



NTBG

Plants

Lo'ulu

Pritchardia schattaueri

SPECIES STATUS:

Federally Listed as Endangered

Genetic Safety Net Species

IUCN Red List Ranking - CR A1ce+2ce, B1+2abcde, D

Hawai'i Natural Heritage Ranking - Critically Imperiled (G1)

Endemism – Island of Hawai'i

Critical Habitat - Designated

SPECIES INFORMATION: This species is known only from South Kona on the island of Hawai'i. *P. schattaueri* is a large fan palm 30-40 m tall, with a gray trunk. The areas where this species has been found have been extensively altered by agriculture. Rats are also known to feed on Hawaiian *Pritchardia* fruits.

DISTRIBUTION: South Kona, island of Hawai'i.

ABUNDANCE: Only 12 individuals in three subpopulations remain in the wild on Hawai'i.

LOCATION AND CONDITION OF KEY HABITAT: *Pritchardia schattaueri* grows in 'ōhi'a-dominated Lowland Mesic Forest, at elevations between 600 and 800 m (1,970 to 2,600 ft). Known to grow in mesic forests on old lava. The last remaining plants are located on private land.

THREATS:

- Grazing and trampling by cattle and feral pigs;
- Competition from alien plant taxa, like strawberry guava, common guava, kikuyu grass, Christmas berry and thimbleberry;
- Seed predation by rats;
- Residential and commercial development;
- Habitat change due to volcanic activity;
- Extinction from naturally occurring events;
- Reduced reproductive vigor due to the small number of existing populations.

CONSERVATION ACTIONS: The goals of conservation actions are not only to protect current populations, but also to establish new populations to reduce the risk of extinction. The USFWS has developed a recovery plan that details specific tasks needed

to recover this species. In addition to common statewide and island conservation actions, specific actions include:

- Survey historical range for surviving populations;
- Establish secure *ex-situ* stocks with complete representation of remaining individuals;
- Augment wild population and establish new populations in safe harbors.

MONITORING:

- Continue surveys of population and distribution in known and likely habitats;
- Monitor plants for insect damage and plant diseases.

RESEARCH PRIORITIES:

- Develop proper horticultural protocols and pest management;
- Survey *ex-situ* holdings and conduct molecular fingerprinting;
- Conduct pollination biology and seed dispersal studies;
- Map genetic diversity in the surviving populations to guide future re-introduction and augmentation efforts.

References:

Hawai'i Natural Heritage Program, 2005. Hawaii Natural Heritage Program Search, <http://www.hinhp.org/printpage.asp?spp=PDMAL0H0A0>.

International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources. 2004. IUCN Red List of Threatened Species: Data Base Search, <http://www.redlist.org/search/search-basic.html>.

US Fish and Wildlife Service. 1996. Final Listing, Endangered ETWP; Determination of Endangered Status for Thirteen Plants From the Island of Hawaii, State of Hawaii; Federal Register, Vol. 61, No. 40, (28-Feb-96), 61 FR 53137 53153, 19 pp.

Wagner, W.L., Herbst, D.R., and Sohmer, S.H. 1999. Manual of the Flowering Plants of Hawai'i-- Revised Edition. Honolulu, HI: University of Hawaii Press and Bishop Museum Press. 1853p.