

Mark Fox  
Director of External Affairs  
The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i Program

Originally from Hawai'i island, Mark received his undergraduate and law degrees from Santa Clara University in Santa Clara, California. Mark practiced law from 1989 to 1993 with the Carlsmith law firm in Honolulu working in a number of practice areas including finance, banking, bankruptcy, land use, civil litigation, and lobbying.

Mark joined the Washington staff of U.S. Senator Daniel K. Inouye in 1994 handling issues related to the environment, agriculture, rural community development, energy and water development, the Pacific island territories, and justice and the federal judiciary. A major focus of this work was assisting the Senator to develop and seek funding for projects and programs in Hawai'i and the U.S.-affiliated Pacific to protect the region's unique natural and agricultural resources, as well as create economic opportunities in rural communities.

In 2000, after six years with Senator Inouye's staff, Mark joined The Nature Conservancy's Hawai'i Program. Mark's work with The Conservancy includes government and agency relations, as well as outreach and communications. In that capacity, Mark has served as the Chair of the Coordinating Group on Alien Pest Species and the Hawai'i Association of Watershed Partnerships, and is a member of the State of Hawai'i Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Task Force.

The Nature Conservancy [www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org) is a private nonprofit organization dedicated to the conservation of biological diversity. Our mission is to preserve the plants, animals and natural communities that represent the diversity of life on Earth by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive. Our on-the-ground conservation work is carried out in all 50 states and in 27 foreign countries and is supported by approximately one million individual members. We have helped conserve nearly 15 million acres of land in the United States and Canada and more than 102 million acres with local partner organizations globally. The Conservancy owns and manages approximately 1,400 preserves throughout the United States—the largest private system of nature sanctuaries in the world. Our conservation programs are characterized by sound science and strong partnerships with public and private entities and communities to achieve tangible and lasting results.

Established in 1980, The Conservancy's Hawai'i Program [www.nature.org/hawaii](http://www.nature.org/hawaii) has helped to protect nearly 200,000 acres of natural lands for Hawaii's globally unique native plants and animals. Today, we actively manage more than 32,000 acres in 11 nature preserves on O'ahu, Maui, Hawai'i, Moloka'i, Lāna'i, and Kaua'i. The Conservancy also works closely with government agencies, private parties and communities on cooperative land and marine management projects. Our Hawai'i Program has approximately 8,000 members and is supported primarily by gifts from individuals, foundation grants, and corporate donations.