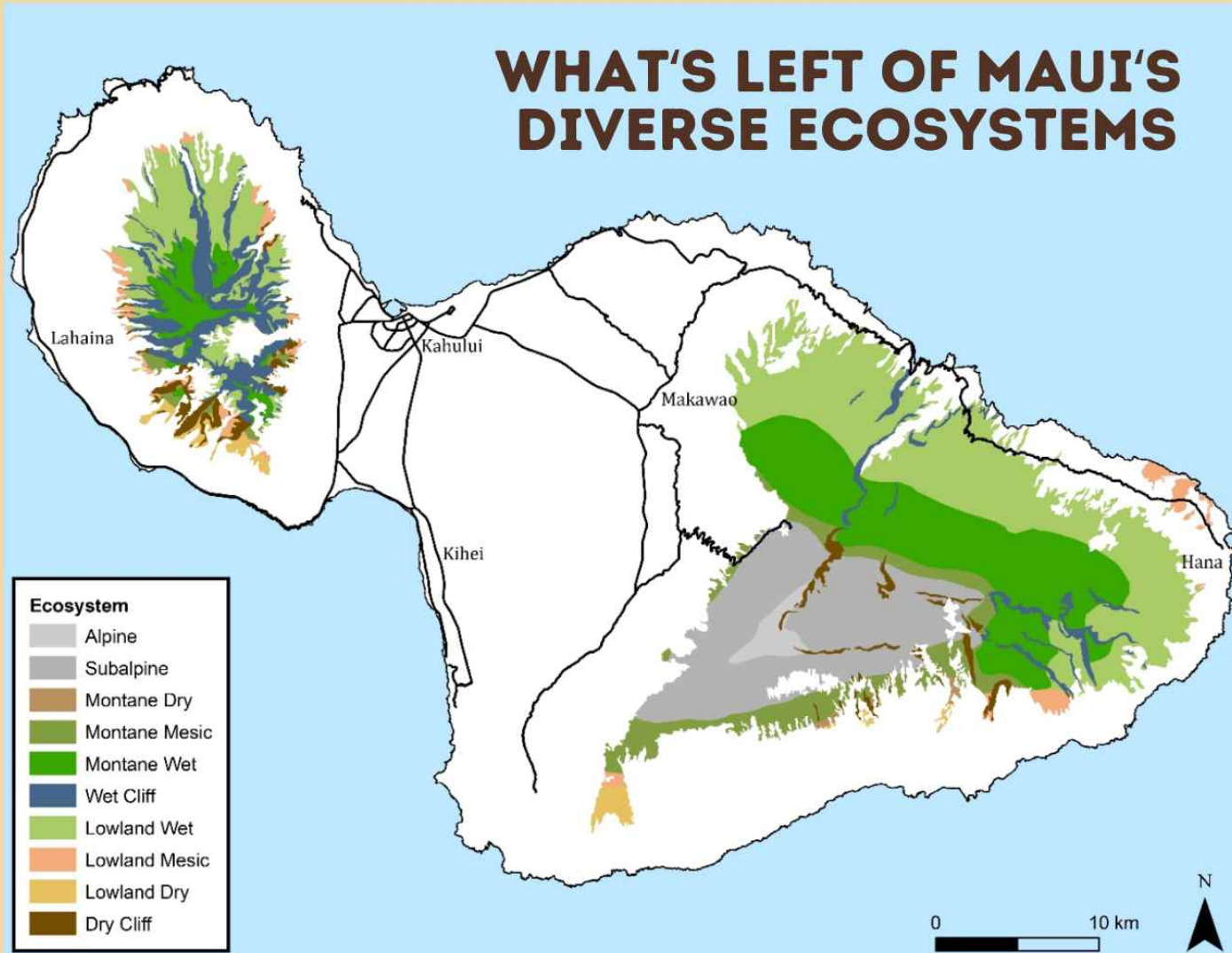
**'ŌLELO NO'EAU #225
(HAWAIIAN PROVERB)**

