

Eagle Project completed at the Fleming Arboretum

Ulupalakua- Julian Askov of Boy Scout Troop 100 in Kula completed his Eagle project at the D.T. Fleming Arboretum in Ulupalakua to earn the Boy Scouts of America's highest honor - the Eagle Scout Award. The Award ceremony was held at Waipuna Chapel on Sunday August 27.

An Eagle Scout Award requires Scouts to plan, organize and direct a community service project demonstrating commitment, skill and leadership. To become an Eagle Scout is a commitment for life to be a mentor and leader for the community. Julian, son of David and Maria Askov of Olinda, is a Junior at Seabury Hall transferring to Washington state to compete his schooling.

Julian coordinated a 3 day campout August 4 to 6 with Scouts and Cubs from Troop 100 to accomplish his Eagle project- the installation of new updated, upgraded tree identification labels for 98 signature trees in the Fleming Arboretum. Julian directed his crew of 35 volunteers to install stainless 7 foot steel stakes and attach new ID labels using fishing wire and crimps.

Project research and supplies were funded by Kaulunani Department of Forestry. FOFA staff provided mentorship and coordination efforts. The Arboretum Inventory update for database and tree labels was done by Environmental Consultant and retired DLNR Maui district manager Robert Hobdy.

The Arboretum's database and trail identification labels provide visiting scientists, community groups and individuals valuable conservation information which contributes to the appreciation and preservation of Hawaii's native plants and forest ecosystems. With the growing importance of the Arboretum, the need for improved record keeping of the resources has grown. The Arboretum's new labels include the Arboretum's 14 Maui County Exceptional Trees, updated scientific names and federal protection status. Labels now include current island natural distribution, alongside pre-contact Island occurrence. This information is important to determine seed and propagule distribution to preserve their unique genetics.

"Working with Boy Scout volunteers since 2008, I watched Julian grow from a wild rascal Cub to a focused young man directing 35 youth and adult volunteers doing multiple projects at one time to complete his Eagle Project", commented Project Mentor Martha Vockrodt-Moran."What ever Julian choses to do in life, he will achieve."



Julian Askov of Boy Scout Troop 100 in Kula at his Eagle Award ceremony.



Julian briefs volunteers on day's project.



Julian explains tree label project to Troop 100 volunteers.



Cubs keep busy cleaning prunings from trails, while stakes are being installed, before helping with labels.



Alama Chow uses fence-puller to re-set stakes where needed.



Pounding in stakes in teams straight and in line.



Julian demonstrates label crimping..



Julian inspects volunteer group attaching new tree labels using fishing wire and crimps.



Lunch at noon as scheduled.



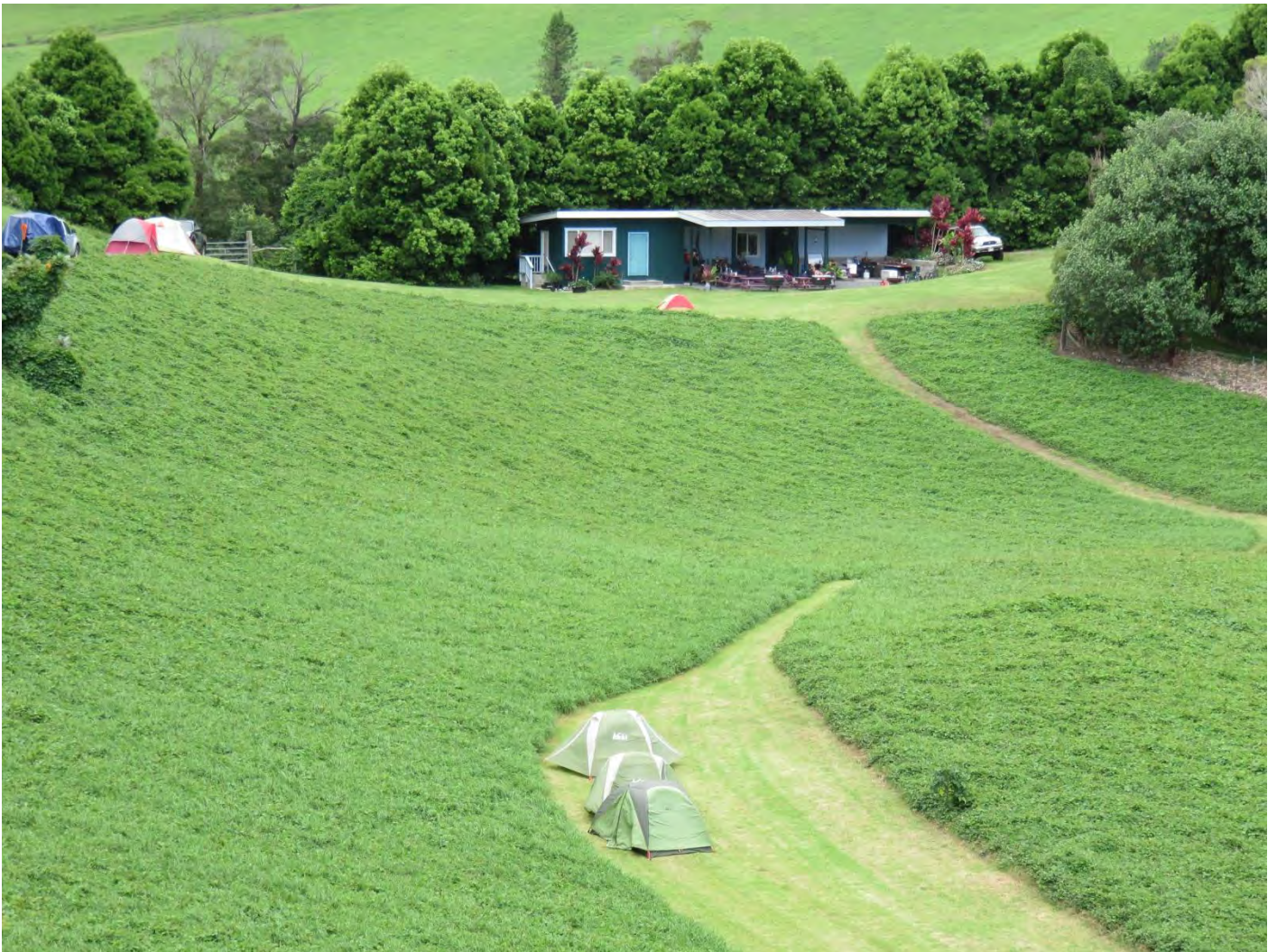
Volunteers walk Arboretum with Julian removing project's marking tape and flags while inspecting completed job for perfection.



Extra volunteers help transplanting in nursery, Ohia from dibble tubes to 1 gallon pots, learning that Ohia have especially sensitive roots that must not be disturbed during transplanting.



New updated, upgraded tree identification labels provide valuable conservation information for preservation of Hawaii's native plants and forest ecosystems.



Puu Mahoe 5th Eagle Project and 5Star Campgrounds inspires new Eagle Projects in 2018.