



NORTH SHORE GREENPRINT:
Kahuku to Ka'ena, Mauka to Makai



A vision for the North Shore

O'ahu's North Shore includes 60,000 acres of undeveloped and unprotected land. The region's beaches and coastline, abundant wildlife, local agriculture, and rich cultural heritage make it special to residents and visitors alike.

The North Shore's unique allure is in its quality of life, including its stunning scenery and world-class recreation opportunities. These natural resources attract entrepreneurs, businesses, and more than 2 million visitors a year—which makes protecting the land essential to sustaining the local economy.

In 2009, the North Shore Community Land Trust (NSCLT) began a visioning process aimed at protecting the North Shore's cultural heritage and increasing awareness of the region's potential to contribute to food security in Hawai'i. They partnered with national nonprofit The Trust for Public Land (TPL) to develop a Greenprint—a comprehensive plan that uses local and regional priorities to guide land conservation efforts with willing landowners.

Created for and by the community, the Greenprint identifies the resources most important to the North Shore. The goals and strategies outlined in the Greenprint equip conservationists with useful tools to protect the land they love.



“For me, quality of life is looking out my window and seeing the blue ocean, then turning around and seeing the green mountains behind me.”

—Josh Heimowitz
Executive Director, YMCA Camp Erdman, 2001–2011



“If we are serious about sustainability and producing enough food for the island, we need to preserve our agricultural lands. Many of those lands are on the North Shore.”

— Creighton Mattoon
Ko‘olauloa Hawaiian Civic Club



What matters most

We interviewed community members in homes and businesses, and at coffee shops and farmers’ markets. More than 300 people told us what’s most important to them about the North Shore. Their voices defined the Greenprint values.

Agriculture

The success of diversified agricultural operations on former sugar plantation land is evidence of the region’s potential for cultivating locally consumed food crops.

Recreation

People come to the North Shore for activities from surfing and snorkeling to hiking and horseback riding. These and other activities are important to quality of life and the visitor-based economy.

Cultural heritage

Heritage sites on the North Shore are reminders of the region’s rich history— and the ongoing work of cultural practitioners today.



“There are cultural areas in each abupua’a that are special to the families from these abupua’a, and you need to approach them in the right way.”

— Kawika Au
Waialua Hawaiian Civic Club



Scenic landscapes

The region’s rural character and scenic views form a strong connection between O’ahu residents and the land. The North Shore’s beauty attracts visitors from all over the world.

Plants and animals

The North Shore provides important habitat for endangered and threatened native species, such as the ‘ōpe‘ape‘a (Hawaiian hoary bat), the ‘Ilioholoikauaua (Hawaiian monk seal), and the honu (green sea turtle).

Water

Clean, abundant water sustains community health and agriculture. Protecting water sources also safeguards the ocean for marine life and world-class recreation.