MAUI'S DIVERSE ECOSYSTEMS PRE-CONTACT



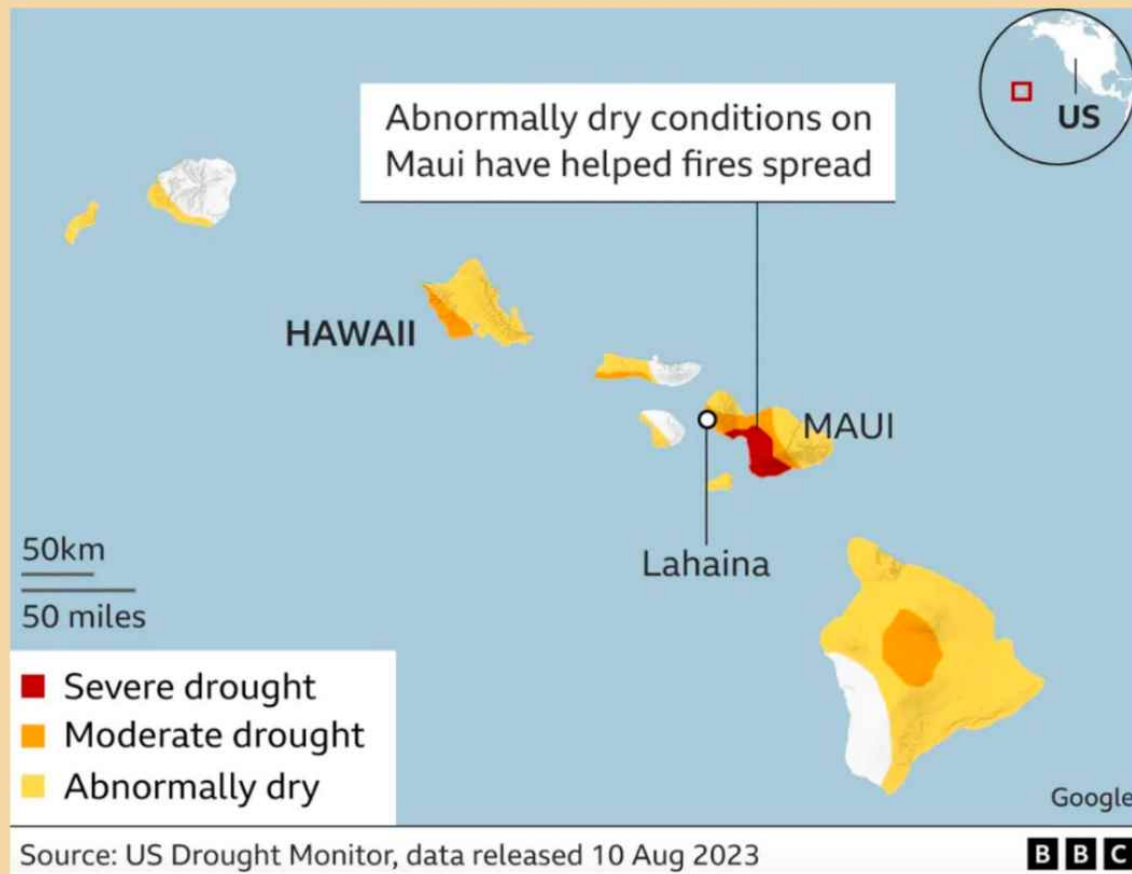
Source: The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i

