



land we love

PHOTOGRAPHED BY Bob Bangerter

The Prettiest Conservation Land

Dale Bonar looks across the rolling green hills down to the deep blue of the Pacific and shakes his head in wonder. “Attorney Bill Hutton, who has been working with the landowners of this property, said it’s the prettiest conservation land he’s seen in his 30+ years of conservation work. That’s quite a statement coming from a veteran like Bill!”

Bill was complimenting the largest-ever voluntary easement donation in Hawai‘i, which Dale’s organization, Maui Coastal Land Trust, received in November.

“The Erdman family, owners of Ulupalakua Ranch, worked with us to ensure over 11,000 acres along the leeward slopes of Haleakalā will continue as a working ranch and wildlife habitat,” says Dale. “A corollary benefit to the agricultural easement is the permanent protection of one of Maui’s most iconic views.”

Pardee Erdman reflects: “Fifty years ago I was surveying the island for development sights when I ended up in Wailea and had the chance to look up to see the marvelous green hills of Ulupalakua. Little did I know I’d be saving it someday.”

The easement applies to two large contiguous parcels, one extending to the boundary of Poli Poli State Park and the other running from the ocean shore up the mountain to 6,000 feet. 🌿