

Third Thursday Lecture Series

Thursday, November 15th, 2012

****7:00 - 8:00 p.m.****

FREE EVENT

Mokupāpapa Discovery Center, Hilo

“Bringing Back Koa”

J. B. Friday, PhD, Extension Forester, University of Hawai‘i

Topics Include:

- **Koa Tree Reforestation**



Most people in Hawai‘i know koa as a beautiful wood to make into extraordinary furniture, panels, canoes, and ‘*umeke*. Here on the Big Island, most people have also had the opportunity to see majestic koa trees in the forest. The first Hawaiians named this tall tree, “the warrior”, when they saw how it dominated the forest. Sadly, today most of the original koa forest is gone, lost to ranching, fire, and land conversion. J. B. Friday, extension forester with the University of Hawai‘i, will address what foresters, scientists, and landowners are doing today to bring back the koa forest. He will address what new scientific findings are aiding in forest restoration and development of a sustainable koa forest industry, from weed control to genetics to wood utilization. Landowners are restoring koa forests on degraded lands for watershed protection, habitat for native wildlife, and in some cases, with the goal of sustainable timber production. New programs are being developed to ensure that future generations will still be able to see koa forests on these islands.

This presentation is sponsored by the Friends of Hakalau Forest National Wildlife Refuge