WHAT'S LEFT OF MAUI'S DIVERSE ECOSYSTEMS

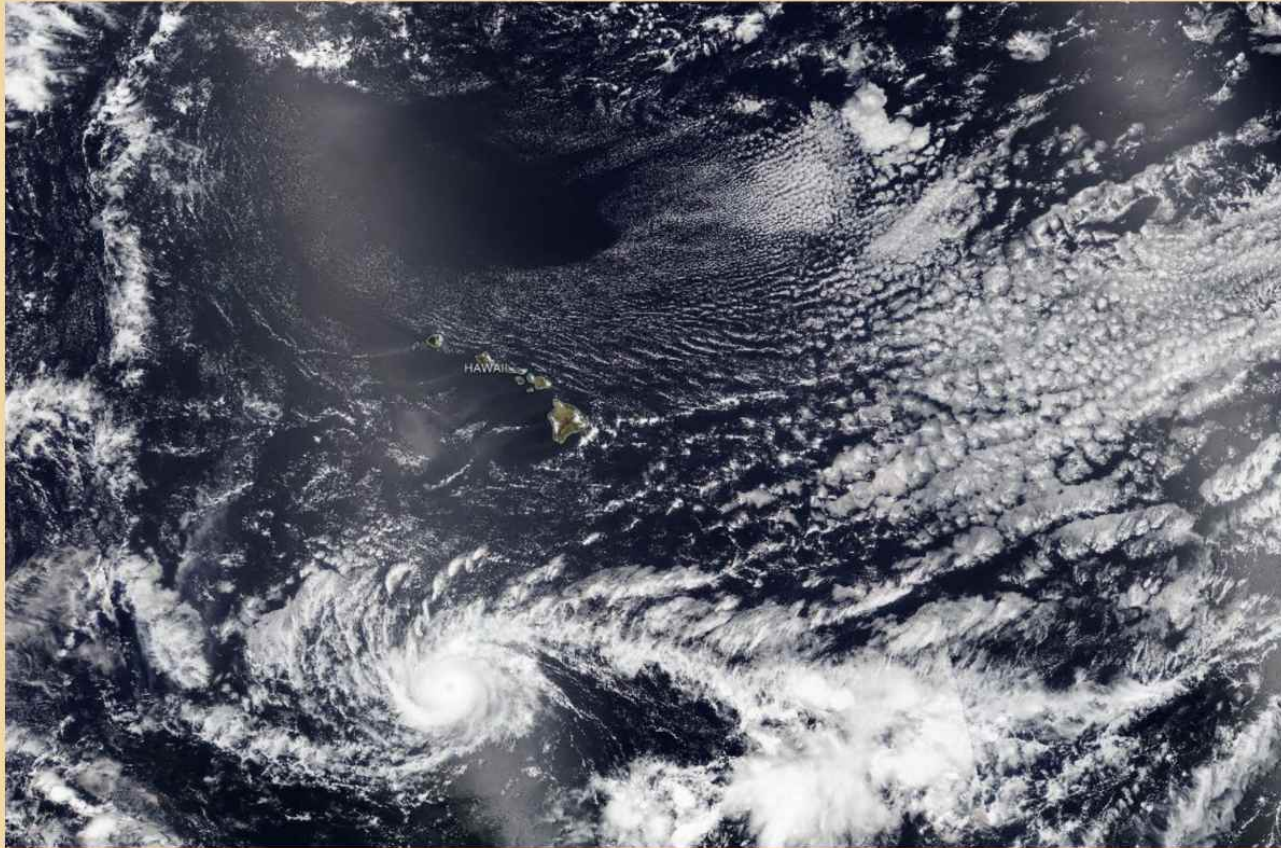


Source: The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i

DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN AUG 2023