Beaches

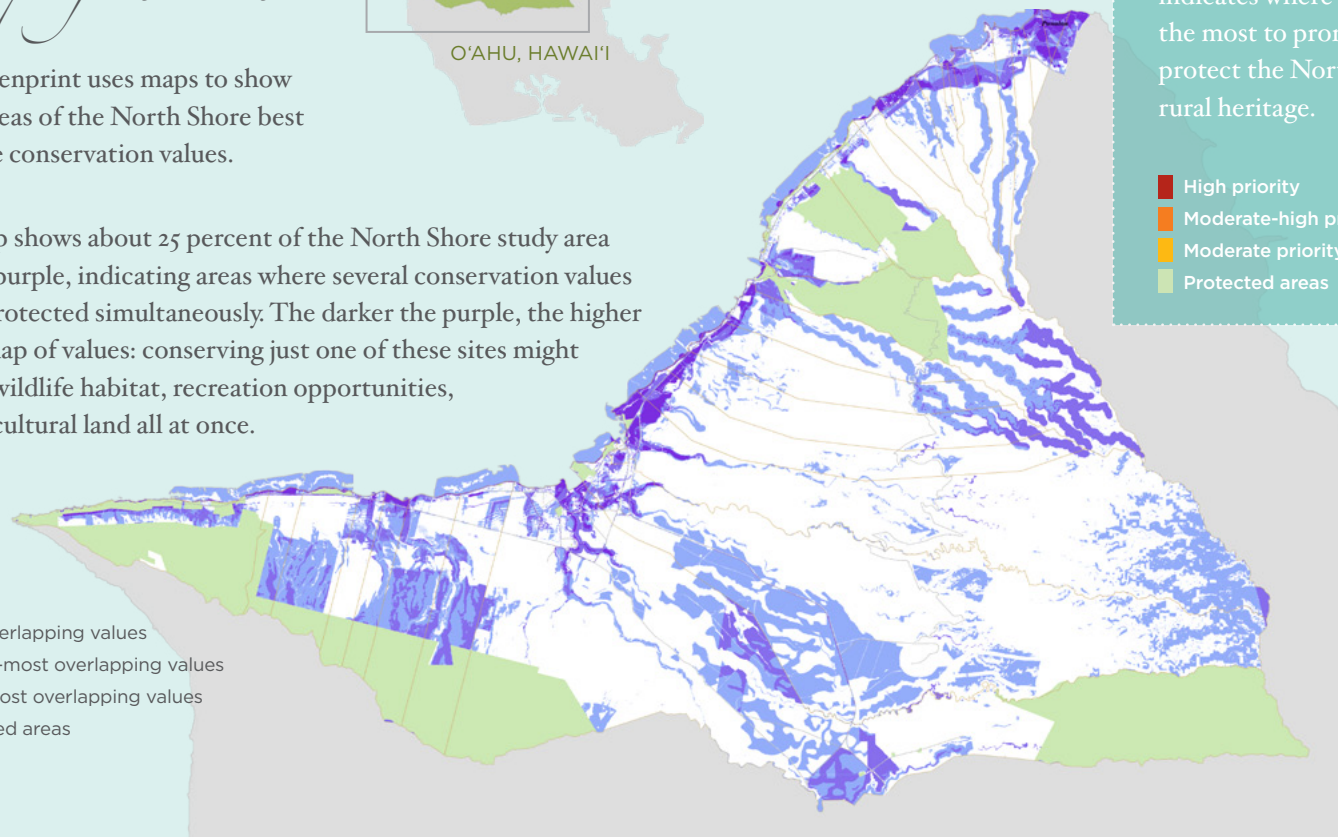
In addition to several world-renowned surf breaks and beaches, the North Shore has most of O’ahu’s longest remaining stretches of undeveloped coastline.

Mapping our values

The Greenprint uses maps to show which areas of the North Shore best serve the conservation values.

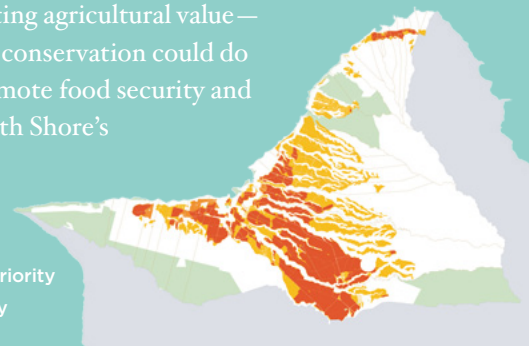
This map shows about 25 percent of the North Shore study area colored purple, indicating areas where several conservation values can be protected simultaneously. The darker the purple, the higher the overlap of values: conserving just one of these sites might protect wildlife habitat, recreation opportunities, and agricultural land all at once.

- Most overlapping values
- Second-most overlapping values
- Third-most overlapping values
- Protected areas



Maps for individual Greenprint values show the highest priorities in red. This map—representing agricultural value—indicates where conservation could do the most to promote food security and protect the North Shore's rural heritage.

- High priority
- Moderate-high priority
- Moderate priority
- Protected areas



The maps also show portions of the North Shore already conserved—places like Ka'ena Point State Park and the Pūpūkea Paumalū State Park Reserve. The successful partnerships that have created places like these serve as the models—and inspiration—for future conservation efforts.