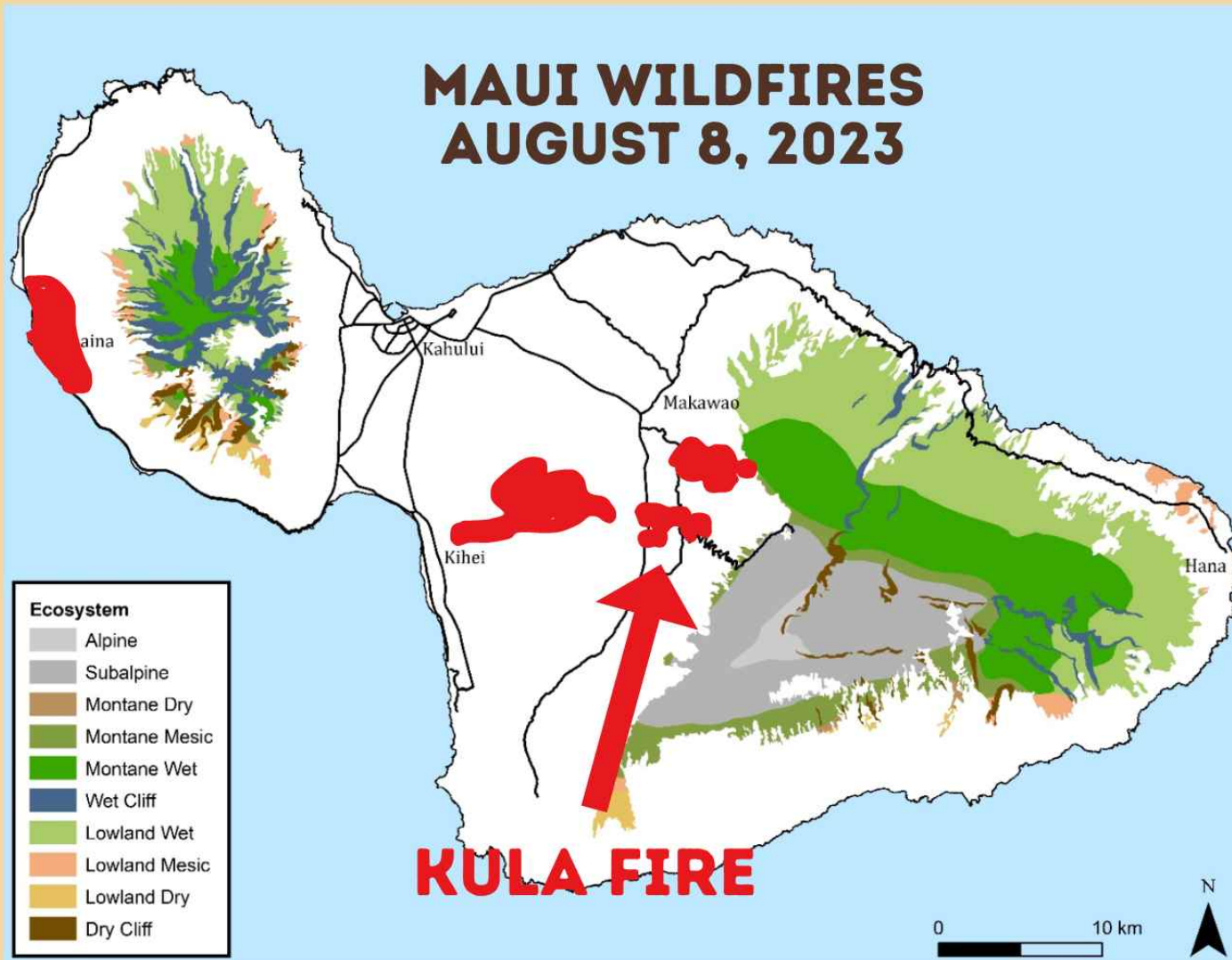


HURRICANE DORA - CATEGORY 4 AUG 8, 2023



NASA WorldView

MAUI WILDFIRES AUGUST 8, 2023



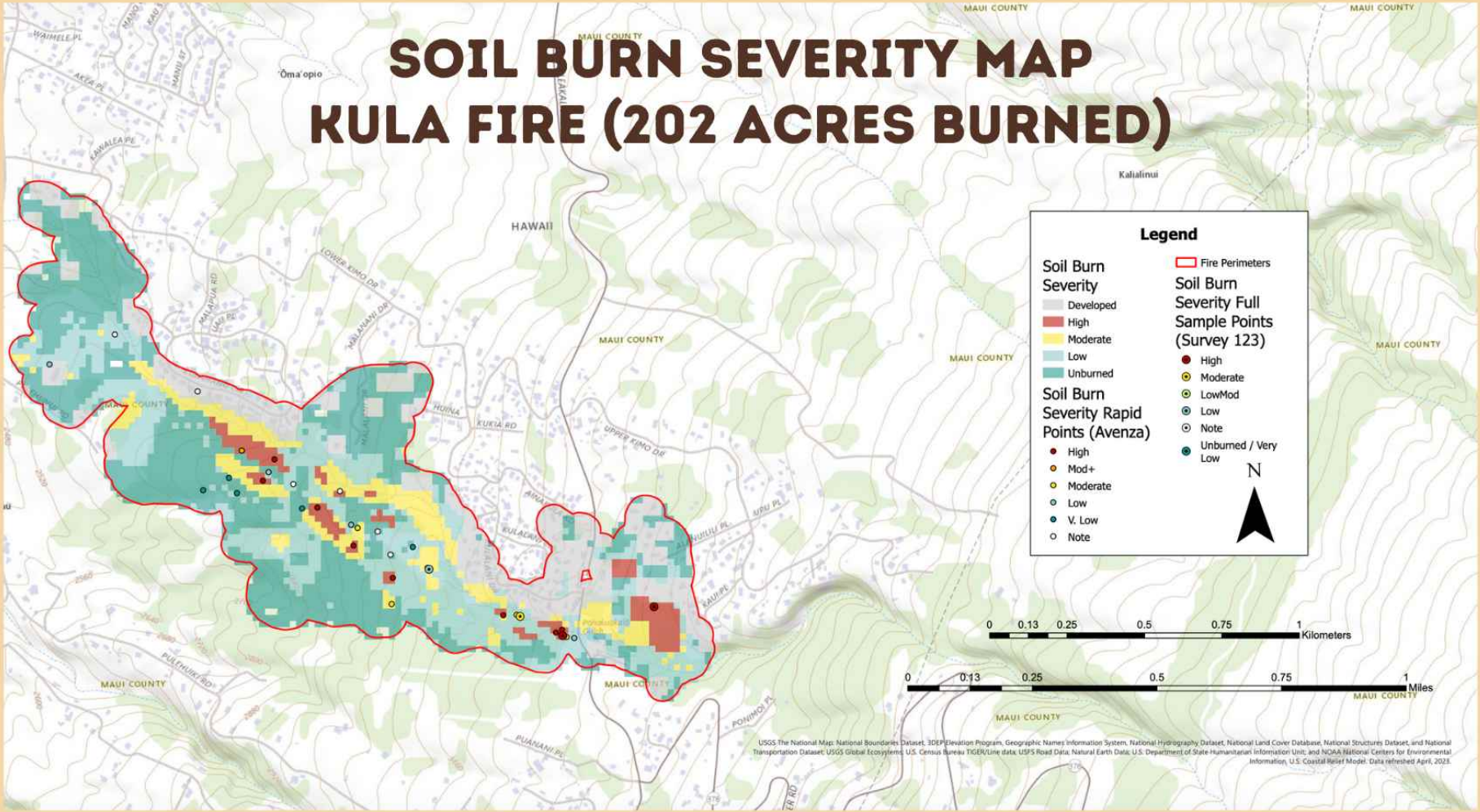
KULA FIRE

Source: The Nature Conservancy of Hawai'i

BAER TEAM MAUI WILDFIRES DEPLOYMENT AUG 20 - SEPT 5, 2023



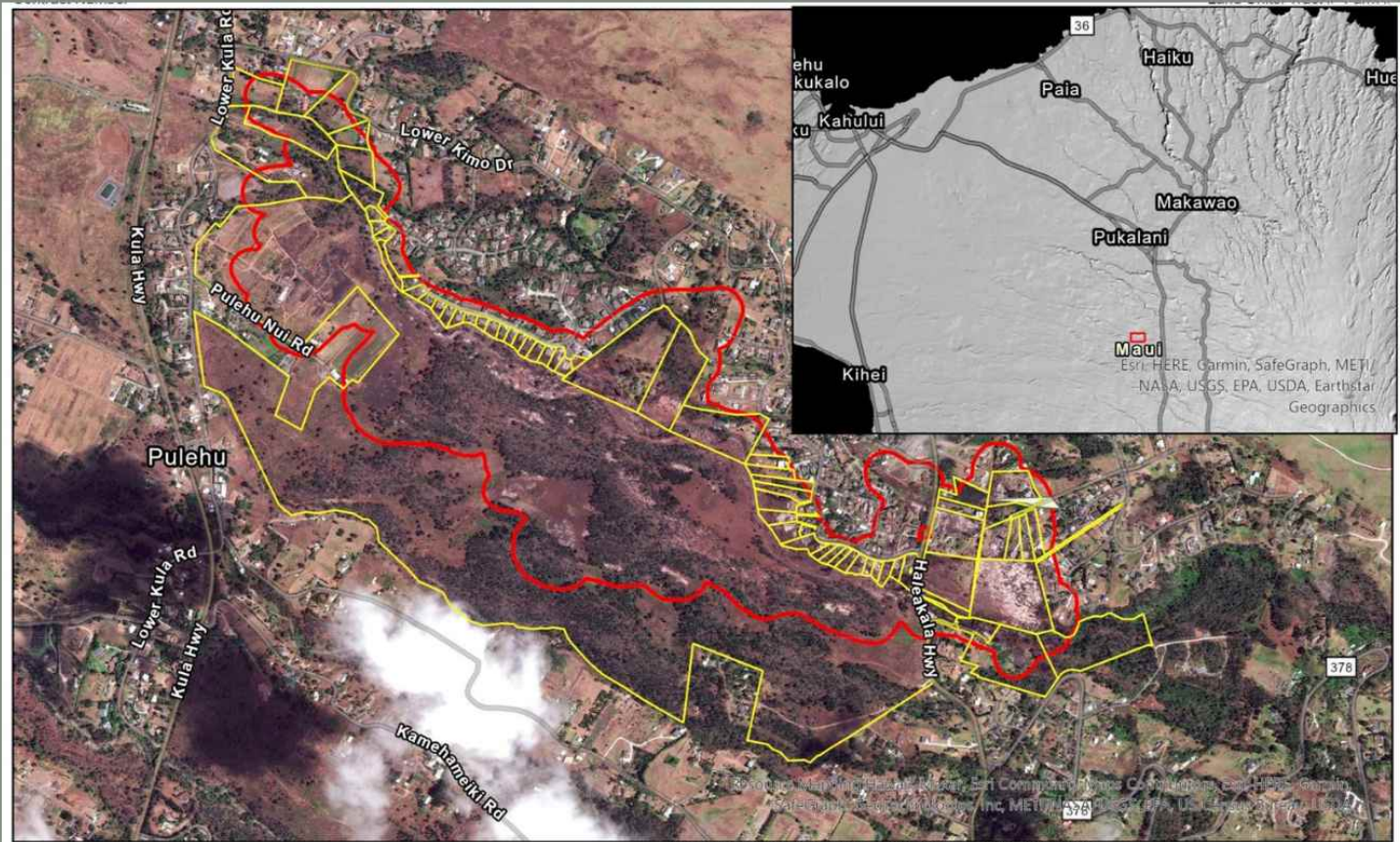
SOIL BURN SEVERITY MAP KULA FIRE (202 ACRES BURNED)