To view Greenprint maps in detail, visit tpl.org/hawaii or northshoreland.org.

What is a Greenprint?

A Greenprint is a plan for meeting local and regional conservation priorities. Community members collaborate to identify the types of land that best serve their goals—and to create strategies for protecting those places with interested landowners.

What is voluntary land conservation?

If a landowner needs to sell his or her property, but wants to protect it from development, a land trust may be able to help. Land trusts can identify potential buyers for conserved lands, or work with the landowner to place a conservation easement on the property before it goes on the market.

What is a conservation easement?

When a landowner donates or sells a conservation easement, he or she gives up some of the rights associated with the land—for example, the right to build additional structures. However, the landowner continues to own, live on, and use their property, and may sell it or pass it on to heirs.

How does conservation help the local economy?

The North Shore's natural resources attract visitor spending and sustain local industries—from agriculture to film. Proximity to parks and open space also enhances the value of residential properties, producing increased tax revenues for local governments.



You can help

The North Shore Community Land Trust and the Greenprint Steering Committee have developed an action plan to achieve the Greenprint goals. The plan focuses on:

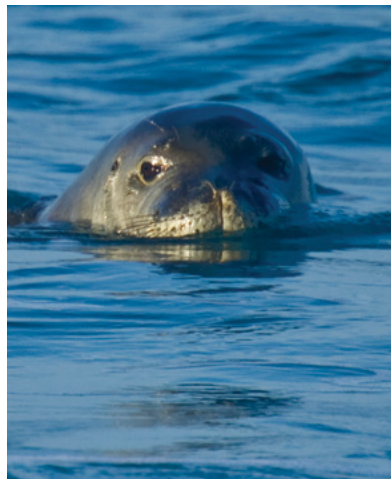
- **Conservation:** Taking action to advance land conservation goals.
- **Collaboration:** Fostering a social and political environment conducive to voluntary land conservation.
- **Education:** Developing a public awareness campaign.
- **Capacity:** Building the North Shore Community Land Trust's capacity to conserve land, and supporting programs and policies that encourage voluntary land conservation.

The North Shore is an extraordinary place, rich in natural and cultural heritage. Protecting its unique character is challenging and complex, but community input makes it clear that there is broad support for conserving land and water to benefit the public. Now is the time to seize opportunities to implement the Greenprint vision for the North Shore's future. You can help!

- Tell us about land you believe could be protected.
- Donate to support our efforts.
- Download the full North Shore Greenprint report at tpl.org/hawaii or northshoreland.org.

"Many of our livelihoods are directly linked to the surrounding natural beauty. We have a responsibility to preserve it."

—Tinker Bloomfield
Waimea Valley Event and Function Coordinator



The North Shore Community Land Trust is an O'ahu-based nonprofit that protects, stewards, and enhances the natural landscapes, cultural heritage, and rural character of ahupua'a, from Kahuku Point to Ka'ena. For more information, visit northshoreland.org.

The Trust for Public Land is a national nonprofit organization dedicated to conserving land for people to enjoy as parks, gardens, and natural areas, ensuring livable communities for generations to come. For more information, visit tpl.org/hawaii.

Acknowledgments

This project would not have been possible without the generous support of the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation and the United States Army (ACUB program). The army partners with conservation groups to protect land that buffers military sites while also preserving places important to residents—a win-win for the North Shore. We thank all those who contributed to the Greenprint.



tpl.org/hawaii

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PHOTOS: COVER—YOSUKE MORIYA/MOHALA FARMS; SPREAD 1: SEAN DAVEY; SPREAD 2: TOP—YOSUKE MORIYA/MOHALA FARMS, BOTTOM—ANNIE SUITE/HALE'IWA FARMERS' MARKET; SPREAD 3: TOP—HI'IPAKA LLC, BOTTOM—ANNIE SUITE/HALE'IWA FARMERS' MARKET; SPREAD 5: SEAN DAVEY.