COMMUNITY RESPONSE TIMELINE

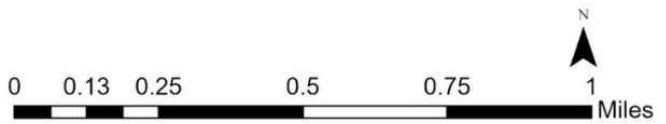
AUGUST 8TH





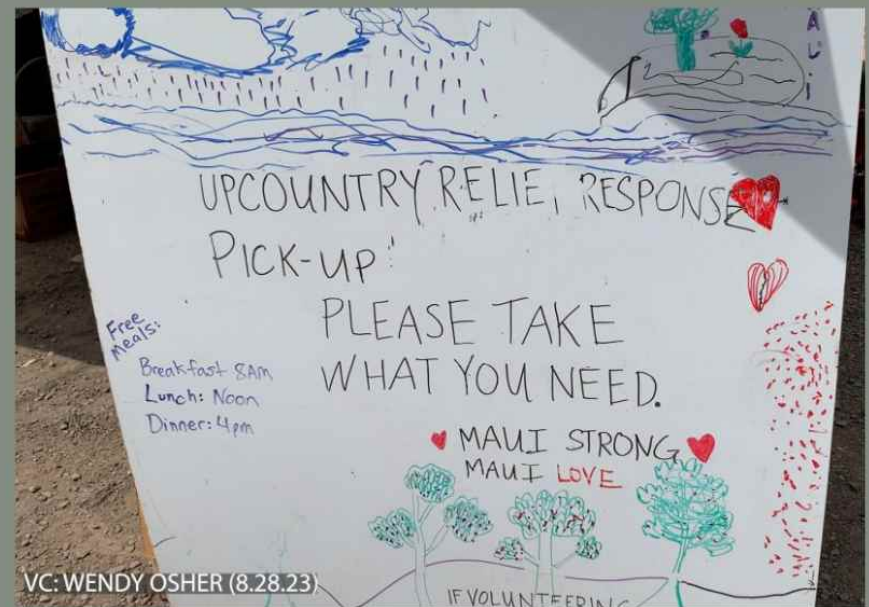
Legend

- Property Lines
- Burn Perimeter





COMMUNITY RESPONSE TIMELINE IMMEDIATE AFTERMATH (AND STILL ONGOING)



THE KULA HUB

COMMUNITY RESPONSE TIMELINE

GREENWASTE REMOVAL



Credit: Mālama Kula

COMMUNITY RESPONSE TIMELINE THREE WEEKS AFTER



**KULA COMMUNITY WATERSHED ALLIANCE:
OF, BY, AND FOR THE SURVIVORS**

GRASSROOTS COLLECTIVE ACTION

- **AUG 15TH:** WEEKLY MEETINGS BEGIN AMONG SURVIVORS, LOCAL NRCS LEAD ATTENDS ALL MEETINGS TO DISCUSS POST-FIRE EROSION HAZARDS.
- **AUG 20TH:** SITE VISITS BEGIN, THERMAL IMAGING DRONE HELPS TRACK HOT SPOTS
- **AUG 31:** SURVIVORS VOTE TO BECOME AN ALLIANCE, LOCAL BUSINESS UNDERWRITES EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR 3 MONTHS (NEIGHBORS DECIDE THIS IS SARA)
- **SEPT 5:** "NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL" FORMS FOR DECISION MAKING & STEWARDSHIP OF FUNDS, COUNCIL IS 100% FIRE SURVIVOR-LED
- **SEPT 16:** 501(C)(3) FISCAL SPONSOR, NĀ KOA MANU CONSERVATION, EROSION CONTROL TEST PLOT MADE
- **SEPT 20:** KCWA WRITTEN INTO OUR LOCAL WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN, ENABLING US TO REQUEST EPA 319 CLEAN WATER FUNDS
- **OCT 1 :** WEBSITE & DONATION BUTTON IS LIVE, PR & OUTREACH BEGINS, GRANT WRITING BEGINS
- **OCT 31:** BANK ACCOUNT BALANCE: **\$225,357**, ALL FROM INDIVIDUAL DONORS



NOVEMBER 2023: PUT THOSE FUNDS TO GOOD USE

NRCS EWPP DAMAGE SURVEY REPORT FOR KULA COMPLETED EARLY NOVEMBER, WE SEE MAPS, EWPP FUNDS APPROVED IN D.C.

FIRST PROPERTY STABILIZED: 1.3 ACRES COVERED IN 3" OF WOOD CHIPS (700 YARDS) MADE FROM A NEIGHBOR'S OVERGROWN FIRE FUELS

- **PRIORITY PROPERTIES IDENTIFIED BY LOCAL EXPERT, BUDGET APPROVED BY NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**





MAHALO

WWW.KULACOMMUNITYWATERSHED.ORG



KEEP GOING!

DECEMBER & JANUARY:

- **ADDITIONAL 6.5 ACRES STABILIZED, ACROSS 5 LANDOWNERS**
- **EMAIL UPDATES & THANK YOU CARDS TO DONORS**
- **BEGIN SEED COLLECTION IN NEARBY PRESERVES, COMMUNITY SEED CULTIVATION WORKSHOPS**
- **MORE GRANT WRITING!**
- **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BEGINS SERVING AS KULA'S NATURAL-CULTURAL RESOURCES LONG TERM RECOVERY LEAD W/COUNTY OFFICE OF RECOVERY (FEMA LED GROUP)**





THREE MONTHS LATER

FEBRUARY: FIRST GRANT FUNDING ARRIVES*!

FEB 8TH - ON THE 6 MONTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRE, WE ARE AWARDED \$481,800 FOR:

- **ADDITIONAL STABILIZATION**
- **DEER FENCE**
- **COMMUNITY GREENHOUSE**
- **PLANTING**
- **1 YEAR OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR SUPPORT**

We're a
**MAUI STRONG FUND
GRANTEE**



***THE PR FROM THIS GRANT ANNOUNCEMENT SPARKS ANOTHER \$30,000 IN DONATIONS!**

MARCH 2024: STATE DEPT OF HEALTH / EPA 319 FUNDS SET ASIDE

\$300,000 HELD FOR KCWA TO DO NON-POINT SOURCE POLLUTION PREVENTION PRACTICES AND MONITORING SEDIMENT MOVEMENT OVER THE NEXT YEAR.

- **FENCING**
- **PLANTING**
- **MONITORING**



APRIL 2024: KCWA SELECTED FOR A U.S. FOREST SERVICE LANDSCAPE SCALE RESTORATION GRANT!

**\$300,000 SET ASIDE FOR KCWA TO DO RESTORATION ACROSS
THE BURN SCAR**

- **FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLANNING**
- **STABILIZATION**
- **FENCING**
- **PLANTING**
- **MONITORING**

TOTAL RAISED BY KCWA SINCE AUG 8TH:

\$1,128,321*

***NOT INCLUDING IN-KIND DONATIONS**

**8 MONTHS POST-FIRE:
NRCS EMERGENCY WATERSHED
PROTECTION PROGRAM (EWPP) IS NOW
READY TO BEGIN.**

**KCWA ADVISOR & PROJECT MANAGER
TAPPED AS EWP PROJECT DIRECTOR**

CONTRACT BEING FINALIZED THIS WEEK!

NEXT STEPS:

- **BUILD ONTO ON NRCS EWPP WORK AS IT IS COMPLETED**
- **BEGIN FENCING, PLANTING**
- **CONTINUE BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH COLLECTIVE CARE OF THE LAND WE CALL HOME**

STAY TUNED!

@KULACOMMUNITYWATERSHED